

Whitechapel had a population of 30,000

Whitechapel Context

It was overcrowded - in 1881 there were 188.6 people per acre compared to 45 people per acre in rest of London

- Lodging houses - Homeless people could sleep here but was unhygienic
- Rookeries - Areas of slum housing
- Streets were poorly lit, with lots of alleys
- Coal and gas fumes caused pollution and smog
- Sewerage systems were poor and water unclean

Types of Labour in Whitechapel

➡ **Casual** - workers employed for a day at a time so no job security

➡ **Sweated** - worked in cramped, unhygienic 'sweatshops' such as tailoring, dress and shoe making

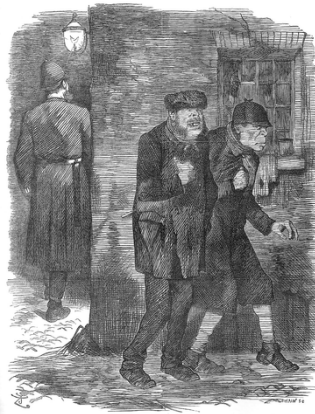


Booth's Poverty Study

- 1886-1903 - collected data about London's population to pressure government to improve working and living conditions
- Study revealed that 37.5% of East Londoners lived in such poverty they could not feed or clothe themselves



In 1864 the death rate was double that of the rest of London



WHITECHAPEL c1870-c1900 P1



Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Act 1875 - The area surrounding Flower and Dean Street was demolished



Peabody Estate - in 1881 George Peabody opened 286 flats which had brick walls, shared bathrooms and kitchens and ventilated - improvement in affordable housing



Houses of the Working Classes Act 1890 - aimed to replace slums



Public Health Amendment Act 1890 - Aimed to improve sewerage and rubbish collection

In 1870 **Dr Barnardo** established an orphanage in the East End to give children better conditions than workhouses

Flower and Dean Street

- ➡ According to 1871 census, 902 people lived in 31 houses on this street
- ➡ Housing was damp, sewage system was poor
- ➡ Had reputation of prostitution, theft and violent crime
- ➡ It is believed Jack the Ripper lived here

Lots of **immigration** in 1800s from Ireland and Jewish people from Eastern Europe
Jewish immigrants have Sabbath on Saturday so could work on a Sunday - this led to tensions between Whitechapel residents

