Metro Detroit Theatres and Their Pipe Organs
The Census

Legend:
THEATRE NAME Opening and closing dates
Street address Architect
City Number of seats
Comments (Organbuilder, year of installation, other pertinent or interesting data)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEATRE NAME</th>
<th>Opening and closing dates</th>
<th>Street address</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACADEMIE</td>
<td>(1921 - 1928)</td>
<td>9000 Oakland</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>2/4 Marr &amp; Colton (1924) Went to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Detroit. Has since gone to parts. Roger Mumbrue acquired the console and relay. No combination action; not at all unusual for Marr &amp; Colton organs of this size.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADAMS</td>
<td>(1917 - 1988)</td>
<td>44 West Adams</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>3/28 Hilgreen-Lane (1918) Organist and organbuilder Ed Gress purchased this organ and set up ten ranks of it in his home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADDISON</td>
<td>(1914 - 1980)</td>
<td>2954 Woodward (at Watson)</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>2/? Robert Morton (1919) 2/5 Robert Morton (1927) Style 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALHAMBRA</td>
<td>(1915 - 1975)</td>
<td>9428 Woodward (across from Boston Blvd)</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,475</td>
<td>2/11 Hilgreen-Lane (1914) Converted to a recording studio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMBASSADOR</td>
<td>(1924 - 1970s?)</td>
<td>17730 John R (North of McNichols)</td>
<td>Highland Park</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>2/3 Wurlitzer (1924) Style 109 Herb Head got the pipes from this instrument. By 1960, the building was largely destroyed, with the roof gone and no doors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX</td>
<td>(1927 - 1949)</td>
<td>8990 Grand River</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>3/13 Robert Morton (1927) Moved to Powderhorn Park Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Extant, but now removed from the church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCADIA DANCE PALACE</td>
<td>(1915 - 1929)</td>
<td>3527 Woodward</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td></td>
<td>2/8 Moller (1914)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tubular pneumatic instrument. The “Arc” opened as one of the country’s largest ballrooms in 1912, and premiered as a concert hall and theatre in 1915 (presumably necessitating the organ) and was home to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for a brief period. The acoustics were reportedly bad enough to bring about the construction of Orchestra Hall just a few years later. The building reverted to a ballroom in 1929, and was converted to a roller skating rink in 1941, periodically hosting boxing matches. It was demolished in 1972 to make way for a high-rise apartment building for the elderly. The Capitol Theatre's 4/20 Wurlitzer was installed here for about a decade, beginning in the mid-1950s. See CAPITOL listing.

ARENA GARDENS ROLLER RINK  (1916 - ???)
5787-5791 Woodward
Detroit
2/11 Wurlitzer (1935?) Rebuilt Style 13
Originally in Orpheum Theatre, Jersey City, NJ (1916) as a 2/8, then to Hamilton Theatre, Yonkers, NY (1916), then to Arena Gardens (1935), where Steve Bodman connected the organ to be playable from a button accordion. Rink owner Adam Weismuller was a concert accordionist. Bodman installed the organ in 1935 and increased the number of ranks from eight to eleven, reportedly all for $148. Russell Bloc and Adam Weismuller were the organists. Later sold to Ben Van Houten, Grand Rapids, MI; later sold to Robert MacNeur (late 1970s). Parts.

AVALON  (1928 - 1967)
13303 Linwood (at Davison)
Detroit
3/10 Wangerin-Barton (1928)
Metal scrappers got to this instrument just before being removed by Henry Przybylinski and Phil Robertson. Parts.

BIJOU  (1905 - ??)
87 N. Gratiot
Mt. Clemens
2/6 Wurlitzer (1919) Style 160

BIRMINGHAM  (1927 - present)
215 S. Woodward
Birmingham
3/10 Barton
The balcony reportedly never had seats. The organ was heavily draped, had a very muffled sound and suffered some water damage while still in the theatre. Removed by George Orbits, sold to Don Jenks (installed and playing in his first Brighton home), later sold to Gary Montgomery. Served as core of the instrument in Theatre Organ Pizza & Pipes, Pontiac, opening in October, 1979, and built up to 21 ranks. Restaurant closed in 1986. Currently being installed in a private residence in Tennessee as a 3/14 "Barton concept organ," minus a few original components and all additions made in Pontiac. One of the additions to the bass is the metal Diaphone that was originally in the Olympia Stadium Barton.

BROADWAY - STRAND  (1915 - 1929)
1337 Broadway
Detroit
3/15 Wurlitzer (1915) Style 35
Very few of this apparently experimental model were produced. The lower two keyboards (Accompaniment and Great) were standard 61-note, while the top (Solo) keyboard was only the center 37 notes. The limited-compass “color” stops, like Tibia, Trumpet, Kinura, Orchestral Oboe, Oboe Horn and Quintadena were only available on the Solo keyboard at 8’ pitch and were available on the Great only via couplers from the Solo. Same story for the Chimes and Sleigh Bells. Sold to Ed Lansing, who cut the console down dramatically and removed the top keyboard for his home instrument. Later sold to James Van Eck (1973), later acquired by the Music House, Acme, MI. Parts.
CALVIN  (1927 - 1980)
22168 Michigan Ave.
West Dearborn  1,200
2/5 Marr & Colton
Much of the organ was smashed by vandals in this one-chamber installation. The remains of organ were removed by Jeff Slabaugh and his father in early 1970s. Some chests and pipes later found a home in the Dearborn residence organ of David Brewer. Parts.

