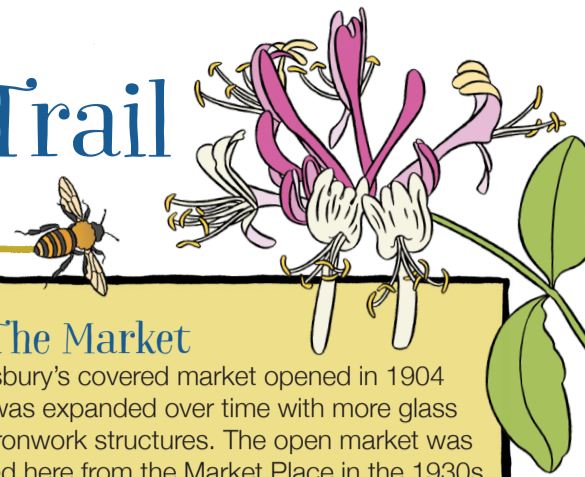


The Dewsbury Beeline Heritage Trail



9 Cloth Hall Mills (Machells' Mill)

Brothers Robert and William Machell moved their shoddy and mungo business into this new cloth mill in 1874. Look for the blue plaque. Which Machell brother became Mayor of Dewsbury in 1880?

10 Pioneer House

This Victorian building was built for the Dewsbury Pioneers Industrial Society 140 years ago and was extended twice in 1896 and 1914. There were shops at street level, a library, reading rooms and offices on the first floor and a grand hall on the second floor which later became a cinema. Today it is home to the students of Kirklees College.

Can you spot all these stone carvings on the building?

- beehives
- faces
- flowers
- shells

4 16-18 Market Place

This is one of Dewsbury's oldest houses. The frontage was rebuilt in the 1830s. In Victorian times a watchmaker, a leather worker and a fabric seller had shops here. Part of the original building is missing. How can you tell?

3 Old Church School

This community centre was built as a school in 1843 to educate the poor. There is an old stone statue called the Pancake Dog on the roof. Local legend says that when the school bell rang on a Shrove Tuesday, the dog would jump down to eat a pancake treat!

After cleaning, the statue looks more like a lion than a dog. What do you think?

1 Dewsbury Minster

A church was first built here after St Paulinus visited the town in 627 AD. The stone arches in the aisle are 800 years old. The tower was added some 550 years later in 1767.

What symbols decorate the stone gate posts outside the church?

8 Corporation Street

In the 1890s, Dewsbury was one of the first town corporations to redesign run-down streets by building new shops and offices. How many shops make up the row?

7 The Market

Dewsbury's covered market opened in 1904 and was expanded over time with more glass and ironwork structures. The open market was moved here from the Market Place in the 1930s. What things do traders sell at the market today?

6 Central Station

Open from 1880 to 1964, this railway station served passenger and goods trains running to Leeds, Bradford and Wakefield. The building is now used as a bridge for a busy road. Look for the red plaque. What is the name of the road?

5 Town Hall

Built in 1889, Dewsbury's Victorian town hall once housed a courthouse and police station. Today, it's used as the town register office and a concert hall.

Listen out for the clock striking the hour. How many clocks can you count on the tower?

2 Greenwood's

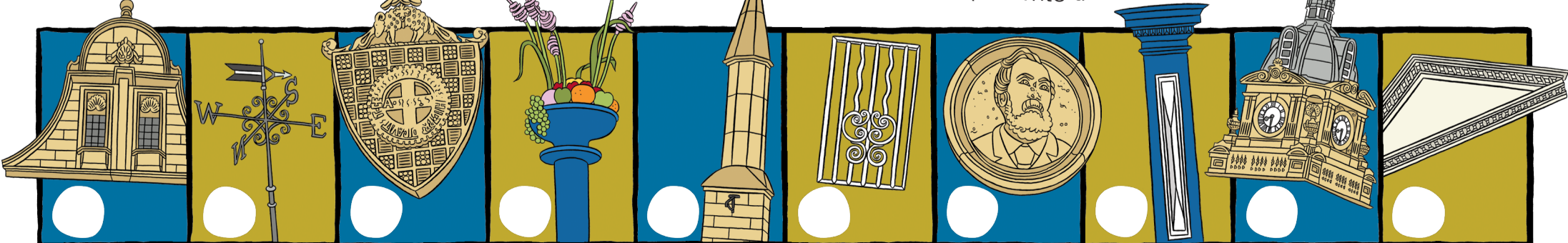
This building is Dewsbury's oldest shop. John Greenwood first started selling jewellery and work clothing here 160 years ago. It has a small museum displaying historic artefacts from the business.

