CREATIVE POTENTIAL

Hackney Wick and Fish Island



CREATIVE POTENTIAL Hackney Wick and Fish Island

Introduction

The social cultural and economic ecology of a place is as fragile as any other ecology. In March and April 2009 muf architecture/art commissioned by DFL -mapped the activities and businesses of Hackney Wick. We uncovered both significant activity but also the negative repercussions of the presence of the Olympic site namely landlords unwilling to give artists and businesses (creative and otherwise) sufficiently long leases and businesses who had either left or were planning to leave.

Although art practise and creative industries can be found throughout the boroughs, Hackney Wick and Fish Island is one of the areas where there is both a historic and still flourishing arts community-alongside Bow, Whitechapel Dalston and Homerton. It is an arts community, which co-existed with both complementary and parallel industries in particular the printing industry but also other businesses such as building material suppliers and some specialist arts businesses. Although profoundly affected by a number of factors connected to the Olympics there are still both sufficient numbers of studios, infrastructure and businesses to allow for a model for growth in Hackney Wick, which draws and builds on the existing assets of what is there. These existing assets extend to the typology of street, yard and canal frontage, these could be amplified as a network of routes and animated public and semi public spaces which could sit along the very different figure ground of the Olympic site-in both its games and post games guise.

The mapping exercise suggests that there could be another narrative for the Olympic site, one where the cluster of creative industries is nurtured on Hackney Wick and the Northern end of Fish Island as a precursor and to attract interest in the Olympic site. There are international precedents for interventions to protect creative activity-examples include the requirements for new developments to include 15% of studios in certain areas of Boston and the atelier —lodgments of Paris. Moves such as this have a two-fold function they attract additional investment and activity to an area in the short term but they also guard against the future flattening effects of regeneration when an area becomes victim of its own success.

Next steps=mapping the existing / mapping the possible.

There exists the potential to nurture organisations which host creative activity whilst delivering wider regeneration benefits through educational programmes, cultural programming or investment in innovation and support for the creative industries. As part of this mapping exercise we have had initial conversations with Space, the Barbican and the Shoreditch Trust. Space studios have a very clear idea of how they could consolidate and extend the part they play either alone or as part of a consortium. The Barbican are interested in exploring how they might further develop their existing initiatives in East London from for example hosting a satellite space whether temporary or permanent but also rehearsal spaces, for example currently they offer rehearsal spaces to Stratford East theatre in EC2.

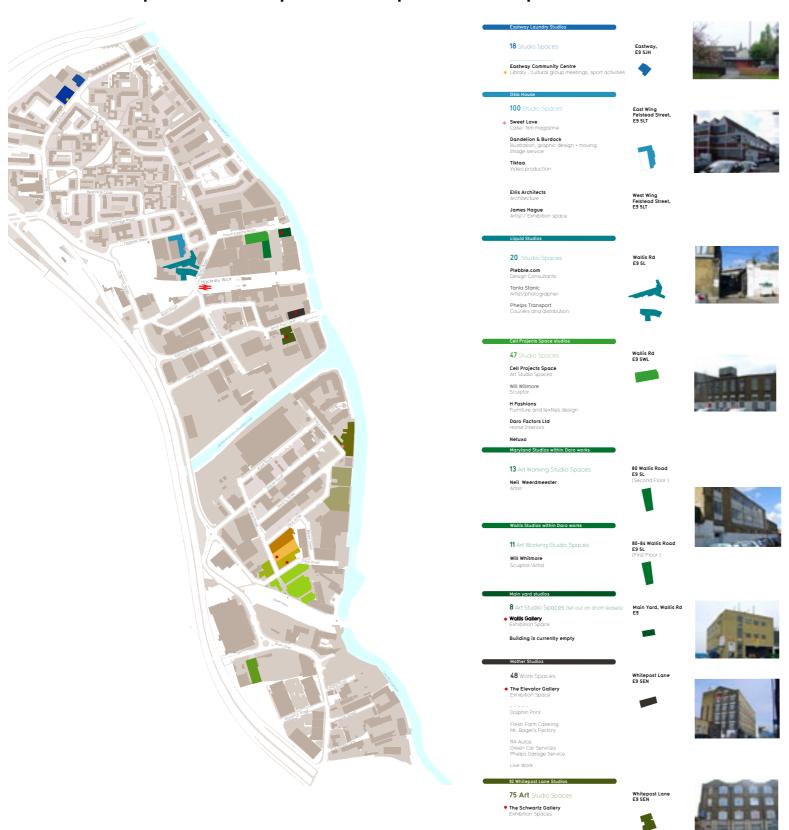
Creative industries in Hackney Wick and Fish island

Arts and creative industries in Hackney Wick and Fish Island?

