

Beacham Theatre

46 N. Orange Avenue



Photo c. 1933

In 1921, Braxton Beacham Sr. built Orlando's first theater. He also built the stores that extended to Washington St., giving him 213 feet of frontage on Orange Ave. and 145 feet on Washington St. The theatre had its first formal opening on December 9, 1921. Beneath Orange Avenue is a tunnel that, before it was blocked about 30 feet into it, allowed performers an easy way to get to the Angebilt Hotel across the street. The Beacham hosted vaudeville acts from 1921 to 1936, when it switched to showing first-run movies. They continued until 1975, when live musical acts appeared at what was then called the Great Southern Music Hall. For a time, it was Laser World, and then Moulin Orange, with live musical shows. It later was converted to a night club.

ORLANDO LOCAL LANDMARK (1987)