HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & HISTORY
SCIENCE & CULTURE CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

1. NAME(S), historic/common: Smoot Theater

2. LOCATION, street/road: 213 Fifth St.
   TAX MAP - LOT #
   92-32
   city/town: Parkersburg, WV 26101
   (incorporated/)

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: theater
   original: theater

4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: Joseph Raad Realty Co.
   address above
   original: Smoot Amusement

5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF: 8112-R2-F6
   8201-R1-F17,18,20

6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT (map):

7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):

8. ACREAGE (approx): 51' x 110'
9. DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate): See attached

a. Exterior Fabric
- stone
- brick X
- concrete
- stucco
- weatherboard
- clapboard
- board & batten
- shingle
- others: terra cotta
- trim

b. Structural System
- masonry
- frame X
- log
- metal
- other

b. Roofing Material
- wood
- metal
- slate
- tile
- asphalt X
- composition
- other
- foundation stone

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer: Records show that the Smoot Amusement Company erected a brick and terra cotta building at 211 Fifth Street in 1926. The 1st story, shown in an artist's conception, was of banded brick.

b. Style/Period: Classical

c. Date(s): c. 1926

As a focal point of entertainment in downtown, this building is significant as an example of the 1920's theatre construction boom in America which witnessed the appearance of elaborate (note the presence of terra cotta ornamentation) "movie palaces" that continued in use through the transitional period when "silent film" was superseded by sound.

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:


12. FORM PREPARED BY Eliza Smith, Christina Mann

a. Address Allegheny Square Wes, Pittsburgh PA 15212
b. Organization Landmarks Planning Inc.
Smoot Theater
213 Fifth Street
92-32

A simple Classical front in buff brick with a Greek key cornice on consoles and a 2nd story inset with 4 fluted columns in antis supporting a straight cornice, as well as a later tiled 1st story and marquee, mask a severely simple red brick building.