

Historic cinemas (operating 1910-1960)

Cinemas in Sydney's West (mainly inner west) that operated between 1910 and 1960. Table includes such details as cinema name, opening (or construction/opening) date, closure date, and chain/circuit association. There are some earlier or small cinemas which are not listed, however the intention of this summary is to provide a listing of the best known cinemas operating within a reasonable vicinity of the Strathfield district to accompany the Talk on Historic Cinemas in the Strathfield District on 31 May 2026.

Suburb	Cinema	Address	Opened / constructed	Closed	Chain / circuit	Notes
Ashfield	Hoyts De Luxe Theatre (later Union De Luxe; later Apollo)	Liverpool Road Ashfield	Opened 7 Apr 1921	Closed 24 Sep 1966 (later sporadic use)	Greater Union (soon after opening); Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Extensively remodelled 1934 (Art Deco).
Ashfield	Ashfield Kings Theatre	Liverpool Road Ashfield	Opened 21 Jul 1937	Closed 2 May 1981	Kings circuit; taken over by Greater Union (from May 1946)	Designed by Crick & Furse.
Auburn	Civic Theatre (later Hoyts Civic Theatre)	Cnr Park Road & South Parade Auburn	Opened 13 Feb 1934	Closed 21 Jan 1967	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC); taken over by Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Designed by Karberry & Chard. Seated 2277 patrons. Demolished 1973.
Auburn	Queens Theatre (later Embassy Theatre)	Harrow Road & Queen Street Auburn	Opened December 1913	Closed December 1958	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) from 1930; from 1934 operates as a dance hall. Opens as Embassy Theatre from 1937; taken over by Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Further improvements made in 1926. Seating 1300. Demolished.
Balmain	Balmain Kings Theatre	Darling Street & Birchgrove Road Balmain	Opened 4 Jul 1936	Closed 25 Apr 1959	Kings circuit; taken over by Greater Union (from May 1946)	Purpose-built on shell of earlier venue; building has been redeveloped as apartments.

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Balmain	National Theatre (later Hoyts Balmain Theatre; later Bijou Theatre)	Rowntree Street Balmain	Opened Jan 1912 (as live theatre/music hall)	Closed 1964 (as Hoyts Balmain)	Hoyts (from 1927)	Converted to other uses after closure; later re-opened as independent Bijou Cinema (1974-1980).
Burwood	Palatial Burwood Cinema (Palatial Cinema)	Railway Parade Burwood	Opened 16 Dec 1921	Closed 13 Mar 1971	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC); later Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Seated 1933 people. Used by the Royal Blind Society for a period. Became a carpet showroom. Demolished in 1978 and site replaced by Burwood Plaza.
Burwood	Astor; later Hoyts Astor	Burwood Road Burwood	Opened 5 August 1936	Closed c.1984	Western Suburbs Cinema (WSC); Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	1966 Westfield Burwood included Astor in its development. Closed c.1984. Shopping centre demolished including the old theatre and rebuilt and opened in 2000.
Chullora	Metro Twin Drive in	Waterloo Road Chullora	Opened 24 October 1956	Closed 10 June 1979	M-G-M Metro; Greater Union (from 1971)	1320 cars. Demolished and redeveloped as Chullora Marketplace shops.
Concord	Central Picture Palace (later Ritz Theatre; later Hoyts Ritz Concord Central)	Majors Bay Road Concord	Opened 26 May 1921 (as Central Picture Palace)	Closed 2 Jan 1960	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) (from Oct 1934); Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Rebuilt late-1920s and renamed Ritz Theatre; later used as Hoyts storehouse; redeveloped as restaurant and units.
Concord West	Arcadia Theatre (1930), Royal Theatre (1938), Odeon (Greater Union, 1940s-1959).	307 Concord Road, Sydney NSW 2138.	Opened 1930	Closed in 1959.	Greater Union from 1940s	Seating capacity: 1,259. The site is now occupied by a KFC
Croydon Park	Croydon Park Theatre	George's River Road	Opened early 1922	Closed 1960	Independent	House seated 960 patrons. A 'reverse' theatre (screen at the entrance end); remodelled May