CAPITOL  (1922 - 1985)
(aka BROADWAY-CAPITOL, aka PARAMOUNT, aka GRAND CIRCUS)
DETROIT OPERA THEATRE  (1990s - present)
1526 Broadway (Grand Circus Park)  C. Howard Crane
Detroit  3,485
3/38 Hilgreen-Lane (1921)
4/20 Wurlitzer (1925) Publix #1
This was Detroit’s first “super-palace.” Only four years after the Hilgreen-Lane was installed, it was replaced by Wurlitzer’s first Publix #1, ultimately a popular economy model with the smaller Style 285 four-manual shell (the same used for the Fox slave consoles). Purchase price was reportedly $46,475. Under specific direction from organist Jesse Crawford, the specification was sans English Post Horn; “to protect the audience from the organist." Prior to his days at the Fisher Theatre, Don Miller was the chief organist here. Lew Betterly and many of the old-time organists felt this was Detroit’s finest sounding organ, speaking out well with great acoustics, coupled with huge openings into the auditorium. Miller said he played the piano during the Summer while the Hilgreen-Lane was being removed and the Wurlitzer installed. The console arrived sans ornamentation, and sat in the lobby during that period. A publicity photo of Marguerite Werner at the undecorated console was taken during that time. Later, the organ was broadcast on radio in the afternoon, even while the theatre was open, showing movies. Opus 1123 was sold to organist William Holleman and installed on stage of the Arcadia Rink in the mid 50s. Holleman sold the brass Saxophone and had two Posthorns in the organ; a Moller and a Marr & Colton. Beginning in 1969, it was sold to a rapid succession of owners on roughly an annual basis before being acquired by the Oakland (California) Symphony Association in 1972, and now serves as the basis for the Wurlitzer organ in the Oakland Paramount Theatre, Oakland, California.

CASINO  (1930 - 1949)
4858 East Davison
Detroit  650
2/3 Wurlitzer (1930) Style 109
First installed in Penniman-Allen Theatre, Plymouth (1923)
Repossessed and sold to the Wadlow Bros., Detroit (1926), (possibly Wadlaw or Wadlosos Theatre in Plymouth)
Repossessed and installed in Casino Theatre, Detroit (1929)

CHALMERS  (1928 - 1950)
(aka CHANDLER)
1403 Harper
Detroit  450
2/3 Wurlitzer (1928) Style 109
Installed only weeks after the Fisher Theatre Wurlitzer, this was the last theatre organ installation in the city of Detroit. Repossessed and reinstalled in the New Theatre, New Baltimore, MI (1933).

CINDERELLA  (1924 - 1975)
13305-9 East Jefferson (at Copeland)  Christian W. Brandt
Detroit  1,897
2/6 Wurlitzer (1923) Style D (Moved to Roosevelt Theatre, Detroit, 1924)
3/10 Wurlitzer (1924) Style H Special
The Roosevelt organ was purchased and removed by Herb Head and used as the core of his Roseville home instrument, which is now in storage awaiting reinstallation in a theatre in Waco, Texas. Dudley Harwood
was organist at the Cinderella before moving over to the Oriole. He would often have an usher climb up to the chamber and open the top of the upright piano to increase it's volume. The three-manual Cinderella organ was purchased and removed by Glenn Rank (1969) and sold to the Music House Museum, Acme, Michigan (1985), where it now serves as the core of the instrument there. See ROOSEVELT listing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>(Year of Installation)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLUMBUS</td>
<td>(1917 - mid 1975)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2615 Woodward (at Adelaide)</td>
<td>C. Howard Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/22 Hilgreen-Lane (1917)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>(Year of Installation)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLUMBIA</td>
<td>(1911 - 1956)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Monroe</td>
<td>C. Howard Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/18 Hilgreen-Lane (1911)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3 Wurlitzer (1927) Style 100 Special</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hilgreen-Lane was Detroit’s first pipe organ installation into a movie theatre (located near Campus Martius), and that company's first theatre organ installation anywhere.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONANT</td>
<td>(1929 - 1954)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12027 Conant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/? Robert Morton (1929)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pontiac</td>
<td>2/3 Wurlitzer, Style 105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No information. Theatre possibly demolished early, changed names prior to installation, or never built.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>CRYSTAL</td>
<td>(1916 - 1938)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4845 Michigan Avenue</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3 Robert Morton (1923) Style 49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified revisions or replacement by Morton (1926)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>(Year of Installation)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DELTHE</td>
<td>(1916 - 1963)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(aka DEL)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8935 Mack Ave.</td>
<td>Christian W. Brandt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/7 Wurlitzer (1915)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DELUXE</td>
<td>(1918 - 1958)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9355 Kercheval</td>
<td>B. C. Wetzel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>1,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?? Seeburg-Smith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This Adam styled East English Village theatre housed the only Seeburg-Smith installation in the Detroit area. Demolished April, 1963.</td>
<td></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DETROIT CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>530 Woodward Avenue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>2/3 Kimball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full percussions and traps. Sold to the late Tom Wilson, who had it installed in his home in Birmingham.</td>
<td></td>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS</td>
<td>(1917 - present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5200 Woodward Avenue</td>
<td>Paul Phillipe Cret</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Detroit 1,200
4/79 Casavant (1927)
Not a “true” theatre organ, but a fine old instrument voiced in the orchestral Romantic style, and used to accompany films even today. Extant, unaltered, awaiting a full restoration. Stacked chambers, making for great difficulty to restore.

DESTER (1926 - 1964)
11618 Dexter (at Burlingame)
Detroit 1,228
2/5 Marr & Colton (1926)
Removed 1970s. Spent some time playing in a restaurant, then reinstalled in home of Taylor Trimby, Joliet, Illinois. Resold to an unknown party and now parts.

