

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Colonial Theatre (facade)

AND/OR COMMON Colonial Theatre facade

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 12-14 South Potomac Street

CITY, TOWN Hagerstown

STATE Maryland

VICINITY OF

CODE 24

COUNTY Washington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Sixth

CODE 11

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Theater

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Faith Chapel

STREET & NUMBER 38 South Locust Street, c/o Rev. Terry King

CITY, TOWN Hagerstown

STATE Maryland

VICINITY OF

21740

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 95 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN Hagerstown

STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

WA-NAG-61

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Colonial Theatre stands at 12014 South Potomac Street in Hagerstown, Washington County, and is located on the eastern side of the street in the northern third of the block formed by Public Square and Antietam Street.

The theater is a 1914 commercial structure, three stories high, with a heavily ornamented, Baroque influenced facade which sits tight to the sidewalk. The street level of the facade has a wide, recessed entranceway flanked by quoined end walls painted to simulate black marble. A small, detached, rectangular ticket booth site is centered on the sidewalk. The three sets of double doors with large glass panes leading into the theater are flanked by two small store rooms and large display windows. A large marquee bearing the name of the theater projects over the sidewalk.

The upper levels of the facade, which appear to be original, are constructed of glazed white blocks with gold decorative detailing and are arranged in a Palladian window motif of three window divisions. The large central bay has a semicircular pediment with a sculpture panel and is separated from the two narrow divisions by Roman Ionic columns. The Palladian window shape is flanked by flat Ionic pilasters and has a heavy modillioned cornice with a decorated frieze and a closed roof balustrade.

The windows of the upper levels are of the metal casement type and have rectangular transoms. The tracery in the third floor transoms form ovals and circles. The second floor windows are separated from those above by a series of decorative bandings. These bandings consist of a quilloche motif immediately above the second floor windows and below the third story windows with strips of vertical fluting with swags and foliated panels between. The middle second story window has a broken swan's neck pediment with rosettes and a fleur-de-lis-like finial. The pediment rests on twisted columns with leafy capitals and "socks" above the bases.

The pediment sculpture panel consists of two partially nude women embodying the curvilinear characteristics of the Baroque style positioned at right angles to each other. The figure on the north side holds a lute and the one on the south side a lyre. Both figures, looking at each other, lean on the scrollwork surrounding an oval shield and appear to be holding on to a swag consisting of fruit. A small cherub holding onto a ribbon is mounted on the shield between the figures holding the musical instruments. Another small cherub hangs from a shield projecting from a bouquet of flowers at the top. The background of the panel consists of blue clouds and gold rays emanating from them.

The frieze is decorated with fretwork and has diamonds interspaced along it. The cornice has dentils and an egg-and-dart band below the modillions. The modillions are large and have leaf carving on them. The arch around the pediment is divided into square panels with rosettes in every other panel. The cornice has a shell motif ornament centered atop it.

The street level is generally the product of the same renovation

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Continuation Sheet      Colonial Theatre  
Washington Co. ITEM NUMBER 7      PAGE 1

#7 Description, continued

project which altered the interior of the building in the 1940's. The original appearance, as indicated in a sketch published in a 1914 newspaper (Daily Mail, 15 August), consisted of two series of double doors at the sidewalk. One group of the doors opened into the theater and the other probably into a store room. The 1914 sketch also shows balustrades along the second floor windows, although there is no evidence that they were ever installed. The original marquee, as represented in the drawing, was as large as the present one but not as high and did not carry the headlining name.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Colonial Theatre in Hagerstown, Maryland, is primarily significant for the architectural merit of its facade, which is hereby nominated as an object separate from the theater building. The facade is representative of the Baroque style of theater architecture popular in the early twentieth century when the motion picture industry was beginning to develop into a major force affecting American society. It is particularly interesting for the decorative detailing of the upper levels, especially the sculptured panel in the pediment.

The Colonial Theatre was built in 1914 for the Colonial Real Estate Company. It opened on Saturday, 15 August 1914, with a showing of the movie "Eagles Mate," starring Mary Pickford. The facade was not completed at the time but was an integral part of the original design as indicated in a sketch published in the newspaper on the opening day.

The theater was designed by Harry E. Yessler (18-- 1964), a Hagerstown architect. Yessler opened an office in Hagerstown about 1905 and practiced in the city until the late 1930's. The Membership Files of the American Institute of Architects show that he transferred his membership to the York, Pennsylvania area in 1939. Yessler collaborated with Thomas W. Lamb, a noted New York theatrical architect, on designing the Maryland Theatre in Hagerstown, which is located diagonally across the street from the Colonial and opened in 1915.

The future of the Colonial Theatre is in question. As a movie theater, the place closed about 1973 due to a lack of business. The theater is presently open on a limited basis for live performances of country music. This operation, however, is scheduled to move to the Maryland Theatre in the near future. A church group is negotiating the purchase of the building for conversion to religious purposes.

