

Shanklin's Grand Theatre

Ronceverte, WV

Designed by African American architect John Norman, Senior, Shanklin's Grand Theatre in Ronceverte (ca. 1937) is the most intact Art Deco theatre left in Greenbrier County. The Ronceverte Development Corporation intends to purchase the property to protect it from demolition.



Shanklin's Grand Theatre

Community: Ronceverte
(Greenbrier County)

Site: Shanklin's Grand Theatre

Date: 1937

Significance: Designed by John Norman Sr., one of the first of West Virginia's African American architects, it is the best remaining Art Deco theater in the county.

Endangerment: Demolition by local government

Resources: The Ronceverte Development Corporation intends to purchase the property which sits in the heart of the downtown, and will oversee grant applications and fund raising efforts.

Next Steps: Acquire the property.

Future: Future plans include restoring the theater for public use and as a community college cinema arts classroom. The old WRON Radio studios on the second floor will be converted for use as a recording studio.

Nominated by: *Ronceverte Historic Landmarks Commission*



Theatre photos at top and right courtesy of Rich McGervey, photographer.

The Preservation Alliance of West Virginia is the statewide grassroots organization devoted to preserving West Virginia's history and culture.

In partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, PAWV provides assistance to help save endangered sites. For more information on the 2011 Endangered List, or if you would like to suggest a site for next year, see www.pawv.org.

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