





Lansdowne Theater

LANSDOWNE, PA

The historic Lansdowne Theater opened in 1927 as an ornate movie palace celebrated for its elaborate architectural detailing. Recognized as the best example of suburban theater construction around Philadelphia, the theater served as a prominent cultural landmark until an electrical fire forced its closure in 1987.

In 2024, EverGreene was engaged by Columbus Construction to investigate and document the theater's historic decorative finishes and murals, with the goal of identifying original color schemes, verifying ornamental patterns, and informing their accurate restoration. The investigation focused on three principal areas: the auditorium, inner lobby, and entry lobby and foyer.

EverGreene's investigation revealed an extensive collection of decorative finishes and architectural details. In the auditorium, these included a central ceiling medallion grille flanked by hand-painted motifs, as well as ornamental plaster columns and capitals embellished with decorative painting and stenciling. The inner lobby featured three painted ceiling medallions, metallic finishes, glazing, and diamond-pattern stenciling on columns and capitals. Additional discoveries included decorative arch stencils, glazed and metallic finishes, and ornamented cornices along the lobby walls.

Using tracings, photographic documentation, and findings from the investigation, EverGreene's design studio recreated historic decorative patterns and produced custom-painted canvases for installation. This process ensured that the restored designs remained faithful to the theater's original decorative character....

MORE INFORMATION:
https://evergreene.com/projects/lansdowne-theater/

SERVICES PERFORMED

Condition Assessments & Surveys
Conservation Treatments
Decorative Painting & Finishes
Gilding
Investigation, Testing & Analysis

PROJECT DETAILS

General Contractor
Columbus Construction