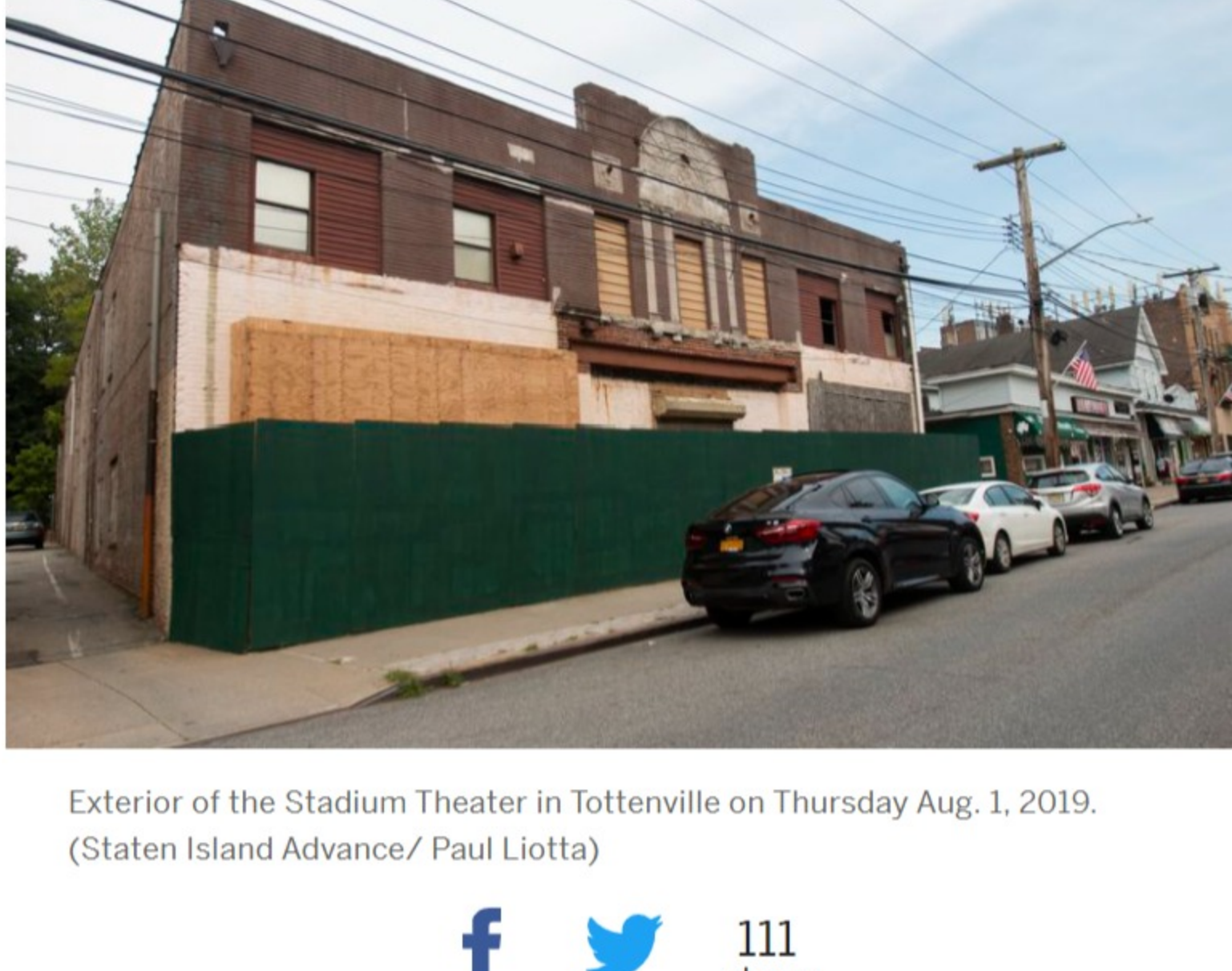


More delays to Stadium Theater reconstruction

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Exterior of the Stadium Theater in Tottenville on Thursday Aug. 1, 2019. (Staten Island Advance/ Paul Liotta)

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By Paul Liotta | pliotta@siadvance.com

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- City officials may soon need to step in if the owners of a long-abandoned Tottenville theater don't take action to fix their dilapidated property.

Department of Buildings officials most recently inspected the old Stadium Theater on Dec. 26, finding violation conditions that had not been corrected, and issued an order for the owner to engage an engineer to make the necessary corrections.

"We are actively monitoring this property, and utilizing a combination of enforcement actions and outreach to the property owner to ensure the violating conditions are fixed," DOB spokeswoman Abigail Kunitz said of the site at 217 Main St.

"If the property owner does not assume responsibility for correcting the violations, we will move forward with the process of having city contractors perform the necessary repairs, and bill the owner."

A request for comment left with the building owners Monday morning was not returned by the time of publication. They told the Advance in August that renovations to the property would soon be underway after a DOB inspector found the site was in poor condition in early July.

DOB officials also found that the construction fence at the site did not have an up-to-date permit during their December inspection, and issued a separate violation.

The site opened in 1927 and closed as a movie theater by 1957. In 1969, it reopened as a rock music venue, and it housed a roller rink in the 1970s.

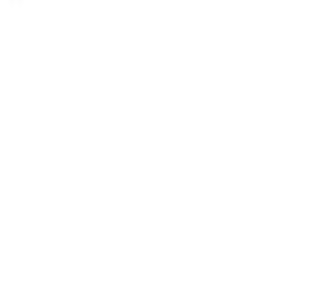
The DOB issued a full-vacate order on the site in May 2014 after an inspector found portions of the building's roof had collapsed. Complaints about the building's structural integrity filed with the DOB date back to at least 1991, according to online records.

Building plans from September 2018 show stores on the first floor of the site, and 11 apartments on the second floor. Blackler did not confirm the number of apartments to go on the second floor.

That project was approved by the city Department of Buildings in April, but never got underway.

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