

~~Mr. Tolmer
Church~~
9/3/72

HAUNTED CINEMA TO CLOSE

closed
27/3/72

THE Tolmer Cinema, where, it is reputed, the ghost of a priest walks after dark, is to close next week.

The cinema in Tolmers-square, N.W.1 was originally a Congregational Church.

It was opened as a theatre in 1920. After suffering severe damage during the war it was rebuilt and opened in 1944 as a cinema.

Over the years there have been frequent stories about the Tolmer's resident ghost—a priest who is supposed to have hanged himself in the church crypt.

Mr. Andrew Keeshan, aged 31, who has been a manager for about a year, said this week: "It is a terrible shame to see the place close. We have more than 1,000 regular patrons and I don't know where they will go."

Mr. Keeshan has never seen the Tolmer ghost, but his handyman, Mr. George Clarke, is one who has.

A few weeks ago, after the cinema had been locked up and staff were preparing to leave Mr. Clarke saw a cloaked figure in one of the aisles. He followed it out to the foyer and it disappeared.

The cinema closes on Wednesday next week and is to be taken over by a property developer.