

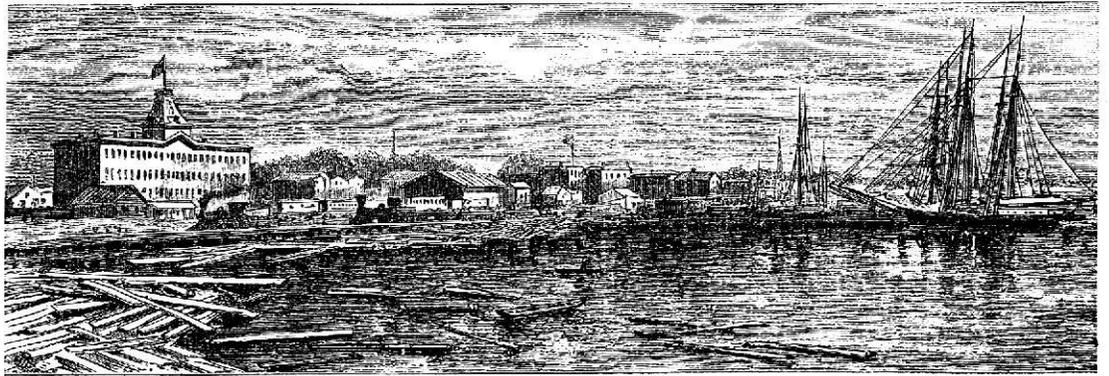
W. B. Barnett
Founder



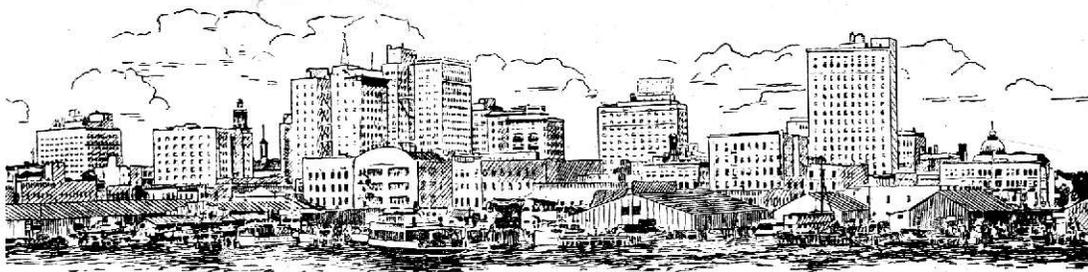
The Barnett
National Bank

Sixty Years Ago

1877



and Today



1937

In the Autumn of 1875 W. B. Barnett, founder of the Barnett National Bank, came to Jacksonville from Hiawatha, Kansas. He was most favorably impressed and believed Florida had a great future. Being a man of determined action, he returned to Kansas, closed his interests there, and on March 17, 1877 he and his family arrived in Jacksonville to become permanent citizens.

In May he opened a bank, known as the Bank of Jacksonville, in the old Freedman's Bank Building on the southwest corner of Pine (now Main) and Forsyth Streets. The office force consisted of W. B. Barnett, Bion H. Barnett, and one clerk. This was sixty years ago. Today the bank employs more than one hundred persons.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

There were only six banks in the state: one national and five state and private banks. Of those six, only the Barnett National of Jacksonville, and the Lewis State Bank at Tallahassee have continued in business.

Total deposits in all banks in the state were \$353,579. Today the Barnett National alone has on deposit \$22,612,567.45. The largest bank in the United States was The Importers and Traders of New York, with \$18,265,519.14 on deposit. Chicago's largest bank, The First National, boasted \$5,394,966.42.

Let us now make some comparisons showing how the City of Jacksonville has grown. In 1877 the corporate boundaries were on the south, St. Johns River; east, Hogan's Creek; north, Hogan's Creek; west, Clay Street. West of Clay Street was LaVilla; east of Hogan's Creek was East Jacksonville. Each had a separate town organization and government.

All north of Hogan's Creek was called Springfield. There were three or four residences on what was afterwards called First Street. All the rest was vacant land.

In 1877 Jacksonville in area comprised approximately 200 acres. In 1937 the area is approximately 25,000 acres. The population in 1877 was approximately 7,500. The population given in the 1935 census was 146,259. A glance at the pictures above will emphasize the differences.

More will be told about the growth of Jacksonville, the bank, and other contemporary activities in subsequent advertisements.

BARNETT NATIONAL BANK

A FLORIDA
LANDMARK

JACKSONVILLE
"The Oldest National Bank in Florida"
ESTABLISHED 1877

