

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Security State Bank of Dante

Other names/site number: Corner Store

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location

Street & number: 320 Main Street

City or town: Dante State: SD County: Charles Mix

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** ___ **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ **A** ___ **B** ___ **C** ___ **D**

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

**State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government**

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Private: | ☒ |
| Public – Local | ☐ |
| Public – State | ☐ |
| Public – Federal | ☐ |

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Category of Property

Building(s) ☒

District ☐

Site ☐

Structure ☐

Object ☐

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions

COMMERCE/bank

Current Functions

WORK IN PROGRESS/VACANT

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman

Materials:

Foundation: concrete

Walls: brick with stone (limestone) details

Roof: asphalt

Other: chimney, brick; steps, limestone; doors, wood; windows, wood frame.

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Security State Bank of Dante is located on quiet Main Street in Dante, South Dakota. Dante is a small rural community in the eastern territory of Charles Mix County. The bank is a two story, rectangular masonry brick commercial building built in the Craftsman Style in 1920. The exterior of the building has retained almost all of its original features, such as the basket weave and stretcher bond brick patterns, limestone window sills and square decorative features, and its tall brick parapet. The basement structure is constructed of poured in place concrete and appears to be stable. The exterior of the building holds a high level of integrity that is well intact. The interior holds many of its original features; however, it is in a state of disrepair and many of the interior features are beyond repair though can be used as reference for in-kind replacements.

Narrative Description

The Security State Bank of Dante is a two-story plus basement masonry commercial building built in the Craftsman Style in 1920. The exterior walls are brick, ornamented with limestone details. The brick at the east and north façades are dark brown, with a reddish-brown mortar. The brick at the west and south façades is lighter, with a white mortar providing a clear distinction between primary and secondary façades. The building has a flat built-up roof, flanked with a tall parapet extending from the north, south, and east façades. The primary façades face east towards Main Street, and north towards Haskell Street, with the secondary facades facing west and south (Photos 1-6).

The east (front) façade facing Main Street contains the single-door front entrance centered to the building with an original bronze lighting bracket on each side. The fenestration consists of two large windows on the first level, at either side of the front entrance, and three large windows at the second level. All windows have a wide limestone window sill. Flanking the fenestration and

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entrance is a series of stretcher bond patterned brick pilasters with limestone capitals and bases. The pilasters extend from the base of the building up to a limestone entablature that continues to wrap around the north façade. Above the entablature is a tall parapet with a basket weave brick pattern and limestone coping stones. The basket weave brick pattern with soldier headers is present throughout the first and second level of the east façade, ornamented with square limestone details.

The east façade is most representative of the Craftsman Style due to the basket weave brick pattern and square limestone decorative features. The four pilasters flanking the door and windows can be seen throughout other Craftsman examples. The pilasters and entablature are also representative of Classical elements commonly applied to the design of bank buildings of the late 19th and early 20th century.

The north façade facing Haskell Avenue continues some of the features present on the east. The entablature and tall parapet are present; however, the parapet bricks are laid in the stretcher bond pattern. The fenestration clearly marks the first and second levels. On the first level there are two sets of tall rectangular windows grouped in threes and one grouped in two. Each window has its own limestone window sill. Above, a series of tall rectangular windows matching the first level is placed throughout the entire length of the façade. There are windows that align directly above the first level windows, and the others are spaced randomly throughout the remainder of the façade. As with the rest, each window has its own limestone sill. Other than the limestone entablature, the north façade is minimally ornamented. The stretcher bond pattern found in the parapet is continued throughout the north façade. Still present on the north façade is the original burglar alarm. There is a single wood door painted white at the most west corner with a tall square transom above. Due to the height of the door from the ground, it appears that a staircase once providing access has been removed. The concrete basement structure is visible from the slant of ground, containing two single sash rectangular windows near the west end.

All windows on the north and east façades appear to have been double sash, with an eight over one configuration. Many windows have lost their glass panes, mullions, lower or upper sashes, or the window has entirely been lost. Several intact examples are representative of the double sash with an eight over one configuration.

