

Wainhouse Tower

Calderdale College and below
H.B.O.S.



A.F.C. Halifax above

Eureka

This photograph is a panoramic of Halifax from Beacon Hill

The Piece Hall

Halifax Town Hall And Northgate House

Dean Clough behind the Burdock Way
Flyover



Halifax Railway
Station

Square Chapel

Halifax Parish Church

Halifax is a large market town within the Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale, in West Yorkshire, England, with a population of 82,056 in the 2001 Census. It is well known as a centre of England’s woollen manufacture from the 15th century onward, originally dealing through the Halifax Piece Hall. Internationally famous for its Mackintosh chocolate and toffee now owned by Nestle, the Halifax Building Society and Shibden Hall.

What’s in a name

The name *Halifax* is said to be a corruption of the Old English words for *Holy* and *Face*, part of the local legend that the head of John the Baptist was buried here after his execution. The legend is almost certainly medieval rather than ancient, though the town’s coat of arms still carries an image of the saint. (The oldest written mentions of the town have the spelling *Haliflax*, apparently meaning “holy flax (field)”, the second “l” having been subsequently lost by dissimilation. An alternative explanation for the name of the town could come from a corruption of the Old English/Old Norse words Hay and Ley for ‘hay’ and ‘field’ respectively and flax. Anecdotal evidence for this alternative and plausible explanation can be seen in the presence of Hayley Hill, the nearby hamlet of Healey (another corruption). The fact that the surnames Hayley/Haley which are derived from Hay and Ley and are most abundant around the Halifax environs, also gives credibility for this explanation.

Early history

Halifax Parish Church, parts of which go back to the 12th century, has always been dedicated to St John the Baptist. The church’s first organist, in 1765, was William Herschel, who went on to discover the planet Uranus.The coat of arms of Halifax include the chequers from the original coat of arms of the Earls Warenne, who held the town during Norman times. Halifax was also notorious for the ‘Halifax Gibbet’, an early form of the guillotine used to execute criminals by decapitation, it was last used in 1650. A replica of the gibbet has been erected on the original site in Gibbet Street. The original gibbet blade is on display at Bankfield Museum, Halifax. Punishment in Halifax was notoriously harsh, as remembered in the *Beggar’s Litany* by John Taylor (1580–1654), a prayer whose text included “*From Hull, from Halifax, from Hell, ‘tis thus, From all these three, Good Lord deliver us.*”. Daniel Defoe was also a onetime famous resident of Halifax.

More recently

Halifax has given its name to a bank, Halifax plc which started as a building society in the town. Nowadays Halifax is a trading name of Bank of Scotland plc, as part of the HBOS Group. Halifax is a twin town with Aachen in Germany. The A58 has a stretch called Aachen Way, with a plaque on the town-bound side of the road. Halifax has benefited from Single Regeneration Budget, European URBAN II and the Home Office’s Community Cohesion Fund money through Action Halifax who have a vision for “a

prosperous, vibrant and safe centre where all sections of the community can access opportunities to enhance their quality of life.”

Governance

Halifax was incorporated as a municipal borough in 1848 under the Municipal Corporations Act 1835, and with the passing of the Local Government Act 1888 became a County Borough in 1889. Since 1974, Halifax has been the administrative centre of the Metropolitan District of Calderdale, part of the metropolitan county of West Yorkshire.

North Halifax is noted for its local support of the far-right British National Party; the suburb of Mixenden became the first area in West Yorkshire to popularly vote in a BNP councillor, with Illingworth soon to follow.

Geography

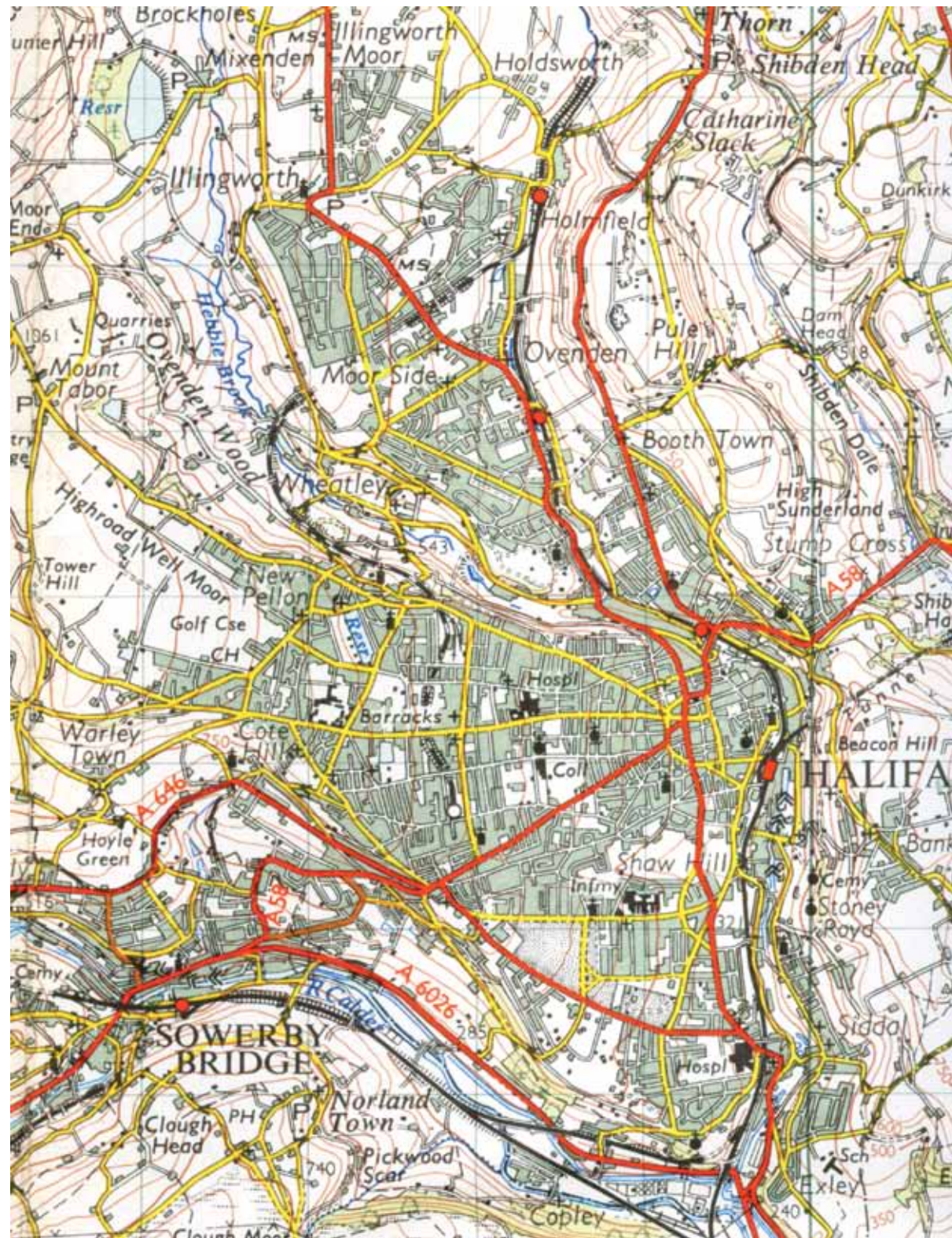
Topographically, Halifax is located in the south-eastern corner of the moorland region called the South Pennines. Halifax is situated about 4 miles (6.4 km) from the M62 motorway close to Bradford, Huddersfield and Rochdale. The Tees-Exe line passes through the A641 road, which links nearby Brighouse with Bradford and Huddersfield, The town lies 65 miles (105 km) from Kingston upon Hull and Liverpool, and about 200 miles (320 km) from the cities of London, Edinburgh, Belfast, Dublin and Cardiff as the crow flies. The major waterway is the River Calder.

Demographics

As of 2004, census Calderdale had a population of 192,405, of which 82,500 live in Halifax. The main ethnic group in Halifax is Caucasian (87%), followed by Pakistani (10%). Over 90% of people aged 16–74 were employed, mostly full-time. 64% of residents had qualifications. Halifax is home to a large South Asian community mainly of Pakistani Muslims from the Kashmir region. The majority of the community lives in the west central Halifax region of the town, which was previously home to immigrant Irish communities who have since moved to the outer suburbs. North Halifax, in contrast to west central Halifax’s ethnic diversity, consists mostly of white, indigenous Protestant residents. In the 2001 census, 5% stated they were Muslim, 16.3% of no religion, and 63.8% of Christian background. 12.8% did not disclose their religion. The population density of Halifax is 530/km².

Economy

As well as the significance of the Halifax Building Society (which merged with the Bank of Scotland in 2001) and has merged into the Lloyds TSB group in 2008-2009. The town has associations with confectionery. John Mackintosh and his wife, Violet, opened a toffee shop in King Cross Lane in 1890. Violet formulated the toffee’s recipe. John became known as *The Toffee King*. A factory was opened on Queens Road in



a 1954 map of Halifax no
copyright required

1898. A new factory at Albion Mill, at the current site near the railway station, opened in 1909. John died in 1920, and his son Harold not only continued the business but took it to the present size and range of confectionery it has today. Their famous brands, including *Rolo*, *Toffee Crisp* and *Quality Street* of chocolate and confectionery are not just popular in the UK, but around the world including the USA. It was merged with Rowntree in 1969, which was then bought by Nestlé in 1988.

Halifax was a busy heavy industrial town dealing in and producing wool, carpets, machine tools, and beer. The Crossley family began carpet manufacture in modest premises at Dean Clough, on the banks of the Hebble Brook. The family was philanthropic and Joseph and Sir Francis Crossley built and endowed Almshouses for their workers, which exist to this day and are run by volunteer trustees.

ransport

Main article: Halifax railway station, Most of the bus services in Halifax operate from the town’s bus station. Unlike many other bus stations, Halifax is noted for having much character, with many listed buildings being incorporated on the site.

First Calderdale & Huddersfield operate most of the town’s services, while Arriva Yorkshire operate services that link Halifax with other West Yorkshire towns and cities of Dewsbury and Wakefield. First, operate bus services from Halifax to the town of Huddersfield and the nearby cities of Bradford and Leeds. First also run services into other counties, Rochdale in Greater Manchester (528 via Ripponden and 590 via Todmorden) and Burnley in Lancashire.

Other bus operators in the town include T.J. Walsh (also known as The Halifax Bus Company) and Halifax Joint Committee which use the livery of the old Halifax Corporation buses, used on the town’s buses until 1974.

Halifax railway station is on the Caldervale Line, with links to Manchester Victoria, York via Bradford and Leeds, Blackpool North and via Brighouse to Huddersfield and Wakefield Westgate. All services are operated by Northern Rail. Many services are subsidised by the local-government public transport coordinator, MetroTrain. Passenger representation is organized by the local users’ group, the Halifax and District Rail Action Group (HADRAG).

The railway leading from Halifax due north towards Keighley (and thus towards Skipton, Morecambe and Carlisle) with a further branch to Bradford via Queensbury saw its last through services in May 1955, although parts of the route, which was extremely heavily engineered with long tunnels and high, spectacular, viaducts, have now been repaired and revived by Sustrans as a walking and cycle route. The transportation in Halifax is managed by the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.

Education

Halifax is home to two selective state schools, which are the co-educational North Halifax Grammar School in Illingworthand Crossley Heath Grammar School, near Skircoat Green. Both schools achieve excellent G.C.S.E. and A-level results with both schools achieving a large proportion of A* to C grades at GCSE level. In 2005, the Crossley Heath School was the highest ranking co-educational school in the North of England.

The Crossley Heath School was formed when Heath Grammar School, an all boys’ school given its charter by Elizabeth I of England, and The Crossley and Porter School, a mixed school founded with his brothers by Sir Francis Crossley, 1st Baronet which started as an orphanage, were combined in 1985. There are other schools in the area, including the Holy Trinity Church of England Senior School and St Catherine’s Catholic High School, both of which are located in Holmfield. In January 2006 Holy Trinity was designated a Specialist College for Business and Enterprise, whilst St Catherine’s, was designated a Specialist Technology College. Calderdale College is the local further education college on Francis Street, just off King Cross Road, to the west of the town. In December 2006 it was announced that Calderdale College, in partnership with Leeds Metropolitan University.

