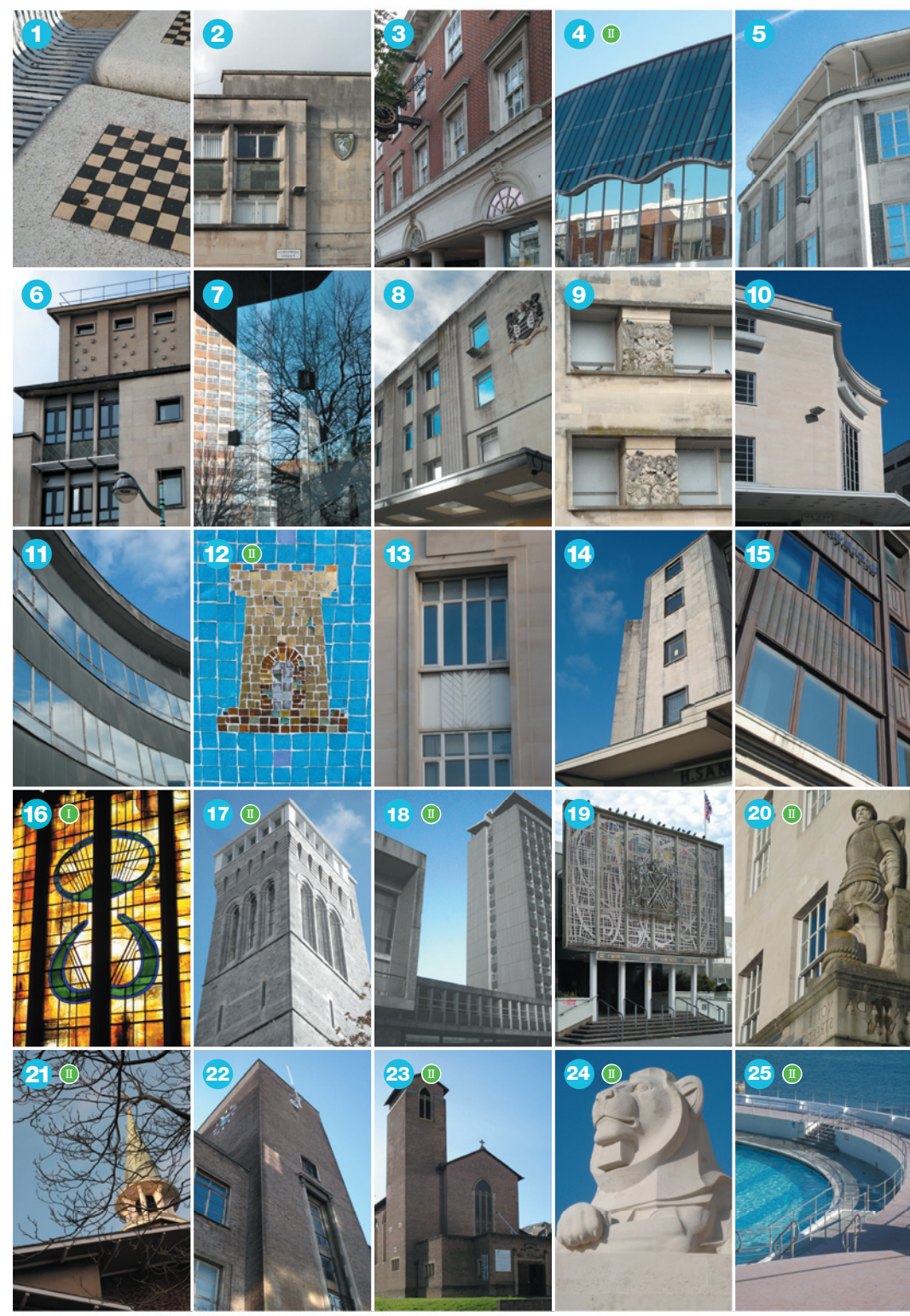


PLYMOUTH: 20 century city



- 1 Building Marker
- A Other 20th Century Buildings
- ▶ Direction to look in
- i Tourist Office
- I Grade One Listed Building
- II Grade Two Listed Building





