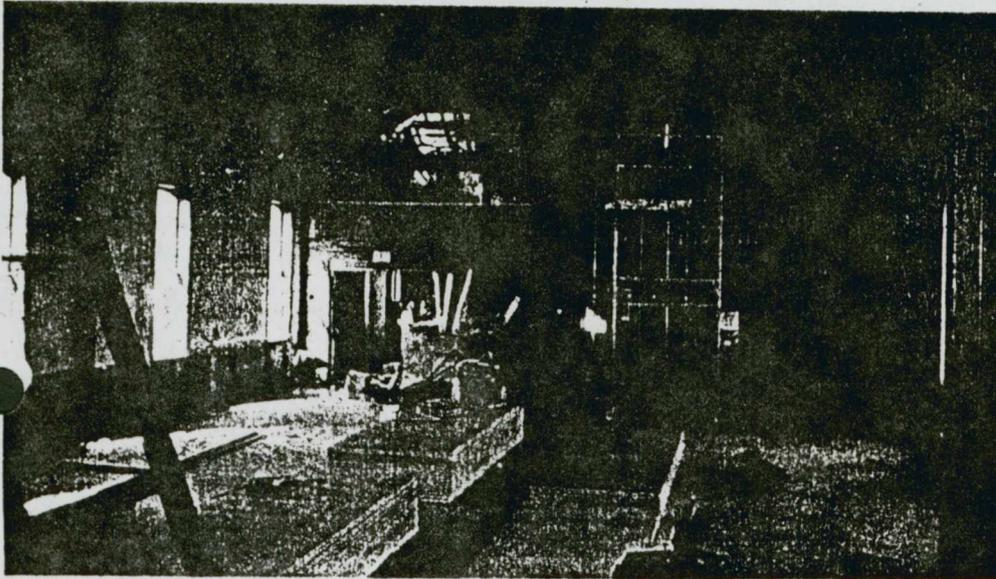


## Vermontville's Opera House renovation progressing



Looking at the Opera Hall from the stage, there appears to be an overwhelming amount of work to do before it is restored to its original beauty. But even since this picture was taken several days ago, the old hall has undergone many improvements. For instance, much of the new drywall has been installed by the Brandenburg Drywall Co. of Vermontville, which also will be restoring and refurbishing the beautiful woodwork.

*J-Ad Graphics  
News Service*

VERMONTVILLE — Renovation of the historic Opera House is well under way, the Vermontville Opera House Committee reported at its regular meeting Tuesday.

One of the primary concerns, the old furnace, has been worked on by Shields and Sons of Lansing, and it is now working. The committee members thought it would be necessary to buy a new furnace, which may not be the case now.

This is significant because the \$35,000 grant the committee received from the Department of Commerce did not include funding for the furnace.

The group had requested a grant for \$43,000 to complete the project, so the plans to put in an elevator for the handicapped had to be changed.

Electrician Daryl Hale of Vermontville told the committee that much of the "rough" electrical work and wiring had been completed.

Hale said the plans call for two rows of four chandeliers

each to be hung from the new ceiling, for three more chandeliers to be put up in the balcony and for five sconces to be installed on each of the two sidewalls.

The cost of completing the wiring and electrical work could run as high as \$3,500, Hale told the committee.

The committee passed a motion to retain Hale for the completion of the wiring.

Tom Brandenburg, whose Brandenburg Drywall Co. of Vermontville was awarded the \$18,700 contract for the drywall and woodwork restoration and replacement, reported that all of the old lath and plaster had been removed.

Brandenburg has been waiting for Hale to finish the rough wiring before he could begin putting up the drywall, which he began doing last week.

Committee Member Hildred Peabody also noted that they now plan to insulate the sidewalls, as well as the other walls and ceiling.

Scott's Roofing Co. will be

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