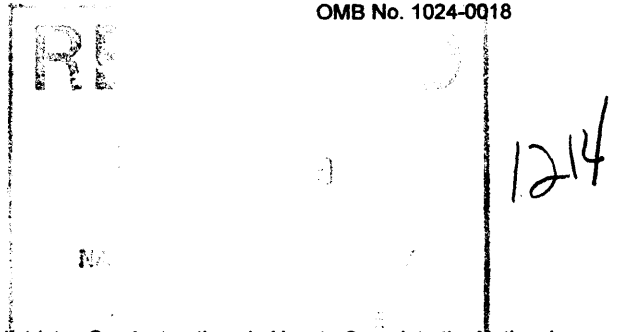


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Crystal Theatre
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 215 East Second Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Flandreau vicinity N/A
state South Dakota code SD county Moody code 101 zip code 57028

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide x locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James D. Vogt
Signature of certifying official

09-12-2000
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

Crystal Theatre
Name of Property

Moody County, South Dakota
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register.
- other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Ethan H. Beall Date of Action 10/12/00

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture Sub: Theatre

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture Sub: Theatre

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American
Movements--Commercial Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
roof Asphalt
walls Brick

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance

1913-1950

Crystal Theatre
Name of Property

Moody County, South Dakota
County and State

Significant Dates 1913, 1949

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Crystal Theatre
Name of Property

Moody County, South Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>692879</u>	<u>4879938</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynda B. Schwan
organization SD SHPO date June 21, 2000
street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-6056
city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Crystal Theatre
Name of Property

Moody County, South Dakota
County and State

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Crystal Theatre Cultural Association

street & number 215 Second Avenue East, POB 324 telephone _____

city or town Flandreau state SD zip code 57028-0324

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Narrative Description

The Crystal Theatre is located at 316 Second Avenue East on the main artery through the town of Flandreau in Moody County. The building is located in the commercial district with the original city jail to the east and a commercial building to the west. The northern portion of the block is lined with commercial and public buildings. The southern half of the block is lined with residential properties. Moody County is predominantly a rural, agricultural community.

The Crystal Theatre, built in 1913 and finished in 1914, is a brick building with a parapet hiding the flat roof. The rectangular, two story building measures 32 feet on the street and 100 feet deep on the commercial lot. The foundation of the building was completed in two sections, both poured concrete.

The façade of the building has had little alteration over time. It has a three-part façade that is divided by four brick engaged columns. There is a ticket booth located at the center of the building with a pair of doors on either side of the booth. The original doors each have three round windows. Located above the doors is a neon marquee that extends to the roof with the name of theatre in neon, which was added to the front of the building in the late 1940's. To the west of the doors is a window opening that has been modified to a marquee. Above this window is a three course brick lintel indicating that at some time the window was removed and filled in with matching brown brick. Along the west wall is a neon marquee with the word "popcorn" in neon. To the east of the doors is an announcement board. Above this announcement board is a three course brick lintel indicating that at one point the window was removed and filled in with matching brown brick.

The second floor has four one-over-one double hung windows above the marquee. To the east and west of the windows, located between the engaged brick columns, is a decorative panel filled with a herringbone brick pattern. The herringbone brick design is surrounded by bricks laid in a rowlock pattern. The parapet has four recessed brick panels spaced evenly across the front of the building. The cornice of the parapet is highlighted with brick dentils.

The west wall is constructed with a lighter brown brick. In the 1920's, a brick wall was constructed to connect the Theatre and the commercial building to the west. It is also constructed of brick and has a sloping roof. The door has a rowlock lintel and a transom window. When this addition was completed, all of the windows on the west wall were bricked in with matching brown brick and the rowlock lintels were left in place. The door giving access to the exterior along the west wall remains

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in place. The east wall has been parged with a concrete mix. It has its historic entrance located at the center of the wall. The rear of the building has a large loading door in the center at the first floor level.