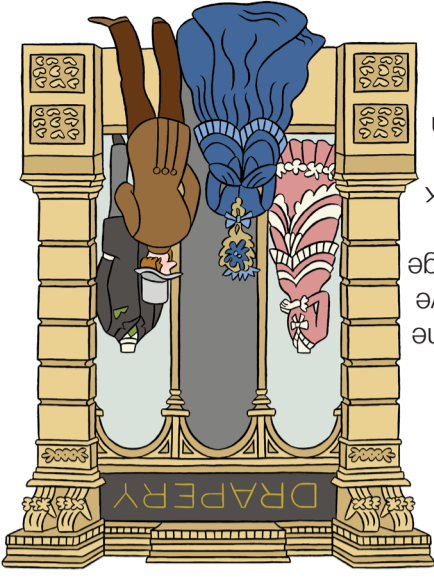
What year did the shop start trading?



Spotting puzzle

Can you match up each of these details with the ten numbered buildings on the map? Write the numbers in the spots as you find them.





Pioneer House opened in 1880 as the headquarters and central department store of the Dewsbury Pioneers Industrial Society. The society members followed the ideals of the Rochdale Pioneers – the first ever co-operative society founded in 1844, which used the image of a busy beehive as its symbol. This is why there are beehives carved into the stonework of Pioneer House. The Society's aim was to help improve the lives of local people through education. It gave money to set up libraries and reading rooms in the Dewsbury area.

Dewsbury Pioneers Industrial Society

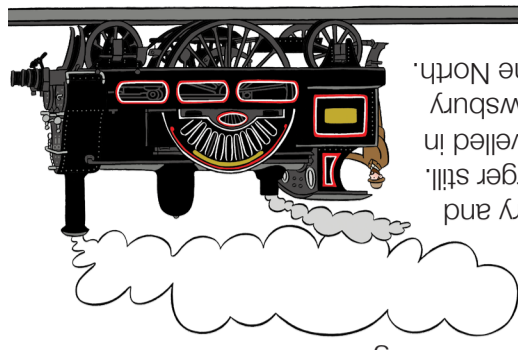
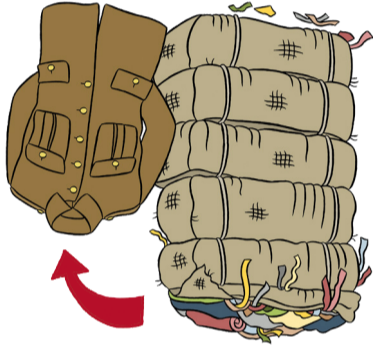


Many of Dewsbury's grand, beautiful buildings were built in the 1880s thanks to the wealth produced by the local cloth industry. Key architects of this period were Henry Holtom and partner George Fox, who designed Pioneer House, the Town Hall and Cloth Hall Mills, as well as churches, schools and houses. Both men also served as Mayor to the town at the end of the 19th century.



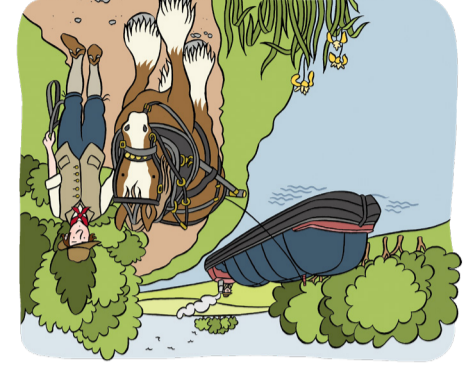
Dewsbury's mills lay at the centre of a cluster of Yorkshire towns producing heavyweight cloths called Shoddy and Mungo. This special textile process used steam-powered machines to grind up recycled woollen rags and scrap cloth into new fibres. These were spun and woven into heavy cloth for army blankets and soldiers' uniforms during the First World War.

Heavy Woollen District

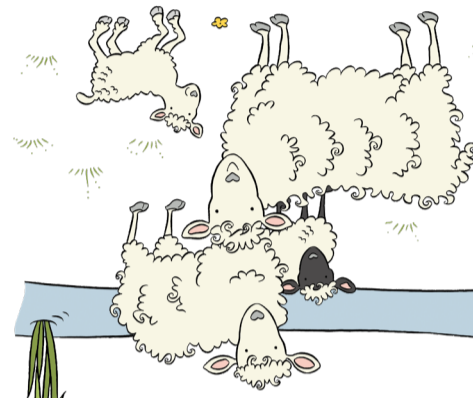


Victorian railways

By the 1700s, wool cloth was being manufactured on a larger scale in local factories. The steam-powered Industrial Revolution led to the opening of the Calder and Hebble Navigation – part river and part canal – in 1770. Barges now transported coal, raw materials and finished products to and from the town through the Savile Town Basin.