PLYMOUTH: 20th century city

Plymouth city centre is the greatest built example of post-War British planning and architecture. The city suffered very significant bomb damage in the war and the mayor, Lord Astor, appointed Patrick Abercrombie, the most distinguished town planner of the day, to prepare A Plan for Plymouth in 1943. Abercrombie's plan, with the City Engineer, James Paton Watson, swept away all the old streets and replaced them with a rational, functionally zoned grid set about a major axis (Armada Way) running north-south from the Railway Station to The Hoe.

The new city was on a grand scale influenced by New Delhi in India and Canberra in Australia and by the 19th century the Beaux-Arts planning which had re-formed Paris. The city authorities embraced the new plan enthusiastically.

Using some of the best architects of the day, Plymouth was the first British city to commence reconstruction in April 1947 and the first to open new buildings in 1951. Separate architects, usually working for private developers, designed all the buildings but the city architect and city engineer and their advisors, the architects Thomas Tait and William Crabtree, rigidly controlled their width, height, form and materials.

Plymouth represented the architecture of the future – clean, bright, democratic and, most of all, optimistic. In addition to Abercrombie's Plan, there was a number of surviving 20th century buildings pre-dating the Second World War as well as notable additions that came later to Plymouth. Plymouth is truly a 20th Century city, it was granted city status in 1928 and currently has the greatest number of post-war buildings listed by English Heritage in the country, outside London.



- 1 Braille Garden**, (c. 1958) Armada way
H.J.W. Stirling, City Architect & J Paton Watson, City engineer
- 2 Martins Bank**, (1955-57) 151 Armada Way
Lucas Roberts & Brown
- 3 Western Morning News Office**, (1937-39)
New George Street
Herbert O. Ellis & Clarke
- 4 Pannier Market**, (1956-59) Cornwall Street/
Frankfort Gate/New George Street
Walls & Pearn
II Engineer: Albin Chronowicz
Murals: David Weeks
- 5 Plymouth Co-operative Society Store**, (1950-52)
New George Street/Raleigh Street/Royal Parade
W.J. Reed, staff architect to Co-operative
Wholesale Society
- 6 Derry's Cross group:**
 - Co-operative Insurance Society**, (1960-61)
New George Street
W.J. Reed succeeded by R.C. Steel
 - Plymouth & South Devon Trustee Savings Bank**, (1953-c.1956) 4 Derry's Cross
Alec F. French & Partners
 - Co-operative Building Society**, (1955-59)
New Oxford House, Derry's Cross
L. Blease, staff architect to Co-operative
Building Society
 - Wallsend House**, (now Lancastrian House) (1955-57)
8-9 Derry's Cross
D. Ward & Son Surveyors
 - Anglia House**, (1951-c.1956)
10 Derry's Cross
F.C. Construction Ltd. of Derby
 - South Western Gas Board**, (1950-54)
12-13 Derry's Cross
Whinney, Son & Austen Hall
 - General Electric Company**, (1950-53)
Union Street
Sydney R. Edwards
- 7 Theatre Royal**, (1978-82) Derry's Cross
Peter Moro Partnership
- 8 Pearl Assurance House offices**, (1950-52)
Royal Parade/Armada Way
Alec F. French in association with Sir John Burnet
Tait & Partners
- 9 Dingles Department Store (House of Fraser)**,
(1949-1951)
Royal Parade/Armada Way
Thomas S. Tait of Sir John Burnet Tait & Partners

