

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

212

Project #: 00029	Historic Resources Survey Form	Local Id: 00052
County: Jefferson		City: Beaumont
Address No: 345	Street Name: Fannin Street	Block: 300

SECTION 1

Basic Inventory Information

Current Name: Jefferson Theater
 Historic Name: Jefferson Theater

Owner Information Name: City of Beaumont
 Address: PO Box 3827 City: Beaumont State: TX Zip: 77704

Geographic Location Latitude: 30.082001 Longitude: -94.097727 Parcel Id
 Legal Description (Lot\Block): Beaumont Lots 204, 207 Block 30 SE 3-5
 Addition/Subdivision: Year:

Property Type: Building **Listed NR District Name:** Beaumont Commercial District
Current Designations: NR District
 NHL NR RTHL OTHM HTC SAL Local Other Is property contributing?

Architect: Emil Weil **Builder:** Watson & Co (Dallas), Charles F. Law (Beaumont)
Construction Date: 1927 **Source:** Plaque on Building

Function

Current: Recreation/Culture: Movie Theater
Historic: Recreation/Culture: Movie Theater

Recorded By: Richard Gachot **Date Recorded:** 5/15/2018



Project #: 00029	Historic Resources Survey Form	Local Id: 00052
County: Jefferson		City: Beaumont
Address No: 345	Street Name: Fannin Street	Block: 300

SECTION 2

Architectural Description

Four-and-a-half-story Renaissance Revival block. First story has marble veneer, central frame and plate glass ticket booth with cutaway corners with three recessed twelve-light wood and frame doors and two-light transoms on either side. One offset pair of recessed twelve-light frame and glass doors with four-light transom. Four symmetrically placed display cases for posters. Illuminated marquee with sunburst design. Masonry stringcourse between first and second stories. Five pairs of symmetrically placed six-light casement windows on second story with two masonry reliefs symbolizing the fine arts on either side of the central pair of windows. Masonry stringcourse between second and third floors. On the third story, three central pairs of six-light French doors with large. Richly ornamented masonry surrounds and Renaissance Revival pediments open onto a narrow wrought iron balcony. Two pairs of eight-light casement windows symmetrically placed on either side of the French doors below centered masonry medallions of "Art" and "Music". Masonry floral entablature with inset marble panels, central panel engraved "Jefferson". Tile cornice with copper trim. Masonry corner pilasters extend from the second through fourth stories. A large illuminated sign, "Jefferson", projects from the second through fourth stories on the west side of the facade.

The Jefferson Theater is Beaumont's largest movie palace and only surviving downtown movie theater. The building served as an entertainment center for the community from the 1920s through the 1960s and continues to function as a special events center. The building is Beaumont's best example of the Renaissance Revival style. The building's architect, Emil Weil, designed theaters across the south, including the Saenger Theater in Texarkana, Texas.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additions, modifications	Explain: \$6.5 million restoration in 2003
<input type="checkbox"/> Relocated	Explain:

Stylistic Influence

Renaissance Revival

Structural Details

Roof Form
Flat

Roof Materials
Asphalt

Wall Materials
Brick

Windows
Sash, Casement

Doors (Primary Entrance)
Double

Plan
Rectangular

Chimneys

Porches/Canopies

FORM Flat Roof
SUPPORT Suspension rods
MATERIAL

ANCILLARY BUILDINGS:
Garage: Barn: Shed: Other:

Landscape Features

Project #: 00029	Historic Resources Survey Form	Local Id: 00052
County: Jefferson		City: Beaumont
Address No: 345	Street Name: Fannin Street	Block: 300

SECTION 3 Historical Information

Associated Historical Context
 Architecture, Entertainment

- Applicable National Register (NR) Criteria:**
- A** Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history
 - B** Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
 - C** Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic value, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinctions
 - D** Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory of history

Areas of Significance:
 Architecture, Entertainment

Periods of Significance:
 1927

Levels of Significance: National State Local
Integrity: Location Design Materials Workmanship Setting Feeling Association

Integrity Notes:
 High level of exterior and interior integrity

Individually Eligible? Yes **Within Potential NR District?:** Yes **Is Property Contributing?:**

Potential NR District Name:
Priority High **Explain:**

Other Information
Is prior documentation available for this resource? Yes **Type** HABS Survey Other

Documentation Details:
 Listed individually on the National Register (#78002962) Listed as contributing to the Beaumont Commercial District National Register on 4/14/1978 (#070002959). RTHL #10537 listed 1970; Surveyed on the 1977 and 1989 SPARE Beaumont Historic Resource Surveys.