

Early History of The Theatre Royal Washington Street Workington

DATE	ARTICLE	PROPRIETOR	LESSEE	COMMENTS
1869	The ERA ALMANACK 1869			MUSICAL HALLS IN GREAT BRITAIN Workington - Shakespeare
1873	Post Office Directory Cumberland & Westmorland 1873	W.B. Gibson sec. to the Proprietors		Only The <i>Theatre Royal</i> , Whitehaven mentioned
1874	The ERA ALMANACK 1874			NOT LISTED AS THE LYCEUM
1875	The ERA ALMANACK 1875	George John Smith	J.B. CLifford	Workington - Royal, J.B. Clifford
1876	The ERA ALMANACK 1876	George John Smith	J.B. CLifford	Workington - Royal, J.B. Clifford
1883	History and Directory of West Cumberland 1883	George John Smith		<i>The Theatre</i> is in Washington Street, and was built by Mr. George J. Smith, the present proprietor. It was enlarged a few years ago by an additional gallery, and is capable of containing 700. It was opened first in 1866, and increased to its present size in 1879. At first it was called the Lyceum ; now its title is Theatre Royal. It is a neat, comfortable house, and is open for performances every winter.
1888	The ERA ALMANACK 1888	George John Smith		The Era Almanack 1888 Workington - Theatre Royal, G.J. Smith
1894	KELLY'S Directory of Cumberland 1894	George John Smith		The Theatre Royal, in Washington Street will hold 800 persons; George John Smith, proprietor.
1897	KELLY'S Directory of Cumberland 1897	George John Smith		The Theatre Royal, in Washington Street will hold 800 persons; George John Smith, proprietor.
1901	History, Topography & Directory of Cumberland 1901	George John Smith	Mr H Wright - sole lessee	The Theatre is in Washing ton Street, and was built by George J. Smith, the present Proprietor. It was first opened in 1866, and is capable of containing 700. At fir it was called The Lyceum; it is a neat comfortable house, and is open for performances every winter, with a good company. The late Charles Matthews and Charles Dillon have performed upon it's boards.
1903	<i>The ERA</i> October 24th 1903		Mr H Wright - Manager	The Theatre Royal. Manager, Mr H Wright - Miss Marrable's Company is presenting <i>The Slave Girl</i> . Mr J Heather is satisfactory as Hamilton Jun. Mr. J.G. Maine is good as the Overseer. Mr A Stratton well ???? the part of the planter. Miss A. Oakley is vigorous as Esther. Miss A Gill appears as Mrs Hamilton and credibly fills her part and Miss A. Marsden is effective as Nellie
1906	KELLY'S Directory of Cumberland 1906		Fred Hammond - Lessee and Manger	The Theatre Royal, in Washington Street will hold 800 persons; Fred Hammond Lessee and Manager.
1910	KELLY'S Directory of Cumberland 1910		Harry Robinson - Lessee and Manger	Theatre Royal in Washington Street, Harry Robinson Lessee and Manager. The Theatre Royal, in Washington Street will hold 550 persons. The Opera House in Pow Street, will hold 2,500 persons. The Carnegie Hall, in Finkle Street will hold 400 persons.

1914	KELLY'S Directory of Westmorland & Cumberland 1914		Stanley Rogers - Lessee Morris Maud - Manager	The Theatre Royal, in Washington Street will hold 550 persons. The Opera House in Pow Street, will hold 2,500 persons. The Carnegie Hall, in Finkle Street will hold 400 persons. Rogers and Maud were also Lessee and Manager of <i>The Opera House, Pow Street.</i> Rogers was Lessee of <i>The Theatre Royal, Whitehaven</i>
1926	The Lancashire Daily Post December 13th 1926			<i>The Theatre Royal</i> along with No, 24 Wilson Street was bought by Mr D.J. Mason (Solicitor) on behalf of Messers Graves Bros. for £6,100. This made the Graves Bros. the largest owners of amusement-halls in West Cumbria. They owned the <i>Theatre Royal</i>, the <i>Opera House</i> and the <i>Oxford Kinema</i>, Workington and the <i>Empire Theatre</i> Maryport