

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: "Wines-Liquors" Historic: Capitol Theater
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 354 Main Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Capitol Theater Realty Corporation PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Liquor Store Historic: Movie theater; originally stage theater
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Neo-Classical Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1925
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
 clapboard  asbestos siding  brick  
 wood shingle  asphalt siding  fieldstone  
 board & batten  stucco  cobblestone  
 aluminum siding  concrete: type: \_\_\_\_\_  cut stone: type: sandstone  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_ facade
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
 wood frame:  post and beam  balloon  
 load bearing masonry  structural iron or steel  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. ROOF: type:  
 gable  flat  mansard  monitor  sawtooth  
 gambrel  shed  hip  round  other \_\_\_\_\_  
material:  
 wood shingle  roll asphalt  tin  slate  
 asphalt shingle  built up  tile  other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22'x76' (64'x142' rear)
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: Large marquee added; lobby adapted for commercial
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: use  
 barn  shed  garage  other landscape features or buildings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 carriage house  shop  garden \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:  
 open land  woodland  residential  scattered buildings visible from site  
 commercial  industrial  rural  high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This small but elegant theater building is located on the east side of Main Street in the heart of the central business district. It is situated directly south of the large, Renaissance Revival, Pythian Building. A small commercial building is attached to its south wall.

OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE

Builder: \_\_\_\_\_  
Historical or Architectural Importance: This structure was built in the mid 1920s by Alessandro Saraceno. The second story classical facade, located above a small entrance, is intact. Arched windows with keystone are set off by attached columns supporting entablature and a large, false cornice. The theater portion, with a seating capacity of 1,100, is decorated. It is currently vacant. In 1974 the entrance and lobby of the building was adapted for use as a liquor store and is currently used for that purpose. This structure, with its ornate facade, reflects the opulent tradition of early twentieth century theaters.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 6/78 view: west  
negative on file: Roll 26, #23-23A

COMPILED BY:

name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 5/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- none known
- renewal
- highways
- private
- vandalism
- deterioration
- developers
- zoning
- other: \_\_\_\_\_
- explanation: \_\_\_\_\_



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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 1/90

Capitol Theater  
354 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457

