

# Met: How Did It Get There & Why Has It Survived?

# The Ultimate White Elephant

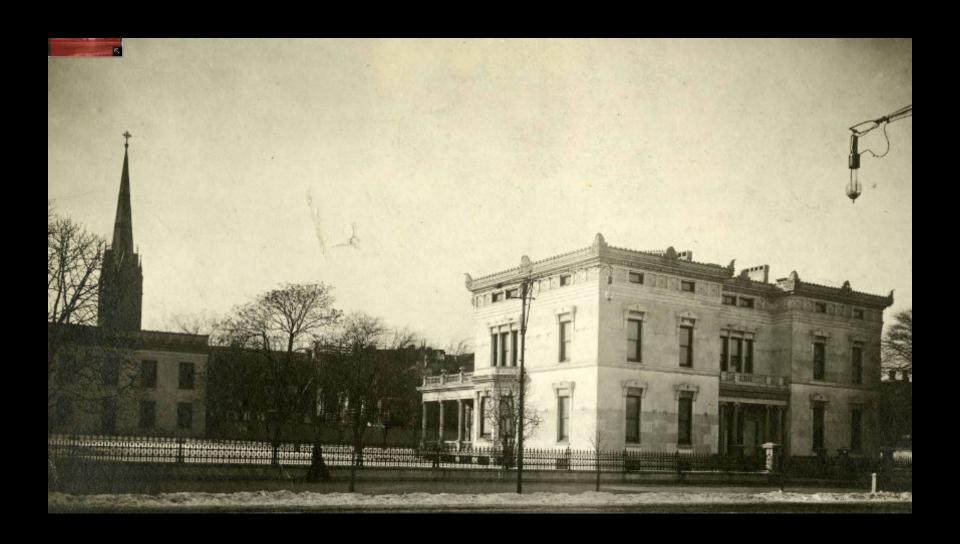


## White Elephant: Big & Burdensome

 The largest theater building in the world when built, in 1907: 4,100 seats

 Within two years it helped bankrupt Oscar Hammerstein I

## How It Came To Be



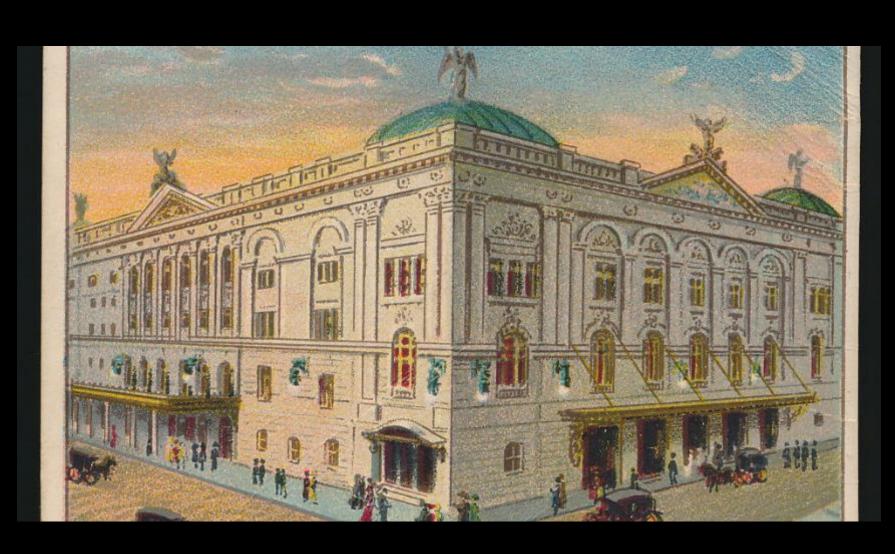
## Oscar Hammerstein I



# Philadelphia Opera House



# Impossible Dream



#### **Promise**

#### HAMMERSTEIN'S OPERA HOUSE PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Opened November 18th, 1908, under the management of Oscar Hammerstein, with the opera of "Carmen." Dalmores, Tenor, and Labia, Soprano, with Campanini as leader. The structure is imposing in its simple architectural lines—a dignified pile of white bricks and stone. Campanini said of the theatre: "I believe it is the greatest opera house ever built anywhere in the world."

