

HERITAGE CASEWORK

By Tim Hatcher

Grade II*

Delay to the re-opening of the **Electric Palace** in Harwich has been occasioned by the detection of rotting timbers in the flooring at the proscenium end of the auditorium.

Scaffolding erected to facilitate repair to the façade of the **Gaumont Palace** in Wood Green has remained in situ for a considerable period, with little discernible recent utilisation. Contact is being established with the local Conservation Officer with a view to expediting its removal.

Adur and Worthing Councils, alongside Historic England, deem the unlawful alterations to the entrance arcade of the **Dome** to be a significant issue. Those bodies are therefore instructing that the area be restored to its original configuration.

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The insurance claim relating to the destruction of the auditorium block of the **Regent** in Lyme Regis by a conflagration in March of 2016 has finally been settled; thus it now proves feasible for a rebuilding project to proceed. It is to be hoped that the replacement structure will aspire to the imaginative architectural concept of its lamented predecessor.

The **Majestic** in Mapperley [Nottingham] has been listed unexpectedly by Historic England. The Association played no part in the application process; nonetheless it emphatically welcomes this outcome.



The commodious foyer block of the **Pyramid** in Sale has been permitted to fall into a state of dilapidation. This insupportable situation has been referred to the local authority with a request that an enforcement notice compelling repair be served if necessary. *photo January 2006*

Unlisted

New plans for redevelopment of the **Westover** [ABC] in Bournemouth have been submitted to the local Council. The CTA has responded by soliciting that the cladding on the fascia be removed, the latter be restored and the foyer block be retained in the new scheme. It has additionally been requested that significant internal plaster elements be salvaged.



The Majestic Cradley Heath in August 2004

The **Majestic** in Cradley Heath has deteriorated to desuetude. The local Conservation Officer has been contacted in order to express disquiet about the building's condition and future. It is believed that the Christie organ remains within, although its condition is of concern.



Permission from the local authority for redevelopment of the **Strand** in Market Warsop has been granted. This 1927 cinema, by the local architectural practice of Vallance & Westwick, will prove a regrettable loss, as it is of distinguished composition both within and without.

photo taken on CTA visit May 2008

Although not a cinema building per se, overtures have been made to the estate agent conducting the sale of the Twentieth Century-Fox building in London's Soho Square concerning the possibility of relocation of the somewhat iconic neon roof-sign.

And in brief:



- ♦ The Theatres Trust is promoting retention of the **Prince's** [Gaumont/Crown] in North Shields, a ciné-variety house of 1929; this endeavour is supported by the Association. *photo Sept 2006*
- ♦ The decaying **Regent** in Redcar is to be demolished and redeveloped as an entertainment complex incorporating a new cinema.
- ♦ The 'Odeon' pylon on the site of the eponymous demolished cinema in Redhill is under restoration following a protracted campaign petitioning for its conservation.
- ♦ The **Picture Palace** in Wincobank [Sheffield] is currently 'under offer', with planning permission currently established for conversion to residential accommodation.
- ♦ A comprehensive preservation of the frontage of the **Premier Electric Theatre** in Somercotes is being sought in the scheme for its remodelling as housing.
- ♦ Enthusiasm has been stimulated in Worcester towards retention of the **Gaumont**, following its recent permanent closure as a venue for bingo.
- ♦ Interest has been engendered in Milton Keynes towards preservation of the pyramidal structure of the **Point**, either in situ or relocated to an alternative local site.