

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received SEP 28 1984
date entered NOV 8 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Ramona Theatre

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 114 South 9th Street not for publication

city, town Frederick vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Tillman code 141

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Frederick Arts and Humanities Council

street & number P.O. Box 503, 114 South 9th Street

city, town Frederick vicinity of state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Tillman County Clerk

street & number Tillman County Courthouse

city, town Frederick state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City, state Oklahoma

7. Description

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ramona Theatre, built in 1929, is an excellent example of the Spanish Colonial Style that was popular in the Southwest and Florida during the 1920's. The ornamentation of the facade, and the interior of the theatre are typical of the details that were combined from the Mediterranean World to create a building reminiscent of a Spanish background. This style was popular from 1915-1940, with most of the buildings being built in the mid 1920's. The architect for the Ramona, George Kadane, maintained his office in the Theatre's second floor.

The original appearance of the building has been preserved through the years except for the removal of the second floor outside balcony, which was replaced by the existing marquee in 1949.

The theatre has a fifty (50) foot (two 25-foot lots) front, with its length running to the alley (140 feet). The layout is typical of most theatres and includes a balcony and two (2) small rooms on the second floor, and an upstairs lobby overlooking the street.

The two-and-one half story walls are a gold/buff, rough brick that is prevalent in the Frederick Central Business District. The Theatre entry is recessed, with two (2) small storefronts located on either side. These storefronts are framed with wood and have unusual folding doors that have 12 small panes of glass on each panel.

On the second floor over the entrance, there are three (3) pairs of French doors that once led to the balcony. The openings are arched, with large stone ornaments in the shapes of fans or shells over the doors. Over these doors, there is a large, elaborate stone panel set into the brickwork.

On either side of the second floor doors are a set of three (3) , double-hung windows. There are columns between each window and they are topped with a stone urn ornament. Above these windows is a stained glass panel of approximately two-inch by two-inch squares of blue glass. The windows rest on a stone sill and are totally enclosed by a rounded stone molding.

The parapet is elaborately executed, with two (2) red clay tile-covered cornices, supported by brackets at each side. Two columns, both containing a center strip of blue stained glass connected by a carved stone parapet, complete the front facade. Two (2) small windows are also located between the columns. These windows are completed with stone sills and rounded stone moldings.

Below each cornice piece is a small, decorative, circular stained glass window. The interior is also Spanish Colonial Style, with arched doorways and an adobe-type texture on the walls (possibly added after 1937). The original details and fixtures are still located in the Theatre.

The lobby contains ornate brass light fixtures and display panels for coming attractions. The walls of the auditorium are decorated with several small curved railings surrounding mini-balconies, above which "jewels" (lights) glisten from the reflection of the screen. The stage was also used for minstrel and vaudeville shows.

The overall effect presents an enjoyable, classic example of the Spanish Colonial Style, located in a downtown setting which contains other buildings which complement the Ramona's unique architecture.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1929 **Builder/Architect** George Kadane

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ramona Theatre is significant because of its important role as entertainment theatre both locally and regionally. The building also represents a significant example of Spanish Colonial Revival Architecture unique to both Frederick and this region of the state.

The Ramona is considered to have been the finest of all theatres that were in Frederick and the most elaborate of theatre buildings in southern Oklahoma. Built in 1929, on the site of an earlier theatre the A-Mus-U, the Ramona was designed by George Kadane whose family was considered one of the major independent film exhibitors in the south-central U.S. The funding for the theatre's construction was comprised of stock sales to investors and was built by local bank president James Beard, whose daughter the theatre is named for. At its opening in 1929, the Ramona was hailed as the "Showplace of the Southwest".

In addition to the first run features that were obtained due to their connections, the Kadane family was able to obtain the rights to the "Cotton Queen" pageant in 1930 and the Ramona remained the host till World War II. This pageant was later moved to Nashville and became the national "Cotton Maid" pageant. With the recognized quality of features being presented and special events such as the pageant, a high regard developed for the Ramona and it was frequented on a regular basis by state and regional notables.

The architecture of the Ramona is a significant example of the Spanish Colonial style unique to Frederick and represents one of the few unaltered movie palaces of this period in the southwestern portion of the state.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Sanborn Insurance Maps (1924, 1930) for Frederick, OK
- History of Tillman County, Vol. II, Tillman County Historical Soc., 1978 pp. 145-147.
- Interview with Eddie Kadane, March 9, 1984.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.16 acres

Quadrangle name Frederick (15 min)

Quadrangle scale 1" = 62,500'

UMT References

A

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4	9	8	3	5	0
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3	8	0	5	1	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property occupies all of Lots 27 and 28, Block 34, in the Original Townsite Plat of the City of Frederick, Oklahoma, and is 50 feet wide by 140 feet long.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Fisher, Director of Planning

organization Ass'n of South Central Okla. Govt's date April 6, 1984

street & number 802 Main Street, P.O. Box 1647 telephone (405) 252-0595

city or town Duncan state Oklahoma 73534

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *C. E. Metcalf*

title _____ date 9/24/84

For NHP use only

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

Bob ... date 11/8/84
 Keeper of the National Register

Assistant

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Continuation sheet

Item number 11

Page 1

Maryjo Meacham, Preservation Planner
Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments
802 Main Street, P.O. Box 1647
Duncan, Oklahoma 73534

Dana Greer
Frederick Arts and Humanities Council
114 South 9th Street, P.O. Box 503
Frederick, Oklahoma 73542

Tillman County Historical Society
P.O. Box 833
Frederick, Oklahoma 73542