Culture

Laying up of 1981 stand of Regimental Colours of the 1st Battalion Duke of Wellington’s Regiment

The 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Regiment (Duke of Wellington’s) formerly the Duke of Wellington’s Regiment (West Riding) Halifax Area Headquarters is based at Wellesley Park on the junction of Gibbet Street and Spring Hall Road, in the former Wellesley Barracks Museum and Education Centre building. The Regimental Museum has been re-located within the Bankfield House Textile Museum on Haley Hill. The former Barracks was converted into an educational school in 2005.

Former Regimental Colours of the ‘Duke’s’ are laid up in the Halifax Parish Church. The 1981 set of colours, were taken out of service in 2002. They were marched through the town from the town hall to the parish church accompanied by two escorts of 40 troops, the Regimental Drums and the Heavy Cavalry and Cambrai Band on Sunday 31 March 2007. The troops were then inspected by The Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Dr Ingrid Roscoe BA, PhD, FSA and the Mayor of Halifax Cllr Colin Stout making a total of eight stands of colours within the Regimental Chapel. The Regiment was presented with the ‘Freedom of Halifax’ on 18 June 1945.

Eureka! The Museum for Children was inspired and opened by Prince Charles in the summer of 1992 and is located in part of the railway station. Once the home of the diarist Anne Lister, Shibden Hall is located just outside Halifax in the neighbouring Shibden Valley. Dean Clough, a refurbished worsted spinning mill, is the home of Barrie Rutter’s Northern BroadSides Theatre Company

and the IOU theatre company as well as providing space for eight art galleries.

Halifax, and in particular the Victoria Theatre (originally the Victoria Hall) is home to the oldest continually running amateur choral society in the country and possibly the world. Halifax Choral Society was founded in 1817 and has an unbroken record of performances. The Choral Society has a strong rivalry with the equally eminent nearby Huddersfield Choral Society. The Victoria Theatre contains a large concert organ built by William Hill & Sons that was installed in 1901. During the 1960s, when the hall was converted into the theatre, The organ was re-located to the back of the stage. The original console was replaced with a Rushworth and Dreaper unit, which consists of three manuals and a 31 note pedal board. A complete rewiring of the organ to add a second touch facility and a hydraulic lift was done, so it could be lowered and stored under the stage. The organ was rarely used, being played for a few orchestras and the choral society’s Messiah and is currently in a state of disrepair and unusable.

There is plenty to occupy lovers of amateur theatre. Halifax Thespians and the Actors’ Workshop present plays of all kinds, and musical theatre is represented by Halifax Amateur Operatic Society, Halifax Light Opera Society, Halifax Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and All Souls Amateur Operatic Society. Halifax YMCA Pantomime Society presents its annual show in late January each year. Young people interested in drama are catered for by Halifax AOS and Halifax LOS, which each have a junior section, and another group, Stagedoor Theatre Co, specialises in dramatic activities and performances by children and young people. The Halifax & District Organists’ Association, is one of the oldest organists’ fellowships in the country.

As well as conventional cultural attractions, the Calderdale area has also become a centre for folk and traditional music. The Traditions Festival, held at the Halifax Piece Hall in the town centre, is a celebration of traditional music and dance from around the world, whilst the Rushbearing, held in Sowerby Bridge and the surrounding villages, is a traditional festival which was restarted to celebrate the Queen’s Silver Jubilee and attracts Morris dancers from all around the country. The Square Chapel Centre for the Arts offers music, dance, plays, comedy as well as community events such as tea dances. The Victoria Theatre, opened in 1901 and seating 1,568 people, or 1,860 for a standing concert, hosts a variety of performances.

Halifax town centre has a busy night life with lots of clubs and bars. To help with those who become vulnerable whilst enjoying and using Halifax’s night life, Street Angels was launched in November 2005. Street Angels patrol the town centre on Fridays and Saturdays between 9 p.m. and 3 a.m.. In the first year police report violent crime has fallen by 42%. Street Angels work in partnership with St. John Ambulance,

Nightlife Marshals, Police Community Support Officers, Police and door staff as well as the Halifax Ambassadors who patrol in the daytLandmarks

Halifax Piece Hall

- Piece Hall, Halifax is the site of the cloth hall which was where the trading of the woollen cloth pieces was done. Opened on (1 January 1779), it was only open for business for two hours on a Saturday morning, and contained 315 merchant trading rooms. After the mechanisation of the cloth industry, the Piece Hall was and continues to be used as a public market. The former Calderdale Industrial Museum (now closed) was housed within the Piece Hall.
- The Town Hall was designed by Charles Barry, who also built the Houses of Parliament, in 1863.
- Wainhouse Tower, which dates from 1871, is an elaborate factory chimney or folly, built for a dye house that was never used. It was designed by Isaac Booth, and is now capped with an observation platform reached by an interior spiral staircase.

Sport

The town has relatively successful sport clubs. Its rugby league club, Halifax RLFC (formerly the “Blue Sox”), plays in League One, and the town’s football team, F.C. Halifax Town, currently plays in the Northern Premier League Division One North after twice being relegated from League Two. Both teams share The Shay football ground, which is the largest ground used by a non-league football club in England. In the 1960s Halifax Town played Millwall in a Fourth Division match that had the lowest attendance ever recorded for a professional match in England.

Motorcycle speedway racing has been staged at two venues in Halifax. In the pioneering days of 1928–1930 a track operated at Thrum Hall. A Halifax team took part in the English Dirt Track League of 1929. Speedway returned to Halifax at The Shay Stadium in 1949 and operated until 1951. The team operated as the Halifax Nomads in 1948 racing three away fixtures. The Halifax Dukes, the name they took once The Shay was opened, operated in the National League Third Division in 1949 before moving up to the Second Division in 1950. Riders including Arthur Forrest, moved on to Bradford. The Dukes re-emerged in 1965 as founder members of the British League and operated there for many years before the team moved en bloc to Odsal Stadium, Bradford. The steeply banked bends of the track at The Shay have been buried under stands at either end when the spectator facilities were squared off.



Religious buildings

The Assembly Rooms and Trinity Church in Halifax from *A Complete History of the County of York* by Thomas Allen (1828–30)

The 15th century parish church dedicated to St. John the Baptist did not achieve cathedral status when a new diocese was being considered for the West Riding (Wakefield Parish Church became the cathedral in 1888 and was extensively altered and enlarged). There is a collection of rare Commonwealth white glass as well as a series of Victorian windows. Another feature is the complete array of Jacobean box pews. The pair of Gothic organ cases by John Oldrid Scott now house the four-manual instrument by Harrison & Harrison. The belfry holds fourteen bells and an Angelus. The Serbian Orthodox Church dedicated to St. John the Baptist, in the Boothtown area, formerly the Mount Carmel Methodist Chapel, was acquired in 1956 and after extensive refurbishment was opened in the early part of the 1960s by the towns Serbian community.

The currently mothballed mid-victorian All Souls’ Church by Sir George Gilbert Scott standing part way up Haley Hill to the north of the main town centre is now vested in the Historic Churches Preservation Trust. Its lofty 236-foot (72 m) spire and white magnesian limestone exterior stand as a very personal statement in 13th century French style of the mill owner Colonel Sir Edward Akroyd, who paid solely for its construction as the centre-piece of a purpose-built model village (“Akroydon”). All Souls’ boasts an unusually complete sequence of windows by the leading artists of the 1850s, including William Wailes, John Hardman and Clayton & Bell. The large organ by Forster & Andrews inserted in 1868, ten years after the building was completed, is currently unplayable and many of its surviving parts are in storage awaiting restoration. The tower houses a ring of eight bells.

Other churches include the Georgian Holy Trinity Church (now converted to office use) and the late neo-Gothic (1911) St. Paul’s, King Cross, by Sir Charles Nicholson. St Paul’s is notable not only for its fine acoustics but also for an unusual and highly colourful west window, specified by Nicholson, showing the apocalyptic vision of the Holy City descending upon the smoky mills and railway viaducts of Halifax as it was before the First World War.

The spire of the Square Church, not far from the parish church at the bottom of the town, paid for by the carpet manufacturing Crossley family, is all that remains of the Gothic Congregational church built by Joseph James in 1856–58 as a rival design to All Souls’, Haley Hill. The building was closed in 1969 and arsonists caused severe damage to the building two years later leading to its partial demolition. The rather comic story of the rival spires runs that the two buildings’ towers were nearing completion simultaneously;

the architects were ordered to stop work within a few feet of the top of the spires to see who would finish first. After some time, the Crossleys lost patience and finished their spire at 235-foot (72 m), prompting the immediate completion of the rival building one foot higher. The neighbouring and earlier (Georgian) Square Chapel (1772) survived a hundred years of use as a church hall and Sunday School for the larger church.

The Parish Church of Halifax, West Yorkshire, England, dedicated to St John the Baptist.

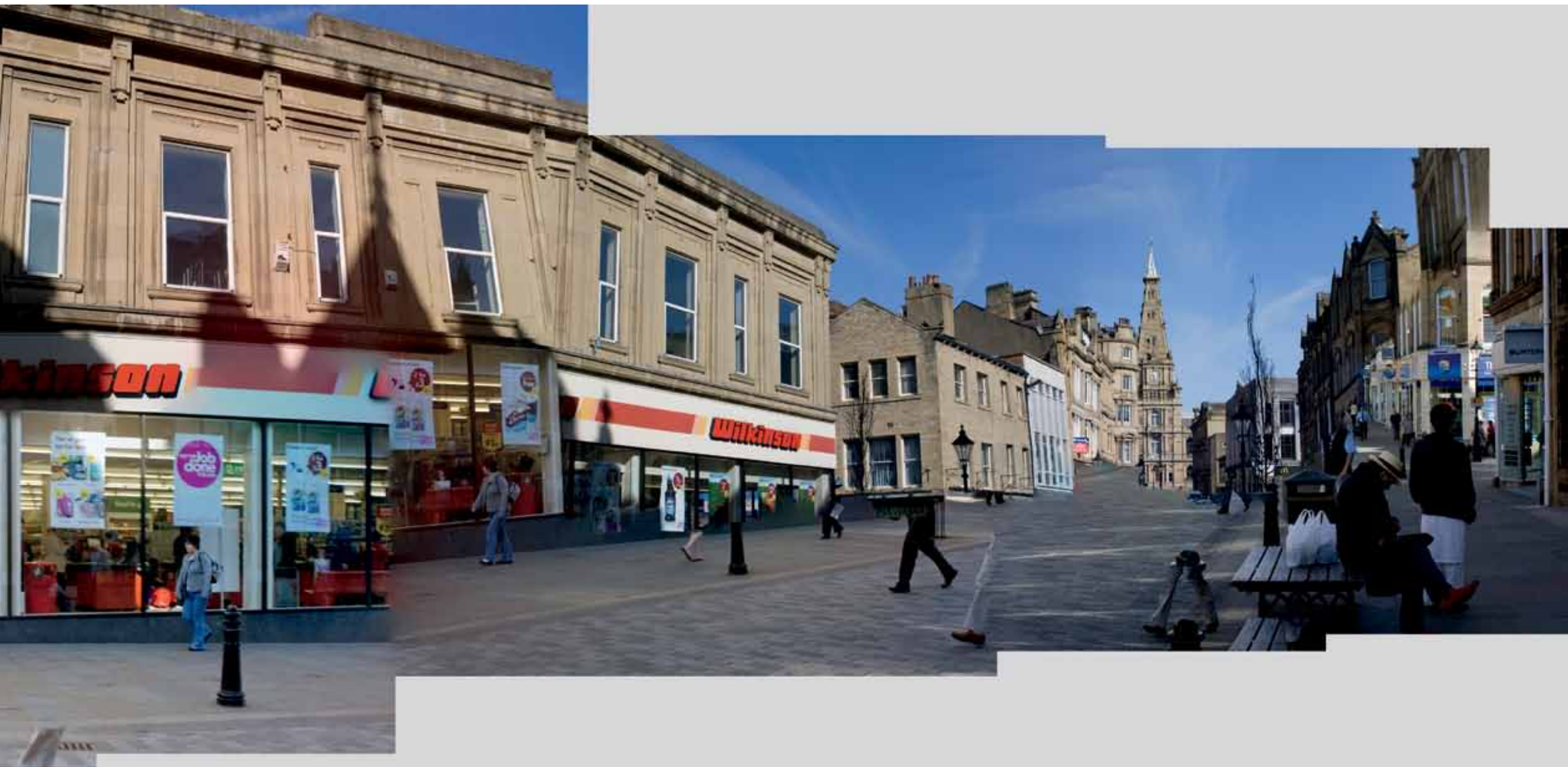




Both images are looking along Commerical Street Halifax:
on the right we have the Victoria Theatre in the background

