

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 96001224

Date Listed: 10/31/96

Property Name: Scotland Royal Theater

County: Bon Homme

State: South Dakota

none

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Sandra M. McCullary
Signature of the Keeper

Oct. 31, 1996
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8: Significance

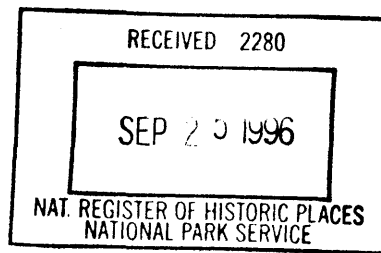
The Period of Significance is, hereby, amended to read "1921" to reflect the date of original construction consistent with eligibility for criterion C. "Architecture" is, hereby, added to the Areas of Significance and "Entertainment/Recreation" deleted from the Areas of Significance.

Megan Dobbs of the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment on October 31, 1996.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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 Scotland Royal Theater

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 565 Main Street not for publication N/A
city or town Scotland vicinity N/A
state South Dakota code SD county Bon Homme code 009 zip code 57059

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 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.)

Jay D. Vogt
Signature of certifying official

09-16-96
Date

SD SHPO
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

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

=====
4. National Park Service Certification
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I, hereby certify that this 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):

Sanda M. McClelland

Sanda M. McClelland
Signature of Keeper

10/31/96
Date of Action

=====
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

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: RECREATION AND CULTURE Sub: Theater

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: Business

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 METAL; ASPHALT

walls BRICK; CONCRETE; PLASTER

other WOOD; GLASS; METAL

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

See Continuation Sheets

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

=====
8. Statement of Significance
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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.) N/A

- 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)

ENTERTAINMENT
RECREATION

Period of Significance 1921-1945

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

Significant Dates 1921

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

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

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

See Continuation Sheets

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

 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

 X State Historic Preservation Office

 Other State agency

 Federal agency

 Local government

 University

 Other

Name of repository: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Program

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>604145</u>	<u>4778000</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<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**

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Linda Haynes w/ technical assistance by Megan Dobbs, SHPO Staff
organization N/A date August 7, 1996
street & number P.O. Box 305 telephone (605)583-2322
city or town Scotland state South Dakota zip code 57059

=====
Additional Documentation
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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)

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

=====
Property Owner
=====

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

name Joseph and Linda Haynes

street & number P.O. Box 305

telephone (605)583-2322

city or town Scotland state SD

zip code 57059
=====

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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VII. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Scotland Royal Theater is a large, brick, two-part commercial building located near the center of the 500 block of Main Street in Scotland, South Dakota. Constructed in 1921-1922, the property operated as a movie theater, play house, and concert theater for the local community and was in continuous operation from 1922 until its closing in 1968. The building was vacant for 23 years until the current owners purchased the property in 1995 and initiated its rehabilitation. Due to the extended period of disuse and neglect, the interior requires extensive repair and replacement of damaged materials and the restoration is not yet complete. The exterior, however, is in excellent condition and all the historic elements have been restored. Although it is presently used as a print shop, the building retains its structural integrity and the distinguishing architectural qualities associated with its past use as a theater.

The two story, or two part, brick commercial building has a rectangular form and rests on a poured concrete foundation. The plywood and tar surface material on the flat roof was recently replaced with metal sheets and roofing membrane to prevent additional water damage to the building. Stretcher bond brick veneer is composed of multi-colored rusticated bricks, and covers the softer, less expensive brick underneath. All the original wood window and door frames are intact, and the historic brickwork required very little repair.

The theater facade faces north on Main Street, and is one of the most pristine historic buildings in the entire commercial district. Stretcher bond brick veneer covers the entire facade, which is characterized by subtle decorative elements, including soldier brick base molding and header brick coping. The front entrance is composed of two sets of fifteen-light double French doors with paneled wood door jambs and a wooden head jamb. A transom window is located directly above the French doors and contains a wide center pane flanked by two sets of smaller panes separated by narrow wood mullions. The transom retains the original wiring and light sockets

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for a series of fifteen interior bulbs which produce a marquee effect. A brick lintel made up of vertical (soldier) bricks extends across the width of the entrance.

Two recessed panels with decorative basket weave brickwork flank the first story entrance and are framed by soldier and stretcher bricks. The second story contains four bays, composed of four-over-one double hung sash windows with stretcher brick lintels. The window sills are header bricks supported at each end by slightly projecting brick brackets. Above the windows are recessed panels with decorative basket weave patterns framed by header bricks. Two square panels are located directly above the far east and west windows and an elongated rectangular panel is centered above the two interior windows.

