

Cinemas, theatres and concert halls

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

ABC – see **ELITE THEATRE NOTTINGHAM** and **GRAND THEATRE** and **HIPPODROME BLACKPOOL**.

ALBERT HALL – Chapters 54, 66, 73

This started life as a Temperance Hall. Building work started in 1873 and it opened in 1876. It served as a concert hall and venue for political rallies but, in 1902, it became a Wesleyan mission. In 1906, it was damaged by fire and rebuilt, reopening in 1909. It continued as a Methodist mission and concert hall until 1982 and, in 1987, it was purchased by Nottingham City Council. It was refurbished and linked to the adjacent Playhouse.

ANGLIA TV – Chapter 81

Mum and dad went there with Angela **KEEBLE** in August 1961 to see “*I Packed my Bag*”.

ASTORIA BALLROOM – Chapter 52

The **HIPPODROME** in **MIDDLESBROUGH** became the **ASTORIA BALLROOM** in 1959.

THE BENTINCK – see **BENTINCK MINERS’ WELFARE**

BENTINCK MINERS’ WELFARE – Chapter 40

Last standing miners’ welfare in Ashfield. It is now known as **THE BENTINCK**.

CANNON – see **HIPPODROME BLACKPOOL**

ELITE THEATRE NOTTINGHAM – Chapters 21, 66

Opened in 1921, it was taken over by **ASSOCIATED BRITISH CINEMAS (ABC)** in 1935. It was closed in 1977 and converted into a bingo hall until the early 1990s. It is a grade II listed building and is currently used as a nightclub with some retail and office use.

EMPIRE – Chapters 21, 31

A cinema in Nottingham. Adjacent to the **THEATRE ROYAL**, this variety theatre was opened in 1898. Bioscope films were screened. It closed in 1958 and was demolished in 1969 and the **THEATRE ROYAL** extended.

EMPIRE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE – see **HIPPODROME**

EMPRESS PICTURE HOUSE – see **KING’S NOTTINGHAM**

FESTIVAL HALL – Chapters 25, 31, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57, 59, 64, 69, 73, 79, 81

Known as the **MARKET HALL** prior to the Festival of Britain. It is currently a leisure centre although it retains the **FESTIVAL HALL** name. There are currently major plans to re-develop the site.

GAUMONT – see **HIPPODROME**

GOLDSMITH PICTURE HOUSE – see **PLAYHOUSE**

GRANADA THEATRE – Chapter 81

Opened in 1930 as the **PLAZA**, this cinema was renamed as the **GRANADA** from April 1942. In the 1960s, it hosted many bands, including the Beatles. It closed and was demolished in 1973 and is currently the site of **PRIMARK**.

GRAND THEATRE – Chapters 21, 40, 52, 81

Opened in 1906, the **GRAND THEATRE** in Mansfield was acquired by Associated British Cinemas (**ABC**) around 1930 but was only renamed in 1963. It closed in 1997 and the lower part became a snooker hall. In 2013, it was bought by a church.

HIPPODROME – Chapter 52

Cinema in **BLACKPOOL** that mum and dad went to in 1954. Built in 1895 as a ballroom and music hall, it opened that year as the **EMPIRE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE** but closed some four months later. In 1900, it was converted to a circus and renamed the **HIPPODROME**. In 1910, it was converted to a cinema and variety theatre. In 1929, it was taken over by **ASSOCIATED BRITISH CINEMAS (ABC)** and they rebuilt the cinema in 1963, renaming it **ABC**. In 1981, it was converted to a three-screen cinema. In 1986, it was renamed **CANNON** and from 1993 **MGM**. It closed in 1998 and the building was converted to a nightclub, **THE SYNDICATE**, in 2001. However, the building was demolished in 2014.

HIPPODROME – Chapter 21

A cinema in **NOTTINGHAM**. Opened in 1906, it was taken over by the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres (PCT) chain in 1927, which in 1929, was taken over by **GAUMONT**. It was re-named **GAUMONT** in 1948 and was closed in 1971. It was demolished in 1973 and replaced by an office block.