The scale and clusters of studio buildings are unique to Hackney Wick and Fish Island.

Different buildings have very different tenures and so more or less stable populations.

These are examples of creative practitioners per studio composite.



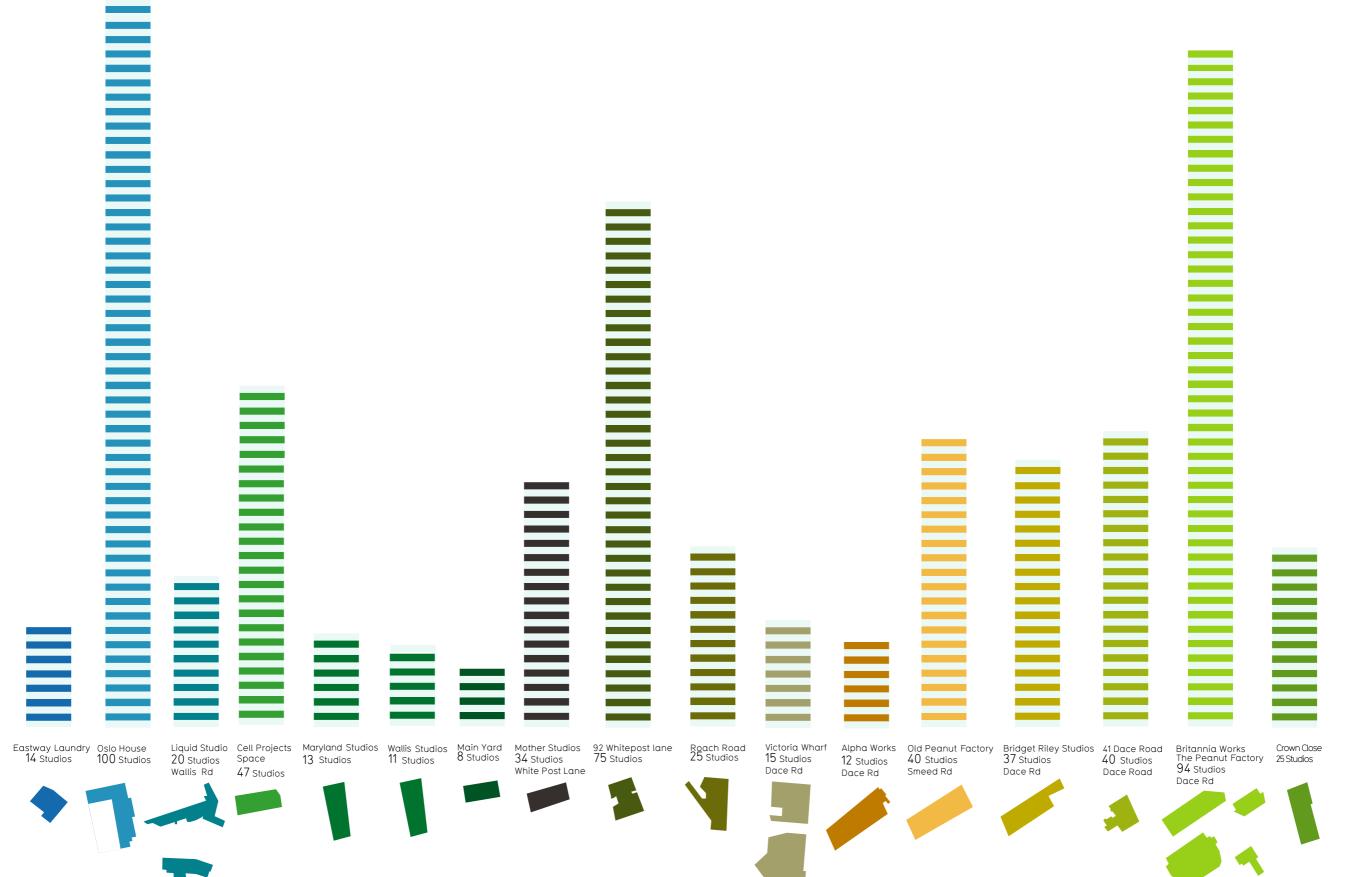




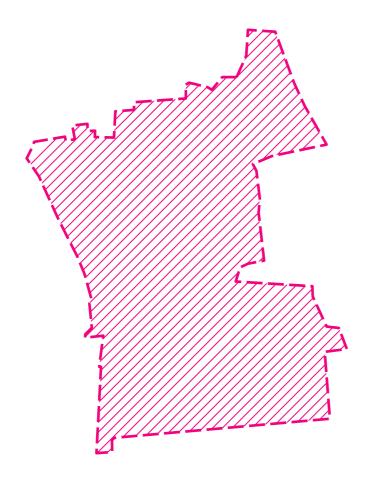


610 Studios in Hackney Wick and Fish Island

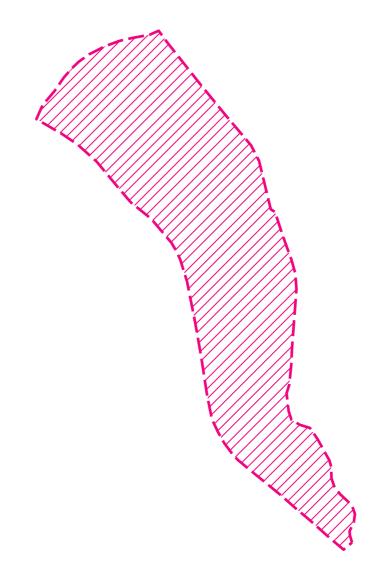
This is the minimum number of studios (including live/work) offered in HW according to 1on1 interviews with studio managers and artists. The studio spaces are not only occupied by creative practitioners such as designers, artists & galleries but also by a variety of supporting businesses from printers to financial consultants. A more detailed mapping phase could expose the percentage of supporting businesses and empty units.



Dalston and Hackney Wick and Fish Island Comparisons can be made between the studio provision of Dalston and Hackney Wick and Fish Island.