Since 1914, the Colonial Theatre has been an important part of downtown Hagerstown. In addition to its architectural value, the facade is a strong visual element in the streetscape of the city.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

WA-HAG-61

American Institute of Architects, Membership Files, Washington, D. C.  
 The Daily Mail, Hagerstown, Maryland. (August 14 and 15, 1914).  
 Morgan, William. Notes. On file at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis,  
 Maryland.  
 Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Maryland.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 41' wide (fronting on South Potomac Street)  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant is  
 ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 10 September 1975  
 STREET & NUMBER City of Hagerstown TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
City Hall  
 CITY OR TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_ STATE X LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DATE	DATE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	WA-HAG-61
DATE ENTERED	

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC  
Colonial Theatre  
AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
12-14 South Potomac Street

CITY, TOWN  
Hagerstown

STATE  
Maryland

VICINITY OF  
Sixth

COUNTY  
Washington

CODE  
24

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
043

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Faith Chapel, c/o Rev. Terry King

STREET & NUMBER  
38 South Locust Street

CITY, TOWN  
Hagerstown

STATE  
Maryland

VICINITY OF

21740

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER  
95 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN  
Hagerstown

STATE  
Maryland

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

# DESCRIPTION

WA-NAG-61

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Colonial Theatre stands at 12-14 South Potomac Street in Hagerstown, Washington County, and is located on the eastern side of the street in the northern third of the block formed by Public Square and Antietam Street.

The theater is a 1914 commercial structure, three stories high, with a heavily ornamented, Baroque-influenced facade which sits tight to the sidewalk. The street level of the facade has a wide, recessed entranceway flanked by quoined end walls painted to simulate black marble. A small, detached, rectangular ticket booth site is centered on the sidewalk. The three sets of double doors with large glass panes leading into the theater are flanked by two small store rooms and large display windows. A large marquee bearing the name of the theater projects over the sidewalk.

The upper levels of the facade, which appear to be original, are constructed of glazed white blocks with gold decorative detailing and are arranged in a Palladian window motif of three window divisions. The large central bay has a semicircular pediment with a sculpture panel and is separated from the two narrow divisions by Roman Ionic columns. The Palladian window shape is flanked by flat Ionic pilasters and has a heavy modillioned cornice with a decorated frieze and a closed roof balustrade.

The windows of the upper levels are of the metal casement type and have rectangular transoms. The tracery in the third floor transoms form ovals and circles. The second floor windows are separated from those above by a series of decorative bandings. These bandings consist of a guilloche motif immediately above the second floor windows and below the third story windows with strips of vertical fluting with swags and foliated panels between. The middle second story window has a broken swan's neck pediment with rosettes and a fleur-de-lis-like finial. The pediment rests on twisted columns with leafy capitals and "socks" above the bases.

The pediment sculpture panels consists of two partially nude women embodying the curvilinear characteristics of the Baroque style positioned at right angles to each other. The figure on the north side holds a lute and the one on the south side a lyre. Both figures, looking at each other, lean on the scrollwork surrounding an oval shield and appear to be holding on to a swag consisting of fruit. A small cherub holding onto a ribbon is mounted on the shield between the figures holding the musical instruments. Another small cherub hangs from a shield projecting from a bouquet of flowers at the top. The background of the panel consists of blue clouds and gold rays emanating from them.

The frieze is decorated with fretwork and has diamonds interspaced along it. The cornice has dentils and an egg-and-dart band below the modillions. The modillions are large and have leaf carving on them. The arch around the pediment is divided into square panels with rosettes in every other panel. The cornice has a shell motif ornament centered atop it.

The street level is generally the product of the same renovation project which altered the interior of the building in the 1940's. The original appearance, as indicated in a sketch published in a 1914 newspaper (Daily Mail, 15 August), consisted of two series of double doors at the sidewalk. One group of the doors opened into the theater and the other probably into a store room. The 1914 sketch also shows

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Colonial Theatre  
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(Description continued)

balustrades along the second floor windows, although there is no evidence that they were ever installed. The original marquee, as represented in the drawing, was as large as the present one but not as high and did not carry the headlining name.

The Colonial Theatre building is divided into two sections. The west or front portion with the ornate facade originally had the lobby on the first floor and offices and meeting rooms above. The theater auditorium is located in the east or rear section which is connected to the front portion at the first story level only. The west or front section with the facade is currently undergoing extensive renovations -- new ceilings, plaster, panelling and lighting.

The auditorium, now (June, 1976) being refurbished by Faith Chapel, was rebuilt in the 1940's following a fire. The man who managed the theater at the time states that although the fire was small the water damage was great and covered almost all of the auditorium. In the rebuilding process, apparently everything from the basement to the roof of the auditorium was rebuilt. Some evidence of the original interior is still visible, but this is primarily limited to capitals on the pilasters.

