

F&DHS Heritage Shop Project 2017



• 101 Main Street •

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Images courtesy of Cheshire Image Bank

101 Main Street and the neighbouring property no.103 were built in the early 19th century and are Grade II listed. The Rev Robert Pringle Borwick, a Presbyterian minister from Scotland, started a private boarding and day school here in the 1860s called the Frodsham Academy. In 1871 it had 23 boarders. The classroom was situated over the stables and the dormitories, above the carriage entrance, now the chiropodist. By 1881 Rev. Borwick had moved his school across the road to what is now the Yuet Ben and renamed it, Manor House School.



Properties on the north side of Main Street before lime trees were planted in 1897

In the 1890s Mrs Scott had letting apartments at no.101. In 1901 it was "Bank House", home of Charles Anderson, the manager of Parr's Bank. At that time Parr's conducted their business at the Town Hall. The bank was opened on weekdays, 10am-3pm and 9am-12noon on Saturdays. Parr's new bank, now the National Westminster, was still under construction. Parr's Bank was founded in Warrington, possibly as early as 1782. It grew in importance due to its many acquisitions and amalgamated with the London County and Westminster in 1918, which went on to become the NatWest we now know.

The original Telephone Exchange was in a cottage near to the Cheshire Cheese, operated in 1901 by Mrs Ellen Bell. By 1906 the National Telephone Co Ltd had moved to 101 Main Street and Mrs Sarah Birtles was the operator until her death in 1932. During WW2 the Exchange was under strict security and it finally closed when the new Telephone Exchange was built to cater for the increased demand.

Millmark on the left c.2000, formerly the Telephone Exchange



The shop then became the offices of the National Coal Board, where orders could be placed and small bags of coal purchased. After a period as an insurance agency, the shop was empty for approximately 2 years until 1998, after which Millmark Foods opened its health food business.