

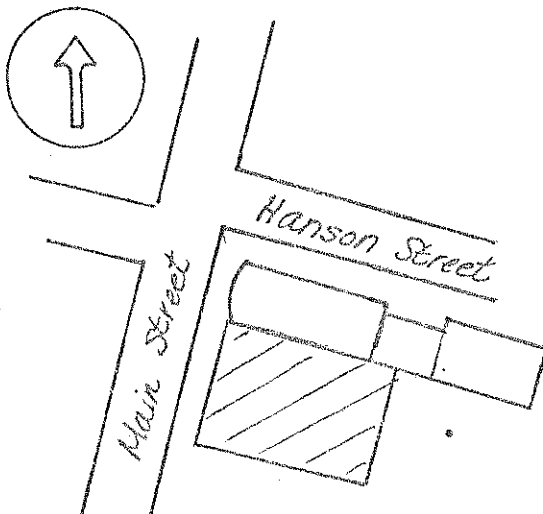
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE PROJECT  
Strafford Rockingham Regional Council  
1 Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire  
Phone: (603) 778-0885

TOWN: Rochester      COUNTY: Strafford SURVEY NUMBER: 50 COMMON NAME: First National Bank HISTORIC NAME: The Wentworth Block LOCATION: 22 South Main Street OWNER: Rochester Savings Bank & Trust ADDRESS: 22 So. Main St., Rochester, NH MAP & PARCEL #: 51/188 <u>120-394</u> DATE: C. 1900, pre 1963 changes SOURCE: Inspection STYLE: Late Victorian/Remodelled Colonial	UTM: Z 19 /E 339 750 /N 4796 280 USGS QUAD: Berwick Quad 15' series FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Commercial PRESENT USE: Commercial ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown CONDITION: Exc. <u>Good</u> Fair <u>  </u> Poor <u>  </u> Ruins <u>  </u> INTEGRITY: Original Site <u>  </u> Moved <u>  </u> (When: <u>  </u> ) Major alterations & date: 1960's Storefront and Facade LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Nat'l State Local
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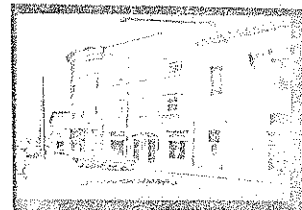
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System

1. FOUNDATION: Stone    Brick    Concrete X Concrete Block
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame    Post & Beam    Ballon Frame X Other     
     Load Bearing Masonry    Stone    Brick    Concrete Block    Other     
     Metal    Iron    Steel    Other
3. WALL COVERING: Clapboard    Wood Shingle    Board & Batten    Shiplap    Aluminum     
     Novelty    Stucco    Stone    Brick X Sheet Metal    Asphalt Shingles    Vinyl     
     Asphalt Sheeting    Composite Board    Other
4. ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle    Asphalt Shingle    Standing Seam Tin    Slate     
     Pressed Metal    Sheet Metal    Rolled Asphalt    Other
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
6. OTHER:  
     # of Stories 3 # of Bays 3 Approx. Dimensions 35' X 75'  
     Roof Style: Gable    Hip    Gambrel    Flat X Shed    Mansard    Jerkinhead     
     Monitor    Sawtooth    Other     
     Appendages: Porches    Towers    Dormers    Bay Windows    Ells    Chimneys     
     Wings    Cupolas    Sheds    Garage    Other     
     Entry Location: Center X Sidehall    Other

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: Facade/North East

Photographer: Roger Brevoort  
 Negative with: S.R.R.C.

#### ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Recently altered from its original Victorian appearance, the facade of the First National Bank is now characterized by contemporary Colonial motifs, including multi-paneled windows topped by ornamental keystones, a denticular cornice at the roofline and an elliptical fan window over the first story central entry.

The brick veneer was applied over the former wooden facade.

#### RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

This building stands between 2 other commercial blocks on South Main Street.

#### BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION: (LOT SIZE) 35 X 40

#### REFERENCES:

Rochester History Advisory Committee

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

The First National Bank is one of three adjoining commercial structures on South Main Street adjacent to Central Square that are of pivotal importance to maintaining the historic scale and visual context of the square.