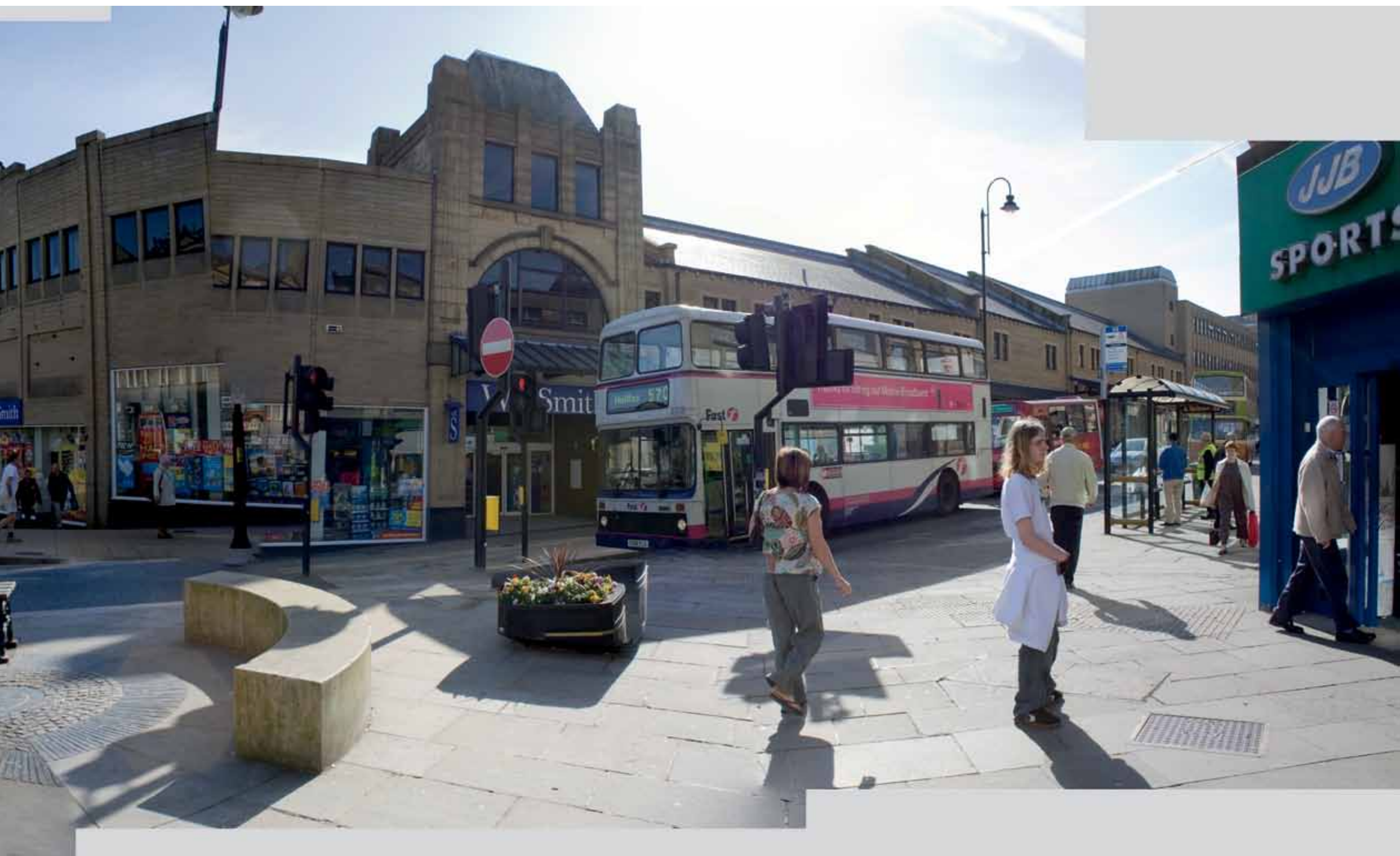


A view of the precinct in Halifax from the Abbey to the Town Hall





A view of the Woolshops Development







The Parish Church of Halifax, West Yorkshire, England, dedicated to St John the Baptist.

A brief history

A spurious legend has it that this church was built on the site where the head of John the Baptist was buried.

There has certainly been a church at Halifax for about 900 years. The present church, completed by about 1438, comprises nave, chancel and full-length aisles, and is thought to be the third church on this site, but it includes stonework from earlier periods. There are a few carved chevron stones, which date from before 1150, and several 12th Century tomb-covers in the porch. Windows of the Early English style in the north wall are replacements of originals dating from the 14th Century. A portion of this north wall is much earlier, and may have originally been part of the Norman church; it has sometimes been claimed this was the south wall of an older church.

After the completion of the present nave and chancel, several additions were made. The tower was erected between 1449 and 1482; and the Rokeby and Holdsworth Chapels - originally chantry chapels - were completed by about 1535.

Jacobean box pews are a prominent feature of the Parish Church, and most of those in the nave date from 1633-5. They bear some similarity to those at Bolton Percy, and the names of the carpenters involved are known. A pew in the centre aisle bears the remains of a memorial brass to John Waterhouse, who died in 1539/40. The carved arms of Richard Sunderland of High Sunderland, who died in 1634, are attached to another pew. Several ancient pew nameplates may be seen attached to a board on the inner north wall of the tower, the oldest dates to 1615 and reads "This stall made at the cost of Robert Fisher of Halifax."

A small portion of Medieval stained-glass survives in the upper westernmost clerestory window, which was removed from other windows in the mid 19th Century. The Puritans who were prominent in the town in the 17th century, thought stained glass with its 'images' was an abomination. During the Commonwealth (1649-1660) many plain-glass leaded windows of a unique design were installed, paid for by Mrs Dorothy Waterhouse. Many of these were later replaced by Victorian stained glass, but those which survived in 1958 were carefully rebuilt. At that date there were three of these on each side of the chancel, but now there are five on the south side and only one on the north. The large west window in the tower is a late 19th Century reconstruction of a Commonwealth window dating from 1657, but contains no original work. The great east window of the church depicts the last hours of Our Lord, and was completed in 1854. It is the work of George Hedgeland (1825-98), who exhibited stained glass at the Great Exhibition of 1851. The remaining glass in the Parish Church dates also from the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

Features

- The Font Cover is a fine feature surviving from the Medieval period, and is acknowledged to be one of the finest in England. The stone font bowl may also date from the fifteenth century, or earlier. Before 1879 traces of paint could be seen on both font and cover, and it was once most ornately gilded. The cover was originally intended to prevent people from stealing the baptismal water kept in the font, which was supposed to have curative powers.
- The wooden sedilia date in the sanctuary dates from 15th Century, and was restored in 1879. It contains three fine misericords, and was possibly brought here from some nearby abbey - such as Kirkstall - after Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries.
- Six other 15th century misericords - including a "green man" are located under the chancel's return stalls; whilst not so fine as those of the sedilia, they are most interesting.
- Very fine late 17th Century altar rails, with a fine double-spiral carving. The altar was first railed-in by 1665, but "banisters in the choir" are mentioned in 1671, and "twisted banisters" in 1698.
- A wonderful series of painted ceiling panels - representing the heraldry of the vicars and famous families of Halifax Parish. These were originally painted by John Aked and James Hoyle, and were put in place between about 1695 and 1703, but were repainted in the 1820s, and cleaned after World War II.
- Two Royal Coats of Arms of Queen Anne, dating from 1705. They were carved by the same John Aked, and details as to their cost survives.
- "Old Tristram" stands watch near the entrance. A life-size figure holding the Parish Alms box, he was carved in wood by John Aked about 1701. It is believed the carving represents a real person, who is said to have begged in the church precincts. There are very few figures of this type in the whole of Britain.
- The Bishop Ferrar Memorial dating from 1847 is a feature of the western wall of the south aisle. From Halifax Parish, Bishop Ferrar of St David's was earlier the last prior of Nostell Priory. He was burnt at the stake at Carmarthen in 1555. The sculpture is by Branwell Bronte's great friend Joseph Bentley Leyland.
- A painted bust of Dr. John Favour, vicar 1593-1624 is adjacent to the Ferrar Monument. He was a celebrated Physician and Lawyer too; and was the



founder of Heath School, Halifax.

- The Wellington Chapel. Halifax was for long the home of the 33rd Regiment of Foot, which merged with 76th becoming the Duke of Wellington's Regiment; it is now part of the Yorkshire Regiment. In 1951 the church's south choir aisle was adopted by the Regiment as its chapel. Among the Regimental Colours displayed are those carried at Waterloo and those borne during the Crimean and Abyssinian campaigns.
- A pulpit on wheels! This was given in 1879 in memory of Archdeacon Charles Musgrave (vicar 1827-75), by members of his family.
- The recently rediscovered tombstone of Anne Lister of Shibden Hall (1791-1840), a noted local diarist, who died in the Caucasus region of Georgia. The stone is damaged and is currently in the Rokeby Chapel.
- On the west wall near the tower is a list of former rectors and vicars. The most famous were Hubert Walter who later became Archbishop of Canterbury, and William Rokeby who became Archbishop of Dublin.

In 1878 and 1879 a great internal restoration of the church took place, under the leadership of Vicar Francis Pigou (1875-88). This involved the removal of obtrusive galleries, and plaster from the internal walls.

A more recent reordering scheme took place in 1983, when pews at the east end of the nave were removed, and a dais installed for the nave altar. At the Millennium after an Appeal, Victorian pews were removed from the west end of the church, to provide an open and attractive reception area, with adjacent fitted kitchen.

Outside the church - have a look at the gargoyles. The one nearest to you to the left of the porch represents the man who played the bagpipes on the gibbet before the condemned man laid down his head for the last time. Also, have a look at the tombstone of John Logan. This is to the right as you leave the south door, at the foot of the wall beneath the westernmost window of the south aisle, and below the sundial. After reading the inscription you may well feel that it should end ... "Respect the soldier's wives."



Organ

A very fine organ, originally dating to 1766, originally the work of John Snetzler. Enlarged several times in the 19th Century, it was completely rebuilt in 1928 by Harrison and Harrison of Durham. Much of the Snetzler work remains internally. Simon Lindley of Leeds Parish Church describes this instrument as “the Rolls Royce of organs.”

A specification of the organ can be found on the National Pipe Organ Register.

List of organists

- William Herschel 1766
- Thomas Stopford 1766 - 1819
- John Houldsworth 1819 - 1834
- Robert Sharp 1835 - 1838
- Joseph Henry Frobisher 1838 - 1862
- H. E. Moore 1862 - 1868
- Dr John Varley-Roberts 1868 - 1882
- Fred Bentley 1882 - 1883
- T. T. Liddle 1883 - 1884
- W. H. Garland 1884 - 1897
- George Milligan 1897
- F. de G. English 1897 - 1911
- Joseph Soar 1911 - 1915
- F. de G. English 1915 - 1924
- Dr T. E. Pearson 1924 - 1929
- Dr R. Justin Baker 1929 - 1937
- Kenneth F. Malcolmson 1937 - 1939 (afterwards organist of Newcastle Cathedral)
- Vernon Rhodes 1939 - 1941
- Shackleton Pollard 1941 - 1963
- Robert Smith 1963 - 1965
- Neil Wade 1965 - 1968
- Cyril Baker 1968 - 1970
- Philip C. Tordoff 1971 - ????







Sir **Frederick William Herschel**, FRS KH, *German Friedrich Wilhelm Herschel*, (15 November 1738 – 25 August 1822) was a German-born British astronomer and composer who became famous for discovering Uranus. He also discovered infrared radiation and made many other discoveries in astronomy.

