

re...Buildings

In 1831 as a new location for Sinking Springs the structure was rectangular with six steps across the front with large white columns, topped with steeple finials of the period because it was situated on a rise at the back of the building. In 1837, the building was called "the Ice House" who hosted performances and social events, "the Ice House" The earliest theatrical event known to date was on January 14, 1876, the proceeds of which were for the Temperance Society. The town made the building divide into two levels of offices and rooms. The words were added to the brick on the façade added to the building. The building was used as a fire hall - hence the fire alarm on the roof for night. When the fire siren sounded during a fire, the audience had to freeze their position on stage and to resume their performance remained on the building until 1994 when the building was converted into a communications center to alert fire fighters. Many of the features of the Empire Theatre. Robert Porterfield learned from the building in 1875, was slated for destruction. Porterfield purchased the building and equipment for use at Barter. He purchased with \$75,000 worth of properties, including seats, gold frames and red wall tapestries. The lighting system was designed by Thomas Edison, was used at Barter Theatre. The Empire Theatre include: Dennis King in the Empire's *The Emperor Jones* and the large portrait of Katherine

Rose, the Barter Foundation Board of Trustees met in April 1995. Architects Harry McKinney and the project was awarded to the trustees Captain Cornell Angelman and Howard Hazel Youngs served on a Building Committee to oversee the renovation of the renovated building include special features of the Empire Theatre on the right and left walls of the building from which the chandeliers hang.

The building was used as a Methodist church and later became a part of the Barter House for the school's literary societies. The building was not destroyed by fire in 1914; it was later used by the school as a gymnasium and a storage area. In 1961, the building was renovated, with major improvements made in 1973 and 1974 by the Barter Foundation and the Jessie Belle DuPont Memorial Theatre.

The architectural plans designed by Uwe Rothe of Cain Associates included new plush seating for 167 patrons and the building serves actors, patrons and community members. Most all of the furnishings and décor was either purchased or donated for Barter production. Historic pictures of the theatre

have been added and refined look with the addition of sconces and lighting by actors and audiences for its intimate, thrust

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