The building, originally a Stick Style commercial block dating to 1881 was formerly known as the Wentworth Block.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land\_\_ Woodland\_\_ Scattered Bldgs\_\_ Moderately Built Up\_\_  
Densely Built Up\_\_ Residential\_\_ Commercial\_\_ ☒ Industrial\_\_ Agricultural\_\_  
Roadside Strip Development\_\_ Other\_\_

Recorded By:

Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/19/80

## ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Ainslie's is a 3-story, 4-bay brick building notable for its bowfront facade. The first two stories date c.1832. The third story, added in 1881, compliments the structure's original Federal Style design. Evidence of the third story addition can be seen in the slight variation in brick color between first and second stories.

On the first story, the present storefront dates to the early twentieth century, although the basic design may date to 1881. The storefront has a recessed central entry flanked by plate glass display windows. They are topped by multi-light transoms. Brick piers framing the storefront support a curving granite lintel which spans the facade. There is also a bracketed cornice above the storefront level.

On the upper stories, the windows have 2/2 sash set in molded wooden surrounds contained within shallow reveals in the brickwork. The windows are topped by granite splayed lintels with a slightly tooled surface. The windows have wooden sills. Above the third story windows there is a single course of corbelled brick. The roofline is accented by a projecting bracketed cornice.

## RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

Ainslie's is the first in a group of three adjoining buildings on South Main Street. These buildings, and the McDuffee Block across the street, frame the entrance to Central Square.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

Ainslie's Drug Store is a bow-front, brick building unusual in its interpretation of architectural forms generally associated with urban townhouse design. Although the exact date of construction has not been firmly documented, the structure was standing in 1832 when Dominicus Hanson opened his Apothecary Shop. Period accounts describe Hanson's establishment as a "Prim pressed brick, two story Apothecary store, with a circular front, once the most stylish store in the whole state of New Hampshire."

Hanson's store may pre-date 1832. Bow fronts and splayed lintels were made popular in Boston during the Federal Period (1780-1820), by Charles Bulfinch - and Ainslie's displayed both, as documented by daguerreotype from c.1860. R. Dewitt Burnham was responsible for the 1881 addition. At that time the present cornice formed a base for an elaborate victorian stepped parapet which has since been removed. Arthur Ainslie bought the business c.1920 and is probably responsible for the handsome pier and lintel storefront which still survives today. Ainslie's is extremely significant both architecturally and historically, and great care should be taken for its preservation.

REFERENCES: Notes and photographs of Gladys Redlon - The Rochester Courier, Dec. 1915 -

MAP DATA: 1856- D. Hanson store and Post Office  
1871-D. Hanson 1884-(Birds Eye) 1892-Atlas-D.Hanson

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land ☐ Woodland ☐ Scattered Bldgs ☐ Moderately Built Up ☐  
Densely Built Up ☒ Residential ☐ Commercial ☒ Industrial ☐ Agricultural ☐  
Roadside Strip Development ☐ Other ☐

## BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION:

Recorded By: Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/19/80



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM - STRAFFORD ROCKINGHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
One Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire 03833 Phone: (603)778-0885

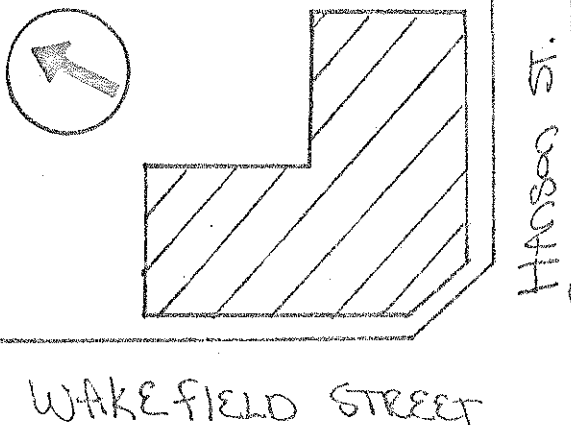
TOWN: Rochester	COUNTY: Strafford
SURVEY NUMBER: 30	
COMMON NAME: Granite State Savings Bank	
HISTORIC NAME: Realty Block	
LOCATION: NE corner of Hanson St. and Wakefield St. intersection.	
OWNER: Granite State Savings Bank	
ADDRESS: Somersworth, NH 03878	
MAP & PARCEL # : 42/324 120-394	
DATE: C.1926	
SOURCE: Gladys Redlon	
STYLE: Georgian Revival	