Early life and musical activities

He was born **Friedrich Wilhelm Herschel** in Hanover, Electorate of Hanover, now Lower Saxony, Germany, as one of ten children (of whom four died very young). His father was Isaac Herschel (1707-1768), an oboist of the Hanover Military Band. In 1755 the Hanoverian Guards regiment, in whose band William and his brother Jacob were engaged as oboists, was ordered to England. At the time, the crowns of England and Hannover were united under George II. This brief visit made an impression, and the next year the brothers resigned from the Guards band and moved to London. William learned English quickly and, at age nineteen, he changed his name to **Frederick William Herschel**.

He played the cello besides the oboe and, later, the organ. During a concert in 1767, Herschel showed off his versatility by performing an oboe concerto, violin concerto and harpsichord sonata. He composed numerous musical works, including 24 symphonies and many concertos, as well as some church music. Apart from a few oboe concertos, his music is largely forgotten today.

Herschel moved to Sunderland in 1761 when Charles Avison immediately engaged him as first violin and soloist for his Newcastle orchestra, where he played for one season. In ‘Sunderland in the County of Durham April 20 1761’ he wrote his symphony no. 8 in C minor. He was head of the Durham Militia band 1760-61 and visited the home of Sir Ralph Milbanke at Halnaby Hall in 1760, where he wrote two symphonies, as well as giving performances himself.

After Newcastle he moved to Leeds and Halifax where he was organist at St John the Baptist church. He became organist of the Octagon Chapel, Bath, in which town he was also Director of Public Concerts. His sister Caroline came to England in 1772 and lived with him there in New King Street. His brothers Dietrich, Alexander and Jacob (1734-1792) also appeared as musicians of Bath. In 1780, Herschel was appointed director of the Bath orchestra, with his sister often appearing as sop

| Moons discovered: 4 | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Oberon | 11 January 1787 |
| Titania | 11 January 1787 |
| Enceladus | 28 August 1789 |
| Mimas | 17 September 1789 |

Astronomy

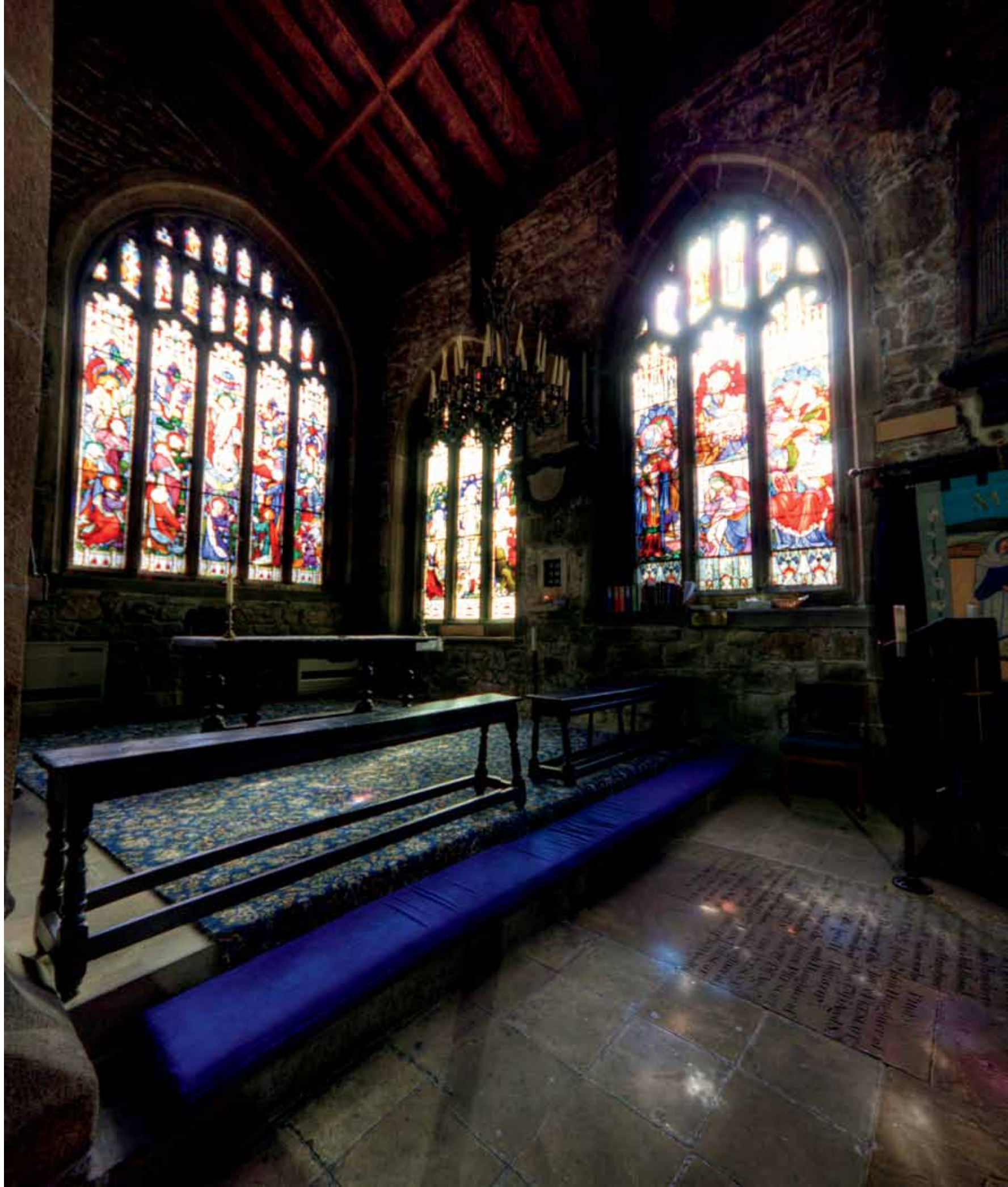
previous two pages are details of the chancel chapel with the Duke of Wellingtons colours. The following two photographs are showing details of the pews and the dappled sunlight falling across the chapel walls and flagged floor.

Discoverer of Uranus 13 March 1781

Herschel's music led him to an interest in mathematics, and thence to astronomy. This interest grew stronger after 1773, and he built some telescopes and made the acquaintance of Nevil Maskelyne. In the spring of 1781, William Herschel discovered the planet Uranus, using a homemade telescope in the back garden of his house in New King Street, in Bath. He called the new planet the 'Georgian star' after King George III, which also brought him favour; the name didn't stick, however: in France, where reference to the British king was to be avoided if possible, the planet was known as 'Herschel' until the name 'Uranus' was universally adopted. The same year, Herschel was awarded the Copley Medal and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1782, he was appointed "The King's Astronomer" and he and his sister subsequently moved to Datchet (then in Buckinghamshire but now in Berkshire) on 1 August 1782. He continued his work as a telescope maker, selling a number of them to other astronomers.

Work with his sister Caroline

In 1783 he gave Caroline a telescope and she began to make astronomical discoveries in her own right, particularly comets. She discovered eight comets, three nebulae and, at her brother's suggestion, updated & corrected Flamsteed's work detailing the position of stars. This was published as the British Catalogue of Stars. She was honored by the Royal Astronomical Academy for this work. Caroline also continued to serve as his assistant, often taking notes while he observed at the telescope.



In June 1785, owing to damp conditions, he and Caroline moved to Clay Hall in Old Windsor. Clay Hall (or Clayhall Farm) had been owned by Samuel Foote, father of Topham Foote whose bust by Peter Scheemakers is in Windsor Parish Church. On 3 April 1786, William Herschel moved his family to a new residence on Windsor Road in Slough. He lived the rest of his life in this residence, which came to be known as Observatory House. It is no longer standing, having been demolished in 1963 to make way for a high-rise office building.

On 7 May 1788, he married the widow Mary Pitt (née Baldwin) at St Laurence’s Church, Upton in Slough. His sister Caroline then moved to separate lodgings, but continued to work as his assistant.

Herschel’s telescopes

During the course of his career, he constructed more than four hundred telescopes. The largest and most famous of these was a reflecting telescope with a 40 ft (12 m) focal length and an aperture 49½ inches (126 cm) in diameter. On 28 August 1789, his first night of observation using this instrument, he discovered a new moon of Saturn. A second moon followed within the first month of observation. The 40 ft (12 m) telescope proved very cumbersome, however, and most of his observations were done with a smaller telescope of 20 ft (6.1 m) focal length. Herschel discovered that unfilled telescope apertures can be used to obtain high angular resolution, something which became the essential basis for interferometric imaging in astronomy (in particular Aperture Masking Interferometry and hypertelescopes).

Further discoveries

In his later career, Herschel discovered two moons of Saturn, Mimas and Enceladus; as well as two moons of Uranus, Titania and Oberon. He did not give these moons their names; rather, they were named by his son John in 1847 and 1852, respectively, well after his death.

He worked on creating an extensive catalogue of nebulae. He continued to work on double stars, and was the first to discover that most double stars are not mere optical doubles as had been supposed previously, but are true binary stars, thus providing the first evidence that Newton’s laws of gravitation apply outside the solar system. He also had a part in discovering the ice caps on Mars.

From studying the proper motion of stars, he was the first to realize that the solar system is moving through space, and he determined the approximate direction of that movement. He also studied the structure of the Milky Way and concluded that it was in the shape of a disk.

He also coined the word “asteroid”, meaning *star-like* (from the Greek *asteroeides*, *aster* “star” + *-idos* “form, shape”), in 1802 (shortly after Olbers discovered the second minor

planet, 2 Pallas, in late March of the same year, to describe the star-like appearance of the small moons of the giant planets and of the minor planets; the planets all show discs, by comparison. However, it was not until the 1850s that ‘asteroid’ became a standard term from describing certain minor planets.

As part of his attempts to determine if there was a link between solar activity and the terrestrial climate, Herschel also collected records of the price of wheat as direct meteorological measurements were not available for a sufficient period. He theorised that the price of wheat would be linked to the harvest and hence to the weather over the year. This attempt was unsuccessful due to the lack of previous solar observations against which to compare the wheat prices but similar techniques were used later with success.

Despite his numerous important scientific discoveries, Herschel was not averse to wild speculation. In particular, he believed every planet was inhabited, even the Sun: he believed that the Sun had a cool, solid surface protected from its hot atmosphere by an opaque layer of cloud, and that a race of beings adapted to their strange environment lived there and had enormous heads. He believed the creatures’ heads must be exceptionally large because his calculations showed that under those conditions a normal sized head would effectively explode. The original belief of life-forms inhabiting the Sun came from the sight and movement of sunspots on the surface of the Sun.

Discovery of infrared radiation

February 11th 1800. Herschel was testing filters for the sun so he could observe sun spots. When using a red filter he found there was a lot of heat produced. Herschel discovered infrared radiation by passing sunlight through a prism and holding a thermometer just beyond the red end of the visible spectrum. This thermometer was meant to be a control to measure the ambient air temperature in the room. He was shocked when it showed a higher temperature than the visible spectrum. Further experimentation led to Herschel’s conclusion that there must be an invisible form of light beyond the visible spectrum.

Family and death

William Herschel and Mary had one child, John, born at Observatory House on 7 March 1792. In 1816, William was made a Knight of the Royal Guelphic Order by the Prince Regent entitling him to the prefix ‘Sir’. He helped to found the Astronomical Society of London in 1820, which in 1831 received a royal charter and became the Royal Astronomical Society.

On 25 August 1822, Herschel died at Observatory House, Windsor Road, Slough, and is buried at nearby St Laurence’s Church, Upton. Coincidentally, he died in his 84th year, which is the same number of years which Uranus takes to orbit the Sun.

His son John Herschel also became a famous astronomer. One of William’s brothers, Alexander Herschel, moved permanently to England, near Caroline and John.

Without the discovery of Uranus we might never of had some of our greatest comedy moments!

His sister Caroline returned to Hanover, Germany after the death of her beloved brother. She died on 9 January 1848.

His house at 19 New King Street in Bath, Somerset where he made many telescopes and first observed Uranus, is now home to the Herschel Museum of Astronomy.

