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**Addition of 60-61 Manor Street, Dublin 7 to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000.**

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Recommendation	
Address	Description (to appear on RPS)
60-61 Manor Street, Dublin 7	Community Centre (Former Cinema)

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**PHOTO OF STRUCTURE**



**Procedure Followed**

In accordance with the procedures set out in Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, Dublin City Council indicated its intention to add '60-61 Manor Street, Dublin 7 to the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). The proposed addition was advertised in the Irish Independent on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The public display period was from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 to Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, inclusive.

**Request for Addition**

- *Marc Zimmermann*: Cinema Heritage Group, Flat 2, 58 Leeson Park, Dublin 6 requested 14/02/07
- *Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht*: The Ministerial recommended the addition of this building to Dublin City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS) on the 04/06/14.

**Summary of Applicants Reasons for Seeking Addition:**

- *Marc Zimmermann, Cinema Heritage Group:* Rare surviving example of an early (1910) purpose-built cinema. Representative, fairly unaltered façade. Unique opportunity to retain a rare, externally well preserved example of the period.
- *Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht:* List of recommendations for inclusion on the RPS of structures deemed as being of 'Regional' significance or higher identified during Stage 1 of the Dublin Survey carried out by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. Manor Palladium Broadway, 60-61 Manor Street, Dublin 7 has been assigned a Regional rating. The Stage 1 recommendations were issued to Dublin City Council on the 04/06/14.

**Site Location & Zoning Map:**

Zone Z1: To protect, provide and improve residential amenities



**Planning History:**

Ref No.	Description	Decision
<a href="#">1203/94</a>	(a) Retain existing community education and training resource Centre use (established use is industrial). (b) Carry out fire safety and other alterations and improvements including new steps to front of building noise abatement improvements and canteen at first floor level to premises.	GRANT PERMISSION 08-Aug-1994

**Recent Enforcement History:**

None on record

**Summary Description:** (taken from National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) inventory and based on site inspection 20/03/18)



<b>Reg. No.</b>	50070515
<b>Date</b>	1910 - 1915
<b>Previous Name</b>	Manor Cinema / Palladium / Broadway Cinema
<b>Townland</b>	
<b>County</b>	Dublin City
<b>Coordinates</b>	314249, 234974
<b>Categories of Special Interest</b>	ARCHITECTURAL HISTORICAL SOCIAL
<b>Rating</b>	Regional
<b>Original Use</b>	cinema
<b>In Use As</b>	community centre

### Description (NIAH)

Attached three-bay two-storey former cinema, built 1914, having lower two-bay two-storey extension to south-east. Now in use as community centre. Flat roof with balustrade and cornice to parapet. Lined-and-ruled rendered walls to front (north-east) elevation, with giant order of channelled engaged pilasters. Roundel over first floor central window, with cornice curving overhead. Square-headed window openings, having replacement uPVC windows. Elliptical-headed door surround, having central keystone, timber panelled door flanked with sidelights and overlight. Splayed steps to street. Conservation Office Note: *one original single pane timber sash window with horns retained to ground floor of two-storey block.*

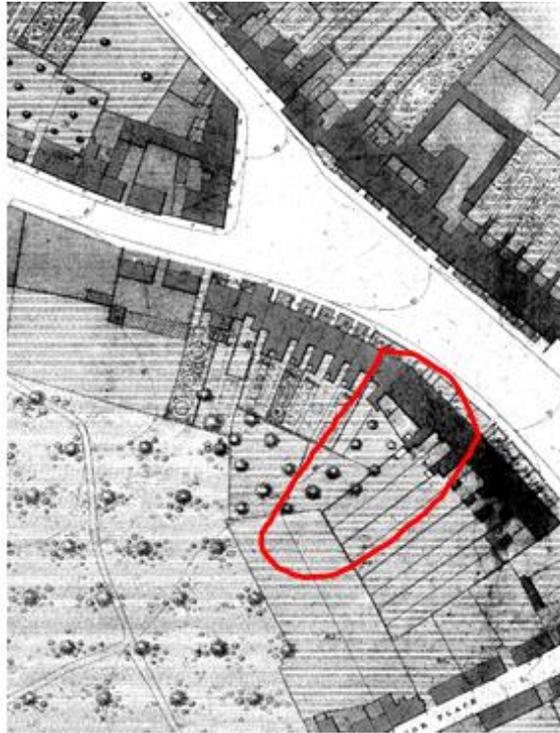
*(Based on site inspection 20/03/18)*

**Interior:** The original cinema auditorium has been divided up to create two floors with offices and a workshop on the ground floor with a central corridor. The upper floor includes offices, class rooms and a canteen. The inserted floor is beam and concrete while a false ceiling hides the original auditorium/balcony ceiling retaining original moulded plasterwork detailing to the flat roof ceiling ribs. The original main staircase is retained having concrete cantilevered steps, twisted wrought iron square profile balusters and a timber handrail. A toilet/office is accessed off the half landing. The original projection room is retained at the top of the stairs and functions as an office with a casement window inserted into the projector hatch, now overlooking the canteen.

