

FORM B - BUILDING

AUG 07 1989

1315

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

487

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

SEE ATTACHED MAP

Town Quincy, MA / MRAAddress 14 Beale StreetHistoric Name Wollaston TheatreUse: Present theatreOriginal theatre

DESCRIPTION

Date 1926Source Building permitStyle Classical RevivalArchitect E.H. McEwanExterior Wall Fabric brickOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) interior-conversion to a movie theatre-1932Condition fairMoved no Date N/AAcreage less than an acre: 18,750 sq.ft.Setting The theatre is in the heart ofa neighborhood commercial center inWollaston.UTM REFERENCE 19/333,650 E/4,680,010 NUSGS QUADRANGLE Boston South, MASCALE 1: 25,000Recorded by Fannin and Lehner / J. JohnsonOrganization Quincy Historical CommissionDate July 1, 1986 / May 1987

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Classical Revival style Wollaston Theatre is the only surviving example of suburban theatre architecture in Quincy. Associated with the development of Quincy's neighborhood commercial centers in the 1920s, the Wollaston Theatre retains integrity of association, materials, design, location, feeling, workmanship and setting.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessors Records.

Building permit

Doris Oberg, Quincy Historical Society.

Quincy Patriot Ledger, November 15, 1926, p.8; December 7, 1979, p.8.

Quincy Sun, June 17, 1973, p.13

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

QUINCY

FORM NO:

487

Property Name: *Wollaston Theatre*

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE — 14 BEALE STREET
WOLLASTON THEATRE

The Classical Revival Wollaston Theatre is a fine example of a suburban theatre, the only one of thirteen built in Quincy in the nineteen teens and nineteen twenties to survive. The building was designed by local architect E. H. McEwan who also designed the "Strand" in Quincy Center in 1925 (demolished in 1982). The theatre's entrance is clearly identified by a triangular marquis topped by stylized electrified letters reading "Wollaston." The marquis extends from a parapet with a cartouche in the center. The facade is composed of simple storefronts which are separated by stylized Corinthian pilasters. The parapet is embellished with raised cast stone classic swags over each commercial establishment (removable signs currently obscure the parapet over the left storefront). The main doors in the recessed entrance are topped with transoms of stained glass filled with urns and ribbons the mosaic floor at the entrance is decorated with the initials "W.T." The interior is divided into the inner and outer lobby. In the latter a large crystal chandelier hangs from a oval frieze filled with urns, relating the design of the stained glass of the entrance. The freestanding ticket booth is original. The dado is made up of three different colored marbles. The inner lobby also has a chandelier with the same oval frieze with urns, stained glass windows and a terrazo floor.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: QUINCY, MA	Form No: 487
Property Name: <i>Wollaston Theatre</i>	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE -- 14 BEALE STREET
WOLLASTON THEATRE

The Wollaston Theatre is a local landmark, the focal point of the commercial and civic neighborhood node that emerged at the corner of Hancock and Beale Streets in Wollaston during the 1920s. Built in 1926, as a legitimate theatre and movie house, the Wollaston Theatre is the only theatre to survive of the thirteen built in Quincy Center and Quincy's neighborhoods (Hough's Neck, Quincy Point, Norfolk Downs) in the nineteen teens and twenties. The theatre was built and originally owned by Edward H. Sears, a Quincy contractor active in the 1920s. The Sears family retained ownership until 1977 when they sold the building to the present owner, Arthur Chandler. The theatre has been run as a movie house since 1930.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 17 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Quincy MRA
State Norfolk County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

71. White, Charles E., House
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____72. Winfield House
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____73. Wollaston Branch, Thomas Crane
Public Library
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____74. Wollaston Fire Station
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____75. Wollaston Theatre
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____

76. Wollaston Unitarian Church

Entered in the
National Register
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____

77. Baxter--King House

Masonic Temple

Keeper Shelous Byers 11/13/89
Attest _____

78. Masonic Temple

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 11/13/89
Attest _____

79. Pettengill, C.F., House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 11/13/89
Attest _____

80. Woodward Institute

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 11/13/89
Attest _____81. Smith, A.C., & Co. Gas Station
Subst.
Review

2/23/91

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Wollaston Theatre
NAME:

MULTIPLE Quincy MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 8/07/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/07/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/21/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001315

