

# Heritage Hunters



These display panels were researched and compiled by pupils from Milton Keynes Academy

## Shopping in Milton Keynes

Written by Lauryn Finch, Year 7



The shopping centre c.1975



Milton Keynes turned 40 in 2007. This project will look at the construction on the heart of Milton Keynes known as the City Centre.

### The Construction of the shopping centre

The Milton Keynes Development Corporation began work on the original 'shopping building' in 1973. It was to be Europe's largest shopping centre. Opened on the 25th of September 1979 by Margaret Thatcher, Milton Keynes shopping centre contained over 230 shops attracting 30 million visitors a year. The shopping centre measured half a mile in length and cost £36 million. It was designed to ensure Milton Keynes' future and to stand at the absolute centre of Milton Keynes.

Because it was built on a natural plateau and all but hidden from casual eyes on the nearby V8 Marlborough Street, the Development Corporation started mini bus tours from various picking up points to show the residents the progress that was being made.



Photos courtesy Living Archive