Both the east and north façades have undergone minimal alterations. The original bank sign was removed at some point, and for a period the building had a "Corner Store" sign located above the entrance door (Photo 7). Some of the original window fabric has been lost due to damage, though all appear to maintain the original casings and sash frames.

The west (rear) façade exterior brick wall has a single door opening at the center at ground level and a single window opening at the top right corner (providing light to the second level corridor). Unlike the others, this window has a brick sill. Both the window and the door have been removed and have not been boarded. No limestone details are present, and the concrete

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foundation can be seen at the base of the building. The brick is also of a lighter color than the north and east façades and the bricks are generally laid in the 7th course common bond pattern.

The south façade exterior brick wall contains no windows or doors. Like the west façade, the brick is lighter than the north and east façades and is generally laid in the 7th course common bond pattern. Based on remaining metal flashing attached to the building, a single-story structure with two varying rooflines was once attached. The concrete foundation can be seen at the base of the building.

At the west end of the property, there is a remnant concrete foundation of a rectangular building. This foundation is believed to be that of the building that Elmer A. Rauch constructed when he leased the west 35' of the property in 1923.

The interior of the building (Photos 8-16) has been significantly damaged due to water infiltration and fire damage. The fire damage is believed to have occurred sometime in 2000 or 2001. Though damaged, original architectural features can be seen throughout the first and second levels. Upon passing through the main entry door, there is a small vestibule with a decorative hexagon tile floor. The vestibule leads to an open room spanning the width of the building that originally housed the banking room and public space. Wood shelving lines the north and south walls, which was installed when the building was used as a corner store. The floor provides a clear definition between the public space and the banking room of the original space. The decorative hexagon tile from the vestibule continues through the south side of the room. The hexagon tile flooring creates an "L" like shape that extends from the front entrance to the next room of the first level. This was likely the public space for customers to access the teller line and the rear of the building, as better finishes were generally used in bank public spaces. Adjacent to the hexagon tile floors is hardwood, some of which has been lost with the subfloor exposed. At the west wall of the teller line are the original metal vault doors, one located at each side. The walls appear to be finished with original plaster that have since been painted. The original pressed tin ceiling can be seen, most prominently at the crown of the room that has been painted light blue. Most of the pressed tin ceiling has been lost due to significant moisture infiltration.

The remainder of the first floor is comprised of the safe, a restroom, closet, and a large room at the rear of the building that houses the staircase to the second level. This rear room was likely used for private offices to meet with customers, and has experienced significant damage to the ceiling, floor, and walls. Like the front room, there are remnants of a pressed tin ceiling, much of which is gone due to water infiltration and fire damage. The original wood floors have begun to rot due to water infiltration. The north, south, and east walls have largely retained the original plaster, but are largely stained due to smoke damage. The west wall of the room has most of the lath and plaster missing, exposing the second level staircase.

The staircase to the second level is located at the west wall of the rear room. The second level contains a long corridor running east to west on the south side, with several rooms on the north

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side. The original interior finishes of the second floor appear to have been largely functional, with plaster walls, wood floors, and wood doors. The walls, ceiling, and floors have been significantly damaged due to water infiltration. Despite the damage, the second level provides evidence of the original interior doors and windows in some locations.

The staircase opening to the basement is located directly under the staircase to the second level. At some point, the staircase was removed. The basement is exposed to the structural concrete walls, has a concrete floor, and is exposed to the first level wood floor structure.

The interior of the building has fallen into a state of disrepair due to significant water infiltration and fire damage. Despite its current state, minimal alterations to the building have been made throughout its life, providing a glimpse to the original floor plan and interior finishes. The most prominent original features that have been retained, though in poor or unsalvageable condition, are the interior wood window casings, wood doors, hexagon tile flooring, tin pressed ceilings, and the two original vault doors. Further assessment would need to be conducted to determine whether the interior features are salvageable.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

COMMERCE, ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1920 – 1925

Significant Dates

1920, 1925

Significant Person

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Security State Bank of Dante meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture for local significance as it represents the presence of banking in early rural communities and provides an excellent example of bank architecture in the Craftsman Style. The period of significance occurred from 1920 to 1925 during the years of bank operations.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Security State Bank of Dante meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion “A” in the area of Commerce and Criterion “C” in the area of Architecture for local significance as it represents the position of early banking in rural communities and provides an excellent example of stately bank architecture in the Craftsman Style with Classical elements. The period of significance occurred from 1920 to 1925 during the years of bank operations within the building.

