



CARTER WATKINS ASSOCIATES A R C H I T E C T S, INC.

### THE ROYAL THEATER Hogansville, Georgia





# THE HISTORIC 1937 ROYAL THEATER Hogansville, Georgia





The Royal Theater was built by Mr. O.C. Lam, a local whose brother, C.O. Lam was Troup County school superintendent.

The Architectural firm was Tucker and Howell of Atlanta and was designed in the Art Deco Style of Architecture.





An anti-traditional style movement which began in Paris in 1925. It represented a modern, sleek elegance. It has simple, clean lines.

Decorative influences included American Indian, Egyptian, and nature. Accents and motifs included human figures, animals, foliage, geormetries, and sun rays in conventionalized forms.

Photos of the Royal Theater lobby -



### JUST THE FACTS....

- 7,218 Square Feet First Floor
- 2,800 Square Feet Balcony
- Load-Bearing Masonry walls w/poured concrete footings
- Clear-span steel trusses support wood-framed sloping roof
- Two steel columns and a network of steel beams hold the marquee
- Roofing is sheet membrane
- Masonry walls are capped with decorative terra cotta
- Front façade was masonry stucco, cast stone, and cast iron ornament
- Heated with two coal-burning furnaces
- Cooling was through a ducted air washer
- Stage design allows for live theater or movies. Green rooms below stage
- Main Auditorium seating capacity 616 Balcony 156 plus 123 (upper) = 895
- Auditorium floor was not sloped but is a catenary curve –maximizing view
- Finishes were celotex, plaster, carpet and tile.

### MOMENTS IN HISTORY....

- Constructed in 1937
- Remained a Movie Theater until 1980
- City Hall occupied the building in 1984
- Interior remodeling performed to accommodate City functions
- Limited exterior restoration performed in 2000 and 2001
- The Royal Theater merits a singular listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Marquee re-built in 2003









Orchestra Plan of the Royal Theater -



Balcony Plan of the Royal Theater



Longitudinal Section of the Royal Theater

Royal Theater Façade –

Strong Geometries Ziggurat stepping to spire Winged ornamentation Detailed cast stone Layering or façade

Designed to inspire; to invoke a sense of other worldliness.

Front Elevation of the Royal Theater



### CURRENT CONDITIONS – BUILDING EXTERIOR



WATER INFILTRATION – Stucco has areas of cracking Roof coping penetrations Roofing material needs replacing Brick walls need re-pointing and sealing Downspout issue Chimney cap









### CURRENT CONDITIONS – Exterior Windows and Doors



### **CURRENT CONDITIONS – BUILDING INTERIOR**

#### **Issues**:

Water damage Code Compliance Accessibility Systems Efficiency Floor Plan issues Future Expansion



### CURRENT CONDITIONS - BUILDING INTERIOR





### **CURRENT CONDITIONS – BUILDING INTERIOR**







### **CURRENT CONDITIONS – BUILDING INTERIOR**





HOGANSVILLE ROYAL THEATER Existing Balcony Plan



### STRUCTURAL CONDITIONS EVALUATION -



The original drawings contain a building section that provides ample information regarding the structure of the building. Along with the support details of the marque and the tower construction, these documents provide invaluable insight and an ability to review the structural issues.



CONCRETE SLAB - The theater construction was greatly benefited by what seems to have been the natural slope of the building site.

The drawing above shows the building outline on the existing site. From Main street to the rear property line the site sloped 7.5 feet. The Auditorium slopes 4'-4" from the Lobby to the Stage with the Basement area being 8 feet lower for a total elevation change of 12'-4". This means that the basement was excavated below original grade but it also means that the Auditorium and portions of the Lobby slab were built on up to four feet of fill dirt as indicated by the dashed line in the building section below.



The red shaded area below shows the portion of the 1984 construction which was built on top of the Balcony.



Other than the issues outlined above, the only other concern regarding the 1984 modifications would be the adequacy of the floor framing especially considering the load requirements for the Council Chambers. No other issues provided no other structural concerns.

