

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 19 1987

date entered JUL 16 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bank of Washington

and or common Wynn and Mitchell Law Office

2. Location

street & number 120 South Poplar Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Greenville

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi

code 28

county Washington

code 151

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Douglas C. Wynn and Leila C. Wynn

street & number 1130 Arnold Avenue

city, town Greenville

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi 38701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Washington County Courthouse

street & number Washington Ave.

city, town Greenville

state Mississippi 38701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bank of Washington is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Poplar Street and an unnamed public alley in downtown Greenville. The two-story, yellow brick Beaux Arts style building is oriented to its corner location with its focal points being the twin pediments and balustraded window sills of the corner end bays. The building has a flat roof enclosed by parapet walls on the street elevations. An enriched entablature with modillioned cornice and dentiled frieze enlivened by rondelles extends along both the Poplar Street and alley facades and is pedimented on both elevations at the corner junction. The entablature is supported by Ionic pilasters on the main facade and Doric pilasters on the less public alley facade that divide the building vertically and frame the window openings of the second-story facade. These window openings are topped by key-stoned splayed arches between the Ionic pilasters and plain flat arches between the Doric pilasters, and all second-story window openings are filled with one-over-one, double-hung sash set beneath stained-glass transoms. The transomed window units, obscured by plywood panels on the exterior, are arranged singly and in pairs. Window sills, which project as balustrades at the cornermost openings of both elevations, extend to create pedestals or a plinth for the pilasters and to form a belt course that repeats the horizontal banding of the entablature. The first-story entablature and supporting pilasters of the Poplar Street facade and westernmost bay of the alley facade are finished in a smooth ashlar treatment which contrasts with the block effect of the plinth and the area surrounding the semi-circular arched window openings. Scrolled and plain keystones elaborate the arched windows which are filled with paired units of one-over-one, double-hung sash set beneath semi-circular transoms of stained glass. The plainer windows of the alley facade are topped by plain flat arches and stained glass transoms. The main entrance is located in the pedimented end bay of the Poplar Street facade and features a modern single-leaf door framed by modern sidelights set beneath an original leaded-glass fanlight. Secondary entrances, one of which opens onto a stairway to the second story, are located in the northern portion of the Poplar Street facade which has been altered by the installation of a mid-twentieth-century storefront.

The outstanding interior architectural features are the coffered ceiling of the banking chamber and the metal walls of the vault, which have an enriched entablature supported by fluted Ionic pilasters resting upon a plinth. Interior millwork is symmetrically molded throughout with corner blocks on the unarched window and doorway surrounds. Access to the skylighted second story is provided by a single-flight stairway entered from Poplar Street. The stairway is enclosed by two walls and features a square newel with turned-baluster railing on the second-story level. Interior alterations are limited principally to the installation of office partition walls.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Ca. 1903 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bank of Washington is significant under Criterion C for its architectural prominence in the context of Greenville and Washington County.

This building occupies a prominent position on the northeast corner of the intersection of South Poplar Street and an unnamed public alley in downtown Greenville. The two-story, yellow brick building with ashlar finish trim was built in 1903 (Greenville Times Souvenir Edition, 1910) and is one of the city's only two examples of the Beaux Arts style. This commercial interpretation of the Beaux Arts style exhibits such distinctive stylistic features as balustraded window sills, pedestaled pilasters, arched openings, and an enriched entablature with pediment. The building housed the fifth of five banking institutions in operation in Greenville in the early twentieth century and reflects the prosperity of the Mississippi Delta region in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century during the state's second great cotton kingdom era. The expansion of the Mississippi River levee system after the Civil War opened thousands of acres of rich farmland to agricultural production and ushered in a new period of prosperity based on cotton production. The building was occupied by the Bank of Washington until 1914, when it ceased operation during the financial setback that followed the boll weevil invasion. The building has functioned as a cotton brokerage office, a commercial radio station, and, since 1976, as an office building. The Bank of Washington has become more significant in the last decade as the city has demolished many of its landmark buildings. Less than ten architecturally significant downtown buildings survive from Greenville's late nineteenth and early twentieth century boom period.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Montgomery, D. C. "The History of Banking In Washington County." Washington County Historical Society: Programs of 1978. (Published, n.p.), pp. 21,22.
Greenville Times Souvenir Edition, 1910.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Greenville, MS-Ark.

Quadrangle scale 1:625000

UTM References

A

1	5	6	8	0	1	8	0	3	6	9	8	4	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 2, of Third (3rd.) Addition, Greenville, MS, Greenville Tax Assessor's Map, 059-22. Lot dimensions are 47 feet by 100 feet. Nominated property is outlined in red on Greenville, Miss. Tax Map 059-22 - enclosed.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Clinton I. Bagley

organization N/A date April 1, 1987

street & number P. O. Box 1332 telephone (601) 335-1654

city or town Greenville state Mississippi 38701

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kenneth H. P. Pool

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date June 15, 1987

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Alan Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register date 7-16-87

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

