

# A Brief History of OPTUS BANK



## 1921

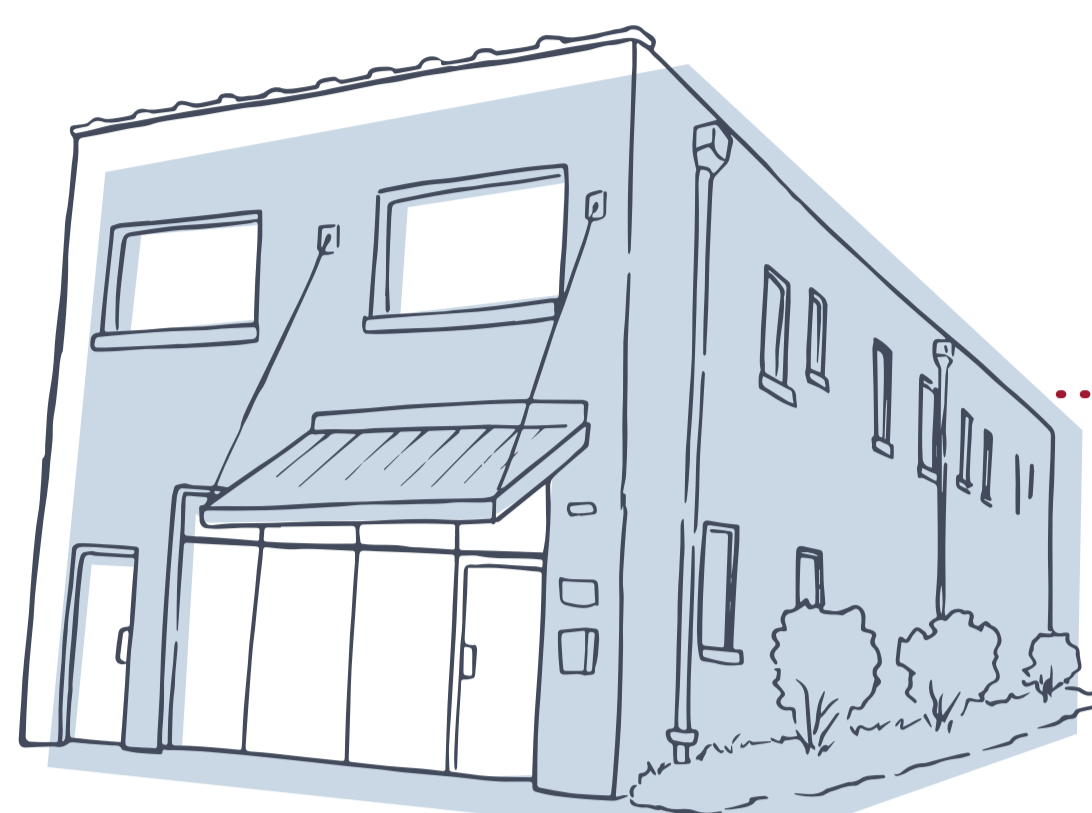
### Victory Savings Bank Established

Victory Savings Bank, established on October 8, 1921 was South Carolina's first black-owned bank. The bank was chartered by president I.J. Joseph and vice presidents I.S. Leevy and C.E. Stephenson. It was located in the center of Columbia's black business district, at 1107 Washington St.

