



7th Street Theatre - Finishes Investigation

HOQUIAM, WA

The 7th Street Theatre, located in the downtown area of Hoquiam, Washington, was opened in 1928 by Ed Dolan and Olaf T. Taylor of the newly-formed Hoquiam Amusement Company. It was designed by in a Spanish Revival style, evocative of a Moorish temple, by architect Edwin St. John Griffin and the architectural firm Huntington & Torbitt. The interior design was greatly influenced by the the "atmospheric" theatre aesthetics pioneered by architect John Eberson. A hallmark of painted decoration in atmospheric theatres is the use of bright, primary colors applied using dry brush techniques to textured and ornamental surfaces. The Spanish revival ornament of the walls was offset by a soft blue-gray ceiling, evoking the evening sky. The theater also featured a tiled fountain near the restrooms, a beamed ceiling in the lobby, and seating for more than 1,000 people when it opened. It's initial function was to host both vaudeville acts, as well as show the new "talkies."

The theatre closed in 1957 due to dwindling sales and the rise of television. It was purchased by a local couple in 1976 with the intention of restoration, but real efforts weren't undertaken until 1986 when the Grays Harbor Community Concert Association purchased the building and the non-profit group Friends of the 7th Street Theatre was formed. In 1987 they were successful in getting the 7th Street Theatre listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Several restoration and remodeling efforts were performed beginning in the 1990s and are currently ongoing...

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/7th-street-theatre-finishes-investigation/>

SERVICES PERFORMED

- Conservation Treatments
- Decorative Painting & Finishes
- Historic Finishes Investigation
- Investigation, Testing & Analysis
- Microscopy & Material ID
- Plasterwork
- Surveys & Condition Assessments

PROJECT DETAILS

Client

7th Street Theatre Association

