



Redditch Local History Museum

Remembering *Lost Redditch*

The History and Heritage of Old & New Redditch

History

The Dictionary defines History as....

- The study of past events, particularly in human affairs: ie *Medieval European history*
- The whole series of past events connected with a particular person or thing: ie. *the history of the Empire*
- A continuous, typically chronological, record of important or public events or of a particular trend or institution: ie. *a history of the labour movement*

So

History is the record of factual events that have taken place in the past.

History

- When Does History Start?
- How do we “Know” history?
- What is “Pre-history”?
- Can we change history?
- Why is history important?

History

Which of these are historic events?

- The Start of World War 1 - 1914
- The Battle of Hasting – 1066
- The Founding of Bordesley Abbey – 1136
- What I had for breakfast - yesterday

Heritage

So if we know what History is, what is Heritage?

The Dictionary defines Heritage as....

- Heritage refers to something inherited from the past
- Property that is or may be inherited; an inheritance.
- Valued objects and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions that have been passed down from previous generations: Europe's varied cultural heritage
- Denoting or relating to things of special architectural, historical, or natural value that are preserved for the nation: a heritage centre

So

Heritage is what we remember, and learn from history and how those memories shape our present lives.

Is Redditch an “Old” or a “New” Town?

Both!

Lets first consider the Old Redditch

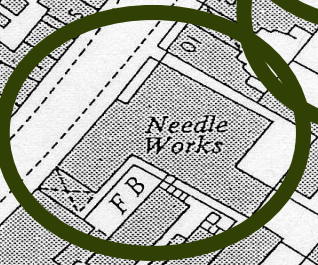
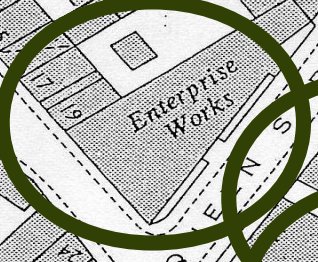
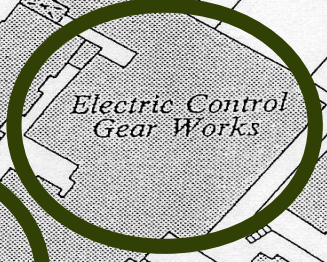
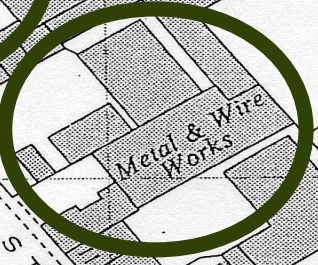
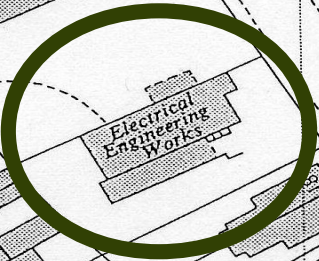
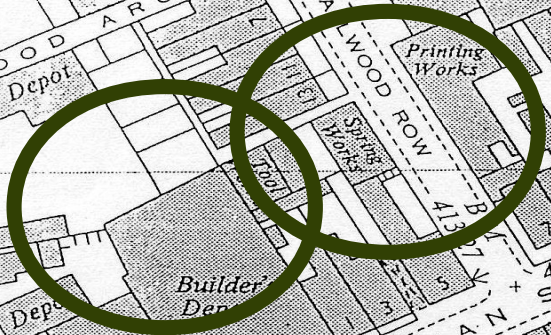
Redditch "Old Town" Key Events

- 1136 Bordesley Abbey Founded
- 1536 Bordesley Abbey "Dissolved"
- 1700's Town on the Green Founded
- 1800's St. Stephen's Church built
- 1850's Sewers, Fresh Water, Railway, Newspaper
- 1895 Smallwood Hospital & Scientific Institute & Library
- 1900 Major Industries Established
- 1940's WW2 War Effort
- 1964 Designation of Redditch as a New Town

Redditch – An Industrial Town



Town Centre – East of Church Green
How much industry is here?