## 1948

### Dr. Henry Monteith Becomes President

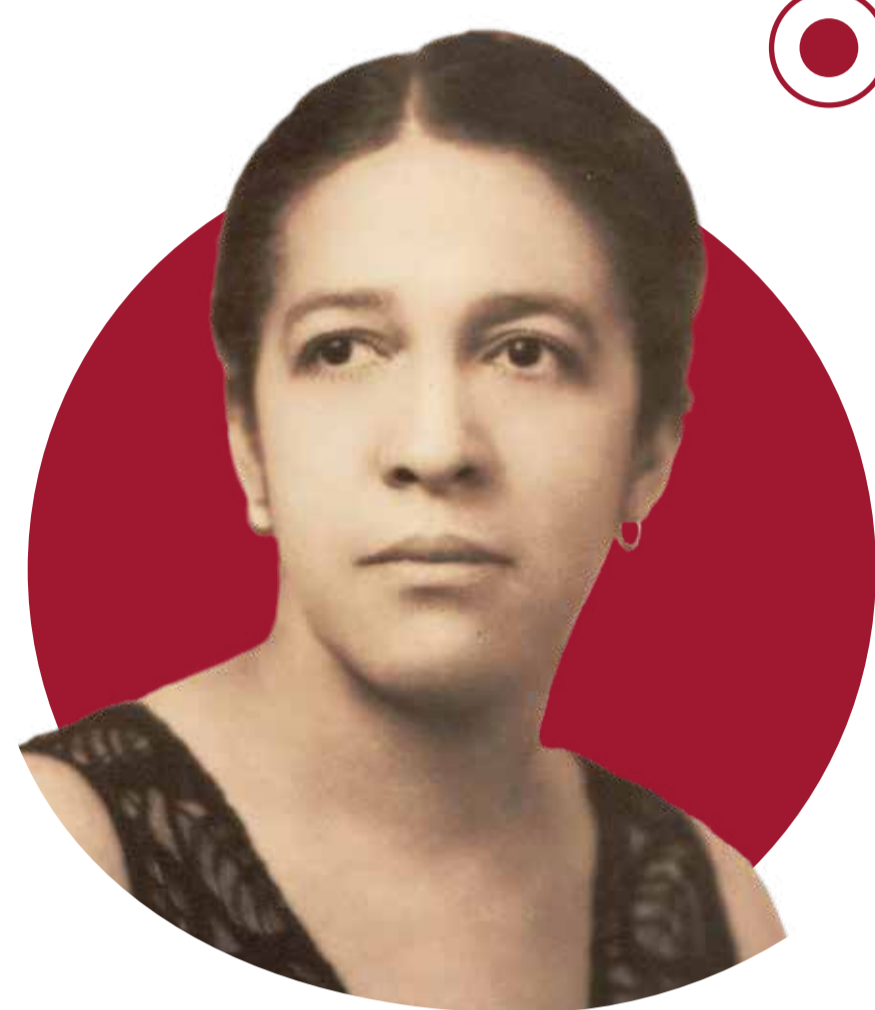
In 1948, Dr. Henry Monteith took over as president and served until 1979. During this time, the bank moved to 919 Washington St.



## 1955

### Relocation

During Dr. Monteith's time as president, the bank moved to 919 Washington St.



## 1957

### Modjeska Simkins Joins the Team

Modjeska Monteith Simkins joined the bank full-time in 1957 as the public-relations director.

## 1962

### New Branch Opens

A new branch opened in 1962 at 1503 Harden St., which was managed by Modjeska. She stayed at the bank until 1982 as the head of the bookkeeping department while managing the branch.



## 1999

### Victory Bank Revived

Following financial difficulties in 1999, a group of local African American business leaders revived the bank as South Carolina Community Bank, and relocated to Sumter St.



“At the end of the day, the bank will only be as successful as its customers.”

- Paul Mitchell

## 2012

### Paul Mitchell Becomes Chairman

In 2012, successful entrepreneur and long-time investor in the bank, Paul Mitchell became Chairman and led the bank out of the Great Recession into stability and growth.

## 2014

### Historic Marker Unveiled

A historic marker was unveiled in 2014 at the site of the former Victory Savings Bank.



## 2017

### Dominik Mjartan Joins the Team

In 2017, Dominik Mjartan joined Chairman Mitchell and Director Kenny Loyd as an investor and President/CEO with a goal to grow the bank's mission impact and financial strength.

“Every person should have a fair chance to earn a good living or to build a business or buy a house.”

- Dominik Mjartan



## 2019

### Renamed Optus Bank

In 2019, the bank was renamed to Optus Bank and expanded to 1241 Main Street.

## 2020

### All-Time Record

Optus Bank reaches an all-time record profitability and assets of nearly \$200 million.



## 2021