UTM: Z 19 /E 339700 /N 4796350
USGS QUAD: Berwick Quad 15' series
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Commercial/Residential
PRESENT USE: Commercial/Residential
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Albert K. Dow
CONDITION: Exc. ___ Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair ___ Poor ___ Ruins ___
INTEGRITY: Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved ___ Date ___
Major Alterations & Date: Application of granite storefronts.
LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl. ___ State ___ Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

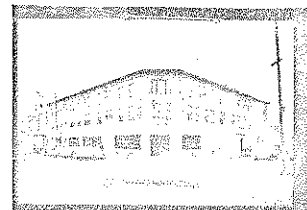
**GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System**

- # Stories 3 # Bays 12X12 Approx. Dimensions 100'X100' Window Sash \_\_\_  
Roof Style: Gable \_\_\_ Hip \_\_\_ Gambrel \_\_\_ Flat ☒ Shed \_\_\_ Mansard \_\_\_ Jerkinhead \_\_\_  
Monitor \_\_\_ Sawtooth \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_  
Appendages: Porches \_\_\_ Towers \_\_\_ Dormers \_\_\_ Bay Windows \_\_\_ Ells \_\_\_ Chimneys \_\_\_  
Wings \_\_\_ Cupolas \_\_\_ Sheds \_\_\_ Garage \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_  
Entry Location: Center \_\_\_ Sidehall \_\_\_ Other ☒ corner
- FOUNDATION: Random Rubble \_\_\_ Cut Granite \_\_\_ Brick ☒ Concrete \_\_\_ Concrete Block \_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_
- WALL STRUCTURE:  
Wood Frame: Post & Beam \_\_\_ Balloon Frame ☒ Other \_\_\_  
Load Bearing Masonry: Stone \_\_\_ Brick \_\_\_ Concrete Block \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_  
Metal: Iron \_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_
- WALL COVERING: Clapboard \_\_\_ Wood Shingle \_\_\_ Board & Batten \_\_\_ Shiplap \_\_\_  
Aluminum \_\_\_ Novelty \_\_\_ Stucco \_\_\_ Stone \_\_\_ Brick ☒ Sheet Metal \_\_\_ Asphalt Shingles \_\_\_  
Vinyl \_\_\_ Asphalt Sheeting \_\_\_ Composite Board \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_
- ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle \_\_\_ Asphalt Shingle \_\_\_ Standing Seam Tin \_\_\_ Slate \_\_\_  
Pressed Metal \_\_\_ Sheet Metal \_\_\_ Rolled Asphalt \_\_\_ Gravel \_\_\_ Other ☒ composition
- ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: Three Quarter East

Negative File Number: R-80-A3-30

Photographer: Roger Brevoort

Negative on file with: SRRC

## ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Granite State Savings Bank is a rectangular, three story Georgian Revival commercial block. Located on a main intersection, it has two primary elevations which meet at a canted corner.

The second story windows in the main bays are topped by brick flat arches with keystones which serve as the building's main ornamentation. A pressed metal block cornice and wide architrave mark the roofline. Former entry bays are highlighted on the upper stories by brick quoins.

A textured granite veneer has been applied over much of the first story at the expense of the storefronts and original arched entry openings. Only the storefronts on the ends of the building (which have polished black marble bases) remain intact. Contemporary signage conceals the original multi-light transoms.

## RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

The building occupies a prominent corner location in the center of the business district.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

Formerly known as the Realty Block, the Granite State Bank building was a speculative venture of the Rochester Realty Company. The company was founded by a group of ten local businessmen whose motivation was to provide additional office and commercial space for Rochester merchants. The investors each put up \$5,000 to finance construction. The Realty Block has seen continuous commercial/office use since its completion in 1926.

The architect for the building was Albert K. Dow, from Tuftonborough Corner, N.H..

Historically this site was the location of the Dominicus Hanson house. Hanson was a key figure in Rochester during the nineteenth century.

## REFERENCES:

Rochester History Advisory Committee  
Personal notes of Gladys Redlon, Rochester Historian

## MAP DATA:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land\_\_\_Woodland\_\_\_Scattered Bldgs\_\_\_Moderately Built Up\_\_\_X\_\_\_  
Densely Built Up\_\_\_Residential\_\_\_Commercial\_\_\_X\_\_\_Industrial\_\_\_Agricultural\_\_\_  
Roadside Strip Development\_\_\_Other\_\_\_

## BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION:

Recorded By: Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/15/80

Strafford Rockingham Regional Council

1 Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire

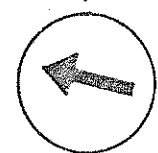
Phone: (603) 778-0885

TOWN: Rochester	COUNTY: Strafford	UTM: Z 19 /E 339 750 /N 4796 325
SURVEY NUMBER: 31		USGS QUAD: Berwick Quad 15' series
COMMON NAME: Boiler House / Smoke Stack		FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Smokestack
HISTORIC NAME:		PRESENT USE:
LOCATION: N. side of Hanson St., in parking lot of Granite State Savings Bank		ARCHITECT/BUILDER:
OWNER: Granite State Savings Bank		CONDITION: Exc. <u>Good</u> Fair <u>Poor</u> Ruins
ADDRESS: Somersworth, NH 03878		INTEGRITY: Original Site <u>Moved</u> (When: <u>    </u> )
MAP & PARCEL #: 42/324 <u>120-394</u>		Major alterations & date: <u>                    </u>
DATE: C. 1920's		
SOURCE:		
STYLE:		LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl <u>State</u> Local

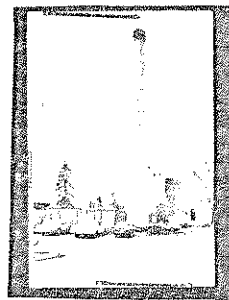
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System

- FOUNDATION: Stone Brick Concrete Concrete Block
- WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame Post & Beam Ballon Frame Other  
Load Bearing Masonry Stone Brick Concrete Block Other  
Metal Iron Steel Other  
Other
- WALL COVERING: Clapboard Wood Shingle Board & Batten Shiplap Aluminum  
Novelty Stucco Stone Brick Sheet Metal Asphalt Shingles Vinyl  
Asphalt Sheeting Composite Board Other
- ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle Asphalt Shingle Standing Seam Tim Slate  
Pressed Metal Sheet Metal Rolled Asphalt Other
- ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
- OTHER:  
# of Stories      # of Bays      Approx. Dimensions       
Roof Style: Gable Hip Gambrel Flat Shed Mansard Jerkinhead  
Monitor Sawtooth Other  
Appendages: Porches Towers Dormers Bay Windows Ells Chimneys  
Wings Cupolas Sheds Garage Other  
Entry Location: Center Sidehall Other

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: North

Photographer: Roger Brevoort  
 Negative with: S.R.R.C.  
 Negative File Number: R-80-A3-29

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Cylindrical brick smokestack with corbelled cap.

A 10' X 25', one-story, utilitarian brick building with a flat roof, now surrounded by a high wooden fence, stands at the base of the stack.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION: (LOT SIZE) 150 X 108

REFERENCES:

Rochester History Advisory Committee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

This large brick smoke stack belongs to the steam heating plant for the Realty Block. It adds height, variety and industrial character to the district.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land ☐ Woodland ☐ Scattered Bldgs ☐ Moderately Built Up ☐  
Densely Built Up ☐ Residential ☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Agricultural ☐  
Roadside Strip Development ☐ Other ☐

Recorded By:

Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/25/80