

CAMPAIGNING TO SAVE YOUR HISTORIC CINEMAS

By Tim Hatcher

Grade II* Listed



The Everyman (ex Odeon) Muswell Hill in August 2018

No objection has been proffered to planning and listed building consent applications relating to an installation of new duct-work in a compartment at the rear of the foyer of the Everyman (ex Odeon) in London's Muswell Hill. The proposed undertaking is of a minor nature and will not have any deleterious impact upon the appearance of the public space.

The Trust which aspires to restore and operate the Paignton Picture House has appointed a representative of the CTA to its board.

Grade II Listed



The former Odeon Woolwich in April 2015

A listed building consent application relating to the Odeon in Woolwich lacked woefully in detail and was accompanied by somewhat incomprehensible plans. This solicitation has now been withdrawn for amendment prior to re-submission. It appears that the exercise advanced would be of a minor nature and would not impinge upon the historic fabric of the edifice.

The latest proposition from its local Council for a renewed rôle for the Longford in Stretford is conversion to a performance space and community centre.

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Historic England is reviewing the listing description of the Picture House in Leicester, of which cinema only the rear façade [R] survives. A comprehensive response has been formulated and forwarded to that body.

Officials of York Council's Conservation Department have responded to the Association's request for investigation and intervention regarding the degradation of pointing and other external dilapidations of the Everyman (ex Odeon) in York. Extremely disappointingly – and equally surprisingly – they comment that they have no time to investigate this disrepair, despite the deterioration relating to a distinguished and prominent listed building. It is thus rendered incumbent upon the CTA to ascertain the identity of the freeholder and urge that remedial action be initiated.



The rear façade of the Picture House Leicester
 [photo David Simpson]



The Picturedrome / New Olympus Theatre Gloucester in May 2006

The Theatres Trust has intimated that the Picturedrome (Ritz / New Olympus Theatre) in Gloucester may be rehabilitated as a theatre. This 1923 cinema underwent debasement of its interior whilst under the auspices of a previous leaseholder.

Unlisted

A further modified application for redevelopment of the site of the Regent in Bournemouth has been lodged. This proposal retains both frontage and rear of the current structure and incorporates eighty dwellings into a lower-rise block than that of the previous schemes submitted. Unfortunately this renders the proposal more likely to receive approval, despite renewed objection from local groups and the Association. See Newsreel p18.

Because of the regular congregation of undesirable persons around the portals of the Odeon in Exeter, its operator wishes to modify the entrance area to include metal shutters. Whilst appreciative of the incommodity presented, this locally listed building has a fine, largely unaltered façade and a detailed investigation of the proposition will be undertaken. Should it be found to include elements detrimental to the cinema's external aesthetics, robust objection will be tendered. See article on back page.

A consultation was due to be held with the team responsible for formulating the previously reported embryonic redevelopment project for the Dominion in Harrow. Those attending include the planning and heritage consultants and the architect. See p25 last Bulletin.

The Majestic in Mapperley near Nottingham is threatened with demolition. A submission has been made for its inclusion on the register of locally listed buildings, alongside several other objections to the planning application. See p24 Bulletin 52/5.