Bus Routes
34, 102, 144a, 149, 259, 279, 318, 444, 419, W6
North Middlesex Hospital

The hospital was built in 1842 as the Edmonton Union Workhouse. It became a military hospital in 1915 returning to civilian use in 1920. During the Second World War the hospital was bombed on several occasions. The first occasion was on 24th September 1940 when the west wing suffered major damage. Further damage was caused when a mine was dropped on Silver Street on 28th December that year. In 1944 incendiary bombs caused extensive fires and some casualties. The children’s ward was hit with many more damaged.

Regal Cinema & Angel Road Factories

The Regal Cinema stood on the corner of Fore Street and the North Circular Road. During the Second World War it was used as an air raid warden’s post and shelter which could accommodate up to 700 people. The warden’s post was at the stage door and staffed by the cinema employees; it was said to be one of the better shelters in the area as it was spacious and free from damp. According to Mr Hurn, the manager of the cinema, all the staff received training as ARP wardens. There was a mosaic commemorating it on the side of the present day Lidl.

Alcazar Cinema & Railway

The Alcazar Cinema was opened in 1913 on the west side of Fore Street just north of the junction with the North Circular Road. It housed a dancehall, roller skating rink and cinema. During the First World War it was a staging post for Prisoners of War, with the public in 1906. During the Second World War the house was used as an ARP post. In 1920 the cinema was converted into a dancehall and closed. In 1924 it was reopened as the Alcazar Cinema and Theatre. The cinema was closed in 1934 and in 1935 it was converted into a dance hall and closed down.

Pymmes Park & House

Pymmes House stood at the southern end of the park parallel to Silver Street. In 1897 part of the park was acquired by the Edmonton Urban District Council and opened to the public in 1906. During the Second World War the house was used as a logging post for Prisoners of War, a children’s home, an emergency hospital and a fire station. Trenches were dug in the park for air raid shelters, then concreted and roofed over. They were prone to flooding and required extensive drainage work to make them usable. The remains of the shelters were excavated in May 2015. In December 1940 Pymmes House caught fire and the remains had to be demolished. The cause of the fire remains unknown but is unlikely to have been the result of enemy action.

Fore Street

Bombs fell along Fore Street on several occasions during the Second World War. The first time was on 23rd August 1940 when on 22nd and 23rd February 1944 V bombs caused extensive fires covering a large area. The next morning the area was sealed off and firemen were called to deal with the fire damage. In 1941 a bomb fell on the dump showering fragments of the railings over the surrounding area. The next morning the remains were cleared from the area.

Site of Edmonton Town Hall

In March 1939, in preparation for a war that was becoming increasingly inevitable, an ARP exhibition was staged in the Town Hall, attracting 2000 visitors a day. There were demonstrations of the work of the Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) and the ARP and displays of Wardens’ equipment, helmets, respirators, bombs, pistols and other items. Railings around the Town Hall were removed for salvage in 1941. The ‘The Tottenham and Edmonton Weekly’ of 5th December reported that “... the improvement is generally admired” as it enabled the building to be seen to better advantage. The Town Hall was floodlit to celebrate VJ Day in August 1945.

All Saints Church

There has been a church on this site since at least 1136. After the First World War the Ladies of Help became a War Memorial to the men of the Parish who had died. On 11th November 1940 a landmine fell in nearby Grannum Gardens and the church’s stained glass windows were blown out. Salvaged pieces of the glass were later incorporated into the windows in the Lady Chapel.