



The History of Shopping – An Introductory Bibliography



William Ballard's grocers shop, Harlesden, before the First World War

The History of Shopping, a brief reading list

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A great deal of historical work has been done on department stores, arguably an atypical form of shopping, albeit a very interesting one. Far less work has been done on small shops.

Daniel Defoe - *The Compleat English Tradesman* (1725-7, reprinted Sutton Publishing, 1987) [advice for shopkeepers]

Emile Zola - *Au Bonheur des Dames* (translated as *The Ladies' Delight*) (1883) [realist novel about a fictional Paris department store and its relationship with small shops. See the *Bibliothèque Nationale's* virtual temporary exhibition, <http://expositions.bnf.fr/zola/bonheur/>], for some nice pictures of French department stores. The novel is set in the 1860s, but largely describes a store in the 1880s]

Alison Adburgham - *Shops and Shopping: 1800-1914* (Allen & Unwin, 1964) [concentrates on clothes shops]

Dorothy Davis - *A History of Shopping* (RKP, 1966) [largely pre-nineteenth century]

D. Alexander - *Retailing in England during the Industrial Revolution* (Athlone Press, 1970)

Anne Mountfield - *Shops and Shopping* (Wayland Publishers Limited, 1976) [informative illustrated book for children]

Theresa McBride - 'A Woman's World: Department Stores and the Evolution of Women's Employment, 1870-1920' in *French Historical Studies* (Fall 1978)

Robert Hendrickson - *The Grand Emporiums: The Illustrated History of America's Great Department Stores* (Stein and Day, 1979)

Gunther Barth - 'The Department Store' in *City People: The Rise of Modern City Culture in Nineteenth-Century America* (OUP, 1980)

M. Miller - *The Bon Marché: Bourgeois Culture and the Department Store* (Allen & Unwin, 1981) [study of the growth of the famous Paris department store]

Susan Porter Benson - *Counter Culture: Saleswomen, Managers and Customers in American Department Stores, 1890-1940* (University of Illinois Press, 1988)

Elaine S. Abelson - *When Ladies Go A-Thieving: Middle-Class Shoplifters in the Victorian Department Store* (OUP, 1989)

A. Powers - *Shop Fronts* (Chatto & Windus, 1989) [architectural history]

J. Benson - *The Rise of Consumer Society in Britain, 1880-1980* (Longman, 1994)

B. Lancaster - *The Department Store: A Social History* (Leicester UP, 1995)

Peter Barber & Peter Jaconnelli - *Continental Taste: Ticinese Emigrants & Their Café-Restaurants in Britain* (Camden History Society Occasional Paper 2, 1997)

G. Crossick and S. Jaumain (eds.) - *Cathedrals of Consumption: the European Department Store 1850-1939* (Ashgate, 1999)

Rebecca L. Spang - *The Invention of the Restaurant: Paris and Modern Gastronomic Culture* (Harvard UP, 2000)

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Robert D. Tamilia - *The Wonderful World of the Department Store in Historical Perspective: A Comprehensive International Bibliography Partially Annotated*
<<http://faculty.quinnipiac.edu/charm/Docs/dept.store.pdf>> (Conference on Historical Analysis & Research in Marketing [CHARM], revised May 2002)

Don Slater - *Consumer Culture and Modernity* (Polity Press, 1997) [Slater was also responsible for a downloadable 49-page consumer culture bibliography <<http://homepages.gold.ac.uk/slater/consumer/biblioa.htm>>, but this no longer seems to be live]

Pamela Klaffke - *Spree: A Cultural History of Shopping* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2003) [thematic popular cultural history with strong North American slant]

Sharon Zukin - *Point of Purchase: How Shopping Changed American Culture* (Routledge, 2003)

Kathryn A. Morrison - *English Shops and Shopping: an Architectural History* (Yale UP, 2005) [and see review of this book by Claire Walsh on *Institute of Historical Research* website < <http://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/paper/walsh.html>>]

Edinburgh Council advice on commercial frontages -
<http://download.edinburgh.gov.uk/DQ_Guidelines/Commercial_Fronts.pdf> [advice on how not to ruin a period shop front]

Penwith District Council advice on shop fronts -
<<http://www.penwith.gov.uk/media/adobe/5/1/Shop%20Front%20Leaflet.pdf>> [again, advice on how not to ruin a period shop front]

Sainsbury's Archives Virtual Museum -
<<http://www.j-sainsbury.co.uk/museum/museum.htm>> [a nice little interactive archive website by Sainsbury's supermarket chain]

Shop Parlour Tales - <<http://www.hmsweb.co.uk/html/shopparlour1.html>> [inter-war childhood memories from Walthamstow]