



# Marina Theatre Ceiling Inspection

## Lowestoft

**Sector:** Conservation & Heritage  
**Client:** Waveney District Council

The collapse of the auditorium ceiling to the Apollo Theatre in London's West End prompted concerns regarding the importance for ceiling inspections in similar buildings.

Technicus were appointed to carry out a detailed inspection of the ceiling to the auditorium to comply with Licencing requirements. Useful background knowledge of the building was brought to the inspection, as the engineer/surveyor who undertook the inspection had carried out the pre-acquisition survey of the building in 1985 and was the Project Engineer for the major refurbishment at the end of the 1980s.

Our engineers and surveyors have experience of undertaking inspections of plaster ceilings to theatres and cinemas including the Hollywood Cinema, Great Yarmouth, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft and the Empire Theatre, Great Yarmouth (Bourbon Street), a Grade II\* 1911-built structure.

The inspection of fibrous plaster ceilings comprises a visual appraisal from within the auditorium using binoculars and an inspection from above, within the roof void. The inspection involves displacing insulation to examine the fibrous plaster mouldings, the support framing and armature, as well as representative areas of the flat ceilings.

A drawing of the ceiling plan is prepared and annotated with notes on construction and defects, to form a base-line of condition for future inspections.