DRURY LANE (1916 - 1922)
1534 Woodward Ave.
Detroit 2/8 Wurlitzer (1916) Style V Special

DUPLEX (aka GRAND BOULEVARD) (1915 - 1922)
3075 E. Grand Boulevard
Fuller Claflin
Detroit 1,500 (twin adjoining 750 seat theatres)
2/5 Karn Morris (1915)

EAGLE (1927? - ???)
13-15 S. Saginaw
Pontiac 150
Photoplayer of unknown make.
Formerly the Arlington Hotel, this was Pontiac's first theatre. Building still extant.

EAST END (1926 - 1955)
11510 East Jefferson
P. R. Periera
Detroit 1,050
2/9 Marr & Colton (1926)

EAST SIDE (aka GREAT LAKES EAST SIDE) (1910 - 1955)
2717 Gratiot (at Grandy)
George V. Pottle
Detroit 650
2/3 Wurlitzer (1925) Style 109, repossessed and reinstalled in Sylvia Theatre, Bellevue, KY (1928)
2/6 Wurlitzer (1927) Style D. Sold to St. Stephen's A.M.E. Church, later to George Buck, see WASHINGTON, Royal Oak.

ECHO (1926 - 1954)
8962 Oakland Ave.
Richard H. Marr
Detroit 689
2/7 Marr & Colton (1926)
Organ went to unknown location in Amherst, New York.
Building erected 1919.

ECORSE (1920 -1951?)
4050 W. Jefferson
Ecorse 400

EMPIRE (1910 - 1923)
FAMILY
(aka FOLLIES)
1 Cadillac Square at Monroe
Detroit
2/6 Wurlitzer (1924) Style D Special
Organ sold to St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church, later sold to Bill Ptolemy (1970). Unknown.
When this theatre changed it's entertainment policy to that of adult films, the nearby residents complained, and so the name was changed to the Follies. At 10:14 p.m., on the evening of July 26, 1973, the theatre caught fire and burned slowly enough that most of the fifty or so patrons in attendance waited patiently in line to accept a full refund on the $5 admission charge. The remains of the theatre were demolished about a month later.

FARNUM
9048 Joseph Campau
Hamtramck
2/4 Wurlitzer (1923) Style B

FERNDALE
22920 Woodward (one block N. of 9 Mile)
Bartola Model 3-1/2 (1920)

FERRY FIELD
(aka BEACON)
6541 Grand River (at Grand Blvd.)
Detroit
2/6 Marr & Colton (1926)
Sold to Tom Hadfield.

FISHER
West Grand Blvd. (at Second; Fisher Bldg)
Detroit
4/34 Wurlitzer (1928) 4-manual Special
One-of-a-kind, modified Publix #4 specification; one of the last two original theatre organ installations in the city of Detroit. Purchase price reportedly $67,050. Installed by Wurlitzer's Chicago installer; a rare exception in the city that did not include Steve Bodman. Don Miller played on Friday nights from 1951-1955. Bill Holleman played during the late 50s. Roy Steinert maintained the organ and replaced many magnets while still in the theatre. Organ was available for practice at fifty cents an hour in the 50s.
Purchased by George Orbits in 1960, and moved to Iris Theatre and installed in 1961 as the focal point of the Detroit Theatre Organ Society (then Club). Moved to Senate Theatre and installed 1963-1964. Extant, unaltered.

FLAMINGO
14270 E. 7 Mile (near Gratiot)
Detroit
2/5 Marr & Colton (1925)
Organ removed at the time of conversion to a church. Location unknown. Building currently in use as a church.

FLEUR DE LYS
10775 W. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit (Waterworks Park) 1,000
Bartola Model Deluxe (1919)
2/7 Barton (1927?)

FORD GRAND

Springwells (Dearborn)
2/3 Wurlitzer (1926) Style 105

FORDSON

10149 Dix Rd.
Fordson (Dearborn)
?? Marr & Colton
2/3 Wurlitzer (1926) Style 105
Parts

FOX (1928 - present)
2211 Woodward
C. Howard Crane
Detroit 5,041
3/12 Moller; lobby (1928)
Residence organ with roll player attachment.
4/36 Wurlitzer; auditorium (1928)
Both extant, intact.

FRONTENAC (1912 - 1951)
(aka ACE)
7206 Harper (at Frontenac)
Detroit 834
Bartola Model 5 (1919)

GARDEN (1912 - 1949)
3929 Woodward (at Alexander)
C. Howard Crane
Detroit 903
2/11 Hilgreen-Lane (1914)

GLADWIN PARK (1914 - 1962)
(aka GLADWIN, aka ALADDIN, aka BOOTH)
9636 East Jefferson (at Parkview)
E. H. Rogers
Detroit 894
2/7 Wurlitzer (1918) Style 2 Special
Case organ installed on stage.
3/8 Marr & Colton (1925)

GLOBE (1912 - late 70s?)
3520 Grand River (at Trumbell)
Harley & Atcheson
Detroit 650
2/13 Hilgreen-Lane (1915)

GRANADA (1927 - 1970)
5549 West Warren (at Junction)
Detroit 1,750
2/7 Wurlitzer (1927) Style E
Now installed in Village Chapel in Fowlerville, MI. Extant, some alterations.

GRAND RIVIERA (1925 - mid 70s)
9222 Grand River (at Joy Rd.)
John Eberson
Detroit 2,766
3/10 Robert Morton (1925)
Installed in two chambers on auditorium right side of theatre; Brass and Woodwind. Impact of the organ was reportedly rather weak in the room, but always playable. Purchased and removed by Lee Hohner in 1969. Reinstalled three times since purchase, and remains intact and playing in Lee’s residence in Three Rivers, Michigan.