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/20/89 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

 count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

 historic current

DESCRIPTION

 architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

 summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

 acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

 sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



Wollaston Theatre 14 Beale St
Quincy MA

Julie Johnson July 1987
Planning Dept - Quincy

facing South
487

Wellston

FRI & THURS
SECRET OF MY SUCCESS
COMEDY
NEXT H & HENDERSONS

FRI & THURS
SECRET OF MY SUCCESS
COMEDY
NEXT H & HENDERSONS



Wollaston Theatre 14 Beale St
Quincy

Julie Johnson - July '97

Planny Dept - Quincy

Fairy South

487



Wenaston Theatre 14 Beale St
Gurney Ma, MA

Julie Johnson - July 87

Planning Dept - Gurney

facing south

487



Wollaston
FRI & THURS
SECRET OF MY SUCCESS
COMEDY
NEXT H & HENDERSONS

Smoke Shop
G

Christian Science Reading Room

Wollaston Theatre 14 Beale St

Qumey

Julie Johnson July 87

Planning Dept Qumey

Fanny South

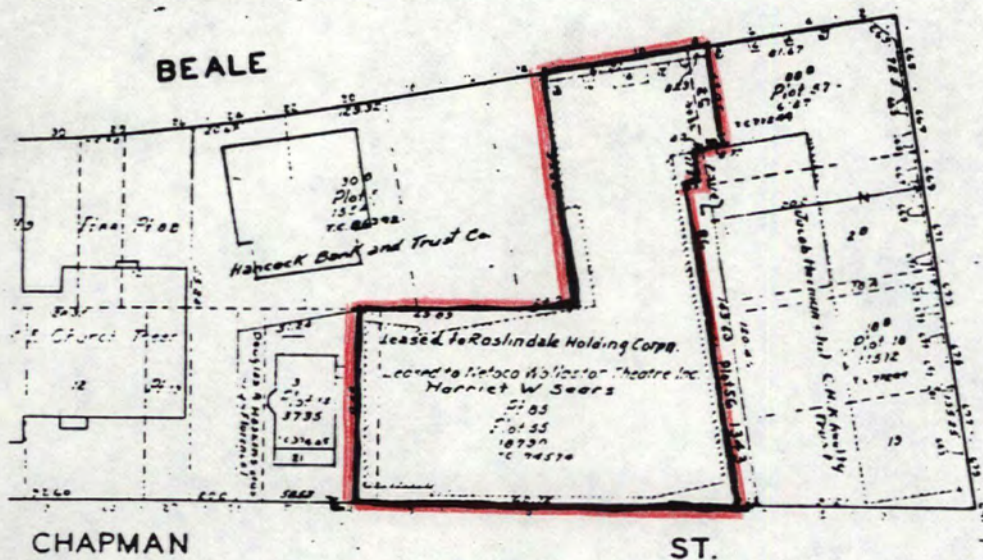
187

AN 5093

LAYBURN MELENDY
SQUARE

BEALE

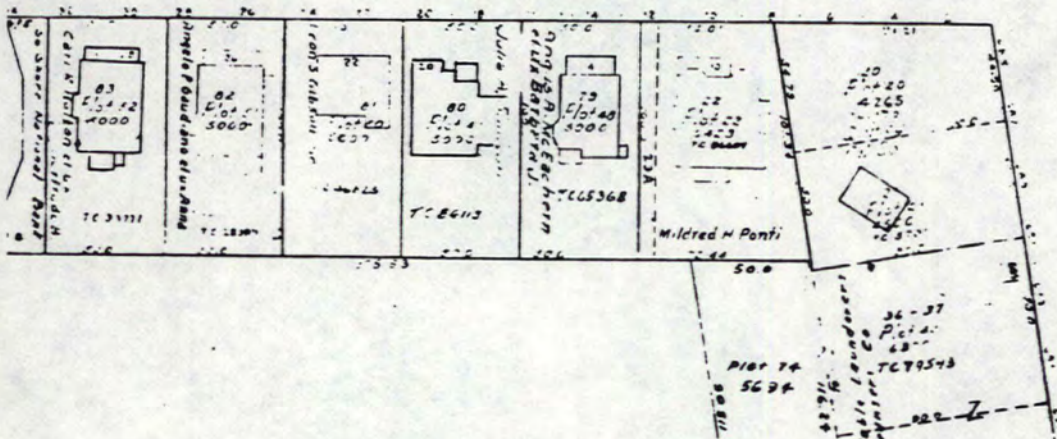
SEE PLAN 5039



HANCOCK

CHAPMAN

ST.



ST.

BASS

ST.

SEE PLAN 5041

Address 14 Beale Street
Wollaston Theatre

QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS / MRA

Assessors Map # 5092

1979

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000289