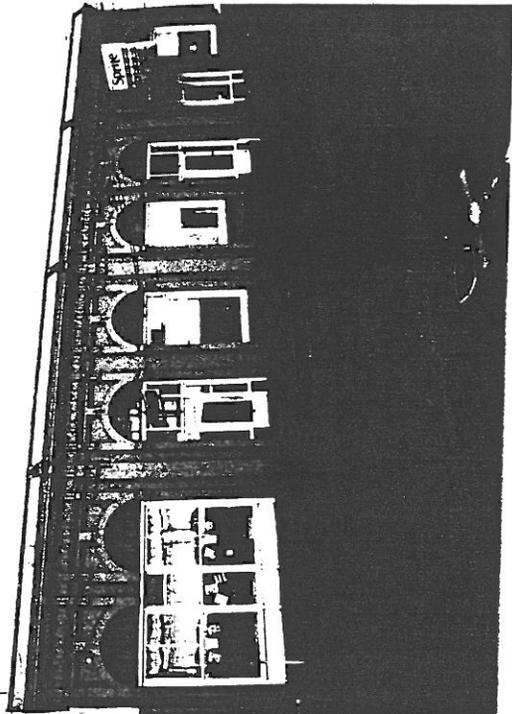


STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY  
OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310



County Linn  
Ranking \_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
(Common) Unknown  
(Historic) First National Bank of Lebanon  
Address 40 West Sherman Street  
Present Owner James L. & Doris A. Brady  
Address 40 West Sherman  
Original Use Bank  
Date of Construction 1891  
Map Reference Number 112

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

Originally this two-story Italianate commercial building was a half block long, reaching to the corner of Main Street. The west half of the building contained the bank offices. The east half, which contained the lobby, has a different owner and a modern facade. Large pilasters divide the old facade into four bays. Each bay contains two large, round arch openings with raised moldings and keystone decorations. Moldings on the sides of each arch rise up to the frieze and are capped with brackets. Between brackets, the frieze has a molding of four sided, pyramidal tiles, with dentils below the cornice and above the window arches. The parapet angles back and is divided by vertical moldings which cap the large pilasters. The angled surface was clad with fish scale shingles. Finials above the pilasters and roof cresting between have been removed.

All the openings at the street level contain wood frame windows and doors with large single lights. The east bay has always been missing the vertical moldings at the center from which the round arches spring. Originally a door was located here. Currently there are large two/one, single-hung windows on each side, a two-light window in the center and a multi-light transom window in the arch at the right.

(continued)

Recorded by Heritage Investment Corporation, 813 SW Alder, Portland, OR 97204 (228-0272)  
Allen, McMath-Hawkins, Architects, 213 SW Ash, Portland, OR 97204 (228-5154)

Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sources consulted: see attached.

Continuation Sheet 1 of 1  
First National Bank of Lebanon  
40 West Sherman Street  
Map Reference Number: 112

On the left side of the second bay there is a single light door with sidelights, a transom and a multi-light, semi-circular window in the arch. The opening at the right contains a large one/one, double-hung window with a transom and a single semi-circular light in the arch. The window sill has been lowered.

The opening on the left in the third bay contains a large single-light window with dentils below the sill. The arched transom is closed. The opening on the right contains the same entry as in the second bay--a single light door with sidelights, a transom and a half-round window in the arch. The end bay is a mirror image of the third one.

### History

Charles H. Ralston and J. L. Cowan built this building in 1891 and established the first Lebanon bank known as the Cowan Ralston Bank, which was later called the Bank of Lebanon with J. W. Cusic also involved. Their business closed during the financial panic of 1893. The building was sold to Dr. J. S. Courtney. The next bank was established here in 1896 by J. P. Scroggin and Washburn. Scroggin was the owner of the Seamore and Scroggin Sawmill and also the father of Ralph Scroggin who became a mayor in the late 1930's and owner of Ralph Scroggin Feed and Seed Company. In 1913, First National Bank of Lebanon was opened here by Joel C. Mayers, Steve Bach, Senator Samuel Garland, Powers and George H. Burl.

Mayers was for many years the president. His interest and enthusiasm was a major force in promoting the first of Lebanon's annual strawberry festivals. He was the mayor in 1909 when they began. In 1932 the bank merged with Lebanon National Bank and moved to their newer building on Main Street, where it continues today as a branch of First Interstate Bank.

### Sources Consulted

1. "C. H. Ralston, Sr. Is Called to Great Beyond," Lebanon Express. August 27, 1929.
2. Conversation with Jerry May, May 25, 1984.
3. Historic photos from the Photography Emporium.
4. Sue McCraclan, "Fire! Christine Seeke Smith Has Memorabilia of 1891 City Disaster," Lebanon Express. March 4, 1918.
5. Survey questionnaire from James Brady, April 23, 1984.



THE FINEST  
Whiskey

CLOSED

Sprite  
CAFE