

# Henry Green

Henry Green was a member of the Shriners, a men's club that held meetings, parties, and fundraising events. The group was so big it needed a new space to meet and host events.

In 1928, the Shriners held a design competition for this new building. The winning design looked like a Middle Eastern palace and would be called the Fox Theatre.

The Fox Theatre was important to Henry because it was where the Shriners held its meetings and parties. Without Henry and the Shriners, Atlanta would not have the Fox as a place to come see performances.



# William Fox



William Fox was the founder of the Fox Film Corporation. In the 1920s, he began opening movie theaters around the country.

William Fox wanted a movie theater in Atlanta and the Shriners, a men's club, needed money to finish their new building.

William Fox partnered with the Shriners and created the Fox Theatre. By partnering together, the Shriners got the money they needed to finish their new building and William Fox was able to have his movie theater.



# Grace Bumbry



Grace Bumbry was a singer in the Metropolitan Opera Company. The Fox Theatre was important to her because the Metropolitan Opera Company came to the Fox Theatre for one week every year between 1948 and 1968.

Grace was one of the Opera's lead performers and was African-American. In the 1960s, African-Americans couldn't walk through the front door of the Fox because it was a segregated building. This upset many of the performers and they threatened not to perform.

In 1962, two years before the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fox Theatre desegregated and the Metropolitan Opera performed for the Fox Theatre's first integrated audience.



# Rodney Cook



In 1975, the Fox Theatre closed and was planned to be sold. The company that planned to buy the Fox wanted to tear it down and build their new headquarters.

Rodney Cook was a young person in the community and knew how important the Fox Theatre was to Atlanta's history.



In 1975, Rodney helped prevent the Fox Theatre from being torn down. He and other kids marched in Save the Fox parades while carrying protest signs. School fundraisers also helped raise money to save the Fox.

Without Rodney's help, the Fox may have been torn down.