

## Caught on camera! – Using film and photographs as secondary sources

Historical photos might be useful if you want to compare your study area with what it used to be like –Even photos from a few years ago can show stark contrasts in terms of rebranding/ gentrification etc

Excerpt from the ALCAB report 2014 (on which the A Level specifications are based)

### Human Geography: Changing places - **Meaning and Representation**

Meaning and representation relates to how humans perceive, engage with and form attachments to the world. This might be the everyday meanings that humans attach to places bound up with a sense of identity and belonging. It also extends to ways that meanings of place might be created, such as through place making and marketing.

Representations of places are important because of the way in which they shape peoples' actions and behaviours, and those of businesses, institutions and governments. Representations also provide a reference point for people's sense of identity, underpinning their attachments to place, particularly in times of change.

Attention to meaning highlights the processes of representation through which places are depicted, variously by external agencies and by those who live in them. **The meanings and identities ascribed to a place may also be related to its function, both social and economic, in the present and in the past. Places can have multiple meanings and identities, reflecting different perceptions and perspectives.**

Students should select one of the following topics through which to address the concepts of meaning and representation as applied to place:

- Place making and marketing, drawing on examples such as regional development agencies, tourist marketing, and property marketing materials.
- Representation of place through photography and film, music and art, literature and poetry, through cartography, census data, statistical representations, digital worlds and geo-spatial technologies such as geographical information systems.
- Lived experience of place in the past and present. Developing understanding of how residents understand and see the places in which they live. These understandings may sometimes contrast with governmental and corporate representations such as those in place marketing or planning documents.

Here are some examples of what comes top in a Google search for *Tours of the East End of London*

**Grim Reapers of London - walking tour**


**East End street art tour**

**The Kray twins gangster tour**

**Jack the Ripper - evening tour with pub stops**

**East End revival : Photo walking tour of Brick lane to Hoxton with a photojournalist**



<p>Mile End photos 2014 <a href="http://spitalfieldslife.co.uk/2014/04/30/in-mile-end-old-town">http://spitalfieldslife.co.uk/2014/04/30/in-mile-end-old-town</a></p>		<p>East End photos – Victorian mainly  <a href="http://www.history-in-pictures.co.uk/store/index.php?a=viewCat&amp;catId=75">http://www.history-in-pictures.co.uk/store/index.php?a=viewCat&amp;catId=75</a></p>	
<p><b>The secret history of our streets TV series</b>  Series 1 episode 6 Arnold Circus, Tower Hamlets  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bBU-ctynq7o">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bBU-ctynq7o</a></p>	 <p>Really excellent documentary on urban change in tower hamlets since 1870 to modern day. Also programmes about Bermondsey, Notting hill, Camberwell and Deptford</p>	<p>Whitechapel Market over time  <a href="http://philmaxwell.org/?p=19997">http://philmaxwell.org/?p=19997</a></p>	
<p><b>London photographer Phil Maxwell's archive</b> of Brick lane photos dating from 19830 hundreds of photos spread over 30 years organised into collections  <a href="http://philmaxwell.org/?p=20787">http://philmaxwell.org/?p=20787</a> <a href="http://philmaxwell.org/?p=20443">http://philmaxwell.org/?p=20443</a> <a href="http://philmaxwell.org/?p=17807">http://philmaxwell.org/?p=17807</a></p>		<p><b>The Geograph website</b>  <a href="http://www.geograph.org.uk/">http://www.geograph.org.uk/</a></p>	 <p>Some of the photos taken in eg 2005 so may give historical perspective</p>



## Current and archive moving image resources

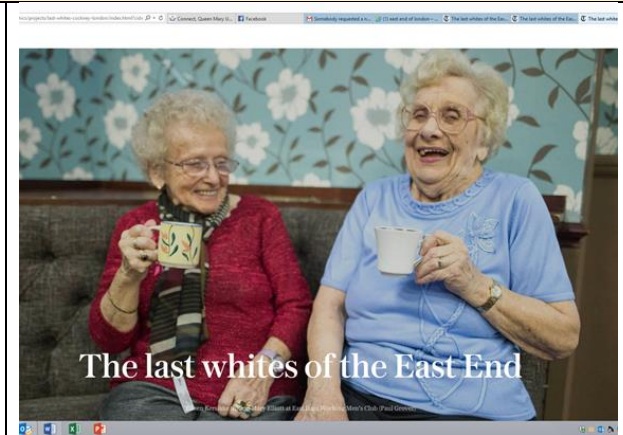
**‘The more we are together’** – 1958 30 min film about life in the East End

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMWJwMRCxo&ebc=ANyPxKoMvWPzLxq7LScqUGwEBpZLsN8pF-kpHYcli\\_tYPPWX\\_GYXR6WvTOFzI4ntubXBKXgutendvPhzPTZHPKkOihM8WWhMNQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMWJwMRCxo&ebc=ANyPxKoMvWPzLxq7LScqUGwEBpZLsN8pF-kpHYcli_tYPPWX_GYXR6WvTOFzI4ntubXBKXgutendvPhzPTZHPKkOihM8WWhMNQ)



Links from Facebook eg **‘The East End of London’ Facebook group**

<http://s.telegraph.co.uk/graphics/projects/las-t-whites-cockney-london/index.html?cid=sf26720838+sf26720838>

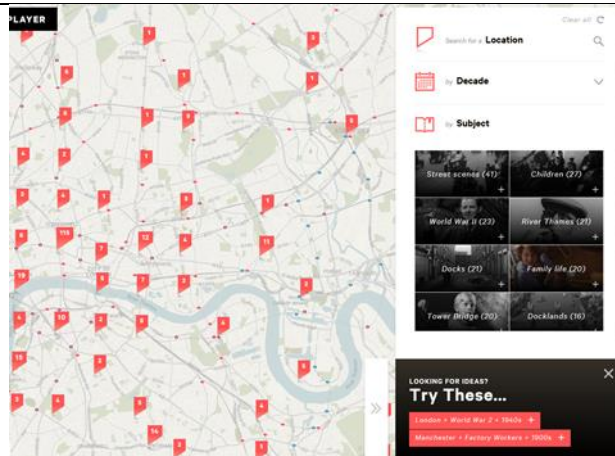


**The BFI film archive**

Films referencing specific places can be found using the BFI film library interactive map. Many are free to download though some have a small charge.

You can search by using the interactive map or enter a postcode or area name

<http://player.bfi.org.uk/britain-on-film/>



This includes an archive of black and white film but also 1970s / 80s films such as ‘Ultimate Living’ – a 10 minute film about life in pre gentrified east end and specifically the re development of St Katherine’s docks in the 70s. Well worth a look.

**One pair of eyes-** Georgia Brown on ‘who are the Cockneys now?’

Film made in 1968 by Georgia Brown an East End actress who starred in the long running stage musical Oliver as Nancy.