HIPPODROME – Chapter 52

Mum and dad went to the **HIPPODROME** in **MIDDLESBROUGH** when visiting Dorothy **LOFTHOUSE** in **STOKESLEY** in 1954. It opened as a variety theatre in 1906 and started showing films in 1910. It was taken over by **DENMAN-GAUMONT** in 1928 but was not re-named as there was already a **GAUMONT** cinema in the town. It closed in 1956. In 1959, it became the **ASTORIA BALLROOM** and then a bingo hall which closed by 1987. In 1991, it became a night club called **THE VENUE** and what remained of the auditorium became a **CHICAGO ROCK CAFÉ**. It is currently the **GRAND ASTORIA VENUE**. The A66 flyover goes right in front of the building.

ICE STADIUM – Chapter 52

Home of ice hockey in **NOTTINGHAM**. Mum went to ice pantomimes there in 1953 and 1954. It was demolished in 2000 to make way for the National Ice Centre

KING'S NOTTINGHAM – Chapter 21

Located in Arnold, this cinema started life as The **EMPRESS PICTURE HOUSE**. It closed in 1930 and re-opened as the **KING'S THEATRE** in 1934. By 1953, it was operating as the **NEW EMPRESS THEATRE**. It was demolished in 1956.

KINGS PALACE – Chapters 4, 16, 31, 40, 52

A cinema in **KIRKBY**. It opened in 1912 and closed in 1961. It was used as a bingo club and then a garage which operated into the early 1990s. The building was demolished by 2016 and the land now forms part of a car park for an Aldi supermarket.

KING'S PICTUREDROME – see **KING'S SUTTON**

KING'S SUTTON – Chapter 52

This refers to the **NEW KING'S THEATRE** which opened in 1932. Prior to that there had been a **NEW KING'S THEATRE/ KING'S PICTUREDROME** on the site. In the mid-1960s, it was sold and became the **STAR BINGO CLUB**. In the mid-1990s, it became a nightclub. From 2000, the front section of the building has been operated as a pub, the **PICTURE HOUSE**, by **WETHERSPOON'S**.

LITTLE THEATRE – see **PLAYHOUSE**

LITTLE THEATRE GUERNSEY – Chapters 52, 66

Apparently, the **LITTLE THEATRE** was established after the second world war and was destroyed by fire in the 1980s. Mum went there with Joan **STORER** in 1953 and with dad in 1957.

LONG ROW PALACE – Chapter 21

A cinema in **NOTTINGHAM**. Opened in 1912, it closed in 1930. In 1937, it was converted to a café/restaurant and it is now an amusement arcade. It is a grade II listed building

LYRIC – Chapter 52

Mum and dad went to the **LYRIC** in **STOKESLEY** when visiting Dorothy **LOFTHOUSE** in 1954. This very small cinema closed in 1965. The building later housed an antiques shop and is now used as offices.

MARKET HALL – see **FESTIVAL HALL**

MGM – see **HIPPODROME BLACKPOOL**

NEW EMPRESS THEATRE – see **KING'S NOTTINGHAM**

NEW KING'S THEATRE – see **KING'S SUTTON**

NORWOOD ROOMS – Chapter 79, 80, **81**, 83

Venue for events, including dances in Norwich. It was originally a lido. It later became a bingo hall.

ODEON MIDDLESBROUGH – Chapter 52

Mum and dad went here with Dorothy **LOFTHOUSE** during a visit to **STOKESLEY** in 1954. Opened in 1939, the auditorium was converted into a triple screen cinema in 1974. It was refurbished in 1999 but closed in 2001. It reopened later that year as **JUMPIN' JAKS** night club. This closed in 2005 and the building was demolished in 2006.

ODEON NOTTINGHAM – Chapter 52, 69

Originally the **RITZ**, it was renamed the **ODEON** in 1944. The original auditorium was destroyed in 1964 when the cinema was split into two screens. The second auditorium was further sub-divided into three screens in 1976. By 1988, two further screens had been added. The cinema closed in 2001 and the building was demolished in 2012.