Named after Herschel

- Mu Cephei, Two of the largest known stars in the universe, is also known as Herschel’s Garnet Star
- Herschel, a crater on the Moon
- Herschel, a large impact basin on Mars
- The enormous crater Herschel on Saturn’s moon Mimas

- 2000 Herschel, an asteroid
- The William Herschel Telescope on La Palma
- The Herschel Space Observatory, successfully launched by the European Space Agency on May 14th 2009. It will be the largest space telescope of its kind
- Herschel Grammar School, Slough
- Rue Herschel, a street in Paris, France bears his name.
- The Herschel building at Newcastle University, Newcastle, United Kingdom
- Herschel Museum of Astronomy
- Herschel Girls School, Cape Town
- Herschelschule, Hanover, Germany, a grammar school
- Herschel, Saskatchewan, Canada is a small, rural village that is home to the Ancient Echoes Interpretive Centre
- The Herschel Observatory, from the school Universitas in Santos, Brazil.
- The lunar crater C. Herschel, the asteroid 281 Lucretia, and the comet 35P/Herschel-Rigollet are named after his sister Caroline Herschel.
- The lunar crater J. Herschel is named after his son John.
- A public house in Slough is named after him and is quite close to the site of Observatory House. Herschel Arms, 22, Park St, Slough, Berkshire SL1 1PS
- Herschel Astronomical Society who operate the Herschel Memorial Observatory based in Eton, Berkshire.



The **Halifax Gibbet** in the town of Halifax, West Yorkshire, England, was an early guillotine, or decapitating machine.

History

Halifax had held the right to execute criminals since 1280. Although there is early reference to a gibbet, including a report that the first person to be beheaded by it was one John of Dalton in 1286, formal records of victims did not begin until 1541, when the town acquired a fixed machine which used a heavy axe-shaped iron blade dropping from a height of several feet to cut off the head of the condemned criminal.

The Gibbet could be operated by either cutting the rope holding up the blade or by pulling out a pin which prevented it falling. It is reported that if the offender was to be executed for stealing an animal, the end of a rope was fastened to the pin holding the blade in place and tied to the animal, which was then driven off, causing the pin to pull out and the blade to drop. Otherwise, the Bailiff of the Lord of the Manor or his servant cut the rope.

The Gibbet's reputation seems to have been greater than the facts, as between 1541 and 1650, the official records show that only 53 men and women were executed by the Halifax Gibbet. The Gibbet was taken down in 1650 after the execution of Anthony Mitchell and John Wilkinson, perhaps in response to the beheading for treason of King Charles I in 1649, but a replica was erected in 1974 on the original site at Gibbet Street. The original Gibbet blade is on display at Bankfield Museum in Halifax.

Halifax Gibbet Law

The *Halifax Gibbet Law* gave the Lord of the Manor of Halifax the power to try and execute any felon for thefts of the value of 13½ pence and up:

“If a felon be taken within the liberty of Halifax...either hand-habend (caught with the stolen goods in his hand or in the act of stealing), back-berand (caught carrying stolen goods on his back), or confess and (having confessed to the crime), to the value of thirteen pence half-penny, he shall after three markets...be taken to the Gibbet and there have his head cut off from his body.”

Popular accounts

The Halifax Gibbet is referenced in Thomas Deloney's ballad "Thomas, of Reading" (1600), while the reputation of Halifax for strict law enforcement was noted by Daniel Defoe (who gave a detailed description in his *Travels*), by the antiquary William Camden, and by the "Water Poet" John Taylor (who penned the Beggar's Litany *From Hull, from Halifax, from Hell, ... Good Lord deliver us*).





The **Halifax Piece Hall** is a building in the town centre of Halifax, West Yorkshire, England, originally built as a sales centre for woollen handloom weavers. It opened on 1 January 1779, with over 300 separate rooms arranged around a central courtyard. The term *piece* refers to pieces of cloth that were sold. As factories started up in the early nineteenth century the trade in handwoven wool declined and around 1815 the rules were changed to allow the sale of cotton goods.

The piece hall was erected by the manufacturers and is a large quadrangular building of freestone occupying an area of ten thousand square yards with a rustic basement story and two upper stories fronted with two interior colonnades which are spacious walks leading to arched rooms where goods in an unfinished state were deposited and exhibited for sale to the merchants every Saturday from ten to twelve o'clock. This structure which was completed at an expense of 12,000 UKP and opened on 1 January 1779 unites elegance convenience and security. It contains three hundred and fifteen separate rooms and is proof against fire.

The Hall is in a central part of Halifax, next door to the outdoor Woolshops shopping complex, outside the bustling Market Street, and is close by to the Bus and Train Stations.

On the exterior on the Market Street side are a pair of handprints, which, according to folklore, are cursed, as many attempts over the years have failed to eradicate them.

The Piece Hall is now home to specialist shops, an art gallery, the Tourist Information Centre and other organisations.

The 1996 movie, *Brassed Off* featured a scene set and filmed on location at The Piece Hall. In the movie it is the location of the National Brass Band Championships - Yorkshire Area Qualifying Contest.

Also Maestro music, a successful music shop in The Piece Hall, a comedy sketch for BBC3 has recently been filmed.





A child sit's on the steps in the Piece Hall
after falling out with his mother:
quite a dynamic composition

Dean Clough in Halifax, West Yorkshire, England was built 1840–60 for Crossley's Carpets and was the largest carpet factory in the world, (two thirds of a mile long and 1,250,000 square feet (116,000 m²) of floor space). After various changes of use it closed in 1983 but opened again under Sir Ernest Hall and is now seen as a leading example of successful urban regeneration. It hosts about 200 small and large businesses and arts ventures including the local VAT office, RSA Insurance Group, Department for Work and Pensions offices, the Crossley Gallery and several other art galleries, and the **Viaduct Theatre**, home base for the Northern Broadsides theatre company.

Sir Francis Crossley, 1st Baronet, of Halifax (Halifax, 26 October 1817 – 5 January 1872), was a British carpet manufacturer, philanthropist and Liberal Party politician. His father, John Crossley, was a carpet manufacturer at Dean Clough Mills, Halifax and died 17 Jan. 1837, having had by his wife Martha, daughter of Abram Turner of Scout Farm, Yorkshire, a numerous family. Mrs. John Crossley died 26 Nov. 1854. Crossley's older brother, John, was also an MP for Halifax, from 1874 to 1877.

The fifth and youngest son, Francis, was from the earliest age trained to habits of industry. He was sent to school at Halifax, but



while still a schoolboy his pocket money was made dependent on his own work. A loom was set up for him in his father's mill, in which he wrought in the time not spent at school, and thus learnt the value of money. The carpet manufactory at Dean Clough was commenced by John Crossley in a very humble fashion, but it became, under the management of John Crossley, jun., Joseph Crossley, and Francis Crossley, who constituted the firm of J. Crossley & Sons, the largest concern of its kind in the world. Its buildings covered an area of 20 acres (81,000 m²), and the firm gave employment to between five and six thousand persons. Its rapid growth takes its date from the application of steam power and machinery to the production of carpets. These had already been used somewhat extensively in the manufacture of other textile fabrics, and the Crossley firm saw at once the immense advantage that would accrue to them from their use in their own business. They acquired patents and then devised and patented improvements which placed them at once far in advance of the whole trade, and gave them for a length of time the absolute command of a description of carpet which has since been more extensively manufactured than any other. One loom, the patent of which became their property, was found capable of weaving about six times as much as could be produced by the old hand loom. The possession of this loom and the acquisition of other patents compelled the manufacturers of tapestry and Brussels carpets to throw their hand looms aside, and to apply to Messrs. Crossley for licenses to work their patents. Very large sums thus accrued to them from royalties alone. In 1864 the concern was changed into a limited liability company, and with a view to increasing the interest felt by the employees in the working of the business, a portion of the shares in the new company were offered to them under favourable conditions, and were very generally accepted.

Crossley was elected in the liberal interest as M.P. for Halifax, 8 July 1852; he sat for that borough until 1859, when he became the member for the West Riding of Yorkshire. On the division of the riding in 1868 he was returned for the northern division, which he continued to represent to the time of his decease. His generosity was on a princely scale. His first great gift to Halifax consisted in the erection of twenty-one almshouses in 1855, with an endowment which gave six shillings a week to each person. On his return from America in 1855 he announced his intention of presenting the people of Halifax with a park, and on 15 Aug. 1857 this park was opened. It consists of more than 12 acres (49,000 m²) of ground, laid out from designs by Sir Joseph Paxton, and, with a sum of money invested for its maintenance in 1867, cost the donor £41,300.

About 1860, in conjunction with his brothers John and Joseph, he began the erection of an orphan home and school on Skircoat Moor. This was completed at their sole united cost, and endowed by them with a sum of £3,000 a year; it was designed for the maintenance of children who had lost one or both parents, and had accommodation for four hundred. (It was one of the predecessors of Crossley Heath Grammar School established 1985). In 1870 he founded a loan fund of £10,000 for the benefit of deserving tradesmen of Halifax, and in the

same year presented to the London Missionary Society the sum of £20,000, the noblest donation the society had ever received. About the same period he gave £10,000. to the Congregational Pastors' Retiring Fund, and the like sum towards the formation of a fund for the relief of widows of congregational ministers. He was mayor of Halifax in 1849 and 1850, and was created a baronet 23 Jan. 1863. After a long illness he died at Belle Vue, Halifax, 5 Jan. 1872, and was buried in the general cemetery on 12 Jan., when an immense concourse of friends followed his remains to the grave. The will was proved 27 May 1872, when the personalty was sworn under £800,000.

He married, 11 Dec. 1845, Martha Eliza, daughter of Henry Brinton of Kidderminster, by whom he had an only son, Savile Crossley, second baronet, M.P. successively for Lowestoft and for Halifax. He was the author of *Canada and the United States*, a lecture, 1856. Savile was to become a prominent Liberal Unionist politician and was created Baron Somerleyton in 1916.



IN 1822 the firm of Holdsworth was founded by John Holdsworth.

John had been brought up in the family textile business which was moved from Shibden to the Halifax Piece Hall on its completion in 1779. John began in business as a cloth manufacturer on **the site of the present complex of mills**. The business established so long ago by the founder prospered to such an extent that he was joined in partnership by his four sons and it was during their management of the firm in the 1850's that most of the buildings, which are still in use, were erected. The main weaving shed which is 240 yards long, bears the date 1852 and was constructed from stone excavated from the railway cutting which runs alongside the works.

In the mid-1860's the Holdsworth brothers erected new offices, a fine example of Victorian architecture by Sir Charles Barry, the British architect who designed Halifax Town Hall (his last great work) and many other buildings including: Cliveden House, Buckinghamshire, the Houses of Parliament (1852), Pentonville Prison, the Reform Club in Pall Mall, and Trafalgar Square fountains. Barry died in May 1860 before seeing the completed building, and his son Edward Middleton Barry completed the building. By 1885 the company employed about 2,000 people.

At this period in their history, Holdsworths undertook the preparation and manufacture of wool from its raw state, including sorting, carding, combing and spun woollen yarns not only for its own use but also for sale in large quantities on the open market. They produced a vast assortment of goods and almost every individual loom, it was said, turned out its own distinctive speciality. There were worsteds, damasks, drapes, dress goods, serges, velvets, tapestries, uniform cloth, all in addition to speciality cloths for railroads and shipping companies throughout the world.

Thus the traditional market for Holdsworths had been the transport industry and for generations the company has been the market leaders in this field. Today it specialises entirely in the production of seating fabrics for buses, coaches, trains and ferries. It is the principal supplier to British Railways and to the London Transport Authority for their buses and subway, as well as virtually all the Local Authorities and Coach Fleet Operators throughout the United Kingdom.

Exports for an English company are a matter of life and death, and during the 1970's and 80's Holdsworths made a determined drive into Europe and established themselves as the predominant weaver of transport seating fabrics to virtually all the leading bus and coach builders of Europe, from Finland in the North to Spain and Portugal in the South.

Driving further afield, the company set out during the 90's to broaden its horizons across the major economic territories of the world, and established local facilities or agents in

Previous page: Shawlodge and Holdworths
mill to let.
This page: the chimney outside Holdworths
not in use.







the USA, South America, Australasia, Japan, Singapore, The Russian Federation and Turkey. Holdsworth executives constantly visit their clients worldwide.

