

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received JUL 17 1984
date entered AUG 16 1984

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

1. Name

historic ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING

and/or common "LaCHARITE BUILDING"

2. Location

street & number 201 N. Chestnut 5+ not for publication

city, town Assumption vicinity of

state Illinois code 12 county Christian code 021

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> object	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 GEORGE J. LaCHARITE

street & number 201 N. Chestnut - P.O. Box #2

city, town Assumption vicinity of state Illinois 62510

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Christian County Court House, Recorder of Deeds Ofc.

street & number Court House - is at center of city square

city, town Taylorville state Illinois 62568

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title No Previous Surveys has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition
excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one
unaltered
 altered

Check one
original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The building has three floors and an attic, consisting of a basement which is in excellent condition, a first and second floor and an attic.

The FIRST floor and BASEMENT housed the former ILLINOIS STATE BANK that was located there from 1900 to 1933, and which housed the ASSUMPTION BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION from 1938 to 1965, when the latter merged with a Building and Loan Association in Decatur, Illinois. The FIRST floor and BASEMENT also contained the Law Office of George J. LaCharite from 1948 to the present time, and is still used as his Law Office.

The SECOND floor of the building is an apartment which is in good shape and there is an enclosed carpeted stairway on the West side of the building to the second floor. There is also an attic above the second floor with an enclosed stairwell from the second floor.

The outside structure is of excellent quality light tan brick along with bedford type stone, with two large round cement pillars supporting a peak corner cupola at the East end and top of the entire structure. The building has a mansard type roof which is very attractive. It has copper gutters and is well equipped with down spouts. The building still has its original appearance, except a large chimney that was on the South side of the building, which began to lean about five years ago and became a potential danger to the public and pedestrians, and we thought it best to remove it. We still use the base of the flue for a vent for the gas fired furnace.

The base of the building has recently been waterproofed by the Western Waterproofing Company, Inc. A good many people have stated to the owner

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Name

#1

#1

President of Bank was DAVID LaCHARITE, from 1899 to 1929; The Bank built and owned the building. The Bank closed in 1933; was purchased from "Bank Receiver" in 1938 by DAVID LaCHARITE'S grandson, GEORGE J. LaCHARITE, the present owner. The building has been used as a Law Office since 1947 by GEORGE J. LaCHARITE; it was used at the same time also by the ASSUMPTION BUILDING and LOAN ASSOCIATION until its voluntary liquidation in 1965.

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Description

#7

#1

and his family that the building is the most attractive building in the business section of Assumption. The entrances to the building are lighted each night with overhead indirect lighting.

INTERIOR -

The interior of the building is in excellent condition. The basement is clean, well kept, painted, has toilet facilities, furnace, storage and one of the former BANK'S vaults is still in the basement.

The first floor of the building is where the BANK was and the building has large, well made, white wood doors with beveled glass on them, and there is also a large beautiful door on the South side which also contains beveled glass. The first floor still has the original Bank fixtures and in the partition to the private room on the West part of the building. There are two original walk-in vaults on the first floor, with combination locks on each that are operational, and are used for storage and safekeeping of legal papers. They were formerly used by the Bank to store money and notes, and also one for safety deposit boxes.

The first floor ceiling of the Bank is designed, ornamental metal. There is a large leaded glass partition with the words "SAFETY DEPOSIT VAULT", which is at the top of the partition that separates the Bank lobby and tellers sections from the private office at the West end of the Bank.

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 <i>Secondary</i>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce <i>Primary</i>	<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 Built in 1900 **Builder/Architect** IRA TOBIAS

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Section 8
COMMERCIAL USE IS OF PRIMARY SIGNIFICANCE:

The Illinois State Bank satisfies two National Register criteria. As a well preserved structure, it embodies the physical features of the average turn-of-the-century small town bank in Illinois whose financial services were essential (Criteria A). *Secondarily*, the building is significant as a rare survivor of the local buildings designed with a tower by Ira Tobias (Criteria C).

The building located at the main intersection in the city of Assumption, was the financial center of the city from 1900 to 1933. The present building was built in 1900 and replaced a former bank building that was built in 1883. The building built in 1883 was destroyed by fire in 1899 and was the reason for the erection of the present building which was completed in 1900. The year 1900 is cut in stone above the main entrance.