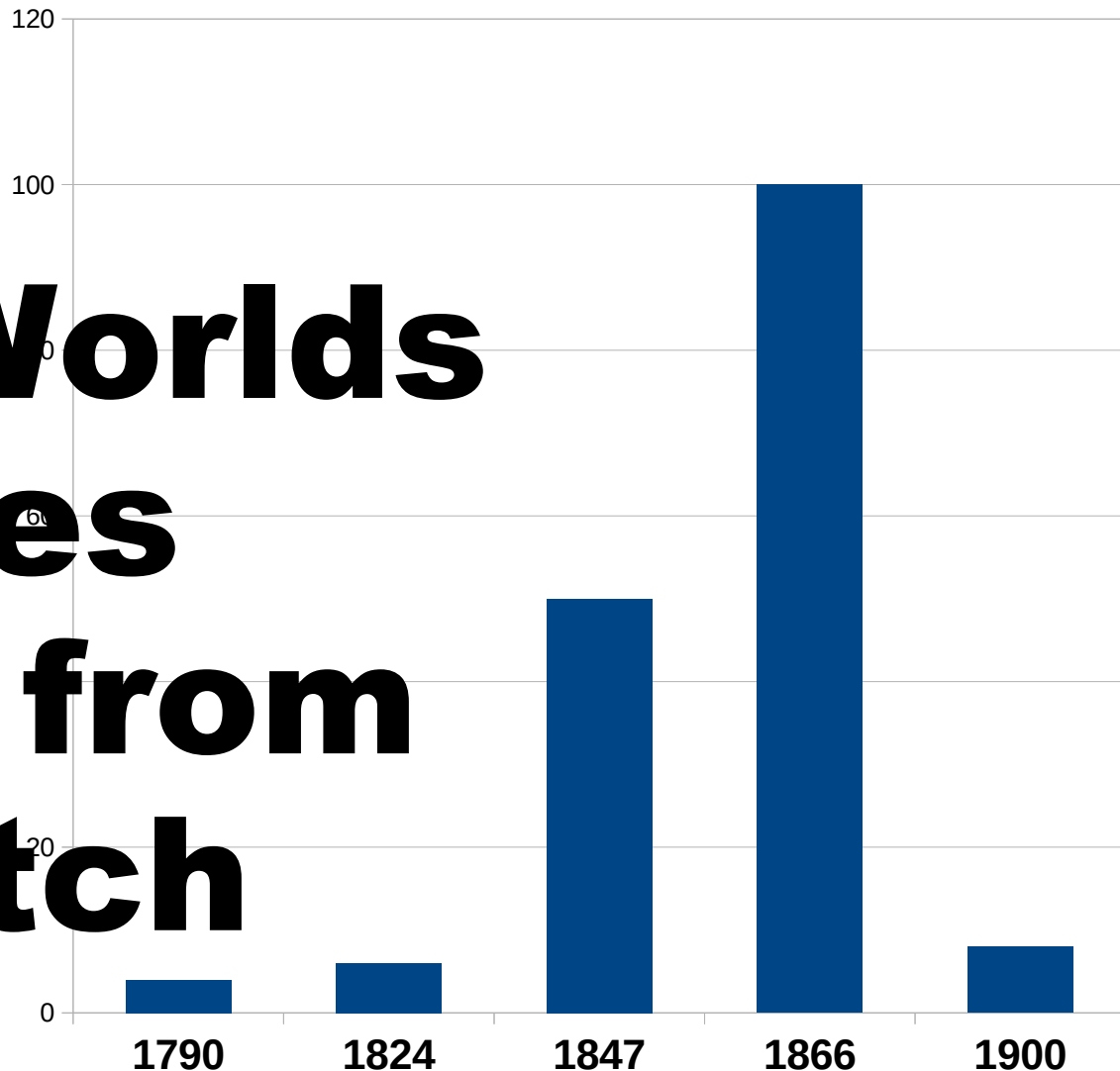
Redditch Old Town Industry

- Needles
- Fish Hooks & Fishing Tackle
- Motor Cycles
- Springs
- Batteries
- Forgings

