

THE CENTREVILLE BANK

150 Years of Service to Rhode Island



by Frank Bennett

For 150 years The Centreville Bank, now Centreville National Bank, has been a symbol of strength, integrity and public confidence to the people it serves in that part of Rhode Island known as the Pawtuxet Valley. Since 1828, when it opened its doors, the bank has given continuous service, a record equalled by few banks in our country. The long road has not been easy as there have been many lean years for the Pawtuxet Valley and for the bank. Able management enabled this institution to weather every storm, keeping pace in the services it rendered with the needs of the community.

Originally located in the village of Centreville, the bank moved to Artic in 1901 when the demand for services dictated the need for a larger facility. This was a logical location since Artic had become the business center of the Valley. Business grew as the new location made the bank even more convenient for the community. Years of experience won ever widening confidence and within 27 years it was necessary to build even larger quarters. In 1928, a new building was built on Main Street in Artic and is still in use today.

At this time, when other Rhode Island banks have been liquidated or absorbed by larger banks, Centreville National is still going strong on its own, a fact proved by the opening of their first branch office a few years ago.

The bank notes from The Centreville Bank do not appear on the market very often. I have seen notes of the \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00 and \$10.00 denominations. The bank also issued \$3.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 notes. Notes from Centreville National Bank seem to be equally scarce. Table 2 shows the types and denominations issued along with the serial numbers. An original series \$2.00 is the only first charter note reported and no second charter notes are known. A third charter \$10.00 1902-1908 back appeared in an auction last year and a \$10.00 plain back is also known. A 1929 type 1 \$10 turned up recently and is the only small-size note known from this bank. This note reflects the change in name of the western part of Warwick, which became West Warwick in 1913.

If any readers know of notes not reported please drop me a line at P.O. Box 8153, Coral Springs, FL 33065.

Signature combinations appearing on bank notes from The Centreville Bank and Centreville National Bank.

	CASHIER	PRESIDENT		
1828-1852	Moses Fifield	John Greene		
1852-1857	Moses Fifield	Cyrus Harris		
1857-1865	Moses Fifield, Jr.	Cyrus Harris		
1865-1879	Moses Fifield, Jr.	Jonathan Brayton		
1879-1886	Moses Fifield, Jr.	Ezra J. Cady		
1886-1895	Moses Fifield, Jr.	Enos Lapham		
1895-1900	Moses Fifield, Jr.	George B. Waterhouse		
1900-1918	Thomas W.D. Clarke	George B. Waterhouse		
1918-1923	Everett W. Whitford	George B. Waterhouse		
1924- *	J. Robert Abramson	Everett W. Whitford		

* Mr. Abramson and Mr. Whitford remained in office together after the note issuing period came to an end in 1935.

THE CENTREVILLE NATIONAL BANK OF WARWICK

First Charter Original Series			
1 -1 -1 -2 plate	serials	1 -	2830
5 -5 -5 -5 plate	serials	1 -	3500
10-10-10-20 plate	serials	1 -	2000
First Charter Series of 1875			
10-10-10-20 plate	serials	1-	2940
Second Charter Brown Backs			
10-10-10-20 plate	serials	1 -	5840
Third Charter Red Seals			
10-10-10-20 plate	serials	1 -	1900
Third Charter 1902-1908 Backs			
10-10-10-20 plate	serials	1 -	4700
Third Charter Plain Back Blue Seals			
10-10-10-20 plate	serials 47	01 -	11983
1929 Series			
10 type 1	serials	100	
20 type 1	serials		
5 type 2	serials		
10 type 2	serials		
20 type 2	serials	1 -	475