

HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

(Staff Use Only)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
DEPARTMENT of CULTURE & HISTORY
SCIENCE & CULTURE CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

File No: 6
Theme(s):
Neg No(s):
USCS Quad:
UTM Ref: 17 451 640 4346 300

DISTRICT: .SITE. BUILDING: .STRUCTURE. OBJECT

1. NAME(S), historic/common: Smoot Theater
(Downtown Parkersburg MRA)

2. LOCATION, street/road: 213 ^{5th} Fifth St.
TAX MAP - LOT # 92-32
city/town: Parkersburg, WV 26101
(Incorporated/unincorporated)

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: theater
original: theater

(public/private) restricted

4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: Joseph Raad Realty Co.
address above
original: Smoot Amusement

(public/private)

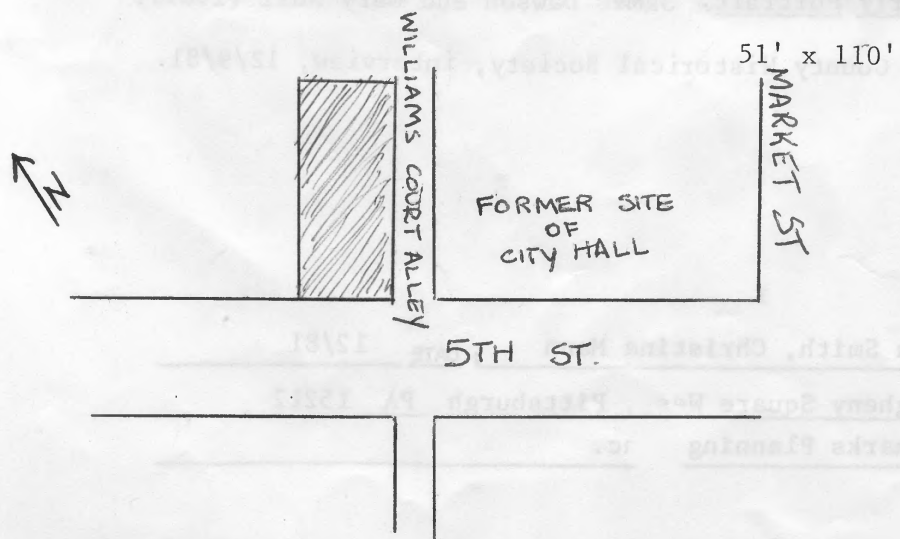
5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF: 8112-R2-F6
8201-R1-F17,18,20

7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):



6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT (map):

8. ACREAGE (approx):



COUNTY: Wood
Survey Region: _____
Planning District: _____

9. DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate): See attached

a. Exterior Fabric

stone _____
 brick _____ X _____
 concrete _____
 stucco _____
 weatherboard _____
 clapboard _____
 board & batten _____
 shingle _____
 other terra cotta _____
 trim _____

b. Structural System

masonry _____ X _____
 frame _____ X _____
 log _____
 metal _____
 other _____
 foundation stone _____

c. Roofing Material

wood _____
 metal _____
 slate _____
 tile _____
 asphalt _____ X _____
 composition _____
 other _____

d. Associated Structures (use/type):

outbuildings _____

 dependencies _____

 other _____

e. Integrity (include dates):

original site/relocated _____
 alterations 1st story facade _____

 additions _____

f. Condition:

excellent _____
 good _____ X _____
 fair _____
 deteriorated _____
 abandoned _____

g. Threats:

None apparent.

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer:

b. Style/Period: Classical

c. Date(s): c. 1926

Records show that the Smoot Amusement Company erected a brick and terra cotta building at 211 Fifth Street in 1926. The 1st story, shown in an artist's conception, was of banded brick.

As a focal point of entertainment in downtown, this building is significant as an example of the 1920's theatre construction boom in America which witnessed the appearance of elaborate (note the presence of terracotta ornamentation) "movie palaces" that continued in use through the transitional period when "silent films" was superseded by sound.

The Smoot was a popular vaudeville and movie house. After the Camden (8th & Market) burned in 1929, this was the theater in Parkersburg.

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Parkersburg: An Early Portrait, James Dawson and Gary Null (1969).

James Vaughan, Wood County Historical Society, interview, 12/9/81.

12. FORM PREPARED BY Eliza Smith, Christina Mann ; DATE 12/81

a. Address Allegheny Square West, Pittsburgh PA 15212

b. Organization Landmarks Planning nc.

Smoot Theater
213 Fifth Street
92-32

A simple Classical front in buff brick with a Greek key cornice on consoles and a 2nd story inset with 4 fluted columns in antis supporting a straight cornice, as well as a later tiled 1st story and marquee, mask a severely simple red brick building.



8001-RJ-F13
111 Fifth Street
Snoot Theater
02-32

A simple classical front in buff brick with a Greek key cornice on consoles
and a 2nd story inset with a fluted column in center supporting a straight
cornice, as well as a later tiled 1st story and maroon, mark a severely
simple red brick building.

8001-RJ-F13