

## CASEWORK REPORT: May 2015

Compiled by Tim Hatcher

### ENGLAND

All photographs by Harry Rigby (Editor - CTA Bulletin)

#### Grade II\*

A grant of £1.9m has been awarded by the Coastal Communities Fund to advance the renovation and partial restoration of the **Dreamland** Cinema and associated facilities in Margate. This disbursement will largely be expended on work to the façade and foyer block; the Sunshine Café therein will be stripped of its latter day Chinese motif and a lessee sought, who will be encouraged to replicate the original décor. It is proposed to let the ballroom as a separate entity. No work on the auditorium is currently scheduled to be undertaken.  
<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/15123>

A listed building consent application has not yet been made for the **Granada** at Walthamstow. It is understood that negotiations continue between owners Antic Ltd and Soho Theatre Company concerning the conflicting spatial requirements of dual hostelry and performing arts operation.  
<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/9397>

The CTA Committee has bestowed a grant of £2,500 from legacy funds upon the **Paignton Picture House** Trust to further its progress towards re-opening the cinema.  
<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/22124>

#### Grade II

A West Dorset family has purchased the **Palace** at Bridport and is reported to be contemplating its refurbishment. <http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/22418>

The Association has been successful in its endeavour to secure listed status for the auditorium, the Compton organ and the ancillary spaces of the **Polytechnic Cinema** in London's Regent Street. <http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/21245>

#### Unlisted

The owner of **Pyke's Cinematograph Theatre** in Shepherd's Bush has now submitted a formal application for permission to demolish. It has also been claimed by this party that the significant surviving terra-cotta plaque is too 'crazed' to be salvaged and suggested that a mould be taken in order to manufacture a replica for incorporation into the replacement building. Although the cinema is unlikely to prove listable, the Association is to object to its demolition on the grounds of its value as an essential element of a neighbouring trio of entertainment halls and because of its association with prominent architect John Stanley Beard

A local campaigner in Hockley (Birmingham) has reported that the **Picture House/Palladium** is under threat. Its frontage features an interesting Arts and Crafts style but, sadly, little of the original interior remains intact. The local Council will be contacted to ascertain its viewpoint on and intentions for the structure. <http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/34732>

Impressive in both scale and design, stained glass windows from the demolished **Lonsdale** in Carlisle have been saved. Although regrettably damaged during alterations to the building whilst still an operating cinema, they are to be restored and displayed in a local arts centre. <http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/3677>



The Palladium Hockley (Birmingham) in March 2008

In Ealing, the local Council and English Heritage have rejected a proposal to move the previously relocated façade of the **Walpole Picture House** to a more suitable setting within or without the new structure, which will incorporate the frontage of the **Forum**.  
<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/13836>, <http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/3772>



The New Victoria Bradford at opening in 1930



The Regal/Granada Kettering in April 2007

A grant of £1m is currently being employed to implement restoration of the exterior of the **New Victoria** in Bradford. Further funds are being sought to further advance rehabilitation of the internal spaces.

It has been ascertained that the façade and foyer of the **Regal/Granada** at Kettering lie within a conservation area but, slightly bizarrely, the remainder of the edifice does not; a comment in the conservation area description states that the auditorium block impedes views of the local church. <http://cinematreaasures.org/theaters/35251>



The Essoldo Bethnal Green in April 2015

Subsequent to the rejection for listing of **Smart's Picture Palace/Essoldo** in Bethnal Green, Tower Hamlets Council has been advised that the Association considers this a building worthy of retention and objects to its demolition.

The East End Preservation Society has also registered opposition to such an outcome. <http://cinematreaasures.org/theaters/16512>

The **Futurist** in Liverpool is currently threatened with demolition. It boasts a fine façade, which, it has been claimed, is in such poor condition that it cannot be saved; this is clearly disingenuous as, even if in danger of

collapse, its component blocks could be disassembled, restored and re-erected. The Association is thus to comment that the frontage should be retained and the interior, of which little original remains, should be the subject of a full photographic record. <http://cinematreaasures.org/theaters/6508>

#### And in brief:



The Embassy Waltham Cross in April 2006

- After due consideration it has been concluded that the **Embassy** at Waltham Cross has been subject to such drastic internal alteration as to render it un-listable. <http://cinematreaasures.org/theaters/2505>

- Although unlikely to achieve national listed status, the **Gaumont** at Worcester has been locally listed. Enquiries are afoot to discover if this venue and the nearby Odeon are situated within a conservation area.

<http://cinematreaasures.org/theaters/20709>,  
and  
<http://cinematreaasures.org/theaters/25870>

- The CTA has objected to the partial demolition of the **Park Cinema** in Hither Green; the intended scheme would retain only the extant outer walls.  
<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/30192>
- It has been reported that the **Capitol/Essoldo/Vogue** at Lane Top in Sheffield is at risk; further enquiries and research are currently being undertaken.  
<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/25450>