United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number 7 s.

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INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

SURVEY NUMBER 0022	PROPERTY OWNER	
PROPERTY NAME Bank of Osceola	ADDRESS	311 W. Quinn Osceola, AR
LOCATION 207 E. Hale		&
CONSTRUCTION DATE 1909		Drainage District #9 ATTN: Clay Haynes
	DESCRIPTION	P. O. Box 122 Osceola, AR 72370

Built in 1909, the Bank of Osceola is a two-story brick building measuring 56' by 100'. The structure rests on a continuous brick foundation. The facade (south elevation) contains a centered entrance featuring double doors topped by double transoms, and flanked by altered store front openings. The second story of the facade is distinguished by two large semicircular arched windows surrounded by vortically-laid brick and outlined by a narrow bank of dentiled stone. These arched openings contain a center plate glass sash window flanked by plate glass panels. A rectangular window with wide stone surrounds is centered above the entrance between the arched windows. Just below the second story windows a decorative narrow stone band extends across the width of the building, forming a cornice at the top of the first floor. The frieze under this cornice features scalloping across its width. Originally four square stone panels spaced evenly across the second story of the facade contained identical Indian heads. These were said to be the profile of Chief Osceola, a well known Indian Chief in the nineteenth century. These panels are now located on a building at Osceola High School. The original projecting wood cornice which extends across the top of the facade has been removed. A decorative parapet rises at the center of the roofline. This parapet contains three narrow arched recessed areas and features brick corbelling at its base. The original cornice was segmented; placed on either side of the center parapet, setting off its decorative effect. Small arched recessions along the frieze add to the detailing of the facade. A stone string course and a band of dentilling runs across the facade under the arched frieze. Although this building is currently in deteriorated condition, plans are underway to restore the facade to the original appearance. Two large atriums on the interior of the building still exist, the decorative Indian heads will be returned, and the cornice replaced.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Bank of Osceola, constructed in 1909, is a unique focal point in the small town of Osceola. Built to house the Bank and a grocery store on the front of the first floor, the original building boasted luxurious office space. The building also contained law offices, a real estate office, a cotton brokerage firm, and a doctor's office. The interior of the Bank featured mosaic tile floors, marble wainscotting, mahogany fixtures, and two large atriums. Now abandoned, this two story brick building presents an interesting facade with its detailing of two large arched windows and bands of dentils. Considered highly fashionable in its style at the time of construction, this building is the most elaborate to remain of Osceola's building boom in 1909.

ACREAGE less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY	DESCRIPTIO	N Lots	5 & 6,	Block 13,	Townsite	Addition	
QUADRANGLE NAME Osceola, AR-TN		QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000					
UTM REFERENCE:	ZONE 16		EASTIN	G_231580	1	NORTHING_	3954850