

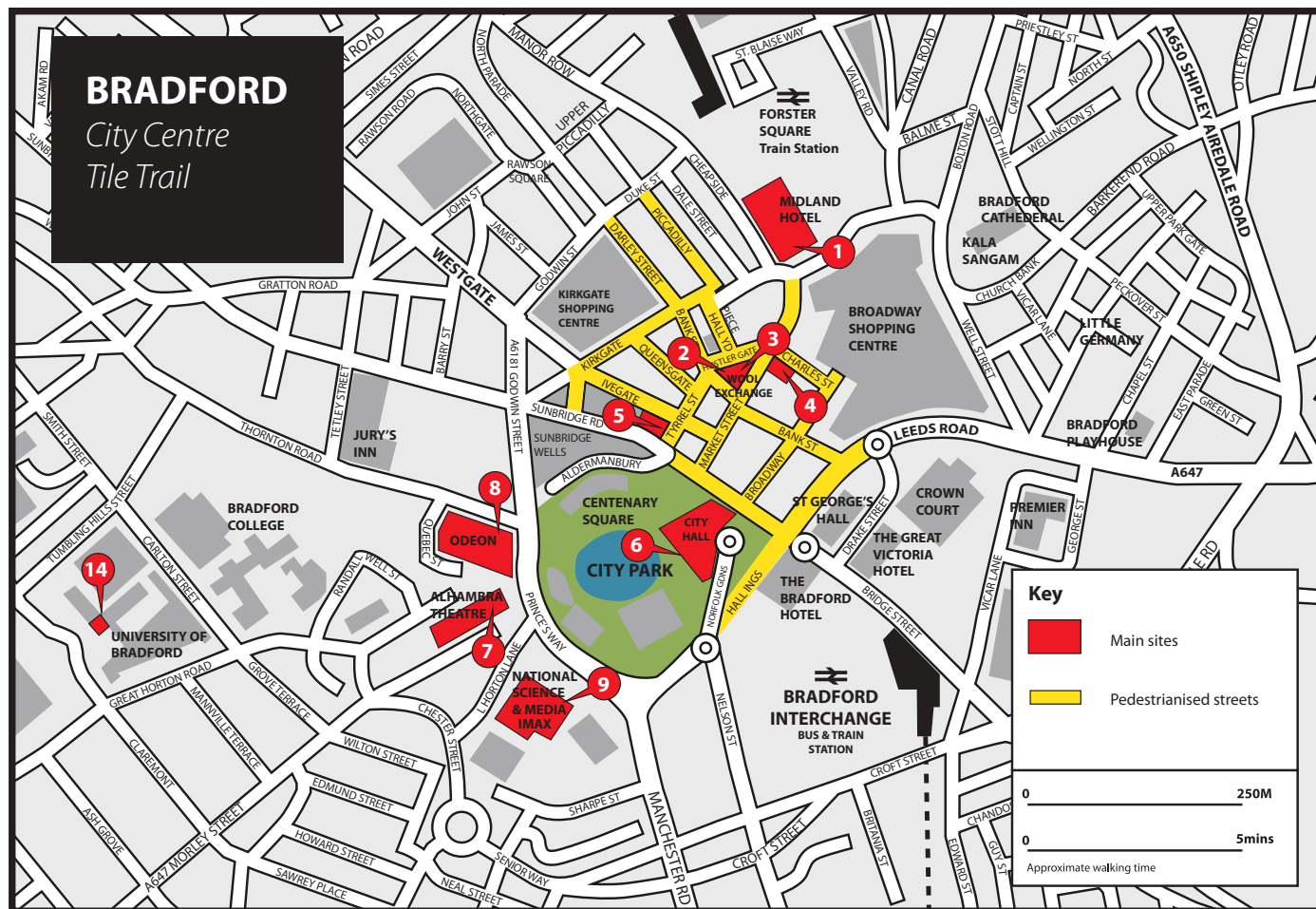
BRADFORD

Tile Trail

TILES
& ARCHITECTURAL
CERAMICS SOCIETY



Front cover image:
The Wool Exchange, Pizza Pieces Ltd



MAP NUMBERING

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A Brief History of

BRADFORD

Bradford was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086.

