

An Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment of Nos. 110-116 Kenyon Lane, Moston, Manchester – Addendum

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Developments Limited

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ADDENDUM

Since the original historic environment desk-based assessment was produced an update has been requested of clarification on the significance of the façade of the former cinema building, and justification for the loss of it and the building as a whole.

The building and its façade possess a degree of illustrative and associative historical, architectural, evidential, aesthetic and communal values, and its former usage as a cinema and later a bingo hall once had some social value as a place of social interaction for Moston. Whilst the façade is the outward-facing feature which possesses a higher degree of architectural and aesthetic value than the rest of the building, the degradation of both interior and exterior fabric due mainly to the fire and later alterations to the site as a DIY establishment have resulted in the building's values being of low heritage significance. Consequently, it is not designated as an asset of heritage importance at a regional or national level.

The loss of the building and its façade's illustrative and associative historical, architectural, evidential, aesthetic and communal values can be mitigated by undertaking a historic building survey prior to any proposed development taking place in order to better record and understand the architectural history of the site. A phase of targeted trial trenching would also be appropriate across the north-eastern part of the site in order to assess the survival and nature of any below-ground remains associated with the former Empress Picture House/Adelphi Cinema. The resulting reports would be made publically available through the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record and the Archaeological Data Service. A permanent public information board could be installed providing information on the site's former use as a cinema based on the results of the historic building survey and archaeological works.