

Medieval times: Tanneries and tallow works clustered to east and downwind of city where "noxious" trades are banned



A 1420: Whitechapel Bell Foundry, Britain's oldest manufacturing firm, founded. It is still in business today

1666: East End population swells in decades after Great Fire of London as docks extend downstream



B 1685: Large numbers of French Huguenots fleeing religious persecution settle in Spitalfields, bringing new energy to growing silk industry

1769: Spitalfields Riots – weavers protest as downturn in silk industry and falling prices lead to poverty and unemployment



C 1802-06: West and East India Docks constructed. Port of London remains principal gateway of British Empire until 1950s

1845: Influx of immigrants fleeing Irish Famine

D 1860: Britain's first Chinatown set up in Limehouse, close to docks where tea and opium arrive from all over empire

A 1867-78: Dr. Thomas Barnardo founds **Ragged School** for destitute children. **William Booth** founds **Salvation Army**

Sources: Britannia.com, Museum of London

London's East End – past and present

The East End of London, long known for its immigrant populations and its poverty, hopes to gain a significant economic boost from hosting the Olympic Games, further regenerating this vibrant and historically rich area of the city



Brick Lane Mosque: Built in 1743 as Protestant church by Huguenots, becomes synagogue in 1898, and transformed into mosque for Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities in 1976

Match Girls Strike in Bow

Brick Lane

Whitechapel

Wapping

Limehouse

Poplar

Blackwall

Isle of Dogs

Millwall

Greenwich

0.5km
0.3 miles



1940-41: East End is devastated in Blitz of World War II with factories and docks prime target for German bombers

1950s: Legacy of slum clearance and wartime destruction results in one of UK's highest concentrations of council housing



B 1950s-60s: New wave of immigrants from West Indies and South Asia arrive – Brick Lane now home to large Bangladeshi community



H 1960s: Twins **Ronnie and Reggie Kray** build up feared criminal empire, becoming local celebrities and controlling much of London's organised crime until their arrest in 1968



J 1981: Regeneration of derelict docks begins. **Canary Wharf** becomes second most important financial centre after City

2005: Regeneration of East End at heart of London's successful Olympic bid



2008: 4,000 year-old flint axe found ahead of construction of Olympic Park

Jul 27, 2012: Opening Ceremony of Olympic Games

A 1888: Jack the Ripper kills five prostitutes around Whitechapel. He is never caught and his identity remains a mystery

E 1888: Jews fleeing pogroms of Eastern Europe arrive, as do German and Russian radicals fearing arrest. **Match Girls Strike** in Bow and 1889 **Great Dock Strike** both regarded milestones in development of British labour movement

The Match Girls Strike of 1888 was led here by **ANNIE BESANT**
Journalist and Lecturer
1847 - 1933



F 1911: Siege of Sidney Street. Two Latvian anarchists engage in seven-hour gun battle with over 200 armed police after botched robbery

1915: First aerial bombing raid on London – zeppelin drops high explosives over East End

1916: Prominent Suffragette **Sylvia Pankhurst** campaigns for relief for soldiers' wives enduring hardship during World War I

G 1936: Battle of Cable Street. East Enders stop Oswald Mosley leading Fascist march through mainly Jewish area



THE BATTLE OF CABLE STREET
The people of East London rallied to Cable Street on the 4th October 1936 and forced back the march of the fascist Oswald Mosley and his Blackshirts through the streets of the East End.
"THEY SHALL NOT PASS"

Pictures: Associated Press, Getty Images, Jordi Bou, Amanda Slater, Museum of London

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