The east and west sides of the theater share exterior walls with two other commercial businesses. The east side is partially exposed because the adjacent structure is a single-story building dating to the late 1930's, as opposed to the building on the west side, which has an earlier date of construction and more compatible size and massing to the theater. The exposed portion of the east elevation reveals a brick bonding similar to the north facade, but the bricks are a slightly lesser quality than the facade bricks. Despite the softness of these bricks, they remain very much intact and required little repair. Both the east and west elevations exhibit a stepped parapet roof, which descends from the facade to the south side, or rear, of the building. Stucco cladding covers the brick parapet along the interior roofline.

The south elevation provides a rear entrance to the theater and is accessible from the alley. Again, the less expensive brick of the exterior walls lack the decorative elements of the facade, but are typical for an alley-side exterior wall which is not visible from main thoroughfares. Two exits, with metal doors, are located on the first floor and flank a large ventilation panel. The second floor contains two window openings with header brick sills, but the glass window panes are covered with wood panels.

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Recent rehabilitation efforts have preserved and restored most of the theater's interior integrity. The theater retains its original interior configuration, including the actual theater, projector room, lobby, and ticket booth. These spaces, along with their defining decorative elements, are completely intact and despite the lack of interior furnishings in the theater itself, the building retains its original appearance and character. Plaster walls, concrete floors, pressed metal ceilings, and varnished woodwork are all contributing features to the theater's architectural significance.

The theater lobby is accessible via the double French doors of the front entrance and is characterized by its impressive pressed metal ceiling. Since the pressed metal suffered very little deterioration over the years and was recently repainted, the ceiling is still a primary focal point in the theater. Other decorative elements include the pressed metal crown molding, brick pilasters on either side of the front entrance, and five-panel solid wood doors with wood framing. Plaster walls and concrete floors are typical of a small town commercial building.

The most prominent interior feature is the ticket booth located in the center of the lobby. The booth is a free-standing structure with solid wood base, pilasters, and cornice. Decorative plaster infill is highlighted by narrow wood strips and located below the three-sided glass windows. The south side, or rear of the booth, is adjacent to the rear wall of the lobby. A single five panel wood door connects the booth with the theater vestibule. The original wood counters and drawers are also still intact. Two sets of double doors are located on either side of the ticket booth and open to the theater vestibule. Each set of five-panel swinging doors are flanked by narrow, vertical wood panels.

The theater vestibule is a simple, rectangular room designed to separate the front lobby from the theater itself. Two sets of paired, five-panel swinging doors open to the theater, and like the rest of the interior woodwork, have a dark walnut stain. The theater, or viewing room, measures 28 feet by 125 feet and has a sloping concrete floor. The room suffered

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fairly extensive water damage during the building's vacancy, and all the original seating was removed after the theater closed in 1968.

The room retains a high degree of integrity despite the damage and absence of furnishings. The plaster walls have a delicate stenciled pattern mid-way up the wall, but the design is temporarily covered by a heavy canvas covering. Other original features, including the concrete floor, wooden stage, and screen framing, are still intact. The wood stage is flanked by single flight stairs, and an old movie screen remains just as it was when the theater closed thirty years ago and is in relatively good condition. Behind the screen is the rear section of the stage, measuring 16 feet by 20 feet, and includes an exit door, three small louvered windows, and side wings for the stage. Future plans for the theater include a complete restoration of the viewing room and the stage, but current work is focused on maintenance.

The basement is accessible from behind the stage area, and includes a small bathroom, ventilation system, water cooler, and blower. An alley entrance is also located in the basement.

Second floor office space and the projector room are accessible from a side staircase located in the front of the building which is concealed by a single five-panel door in the lobby. A wide landing offers entry into the projector room and a small viewing port is located on the southwestern wall of the staircase hall. The projector room has concrete walls and floors, and still contains circa 1950 movie projectors, which are mounted on the floor. Two projector ports are flanked by single viewing ports, which remain open. An attic door is located in the southeast corner of the room and provides access to the third floor attic space.

The upstairs office space is accessible via a short set of stairs from the interior landing, located north of the projector room. The office includes two rooms separated by a three-quarter partition. Original, built-in bookcases and shelves remain on the east wall of the office, and all the original varnished woodwork is still intact. The four windows on the north

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wall and five-panel door on the south wall retain their stained wood framing and sills.