Redditch Old Town Industry - Needles

**90% Worlds
Needles
Came from
Redditch**

■ Millions of
Needles Per
Year



Washford Mills, Ipsley Street



Washford Mills, Ipsley Street



Needle Making Department



Needle Making Scouring

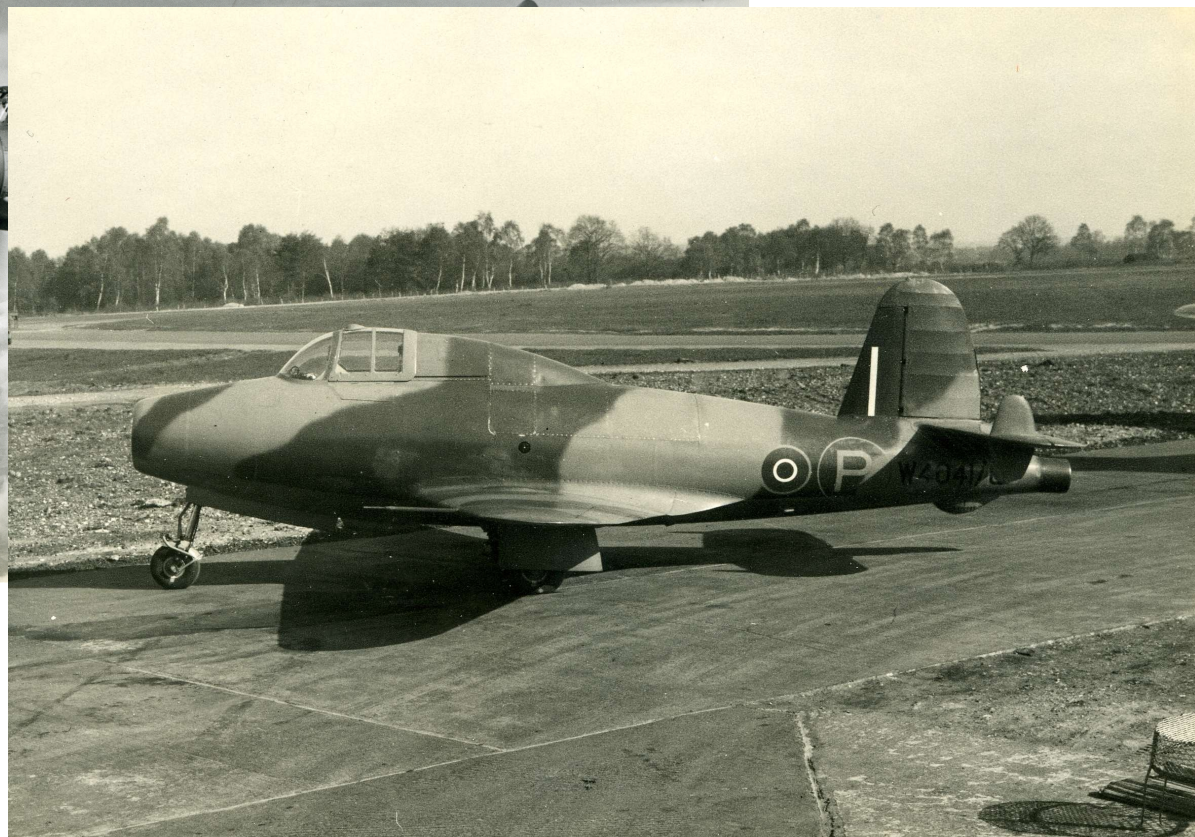
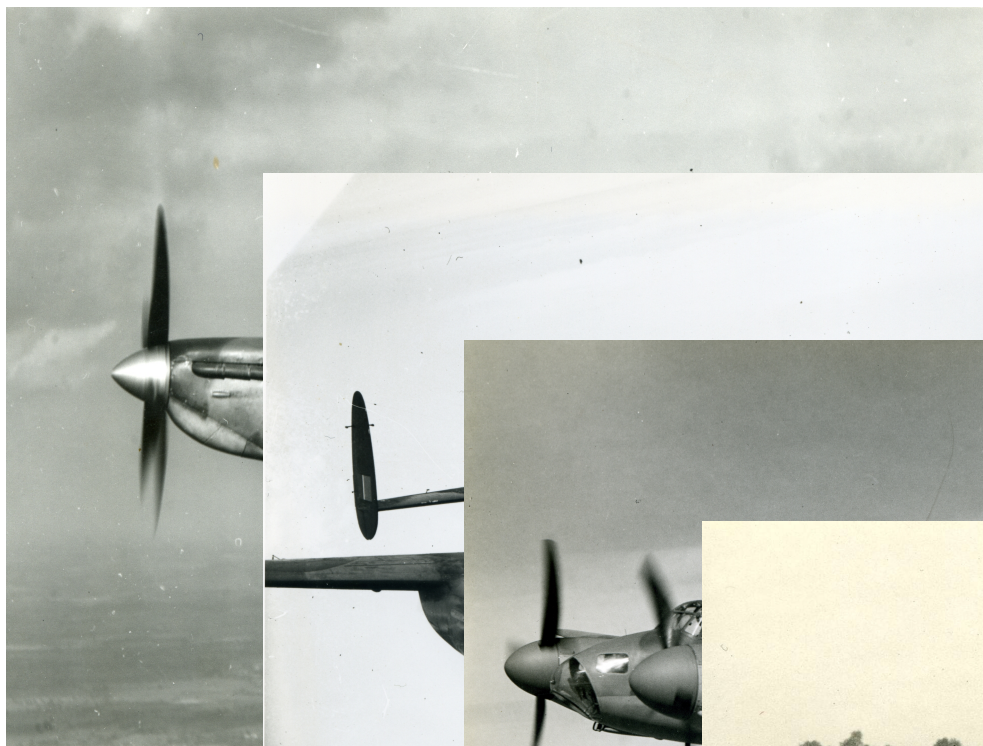


Fly Dressing



Making Fishing Rods



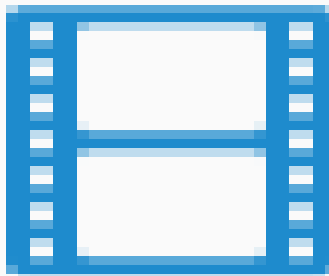


Forged Alloy Components made at High Duty Alloys in Redditch



High Duty Alloy Forgings







Why A “New Town” in Redditch?

- WW2 Birmingham Growth & Rebuilding
- Declining Traditional Industries
- Poor Quality Housing/infrastructure
- Congested Roads