**Front Site:** Set back from the street with centrally placed sweeping steps leading up to the entrance door. The steps are framed by a low concrete plinth with modern railings.

**Rear Site:** Accessed through a carriage opening in the southern two-storey extension, the rear site is narrow wedge shape.

## Historical Background



1847 Ordnance Survey map of Dublin showing approximate location of previous terraced buildings



1913 OSi map showing the approximate location of the cinema site. Note the wedge shaped site is more apparent (<http://map.geohive.ie/mapviewer.html>, accessed 19/09/18)

Earlier cinemas were housed within existing buildings, however Manor Street Picture House was a purpose built cinema, opened in 1914. The site was previously occupied by terraced houses which were cleared possibly due to dereliction allowing the scope for this cinema to be constructed on this wedge shaped site. Originally the cinema had a balcony and a large seating capacity of 630 seats. The main entrance was originally covered with a glass and iron canopy, making the building stand out from

the surrounding residential terraces and announcing its presence on the street. The original name was changed first to the Palladium, then to the Broadway around 1934. In the 1940's, the cinema was run by Associate Picture Houses Ltd and was equipped with an RCA Photophone sound system and operated seven days a week. The cinema closed its doors in 1956, possibly unable to compete with the larger glitzy city centre movie palaces. It housed the Dublin Cooperage Company for a time, around which time the dividing floor was inserted. Then in 1988, it was taken over as a FÁS community training unit. It continues to be used as the Stoneybatter Community Centre to the present day.

### **References**

- Zimmermann, Mark, *The History of Dublin Cinemas*, NONsuch Publishing, Dublin 2007.
- The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Survey of Dublin City, Stage 1 Ministerial Recommendations issued on the 04/06/14.

### **Assessment of Special Interest under the Planning & Development Act 2000:**

The structure in question is considered to be of special interest under the following headings:

**ARCHITECTURAL:** This purpose built pre WWI cinema building is a unique architectural statement punctuating an otherwise uniform terrace of residential houses. The building has a distinctive parapet line and grand sweeping entrance steps to the main entrance, dominating the building line. Internally, the original staircase and projection room is retained with the original vaulted auditorium ceiling hidden above a false ceiling. This is a rare early example of a purpose built single auditorium cinema.

**HISTORICAL:** The world premieres of public screenings of 'moving pictures' occurred in 1895 in Paris and Berlin. Less than six months later, Dublin's elite were being dazzled by Ireland first screening of 'living images'. Thus began the Irish public's love of the Pictures. It's impressive to note that this purpose built cinema was constructed less than 10 years later in the suburban village of Stoneybatter. As a result, this building shines a light on a past age by virtue of its original use, design and location.

**SOCIAL:** The building represents Social interest due to its use as a cinema. This early surviving cinema represents an important aspect of social and cultural development in Ireland in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It also has a sentimental focus for the local community.

### **Significance/NIAH Rating:**

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage assigned this building ARCHITECTURAL, HISTORICAL & SOCIAL interest.

The NIAH Appraisal states: *The early twentieth century cinema building has a higher parapet height and different fenestration pattern to its neighbouring nineteenth-century domestic buildings. The first cinema in Ireland was opened at the Volta in 1909 in a converted building on Mary Street, and Manor Cinema built in 1914 is of social and historical significance as this building represents an early surviving example of an important social and cultural development in the country. The early twentieth-century building is of architectural interest as a surviving example of cinema architecture in Ireland prior to the First World War. While cinemas continue to be built in Ireland, the single auditorium model has been replaced by the multiplex.*

The Conservation Section has considered the opinion of the NIAH and is in agreement with the three categories of special interest assigned. Marc Zimmerman's reasons for addition have also been considered in detail.

### **Submissions/ Objections Received:**

None.

**Conclusion:**

The Conservation Section has considered the applicants' reasons for seeking addition along with the NIAH assessment and concluded that the structure does merit inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures.

**Meeting of the Area Committee:**

The proposed addition of the structure was brought forward to the Central Area Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 where it was agreed by the elected members to initiate the procedure to add it to the RPS.

**Recommendation to the City Council:**

In accordance with section 55 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, it is recommended that 60-61 Manor Street, Dublin 7 be added to the Record of Protected Structures in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022.

The making of any addition to the Record of Protected Structures is a reserved function of the City Council.

**Resolution:**

"That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 205/2019 and approves the addition of 60-61 Manor Street, Dublin 7 to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000".

**Richard Shakespeare**  
**Assistant Chief Executive**

**Dated: 19th June 2019**

**Extent of Protected Structure Status & Curtilage**

The proposed protected structures and their curtilage are outlined below in red. The curtilage extends to the boundaries as shown on the map below.

