

IMOGENE THEATRE AND MUSEUM

The Imogene Theatre was built in 1912, the year the Titanic sank. In its early years, this historic landmark in downtown Milton, FL, was a vaudeville playhouse. In addition to plays, the theatre was used for social events ranging from extravagant balls to a gambling night. It was later converted to a motion picture theatre, starting with silent films.

The theatre switched ownership several times and even served as a temporary barracks for Naval Air Station Whiting Field in the early 1940s. But, after a vibrant run, the theatre (located on the second floor) was closed in 1945, after a more modern movie theatre opened around the corner. The downstairs continued to operate, functioning as everything from the post office to retail space.

The second floor theatre literally sat unused until 1984, when the Santa Rosa Historical Society decided to purchase the building. Upon assuming ownership, volunteers of the group worked religiously for three years to restore Imogene Theatre.

Built in the Renaissance Revival style, the theatre features an elaborate proscenium arch over the stage, wooden dance floor, and tiered balcony. It reopened in 1987 and today welcomes guests to five performances each year. It also houses The Museum of Local History, featuring an extensive collection of photographs and artifacts. And, it is available for rent for weddings, parties, recitals, and meetings.

PR CONTACT: Angela Smith, idgroup, 850.934.7823 or angela@idgroup.us