In the rebuilding of the auditorium, a new concrete floor was installed and the theater was converted for movies only. According to the former manager, access to the stage was limited in the rebuilding, and areas and devices used backstage for scenery and entrance to the stage were removed. The decorative treatment of the rebuilt auditorium and the renovated lobby (also done in the 1940's) was and still remains plain and functional and is limited pretty much to fluting on the frames around the poster displays.

WA-HAG-61

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Colonial Theater

CONTINUATION SHEET Washington, Co. ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE

From letter to Pamela James, Maryland Historical Trust, from Ronald Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant, City of Hagerstown, 6/29/76.

"In regard to your telephone call about the Colonial Theater, I would advise against nominating the interior of the theater to the National Register because of the extensive alterations which were made to the interior in the past and are presently being made. It was because of the past alterations and knowledge that the interior probably would be altered again in the near future that I limited the original nomination to the facade.

"The Colonial Theater building is divided into two sections. The west or front portion with the ornate facade originally had the lobby on the first floor and offices and meeting rooms above. The theater auditorium is located in the east or rear section which is connected to the front portion at the first story level only. The west or front section with the facade is currently undergoing extensive renovations--new ceilings, plaster, panelling, and lighting.

"The auditorium, now being refurbished by Faith Chapel, was rebuilt in the 1940s following a fire. The man who managed the theater at the time told me that although the fire was small the water damage was great and covered almost all of the auditorium. In the rebuilding process, apparently everything from the basement to the roof of the auditorium was rebuilt. As noted in the National Register form I submitted last fall, some evidence of the original interior is still visible, but this evidence is primarily limited to capitals on the pilasters.

"In the rebuilding of the auditorium, a new concrete floor was installed and the theater was converted for movies only. The former manager told me that access to the stage was limited in the rebuilding and that areas and devices used backstage for scenery and entrance to the stage were removed. The decorative treatment of the rebuilt auditorium and the renovated lobby (also done in the 1940s) was and still remains plain and functional and is limited pretty much to fluting on the frames around the poster displays."

# **[B] SIGNIFICANCE**

WA-NAG-61

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1914

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The facade of the Colonial Theatre in Hagerstown, Maryland, is representative of the Baroque style of theater architecture popular in the early twentieth century when the motion picture industry was beginning to develop into a major force affecting American society. It is particularly interesting for the decorative detailing of the upper levels, especially the sculptured panel in the pediment.

The Colonial Theatre was built in 1914 for the Colonial Real Estate Company. It opened on Saturday, 15 August 1914, with a showing of the movie "Eagles Mate," starring Mary Pickford. The facade was not completed at the time but was an integral part of the original design as indicated in a sketch published in the newspaper on the opening day.

The theater was designed by Harry E. Yessler (18-- 1964), a Hagerstown architect. Yessler opened an office in Hagerstown about 1905 and practiced in the city until the late 1930's. The Membership Files of the American Institute of Architects show that he transferred his membership to the York, Pennsylvania area in 1939. Yessler collaborated with Thomas W. Lamb, a noted New York theatrical architect, on designing the Maryland Theatre in Hagerstown, located diagonally across the street from the Colonial and opened in 1915.

As a movie theater, the Colonial Theatre closed about 1973 due to a lack of business. The theater is now (1977) owned by Faith Chapel and the interior has been remodeled to serve a religious function. The present owners have painted the first floor level but have otherwise left the facade as described in #7 (see photograph).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Institute of Architects, Membership Files, Washington, D. C. WA-HAG-61  
 The Daily Mail, Hagerstown, Maryland. (August 14 and 15, 1914).  
 Morgan, William. Notes. On file at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.  
 Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Maryland.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre (41' wide fronting on South Potomac St  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	2,6,6	5,6,0	4,3	9,1	2,7,0	B				
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING					
C							D				
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant

ORGANIZATION

City of Hagerstown

DATE

10 September, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown, Maryland

STATE

21740

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL      STATE XX LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Colonial Theatre

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
12-14 South Potomac Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hagerstown

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Washington

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<u>theater</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
~~Raymond W. Kline~~ Faith Chapel

STREET AND NUMBER:  
~~38 South Locust Street~~ 38 South Locust Street

CITY OR TOWN: c/o Rev. Terry King Hagerstown STATE: Maryland 21740

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Washington County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
95 West Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown STATE: Maryland

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 594-789

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Maryland Historical Trust Inventory, No. W-VI-030

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis, STATE: Maryland

*do not type on NR form*

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Colonial Theatre stands at 12-14 South Potomac Street in Hagerstown, Washington County, and is located on the eastern side of the street in the northern third of the block formed by Public Square and Antietam Street.