Medieval Bradford had only three streets, Kirkgate, Westgate and Ivegate. (The word gate is derived from the old Danish word 'gata' meaning street.)

There has been a wool industry in Bradford since the Middle Ages, the local water being soft enough for perfectly 'fulling' (cleaning and thickening) the wool.

Wool, including weaving, became more important to Bradford from the 16th to the 18th century. By the 19th century the handloom weavers had been replaced by the mills.

The Civil War of 1642 between the King and Parliament saw the people of Bradford solidly on the side of Parliamentarians.

Bradford is full of wonderful buildings that are rich in architectural detail and reflect the wealth generated from the major textile industry which was a large part of its heritage. This has left a legacy of the best of Arts and Crafts design of the day, extending from the mid-19th into the early 20th century. Still existing in the city are the most superb relief tiles by Burmantofts of Leeds, floor and wall tiles by Minton of Stoke-on-Trent and floor tiles by Maw & Co of Benthall. Mosaics by Salviato of Venice and James Powell and Sons of London make up colourful wall panels. Glazed faience by Shaws of Darwen also feature. The World Heritage Site of Saltaire has a wonderful collection of the work of Burmantofts and important murals depicting Bradford by Philippa Threlfall and Grete Marks in Salts Mill.



Tile Locations in the City Centre

1 *The Midland Hotel, Cheapside, 1885-90, Grade II Listed*

The Midland Hotel was built by the Midland Railway as part of the original Forster Square Railway Station. It was a show piece for the company's northern operations and was designed by Midland Railway Company architect Charles Trubshaw. The hotel entrance on the former station concourse features a splendid restored tile lined, ramped, curving passageway, leading straight into the hotel. It was used by passengers and porters with handcarts.

The large relief ceiling tiles at the original entrance to the restaurant, (currently the fire escape), were manufactured by Burmantofts of Leeds. They give a taste of how one of the hotel's former entrances was grandly covered. During its life the hotel has played host to many famous guests including English stage actor Sir Henry Irving.



The Midland Tunnel

2 *The Wool Exchange, Hustlergate/Market St, 1865-67, Grade 1 Listed, (Waterstones)*

Designed by local architects Lockwood and Mawson in Venetian Gothic style with Flemish influence in the tower. The architects won the competition to design the Exchange, but the city's invited adviser, John Ruskin, was not impressed with the style at the time. The foundation stone was laid by the then Prime Minister Lord Palmerston.

In Waterstones, on Hustlergate, the colourful and well-preserved Maw & Co embossed tiles can still be seen in the Trading Hall. The Wool Exchange is where Bradford's industrial wealth originated. It is said that twice a week up to 2000 wool merchants would meet to conclude deals fixed with a handshake.

The Trading Hall Tiles



3 *The Wool Exchange* 16 Market St, (Pizza Pieces Ltd)

In the basement of the Market St entrance to the Wool Exchange the original restaurant which served the traders is still visible. It is lavishly clad in Burmantofts relief tiles with ornate tiled pillars and still has the large ceramic plaque which marks the laying of the foundation stone.

4 *NatWest Bank,* 1 Market St, 1873, Grade II Listed

The building was designed by architects Milnes and France as the Bradford District Bank. Its grand, historic banking hall features an ornate sculpted ceiling and Corinthian columns. It was restored and reopened in 1917 as the main NatWest Bradford branch. The front of the banking hall is still open to the public. The original ceiling is now evident and you can get a hint of some of the original ceramic faience above the entrance door on the inside.

Pizza Pieces Pillar

5 *Prudential Assurance, 6 Tyrrel Street, 1893-6,* Grade II Listed

As in other main cities in the north this Prudential Assurance building was designed by Alfred Waterhouse of Liverpool as a corporate image. Most of the Prudential Assurance buildings were built of red terracotta brick from J.C. Edwards of Ruabon, N. Wales and Burmantofts Faience from the Leeds Fireclay Company. This building was in a paler tone than the others and the red terracotta made it an unusual major building material for use in stone built Bradford. Waterhouse also included a Turkish Bath to be incorporated into the basement, designing all the screens and fittings.



