

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AMBLER  
30 E. Butler Pike  
Amber  
Montgomery County  
Pennsylvania

HABS NO. PA-6031

HABS  
PA  
46-AMB,  
8-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 97127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AMBLER  
(Mellon Bank)

HABS No. PA-6031

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8-

Location: Corner of Butler and Spring Garden streets, Ambler, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Significance: This building is the second structure to house the First National Bank of Amber. By the early twentieth century the original bank, established and built in Ambler, Pennsylvania in 1884, became inadequate to serves the growing population of the Keasbey and Mattison Company town, and the current structure was erected in 1923.

Description: The bank is two stories high, five bays wide by eight bays long. The walls are of cut stone, smooth on the first course, but rough-faced above that. The east elevation is divide by full-length quoins on each corner and by a pair of quoins flanking the main entrance. Above the window level is a belt-course of stone with dentils. The roof is flat. A clock is set into the stone above the main doorway. Windows have stone lintels, sills, and architrave (and in some cases stone mullions as well). The windows are iron barred. At some point after its original construction an ironwork overhang was added above the main entrance. (Undated photograph of First National Bank of Ambler published in The Beautiful Montgomery County Suburbs-shows metalwork overhang suspended above doorway.) Recently a handicap ramp has been added to the stairway of the main entrance.

The interior is finished in marble. There is a loft level above the entranceway and another above the vault. To the right are tellers counters, to the left, a low flat counter. The original vault remains.

History: The bank was erected in 1923 to house the First National bank of Ambler, organized in 1884 by Benjamin P. Werstner and other prominent citizens. The original building was constructed in 1884 at Butler and Spring Garden streets, the location of the present Mellon Bank. A larger facility was later needed and the stone 1884 bank was moved on logs to the rear corner of the property and converted to offices. The new bank was built in the same year. The First National Bank of Ambler closed in 1933 and re-open under the Ambler National Bank in 1934. The Ambler National Bank merged with Girard Trust Corn Exchange Bank in 1957, which later merged with Mellon Bank around 1983.

Sources: Field survey, Summer 1994.

Historian: Thomas Heard, HABS, summer 1994