The theater is a 1914 commercial structure, three stories high, with a heavily ornamented, Baroque influenced facade. It sits tight to the sidewalk and the building to the north, but is open on the south side which is a vacant lot. The street level has a wide, recessed entranceway flanked by quoined end walls painted to simulate black marble. A small, detached, rectangular ticket booth sits centered at the sidewalk. The three sets of double doors with large glass panes leading into the theater are flanked by two small store rooms and large display windows. A large marquee bearing the name of the theater projects over the sidewalk.

The upper levels of the facade, which appear to be ~~fairly~~ original, are constructed of glazed white blocks with gold decorative detailing and are arranged in a Palladian window motif of three window divisions. The large central bay has a semicircular pediment with a sculpture panel and is separated from the two narrow divisions by Roman Ionic columns. The Palladian window shape is flanked by flat Ionic pilasters and has a heavy, modillioned cornice with a decorated frieze and a closed roof balustrade.

The windows of the upper levels are of the metal casement type and have rectangular transoms. The tracery in the third floor transoms forms ovals and circles. The second floor windows are separated from those above by a series of decorative bandings. These bandings consist of a quilloche motif immediately above the second floor windows and below the third story windows with strips of vertical fluting with swags and foliated panels between. The middle second story window has a broken swan's neck pediment with rosettes and a fleur-de-lis-like finial. The pediment rests on twisted columns with leafy capitals and "socks" above the bases.

The pediment sculpture panel consists of two partially nude women embodying the curvilinear characteristics of the Baroque style and positioned at right angles to each other. The figure on the north side holds a lute and the one on the south side a lyre. Both figures, looking at each other, lean on the scrollwork surrounding an oval shield and appear to be holding on to a swag consisting of fruit. A small cherub holding onto a ribbon is mounted on the shield between the figures holding the musical instruments. Another small cherub hangs from a shield projecting from a bouquet of flowers at the top. The background of the panel consists of blue clouds and gold rays emanating from them.

The frieze is decorated with fretwork and has diamonds interspaced along it. The cornice has dentils and an egg-and-dart band below the modillions. The modillions are large and have leaf carving on them. The arch around the pediment panel is divided into square panels with rosettes in every other panel. The cornice has a shell motif ornament centered atop it.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Colonial Theatre  
12-14 South Potomac Street  
Hagerstown  
Washington County, Maryland

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

The interior of the Colonial Theatre was renovated <sup>in</sup> ~~about~~ the 1940s following a fire. It is plain in design in comparison with the facade, although some ornate decorative plaster work still can be seen near the ceiling. The auditorium appears to have been extended to the east at this time.

The street level is generally the product of the same renovation project which altered the interior. The original appearance, as indicated in a sketch published in a 1914 newspaper (Daily Mail, 15 August), consisted of two series of double doors at the sidewalk. One group of the doors opened into the theater and the other probably into a store room. The 1914 sketch also shows balustrades along the second floor windows, although there is no evidence that they were ever installed. The original marquee, as represented in the drawing, was as large as the present one but not as high and did not carry the headlining name.

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1914**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginol              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Colonial Theatre in Hagerstown, Maryland is primarily significant for the architectural merit of its facade. The facade is representative of the Baroque style of theater architecture popular in the early twentieth century when the motion picture industry was beginning to develop into a major force affecting American society. It is particularly interesting for the decorative detailing of the upper levels, especially the sculptural panel in the pediment.

The Colonial Theatre was built in 1914 for the Colonial Real Estate Company. It opened on Saturday, 15 August 1914, with a showing of the movie "Eagles Mate," starring Mary Pickford. The facade, ~~however,~~ was not completed at the time, but was an integral part of the original design as indicated in a sketch published in the newspaper on the opening day.

The theater was designed by Harry E. Yessler (18? -1964), a Hagerstown architect. Yessler opened an office in Hagerstown about 1905 and practiced in the city until ~~about~~ the late 1930s. The Membership Files of the American Institute of Architects show that he transferred his membership to the York, Pennsylvania area in 1939. Yessler collaborated with Thomas W. Lamb, a noted New York theatrical architect, on designing the Maryland Theatre in Hagerstown, <sup>which is</sup> located diagonally across the street from the Colonial, ~~which~~ <sup>and</sup> opened in 1915.

The future of the Colonial Theatre is in question. As a movie theater, the place closed about 1973 due to a lack of business. The theater is presently open on a limited basis for live performances of country music. This operation, however, is scheduled to move to the Maryland Theatre in the near future. A church group is negotiating the purchase of the building for conversion to religious purposes.