The Security State Bank of Dante meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion “A” in the area of Commerce, as it is representative of the establishment of banks in communities prior to the development of branches and global banks. Until the 1920’s, bank branching was largely outlawed or significantly restricted in most of America, causing rural towns and neighborhoods within larger cities to have their own banks to serve the immediate community.¹ The bank’s success was directly dependent on the success of its community.² The Security State Bank of Dante was established in 1910, following the year of the town’s establishment, providing banking services to new residents and businesses, primarily servicing the agricultural industry by financing farmers’ land expansion during the years of World War 1.³ It was an operating bank for 15 years prior to suspending in 1925. In 1920, following the trends of bank buildings around the county, the existing Security State Bank building was constructed to better serve the community and provide a sense of security for the community’s finances. In March/April of 1917, the bank was run by T.M. Wallace as President, F.J. Hakl as Vice President, Geo J. Schafer as Cashier, and E.S. Hanzel as Assistant Cashier. The bank had \$10,000 in capital, \$40,000 in loans, \$50,000 in deposits, and \$3,000 in sur. and prof.⁴ The recorded population of Dante was 50. By September of 1918, Wallace, Hakl, and Schafer (Hanzel not recorded) retained their same positions. The bank’s resources and liabilities increased, along with the population. September of 1918 recorded \$10,000 in capital, \$3,000 in sur. and prof., \$165,000 in deposits, \$115,000 in loans, and \$55,000 due from other banks, reflecting the increased lending and deposits throughout the State of South Dakota during the years of World War 1. The reported

¹ Charles Belfoure, *Monuments to Money* (Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2005), 128.

² Charles Belfoure, *Monuments to Money* (Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2005), 5.

³ Nelson, C.B, *Gregory National Bank National Register Nomination* (Pierre: SD State Historic Preservation Office, 2013), 12.

⁴ The Hanover National Bank of the City of New York, *The American Bank Reporter Volume 96* (New York: Steurer Publishing Co., 1917), 773.

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population of Dante was 118.⁵ September of 1919 reported the same population and liabilities and resources. Following 1919, no further banking information was found. U.S. Decennial Census data indicates that by 1920, Dante had a population of 175. When analyzing the bank's growth, it can be theorized that the growth provided the finances necessary to construct the existing bank building in 1920.

The Security State Bank of Dante meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion "C" in the area of Architecture, as it represents the pattern of dignified bank architecture constructed in the late 19th and early 20th century. The building is representative of the imposing banks that were constructed to promote security, strength, and stability to depositors.⁶ Even in the smallest communities, banks created a stark contrast between themselves and the surrounding buildings. From the 1890's to the 1920's, over 12,000 bank buildings were constructed in the United States. (add citation at end of this sentence: *Monuments to Money*, page 128)

Small farming town banks were commonly located on a corner lot at the intersection of the town's two most major streets.⁷ The Security State Bank is a clear representation of that, potentially holding the town's once most prime real estate location on Main Street. Along with its location, the scaling of the building was imposing, and still currently is, to the site and buildings around it. The exterior architectural details of the building are also representative of banks built during this era, with one major exception: the building is of the Craftsman Style, constructed of dark brick using a basket weave brick pattern and square limestone decorative elements, which is relatively uncommon for bank architecture of this period, but was common for general commercial structures. There is one other brick commercial building in Dante, a filling station constructed in 1926 at the corner of Main Street and Warren Avenue that was also constructed in the Craftsman style (Photo 18). The filling station has been vacant for some time. Although constructed in the Craftsman Style, the front façade boasts the classical elements that were employed throughout thousands of bank buildings, both in rural towns and urban cities. The four brick pilasters with limestone bases and capitals supporting the limestone entablature that wraps to the north façade represent the "temple" that was meant to provide the sense of stability and strength. Alfred Hopkins, a leading bank architect of the period, stated:

*If the style of the bank's home can typify the qualities of the institution it houses, then the bank should be designed upon classical formulas ... Roman architecture is so simple, dignified, and large in scale ... it dominates all other types of commercial building. It is the quality of dominance which I insist is both fitting and important to the bank's aspect.*⁸

The hybrid of the building's Craftsman Style and classical elements is notable in the construction of bank buildings of this period, providing its architectural significance.

⁵ The Hanover National Bank of the City of New York, *The Bankers Encyclopedia 48th Edition* (New York: Bankers Encyclopedia Co., 1918), 1816.

⁶ Charles Belfoure, *Monuments to Money* (Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2005), 125.

⁷ Charles Belfoure, *Monuments to Money* (Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2005), 180.

⁸ Charles Belfoure, *Monuments to Money* (Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2005), 125.

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The bank is observed to retain a high level of integrity supporting its significance in the area of Architecture. The bank retains its original location on the corner of Main Street and Haskell Avenue with minimal alterations to the exterior. The main (east) façade has retained its original Craftsman Style brick façade, four brick pilasters, brick and limestone parapet, limestone window sills, and original door and window openings. The second primary façade (north) also contains a high level of original integrity. Some of the bank's architectural integrity has been lost due to missing and deteriorated original window features. Throughout the east and north façade, window panes, sashes, mullions, or entire windows have been lost or have deteriorated. However, the building is able to convey its original form, style, and function as most of the primary exterior features are present. The interior of the building has generally retained its original floor plan with original walls, doors, flooring, and pressed tin ceiling. However, due to significant water and fire damage, some interior features are beyond repair. Some original features such as the penny tile and wood floors, perimeter of the pressed tin ceiling, and windows and door casings may potentially be salvageable, depending on further assessment. Though the interior has undergone a significant amount of damage and some features are beyond repair, the remaining features are still intact to use as a reference for in-kind replacements. The setting of the bank located on Main Street has somewhat changed due to surrounding building demolitions and building vacancies. At one point, a building was attached to the south façade and there was a structure on the west end of the property. Several large commercial that were once located across the street to the east, north and south have been demolished. Even though surrounding Main Street and property buildings have been lost, the rural town setting of Dante has largely been retained as several commercial buildings and a grain elevator remain.

History of Property

Dante, formerly known as Mayo, was platted in 1907 and established in 1909. In August of 1910, John B. Roche purchased the site of the bank located on block 7, lot 16, from the Mayo Townsite Company for \$550.⁹ Roche sold the property to Albert Amundson for the same price of \$550 that year in September. The Security State Bank was incorporated in September 1910. Albert Amundson was recorded as the President in October, 1910, with Helmer Hegnes as Vice President and P.J. Hegnes as Cashier.¹⁰ In November 1910, Amundson transferred the deed to the newly incorporated Security State Bank for \$550 (abstract of deeds). In April 1911 George Schafer and C.C. Smith purchased the entire stock of the bank, taking possession on June 1, 1911.¹¹ From 1917 to 1919, T.M. Wallace was President, F.J. Hakl was Vice President, Geo J. Schafer was Cashier, and E.S. Hanzel was Assistant Cashier.

⁹ South Dakota, Charles Mix County, "Abstract of Title," Complete Abstracts of Title to All Lands and Town Lots in this County.

¹⁰ *Pierre Weekly Free Press*, October 27, 1910.

¹¹ *Dakota Farmers' Leader*, April 28, 1911.

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During the study of the property history, no records indicated what type of structure was built on the property from 1910 to 1920 before the construction of the existing bank building. The existing bank building was completed in 1920.¹² In 1923, the west 35' of the property was leased to Elmer A. Rauch for \$550. As part of the terms, Rauch could construct a foundation for a property being moved to store one automobile. Remnants of the foundation are still located on the property. Chas B. Fousek was recorded as the Cashier of the Security State Bank during this transaction.