What the “New Town” did for Redditch

The Good

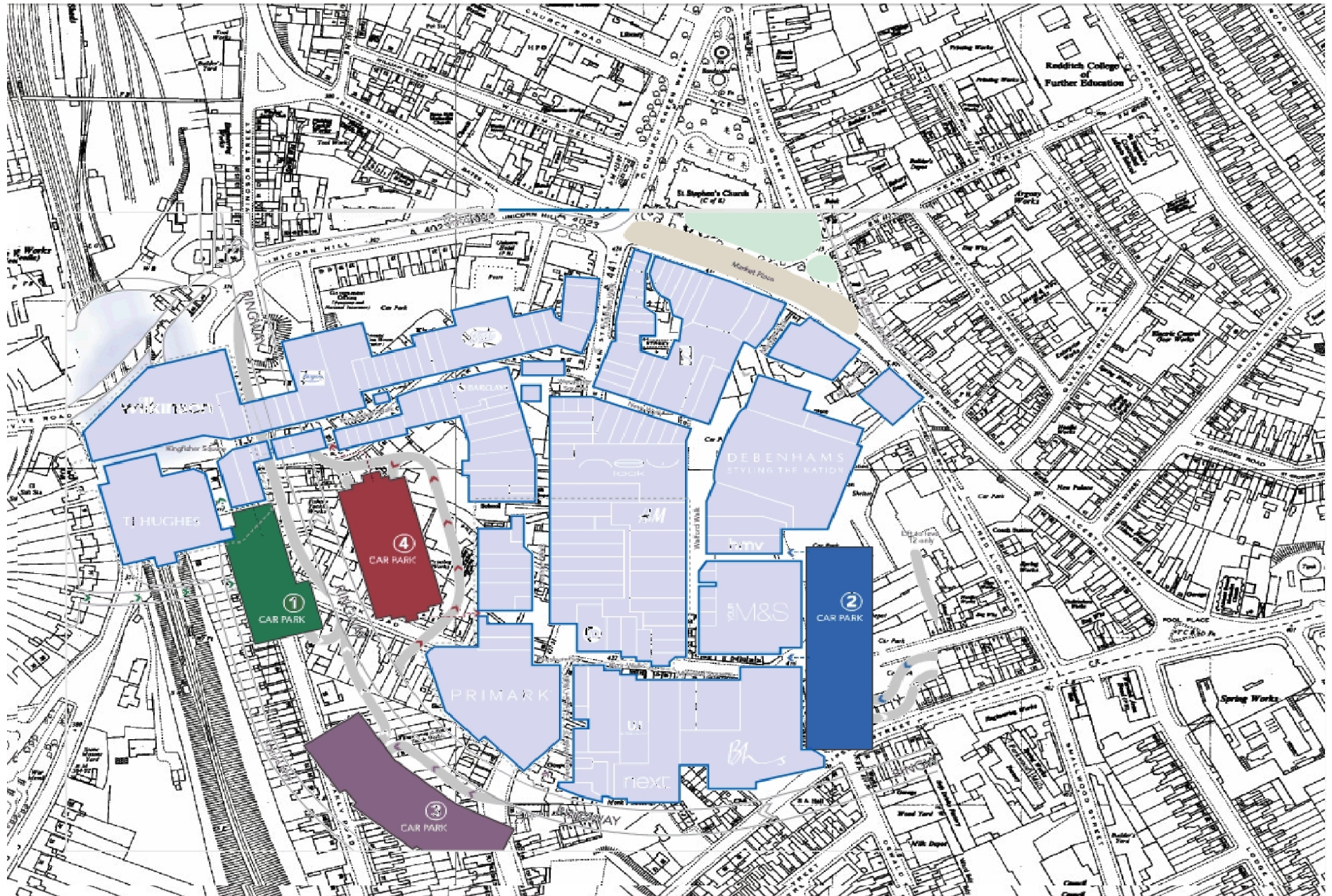
- 21st century Road system
- New Housing
- Balanced New Industries & Jobs
- Coordinated Social Facilities
- Avoided the “High Rise” option
- Higher than average Greenery