Since 1914, the Colonial Theatre has been an important part of downtown Hagerstown. In addition to its architectural value, the facade is a strong visual element in the streetscape of the city.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

American Institute of Architects, Membership Files, Washington D. C.  
 The Daily Mail, Hagerstown, Md. (August 14 and 15, 1914).  
 Morgan, William. Notes. On file at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md.  
 Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Md.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

**Acreage Justification:**

The property measures approximately 41' X 240'.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant

ORGANIZATION: City of Hagerstown DATE: 10 Sept. 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown STATE: Maryland 21740

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Hagerstown

WA - VI - 50 WA-HAG-61

Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST BOX 1704 ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Colonial [Movie] Theatre

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: South Potomac Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown

STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: Washington CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: city lot

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8352

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>		Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>		Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Unashamedly ostentatious, the upper two floors of the Colonial Theatre are heavily covered with decorative ornament. This upper facade is a large Palladian window motif -- there are three division of windows, one large central bay with a semi-circular pediment above, and two narrower bays, one on each side. These bays are separated by Roman Ionic columns and a heavy modillioned cornice heightens the Palladian window shape at just below roof level. There is a broken swan's neck pediment above the middle second storey window. In addition to several bands of classical ornament as lintels, window tracery and so forth, there is a cluster of figures forming a pediment sculpture in the large rounded pediment.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

c 1920s [?]

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                |              |                          |                |                                     |                     |                          |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Abariginal     | Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Palitical      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Urban Planning      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric    | Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi-  |                                     | Other (Specify)     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic       | Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> | lasophy        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>architecture</u> |                          |
| Agriculture    | Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                          |
| Art            | Landscape    |                          | Sculpture      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                          |
| Commerce       | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human-  |                                     | _____               |                          |
| Communciations | Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> | itarian        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                          |
| Conservation   | Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____               |                          |
|                | Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transpartation | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                          |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The Colonial Theatre must be one of the last of a once common architectural form -- the pleasure palace. The decoration on the exterior of this building is not unlike the Baroque interiors associated with the opera houses and palaces of Europe, resulting in a style which one might call 'Civic Boudoir'. Colorful to the point of being admired for its High Camp qualities, the Colonial is worth preserving as an example of theatre architecture of its period.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COOE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
William Morgan

ORGANIZATION: Department of Art History DATE: June 9, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
University of Delaware

CITY OR TOWN: Newark STATE: Delaware CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# Maryland Historical Trust/ National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

WA-HAG-061  
MHT Inventory No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MHT Computer No.

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. For instructions, see the Trust publication National Register Application Guidelines. Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Faith Chapel

other names \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number 14 S. Potomac Street

not for publication

city, town Hagerstown

vicinity

state Maryland

code \_\_\_\_\_

county Washington

code \_\_\_\_\_

zip \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Classification

### Ownership of Property

- private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

### Category of Property

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

## 4. Ownership

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

See Continuation Sheet.

## 5. Reserved (leave this space blank)

Submit completed applications to:

National Register Administration  
 Maryland Historical Trust  
 100 Community Place  
 Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Recreation/Culture/Theater

Religion/Religious Structure

**7. Description**

Architectural Classifications (enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

refer to historic sites inventory  
form on file for this property

foundations \_\_\_\_\_

walls \_\_\_\_\_

roof \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:**

This is the former "Colonial Theater" building. There is already a historic sites inventory form on file this property. Please refer to this document for building description history.

The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of Hagerstown's Downtown Commercial Core Historic District.

**8. Statement of Significance**

the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

- national     statewide     local

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

refer to historic

Recreation/Culture

sites inventory

form on file

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

N/A

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

**SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:**

**Origin:**

The Faith Chapel was formed by sixteen members on June 28, 1970.

**Beliefs:**

At that time, the original members had the desire to form a church that would have the goal of lifting up Jesus Christ and presenting Him to a community. It is believed that the Lord will let the church continue to grow.

The desire to minister to the total needs of man include three basic ideas:

First of all the area of the body. It is the desire of the Faith Chapel to plan specific times of fellowship and sharing together that will allow the members of our church to get to know each other.

The second basic area is that of the soul, which includes the mind, will, and emotions. It is the desire of the Faith Chapel to start a Christian school which would offer education to all grades.

The third area of need for ministry to the total man is the area of his spirit.

Maryland Historical Trust/  
**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

WA-HAG-061

MHT Inventory No.

Faith Chapel  
Name of Property

Section Number   8   Page   1  

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Other Affiliations:

The Faith Chapel is an independent church.

History of Construction:

The Faith Chapel is located in the old Colonial Theater. The second and larger building to house the Faith Chapel, it was purchased in 1976.

Other Properties:

Half of a double house was purchased in 1973 for use of Sunday school classes.

Maryland Historical Trust/  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Registration Form**

WR-NAG-061  
MHT Inventory No.