Within the last few years Holdsworths experienced the most profound change in its history, it entailed the total replacement of all its machinery through a massive investment and re-equipment programme. Old machinery, some dating back to the 1930's and 40's, was replaced by the most up-to-date plant and equipment making it one of the most modern and one of the largest weaving units of its type in the world. Employing over 300 people, spurred the company to new efforts, to develop the North and South American and Australian markets which, thanks to its re-equipment programme, it was able to service. In a very short time Holdsworths had developed its association with leading US, Canadian and Australian companies, market leaders in their field as bus builders, seat manufacturers and suppliers to the transportation industry. The specialist requirements of these firms were carefully studied and analysed and the element of speedy and flexible service received prime consideration.

Daily air shipments of Holdsworth fabric leave the factory. Total shipping time, door to door, is measured in hours rather than weeks or months and there is constant contact via electronic means. The progress of shipments are tracked over the Internet and no matter what the time of day - voice, data and image information is exchanged directly to the desk.

The demands of the transport industry have changed. Bus and coach interiors have become high fashion. Once a range of colour and designs would last for ten years or more, but this is no longer the case and Holdsworths are constantly producing new designs and colours using the most up-to-date CAD systems to suit the highly individual requirements of the world transportation industry.

The skills and expertise of its designers have ensured that Holdsworths were universally recognised as leaders in quality and style. It is significant that the company was a family business, the sixth generation bearing the name,. Surely a unique record in any industry.

In 2000's the industry suffered a slowdown, the management at Holdsworths believed in cutting corners by bringing in cheap yarn, the quality dropped and so did the orders. It has since changed hands twice.

The Mills are now used for storage, with one floor used for an Art Course which is now applying for National Lottery funding. The textile arm is still in business but has transferred its business outside Halifax

A fabulous view with the boiler house on the righthand side and the mill tower over it on the left of the photograph.





The viewpoint
of both
photographs is
only a matter of
a few feet apart





Upstairs on D floor showing the empty shed which was used for storing yarn. the weighing scales on the left are still working



Sir Charles Barry FRS (23 May 1795 – 12 May 1860) was an English architect, best known for his role in the rebuilding of the Palace of Westminster (perhaps better known as the Houses of Parliament) in his home city of London during the mid 19th century, but also responsible for numerous other buildings and gardens.

Training

Born in Bridge Street, Westminster, Barry was educated privately before being apprenticed to a Lambeth surveyor at the age of 15. Upon the death of his father (a stationer), he inherited a sum of money that allowed him to travel extensively around the Mediterranean and Middle-East (1817-20). His travels in Italy exposed him to Renaissance architecture and apparently inspired him to become an architect.

Early career

Gawthorpe Hall is an Elizabethan house situated southeast of the small town of Padiham, in the borough of Burnley, Lancashire, England. It as a pele tower, a strong square structure built in the 14th century as a defence against the invading Scots. Around 1600 a Jacobean mansion was dovetailed around the pele but the true glory of the hall was the 1850 re-design of the house by Sir Charles.

His first major civil commission came in 1824 when he won a competition to design the new Royal Manchester Institution for the promotion of Literature, Science & Arts (now part of the Manchester Art Gallery). Also in north-west England, he designed Buile Hill House in Salford (1825-27) and several churches in Manchester including The Church of All Saints’ Stand, Whitefield and Ringley Church, 1827, partially demolished in 1854. He began designing churches for the church commissioners, and he found out that they preferred designs in Gothic and Greek styles, so he put efforts in building those kinds of churches. In those many church works, the marked preference for Italian architecture, which he acquired during his travels showed itself in various important undertakings of his earlier years. One of the first works by which his abilities became generally known was the 1826 Church of St. Peter, in Brighton, one of the first examples of the Gothic revival in England. Another noted early work was the Travellers Club, in Pall Mall, built in 1832 in the Italianate style.

His church designs also include one in Hove, East Sussex (St Andrew’s in Waterloo Street, Brunswick, 1828). Hurstpierpoint church. Barry’s neglected Welsh Baptist Chapel, on Upper Brook Street in Manchester (and owned by the City Council), is currently open to the elements and at serious risk after its roof was removed in late 2005.

Houses of Parliament

Following the destruction by fire of the existing Houses of Parliament on 16 October 1834, Barry won the commission in 1836 to design the new Palace of Westminster, working with Pugin on the Gothic-influenced building. Work on site began with the laying of a foundation stone on 27 April 1840 by Barry’s wife Sarah. The House of Lords was completed in 1847 and the House of Commons finished in 1852. In the meantime, Barry also served on the learned committee developing plans for the Great Exhibition of 1851. Although Parliament gave Barry a prestigious name in architecture, it near enough finished him off. The building was overdue in its construction and was well over budget making Barry tired and stressed. The brass plaque marking Barry’s tomb in Westminster Abbey shows the parts of the Palace of Westminster Barry had strongest claim to, and this is seen by some as Barry’s cry for recognition from the grave.

Awards and recognition

- Barry was elected Associate of the Royal Academy in 1840, and to full membership in the following year.
- He was recognized by the main artistic bodies of many European countries, and was enrolled as a member of the academies of art in Rome, Saint Petersburg, Brussels and Stockholm.
- Fellow of the Royal Society in 1849.
- Awarded the RIBA Royal Gold Medal in 1850.
- Knighted in 1852.

Sir Charles lived and died at a house, “The Elms”, in Clapham Common North Side, London SW4 (blue plaque), and his ashes were interred in Westminster Abbey.

Major projects

Barry also designed:

- the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (1828)
- Thomas Attree’s villa and the Pepper Pot, Queen’s Park, Brighton (1830)
- the Royal College of Surgeons, London (1834-36)
- the Manchester Athenaeum (1836 – now also part of the Manchester Art Gallery)
- Stand All Saints Church, Whitefield, Manchester.
- the Reform Club, London (1837 – next door to the Travellers)
- King Edward’s School, New Street, Birmingham (1838)
- remodelling of Kingston Lacy, Dorset
- the Trafalgar Square precinct (1840)
- remodelling of Trentham Hall and creation of its Italianate gardens, north Staffordshire (1842)
- remodelling of Highclere Castle, Hampshire (1842)
- remodelling of Harewood House, Yorkshire (1844)
- HM Treasury building Whitehall (1846-47)
- Bridgwater House, London (1846)
- Cliveden House in Buckinghamshire (1849)
- Gardens of Dunrobin Castle near Golspie, Scotland (1850)
- Shrubland Hall gardens, Suffolk (1850)
- Barristers’ chambers at 1 Temple Gardens in Inner Temple
- restoration of Gawthorpe Hall, near Burnley, Lancashire
- Halifax Town Hall, West Yorkshire

The Town Hall in Halifax that was designed by
Sir Charles Barry FRS





Halifax is a brand name of Bank of Scotland, a subsidiary of the Lloyds Banking Group. In the United Kingdom, the Halifax is used as brand for Bank of Scotland branches in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and for savings and mortgages in Scotland. Halifax is the UK's largest provider of residential mortgages and saving accounts. It is named after the town of Halifax, West Yorkshire where it retains its headquarters. Its slogan is "Always giving you extra".

Before 17 September 2007, Halifax was a separate bank. It was previously the UK's largest building society, known as the **Halifax Building Society**. The Halifax Building Society demutualised in 1997 becoming Halifax plc and later merged with the Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland to form HBOS Group. In 2006, the HBOS Group Reorganisation Act 2006 transferred the assets and liabilities of Halifax plc to the Bank of Scotland and Halifax was retained as a separate brand name. On 19 January 2009, Bank of Scotland plc became part of Lloyds Banking Group following its

acquisition of HBOS.

History and Formation

The Halifax was formed in 1853 as **The Halifax Permanent Benefit Building and Investment Society**. The idea was thought up in a meeting room situated above The Old Cock Inn close to the original Building Society building. Like all early building societies, the purpose of the Society was for the mutual benefit of local working people. Investors with surplus cash would invest in the society to receive interest, and borrowers could access loans to fund the purchase of a house.

Unlike many UK building societies which grew large by acquisitions and mergers, the Society choose an organic form of growth, and proceeded to open branches throughout the UK. By 1913, it was the largest building society in the UK. The first office in London opened in 1924; and the first offices in Scotland in 1928.



Halifax Building Society

In 1928, it merged with **Halifax Equitable Building Society**, then the second largest building society and was renamed **Halifax Building Society**. The Society was now five times larger than its nearest rival, with assets of £47 million.

A new Head Office was built at Trinity Road, Halifax in 1973. The distinctive diamond shaped building was used on marketing material during the 1980s and 90s. Underneath the building is a specially constructed deed store which is used to store property deeds for a one off charge of £10. It is

computerised and filled with gas to prevent fire. Its importance has diminished in recent years because property data is now kept on a central database kept by Her Majesty's Land Registry.

Diversification

The Society continued to grow in size throughout the 20th century, remaining the UK's largest building society. The deregulation of the financial services industry in the 1980s saw the passing of the Building Societies Act 1986 which allowed societies greater financial freedoms, and diversification into

other markets. Accordingly the Halifax acquired an estate agent to complement its mortgage business. It also expanded by offering current accounts and credit cards, traditionally services offered by commercial banks.

Demutualisation

The 1986 Act also allowed building societies to demutualise, and become public limited companies instead of mutually owned organisations, owned by the customers who borrowed and saved with the society. Although the Abbey

National demutualised in 1989, the process was not repeated until the late 1990s, when most of the large societies announced demutualisation plans. In 1995, the Halifax announced it was to merge with the Leeds Permanent Building Society and convert to a plc. The Halifax floated on the London Stock Exchange on 2 June 1997. Over 7.5 million customers of the Society became shareholders of the new bank, the largest extension of shareholders in UK history.

Halifax plc

As Halifax plc, the new bank was the fifth largest in the UK in terms of market capitalisation. Further expansion took place with the 1996 acquisition of Clerical Medical Fund Managers, a UK life insurance company. In 1999, the Halifax acquired the Birmingham Midshires Building Society and ComparetheLoan. In 2000, Halifax established Intelligent Finance, a telephone and internet based bank.

Formation of HBOS

In 2001, a wave of consolidation in the UK banking market led Halifax to agree a £10.8 billion merger with the Bank of Scotland. The new group was named Halifax Bank of Scotland (HBOS) with headquarters in Edinburgh, but retaining both Halifax and the Bank of Scotland as brand names. However in Scotland, Halifax branches were amalgamated with the Bank of Scotland, and the Halifax brand is now only used for branding mortgages and savings products. Halifax branches in the rest of the UK use the Bank of Scotland brand for business banking. In 2006, the opposite occurred when the Bank of Scotland (Ireland), HBOS's main retail bank in the Republic of Ireland, announced that it would be rebranding its retail business as Halifax, citing the Irish public's exposure to Halifax advertising on ITV as among the reasons. The Bank of Scotland name was to be retained for business banking.

In 2006, the HBOS Group Reorganisation Act 2006 was passed. The aim of the Act was to simplify the corporate structure of HBOS. The Act was fully implemented on 17 September 2007 and the assets and liabilities of Halifax plc transferred to Bank of Scotland plc. The Halifax brand name was to be retained as a trading style, but it no longer exists as a corporate entity.

Lloyds Banking Group

HBOS was acquired by the Lloyds Banking Group in January 2009. Bank of Scotland plc and all its brands including Halifax became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Group.

TV adverts

Halifax pioneered an innovative approach to bank adverts in 2000, when it allowed its staff to star in adverts, singing popular songs with the words changed to reflect financial services products. Halifax worker Howard Brown is the regular star of the adverts.