The Security State Bank of Dante provided most of their lending services to local farmers. From 1914 – 1920, South Dakota farmers were profiting from Europe's inability to produce enough food during World War 1. Farmers were quick to expand, purchasing additional land and upgraded machinery to take advantage of the market. With rural banks having steady and high deposits, it allowed bankers to provide loans to growing farms.¹³ After the war ended in November 1918, European farmers were able to produce food again resulting in the demand for United States farming to significantly decrease. As prices for food declined, farmers began to default on their loans. The inability of banks to collect loan payments ultimately resulted in many bank closings and liquidations. From 1920 to 1934, South Dakota state-charted banks decreased from 557 to 148, one of which included the Security State Bank of Dante.¹⁴

On October 1, 1925, it was recorded that the Security State Bank suspended operations (abstract of deeds). James Grady, President, and H.C. Aamoth, Vice President at the time of suspension, were rumored to have taken the bank's assets, capitalized at \$25,000, and left town.¹⁵ In February 1929, F.R. Smith, Superintendent of Banks for the State of South Dakota, filed a petition to publicly sell the property. The decision derived because the assets of the bank were insufficient to pay its liability, so the sale was necessary to pay expenses of liquidation. The County and State approved the petition, and in August 1931, the property was sold to Frank Cihak. The purchase price for the property and bank building was \$2,000, plus \$500 for the furniture and fixtures inside.¹⁶

In the current owner's record, in 1931 the bank was used as a café and night club. The rooms on the second level were turned into apartments, rented by Basil Hoff for both a restaurant and living quarters. Mr. and Mrs. Giedd also lived in one of the apartments during this time. Giedd was a barber and had a shop at the rear of the building. In March 1937, Laverne R. (Jeff) Barta purchased the property for \$1,500. In 1941, Barta took a mortgage of \$750 on the property and

¹² Leona Kotab, *Dante, South Dakota, 1887-2000* (Sioux Falls: Pine Hill Press, 2001), 1887-2000.

¹³ Nelson, C.B., *Gregory National Bank National Register Nomination* (Pierre: SD State Historic Preservation Office, 2013), 12.

¹⁴ Nelson, C.B., *Gregory National Bank National Register Nomination* (Pierre: SD State Historic Preservation Office, 2013), 12.

¹⁵ Commercial West, Company, *Commercial West, Volume 48* (Minneapolis: Commercial West, Company, 1925).

¹⁶ South Dakota, Charles Mix County, "Abstract of Title," Complete Abstracts of Title to All Lands and Town Lots in this County.

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again in 1947 of \$2,500.¹⁷ Throughout this time, Barta and his family ran a store in the building. In 1972 the first level was converted to a grocery store after the only one in Dante burned. Joann Homolka Soukup ran the store with her daughters. The store was then run by Frank and Marcene Blaha until 1989. In 1994, Robert and Bernie Raymond bought the property and continued to operate the store for a brief time, where shortly after the store closed for good. Neglect, fire, and a leaking roof caused the interior of the building significant damage. In 2016, the store was purchased by new private owners who are currently making some improvements. Some recent improvements include installing new steps to the basement and second floor, cleaning out interior debris, and replacing the roof, and making plans to replace the windows.

Contextual History – Developmental History of Charles Mix County and Dante

In 1803, the present territory of South Dakota was added to the United States as a part of the Louisiana Purchase. Prior to the State of South Dakota being granted statehood, the Dakota Territory (comprising of present day Montana, Wyoming, and North and South Dakota) was organized by Congress on March 2, 1861. At this time, a few hundred non-Indian settlers were living in small settlements in Yankton, Vermillion, Bon Homme County and Sioux Falls. In 1862, Charles Mix County was established, and the present borders of the County were finalized in 1873.¹⁸ The advancement of actual settlements within the territory was affected by a variety of factors, including Indian relations, the development of railroads, the course of rivers and other waterways, and environmental preference, taking some time for settlements to occur. In 1889 the territories of North and South Dakota were separated, and South Dakota was admitted into the Union.