Terracotta at the former Prudential Assurance building

6 *Bradford City Hall, Centenary Square, 1869-73, Grade 1 Listed*

Designed by John Ives and Son of Shipley, Bradford Town Hall with its distinctive clock tower was built by Lockwood Mawson and opened in 1873. It was extended in 1909 to a design by Norman Shaw, executed by architect F.E.P. Edwards, with another council chamber, more committee rooms and a banqueting hall.

It was renamed Bradford City Hall in 1965.

The building is rich in architectural detail and most particular are Maw & Co's embossed tiles adorning the stairwells and hallways. The Gents toilets have the original sanitary ware, flooring and wall tiles. Most importantly there is a beautiful set of hand painted fireplace tiles in the Mayoral office. Access to tour the City Hall/ Civic Areas can be arranged by appointment.



City Hall Wall Tiles

7 *The Alhambra Theatre, Morley Street, 1913*

Designed by architects Chadwick & Watson of Leeds for impresario Francis Laidler. It is an iconic landmark with its large domed turret, supported by giant pairs of Corinthian columns. It is clad with white glazed ceramic faience from Gibbs and Canning of Tamworth. Purchased by City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council it was refurbished and the faience painted over in 1986.

It is still a widely known and important theatre for touring shows, dance and pantomime.



Alhambra (left) Odeon (right)

8 *The Odeon Cinema, Godwin Street, 1930*

Completed in 1930 as The New Victoria. It was the 3rd largest cinema in the country, the first to be built for Talkies with a 3,318 seat auditorium, 450 square feet (42m²) ballroom and 200-seat restaurant. The auditorium was primarily a cinema, but also a concert and ballet venue with a stage, orchestra pit and Wurlitzer organ and excellent acoustics. It was designed by the architect William Illingworth, with copper-covered cupolas on two corners complementing those on the neighbouring Alhambra Theatre, along with the white glazed faience produced by Shaws of Darwen.

It was re-opened as the Odeon in 1969 but eventually became disused and at risk. As part of the recent regeneration of Bradford it is being restored to its former glory by R.N. Wooler of Keighley.

9 *National Science and Media Museum, Lower Horton Lane, 1983*

Across from City Hall's Centenary Square is the National Science and Media Museum. It was founded in 1983 as the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television. Built on the site of an unfinished 60s' theatre it was much expanded during 1996-9, when the rich dark royal blue glazed brickwork was installed. This is still visible on the inside and exterior of the entrance.



Saltaire

10 *Salts Mill, Victoria Rd, Saltaire, BD18 3LA 1853 Grade II* Listed*

Saltaire village is a World Heritage Site created by Titus Salt for his workers at Salts Mill, a ten minute train ride from Forster Square.



11 *The Burmantofts Collection, Salts Mill*

The late Jonathan Silver purchased the redundant textile mill in 1987 making it into a superb visitors' destination and revitalising the area. Still run by his family, it holds his impressive collection of large Burmantofts ceramics on display in the 1853 Gallery on the ground floor.



A part of the Burmantofts Collection, Salts Mill

12 Grete Marks Ceramic Mural of Bradford

In the main entrance of Salts Mill we can see the newly restored Grete Marks ceramic mural of Bradford. Grete Marks was a student of the Bauhaus and designed for her own prestigious ceramics factory. She came to Britain as a Jewish refugee in 1936.

Commissioned in the 1960s by Bradford Corporation, this mural was found hidden behind a wall in a warehouse. It was restored by Fiona Hutchinson.



13 Philippa Threlfall Ceramic Mural of Bradford

On the 2nd floor of Salts Mill is situated the 6m long mural by Philippa Threlfall. It was commissioned by the Bradford and Bingley Building Society for its head office in Bradford.

Completed in 1972, it was originally designed for two walls to meet at a corner. The mural was relocated in 2009 by the Society to Crossflats, Bingley and then finally restored as one glorious mural in its present position in 2021.

Philippa Threlfall Ceramic Mural of Bradford



Other places to visit

Further away from the City Centre are many other sites of interest, including those listed below.