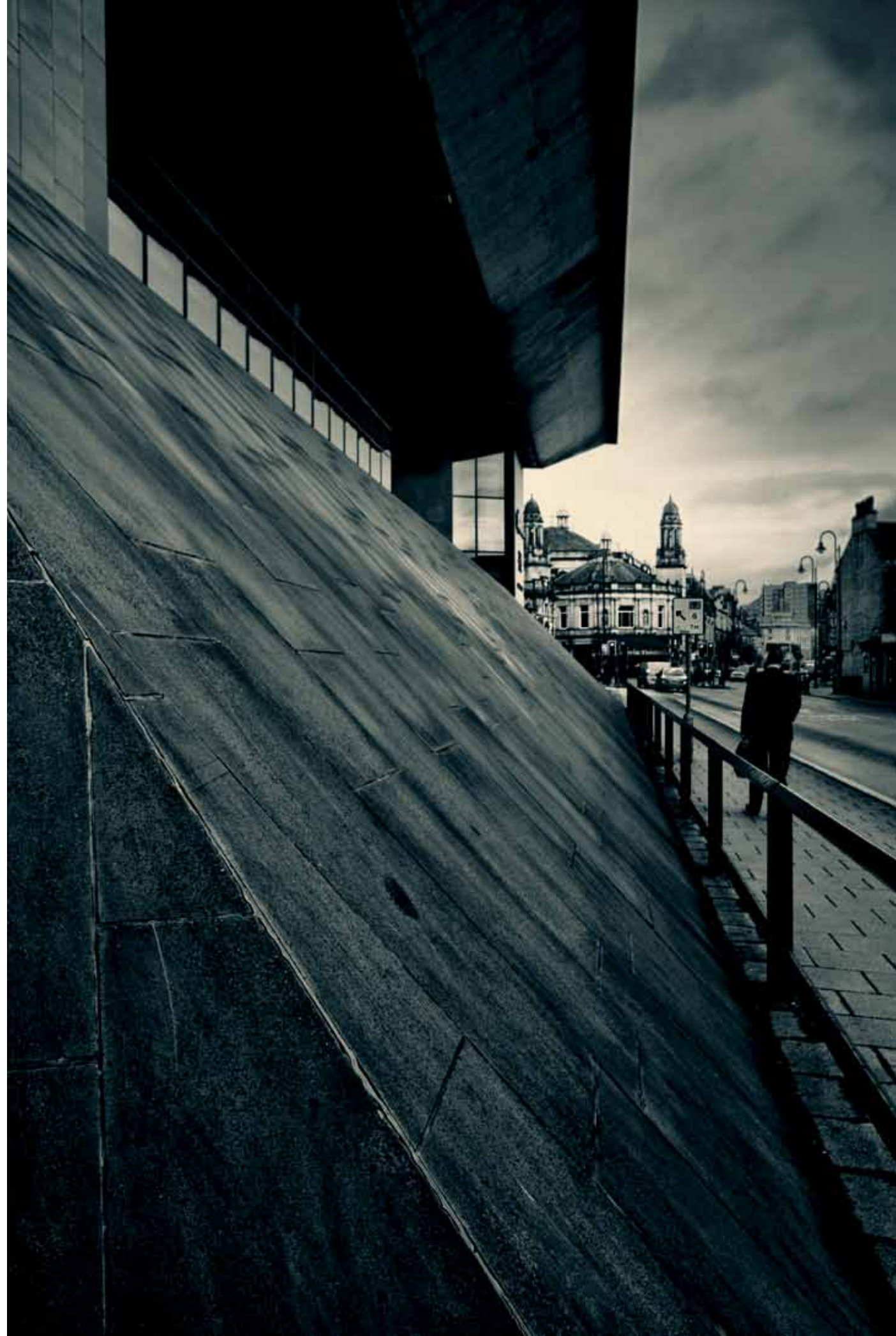


You cannot fail to make the building look quite spectacular





The design of the building is not in keeping with the victorian heart of Halifax, but it cannot be denied it is a striking building all the same



Edward Akroyd (1810–1887), English manufacturer, was born into a textile manufacturing family in 1810, and when he died in 1887, he still owned the family firm. He inherited “James Akroyd & Sons Ltd.” from his father in 1847, and he became the owner of one of the country’s largest worsted manufacturers.

He established mills at Haley Hill in Halifax and then at Copley, two miles or so to the south-west. He proved to be a very successful businessman, and his firm made him very prosperous. At Haley Hill, not far from his mills, he extended a large mansion, Bankfield, and then went to live there.

Akroyd was well read and concerned about the fortunes of Halifax and the terrible social conditions that grew out of the industrial revolution. He funded and supported a local allotment society and many institutions for the working classes, a school for child labourers, a workers’ pension scheme, the first working men’s college outside London, several churches (he was a staunch Anglican) and a cemetery.

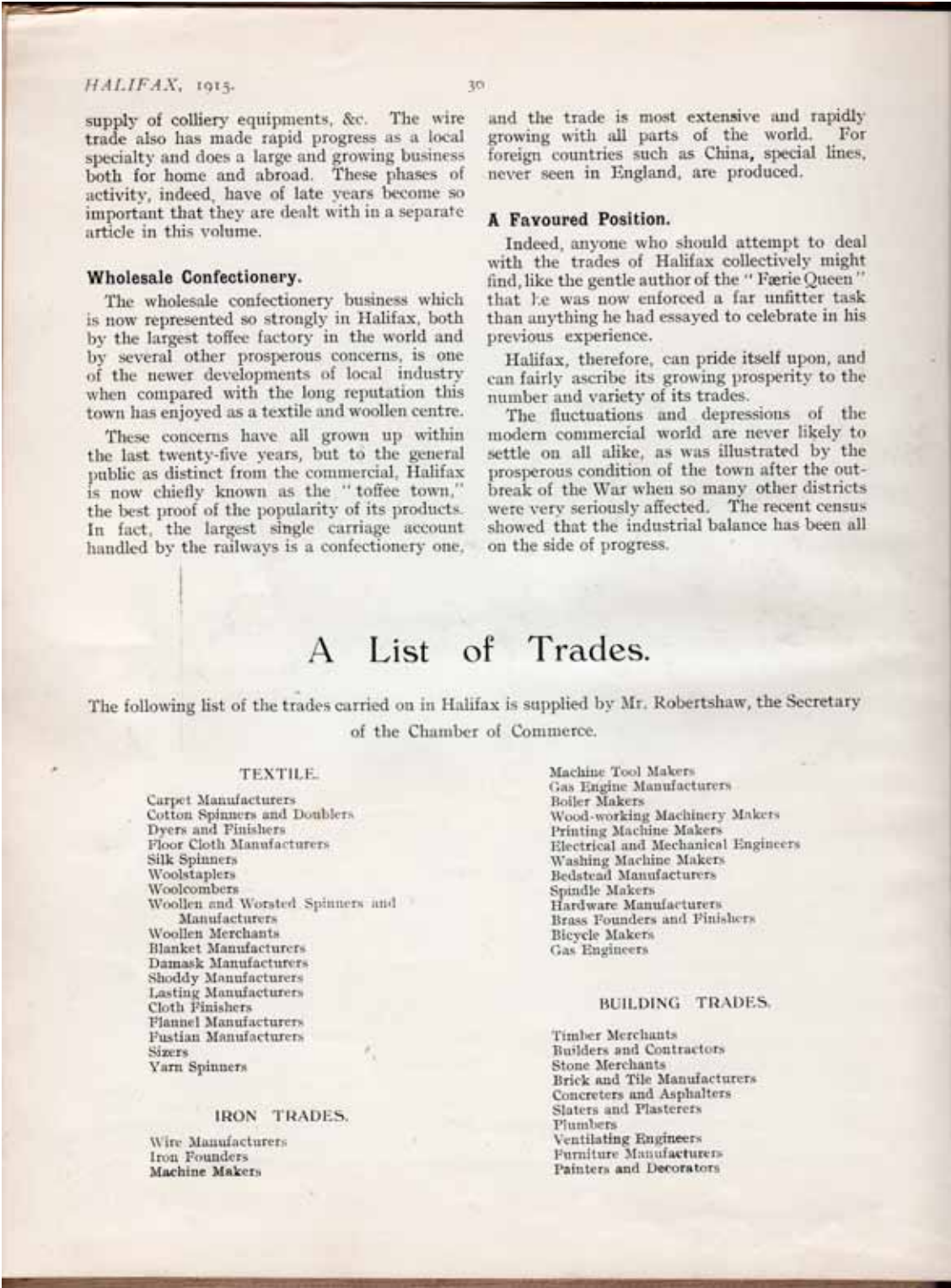
In the mid 1850s, he helped found the Yorkshire Penny Bank (to encourage workers to save), and he worked to promote home ownership through his model village Akroydon. This was built after his initial housing development, which he had undertaken with his brother at Copley, to show people how housing conditions could be improved. He was partly responsible for bringing the railway to the town.

Edward Akroyd became a Lieutenant Colonel of the 4th Yorkshire Halifax Rifle Volunteers in 1861, and served as a member of Parliament.

Akroyd’s kindness was well known, and many had cause to be grateful to him. They felt his problems as keenly as their own when some of his overseas investments failed and he suffered great financial loss. The unkindest cut of fate, however, was when he fell from his horse and received severe head injuries. After this, his failing health caused him to leave Halifax for a secluded life at St Leonards, attended by only one manservant, and it was there that he died in 1887. At his funeral, 15,000 mourners crowded outside All Souls’ Church and many businesses closed for a few hours as a mark of respect. On his death, he left an estate of £1,234 1s. 10d.

Now that the Akroyd business empire has passed well into history, what remains of it in Halifax is something of the architectural heritage to remind one of the scope of Akroyd’s vision. The small church at Copley survives (without the colossal mill which stood nearby). At Haley Hill the mill survives in multiple occupation as part of the Dean Clough business park; the Akroyd mansion, Bankfield, which has been a municipal museum for many years still stands on the edge of the gothic-style, stone-built model village, which survives more or less intact. The crowning feature of the scheme, Sir George Gilbert Scott’s white limestone All Souls’ Church (1856-8) still dominates the area, its lofty

spire reaching 236 feet into the Yorkshire sky: the second tallest in the county (Wakefield Cathedral has the highest spire). Both St Stephen’s Copley and All Souls itself are now vested in the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, All Souls’ having been rescued from demolition by a continuing programme of restoration initially organized by a board of Trustees assembled for the purpose. No regular services have been held at All Souls’ Haley Hill since 1977.



A list of trades from Halifax in the book: Halifax A Commercial and Industrial Centre 1915 issued under the auspices of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, Halifax Chamber of Trade and The Advertising Club

“It Appears over the last century we have lost most of our trades and the workforce is less skilled now than in 1915”.

