

THEATRE: *Stockton Globe***Listed:** Grade II**Address:** 153-157 High Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS18 1LE**Local Authority:**

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

Development and Regeneration

Planning and Environment Services

PO Box 34, Municipal Buildings

Church Road

Stockton-on-Tees

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Email: development®eneration@stockton.gov.ukwww.stockton.gov.uk**Current Freehold Owner:** Jomast Developments Ltd**Current Leasehold Owner:** Vacant**Current Operator/Manager:** None**Local Contact:** Mrs F Bage, Conservation Officer.**The Theatres Trust Contact:** Suzanne McDougall. Tel 020 7836 8591Email: Suzanne.mcdougall@theatrust.org.uk

Original theatre architect(s): 1935: Percy L Browne & Son.**Building Description**

The *Globe Theatre* was built in 1935 and had full stage facilities with dressing rooms on three floors. It was intended as a variety house but with film projection facilities. It had a large auditorium originally seating around 2,500. It had one balcony, a rectangular proscenium and the ante-proscenium was filled with large recesses containing a fountain light and two relief panels depicting light and sound. The ceiling was also recessed and the whole auditorium lit by Holophane lighting. The symmetrical façade is Art Deco in style, with fluted plaster details and fretwork grilles. It was built of brick with the front façade finished in stucco now painted in pastel cream and blues.

Theatre Use

It became an ABC cinema in 1937, but still with much live use including annual pantomimes. There were regular stage shows with national companies after the war. In 1977 it was converted to a bingo hall and closed in 1996.

Occupancy: Vacant.**Building location**

The *Globe* is in a prominent site on a shopping street close to the railway station.

Risks

The *Globe Theatre* is in poor condition and the local authority is gaining access to the building to assess remedial repairs that may be required. It is also under threat of redevelopment and change of use and Stockton-on-Tees may lose its only listed Art Deco theatre. Two planning applications were submitted for new uses including a nightclub (August 2002, withdrawn) and for a theatre, bar, retail and apartments (February 2003, refused). Both applications would have seen adverse alterations to the building. An Options Appraisal Study was undertaken by the owner and the local authority in 2006 which assessed a number of options including the potential for popular entertainment. Planning and listed building applications for the theatre are expected imminently by the local authority, but The Theatres Trust is uncertain what use will be proposed and how this will affect the special listed character of the theatre.