What the “New Town” did for Redditch

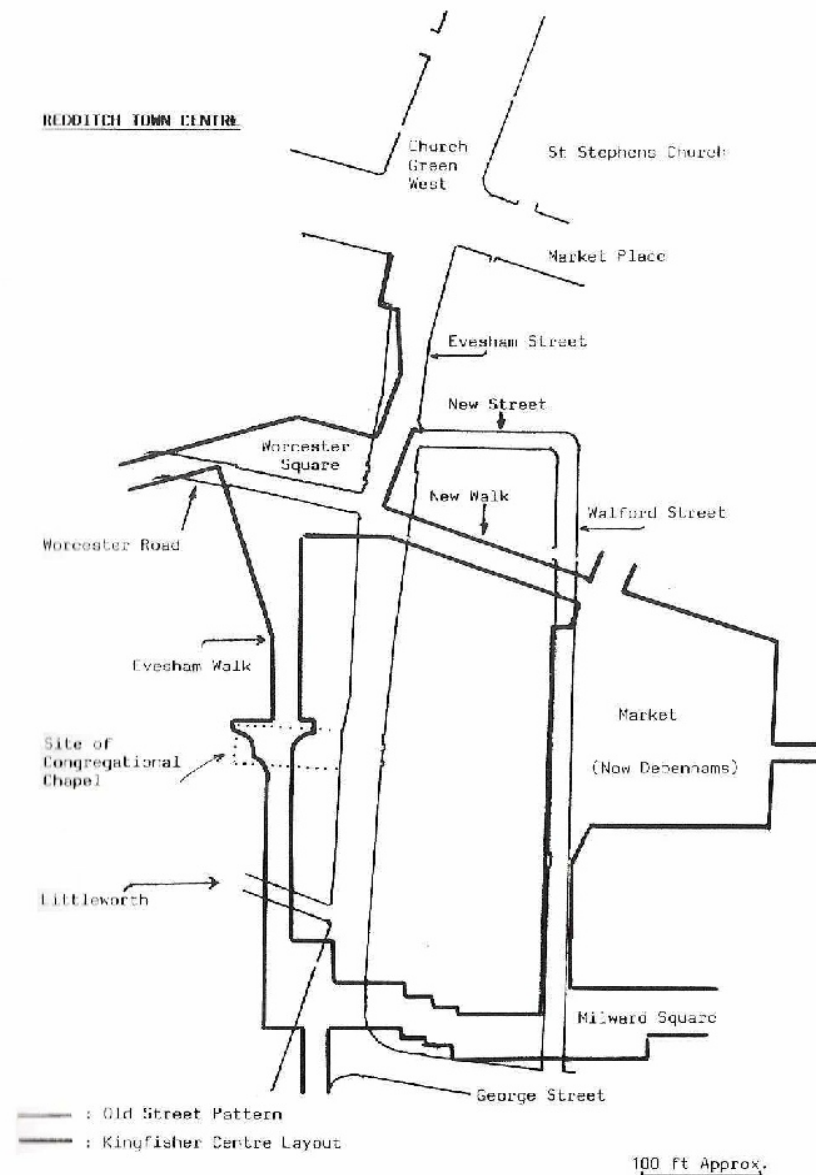
The Not So Good

- Extensive Redevelopment of the Old Town
- Less personal Shops
- “Modern” Housing Estates
- Non-evolutionary Population Growth
- New residents without “roots”

A New Town Centre – 1960's



Town Centre Development



Source: Ian
Hayes

"Turn Back" Time - Evesham Street



"Turn Back" Time - Evesham Street



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"Turn Back" Time - Evesham Street



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"Turn Back" Time - Evesham Street