### BASEMENT/FOUNDATION PLAN



#### BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE EVALUATION -



The original building design met codes at the time of construction. It met the requirements of the Building Code (SBCCI) as well as the Life Safety Code (NFPA101). There was no Accessibility Code requirement in 1937 but, had there been, the building could have easily met the requirements with a few minor adjustments.

The building was originally a combination of non-combustible materials (concrete and steel) with limited areas of noncombustible materials (wood). The building had more than

adequate exiting and was protected by a sprinkler system which was required for theaters in that they had combustible finishes (curtains, etc.) and a high-hazard space (projection room).





Today, of course, the original layout has been modified; the building occupancy classification has changed (now Mixed Assembly/Business Occupancy); the building contains much more combustible material; and the sprinkler system is inoperable.

The Code Compliance issues that currently exist in the Royal Theater include (please refer to the existing floor plans on the previous page for reference):

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE – EXISTING ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCY

### INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE

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- OCCUPANCY SEPARATION In addressing the mixed Assembly and Business Occupancies, the first issue is that a 2-hour rated fire wall is required to separate the spaces.
- CONSTRUCTION TYPE The presence of wood construction means that the Theater falls into the TYPE VB (combustible construction, unprotected bearing; no sprinkler). With this, as Existing Building does not have a limit on the square footage as a new building would have. However, it specifically states that the enclosed Balcony space is not permitted without separating the Assembly area with a fire wall.
- BUILDING AREA LIMITATIONS The maximum square footage allowed is 5,500 s.f. There are allowances for increased for frontage, however the Royal Theater, at 10,000 s.f. exceeds even the modified allowable area.

#### LIFE SAFETY CODE NFPA 101 -

To this end, the two portions of the building would need to be reviewed under Chapter 13 (Existing Assembly Occupancies) and Chapter 39 (Existing Business Occupancies). With this, there are several issues to address. However, Section 13.1.1.4 is a general statement which reads:

An existing building housing an assembly occupancy established prior to the effective date of this Code shall be permitted to be approved for continued use if it conforms to, or is made to conform to, the provisions of this Code to the extent that, in the opinion of the authority having jurisdiction, reasonable Life Safety against the hazards of fire, explosion, and panic is provided and maintained.

 PROTECTION FROM HAZARDS – Service Equipment, hazardous operations or processes and storage facilities are to be separate by a 1-hour fire barrier. This would concern the gas-fired air handling unit, seen from the attic, which serves the City Hall spaces below. This should be in a 1-hour rated room. However, this requirement would not apply to a unit of fewer than 200,00 BTU if and only if, it was not located in a space that is used for storage (Balcony).

This would also address the use of the remainder of the Balcony and the Auditorium for Storage. This is not permissible but the final approval would rest with the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

 MEANS OF EGRESS – While there are sufficient exits from all areas of the Main Floor, the single exit for the second floor is not allowable. If the stair discharged directly to the exterior and was 1-hour rated, it would be permissible to have only one exit. Also, the current stair, being open, does not comply with the requirement of the Protection of Vertical Openings and would normally be enclosed.

### **JEORGIA ACCESSIBILITY**

The code goes on to outline the specific areas of required compliance. With that, the areas of concern, considering the above, with the Royal Theater include:

- 1. Lack of an Accessible Route to all portions of the building. If the Auditorium were used, the route from the front door to the Auditorium would not comply.
- Ensure toilet rooms comply. 2.
- 3. Adequate space allowances and reach ranges for wheelchairs are not met. Hallways do not allow adequate maneuvering or passing space for wheelchairs and all openings are required to be 32" clear.







- 4. Adequate counter heights should be provided to all publicly accessible areas.
- 5. Accessible signage should be provided throughout public spaces.

#### **ROYAL THEATER – IMMEDIATE WORK**

As previously discussed, the items of immediate attention include those building elements/features which are causing water infiltration.

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To tha followed by the Building Envelope (exterior walls doors, windows). Hogan

#### These have been identified as the Roof being the primary, and most immediate, element in need To that end, a Bid Document for roof replacement has been prepared and given to the City of Hogansville. AD BAS OF PRINTINGS Selling .....

