

# HERITAGE CASEWORK

By Tim Hatcher

## Grade II\* Listed

The Association instigated a Freedom of Information request of Thurrock Council, which has been declined. This relates to the revision of the approved plans relating to the **State** at Grays, which former includes additional fenestration as previously reported. Specialist advice confirms that an appeal against this refusal may – and indeed will – be instituted, in order to ascertain the exact nature of the proposal prior to the submission of any requisite interposition.

The scheme for renovation of the **Granada** in Walthamstow has been granted planning permission. A written recapitulation, accentuating points raised in previous discussions with the relevant parties, has been forwarded by the CTA; this emphasises the importance of complete restoration of the dual-console Christie organ, the significance of which has been endorsed by Historic England. Overall the scheme is acceptable, with the exception of a new plant-room injudiciously located at the rear of the circle. Advice will continue to be proffered upon surface finishes.

Despite its request for additional funding, communication with the Trust responsible for the **Picture House** in Paignton has proven to be somewhat elusive. It has been indicated that Historic England would regard the support of the Association as politically advantageous, yet it remains of import to determine the objective, which is intended to be advanced by any potential further financial provision and the prospect of its resultant efficacy.

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The CTA's comments concerning proposed alterations to the **Savoy** at Burnt Oak have been furnished, alongside those of Brent Council, to the relevant development company. It is to be hoped that it will consent to these and render an amended proposal with alacrity, as the building has deteriorated significantly during its period of desuetude.

In a distressing scenario, the Nepalese community, which is renovating the **Ritz** in Nuneaton, has allegedly been defrauded by a contractor; this has resulted in a paucity of funding necessary to continue the undertaking. Following enforcement action by the local Council (initiated by the CTA), a new project manager has been appointed whose primary objective is to ensure that remedial measures to the roof are undertaken in order to prevent further internal deterioration.

*See AGM Supplement with last Bulletin for photos of all five of the above.*

## Unlisted



The latest design for the site of the **Regent/Odeon** in Bournemouth has received planning approval. The colonnade of the cinema will be retained in the new structure, which is of a scale more appropriate to its locale than previous concepts. *Photo taken May 2006.*

Somewhat fortuitously, a Conservation Area appraisal is currently in progress in Eastbourne and its Conservation Officer has agreed in principle to extend its boundaries to encompass the **Picturedrome** and the **Luxor** [photo R].

Following its closure in March and unbeknownst to the CTA, it is reported that permission to demolish the **Odeon/Boleyn** in East Ham has been granted. *See p16 last Bulletin.*



A revised scheme for the **Regal/Odeon** in Colchester proposes demolition of the entire cinema with the façade reconstructed in facsimile to form the frontage of the replacement building. The local Conservation Officer is not in favour; Historic England and the Association have also submitted objections. *Photo taken July 2007.*

The **Abbey**, in Liverpool's Wavertree area, has been acquired from the Co-Operative Society by Lidl Great Britain, which supermarket concern is considering either further conversion or demolition in order to build a new emporium. The building lies within a Conservation Area; the responsible council and its Conservation Officer are in favour of its retention, as is the local civic society. Having been in alternative utilisation to cinematic exhibition for a considerable period, it is unlikely that significant internal detail remains. *See p17 Bulletin 54/3.*



In a circuitous manoeuvre to compel removal of the telecommunication masts upon its roof, the owner of the **Odeon** in Balham wishes to convert its tower into an apartment. This would involve additional fenestration; the lower windows would prove acceptable but the upper assemblage will be resisted. *Photo taken March 2004.*



**The Luxor Eastbourne** – photo taken April 2008