GRAND VICTORY (1921 - 1958)
(aka CHARGOT, aka VICTORY)
8225 Grand River Ave. Maurice H. Finkel
Detroit 919
2/4 Wurlitzer (1920) Style 135A
Purchased and removed by Lee Hohner in 1969. Reinstalled three times since purchase, and remains intact and playing in Lee’s residence in Three Rivers, Michigan.

GRANDE (1909 - 1956)
8024 West Jefferson Kohner & Seeler
Detroit 1,837
2/6 Wurlitzer (1921) Style 160
Sold to Charles Bartells, later sold again to unknown party.
2/5 Marr & Colton (1929)
Sold to former DTOS board director Ed Kantarian.

GRATIOT (1910 - 1930)
2306-12 Gratiot Mildner & Eisen
Detroit
2/4 Wurlitzer (1925) Style B Special
Parts

GREAT LAKES (1927 - 1972)
(aka VEST POCKET)
14832 Grand River George D. Mason
Detroit 1,795
3/9 Marr & Colton (1927)
Operated as a church after closing as a theatre. Extant but unclear if building dormant or in use.
Some evidence exists that organist Don Miller did some teaching here. Organ removed mid-50s by Russ Vogt, and connected to Reg Webb 3-manual Marr & Colton console, which was highly unified with lots of couplers. Later sold to the late Harold Dingel. Sold after his passing in recent years. Location unknown.

GROSSE POINTE PARK (1923 - 1955)
(aka ALOMA)
15003 Charlevoix Grosse Pointe Park
?/? Marr & Colton (1924)

HARMONY (1921 - late 70s)
(aka ADMIRAL)
11205 Mack (at St. Jean)
Detroit 1,322
?/? Marr & Colton (1921)

HARPER (1922 - 1930)
7723 Harper
Detroit
?/? Marr & Colton (1922)
2/3 Wurlitzer (1925) Style 109. Repossessed and moved in 1933 to Advent Lutheran Church, Dearborn.
HARRIS

Detroit
2/6 Wurlitzer (1915) Style L
Detroit’s first theatre Wurlitzer.

HAZEL PARK

22840 John R
Detroit (Hazel Park)
2/3 Wurlitzer (1925) Style 105
Possibly relocated to a church.

HOLLYWOOD

4809 West Fort (at Ferdinand)
Detroit (1927 - 1958)
Charles N. Agree; Graven & Mayger, associates
2/8 Wurlitzer (1917) Style 3 Special
Organ sold to Frank Ski. Building was first home for Detroit Theatre Organ Club (1961 - 1963).

IRIS

2314 East Grand Blvd.
Detroit (1916 - 1954)
2/8 Wurlitzer (1917) Style 3 Special
Organ sold to Frank Ski. Building was first home for Detroit Theatre Organ Club (1961 - 1963).

IRVING

21220 Fenkell
Detroit (1927 - 1997)
2/6 Robert Morton
Purchased and removed by William Kaltrider (Owosso) during the riots in 1967. Parts.

KNICKERBOCKER

7237 East Jefferson
Detroit (1916 - 1970)
2/6 Wurlitzer (1915) Style L
The Style L was the legendary instrument that Clare Dunham transported to his home in St. Clair Shores a piece at a time in the sidecar of his motorcycle. Dunham purchased a brand new Tibia from Wurlitzer for $99. Organ later sold to John Steele and installed in his Pontiac home; later sold to Walter Bressler and installed in his Midland home; later sold to Joel Gary of Grand Rapids. Parts.

KRAMER

5741 Michigan Avenue (near Livernois)
Detroit (1920 - 1970)
2/18 Hilgreen-Lane (1920)

LA VEEDA

(aka DE SOTO, aka OAKLAND)
11759 Oakand
Highland Park
2/4 Marr & Colton (1926)
Spent some time in unknown church. Last known Detroit area owner was the late Charles Baas of Clawson,
who installed it in his home and later augmented it with other parts. Organ sold and removed 2016 following Mr. Baas death. Current owner and location unknown.

LAKEWOOD (1915 - 1958)
14243-49 East Jefferson
Detroit 1,270
2/12 Moller

LA SALLE GARDEN (1920 - 1954)
(aka CENTURY)
6515 14th St. at West Grand Blvd.
Christian W. Brandt
Detroit 1,990
2/?? Hilgreen-Lane (1920)
2/?? Robert Morton (1928)
Gutted and converted to carwash in 1970s.

LANCASTER (1912 - 1970)
(aka AMUSE U)
10533 West Jefferson
Detroit (River Rouge) 1,200
3/6 Wurlitzer (1925) Style D, 3 manual
Some believe this is the most reinstalled theatre organ that remained intact, maybe ever, having been (partially to completely) reinstalled a total of seven verifiable times after leaving the theatre. Purchased and removed by George Orbits, later sold to Henry Przybylski, later sold to Dave Voydanoff (three locations), later sold to Jim Walgreen (Chicago) and installed in the residence of Fred Cruise (Chicago) and still later reacquired by Dave Voydanoff. Intact, some additions.

LASKY (1926 - 1949)
13320 Joseph Campau
Detroit 998
3/9 Marr & Colton (1926)
Ed Kantarian had at least the console from this theatre to control his home instrument, later sold to Dave Voydanoff, and later to Bob Warsham. Now in Covenant Lutheran Church.

LEE PALACE (aka PALACE)
Detroit
?? Marr & Colton (1923)

LIBERTY (1913 -1926)
1020 Farmer St. (at Woodward)
C. Howard Crane
Detroit 2/10 Hilgreen-Lane (1913)
?? Hilgreen-Lane (1916) New blower? Revisions?
This was the former Central United Methodist Church, modified into a theatre by C. Howard Crane.