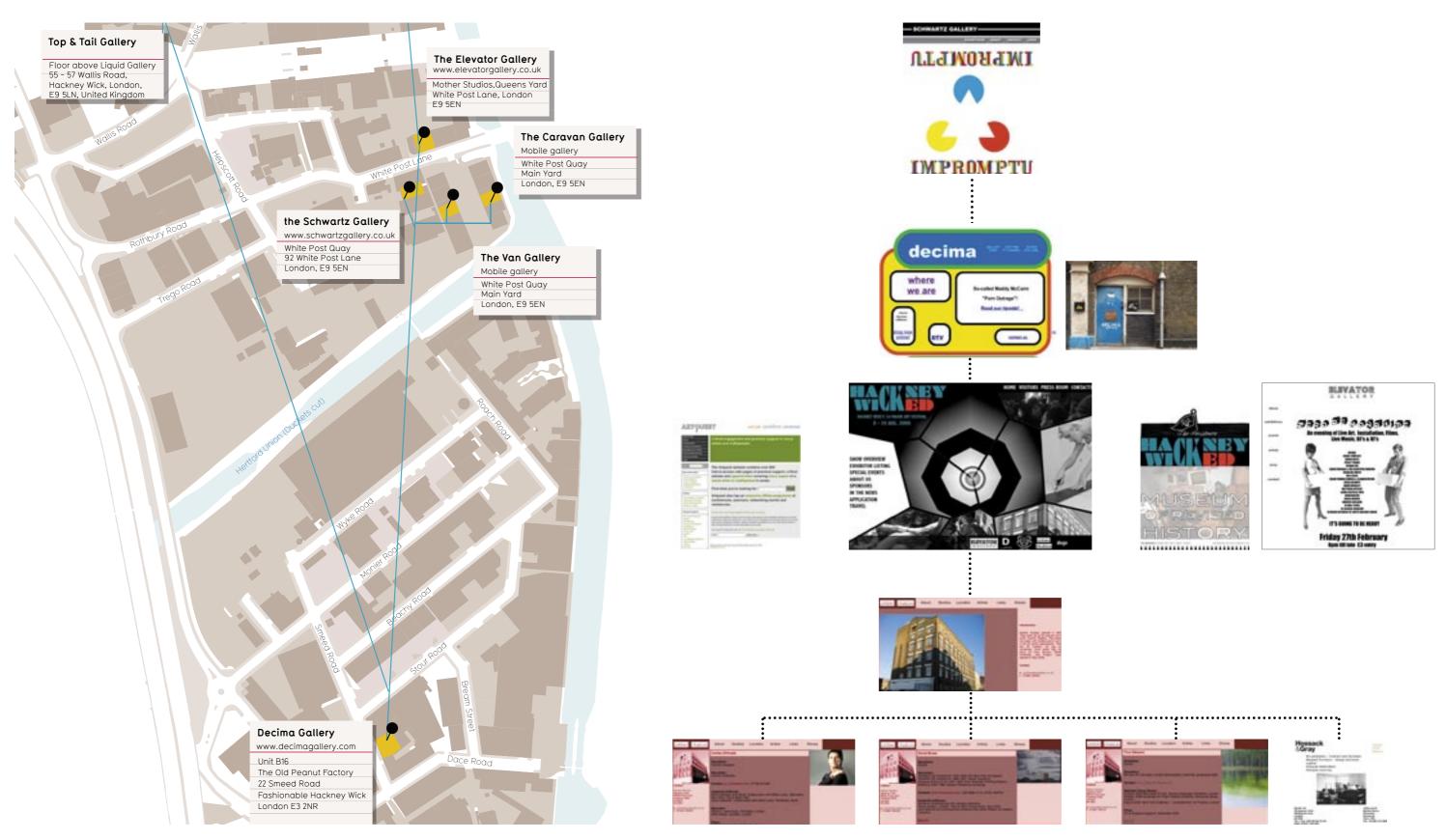


creative industries no. 300 (counted to date)



studios available no. 610 (counted to date)

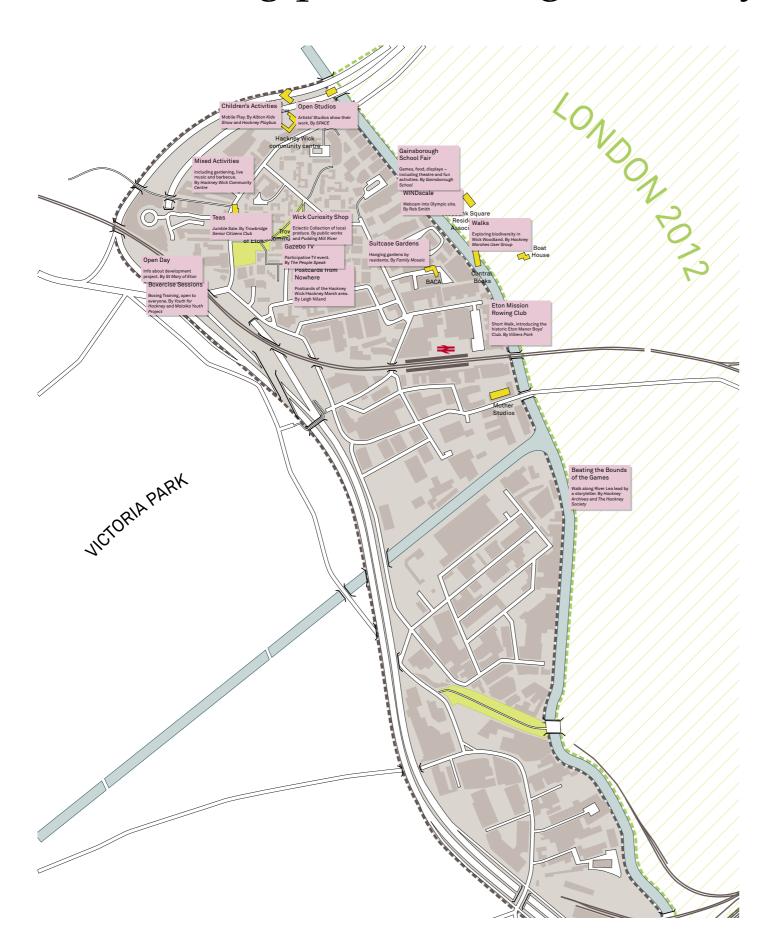
$Galleries\ in\ Hackney\ Wick\ and\ Fish\ Island$ Some of the studio buildings house galleries, which draw visitors to the area; they are linked through joint shows and shared marketing.



