

CAMPAIGNING TO SAVE YOUR HISTORIC CINEMAS

By Tim Hatcher

Grade II* Listed



Objections by the CTA to the installation of the proposed 'pods' in the circle of the ex-Odeon [now Everyman, pictured above in March 2016] in Muswell Hill have been augmented by complementary opposition from The Twentieth Century Society and Save Britain's Heritage (SAVE). Meanwhile Historic England has devolved determination of the listed building consent application to the local Council. {13783}

Architect Sean Soanes of Ipswich has been appointed to oversee the intended refurbishment of the Electric Palace in Harwich. The Association has proffered advice on design of new seating. See p18 Bulletin 50/3. {2597}

Architects, project manager and heritage consultant have now been appointed by Antic Limited to further its plans for adaptation of the Granada/EMD at Walthamstow. {9397}

Grade II Listed



It is gratifying to report that the Dudley Hill Picture House in Bradford [pictured above in August 2005] was recently listed. {36724}

No objection was raised to an application for a creditable scheme of replacement fenestration at the Curzon in Clevedon. It is reported that the new owner of the building incorporating the Curzon in London's Mayfair is intending to convert the offices above the cinema into residential units and is requesting that the exhibitor installs sound insulation in the venue.

Unlisted

The Association has been instrumental in facilitating the installation of a plaque indicating the origin of the relocated relief figures from the frontage of the Gaumont Palace in Cheltenham; it has also supplied the informative text. See px. {17447}

Objection has been submitted to demolition of the Danilo at Hinckley, which boasts an impressive exterior although sadly little of note remains internally. Unfortunately scant interest in conserving the structure is evident locally. {14982}

The Conservation and Heritage Panel of Hockley's local council is to consider the solicitation by the Association to extend the boundary of a Conservation Area in order to include the Palladium therein; it is also to appraise an additional request to place the latter on the Local Listing Register. See p5 Bulletin 49/3. {34732}

The local Conservation officer in Bournemouth is receptive to the concept of realigning the borders of a Conservation Area in order to include the Westover and Regent. Concurrently the CTA is pressing for the cladding on the façade of the former to be removed. There is no planning application lodged for this cinema at present and it has been re-leased to its operator.



An Asset of Community Value (ACV) application is being submitted relating to the Palladium in Brixton; happily the current lease of the enthusiastic operator has nine years until expiration. Photo above taken May 2003, when in operation as the Fridge nightclub. {14445}

In the hiatus between the Court of Appeal's rejection of SAVE's application to retain the fine façade of the Futurist in Liverpool and the organisation's preparation of an application to the Supreme Court, the local Council took advantage of its opportunity and demolished the building. Whilst within the letter of the law, this unseemly display of cultural vandalism is reminiscent of the employment of the 'Midnight Demolition Company', oft in the past utilised by unscrupulous owners to prevent imminent listing of a property. See px.



A local resident of South Hackney has reported that the Odeon has closed; it has been suggested that ACV status could be sought, with a view to retention of the structure for community use. {13886}

Editor's Note: It closed on bingo in June 2015; photo above May 2015.

The local Council's planning committee in Hornchurch has deferred its decision on the application to demolish the Towers. Committee members viewed photographs provided by the Association; it is also planned to conduct them on a site visit around the building in order that they may appreciate its merits comprehensively. Consideration is also being given to strengthening the documentation of the previously rejected listing application with a view to seeking a reassessment.

In the latest development of a long running saga, the decision of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to refuse ACV status to the Odeon is being challenged by campaigners. {13801}