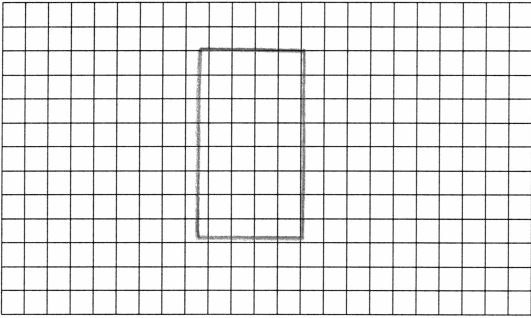


HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY RECORD

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

PROJECT NAME: Littleton Historic Buildings Survey 1997 (#97-01-082)		COUNTY: Arapahoe	CITY: Littleton	STATE ID NO.: 5AH161
		TEMPORARY NO.: 2077-17-4-06-007		
CURRENT BUILDING NAME: Town Hall Arts Center		OWNER: LITTLETON COLO BLDG AUTHORITY 2255 W BERRY AVE LITTLETON CO 80120		
ADDRESS: 2450 W MAIN ST Littleton, CO 80120		TOWNSHIP 5S RANGE 68W SECTION 17 NE 1/4 SE 1/4		
HISTORIC NAME: Littleton Town Hall		U.S.G.S. QUAD NAME: Littleton, Colo. YEAR: 1965 (r. 1994) X 7.5' 15'		
DISTRICT NAME: Littleton Main Street		BLOCK: 8 LOT(S): 8 P, 9 ADDITION: LITTLETON ORIG. TOWN YR. OF ADDITION: 1872		
FILM ROLL NO.: 97- 9 BY: Roger Whitacre	NEGATIVE NO.: 6	LOCATION OF NEGATIVES: Littleton Hist. Mus.	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ESTIMATE: ACTUAL: 1920 SOURCE: Arapahoe County Assessor	
			USE: PRESENT: Cultural-Arts Center HISTORIC: Governmental-Town Hall	
			CONDITION: X EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETERIORATING	
			EXTENT OF ALTERATIONS: X MINOR MODERATE MAJOR DESCRIBE: Open entry arcaded loggia and entrance to fire truck garage enclosed with glazed walls. Interior modifications.	
			CONTINUED YES X NO	
STYLE: Italian Renaissance		STORIES: 2 1/2	ORIGINAL SITE X MOVED DATE(S) OF MOVE:	
MATERIALS: Terra Cotta, Brick, Concrete		SQ. FOOTAGE: 3,333	NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY	
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: 2 1/2-story town hall building with main (n.) facade clad with architectural terra cotta; side and rear wall composed of brick; concrete foundation. Flat roof with projecting piers enframing hip roof, tiled, projecting cornice with modillions. Terra cotta tiles cast to resemble smooth stone blocks; at foundation is different type of terra cotta with slightly rougher face and grained appearance. First story features arcade of triple pointed arches accentuated by molding and ornament; each arch contains inset entrance with mutli-light doors, overdoors, and sidelights. Flanking central arch are wrought iron lanterns. Central arcade of five slender pointed arch windows with polychromatic ornaments are accentuated by small columns and flanked by single windows with wrought iron balconets. Corner quoins. Bands of cast ornament.			INDIVIDUAL: X YES NO	
			CONTRIBUTING TO DISTRICT: X YES NO	
			LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: Yes	
			NAME: Littleton DATE: 1972	
ADDITIONAL PAGES: YES X NO			ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS? YES X NO TYPE:	
			IF INVENTORIED, LIST ID NOS.:	

PLAN SHAPE: 	ARCHITECT: J.J.B. Benedict SOURCE: Nat. Reg. form BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Unknown SOURCE:	STATE ID NO.: 5AH161 ORIGINAL OWNER: Town of Littleton SOURCE: Nat. Reg. 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): A large concrete block addition was added to the building after it ceased functioning as the Town Hall to accommodate its new role as a performing arts center.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (DISCUSS IMPORTANT PERSONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS STRUCTURE): In 1919 Littleton voters approved a bond issue for a new city hall. Construction began on the site of the old town hall. This building was erected at a cost of \$24,725 as the Littleton Town Hall in 1920. It was designed by prominent architect Jules Jacques Benoit Benedict, a Littleton resident, who also designed the town's Carnegie Library at the west end of Main Street. Town officials requested that the front of the building would "have a character that would dominate the design." Bendict reportedly drew his inspiration for the building from the Palazzo della Regione in Vincenza, Italy. The Denver Terra Cotta produced and installed the facade's terra cotta cladding. Benedict made the lanterns from old iron balconies and donated them to the city. The building drew national notice in architectural and municipal journals and was proclaimed the "finest town hall for a small American town." The building housed town offices and the fire department; a small jail building stood in the southwest corner of the parcel at the alley. In 1911, the first motion picture show in Littleton was presented in the Town Hall. As Littleton grew over the years, the Town Hall became inadequate to house city staff and programs. In 1976-77 a new city building (Littleton Center) was constructed at 2255 W. Berry Ave. This building then was remodeled to house the Littleton Town Hall Arts Center, a performing arts facility. Michael Barber of Muchow Associates was in charge of the restoration and remodeling, which created a proscenium theater and basement cabaret.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
SIGNIFICANCE (CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORIES AND BRIEFLY JUSTIFY BELOW): <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: ☒ REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER ☒ POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUES ☒ REPRESENTS A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: ☐ ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSONS ☒ ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OR PATTERNS ☒ CONTRIBUTES TO AN HISTORIC DISTRICT </td> </tr> </table>			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 ☒ CONTRIBUTES TO AN HISTORIC DISTRICT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The Littleton Town Hall is significant for its historical associations for housing Littleton town offices from 1920 through 1977. Architecturally, the building is significant as an example of the Italian Renaissance style, reflected in the symmetrical facade with hipped roof, tiled, bracketed cornice projection; the first story arcade; the smaller windows of the upper story accentuated with columns and balconets; the corner quoins; and masonry walls. The building displays high artistic values in its terra cotta front, arches, polychromatic ornament, and wrought iron. The Town Hall also significant as an example of the work of J.J.B. Benedict, who also designed the Littleton Carnegie Library, numerous private homes, churches (including Holy Ghost Church, the Chapel at St. Thomas Seminary, and St. Malo Chapel), the Central Savings Bank, and Rosedale and Park Hill elementary schools. The Littleton Town Hall received national attention in publications such as "Architectural Record" and "American Builder."				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
REFERENCES (BE SPECIFIC): Arap. Co. Assessor records; "Littleton Town Hall," Nat. Reg. of Hist. Places form, 1980; Houstoun Waring, "Hous' Littleton" (Littleton: Litt. Independent, 1981), Ch. 16; "American Builder," October 1923, 80-81; Thomas Noel & Barbara Norgren, "Denver: The City Beautiful" (Denver: Hist. Denver, Inc., 1987), 188-89; Littleton Independent, 22 July 1938; Cary M. Taylor, "The Architecture of J.B. Benedict," (Boulder: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, 1974); Littleton Historical Museum files; Rocky Mountain News, 21 Oct. 1978, 4B.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
SURVEYED BY: R.L. Simmons/T.H. Simmons	AFFILIATION: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.	DATE: October 1997		