

Tony Brown:

In Elsie's account she says they were walking past the school (heading towards the station from the High Street means you pass the side not the front so they are into Victoria Avenue) when people realise it's an air raid and she runs into a fruiterer's. In Kelly's Directories the only seller of fruit in the area (both London Road & Victoria Avenue) was Jacobs the Greengrocers in Broadway Market. There she sees her family run past in the street outside so they are all in the vicinity of Broadway Market. As the Tommy calls her over, the wall she was leaning against is 'blown to atoms' so no doubt this is the bomb that kills her parents as they are in the street. 2 people were killed sheltering in the doorway of Jacobs while others were killed in an adjacent café and newsagent as well as those outside - about 15 in all. This bomb is the one described as being opposite the station which it is, but it is also next to the railings of the technical school's playing field opposite Broadway Market.

The contemporary accounts say that the bomb that fell in front of the school fell only 4 yards from the building into the front garden which would have minimised debris though the shockwaves broke all the windows opposite on London Road.

