

LIBRARY – COOPERATIVE: "L'ECONÒMICA PALAFRUGELLENA"



In 1864, a group of workers



put their money together to buy a sack of rice.



One year later, the consumer cooperative



L'Econòmica Palafrugellenca was created.



It is the oldest consumer cooperative in Girona.



Cooperatives are companies



where all the people that work there



are owners of the business.



All the profits are shared



and the decisions are made together.



The cooperative's first headquarters



was in the centre of Palafrugell.



In 1881, they bought some land



on Botines Road to construct a new building.



The architect Rafael Masó Valentí remodelled



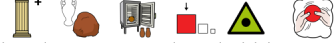
and extended the building between 1926 and 1927.



The result was a building with one floor



and terracota columns. It was large and very practical.



The inside space was organised around a skylight,



which made the space very luminous.



The building also stands out for its two façades



The façade in Botines Road



is decorated with "argerates",



a greenish ceramic, with reliefs that depict different trades.



The façade in Sant Martí Road



stands out for its large gateway, made from glazed ceramic



The cooperative had to close its shop in 1993,



because it couldn't compete with the supermarkets.



Since 2001, Palafrugell's Public Library is there.