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Additionally, the scuppers are improperly flashed which means that they are allowing water to migrate down the inside of the brick wall.

The last issue is the roofing material itself. The aged roof has problems with seam penetrations, ripples, and is well beyond its life expectancy.



Photos at left shows the basically flat valley and stains indicate that the water ponds in the valley in lieu of being adequately directed to the scuppers.

The scuppers are the second issue. They appear to be too high for the roof which caused water to pond at the scuppers as well.





Above the is the proposed Roof Replacement drawing which shows:

- · Removal of existing roof and repair of decking
- Provision of a "cricket" in the drainage valley to direct water to the scuppers
- Stainless steel through-wall flashing at scuppers
- New, adequately-sized collected boxes and downspouts
- Capping of the Boiler Flue.
- New roof drains at low roof areas
- · Re-roofing and re-flashing of the tower
- Provision of adequate rigid insulation on top of decking. This will not only raise the roof to the appropriate height to drain at the scuppers but also, it will provide much-needed insulation for the Royal Theater.
- Removal and replacement of the terra cotta glazed parapet coping. New TPO membrane
  roofing to extend to underside of coping and coping to be installed on top of roofing
  material to create a water-tight perimeter condition.

- All areas of infilled brick should be examined to ensure stability and then cleaned, re-pointed, and sealed.
- The front masonry stucco would likewise be inspected and would either need to have an entirely new stucco coat applied (doubtful as this was done in 2001) or have the failed/spalled areas repaired. All stucco areas would then need the same elastomeric, clear coating applied.





Doors and windows should be examined to ensure that heads are properly flashed, frames are flashed/caulked, theshholds are water-tight and window glazing is in good condition and that there are no broken panes of glass.

The above items, although not as immediate as the roof, are definitely the next mostimportant issue with the Historic Royal Theater.

Once the roof and building envelope are stabilized and water-tight, the Royal Theater is stable and proper planning, budgeting, funding, and phasing can be undertaken by the City of Hogansville.







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### ROYAL THEATER - HOGANSVILLE PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN - OPTION 2



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# ROYAL THEATER – RESTORATION PHASING

- PHASE 1 Immediate Work
- Roof Replacement
- PHASE 2 -
- Stabilization of Building Envelope
- PHASE 3
- Hazardous Materials Testing and Removal
- Selective Demolition of non-historic elements
- PHASE 4 –
- Structural Stabilization
- PHASE 5 –
- Restoration
  - Sympathetic integration of Building Systems
  - Interior Finishes
  - Equipment
  - Closeout

### **HISTORIC 1937 ROYAL THEATER**

#### CITY OF HOGANSVILLE

#### PHASING PLAN/PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES/TIMELINE

ITEM/PHASE OF WORK	COST		DURATION	NOTES
PHASE 1 - IMMEDIATE WORK				
Roof Replacement	\$	150,000.00	2 Months	
PHASE 2 - NEAR FUTURE WORK				
Building Envelope Stabilization	\$	75,000.00	2 Months	
PHASE 3 - SELECTIVE DEMOLITION				
Removal of all non-historic elements	\$	122,000.00	4 Months	
including exterior elements; 1984				
construction and non-salvageable				
historic items				
PHASE 4 - RESTORATION				
Structural Stablization	\$	121,000.00	3 Months	
PHASE 5 - RESTORATION				
Reconstruction of all interior and exterior				
elements/walls/doors	\$	226,000.00	3 Months	

PHASE 5 - RESTORATION			
Sympathic integration of Building Systems including HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, Sound systems, access control, security, sprinkler and Lighting systems	\$ 665,000.00	4 Months	
PHASE 6 - RESTORATION			
Interior Finishes including Flooring/Wall ornamentation/Ceilings/Trim	\$ 213,000.00	2 Months	
PHASE 7 - RESTORATION			
Equipment installation - Sound, Lighting machinery	\$ 165,000.00	1 Month	
PHASE 8- PROJECT CLOSEOUT			
Final Cleaning/Punch List/Training and Owner Occupancy	\$ 75,000.00	1 Month	
PROJECT TOTALS	\$ 1,812,000.00	21 Months	

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