COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80203

## HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY RECORD

	NOT FOR FIELD USE
Eligible	Nominated
Det. Not	Eligible Certified Rehab.
	Date

PROJECT NAME: Littleton Historic Buildings	COUNTY:	CITY:	STATE ID NO.: 5AH1267	
Survey 1997 (#97-01-082)	Arapahoe	Littleton	TEMPORARY NO.: 2077-16-3-05-010	
CURRENT BUILDING NAME: Homewood Furniture Store  ADDRESS: 2359 W MAIN ST	2359 W M	OWNER: OWENS, ROBERT A  2359 W MAIN ST LITTLETON CO 80120		
Littleton, CO 80120	TOWNSHIP 5S	RANGE 68W	SECTION 16 NW 1/4 SW 1/4	
HISTORIC NAME: Palm Theater	U.S.G.S. QUAD NA	AME: Littleton	, Colo. YEAR: 1965 (r. 1994) X 7.5' 15'	
DISTRICT NAME: Littleton Main Street	BLOCK: 28 ADDITION: STATE	BLOCK: 28 LOT(S): 19-20 P ADDITION: STATE ADDITION YR. OF ADDITION: 1889		
FILM ROLL NO.: 97- 6 NEGATIVE NO.: BY: Roger Whitacre 30	LOCATION OF NEGLITHIEST.		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ESTIMATE: ACTUAL: 1925 SOURCE:	
			Lit. Independent, 7-22-38	
	* 12 h		USE: PRESENT: Commercial-Store	
	7		HISTORIC: Movie Theater	
FURNITURE	- Care Care Care Care Care Care Care Care		CONDITION:  EXCELLENT X GOOD  FAIR DETERIORATING	
			EXTENT OF ALTERATIONS:  MINOR X MODERATE MAJOR DESCRIBE: Theater sign removed (historic);	
	The state of the s		storefront area remodeled; front wall	
CONTRACTOR MANAGEMENT	1 (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1		has painted brick; addition on rear.	
A STATE OF LAND SERVICE AND ASSESSMENT	TO SECOND	The second second	CONTINUED YES X NO	
STYLE: Twentieth Century Commercial	S 1	TORIES:	ORIGINAL SITE MOVED DATE(S) OF MOVE:	
MATERIALS: Brick, Wood		Q. FOOTAGE: 719	NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY	
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:			INDIVIDUAL: YES X NO	
One-story rectangular brick building with flat roof with projecting piers along roof, stepped down toward rear; brick coping. Metal molded cornice above first			CONTRIBUTING TO DISTRICT:  X YES NO	
story. Brick walls; painted, raked brick on front; smooth brick on east wall;			LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: No	
brick water table and foundation. Inset central en				
and door with rectangular light with transom above. Angled glazed walls lead to			NAME: DATE:	
entrance. Plate glass display windows with painted cornice is central group of five multi-light window			AGGGGTAMED DWATERWAY	
flanked on either end of building by paired multi-l			ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS? YES X NO TYPE:	
paired windows on east wall covered by metal grille				
upper section of east wall. Alley on east adjacent	to building.	x no	IF INVENTORIED, LIST ID NOS.:	
ADDITIONAL PAGES: YES X NO				

## DIAN CHADE.

ΔΡΟΗΤΨΕΟΨ. Unknown

SOURCE:

STATE ID NO.: 5AH1267

ORIGINAL OWNER: J.H. Peterson

SOURCE:

Littleton Historical Museum

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Peterson Lumber Co.

SOURCE .

Millie Roeder Survey Form

THEME (S) .

Colorado Town Form in Early Auto

Era. 1920-45

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (DESCRIPTION, NAMES, DATES, ETC., RELATING TO MAJOR ALTERATIONS TO ORIGINAL STRUCTURE): Sanborn maps indicate that the building had a second floor balcony and the main portion of the theater had a double-height main floor. A low one-story addition on the rear, composed of concrete blocks with an overhead garage door and glass block windows, serves as an annex for Valore Hardware. By the 1930s, large round lights mounted on four columns projecting from the roof were gone, as well as the vertical theater sign, replaced by a Montgomery Wards sign.

CONTINUED

X NO

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (DISCUSS IMPORTANT PERSONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS STRUCTURE): This building was erected in 1925 as the Palm motion picture theater by J.H. Petereson. The theater was shortly sold to Merle Vessey who leased it to W.C. Kelly. In June 1928, the newspaper reported that H.E. Beattie, who has operated the Palm Theater for some time past, has disposed of his interests to M.W. Vessey, the former owner, who took charge at the opening of business.... " The theater operated for only a few years, until the late 1920s or early 1930s. It was not the first theater in Littleton. Movies were first shown in the Town Hall and another movie theater was erected on the south side of Main Street. As Littleton resident Patty Anderson describes the original appearance of the theater, it featured a "somewhat recessed entrance with windows on either side facing the street. Large, round lights were mounted on the four short columns which projected up from the roofline on the front of the building." By 1932, a J.C. Penney Co. store was located in the building; in 1939, R.L. Stevens was manager of the store. Penney's stayed at this location until the mid-1950s. By 1959, Montgomery Ward and Co. was housed in the building. The building now contains a furniture store. Patty Anderson notes that the interior of the building today "is a single large roof with a high ceiling and no second story. There is a small enclosed balcony running the width of the building above the entrance. It is accessed by a narrow stairway at the west side and was used as the projection room." A wall at the north end of the room conceals the original stage and the wall where the movie screen was mounted.

> CONTINUED YES X NO

SIGNIFICANCE (CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORIES AND BRIEFLY JUSTIFY BELOW): ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

> REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUES

REPRESENTS A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSONS

- ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OR PATTERNS
- X CONTRIBUTES TO AN HISTORIC DISTRICT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This building is associated with the history of entertainment and commerce in Littleton, having been erected in 1925 as a movie theater and later housing a J.C. Penney store. The building is representative of early twentieth century movie theaters in Littleton, as reflected in its brick construction with steel truss roof and interior balcony and two-story main floor. This is the best preserved of Littleton's historic movie theaters.

> CONTINUED YES X NO

REFERENCES (BE SPECIFIC) :

Patty Anderson, Research on 2359 W. Main, Sept. 1997; Arapahoe Co. Leader, 8 June 1928; Arapahoe County Assessor records; Littleton Historical Museum files, Photograph files, #111; Bemis Public Library Clipping files; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1921-1949; Littleton City Directories, 1932, 1939, 1953-1965; Houstoun Waring, "Hous's Littleton" (Littleton: Littleton Independent, 1981); "Littleton Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow," July 1990, 12; Littleton Independent, 22 July 1938 and 17 Aug. 1928. 3

CONTINUED

YES

X NO

SURVEYED BY: R.L. Simmons/T.H. Simmons

AFFILIATION: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

DATE: October 1997