The building as a bank was the principal loan agency for the Assumption area, which included the town and farmers in a radius of some 8 to 10 miles. The present owner, who deals with area residents every day, hears clients say two or three times a month that their parents and uncles counted on this bank for all of their financial solutions. Several of them say their relatives had to go out of town for their banking needs after this bank closed and still bank

9. Major Bibliographical References

1.) "HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ILLINOIS AND HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY"
Published in 1918 - Munsell Publishing Co. - Vol. II - Page 294
Library in Chicago

2.) PRAIRIE STATE TRIBUNE, a newspaper at Assumption, Illinois - now known as Golden Prairie News 3.) continued

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Assumption, IL.

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A 16 322850 4376300
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

East 52' of South 20 of Lot 10, Block 4, Tacusah, now a part of City of Assumption, Christian County, Illinois

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 George J. LaCharite

organization owner & occupier of bldg since 1938 date 3/1/1984

street & number 510 W. 1st South - P.O. Box 2 telephone 217/226-4100 or 217/226-4242

city or town Assumption state Illinois 62510

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 David Ferry

title Director

date 6/29/84

For NPS use only

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

Melores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

date 8/16/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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out of town. The other Bank in Assumption has never to this day taken the "Normal Bank Risk" on a loan, but has always required Gold Bond Security. Hence, they have never served the needs of the Community like the Illinois State Bank did, even though it is a good safe bank.

The present owner's father, J. A. "Art" LaCharite, was employed in the old bank building as Assistant Cashier and Teller; he was Cashier and Chief Executive Officer in the new bank building from 1915 to 1927, when he died. J. A. "Art" LaCharite had no other occupation or job from the time he was 19 until his untimely death in 1927 at the age of 52; hence, he spent his entire working lifetime as an officer and employee of the ILLINOIS STATE BANK.

The present owner's grandfather, David LaCharite, was Vice-President of the bank from 1897 to 1899 and became president of the bank in 1899, and continued as President until his death in 1929.

From 1883 to 1933, and also at the present time, the people of the Assumption community referred to the intersection of Chestnut and First South Street as the "Bank Corner"; there is another bank across the street on the corner. Most of the parade functions, homecomings and other celebrations in the community start or go by this intersection. Both intersecting streets are paved and asphalted and are wide and improved highways. There is curb and guttering for the entire intersection.

The Bank in its existence from 1883 to 1933 did eighty to

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eighty five percent of the banking business in the community. It really served the area and made many loans to farmers, home builders, and industry, and since the town had a coal mine in it until 1929, it was the bank for all the miners and their families. It is the author's belief that it was a mistake for the bank to have ever closed; as economic history will show, our Government was not able to expand our money supply in 1932-1933 to meet the demands of the public. The bank paid out 92% after it was closed by the State Auditor, which of course was an envious record for any bank that had been closed due to the severe depression at that time. Many good customers of the bank have sorely missed its existence in the community.

ARCHITECTURE IS SECONDARILY SIGNIFICANT:

The architecture of the building is unique in the community and its exterior and interior has been preserved with very minimal alterations. The architect, Ira Tobias, designed a tower for the bank, thereby making it similar to other early homes and commercial buildings constructed in the late 19th century and early 20th century. Ira Tobias designed (1905) the following buildings in Assumption; the United Methodist Church (it burned down in 1965); the Hotel Philip; and the (4-story) James Downs House. The Hotel and the House are still standing. All three buildings had towers. However, the Bank Building is a rare survivor of an architectural feature once common in Assumption, Illinois.

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According to LAVIGNE YOUNT, of Kankakee, Illinois, a daughter of IRA TOBIAS; her father had his degree in Architecture and moved from Assumption, Illinois to Springfield, Illinois during the time of World War I; and that he was an Architect with the Department of Public Works and Buildings, State of Illinois. He worked for the State of Illinois until his death in 1939.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 3.) "ASSUMPTION CENTURY OF PROGRESS, 1853-1953", published in 1953 by The Prairie State Tribune, Assumption, Illinois; available at the Assumption Public Library, Assumption, Illinois
- 4.) GEORGE J. LaCHARITE; he is the grandson of DAVID LaCHARITE, who was President of the Bank from 1899 to 1929

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Illinois State Bank Building
Christian County
ILLINOIS

JUL 17 1984

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85

Date Due: 8/16/84 - 8/31/84

Action: ACCEPT 8-16-84

Entered in the _____ RETURN _____

National Register _____ REJECT _____

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

Illinois State Bank Building
Christian County
ILLINOIS

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



5 X 7 Black & White inside picture of the "LaCHAPELITE BUILDING" whose historic name was "THE ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING", Assumption, Illinois

#1 - This picture depicts the first floor ceiling of the old "BANK BUILDING" which is of designed ornamental metal which was in many buildings and commercial store buildings built in the early nineteen hundreds.