LINCOLN PARK
1583 Fort (two blocks North of Southfield Rd)
Charles N. Agree
Lincoln Park 2,000
2/7 Hilgreen-Lane (1925)

LINCOLN SQUARE (1918 - 1971)
6034-36 West Fort (at Livernois)
Fred F. Swirsky
Detroit 1,850
2/10 Wurlitzer (1918) Style 4 Special. Parts.

LINWOOD-LASALLE (aka LINWOOD) (1920 - 1964)
8229 Linwood (at Virginia Park) George V. Pottle
Detroit 1,400
2/6 Wurlitzer (1920) Style 160
2/8 Barton (1928)
Barton owned by Chuck Lalone at one time.

LOOP (1928 - 1956)
418 Michigan Ave. H. D. Ilgenfritz
Detroit 550
2/5 Kimball

LYRIC (1913 - 1929)
17 N. Gratiot
Mt. Clemens
Bartola Model 3-1/2 (1920)

MACOMB (1921 - ?)
31 N. Walnut St. C. Howard Crane
Mt. Clemens
2/26 Hilgreen-Lane (1921)
In the 1970s, Bill Nelem and friends installed a 3/9 Kilgen in these chambers. Now removed and in storage.

MADISON (1917 - 1984)
22 Witherell (at Grand Circus Park) C. Howard Crane
Detroit 1,806
3/48 Hilgreen-Lane (1916)

MAJESTIC (1915 - 1951)
4136 Woodward (at Willis) C. Howard Crane
Detroit 1,651
2/16 Hilgreen-Lane (1915)
2/6 Wurlitzer (1920) Style 160
The Wurlitzer was first installed in the Wurlitzer Cincinnati store before coming to the Majestic.

MAJESTIC (1916 - 195?)
3161-63 Biddle Christian Brandt
Wyandotte 976
Bartola Model 3-1/2 (1915)
Bartola Model 5 (1919)
2/?? Barton (??)
2/7 Marr & Colton (1928)
The M&C moved to Berkely Community Church by Steve Bodman.

MARTHA WASHINGTON (aka CAMPAU) (1924 - 1970s)
10315-31 Joseph Campau Peter R. Rossello
Hamtramck 1,000
2/8 Marr & Colton (1923)
3/14 Marr & Colton (1924), enlargement
Reg Webb, organist. Six ranks straight, sold to St. Ladislaus (gymnasium), Hamtramck, then to Dennis Unks around 1970.
MAXINE (1915 - 1952)
7641 Mack Ave.
Detroit
2/9 Hilgreen-Lane (1915)

MICHIGAN (1926 - 1976)
238 Bagley
Detroit
5/28 Wurlitzer (1926)
The first and largest five-manual Wurlitzer. Famed organist Arthur Gutow presided here. Purchased in 1952 and reinstalled by Fred Hermes in his Racine, Wisconsin home with some additions. Intact.

MILES (1910 - 1927)
1220-22 Griswold
Detroit
2/29 Hilgreen Lane (1921)

MILES-MAJESTIC (never built)
Corner of Grand River & Roosevelt
Detroit
2/11 Hilgreen Lane (1919)
Announced with great fanfare, this mammoth structure was never built, nor apparently was the organ, which seems to be very undersized for a space this large. The theatre builder was to have been Charles Miles, who also owned the Majestic, Regent and Orpheum theatres.

(NEW) ASTOR (1923 - 1960s)
8652 12th St.
Detroit
723

NEW HAROLD

—
Pontiac
2/4 Wurlitzer (1919) Style 135 Special
Included a set of Unifon Bells.

(NEW) PLAZA (1913 - 1954)
11641 E. Jefferson
Detroit
750

NEW ROWLAND

—
Pontiac
2/5 Wurlitzer (1919) Style 135 Special

OAKDALE
8 Mile Rd. & Stephenson Hwy.
Hazel Park
750
2/5 Marr & Colton
Moved to Immanuel N. Baptist; now First Latin American Baptist Church, Detroit.

OAKLAND
41 S. Saginaw
Pontiac
3/12 Barton (1925)
A Butterfield Special (3/11) plus Bartolina (metal Tibia) and a second Vox Humana (37 notes), which were installed on the floor in the left chamber. It was still playing right up the end in 1960, when the organ was donated to a Mormon church in the area and completely burned in a fire (along with the theatre) just weeks before it was scheduled to leave the building. Cliff Weegan was the longtime organist here.

OAKMAN
12728-40 Woodrow Wilson (at Glendale) C. Howard Crane
Detroit 1,213
2/3 Barton (1921)
3/? Marr & Colton (1927)

OLYMPIA STADIUM
5920 Grand River C. Howard Crane
Detroit 11,563 (later increased to 15,000)
3/14 Barton (1934)
This late instrument was a composite factory-built organ controlled by a repossessed Butterfield Special console from a theatre in Wisconsin. Much of the remainder was originally installed in the studios of WBBM (Chicago). The instrument was outfitted with English Post Horn, Trumpet and Saxophone, purpose-built for the instrument by Dennison and Gottfried when installed at the stadium, along with a metal Diaphone from National Organ Supply. The specification was clearly designed for brute force to battle against the live acoustic of the stadium, and differed somewhat from the standard theatre organ. In addition to the previously mentioned custom reeds, it's tonal makeup consisted of (standard) Tuba, Tuba Mirabilis, (second) English Post Horn, Diapason, Concert Flute, two Tibia Clausa and four string ranks. That meant no Vox Humana, Clarinet, Oboe Horn, Orchestral Oboe or Kinura. This was a single chamber installation that opened up fully with large openings on three sides. Removed by Roger Mumbrue, sold to Robert Goldstine and later to Byron Fogt, both of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Fogt modified and added to the basic organ while installed in his home. Later given to Mark Herman (then of Ft. Wayne) following Fogt's passing. Parts. Olympia Stadium demolished 1987.