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|-----|
| 31 | | Section II. | |
| VARIOUS. | | | |
| Leather Merchants | ... | Belt and Brace Makers | 8 |
| Leather Belting Manufacturers | ... | Oil Merchants | 2 |
| Tanners and Curriers | ... | Rug Maker | 1 |
| Harness Manufacturers | ... | Watch Makers & Jewellers | 13 |
| Mill Furnishers | ... | Blind Makers | 2 |
| Paper Makers | ... | Sugar Packers | 3 |
| Printers and Bookbinders | ... | Metal Engravers | 3 |
| Brewers | ... | Hair Dressers | 2 |
| Cigar Manufacturers | ... | Metal Polish Makers | 4 |
| Boot Manufacturers | ... | Chair Maker | 1 |
| Drysalers | ... | Photographers | 3 |
| Pattern Makers | ... | Billiard Table Maker | 1 |
| Coach Builders | ... | Ventilating Engineers | 2 |
| Soap Makers | ... | Designers | 2 |
| Brush Makers | ... | Boot, Shoe and Clog Makers | 129 |
| Wheel and Axle Makers | ... | Weight and Scales Maker | 1 |
| Wholesale Bottlers | ... | Dress and Mantle Makers | 100 |
| Mineral Water Manufacturers | ... | Art Needlework | 1 |
| Corn Millers and Merchants | ... | Tripe Dresser | 1 |
| Yeast and Egg Importers | ... | Machine Roller Maker | 1 |
| Biscuit Manufacturers | ... | Whitesmith | 1 |
| Flour Mills | ... | Saddlers | 8 |
| Card Clothing Manufacturers | ... | Milliners | 61 |
| Roller Cloth Manufacturers | ... | Coopers | 4 |
| Stuff Merchants | ... | Bakehouses | 137 |
| Underclothing Manufacturers | ... | Drug Packing | 2 |
| Wholesale Confectioners | ... | Coach Builders | 5 |
| Cinema Film Makers | ... | Rope Makers | 2 |
| Lamp Manufacturers | ... | Wood Carvers | 4 |
| Oil Merchants | ... | Wool Sorters | 7 |
| Rope and Twine Makers | ... | Cork Cutter | 1 |
| Basket Makers | ... | Gun Makers | 2 |
| Electro Platers | ... | Carpet Repairers | 5 |
| Wire Workers | ... | Picture Frame Makers | 2 |
| Bobbin Makers | ... | Wire Worker | 1 |
| Umbrella Makers | ... | Basket Makers | 3 |
| Whitesmiths | ... | Tinners | 14 |
| Artificial Limb Makers | ... | Locksmiths | 2 |
| Pianoforte Manufacturers | ... | Cutler | 1 |
| Manufacturing Chemists | ... | Underclothing Makers | 14 |
| Till Manufacturers | ... | Electrical Engineers | 3 |
| | | Piano Makers | 3 |
| | | Firelight Makers | 2 |
| | | Drysalers | 3 |
| | | Boot Upper Maker | 1 |
| | | Cycle Repairer | 1 |
| | | Sign Writer | 1 |
| | | Brass Works | 3 |
| | | Laundries | 9 |
| | | Hair-Pad Makers | 7 |
| | | Machine Makers | 8 |
| | | Machine Brokers | 2 |
| | | Marble Masons | 5 |
| | | Shoeing Smiths | 1 |
| | | Firewood Cutters | 2 |
| | | Skep Makers | 2 |
| | | Dentists | 4 |
| | | Beer Bottlers | 4 |
| | | Paper Bag Makers | 2 |
| | | Dry Cleaner | 1 |
| | | Bookbinder | 1 |
| | | Mineral Water Manufacturers | 3 |
| | | Musical Instrument Maker | 1 |
| | | Essential Oil Blenders | 2 |
| | | Curtain Maker | 1 |
| | | Total number of Workshops | 899 |
| The Workshop Register. | | Few towns in England could match, and still fewer surpass this array, and even if ample deductions are made for tradesmen, we still have an imposing list of genuine producers from raw or partially manufactured materials. Truly is Halifax a 'Town of Many Trades' | |
| The following is a detailed list of all the workshops on the Workshop Register. This register has been kept up-to-date from lists received from the Factory Inspector. | | | |
| Pattern Card Maker | ... | 1 | |
| Joiners & Cabinet Makers | ... | 68 | |
| Brush Makers | ... | 7 | |
| Provision Merchants | ... | 5 | |
| Rag Sorters | ... | 3 | |
| French Polishers | ... | 5 | |
| Tailors | ... | 64 | |
| Marine Store Dealers | ... | 3 | |
| Blacksmiths | ... | 23 | |
| Upholsterers | ... | 15 | |
| Umbrella Makers | ... | 2 | |
| Box Makers | ... | 3 | |
| Surgical Instrument Maker | ... | 1 | |
| Fruit Boiler | ... | 1 | |
| Plasterers | ... | 2 | |
| Hosiery and Knitters | ... | 13 | |
| Wheelwrights | ... | 10 | |
| Painters | ... | 10 | |
| Plumbers | ... | 25 | |
| Printers | ... | 4 | |
| Sweet Boilers | ... | 3 | |
| Cistern Maker | ... | 1 | |
| Clog Sole Makers | ... | 2 | |

The Following Photographs
are of Halifax showing the
people and businesses that
are failing in the recession.
These photographs are a
record and hopefully will
be shown in a forthcoming
exhibition.







Previous pages signs of the
recession hitting home:
and the problems of car parking
in Halifax



Both shop's are original in
name but not too original in
these hard hit times and have
failed.



Top left vandalished
Housing Office

Left empty Insurance
offices that you cant
trust

Top right the empty
Pride of Whitby

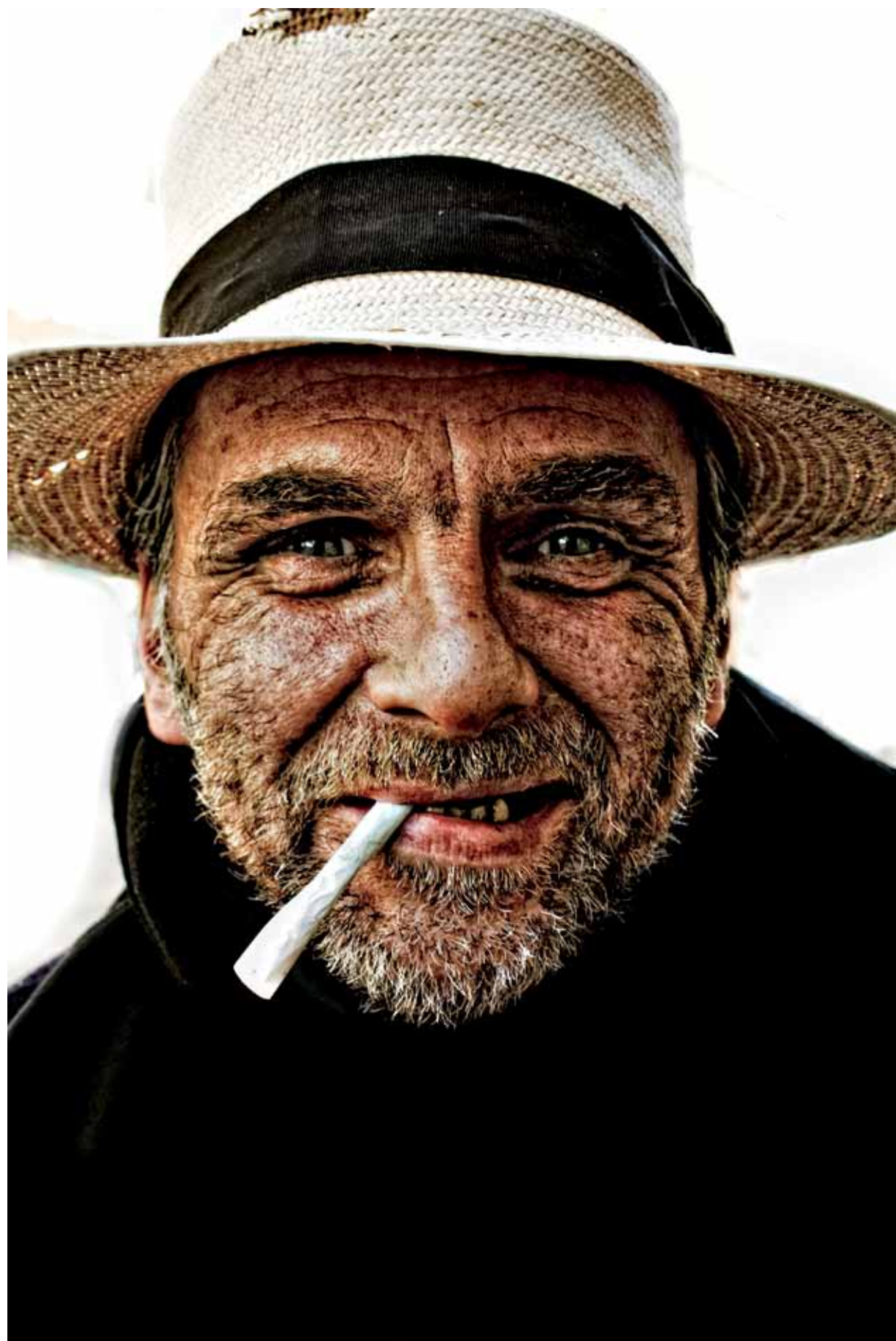
A dummy in an empty
Piece Hall shop







**We have great
architecture in
Halifax**





An old friend called Nick i used to know about twenty odd years ago. He was quite a good looking chap. Unfortunately the drink and the drugs has taken it's course. He constantly refers to the 1980's all the time and can not move forward.

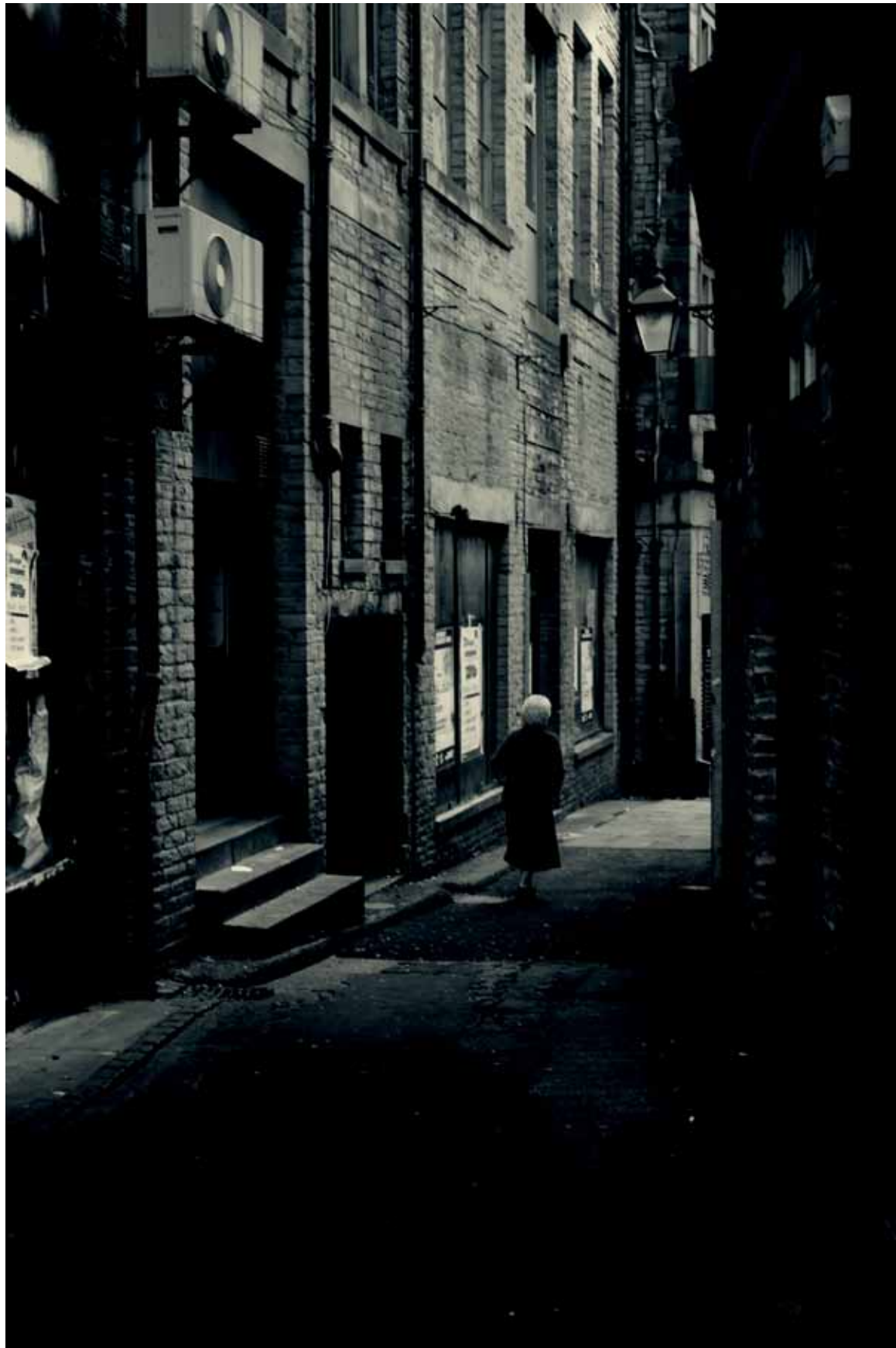


A simple Photoshop arrangement used as a fantasy illustration of the Halifax Building Society and the heyday of its creation.



three pieces of graffiti. I am fond of some well planned graffiti and see it as an artform in it's own right





The alleyways and passages are ideal for explicit rendezvous during Friday and Saturday nights on town.

on the left we have the passage to Georges Square

on the right by the H.S.B.C. Bank

on the far right the Multi Storey Car park