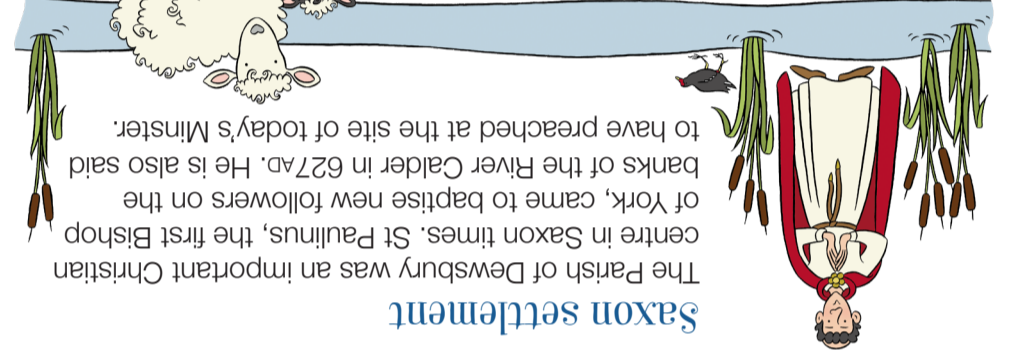


Georgian expansion



Thornhill, within the Dewsbury area, was granted a charter in 1331 for a yearly fair and market. The market served the growing local trade of wool merchants and cloth producers.

Medieval market town



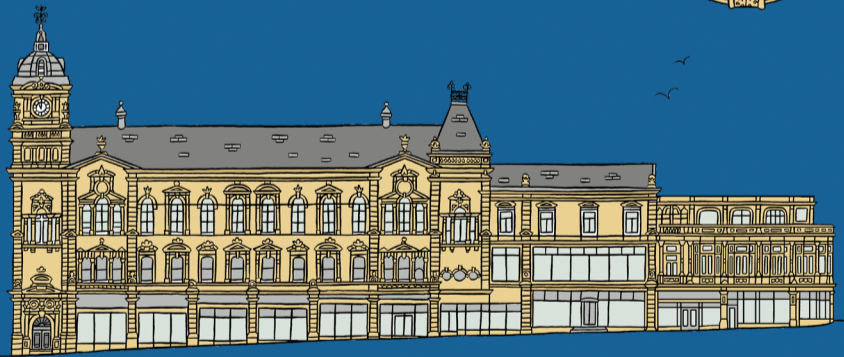
The Parish of Dewsbury was an important Christian centre in Saxon times. St Paulinus, the first Bishop of York, came to baptise new followers on the banks of the River Calder in 627AD. He is also said to have preached at the site of today's Minster.

Saxon settlement

A short history of Dewsbury...

Make a beeline for Pioneer House!

Admire the grandeur of this landmark building and find more key historic buildings in Dewsbury Town Centre to solve the puzzles along the trail.



Produced as part of the Dewsbury Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI), jointly funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Kirklees Council. A regeneration programme from 2013-20 to help repair and restore properties within part of the Dewsbury Town Centre Conservation Area and complementing the Historic England Heritage Action Zone (HAZ). The THI-funded renovations have helped to conserve and raise awareness of Dewsbury's rich heritage for the enjoyment of future generations.

With grateful thanks to the Dewsbury History Group. Follow their blue plaque trail to discover more about Dewsbury's heritage: www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/visitors/pdf/dewsbury-heritage-trail.pdf



Created by Blackbird Publishing

Trail quiz answers: 1 The gate posts of Dewsbury Minster are decorated with Paulinus Crosses. 2 Greenwood's was established in 1860. 3 People now think the Pancake Dog is actually a lion statue. 4 The building at 16-18 Market Place is not symmetrical – you can tell there are four windows missing on the left-hand side. 5 The Town Hall tower has four clock faces. 6 Dewsbury Ring Road now runs above Central Station. 7 The market traders sell food produce including fruit and vegetables, flowers, meat and fish, as well as clothes, etc. 8 Seven different shops make up the row in Corporation Street. 9 William Machell served as Mayor of Dewsbury. 10 Many different stone carvings decorate Pioneer House – there are two beehive carvings situated above the large second-floor windows.

Spotting puzzle answers: 1 Dewsbury Minster = weather vane, 2 Greenwood's = blue column, 3 Old Church School = spire, 4 16-18 Market Place = toothed triangular pediment, 5 Town Hall = Dewsbury crest, 6 Central Station = ironwork gate decoration, 7 The Market = fruit bowl gate decoration, 8 Corporation Street = roof gable with shell motifs, 9 Cloth Hall Mills = bust portrait with a broken nose, 10 Pioneer House = clock tower.

The Dewsbury Beeline Heritage Trail



Follow this town trail to discover



ten historic buildings that together



tell the story of Dewsbury's past