14 Joseph Mayo Mural (on location map)

Richmond Building, University of Bradford,
Richmond Rd, BD7 1DP

Located close to the city centre this mural by artist Joseph Mayo represents an era of industrial design and manufacture. Designed with colours to reflect Bradford's history of fabrics and dyes, it was produced with Stourbridge Glazed Brick Company (Dudley) Ltd for the Bradford Institute of Technology, opened in 1965 by Prime Minister Harold Wilson. It was nearly lost during an entrance upgrade, but after great opposition and being highlighted by the media, this mid-century mural was saved and celebrated.



15 Joseph Mayo Mural

Dixons Allerton
Academy,
Rhodesway, BD15 7RU

The tiles for this Joseph Mayo mural were designed by Kenneth Clark MBE in collaboration with Malkin Tiles Ltd for the entrance of the Grade II listed Rhodesway School built in 1957-59. The Dixons Allerton Academy has since reinstalled the mural within the school grounds. Visits by appointment.



16 All Saints Church

Little Horton Lane, BD5 0NG 1864.

This is a welcoming community church and home to The Landmark Centre. It has an extensive encaustic tiled pavement.



17 *Darvill's Pets, Gardens and Florist*

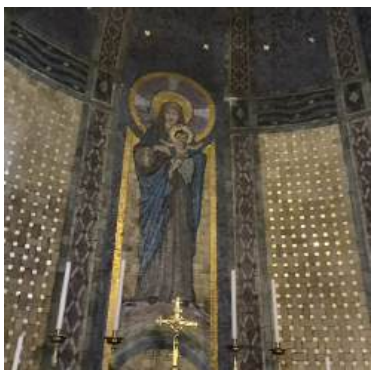
2 Cemetery Rd, BD8 9RY

Behind the displayed wares on the forecourt, this old Co-op shopfront features four delightful tube-lined tile panels depicting farm animals and farm produce.

18 *St Chad's Church*

Toller Lane, BD8 9DE 1911-13

This superb Anglo-Catholic church was built of mainly local stone in Byzantine Revival style. It has two apses to the east, one with an image of the Virgin Mary, both covered with the most stunning turquoise and gold mosaics produced by James Powell and Son of London.



19 *Jamia Masjid Hanfia*

2 Ambler St, BD8 8AW 1995

One of the first purpose built mosques in Bradford. It has a mosaic clad minaret and calligraphic tiles all around the building with the 99 names of Allah.



MANNINGHAM CONSERVATION AREA

In Bradford's residential conservation areas elegant Victorian villas were built, mainly in Italianate style, to house the mill owners, tradesmen and professionals of the textile industry.

20 *The Latvian Club*

5 Clifton Villas, BD8 7BY 1860, Grade II listed

This villa has been used by the Latvian community who settled in the area in the aftermath of World War II. The hallway has a fine terracotta red, black and white mosaic.

21 *The Estonian Club*

8 Clifton Villas, BD8 7BY 1855-60

This Victorian villa is built in a Jacobean Revival style. It houses the welcoming Estonian Club formed by Estonian refugees who settled in the north after World War II. It has a wonderful encaustic hallway floor of blue, buff and red tiles attributed to Minton.



BARKEREND

This is an area of many different faith buildings. St Clement's has, in particular, an outstanding interior.

22 *St Clement's Church*

*Barkerend Road, BD3 0LE 1892,
Grade II Listed*

This stunning Arts and Crafts, church was built of sandstone in 1892. The architect E.P. Warren was a supporter of the Arts and Crafts movement. There is a magnificent chancel ceiling designed by William Morris and Edward Burne-Jones and low relief spandrels designed by Edward Burne-Jones. Superb glass Salvato mosaics are situated behind the altar.



23 *St Peter's Roman Catholic Church*

*651 Leeds Road,
BD3 8EL 1933*

Built in the Romanesque style in 1933, this church is faced with colourful external mosaic panels and a mosaic tympanum. Mosaics were produced by James Powell and Sons.



24 *Chimney Stack of the former Clayton Fireclay works*

*BD14 6PU
Grade II listed building*

Built in rural Clayton this decorated chimney stack celebrates Bradford City winning the FA Cup in 1911. The site can be seen from Brow Lane and the former railway line footpath.