- 10 New George Street group:**
 - Boots**, (1950-53)
New George Street/Old Town Street
C. St. C. Oakes, staff architect to Boots Pure
Drug Co.
 - Marks & Spencer**, (1949-51)
28 Old Town Street (now within Drake Circus
shopping centre)
Lewis & Hickey
Sculptor: E. Bainbridge Copnall
 - Westminster Bank**, (1955-56)
12-16 Old Town Street
Body, Son & Fleury
 - 11 New George Street**, (1955-56)
Edgar Catchpole, City Architect and Arthur J.
Ardin
 - 15-17 New George Street**, (1955-56)
Edgar Catchpole, City Architect and
Arthur J. Ardin
 - 19 New George Street**, (1954-55)
Edgar Catchpole, City Architect and Edward
Narracott
- 11 Post Office**, (1954)
St. Andrew's Cross
Christopher J. Woodbridge Ministry of Works
- 12 National Provincial Bank**, (1955-58)
II St. Andrew's Cross
B.C. Sherren, staff architect to National
Provincial Bank
- 13 Royal Insurance**, (1949-53)
11 St. Andrew's Cross
Alec F. French in association with Sir John
Burnet Tait & Partners
- 14 Norwich Union House** (1950-52)
Old Town Street/Royal Parade
Donald Hamilton Wakeford & Partners
- 15 Lloyds Bank and Pophams Department Store**,
(1955-57)
8-14 Royal Parade
Easton & Robertson. Sculptor: Amyas Munday
- 16 St. Andrew's Church**,
I Royal Parade
Rebuilt by Frederick Etchells (1948-57). Stained
Glass: John Piper and Patrick Reyntiens (1958,
1964)
- 17 Guildhall**,
II Royal Parade/Armada Way
Norman & Hine with E. Godwin (1870-74), rebuilt
by H.J.W. Stirling, City Architect (1954-59).
External sculpture: Amyas Munday. Internal
glass & artwork: F.H. Coventry, David Weeks &
Wyn George

- 18 Civic Centre**,
II Armada Way/Royal Parade
H.J.W. Stirling, City Architect (1954-57)
succeeded by Allan Ballantyne of Jellicoe Ballan-
tynes & Coleridge (1957-62). Engineer: Ove Arup.
Internal glass & artwork: John Hutton, Mary
Adshead, Hans Tisdall & David Weeks
- 19 Crown Courts**, (1960-63)
Armada Way/Princess Street
H.J.W. Stirling, City Architect executed by
Jellicoe Ballantynes & Coleridge. Stained glass:
James Powell of Whitefriars Glass
Great Square,
Armada Way
H.J.W. Stirling, City Architect (from 1954) and
Geoffrey Jellicoe of Jellicoe Ballantynes &
Coleridge (1960-62)
- 20 Barclays Bank**, (1949-52)
II Armada Way/Notte Street
W. Curtis Green RA, Son & Lloyd.
Sculptor: William McMillan
- 21 Churches:**
 - II Baptist Church**, (1956-59)
Catherine Street
Louis de Soissons RA & Partners.
Mural: Hans Feibusch.
 - II Unitarian Church**, (1955-58)
Notte Street
Louis de Soissons RA & Partners.
Mural: Jack Pickup.
- 22 NAAFI** (Navy Army & Air Forces Institution)
(1949-51) Notte Street/Armada Way
Messrs. Joseph
- 23 Roman Catholic Church of Christ the King**,
II (1960-62) Notte Street/Armada Way
Sir Giles Scott, Son & Partner
- 24 Naval Memorial**
II Hoe Park
Sir Robert Lorimer (1920-24) & Edward Maufe
(post-1945). Sculptor: William McMillan
- 25 Tinside Lido**, (1929-35)
II Hoe Road
W.J. Wibberley, City Architect.

Other City Centre Buildings

- A Colin Campbell House**, Colin Campbell Court
(ex- Summerland Street)
Barron & Rooke (1938-40)
- B Gaumont Cinema**, Union Street
W.H. Watkins & Partners (1931)
- C Athenaeum**, Derry's Cross
Walls & Pearn (1958-61)
- D Royal (now Reel) Cinema**, Derry's Cross
William R. Glen (1936-38)
- E Money Centre**, Mayflower Street
Marshman Warren & Taylor (1975)