

*"The movement of peoples is as old as the Bible. Whilst the Hebrews were searching for the 'land flowing with milk and honey', Hittites and Kassites were on the move. In later centuries the Romans, Goths and Mongols also crossed the geographic and territorial boundaries. All were looking for the promised land..."*

**Strangers, Aliens and Asians**  
**Anne Kershen 2004**



Graffiti, Stepney October 2012

*"Every third man, at the least, might be set down as a foreigner, Lascars, Chinese, Moors, Negroes, were met at every step. And apart from the manifest ruffianism, shrouded impenetrably under the mixed hats and turbans....it is well known that the navy of Christendom is the sure receptacle of all the murderers and ruffians.."*

**Murder Considered as one of the Fine Arts**  
**Thomas De Quincey 1827**



Narrow Street, Limehouse September 2013

*"Strange, indeed, in the midst of so many merchant princes made rich with Indian gold, that the stranger who brought us the precious things of the torrid zone should die uncared for on a winter night on one of our London streets."*

**The Asiatic in England**  
**Joseph Salter 1873**



Site of former Strangers Home for Asiatics, Africans and South Sea Islanders, Poplar November 2013

***'Christ Church was built between the years 1714 and 1729 as part of the church building programme initiated by the Fifty New Churches act of 1711....***

***At the time, there were fears that 'godless thousands' outside the City of London had no adequate church provision, and that non-conformists – including large numbers of French Huguenot silk weavers – were moving into Spitalfields and bringing their non-conformist worshipping ways with them.'***

**Christ Church Spitalfields Website  
November 2013**



Christ Church viewed from Fournier Street, Spitalfields November 2013

*"It was built in 1743... as the Neuve Eglise ('New Church'), one of several chapels that served the Huguenot (French Protestant) community...*

*...Then, in 1819, it became a Methodist chapel....*

*...In 1897, the former chapel was converted by an orthodox Jewish group ...to become the Spitalfields Great Synagogue.*

*...In 1976, the building reopened as the London Jamme Masjid ('Great Mosque')."*

**Extracts from ENGLISH HERITAGE LISTING  
BRICK LANE JAMME MASJID - 59 Brick Lane, London**



59 Brick Lane, Spitalfields November 2013

*"How I opened the street door I know not, but even as I stepped out into the squalid alleys of Pennyfields the cloaked figure was beside me. A hand was laid upon my shoulder. "Listen!" commanded a deep voice. Clearly, with an eerie sweetness, an evil, hellish beauty indescribable, the wailing of a Stradivarius violin crept to my ears from the room above."*

**Tales of Chinatown**  
**Sax Rohmer 1922**



Pennyfields, Poplar September 2013

*"Paddy enjoys more than his proportional share of dock work with its privileges and its miseries. He is to be found especially among the irregular hands, disliking as a rule the 'six to six' business for six days of the week."*

**Beatrice Webb**

**Survey of life and labour in London (1886 -1903)**



Limehouse Basin, Tower Hamlets September 2013

*"The newcomers have gradually replaced the English population in whole districts, Hanbury Street, Fashion Street, Pelham Street, and many streets and lanes and alleys have fallen before them; they have introduced new trades as well as new habits and they live and crowd together."*

**Charles Booth 1889**



40 Hanbury Street, Spitalfields November 2013

***“Significant anti-alien support in Parliament led to the appointment of a Royal Commission, reporting in 1903, to consider the ‘evil’ of unrestricted immigration, and how it could be controlled.***

***The Royal Commission’s findings led to the passing of the Aliens Act... It was targeted primarily at Britain’s most visible minority community – Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe.”***

**Jewish Museum London  
November 2013**



Former location of Poor Jews Temporary Shelter, Leman Street November 2013

***“The area’s character as a mixed use residential and commercial area, and its association with the clothing industry, has endured for hundreds of years.***

***Over the 1700s and 1800s, a large Jewish Community moved into the area, many arriving in the late 19th century from Eastern Europe and Russia... By the start of the 20th century...the famous market established in 1883 was almost entirely Jewish.”***

**Extract from Wentworth Street Conservation Area  
London Borough of Tower Hamlets 7th March 2007**



Wentworth Street, Whitechapel November 2013

***"On Sunday, Fascism received the greatest blow that it has had yet in this country.... Sir Oswald Mosely proclaimed his intent of personally invading the East End on Sunday last, .... They were stopped by the people of East London, hundreds of thousands of ratepayers thronged the streets and chanted 'He shall not pass!'"***

**Jewish Chronicle 9th October 1936**



Cable Street, looking East from junction with Leman Street, November 2013

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Indian restaurants</i>
<i>1970</i>	<i>1200</i>
<i>1980</i>	<i>3000</i>
<i>1990</i>	<i>5100</i>
<i>2000</i>	<i>7940</i>
<i>2011</i>	<i>9400</i>

**The Federation of Specialist Restaurants  
Statistics November 2013**



Nazrul Restaurant, Banglatown November 2013

***"In September 1978, just a few months after Margaret Thatcher claimed to understand why English men and women might feel their country was being 'swamped' by Commonwealth immigrants, the National Front moved its central offices from Teddington in West London to Great Eastern Street, a few minutes' walk from Brick Lane. Their intention was to provoke more trouble....."***

**Come hungry, leave edgy  
A Review of Brick Lane by Monica Ali  
Sukhdev Sandhu 2003**



Bethnal Green Road, at junction with Brick Lane November 2013

*"The Institute of Race Relations says there has been an average of five killings a year since 1993. The 96 cases it lists were not all categorised as racist by the courts. The Ministry of Justice said that even though the number of racist incidents had fallen over the last five years, it was determined to do more."*

**BBC News 6th January 2012**



Altab Ali Park, Whitechapel November 2013

*"I thought all help was finished because it is hard for me to talk to people when I need help, I do not speak English and I am just learning to write Somali. Then one day, my friend from Esol class took me to Osca. They helped. ....May Allah bless them."*

**Asha**

**Ocean Somali Community Association Website**

**November 2013**



Ocean Somali Community Association, Mile End November 2013

*"The arrival city is a machine that transforms humans.  
It is also, if allowed to flourish, the instrument that will  
create a permanently sustainable world"*

**ARRIVAL CITY How the Largest Migration in History  
is Reshaping our World  
Doug Saunders 2011**