ODEON PLYMOUTH – Chapter 66

Three cinemas in Plymouth have at various times been called the Odeon. The first, and the one mum was referring to in 1956, was originally called the Regent when it opened in 1931 in Frankfort Street. It changed its name to the Odeon in 1940 and continued with that name until 1962 when it was closed and demolished. Slightly earlier in 1931, the Gaumont Palace had opened in Union Street and, in 1962, this took over the Odeon name until it too closed in 1980. The name was taken on by the cinema previously known as Drake but this too closed in 1999 .

OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL – Chapters 52, 66, 69

Located at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool, mum went to the Opera House in October each year from 1953 to 1955. The first Opera House at the Winter Gardens opened in 1889. It was rebuilt in 1910-11. It was demolished in 1938 and replaced in 1939 in the Art Deco style.

PAVILION THEATRE, TORQUAY – Chapter 66

Mum and dad went there in 1956 while on holiday in Torquay, Opened in 1912, it closed as a theatre and was then used as a skating rink and shopping arcade. It is a listed building and is currently closed awaiting restoration.

PICTUREDROME – Chapter 21

This cinema in Mansfield opened in 1920. From 1928 to 1934, it was a billiards hall before becoming the **QUEEN'S THEATRE** from 1934 to 1939. Since then it has been a dance school, restaurant, social club and night club. It was demolished in 2010 and replaced with a car park

PLAYHOUSE – Chapters 31, 40, 52, 63, 66

The **PLAYHOUSE** is a theatre in **NOTTINGHAM**. The original building opened as the **PRINGLE PICTURE PALACE** in 1910 and was renamed as the **GOLDSMITH PICTURE HOUSE** in 1912. It became the **LITTLE THEATRE** in 1941 and then the **PLAYHOUSE** in 1948 until 1963 when the **PLAYHOUSE** moved to its current location on Wellington Circus. Since closure, it has been a carpet warehouse, bar and pub. It is currently a bar called **ALBERTS**.

PLAZA – see **GRANADA**

PORTLAND – Chapters 21, 40, 52, 66, 81

Opened in 1937, the **PORTLAND** Theatre in Sutton was re-named the **SAVOY** in 1968. It closed in 1978 and the building was initially converted to be a supermarket. In 1990, it was demolished to build a car park and two small retail units.

PRINGLE PICTURE PALACE – see **PLAYHOUSE**

QUEEN'S PALACE – see **TIVOLI**

QUEEN'S THEATRE – see **PICTUREDROME**

REGENT – Chapters 4, 21, 31, 40, 52, 66

A cinema in **KIRKBY**. Opened in 1930, it was renamed Essoldo in 1961 and closed in 1965 with the stalls becoming an Essoldo Bingo Club. The circle area reopened as a cinema in 1988 and remained open until 1993. It reopened briefly as a Cineplex from 2004 to 2005 and then remained vacant. In 2013, the stalls area was opened as a Wetherspoons pub.

RITZ -see **ODEON**

SAVOY – see **PORTLAND**

SCARBOROUGH SPA – Chapter 40

Described as an entertainment and conferencing venue. Mum and grandma went to see "*Music Box*" there in 1947.

STAR – Chapters 4, 10, 21, 31, 52

A theatre in **KIRKBY**. It opened in January 1914 and was closed in the late 1950s and later became a garage.

THEATRE ROYAL – Background

The main theatre in **NORWICH**.

THEATRE ROYAL – Chapters 31, 39, 40, 52, 66, 69, 72

The main theatre in **NOTTINGHAM** which opened in 1865.

TIVOLI – Chapter 52

This opened as the **QUEENS PALACE** in 1913 and it was renamed **TIVOLI** in 1930. It closed in April 1960 and was converted into an arcade of shops. From 1991, the ground floor has operated as a furniture store.