

# Site Inventory Form

State Historical Society of Iowa

Inventory # 11-00275



## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Sioux Theatre

Other names/site number: Sioux Rapids Area Historical Museum

## 2. Location

Street and number: 218 Main St

City: Sioux Rapids County: Buena Vista

Legal description:

## 5. Classification

Category of property Building(s)	Number of resources within property		
	Contributing	Non-contributing	
	1	0	building(s)
	0	0	site(s)
	0	0	structure(s)
	0	0	object(s)
	1	0	total

Name of related project report or multiple property study

HADB 00-231 Schwenk, Sally Fullerton, 2010 - Historic Movie Theaters of Iowa

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC/single dwelling/residence

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater/movie theater

RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater/playhouse

Current Functions

RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater/movie theater

RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater/playhouse

RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

Modern Movement: Moderne

Materials

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick

Roof: Synthetics

Other: Glass / Block

## 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

			Criteria				Considerations						
Opinion	Source	Year	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Contributing in potential district	Consultant	2010	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Opinion of eligibility	Consultant	2010	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Opinion of eligibility	SNRC	2011	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Listed	NPS	2012	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Criteria legend: A: property is associated with significant events, B: property is associated with the lives of significant persons, C: property has distinctive architectural characteristics, D: property yields significant information in archeology or history.

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Criteria considerations legend: A: owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes, B: removed from its original location, C: a birthplace or grave, D: a cemetery, E: a reconstructed building, object, or structure, F: a commemorative property, G: less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

## Areas of Significance

Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

Construction date

built in 1946

Architect(s)

Wetherell and Harrison, Des Moines, IA

Builder(s)

Hersom, C. I., Hersom, C. I., Construction

## 10. Geographic Data

UTM References

Zone

Easting

Northing

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## Continuation Sheet

### Narratives

This is an excellent example of a post-World War II Modern Movement style movie theater. Due to its excellent interior and exterior integrity it is individually eligible for its Association with the historic sub-context "Evolution of Movie Theater Design, 1900-1975 in the MPDF Historic Theaters of Iowa. Its Moderne architectural style is particularly significant as the embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction and it possesses high artistic value. It is significant under Criterion A for its associations as part of the evolution of motion picture exhibition in Sioux City as one in a continuum of commercial Block Downtown and Neighborhood Movie Houses. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gran had the Sioux Theater built in 1945-46. The building included a movie theater and dairy bar on the first floor and a large apartment for the Grans on the second floor. The Grans operated the theater for several years before moving to Florida, at which time they passed the operation to his brother Al and his wife, Doris, Gran who maintained the theater until the late 1970s. Mike Berger of Chicago purchased the building and operated the theater for a few years before closing in around 1980. In 1985, the Sioux Rapids Area Historical Association purchased the building, have made many necessary repairs and maintain the building as their museum. The local schools perform on the stage several times a year.