

1. THE FIRST BBCS SHOP

16 Market Street. Opened in 1862 under the management of James Wray, but not for long! The society quickly expanded and moved to the top of Market Street in 1863. The building survived until around 1970.

2. FURNITURE DEPARTMENT

23 Market Street. The furniture department opened in 1920 and was re-developed in the mid-1970s to become the drapery and fashion department, selling a variety of goods to loyal customers.

3. LIBRARY

26 Wellington Street. The Co-op library operated here from 1935-1971 for educational use by its members. The Co-op pram department took over the premises between 1976-1986.



4. CO-OP OFFICES

32 Wellington Street. The Co-op used this building for office space between 1940 and 1978.

5. WELLINGTON HOUSE

36 Wellington Street. This listed building was the administrative centre and known as Central Offices. It also housed the Arcadian Hall, the jewellery, butchery, banking, drapery, grocery departments, share office and the management boardroom. The building was extended along Wellington Street in the late 1930s. The Co-op remained there until all departments transferred to the new Living store in the Alhambra Centre which opened in 1991.



6. ARCADIAN RESTAURANT

72 Market Street. Many people have special memories of time spent in the Arcadian Restaurant. Opened in 1911, the building is now grade II listed.

7. ISLAND CORNER

Wellington Street. Here you could find the drapery department including ladies and gents clothing, millinery (hats), mantles (a type of indoor cloak worn by women in the 19th Century) and needlework. The building replaced a former chapel which had been used by BBCS as a warehouse until demolition in 1886. In 1982 the building became Co-op Homecentre and displayed an array of furniture items.

8. WALLPAPER DEPARTMENT

27 New Street. From 1943 until 1970 people bought their wallpaper and decorating materials here. The nursery department took over between 1970-1975.

9. FORMER CO-OP STORES

34-40 Cheapside. The BBCS shops on Cheapside between Albert Street East and the junction with New Street and Sheffield Road included a dispensing chemist and butchery. The site was cleared around 1970 during the redevelopment of the Cheapside area and the departments moved to Market Street.



Hope you've enjoyed your journey!