ORCHESTRA HALL
Renamed PARADISE
Renamed ORCHESTRA HALL
3711 Woodward C. Howard Crane
Detroit 2,286
4/96 Casavant, removed and installed in Calvary Presbyterian Church, ca. 1942, sans Tuba Organ and 32' Open Diapason (wood). Donated to the Music House Museum in 1992, removed and stored for several years while in Acme, Michigan. Now once again in the hands of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, with hopes of reinstalling all or part of it in Orchestra Hall. Like the DIA Casavant, not a true theatre organ, but a fine old instrument voiced in the orchestral Romantic style with numerous orchestral voices. Films have been shown here from time to time. Information sketchy whether or not organ accompanied those films.

ORIENT
3/17 Marr & Colton (1927)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Organist</th>
<th>Year Ranges</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120 West Adams</td>
<td>Percival R. Periera</td>
<td>2,950</td>
<td>Dudley Boomhower was organist here. Purchased and removed by organbuilder Julian Bully of Toledo and set up in his shop, but never playing. Purchased by onetime DTOS president, the late Charles Edwards. Intact, in storage in Oakland, MI.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/15 Kimball (1927)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ORPHEUM (aka LAFAYETTE, aka SHUBERT)</td>
<td>153 W. Lafayette Ave.</td>
<td>Smith, Hinchman &amp; Grylls</td>
<td>1/23 Hilgreen-Lane (1917)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ORPHEUM (1927 - ?)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>153 W. Lafayette Ave.</td>
<td>Smith, Hinchman &amp; Grylls</td>
<td>1,489</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pontiac</td>
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<tr>
<td>65-67 S. Saginaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6 Barton (1925)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Purchased by one-time DTOS member Ray Eby around 1960, and was playing in his home. One chamber, on auditorium left.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PALACE (1914 - 1928)</td>
<td>C. Howard Crane</td>
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<tr>
<td>130-32 Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/19 Hilgreen-Lane (1920)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARK (1921 - 1949)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2626 East Davison</td>
<td>Harry T. Smith</td>
<td>676</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3 Wurlitzer (1923) Style 109</td>
<td>Parts.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PASADENA (1914 - 1949)</td>
<td>Greenwich Co., designers-builders</td>
<td>386</td>
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<tr>
<td>9232 Mack Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6 Wurlitzer (1925) Style D Special</td>
<td>No 16' Diaphone. Sold to Nat Brown, console and relay sold to Roger Mumbrue. Modified console later controlled Dave Brewer's residence organ. Parts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PENNIMAN-ALLEN (1925 - ?)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(aka P&amp;A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>133-5 East Main</td>
<td></td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northville</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6 Wurlitzer (1925) Style D Special</td>
<td>No 16' Diaphone. Sold to Nat Brown, later sold to Jack Dommer, later sold to Stan Albertson, later sold to Larry Gleason. Now installed in Larry's home in Florida.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PENNIMAN-ALLEN (1918 - 1968)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(aka P&amp;A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>855 Penniman</td>
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<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plymouth</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3 Wurlitzer (1923) Model 109</td>
<td>Repossessed (See CASINO listing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PICCADILLY (1925 - 1951)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4014 Livernois (at Fenkell)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Detroit 825
2/4 Wurlitzer (1925) Style B

PUNCH & JUDY (1930 - 1977)
21 Kercheval Robert O. Derrick
Grosse Pointe Farms 714
2/5 Wurlitzer (1928) Style 150 Special
This instrument was installed and playing in the Wurlitzer store in downtown Detroit (1928), moved once within the store, and reinstalled in the P&J at the time of the theatre's opening (1930). Steve Bodman installed the organ all three times. With all of the plush interior and 96 luxury armchairs in the balcony, it was once described as “Detroit’s largest living room.” Later moved to the Sterling Heights home of Jerry Elliott, playing there until 2015, when the organ was purchased and removed by organist Justin Lavoie, awaiting restoration and reinstallation.

RAMONA (1927 - 1977)
13705 Gratiot (at McNichols) Kohner & Payne
Detroit 2,020
2/4 Wurlitzer (1927) Style B Special.
Roy Steinert installed a Gottfried French Horn on a Page chest at some point. Later became mostly junk. Some parts salvaged. See WASHINGTON, Royal Oak.

REDFORD (1928 - present)
17354 Lahser (just North of Grand River) Verner, Wilhelm, Molby, Shrieve & Associates
Detroit (Redford Township) 2,051
3/10 Barton (1928)
The longtime home of the Motor City Theatre Organ Society. Organ intact, some alterations.

REGENT (1916 - 1974)
(aka CENTER)
7314 Woodward Stratton & Von Schneider
Detroit 3,600
4/27 Kimball (1916)
Cramped under-stage chambers with small openings made this instrument rather underwhelming. Largely a straight instrument.

REGINALD WEBB STUDIO
3001 E. Grand Blvd. (near Woodward)
Detroit
3/10 Marr & Colton (1928)
2/4 Marr & Colton (1928?)
The three-manual Marr & Colton was regularly broadcast over radio station WJR. Reg Webb was the Marr & Colton representative for the Detroit and surrounding area, and sold a remarkable total of sixty of their instruments; a fact verified by Mrs. Marr. His legendary sales numbers were probably due in no small part to the fact that he performed extensively on the radio during the Golden Era, plus the M&C instruments tended to be cheaper than the competition. At some point, the instrument was broken up, with the Post Horn going to a church in Bay City, and the console eventually going to Harold Dingel in Goodrich, Michigan. Following Mr. Dingel's passing, the console and organ were sold in recent years. Current location unknown.

