



## Fox West Theatre Fire Curtain

TRINIDAD, CO

The Fox West Theatre, originally known as the West Theatre, was constructed in Trinidad, Colorado in 1908. It was created by local rancher Edward West as a response to the closing of the Jaffa Opera House in 1906. The masonry was completed with Trinidad-made bricks laid in Portland cement, giving the theatre fire proofing qualities that were unique to its time. The theatre operated as an independently owned and operated performance venue, showing both musical and theatrical performances. The building also hosted local community events on a regular basis.

The theatre was sold once in 1911 to a nearby theatre manager, and again in 1920 to the Kohn-Fairchild Amusement Company. It was at this time that an early record player and moving picture projector was installed so that the theatre could accommodate both live performances and films. The theatre underwent an extensive renovation in 1929, including updates to the light fixtures, carpeting, and draperies, as well as updated projection equipment to accommodate sound films. In August of 1929, the Fox West Coast Theatre Co. purchased the West Theatre, and it was at this point the theatre became known as the Fox West Theatre.

The theatre's ownership shifted several times during the 1940's and 50s. In 1959 the theatre was purchased by the Sawaya family, who renovated the interior of the theatre to its current aesthetic. The Sawaya family continued to make changes during its ownership, including installing Cinemascope in the 1960s, adding fiberglass paneling to the façade in the 70s, and periodic updates to the sound systems in the 80s and 90s. The Fox West finally ceased operations in 2013...

MORE INFORMATION:

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### SERVICES PERFORMED

Conservation Treatments

### PROJECT DETAILS

Architect

CSNA Architects



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