Futurist Cinema 551 Valley Rd

Local Heritage Asset Register

Berridge HA476



Status:	Recommendation to add
Age:	Early to Mid-20th Century
Conservation Area:	No
Date added to the list:	
Condition:	Fair

Assessment against Local Criteria

1. Architectural value: as a 1930s purpose-built cinema
2. Rarity: the only example of this building style in the Basford area
3. Communal value: memories of visiting and working at this cinema can be found in the Basford Bystander

Reason for Designation

A purpose built cinema, built and opened in 1937. The site included a car park, which was advertised as an advantage of this 'super cinema' over other local picture houses. The auditorium capacity was 1280 initially, including 220 on a balcony. Built for Reginald L Kemp by architect Alfred J Thraves who designed several other local cinemas in Nottingham including the Odeon, Astoria, New Empress and Forum. In 1966 the cinema underwent refurbishment and reopened on Boxing Day, 1966. It closed permanently in 1977 and since then has been stripped out and used variously, including offices. An example of a 1930s purpose-built cinema by Alfred J Thraves. A rare example of this building style in Basford.

Local List Proposal



Description

The Futurist Cinema opened on 26th July, 1937 with Nat Gonella in "Sing as you Swing". It had a car park which has a capacity for 200 cars. The Futurist Cinema was built for R.L. Kemp, and was taken over by Basford Cinemas Ltd. in 1940. It was equipped with CinemaScope in 1955. In 1963 it was sold to United Industries, and they closed the Futurist Cinema in August 1966. They leased it out to an independent operator and was closed in March 1976. The auditorium was altered and it re-opened using the circle seating area only on 18th July 1976 It had a mixed programme of films, screening family films and (X) Certificate films. It closed on 13th August 1977 with Julie Andrews in "The Sound of Music". Since closing the building was stripped out and has had a variety of uses mainly conversion into offices.

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Nottingham City Council

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Additional Description:

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1937 purpose-built cinema by A J Thraves. Built in a typical 1930s style for this building type, signalling a move from the smaller picture house to the 'super-cinema'.
An example of a 1930s purpose-built cinema by Alfred J Thraves. A rare example of this building style in Basford.

Heritage category:	Building
Asset type:	Cultural & Entertainment
Original use:	
Current use:	Industrial
Currently occupied:	Yes
Architect, style / material:	1937 Alfred J Thraves
Condition:	Fair

Part of a group of heritage assets:

Associated with historical events or people:

Is it associated with any buried remains or archaeology? If so please describe:

How is it of importance to the local community? :

Selection Panel Date:	Date added to the list:
08/01/2018	

Nottingham City Council