RIALTO (1917 - 1968)
6345-47 Gratiot C. Howard Crane
(between Mt. Elliot and Meldrum)
Detroit 1,334
2/22 Hilgreen-Lane (1916)

RIVOLA (1922 - 1957)
4703 Cadillac (at East Forest) Detroit Christian W. Brandt and H.D. Ilgenfritz
2/6 Wurlitzer (1921) Style 160 1,010

RKO UPTOWN (aka SIX MILE UPTOWN, aka SIX MILE) Detroit Percival R. Periera; Graven & Mayger, associates
16501 Woodward (at McNichols) Highland Park 3,200 / later reduced to 1,500 to sidestep union demands
3/11 Wurlitzer (1926) Style 235
This instrument had not played since 1942, when it was reawakened by Mert and Chuck Harris and recorded by John Muri in 1970 just prior to it’s removal in 1971. With the seats out of the balcony, the organ had a remarkable acoustic in which to play. “John Muri, Volume 1” is a “must have” for anyone who enjoys Muri’s music, or a modern recording of an unaltered Wurlitzer organ in its original home. Intact, in storage.

ROOSEVELT (aka IMPERIAL) Detroit Christian W. Brandt and H. D. Ilgenfritz
9515 Gratiot - Harper Detroit 1,771
2/6 Wurlitzer (1922), Style D Initially installed in downtown Detroit Wurlitzer store (1922). Later installed in Cinderella Theatre (1923), and removed in 1924 to make way for larger Style H Wurlitzer. Reinstalled in Roosevelt Theatre (1924). Sold to Herb Head, Roseville, MI (1954?), acquired by Jim Pitts, Waco, TX (2010). In storage awaiting reinstallation. See CINDERELLA listing.

ROSEDALE Detroit William B. Stratton
11520 Woodward Detroit 965
2/12 Kimball (1915) Parts

ROYAL OAK Royal Oak C. W. Rapp & George Rapp
318 West 4th St. Royal Oak 2,000
3/10 Barton (1928) Used for many years by the Motor City Theatre Organ Society in the theatre, and removed to storage by members. Later sold to Scott Herpick of Brighton, and later sold to Robert Maes, organ broker from Kansas City, Missouri. Parts.

RUSSELL Detroit C. Howard Crane
5335 Russell (between Kirby & Frederick) Detroit 1,406
Bartola Model 5 (1917)

SENATE Detroit Christian W. Brandt
6424 Michigan Avenue Detroit 1,200

STATE (aka PALMS-STATE, aka PALMS) Detroit C. Howard Crane
2121 Woodward (1925 - present)
Detroit 2,967
4/20 Wurlitzer (1925) Publix #1
This was the second of this popular four-manual series to be built, and was installed only one month after
the first Publix #1 in Detroit's Capitol Theatre, just blocks away. Total cost of organ and installation was
$46,475. Not considered a very successful installation, with very high chambers. The organ was water
soaked, with six ranks missing by the time it was removed in 1972 by organ broker Roy Davis. Later went
to Oral Roberts University. At some point, the console and relay were sold to control the Wurlitzer organ in
the Castro Theatre in San Francisco, California for many years until recently, when it was removed in lieu
of a large custom digital organ. The remainder of the State organ ultimately went the Aztec Theatre in San
Antonio, Texas amidst much ballyhoo, but unfortunately has been mothballed already after a very short
public life there, as the theatre's new business plan does not include the organ.

STATE  (1927 - 1956)
38-40 S. Saginaw St.
Pontiac
2/8 Barton (1926)
Moved to Romeo First Church of Christ, Scientist with some alterations, including a Dulciana and Trumpet
from Adrian. Later purchased and removed by Jerry Muethel. Current status unknown.

STRAND  (1915 - 1958)
4730 Grand River (at 14th)
Detroit 1,384
3/13 Hilgreen-Lane (1915)

STRAND
12-14 N. Saginaw St.
Pontiac
2/8 Barton (1920)
Removed by Steve Bodman, gone to parts. Theatre building still extant, often being restored.

STRATFORD  (1916 - 1985)
4651 West Vernor
Detroit 1,137
2/7 Wurlitzer (1916) Style 3
Moved in the 1930s to Our Lady of Help Christian Church, and later sold to John Rinn of St. Clair Shores,
who installed it in his home there. Lacking a Tibia in the original plan, Rinn acquired one from Roger
Mumbrue and added it to the organ. Removed and donated to Soo Theatre project in Sault St. Marie. In
storage.

TEMPLE
17 Monroe
Detroit
2/7 Wurlitzer (1927) Style E

TIVOLI  (1926 - 1927)
16330 Woodward
Detroit (Highland Park)
2/4 Wurlitzer (1924?) Style B
In the only such incident to ever occur in the Detroit metro area, this theatre was destroyed by a bomb blast
in the late Fall of 1927.

TUXEDO  (1921 - 1958, razed 1967)
11738 Hamilton (at Tuxedo)
Detroit 1,800
2/7 Robert Morton (1921)
3/13 Robert Morton (1926)
The later organ had the rare V'Olean, a stringed stop played from the keys of the organ. Reportedly weak and always out of tune. A good deal of the organ was on 15” (considered higher pressure), but much of it closed down dramatically. Purchased and removed by Nat Brown and Roger Mumbrue in late 50s. Parts.

UNITED ARTISTS (1928 - 1971)
140 Bagley C. Howard Crane
Detroit 2,012
3/17 Wurlitzer (1927) Style 260 Special
Purchased and removed from theatre. Reinstalled briefly in Pied Piper Pizza Peddler at Universal Mall in Warren, majority of organ now installed in Long Center, Lafayette, IN. Remainder to parts.

