United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Thibodaux Multiple Resource AreaContinuation sheetLafourche Parish, LAItem number 7 & 8

Building #8

UTM: 15/710740/3298040

GRAND THEATRE

401 Green Street

1920's

Local Significance: Architecture

Owners: B. A. Pearl P. O. Box 7148 Houston, TX 77248

R. Lee Goudchaux
P. 0. Box 482
Hartford, Connecticut 06101

Mrs. Richard Pickens 63 Imperial Woods Drive Harahan, LA 70123

Mrs. Doe Kitchens 305 South Central New Albany, MS 38652

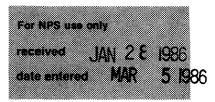
The Grand Theatre is a two story neo-classical commercial building with an impressive pilastered front. It has a large open auditorium with a second story gallery over the lobby. The ornamental pressed metal ceiling and the interior wall pilasters remain, although the capitals have been removed. The wall surfaces between the pilasters have been covered with fiberboard panels. The front portion of the building is articulated with colossal paneled pilasters, a full entablature, and a shaped parapet with a pediment shaped tablet. The ground story has arched openings which have been enclosed. The monumental facade is made more striking by the use of light and dark colored brick to emphasize ornamental details.

In addition to the above changes, the marquee has been replaced and a 1930'slooking sign has been installed on the second story. None of these changes have affected the theatre's National Register eligibility because its neo-classical styling remains intact.

Significance:

There are undoubtedly over one hundred 50+ year old commercial buildings in various states of integrity in Lafourche Parish. Most of these are either simple late nineteenth-early twentieth century plantation stores or fairly plain examples of the ubiquitous "commercial vernacular" style. The Grand Theatre is one of only two commercial buildings in the parish representing the high style eclectic architectural trends of the early twentieth century. And of these two, it is the more monumental because of its impressive colossal pilasters. (The other is the Citizens Bank of Lafourche, also a nominee in this submission.)

NB: The Grand Theatre is presently vacant and the electricity has been turned off. A flashlight enabled a State Historic Preservation Office staff person to see enough to describe the interior, but it was much too dark for photography.



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