It also shows the beautiful lead glass partition from the main room of the old "BANK BUILDING" to the private office and safety deposit vault located also off the private office. Below the lead glass are two (2) etched glass transoms. It also shows the grill work around the Teller's Cages of the "Bank Building". Everything in this picture was placed there in 1900 other than the fluorescent light fixture on the ceiling and the air-conditioner shown on the left wall. We have the original light fixtures that hung where the fluorescent fixtures are now attached and we could re-install them.

Photographer: Joyce Throneburg
201 N. Poplar
Assumption, Il. 62510

Date of Photo:
7-8-83



5 X 7 Black & White inside picture of the "LaCHARITE BUILDING" whose historic name was "THE ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING", Assumption, Illinois.

#2 - This picture shows the Safety Deposit Vault door which is off of the private office, which vault door is operational and which is presently used for storing business papers for fire protection.

The oak wood door shown next to the vault door, is natural oak and the beautiful oak woodwork above it is also in its natural state. This door has on it the original beautiful hardware which was installed on it in 1900.

In addition to this heavy Vault Door with combination, there is another inside set of steel doors - masonry walls of the Vault are 24 inches thick. Inside dimension of the Vault is approximately 10' X 6'

Photographer: Joyce Throneburg
201 N. Poplar
Assumption, IL 62510

Date of Photo: 7-8-83



3,
5 X 7 Black & White inside picture of the "LaCHARITE BUILDING" whose historic name was "THE ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING", Assumption, Illinois

#3 - This picture depicts part of the inside of the Building as shown in picture #1, except that it is taken closer to the entrance door to the East.

This picture shows more of the Teller's Cages and more of the steel grill work in the wood frame and below the grill work is beautiful beveled edge etched glass. The counter top of the Teller's Cages are black marble or slate with brass edging to the front with large brass screws. You can look through the steel grill work and see one of the original electric light fixtures

Photographer: Joyce Throneburg.
201 N. Poplar
Assumption, Mo. 62510

Date of Photo:
7-8-83



5 X 7 Black & White inside picture of the "LaCHARITE BUILDING" whose historic name was "THE ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING", Assumption, Illinois.

#4 - This picture depicts the main vault to the West and North of the Teller's Cages and one of the original chairs and a small picture that has long been here in the Bank Building. This vault is also operational and is used also to house legal papers and other things for fire protection. The light fixture above the vault is also original from the nineteen hundreds.

The large heavy steel Vault door with combination has also a second inside set of steel doors - masonry walls of the Vault are 24 inches thick. Dimension of the inside of this Vault is 12 feet by six feet.

Photographer: Joyce Throneburg
201 W. Poplar
Assumption, Mo. 62510

Date of Photo:
7-8-83



5 X 7 Black & White outside picture of the "LaCHARITE BUILDING" whose historic name was "THE ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING", Assumption, Illinois.

#5 - This picture depicts the old "ILLINOIS STATE BANK BUILDING" and was taken across the street S. E. from the building. The awnings shown above the two (2) large windows of the building, replaced former metal awnings that were originally placed there and were copied as nearly as possible from the original awnings. The two (2) white front doors and the white side door were replaced ten (10) years ago as they suffered deterioration from sun and weather. An architect measured the doors and had them special built at HUNTER POGUE LUMBER CO. in Decatur, Illinois. The bevelled and leaded glass that was in the old doors was transferred to the new doors and the original hardware was replated and put back on the new doors as well as the brass kick plates which were on the bottom of all three doors.