UPTOWN
Mack & Chalmers
Detroit
2/4 Wurlitzer (Style B)
Purchased by Paul Ritzman. Lived in Detroit and later Chicago.

VENDOME (1911 - 1958)
(aka SUN, aka SEVILLE)
4481 Grand River Ave.
Detroit 891
Bartola Model 5 (1917)

VIRGINIA (1914 - 1949)
(aka VIRGINIA PARK)
8237 Hamilton Ave.
Detroit 485
2/3 Wurlitzer (1923) Style 108.
Sold to Evangelical Church, Detroit (1970?).

WADLOW BROS
—
Plymouth(?)
2/3 Wurlitzer (1923) Style 108
Repossessed. See entry for CASINO theatre.

WASHINGTON (1913 - 1928)
(aka FOX WASHINGTON)
1505-13 Washington Blvd.
Detroit
2/11 Hilgreen-Lane (1914)
3/7 Moller (1919)

WASHINGTON (1922 - present)
(aka BALDWIN, aka STAGECRAFTERS)
422 S. Washington Frederick D. Madison
Royal Oak 1,128
2/7 Barton (1922)
Donated to original First Presbyterian Church (Royal Oak) in 1941 by Mabel Baldwin. Gone by 1955 when the church moved to their new building. Status unknown.
2/9 Wurlitzer-hybrid (1980s). Core of organ from EAST SIDE, Detroit. Additions from RAMONA, Detroit and WSMK Radio, Dayton, OH.

WEST END (1926 - 1954)
6864 West Warren Ave.
Detroit 800
3/10 Barton (1926)
Possibly repossessed. Some question the size of the organ as recorded in the Barton list. The blower size in the Spencer list would suggest an instrument of about six ranks.
Theatre demolished in recent years.

WOODWARD GRAND (1924 - 1958)
(aka HUMBER, aka UPTOWN GRAND, aka GRAND)
15 West Grand
Highland Park 940
2/4 Marr & Colton (1924)

WWJ RADIO
Lafayette & 2nd Avenues (Detroit Evening News Building)
Detroit
2/3 Estey (1930)
This was one of those curious little models known as the "Minuette;" with two manuals and a pedalboard mated to a cabinet that was shaped like a grand piano. All of the organ's pipes and mechanics were precisely engineered to fit neatly into this very crammed cabinet. A vintage photo known well by area organ buffs has been seen from time to time with organist Ole Foersch playing this instrument.

WWJ RADIO
600 W. Lafayette Avenue
Detroit
3/15 Aeolian-Skinner (1936)
3/26 Aeolian-Skinner (later additions - unknown date)
The nation's second oldest radio station moved it's operations into new studios on West Lafayette at the same time as the organ's installation in 1936. This striking Moderne building was designed by famed Detroit architect Albert Kahn, who also designed the transmitter building in similar style at the same time, which still stands on 8 Mile and Meyer Rds. Kahn had also designed the Detroit Evening News Building, from which WWJ broadcasted for it's first several years; established as an extension of the newspaper. The later Lafayette studio building is now occupied by the AFL-CIO. The 1936 Aeolian-Skinner was delivered with two, three-manual drawknob consoles controlling fifteen ranks. One console was upstairs in a studio where the organ was heard directly, while the other was in a large studio downstairs. It had a unified Tibia Claussa with second-touch on the Choir manual of both consoles. Given the specifications, it would appear to be a near-identical twin of one installed in NBC Studio 3B in New York City just two years earlier. (During his stint at the New York Paramount in the 1940s, famed organist George Wright jokingly claimed to have kept the NYC cab companies in business, constantly running him between the theatre and the studio, where he also played for broadcasts.) The original contract with the Evening News Association stated a total cost of $18,700. In 1955, the WWJ organ was donated and moved to First Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak, where it was reinstalled with additions by Casavant Freres, and later enlarged and console replaced by a succession of commercial builders including Schantz and Moller on a regular basis of about every ten years. The instrument was most recently rebuilt in 2013 by Reuter, retaining an unknown amount of the previous organ, now three manuals controlling fifty-four ranks. WWJ has since moved to another studio on American Drive in Southfield, and has mothballed the transmitter.

WXYZ RADIO
8415 E. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit
2/7 Robert-Morton
Moved from Senate Theatre and installed into the studio by Steve Bodman in 1931 in what had previously been the carriage house for the Mendelssohn mansion. Armin "Jack" Franz and Lew Betterly could be heard regularly on this instrument. Moved to Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church in Oak Park in 1955, later burned. See SENATE listing.

UNKNOWN
Detroit
?? Wurlitzer (1915) Rebuilt Model J (Opus 077)

Resources:
Opera House, Nickel Show and Palace; Andrew Craig Morrison, 1974
Encyclopedia of the American Theatre Organ, volume 1; David Junchen, 1985
Encyclopedia of the American Theatre Organ, volume 2; David Junchen, 1989
Motor City Marquees; Stuart Galbraith IV, 1994
The Wurlitzer Pipe Organ; David Junchen & Jeff Weiler, 2005
Theatre Organ Bombardé, several issues in 1968 (Barton info)
Internet sources:
   Cinema Treasures.org
   Cinematour.com
   Historictheatres.org
   Movie-Theatre.org>mi>MI Detroit City.pdf
   OHS Pipe Organ Database
   Theatreorgans.com
   Peter Beames Wurlitzer List
   WaterWinterWonderland.com
Individuals:
   William Kaltrider
   John Lauter
   Roger Mumbrue
   Glenn Rank
   Carlton Smith
   Dave Voydanoff