Charles Mix County was named after the United States Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Charles E. Mix, for assisting in the negotiation of the Yankton treaty of 1858.¹⁹ The 1858 Yankton Treaty required the Yankton Sioux Tribe to sell its land to the federal government and, in exchange, were promised cash and annuities. In 1867, the Reservation became public domain and by 1893, Indians were granted citizenship. In 1905, the remaining surplus lands were opened to settlement.²⁰ The Yankton Reservation occupies 60% of Charles Mix County, including the town of Dante.

The extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul railroad in 1900 to Charles Mix County sparked the development of six of the seven towns in the County. All towns were established

¹⁷ South Dakota, Charles Mix County, "Abstract of Title," Complete Abstracts of Title to All Lands and Town Lots in this County.

¹⁸ Maxine Schuurmans Kinsley, *The Sioux City to Fort Randall Military Road 1856-1892* (Sioux Falls: Pine Hill Press, 2010), 127.

¹⁹ Maxine Schuurmans Kinsley, *The Sioux City to Fort Randall Military Road 1856-1892* (Sioux Falls: Pine Hill Press, 2010), 127.

²⁰ Maxine Schuurmans Kinsley, *The Sioux City to Fort Randall Military Road 1856 – 1892* (Pine Hill Press, 2010), 131.

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after 1900.²¹ Dante (formerly named Mayo) was founded by local farming resident H.T. Mayo when he and his wife, Mary L. Mayo, formed the Mayo Townsite Company in 1909, allowing them to transfer their personal property to be organized as a body of politics.²² Prior to founding, the town was platted in 1907, with approximately 40 acres providing right of way to the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad, which ran through the southwest corner. Sales of the platted town quickly began in 1910. By 1916, Dante had a Catholic church, a hotel, three grain elevators, a creamery, and the Security State Bank. The Security State Bank was the only known bank located in Dante. Other businesses in 1916 included blacksmiths, a barber, a telegraph agent, a hardware store, and a general store.²³ Dante has been considered a “railroad town,” with agriculture being its primary industry, which is still represented by one remaining grain elevator.²⁴ An aerial photo taken in 1961 depicts Main Street in Dante (Photo 17). The photograph depicts at least nine commercial buildings along Main Street, one being the Security State Bank, as well as two grain elevators and several residential properties. It can also be seen that the railroad had suspended their operations by this time. Since 1961, the built environment of the town had changed due to building demolitions, vacancies, and minimal new construction in its commercial center.

U.S. Decennial Census Data reveals that Dante lost 25% of its population from 1920 to 1930, dropping from 175 in 1920 to 132 in 1930. The population had a brief period of increase, with a population of 140 in 1950, but decreased to 88 in 1970 and has largely remained steady since. It could be speculated that the agricultural and financial crisis, which included the collapse of the bank, has prevented Dante from population growth or contributed to its population decline.

²¹ Maxine Schuurmans, *The Sioux City to Fort Randall Military Road 1856-1892* (Pine Hill Press, 2010), 135.

²² South Dakota, Charles Mix County, “Abstract of Title,” Complete Abstracts of Title to All Lands and Town Lots in this County.

²³ First Circuit Court, “Charles Mix County” last modified December 27, 2008, http://ujs.sd.gov/County_Information/CharlesMix.aspx.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Schuermans Kinsley, Maxine. 2010. *The Sioux City to Fort Rand Military Road 1856-1892*. Sioux Falls: Pine Hill Press

South Dakota. Charles Mix County. "Abstract of Title." Complete Abstracts of Title to All Lands and Town Lots in this County.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
 - ☐ Other State agency
 - ☐ Federal agency
 - ☐ Local government
 - ☐ University
 - ☐ Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ____CH00000337____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property:

Less than one. It measures 25' running North to South and 140' running East to West.