FACTORY NO 593 DIST MD.

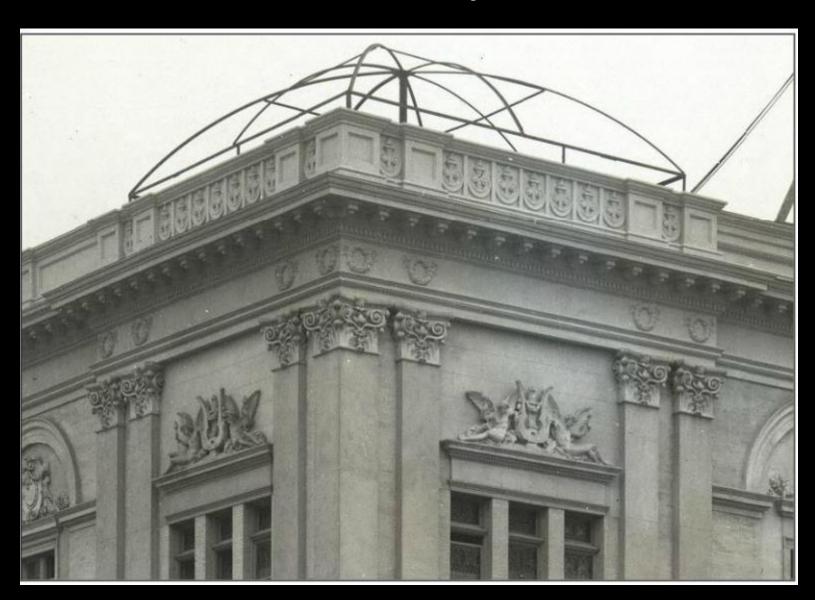
#### BETWEEN THE ACTS LITTLE CIGARS

ALL TOBACCO NO PAPER NOT A CIGARETTE

Particularly satisfactory to smokers of High grade Cigars when time is limited.

THEATRES OLD AND NEW SERIES.