"Turn Back" Time - Evesham Street



"Turn Back" Time - Walford Street



"Turn Back" Time - Walford Street



"Turn Back" Time - Walford Street



"Turn Back" Time - Walford Street



- Walford Street



"Turn Back" Time - Walford Street



“Building” The New Town



"Building" The New Town

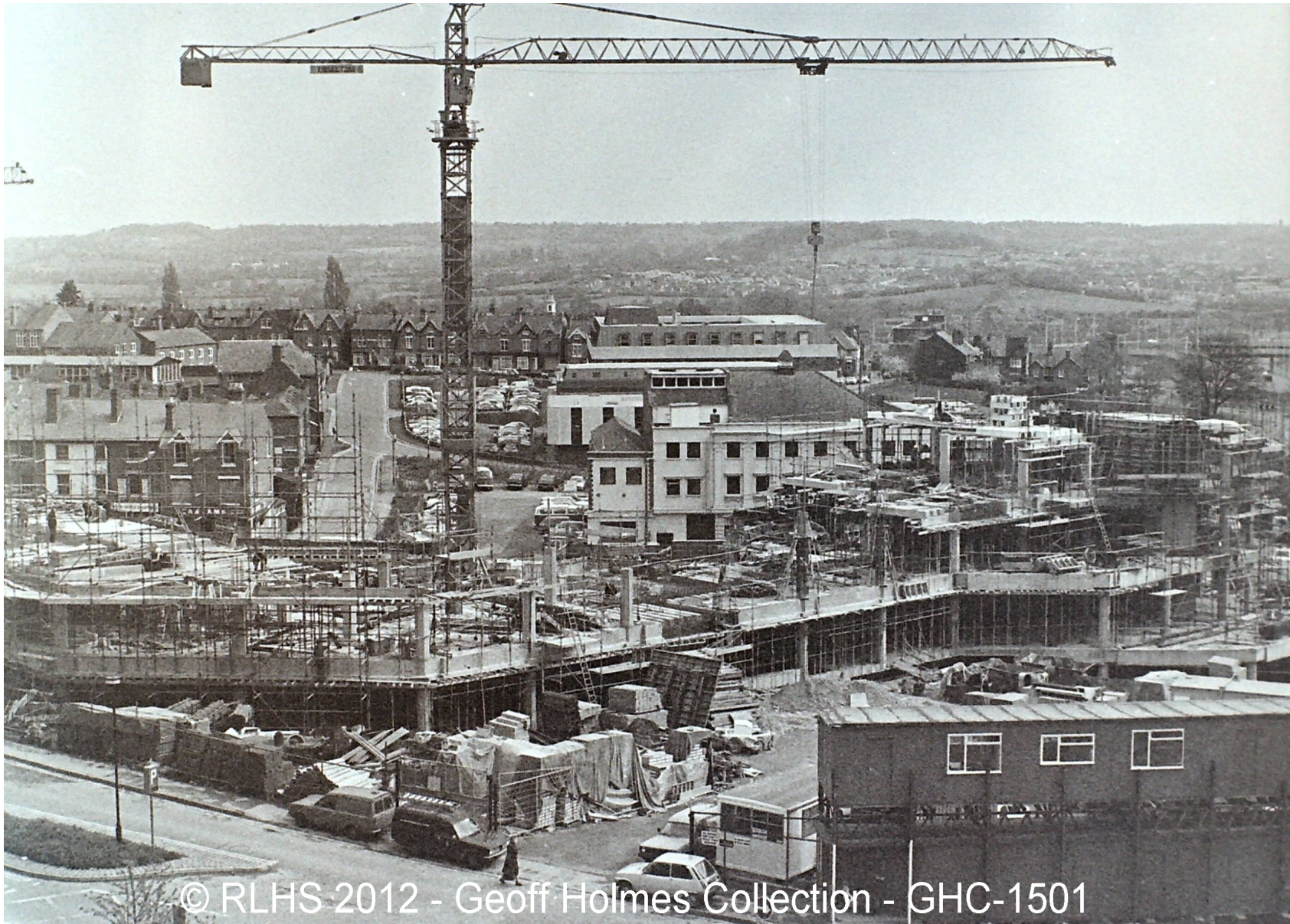


"Building" The New Town



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"Building" The New Town



Trains & Buses



© Phil Jarvis - RHHG
OLD RAILWAY STATION, CHIVE ROAD, REDDITCH.

Trains & Buses



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Trains & Buses



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Trains & Buses



Trains & Buses



Trains & Buses



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Trains & Buses



Trains & Buses



© RLHS 2012 - Vince Green Collection - VG-1662

Shopping In Town



Shopping In Town



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Shopping In Town



Shopping In Town



Shopping In Town



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Shopping In Town



Where We Worked



Where We Worked



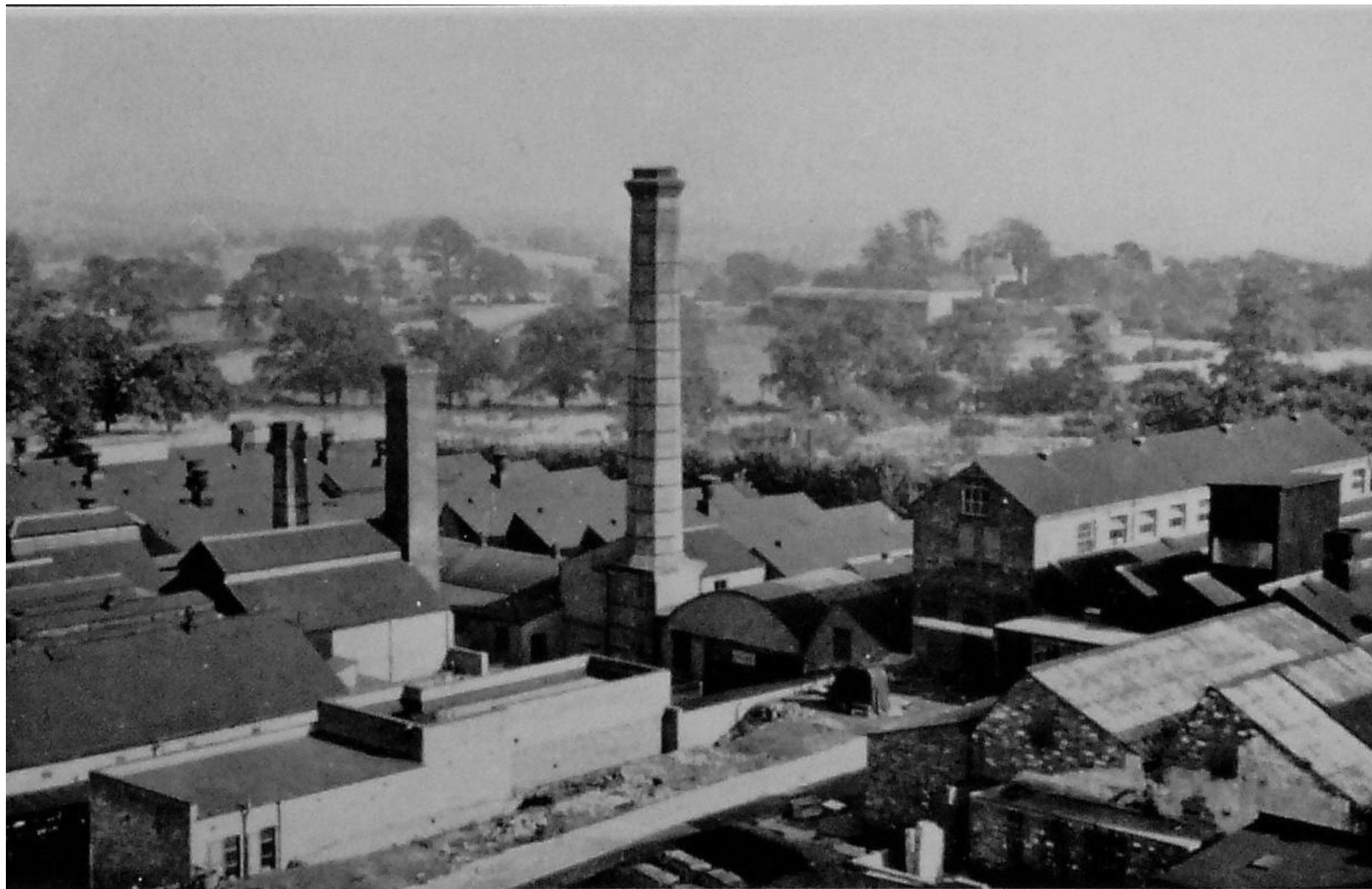
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Where We Worked



