

Mystery Monday: Stein Broida Movie Theatre and Store in Pittsburgh, PA c1915

***Moving Picture Theater & Store**
Bldg.: 2 sty. & bas. 50x92. Burgettstown, Pa. Archt. Ralph J. Friedberg. Farmers Bank bldg., Pittsburgh. Owner Stein Broida Co., Burgettstown.

town. Bids in; contr. to be let soon.
Face brk. & stone trim.

“Stein Broida Co.” movie theatre and store- description and bids in, contracts to be let soon. “The American Contractor, Vol. 36, Page 63, Jan. 2, 1915, via GoogleBooks.

[Broida Family](#) *(Click for Family Tree)*

It's actually a mystery each time one puts a search term into Google or other search engine- you never know what you will find! The latest Broida surprise was a search hit from “The American Contractor” magazine. I did not know of any Broidas in the construction industry, except those who were architects, so thought it might be a mistake. But I clicked the link, and there were 4 hits within the magazine that were listed as “Stein Broida Co.” Another mystery- I had not seen that partnership before.

Apparently “The American Contractor” lists bids for construction jobs to be done throughout a region. The above notice was listed under “Burgettstown” as well in that same issue. This search led to another, as many Broidas were in Pittsburgh, but I had not heard of them in Burgettstown. A map search showed that Burgettstown is a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

suburb. So one mystery solved.

The notices in this magazine tell us a bit about the construction project planned. It is a two-story building with basement, and a footprint of 50×92 feet. The face of the building was to be brick, with stone trim. It even tells us the name of the architect.

Contractors had already bid on the project when this notice was published, and the decision as to which contractor was best for the project was to be made soon.

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Farmer's Bank bldg., Pittsburgh.
Owner Stein Broida Co., Burgetts-
town. In abeyance.

“Stein Broida Co.” movie theatre and store- in abeyance. “The American Contractor, Vol. 36, Page 69, Feb. 6, 1915, via GoogleBooks.

Just over a month later, a similar notice was published in “The Contractor,” but it noted the project was “in abeyance,” or on temporary hold. There is no indication of why the work was suspended, so that is another mystery for us to solve.

Notes, Sources, and References:

1. “The Contractor” citations are included in the above captions.

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