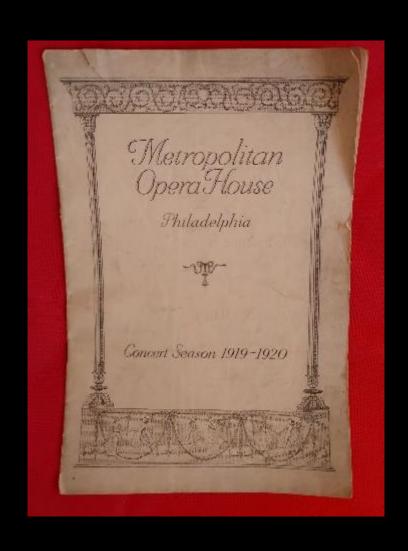
# Reality



## American La Scala



## Metropolitan Opera House



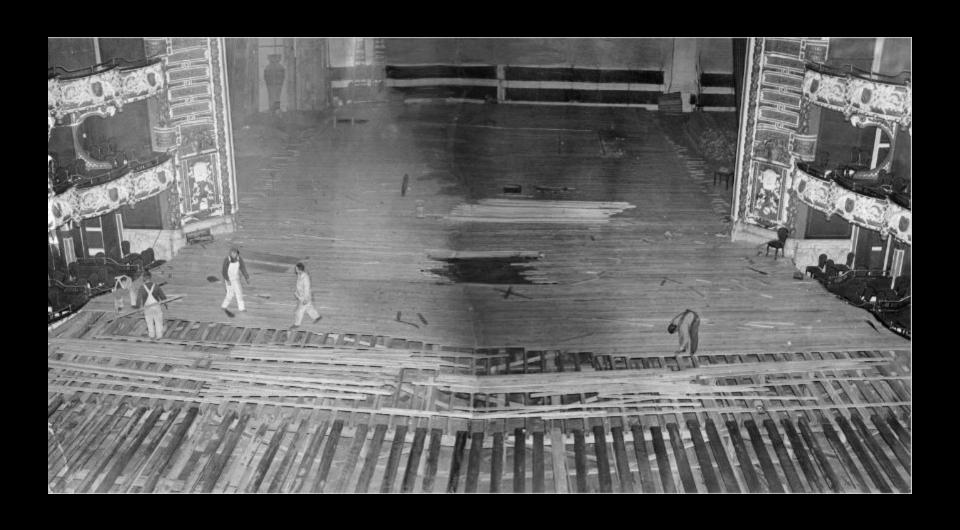
## Movie Palace: The Met



## How Does It Survive?



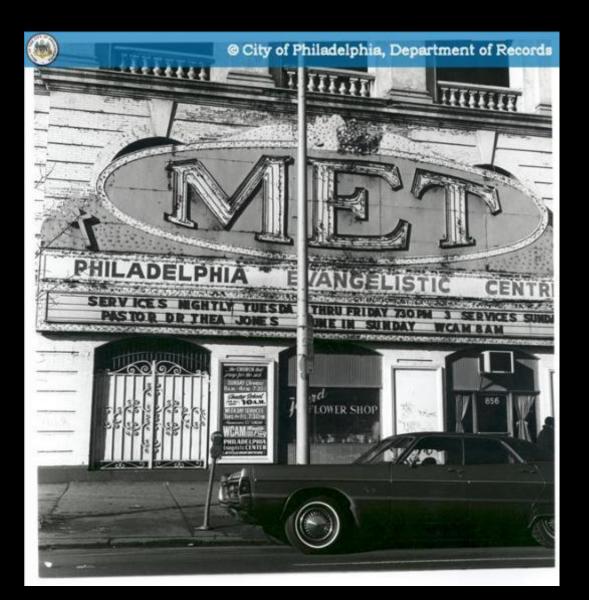
# Keep The Doors Open













# Hidden City Festival



The Met: where is it going?













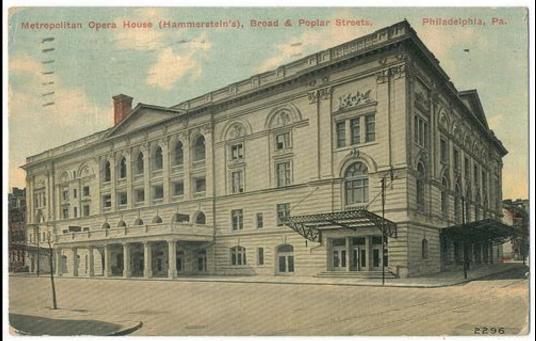




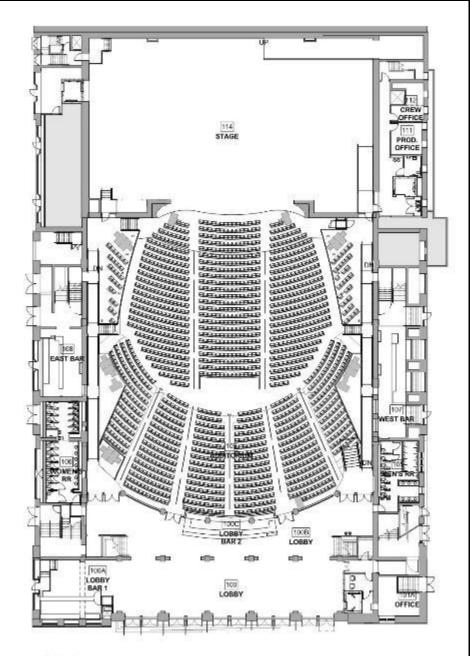
# Design Process













**Existing Conditions** 



Concept Rendering

Lobby





Lighting





Quartz Countertop

Painted Wood Bar Front





Paint

Refinished Terrazzo Floor

Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera | Finishes Presentation







Lighting



**Existing Conditions** 





d Velvet Drapery



Celing



Paint

Hardwood Floor

Concept Rendering

Grand Salle - Lighting Scheme A

Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera | Finishes Presentation







Existing Historic Tile Floor



Quartz Countertops



Brass Counter Legs



White Subway Tile Wainscot and Wet Walls



Mirrors



Lighting



Paint

Restrooms

Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera | Finishes Presentation