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						1934; later converted to a carpet store.
Croydon	Croydon de Luxe	2 Meta Street Croydon	Opened 1921	Closed July 1960	Independent	By 1927, seated 1157 patrons. 1929 sound system for talkies installed. 1938, modernised and seating reduced to 1157. Converted to roller skating rink. Acquired by Burwood Council in 1970. Demolished and turned into a park.
Drummoyne	Astra Cinema	Victoria Road Drummoyne	Opened 8 April 1938	Closed 2 Feb 1963	Sold to Snider & Dean in 1948; Hoyts (from 1951)	Seated 797. Demolished and now site of McDonalds.
Enfield	Enfield Cinema / Savoy Theatre (later Hoyts Savoy Theatre)	Liverpool Road Enfield	Opened 16 Nov 1927	Closed 9 Jan 1960	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) (from 1932); Hoyts (from 1944)	Extensively remodelled/re-fronted in 1938 (Art Deco) and re-opened as "Savoy".
Five Dock	Chelmsford Hall 1918; Regal Theatre from 1921	Corner Great North Road & Second Avenue, Five Dock.	Converted from a public hall and opened as a 500 seat cinema in 1918.	Closed 1950	Operated by Frederick Charles Killick	Originally built as Chelmsford Hall, when was licenced as a public hall from November 1914. Remodelled in 1921 with seating of 1000 in stalls and 400 in circle. In early 1930s used as a dance hall by mid-1930s used again for films. Remodelled in Art Deco style by architects Crick & Furse in 1937. In 1950s used from dances, vaudeville, indoor market. In late 1950s converted to ice-skating rink, closed in 1963. Demolished in 1969.
Haberfield	Haberfield Elite	Ramsay Road Haberfield	Opened 25 Sept 1925	Closed 1969	Independent	Converted into an IGA supermarket

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Homebush	Homebush Theatre / Homebush Cinema (later Vogue Theatre; later Hoyts Vogue Theatre)	Parramatta Road Homebush	Opened 2 Apr 1925; re-opened as Vogue 19 Aug 1939	Closed 19 Dec 1959	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) (from 2 Oct 1931); Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Modernised 1939 (Art Moderne) with reduced seating. Later theatre restaurant.
Lidcombe	Arcadia Theatre (Hoyts Arcadia)	373 Gordon Rd (now John St), Lidcombe	5 May 1924	1 May 1963	Western Suburbs Cinemas (from 1939); Hoyts (from Mar 1944).	Seating capacity 1855. Art Deco remodel 1940; later supermarket, reception hall; fire damage; now demolished.
Marrickville	Hoyts De Luxe Theatre (later Hoyts Marrickville Theatre)	263 Illawarra Road, Marrickville	Opened 1921 (as Hoyts De Luxe)	Closed Nov 1959	Hoyts	Closed Mar 1938 for Art Deco makeover; re-opened 23 Apr 1938 with De Luxe name dropped.
Parramatta	Astra Theatre	57 Macquarie Street & Marsden Street Parramatta	Opened 21 November 1935	Closed late 1980s	Hoyts (until 1984); Greater Union (from 1985)	Closed 1977. Reopened 1981 and closed 1984. Reopened as Greater Union in 1985. Closed late 1980s. Demolished and redeveloped as Greater Union (now Events Cinemas).
Parramatta	Civic Theatre/ Parramatta Cinema No 2	George Street Parramatta	Opened August 1924	Closed May 1960	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) (from 1937); Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Converted into Civic Arcade shops.
Parramatta	Roxy Theatre	George Street Parramatta	Opened 6 Feb 1930	Closed 27 Mar 2002	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) (from 1937); Hoyts (from Mar 1944); Village (from 1996).	National Trust listed in 1974. Reopened in 1976 as a triplex.
Strathfield	Melba Theatre (New Melba / Strathfield Theatre; later Hoyts Melba)	Moseley Street Strathfield	Opened 18 Apr 1913; re-built 13 Oct 1921; re-	Closed 19 Nov 1966	Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC) (from 1930); Hoyts (from Mar 1944)	Multiple rebuilds/renames. Demolished December 1968 for a large unit development.

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			opened 9 Nov 1927			
Summer Hill	Summer Hill Grosvenor	1 Sloane Street, Sydney,	Opened 29 1930	Closed 1960; reopened 28 Jan 1962 and closed 12 Aug 1965.	Broadway Theatre; from March 1939, Western Suburbs Cinemas (WSC); Hoyts from Mar 1944.	Seating capacity 2000. Designed by Emil Sodersten. Demolished 1969.

Current multiplex cinemas

The following multiplex cinemas are currently operating in the vicinity of the Strathfield area. Note Event Cinemas is the name adopted by Greater Union. Reading Cinemas is part of an international chain. Palace Cinemas is an independent chain.

Suburb	Cinema (Other Names)	Address	Opened	Number of Cinemas (Screens)	Chain / Circuit	Notes
Burwood	Event Cinemas Burwood	100 Burwood Rd, Burwood	14 Nov 2000	12	Event Cinemas	Located in Westfield Burwood, built in 2000 on the the site of 1st Westfield Shoppingtown built 1966, which contained Hoyts Astor.
Rhodes	Reading Cinemas Rhodes	1 Rider Blvd, Rhodes	2 Dec 2004	8	Reading Cinemas	Located in Rhodes Waterside Shopping Centre.
Bankstown	Hoyts Bankstown	63 The Mall, Bankstown	5 Apr 1990	8	Hoyts	Multiplex in Bankstown Central Shopping Centre.
Leichhardt	Palace Norton Street	99 Norton St, Leichhardt	23 Jul 1998 (4 screens), 22 Nov 2013 (8 screens)	8	Palace Cinemas	Opened as 4 screens, expanded to 8 in 2013; arthouse and international focus.

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