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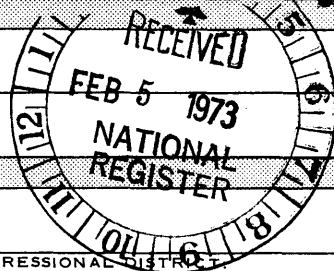
Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Florida
COUNTY:	Palm Beach
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	DEC 12 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
Paramount Theatre Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
145 North County Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Palm Beach

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Ninth District

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Palm Beach CODE: 099

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Reid Moore, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
333 Colonial Road

CITY OR TOWN:
West Palm Beach

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Palm Beach County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Palm Beach

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Hoffstot-Grunke Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Palm Beach Historic Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
Flagler Museum, Whitehall Way

CITY OR TOWN:
Palm Beach

STATE:
Florida

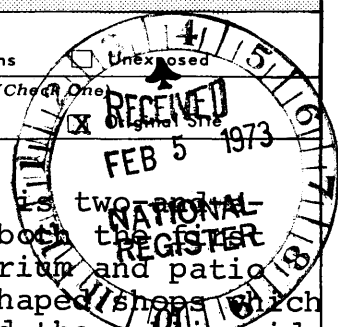
CODE:
12

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Florida
COUNTY:	Palm Bch
ENTRY NUMBER	DEC 12 1973
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	



DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The main auditorium of the theatre complex is two half stories high with shops and apartments on both first and second floors. The fan shape of the auditorium and patio is followed at the perimeter by the irregular shaped shops which are symmetrically disposed between the patio and the public sidewalk. The walls are hollow structural tile which has been stuccoed and painted white. The roof of the auditorium, visible at the projection booth level, is framed by steel trusses which radiate from the stage end. Above the wide arched two-and-a-half-story entranceway is a breezeway terrace, with one end overlooking the street intersection and the opposite end overlooking the patio below. The open ends of the terrace are enclosed by a wood balustrade while the stucco walls of offices enclose the other two sides. Steps recessed into the terrace deck lead down to the level of the office floors. The stuccoed arches are supported by abbreviated free-standing columns with pelican and snake designs. Below this terrace is the entrance breezeway leading to the patio and theatre.

The original doors are of wood with fifteen lights. Several of these have been replaced with single-light commercial doors. All openings with simple wood frames are set into plaster reveals. The entrance doorway to the auditorium contains four plate glass doors which are not original. Transoms above are presently filled with wood panels; enclosed by blind arches and hood moulding. Fire exit doors to the patio are double with fixed louvers.

Shop windows are fixed plate glass, one-light, with an operating hinged pointed arch transom with four lights. In the office suites on the second floor, windows are single-hung, 6/6 lights. The fixed top sash has a glazed arch set into the wood frame. The window screens are also arched within a rectangular frame. Windows in the apartment wings on the second floor are grouped with doors to form an arcaded effect of pointed arches with a continuous hood moulding beginning at the sills. These single-hung windows have intersecting wood tracery in the fixed pointed arches. Windows in the apartments around the auditorium are single-hung, 6/6 lights with a fixed top sash.

The end apartment wings have knee-tiled hipped roofs. Shed roofs over the other apartments are also tiled. The two-story office wings have built-up flat roofs concealed by a low parapet. The main auditorium roof is also built up. Overhanging eaves on the main entrance have decoratively carved exposed rafters. Similar rafters are exposed under the shed roofs. There is a copper sheathed dome over the projecting wing at the main entrance lobby. The copper surface is decorated with embossed intersecting lancet arches closely spaced. The dome does not express any interior space and cannot be viewed from the interior.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

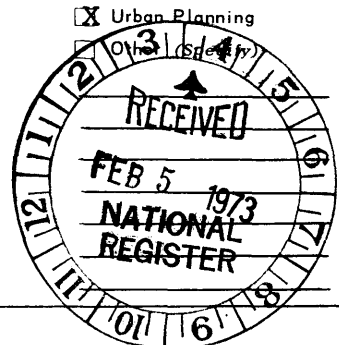
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1926**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Designed as a complete cultural center, the Paramount Theatre Building is a superb blend of cinema, residences, restaurants, commercial shops and offices. It was designed in 1926, by Josef Urban, world renowned, Austrian architect, whose previous works included the alteration of the Egyptian Khedive's Palace in 1894, designing of the Tsar's Bridge over the Neva River in Russia in 1896, and producing designs for the Boston Opera Company and the Metropolitan Opera Company in the United States. The success of the overall design concept of the theatre is demonstrated by the fact that commercial and residential properties have continued in use and increased in value to the present time, while the theatre itself remained in operation until 1968, and is presently being restored and renovated for further operation.

The theatre was designed for the presentation of live performances as well as silent films. Thus its acoustics were suitable for the successful showing of "talking pictures" which were introduced shortly after its construction. It was officially opened on January 9, 1927, with the premier showing of the American film classic "Beau Geste", starring Ronald Coleman. In addition to film premiers, benefit performances brought many outstanding theatre personalities to the Paramount stage, including Dorothy Dalton, George Gershwin, Al Jolson and Billie Burke.

Although some minor alterations have been carried out in recent years, the theatre retains nearly all of its original form and appearance. The current restoration is intended to preserve both the aesthetic quality of its Venetian interior and its economic viability as a theatre. In addition, a display of the special effects machines from the silent film era, and the original synchronized disc sound machine with which the theatre was equipped will further emphasize its historic significance.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Palm Beach County Courthouse, Palm Beach, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Palm Beach County Records. (Subgroup: deeds).

Urban, Josef (Architect). Original drawings as transcribed and recorded in HABS, No. Florida-230. On file at Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N26° 43' 10"	W80° 02' 16"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 1/4 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William N. Thurston, Chief Preservation Planner
Roger H. Grunke, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt. DATE: 8/21/71

STREET AND NUMBER: Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Robert William

Title: State Liaison Officer

1/3/73

Date: _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connelly
~~XXXXXX~~
Associate Director, Professional Services

Date: DEC 12 1973

ATTEST: _____
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 12-6-73

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