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

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UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone:	14	Easting:	566362	Northing:	4765402
2. Zone:	14	Easting:	566362	Northing:	4765394
3. Zone:	14	Easting:	566405	Northing:	4765394
4. Zone:	14	Easting:	566405	Northing:	4765402

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are in the northwest corner of Section 21 in Township 95 North, Range 62. The boundaries are bound by Main Street to the east, Haskell Avenue to the north, vacant property to the south, and an ally to the west.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are the original legal boundaries for block 7, lot 16 of Dante, South Dakota on which the bank was constructed and are the current legal boundaries.

11. Form Prepared By

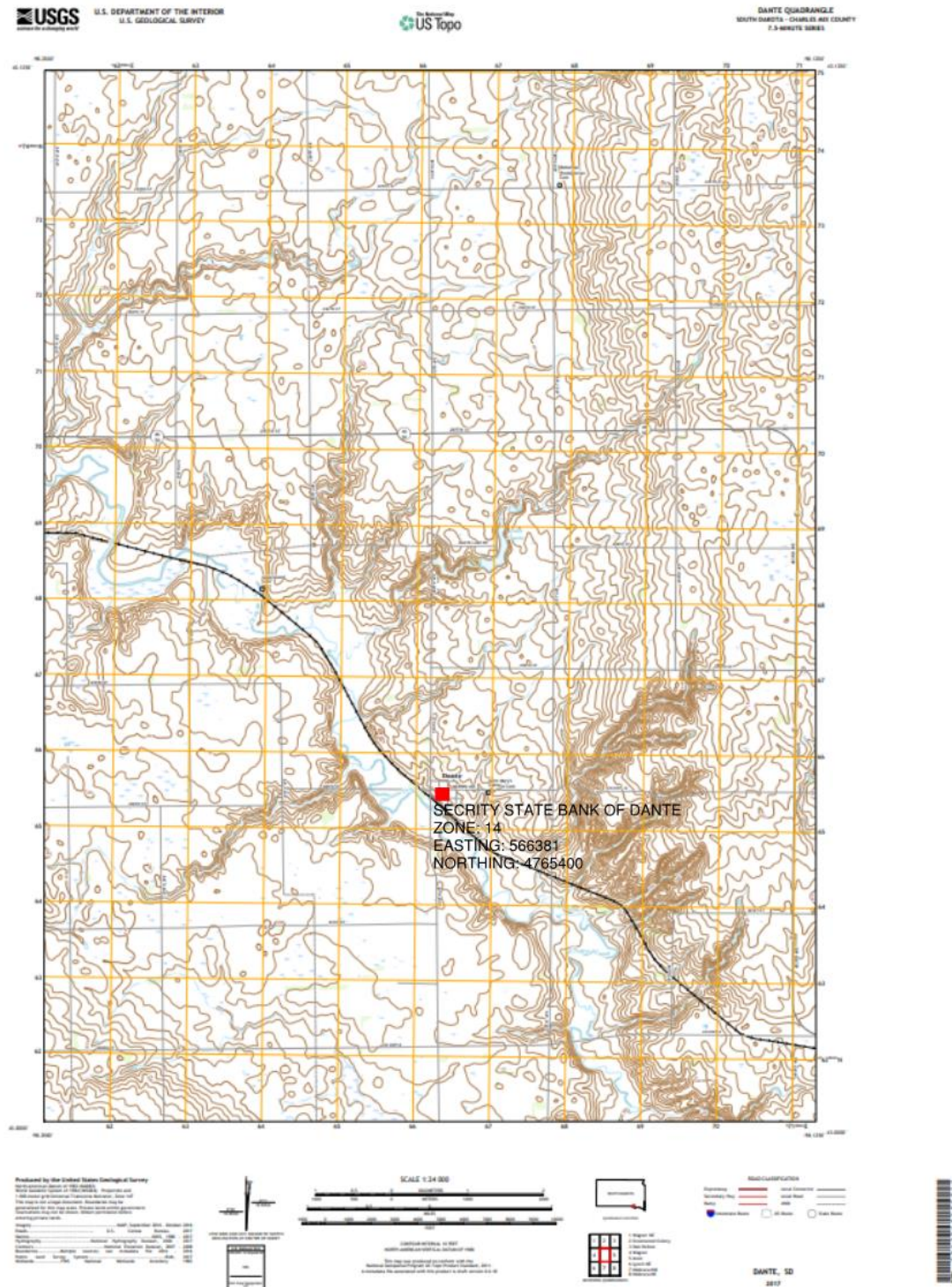
Kristen Oliver, Historic Preservation Specialist; William Hickey, Historic Architect
Collaborative Design Group
125 Main Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
koliver@cdg-mn.com, bhickey@cdg-mn.com
(612) 332-3654
6/8/2018