The intact interior configuration and decorative elements that characterize the Scotland Royal Theater complement the high degree of exterior architectural integrity which make the building a valuable historic resource. Recent rehabilitation and future restoration plans by the current owners contribute to the theater's local significance as a superior example of historic commercial architecture.

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VIII. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Scotland Royal Theater is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a superior example of early twentieth century commercial architecture in Scotland, South Dakota. The property is locally significant as a center for recreation and entertainment. Recent rehabilitation efforts and future preservation plans for the building contribute to its prominence in Scotland and make the building a model for other historic resources in the downtown district.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Most of the intact historic buildings in Scotland's downtown commercial district represent two periods of construction. Approximately half the properties date to circa 1880-1900, during Scotland's first great period of development. In 1881 the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul railroad opened track between Yankton and Scotland, making the town its terminal point through 1885. This period of growth produced mills, grain elevators, prominent factories, and many enterprising commercial businesses. There are several extant properties along Main street that testify to the boom in commercial, agricultural, and industrial growth.

The second period of development in Scotland is reflected by buildings like the Royal Theater, which date to the early 1920s and 1930s. After a period of economic depression, the first decades of the twentieth century were characterized by relative prosperity and consolidation of businesses. Scotland's early development was strongly influenced by the cultural and religious division between Scotch-English and the German Russian settlers. The town was divided into two factions, Scotland and South Scotland, each containing its own businesses, entertainment facilities, and industry. By 1920, the prominent historic distinction had faded, and businesses consolidated. Historian Donley Max noted that in the 1920's "times were good and there was plenty of money in circulation...." The emergence of the automobile also contributed to Scotland's commercial development and

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the construction of several new buildings, including the Royal Theater, made Scotland a "very self-sufficient town and a tremendous business center."¹

The Royal Theater was constructed between 1921 and 1922 to serve as a community playhouse and movie theater. The theater changed hands several times during its early years, until the Simek family purchased the building in 1927. They operated the theater until 1943, when title was given to Rose Schmidt to settle a debt between the Schmidts and Simeks. The property was in continuous use until 1968, when the building was closed up and vacated. Despite changes in ownership, the theater served as a prominent social and recreational establishment. Silent movies with piano accompaniment and small stage productions were the primary entertainment between 1922 and 1930. Once "talkies" were introduced in the late 1920s, the theater was used as a movie palace and seated as many as 400 people and boasted two full houses for the Sunday matinees.² Frequently, the stage was also used for a variety of magic shows by traveling performers and for local fashion shows.

The Royal Theater was vacant from 1968 until 1995, when the current owners purchased the building to use as a print shop. Although the original seating was removed circa 1990 and donated to the City Hall, the rest of the theater, including the movie projectors and numerous reels of film, remains intact. Current use as a print shop does not detract from the building's interior or exterior integrity, and the present owners have been very successful in preserving and restoring the theater's historic features.

¹ Donley Max, "Early Day Scotland in Chronological Order" (unpublished paper), Scotland, South Dakota.

² Herbert Hoover, Carol Hoover, and Elizabeth Simmons, eds., Bon Homme County History (Freeman, South Dakota: Pine Hill Press, 1994), 197.

name of property Scotland Royal Theatre

county and state Bon Homme, SD

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The Royal Theater is one of the most intact historical resources in downtown Scotland, and a superior example of early twentieth century commercial architecture. The simple design and restrained ornamentation is typical of small town commercial buildings in South Dakota. The consistency and longevity of use as a theater contributes to the property's historical association with commercial and recreational development in Scotland and its significance as a model for future restoration in the downtown commercial district.

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IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Boese, Evelyn. Oral Interview, September 1995. Scotland, South Dakota.

Hoover, Herbert, Carol Hoover, and Elizabeth Simmons, eds. Bon Homme County History. Freeman, South Dakota: Pine Hill Press, 1994.

Max, Donley. "Early Day Scotland in Chronological Order." Unpublished Paper. Scotland, South Dakota.

Waltner, Margaret. Oral Interview, August 1995. Scotland, South Dakota.

X. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes lot 8 and three feet, eight inches of lot 7 in block 16 of the original town platt for Scotland, South Dakota.

Boundary Justification

The nominated boundaries include all extant historical property associated with the Scotland Royal Theater.