Faith Chapel  
Name of Property

Section Number 8 Page 2

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

**MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA**

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

refer to historic sites inventory form on file

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Recreation/Culture

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Theater

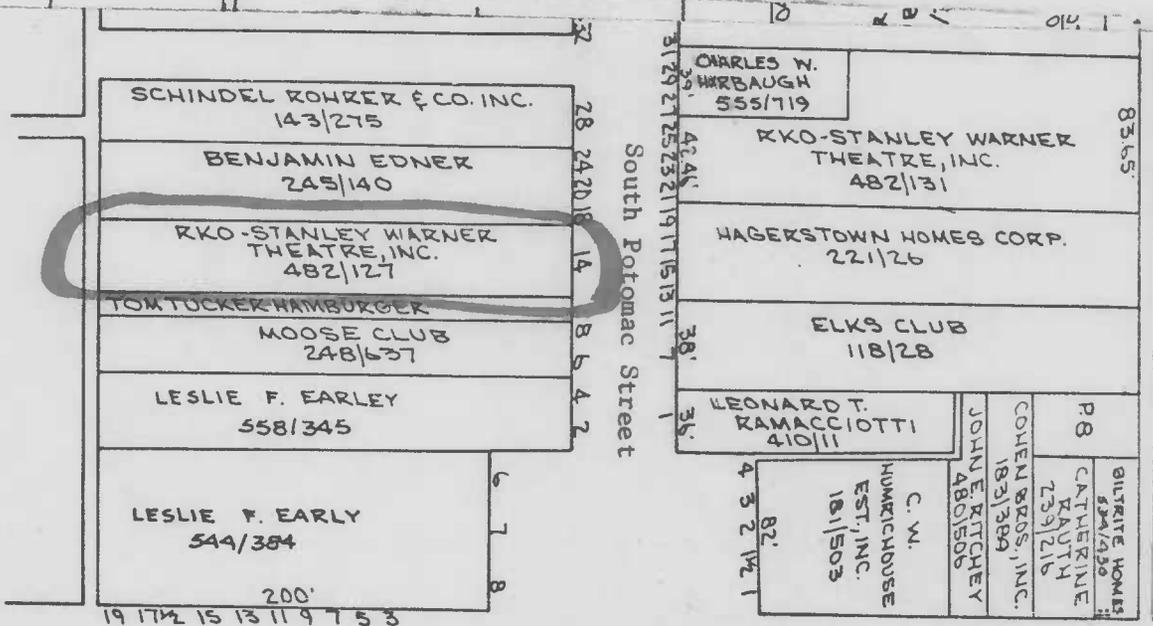
Known Design Source: refer to historic sites inventory form on file



map: Tax Map No. 32  
 Hagerstown  
 Washington County  
 1974  
 scale 1:100

site: Colonial Theatre  
 12-14 South Potomac Street  
 Hagerstown  
 Washington County  
 Maryland

DIVISION-1967  
 SESS. & TAX.