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Additional Documentation

- Maps:



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Photographs



Photo 1

Security State Bank of Dante
Name of Property

Charles Mix, SD
County and State



Photo 2



Photo 3

Security State Bank of Dante
Name of Property

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Photo 4

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Photo 5



Photo 6

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Photo 7



Photo 8

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Photo 9



Photo 10

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Photo 11

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Photo 12



Photo 13

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Photo 14



Photo 15

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Photo 16

Security State Bank of Dante
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Photo 17

Dante (S.D.), Zenith Pictorial Advertising Aerial Photograph Collection (H90-108).
South Dakota State Historical Society

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Photo 18

Google Maps API. (September 2009). *Warren Avenue, Dante, South Dakota*. Retrieved from https://www.google.com/maps/@43.039524,-98.1846538,3a,75y,129.63h,97.66t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1sTeB-TOG75WYq8JAXVZ0IEw!2e0!6s%2F%2Fgeo3.ggpht.com%2Fcbk%3Fpanoid%3DTeB-TOG75WYq8JAXVZ0IEw%26output%3Dthumbnail%26cb_client%3Dsearch.TACTILE.gps%26thumb%3D2%26w%3D96%26h%3D64%26yaw%3D172.43977%26pitch%3D0%26thumbfov%3D100!7i3328!8i1664

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Photo Log

Photograph 1 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	East elevation, photo taken from street, centered to building, facing west.				
Photograph 2 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	North and east elevations, photo taken from street at angle to building, facing southwest.				
Photograph 3 of 16					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	North and west elevations, photo taken from street at angle to building, facing southeast.				
Photograph 4 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	West elevation, photo taken facing east.				
Photograph 5 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	South and west elevations, photo taken at angle to building, facing northeast.				
Photograph 6 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	East and south elevations, photo taken from street at angle to building, facing northwest.				
Photograph 7 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Photo of a photo provided by the Owner. Date of photo unknown. Taken of the east and north elevations depicting "The Corner Store" sign.				

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Photograph 8 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from east side of the first level front room, facing west.				
Photograph 9 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from east side of the first level front room, facing northwest, showing one of the bank vault doors and shelving from the time it served as a store.				
Photograph 10 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken in the middle of the first level front room, facing upward in the southeast corner of the room, showing the original pressed tin ceiling.				
Photograph 11 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from the east side of the first level front room, facing downward at the hexagon tile floors.				
Photograph 12 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from the middle of the first level front room, facing downward at the hardwood floors.				
Photograph 13 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from the middle of the first level front room, facing northwest at one of the original bank vault doors.				

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Photograph 14 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from the middle of the first level rear room facing northeast, showing the damaged walls and ceilings.				
Photograph 15 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from the middle of first level rear room, facing upward towards the damaged ceiling and remnants of the original pressed tin ceiling.				
Photograph 16 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
SSB	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	CDG	7/26/2017
Description	Interior, photo taken from the west end of the building at the base of the staircase leading to the second floor.				
Photograph 17 of 17					
Property	City	County	State	Photographer	Date
City of Dante	Dante	Charles Mix	SD	Zenith	5/14/1905
Description	Aerial photograph of Dante oriented south towards the former railroad tracks. The Security State Bank can be seen at the center.				

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.