

Waseca Downtown Historic District Virtual Walking Tour

Building Address: **100 State Street North**

Built circa 1903

Occupied by:

- First National Bank (1903-1971)
- Luther Barbershop in basement (early 1900s)
- Arlington Club (young men's social club that met in the basement meeting room) 1903-1918
- Public library in rear (??-1919)
- Waseca Emporium (1970s-1980s)
- Central Natural Gas Company (1970s)
- North Star Travel Service (1970s-1980s)
- Optometrist on second floor (mid 1970s)
- Beauty center on second floor (mid 1970s)
- Daily Grind Espresso Shop (2000s)
- Trio Coffee-Wine-Spirits (2010s-2021)

This is a two-story brick commercial building that has seen few alternations since it was built in 1903. Its primary façade is in the Renaissance Revival style and is covered in cream-colored brick and finished stone. The centrally located entrance is framed by Doric-style columns and pilasters and has a modern glass-and-steel door. Large commercial windows flank the entrance. The second story facing west has four windows with round brick arches and stone sills. The south elevation (along Elm Ave. E.) has windows with flat stone lintels and sills on the first and second levels. First constructed for use as a bank in 1903, the building has seen multiple occupants throughout it's history with businesses located on the main level, the basement, and the second story at various time periods.

Photos of 100 State Street North

*From the Waseca County Historical Society Archives



Circa 1900 – This photo is captioned as being taken in “1900 Approximate” – since the building was constructed in 1903, it’s reasonable to assume this is from the early 1900s. Excellent example showing the exterior of First National Bank and a clear indication where the modern renovation received its inspiration. Also note that the streets in Waseca appear unpaved at this point.



Circa 1908 – The interior of First National Bank in Waseca. The Renaissance Revival influence is evident.



Postcard from 1919 showing Waseca's business district. Luther Barber Shop is located in the basement of First National Bank at this time (see barber pole attached to the building).



1983 – This photo shows Waseca Emporium which occupied the main commercial building beginning in 1971. A sign North Star Travel Service is also visible. The entrance is to the left, rather than center, but the four windows of the second story depict the Renaissance Revival style.



2006 – Shows the modern renovation in the early 2000s that brought the building back to its Renaissance Revival stylistic origins.