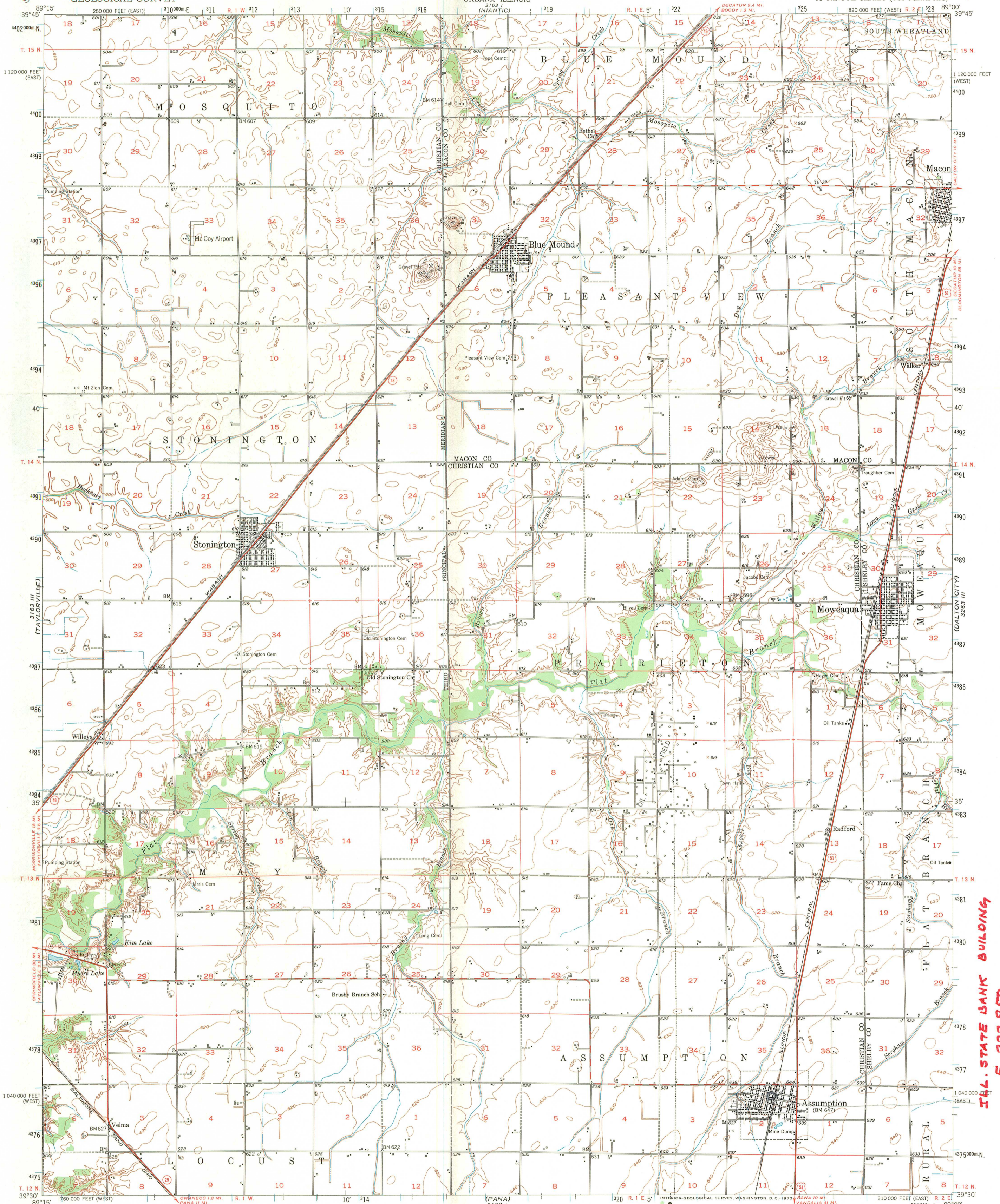
Photographer: Jayce Throneburg
201 N. Poplar
Assumption, IL 62510

Date of Photo :
7-8-83

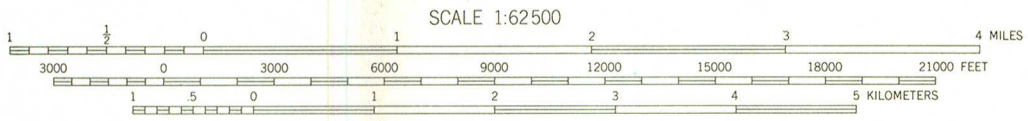
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF ILLINOIS
WILLIAM G. STRATON, GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION
VERA M. BINKS, DIRECTOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION, M. M. LEIGHTON, CHIEF
URBANA ILLINOIS

ASSUMPTION QUADRANGLE
ILLINOIS
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1950. Topography by plane-table surveys 1945 and 1951-1952
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Illinois coordinate system,
east and west zones
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
Medium-duty 4 LANE 8 LANE Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route State Route

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT HALF-INTERVAL CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ASSUMPTION, ILL.
N 3930-W8900/15

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801

1952
AMS 3163 II-SERIES V763

ILL. STATE BANK BUILDING
E 322 850
N 4376 300