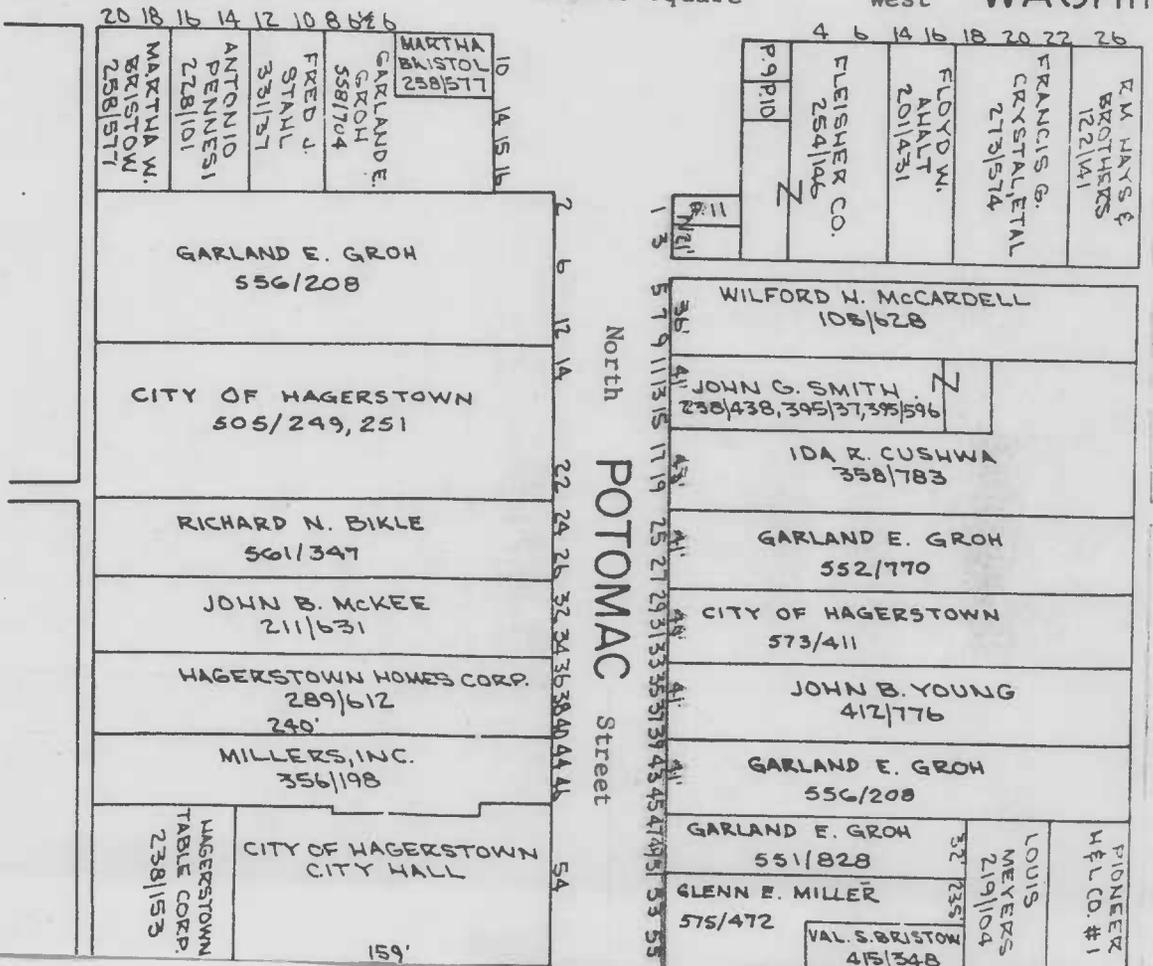


East Washington Street

Public Square

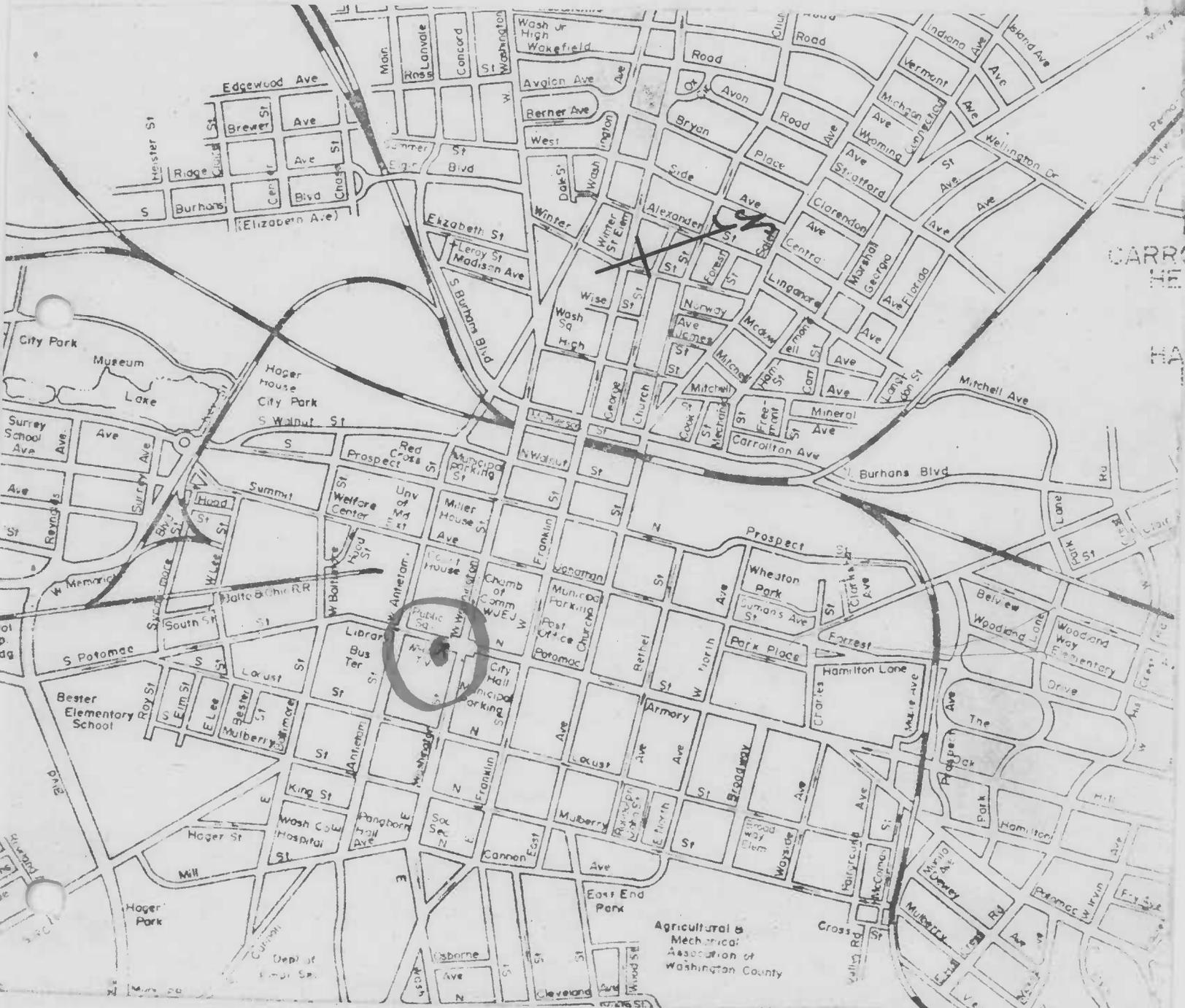
West

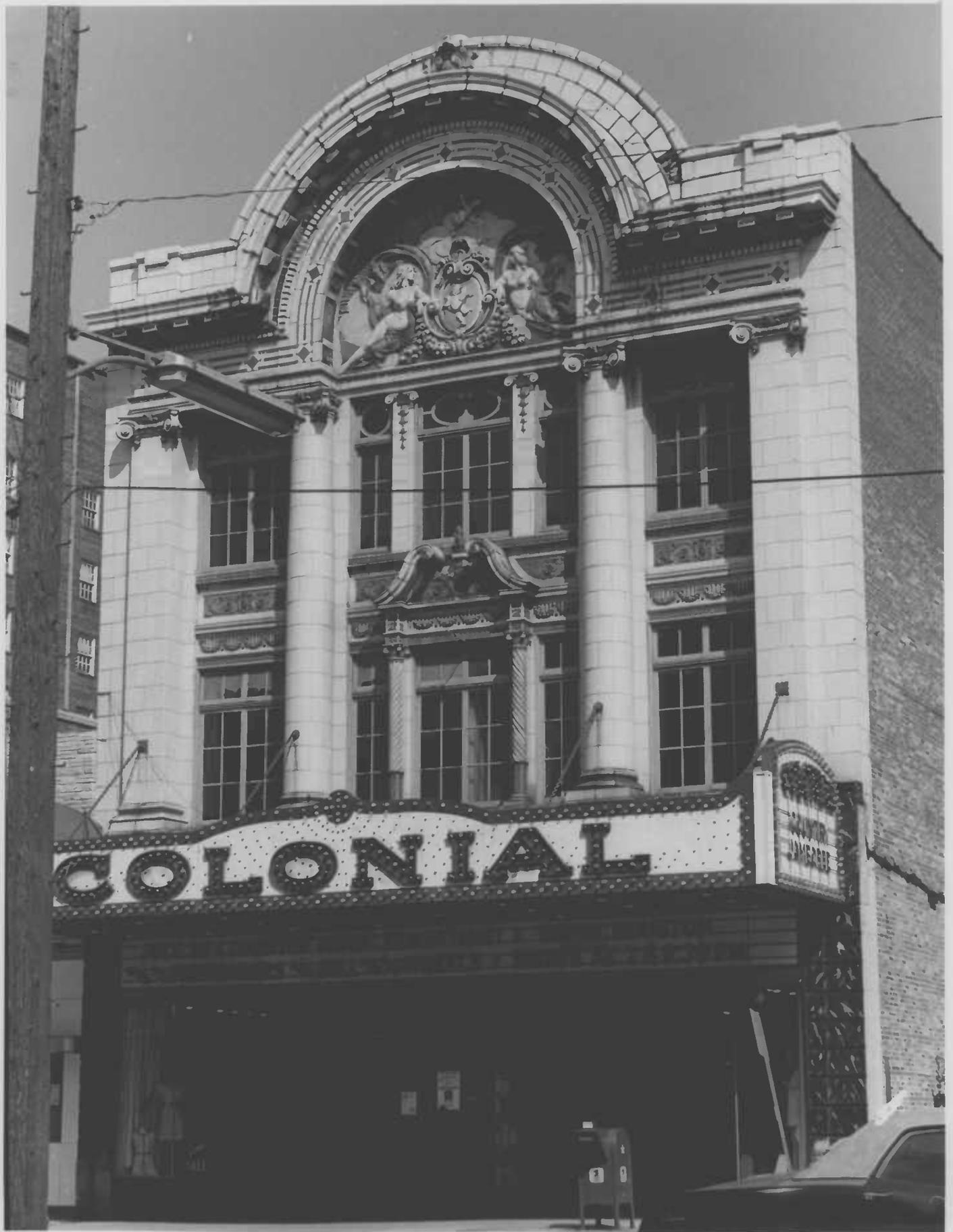
WASHIN



map: City of Hagerstown  
City Engineering Dept.  
1970  
scale 1:1200

site: Colonial Theatre  
12-14 South Potomac Street  
Hagerstown  
Washington County  
Maryland





WA-HFG-061

Colonial Theatre  
12-14 South Potomac St.  
Hagerstown  
Washington Co.  
Maryland  
SW view  
July, 1975

RONALD L. ANDREWS



WIA-HAG-061

R. L. ANDREWS  
649 PHILADELPHIA AVE.  
CHAMBERSBURG, PA. 17201

Colonial Theatre  
12-14 South Potomac Street  
Hagerstown  
Washington County, Maryland

west elevation, detail

July, 1975