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Where We Worked



Where We Worked



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Where We Worked



Where We Worked



Where We Worked



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Redditch From Above



Redditch From Above



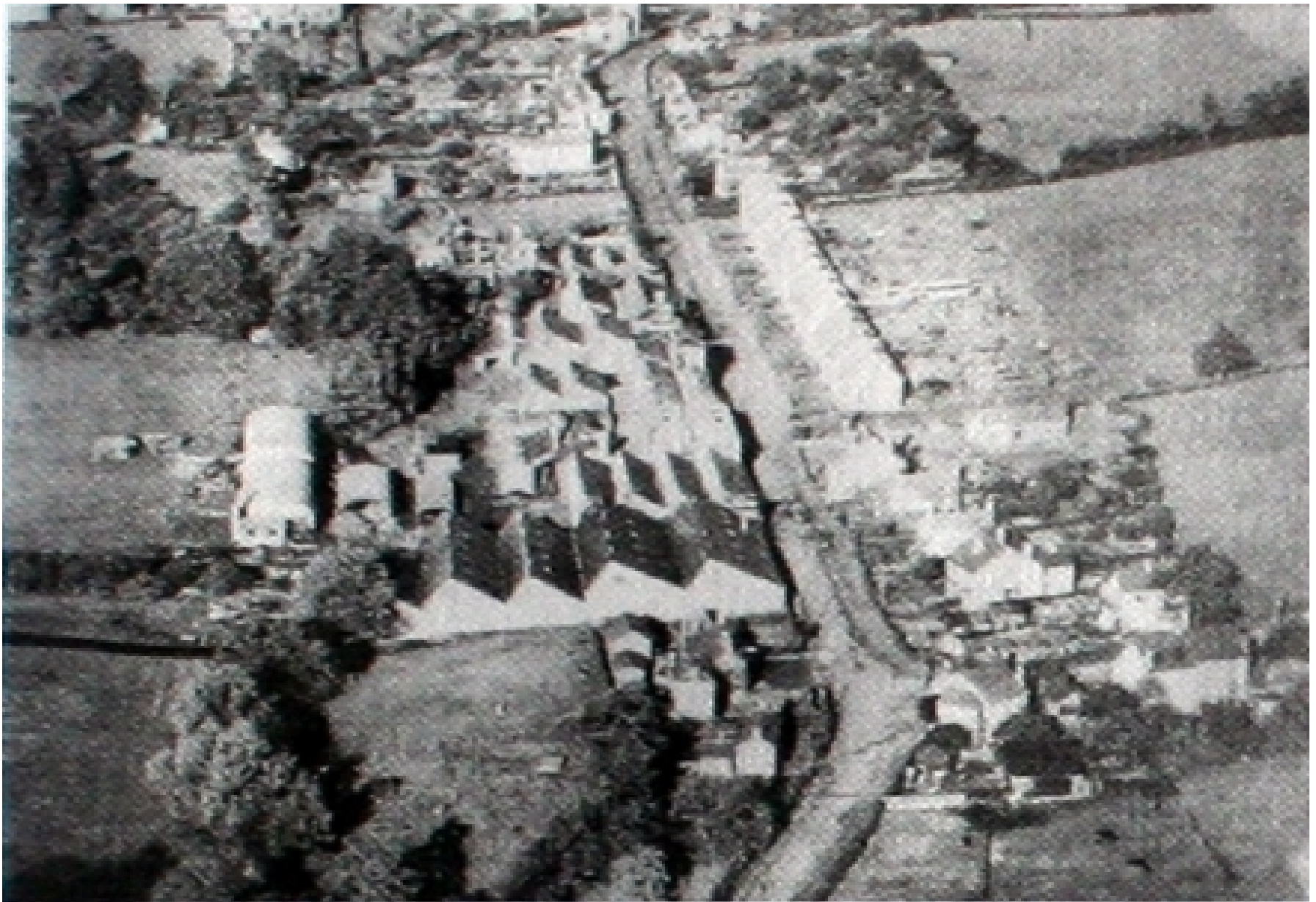
Redditch From Above



<http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/image/EPW014637>

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Redditch From Above



Where's This?



Oakenshaw/Oartridge Farm



Church Green



Church Green



Church Green



Church Green



See How Others Saw Us



Birmingham Mail - 1950

See How Others Saw Us - 1950



See How Others Saw Us - 1950



Fishing reels are the speciality of the firm of J. W. Young and Sons, precision engineers. During the war this firm produced small, precision-machined aircraft and instrument components. Assembling reels is Frank Quiney, of 5, Malvern Road, who has been with the firm for 17 years.

