

SURVEY FORM FOR HISTORIC LANDMARK INVENTORY
CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

NAME OF SITE: Paramount Theatre
SITE ADDRESS: 713-715 Congress Ave.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: N. half Lot 3, Lot 4,
S. 6' Lot 5, Block 84, Original City
DEED RECORDS: Volume 6027 Page 1799-1800
Volume _____ Page _____

TAX ASSESSMENTS:
Year _____ Land _____ Improvements _____ Total _____

PRESENT USE: Theatre Zoning: C-2nd H&A
CONSTRUCTION / DESCRIPTION: Red brick

CONDITION:
EXTERIOR: _____ INTERIOR: _____

(Photograph)

PRESENT OWNERS
Margaret B. Reed Trust
Paramount Theatre for the
Performing Arts, Inc.

ADDRESS
American Bank, P. O. Box 2266, 78780
713-715 Congress Avenue, 78701

TELEPHONE
NUMBER

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

NAMES
Mrs. Frank M. Covert
Carl Burnette

ADDRESS
4703 Crestway, 78731
2030 American Bank Tower 78701

TELEPHONE
NUMBER

DATE BUILT: 1915 DATES AND EXTENT OF ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: _____

DESIGNER: John Eberson
SUPERVISING ARCHITECT: George Endress BUILDER: J. F. Johnson
ORIGINAL OWNER: Ernest Nalle

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE OR PERIOD WITH DESCRIPTION OF ANY INNOVATIVE DESIGN, FEATURES, DETAILS,
MATERIALS OR CRAFTSMANSHIP: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER? No NATIONAL LANDMARK? No RECORDED TEXAS LANDMARK? Yes
LOCAL SURVEYS OR RECOGNITION? Located in Congress Avenue National Register District

Austin History Center

614h-72-038
Paramount Theatre
713-715 Congress Avenue

SIGNIFICANT PERSONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH SITE:

Ernest Nalle, born Feb. 7, 1875, graduated from the University of Virginia. During Spanish-American War, served as Captain of the Nalle Rifles. Son of Capt. Joe Nalle, one time mayor of Austin. President and owner of Nalle Lumber Co. Married Georgia Sampson in 1896. Vice-President of American National Bank. During W.W. II, served as coordinator of military construction.

Legitimate acts billed at the theatre included: Helen Hayes, Orson Wells, Anna Pavlova, the Metropolitan Opera Company, Lillian Russell, John Phillip Sousa, The Great Barrymores, Lillian Gish, Basil Rathbone, Katherine Hepburn and George M. Cohan. Even today, an upright piano stored backstage bears the signature of Enrico Caruso on its soundboard.

OWNERSHIP INFORMATION:

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Volume/Page</u>
Sallie Joe Nalle	Rose Nalle Borden and Nellie Nalle Cooke	8-1-1919	316/45
Rosie Nalle (Borden) Hamilton	General Realty Co.	5-30-1928	418/397
General Realty Co.	Majestic Realty Co.	7-1-1930	455/343
Majestic Realty Co.	American National Bank Margaret B. Reed Estate	3-11-1941	665/374
Majestic Realty Co.	M. H. Reed	3-10-1941	665/342
M. H. Reed	M. H. Reed Trust #1	12-31-1941	938/97
M. H. Reed Trust #1	Paramount Theatre for the Performing Arts (1/2 interest)	12-29-1977	627/1799

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Travis County Deed Records
Austin-Travis County Collection
Newspaper Files

A History of the Paramount Theatre by Camille Neuvar, Westlake High School, Feb. 22, 1976

Completed by: Betty Baker (based on information supplied by applicant) Date: September 12, 1978