

S-22
Old Bank of Somerset
Princess Anne
private

c. 1884

Distinctive among the nineteenth-century commercial buildings of Princess Anne is the Old Bank of Somerset, a two-story, three-bay brick structure highlighted with round as well as pointed arch window openings. Matching paneled doors flank the center, round arched window opening that is distinguished by a molded brick window head. The second floor follows a similar arrangement with two-over-two sash windows flanking a large center window. In contrast to the first floor, a pair of narrow lancet windows were designed under a modified version of the molded brick head. Additional embellishments include a decorative, corbelled brick cornice and projecting corner pilasters. Attached to the back of the building is a pyramidal roofed addition detailed in a similar manner.

Although this building housed the Bank of Somerset offices after the bank was organized in 1889, the structure was actually erected by the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Somerset and Worcester counties after the insurance company purchased the unimproved "Hotel Property" lot from Price J. Patton in 1884. Evidently the bank rented the office until it was decided to erect its own building on the west side of Somerset Avenue. In 1955, the board of directors of the insurance company sold the brick office and lot to attorney, Edgar A. Jones, and the structure has served as a law office since that time.

Richardson

5-22

Richardson
Somerset Bank