See How Others Saw Us - 1950



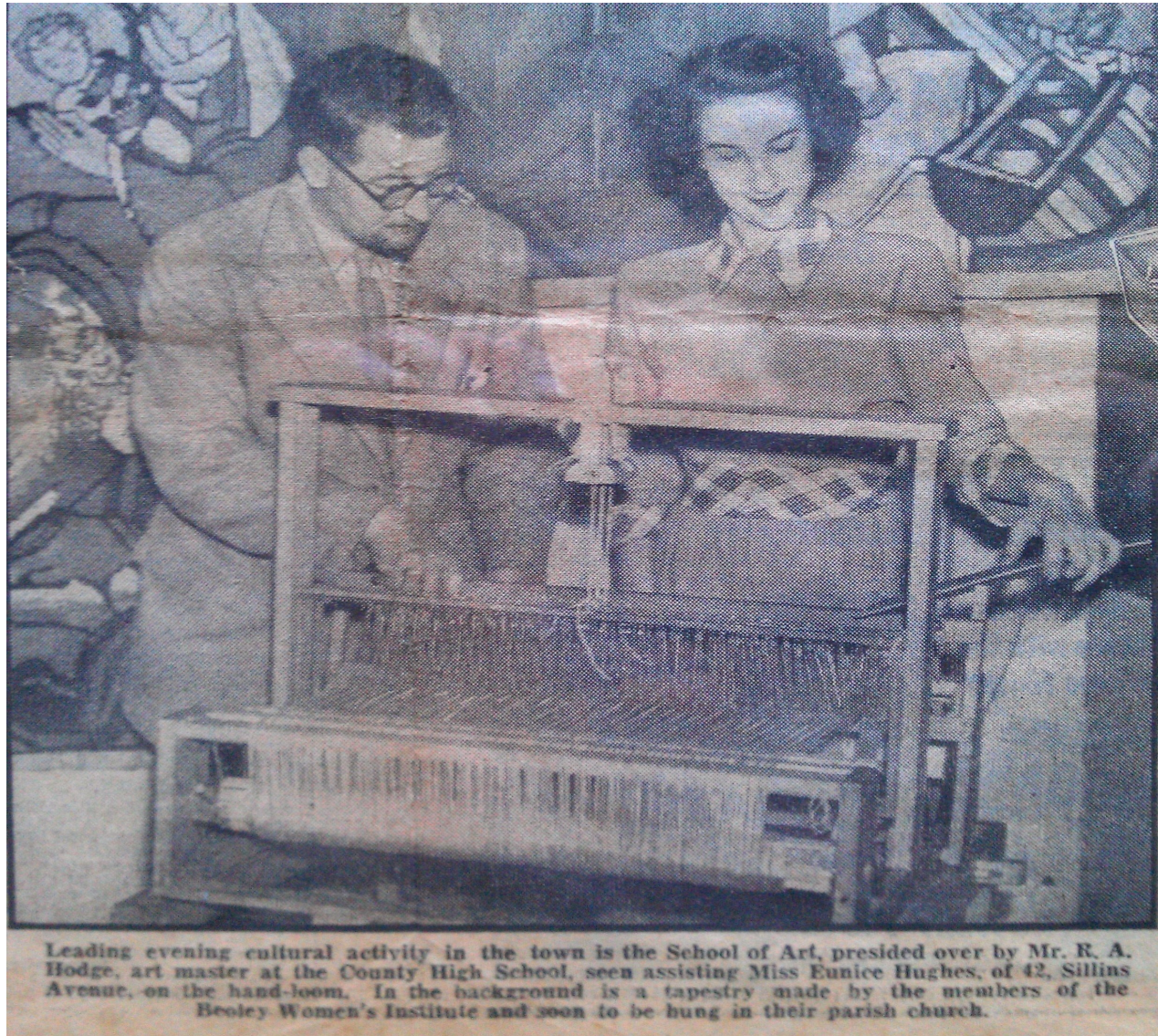
Third generation of float-makers in the Hunt family of Birchfield Road, is 40-year-old Gilbert (seen with his wife), whose small factory is tucked away in a beautiful garden. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are putting the finishing touches to pike fishing floats destined for the Canadian market.

See How Others Saw Us - 1950



Dainty, goggled worker is Mrs. L. Lake, of 7, Philip's Terrace, Beoley Road. Mrs. Lake is welding the front of a cycle frame to the rear. She works in the Enfield Cycle Company's factory. The firm was established 58 years ago and played a vital part in production during both world wars.

See How Others Saw Us - 1950



See How Others Saw Us - 1950

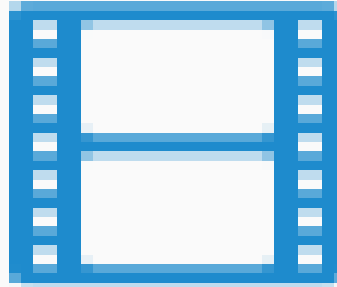


Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leuty, proprietors of the Palace, the only "live" theatre in the town. The Leutys took over the Palace three years ago, and hope that in time it will become a permanent repertory theatre.

Finally.....

What's this and what has it got to do with Redditch?





Thank you

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