In 1913 a building to be used for a motion picture theatre was built on the south side of Dufferin St, just east of Central Ave, by the Contractor Mr. O.C.Teal. The owners and operators were the Butler brothers of Chicago; who purchased the land from W.A. Mewbigging of Buffalo. They operated for a few years, then the building was left vacant for a time, until it was decided to make use of it for an overflow school.

The theatre passed out of the hands of the Butler brothers to Frank Manes during the first world war, who in turn operated it for several years till it was taken over by Captain Myland.

The name of the old theatre had by now been changed from the Crown to " THE REGENT" .

1916. J.M. ABOTT.

In 1921 the Ziff family took over the property and for a few years operated it as it stood.later a cashiers box, ticket office and projection room were added. In 1924 a cement floor was added, windows were put in, and the building was redecorated throughout. In 1925 the building was closed for the summer menths and was fully face lifted. The old wooden structure was completely brick faced, upholstered seats were added, enough for the seating of 850. It was at this time the the new name of the BELLARD came into being. With the advent of television the attendance began to drop and after the Parkway building went up in the south end the old theatre was only open for two days a week. Eventually in the 1050's the Ziff family sold the builing to the Y.M.C.A.

They operated it as a place to hold their activities, however as costs rose in the 1970's the building was sold again and demolished in Nov. 1977.



Manne Paramount Pictures Million

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MARY PICKFORD

MISTRESS NELL

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HISTORIC AND ROMANTIC DRAMA

GEORGE C. HAZELTON, JR. .

IN MOTION PICTURES

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THE FAMOUS ROMANCE OF THE GALLANT DAYS OF KNIGHTHOOD, A DRAMA OF HEARTS AND SWORDS

MISTRESS NELL IN THE DISGUISE OF A CAVALIF

BETWEEN TWO FIRES

MISTRESS NELL ONCE MORE PROVES HERSELF A TRUE FRIEND TO THE KING

RESS NELL PREVENTS A QUARRE

B: BARNIE: Projectionist. BENJAMIN: tickets.

E: ETTA: Pianist.

L: LILLIAN: Manager.

L: LOUIS: Asst.projectionist.;; show bill delivery.

A: ANN: Mother : Cashier.

R: ROSLYN: Tickets :cashier.

D: DAVID: Show bill delivery.

The TALKIES replaced the silent film.

PRIVE IN SOLD DEC.I. 1971.

CROWN 1913: BUTLER BROTHERS OF CHICAGO.

1914- 1926. Frank Hanes.

1916; THE REGENT: owner J.M. ABBOT.

1921; ZIFF family.

1927: THE NEW REGENT.

THE BELLARD.

1950: Bellard sold to Y.M.C.A.

CRYSTAL BEACH THEATRE. MUSTANG DRIVE IN: ROSE HILL.

CRYSTAL BEACH THEATRE::: built 1948.

Operators; MONTIE LEVIS: BARNEY ZIFF: DAVID & LOUIS ZIFF Demolished by gas explotion.