Upon entering the Theatre lobby, the tile flooring has "CRYSTAL" in the tile design in white. The east wall is covered with announcement boards. Originally, there was a snack bar located on the west wall. This has since been removed and replaced with a staircase to give additional egress from the balcony. The ticket counter is located in the center of the room. The ceiling of the entry has a recessed half circle that is filled with a metal leaf pattern. Located at the south of lobby are four wood doors with beveled glass for windows.

A patron could enter the auditorium through one of two openings covered with velvet drapes that are still intact. The oak hardwood floor in the auditorium slopes from the rear of the auditorium to the stage. Many of the historic seats remain. The original orchestra pit has been covered to extend the length of the stage. The walls are covers with acoustic tiles from mid-point on the wall to the ceiling. The ceiling has decorative, pressed metal panels.

Patrons could also choose to use the staircase located in the hall between the lobby and auditorium to access the balcony level. The balcony is U-shaped with supports to the ceiling. At the base of the balcony is a decorative border of lyncresta. Offices and the control booth are also located at the balcony level. The basement has been converted into multiple dressing rooms and storage rooms. Also from the basement, the actors can access the auditorium from under the stage.

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Statement of Significance

The Crystal Theatre is eligible under Criterion A for its association with recreation and entertainment in Flandreau, South Dakota. It served as the sole movie theatre in Flandreau. The Theatre is also eligible under Criterion C for its Commercial Style of architecture.

Flandreau's origins go back to the settlement started in 1869 by 25 Santee Sioux Indian families who moved into the area from Nebraska. Shortly after the Sioux moved into Flandreau, white families followed. The town of Flandreau, Moody County's seat of government, is the largest town in Moody County. Most of Moody County remains agricultural lands while only five towns exist within the county.

Construction started on the Crystal Theatre in Flandreau in 1913 and opened its doors on January 15, 1914. The theatre was owned and operated by the Matson family of Flandreau until 1969. The Matson family came to Flandreau from Minnesota to build a theatre. Mr. Matson had been in the theatre business in Minnesota and was looking to expand his business and build a "modern" movie theatre.

From the time the Crystal theatre opened, the Matson family was continually making improvements. The first renovation occurred in the mid-1920's including updating of the lobby. The Theatre suffered a fire in October of 1930, at which point the Matson's took the time to update the wiring and replaced the fire damaged parts of the interior. Technicolor was installed in the theatre in 1932. The theatre closed in 1969 for a two year period after Mr. Matson passed away. From 1971 to the mid-80's, the theatre again functioned as a movie house. In the late 1980's, a local theatre group purchased the building for theatrical productions.

As Moody County was such a rural community, the only place to go for local entertainment was the Crystal Theatre in Flandreau. While there were many parks and outdoor recreational facilities, the Crystal was the only place in the county to go see a movie or vaudeville act. At the local level, the theatre played a very important role in the entertainment and recreation of people in Moody County.

The Crystal Theatre is significant for its Commercial architectural style. It is identified by multiple stories; mostly constructed of masonry; having multiple bays with large storefront windows and an entryway; rusticated masonry; and is found on main streets. Most Commercial buildings have been

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altered, particularly the storefronts and interior areas. The Crystal Theatre exhibits most of these characteristics of the Commercial Style. As with most commercial buildings, the one window on the façade of the building has been altered. The Theatre is the only building of its type that has not suffered from severe alterations. Many of the commercial structures in Flandreau have had alterations of siding, new windows and alterations to the entrances.

The Crystal Theatre is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significance in the area of entertainment and recreation in the city of Flandreau. It is also eligible under Criterion C for its Commercial Style.

Bibliography

Flandreau Herald. (newspaper) 1914, 1930, 1940.

Interview, Bob Matson. (grandson of original builder) Flandreau, South Dakota, 1991.

Moody County Enterprise. (newspaper) 1914, 1930, 1940.

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 11 in Block 11 of the Original Plat of the city of Flandreau, South Dakota.

Boundary Justification

All the land that has historically been associated with the Theatre.