Creative Potential : Hackney Wick and Fish Island/ muf architecture/art Ilp /Report 07 2009

VALUE WHAT IS THERE

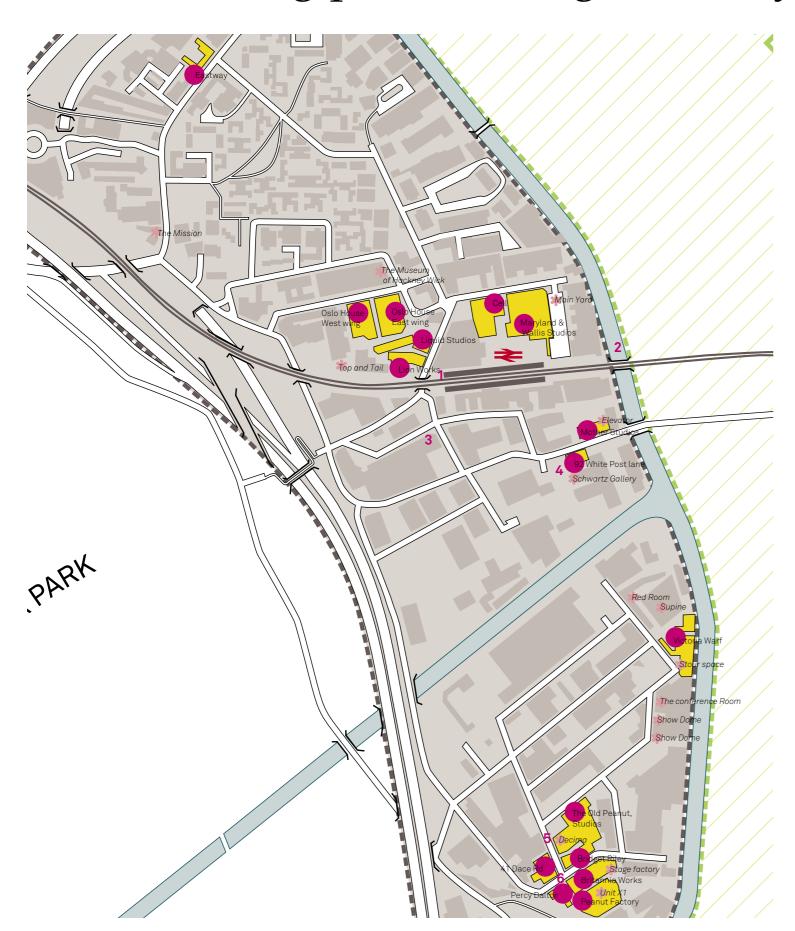
Events taking place during Hackney Wick Festival 2008





The Hackney Wick festival organised by Space Studios and the Wick Coalition Is one example of how the arts and residential communities of Hackney Wick have come together-it follows a long history of site-specific arts events in the area. It both attracted visitors to the area but also established new partnerships, some of which have continued. Family Mosaic one of the partners gave the festival equal billing to Victoria Park as a reason to buy a flat in one of their developments.

Events taking place during Hackney Wicked Festival 2009



Events

General, non specific or secret locations:

1 Laura May Lewis iconic Hollywick sign

2 Coracle Regatta

3 Ashes and Diamonds theatre group

4 Live Jam Graffiti Artists

5 The Hive Cabaret

6 Fish Island Street Party

7 Live bands @ counter café

Tangent art projects outside installations 10 Artists

Dave Notarius Art Scream (Van Gallery)

Performance Opening night

Sunday BBQ

The Burning of the wicker man secret location

Simon Oulds, watercolour challenge

$Public\ Face\ of\ Hackney\ Wick\ and\ Fish\ Island$ Active street frontages are the exception rather than the rule, buildings open into yards more often than they open into the street.

There are some new enterprises opening but most are on very short leases.



Old Ford Lock



Local Shop, Roach Road



Coffee Shop, Roach Road



Elevator Gallery, White Post Lane



Bagel Shop, Hepscott Road



Food Shop, Wallis Road



Cafe, Chapman Road



Turkish cafe, Felstead Street



Cafe, Felstead Street





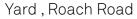
Coffee Shop, Prince Edward Road Transportable Burger takeaway, Prince Edward Road



Mobile Food Stall, Prince Edward Road

View in, Hackney Wick and Fish Island The existing typology of yard and framed vista could inform new developments.







Studios, Smeed Road



Studios, Smeed Road



Yard, Dace Road



Old Ford Lock, Dace road



Derelict steel structure, facing the canal on Dace Road



View from Monier Road towards View from Greenway the Olympic Site





Greenway staircase, Dace Road



Warehouse, Dace Road



Yard entrance, Dace Road



Old Ford Lock



Cafe, Chapman Road



Warehouse, Felstead Street



Yard, White Post Lane



View from White Post Lane towrds Olympic site



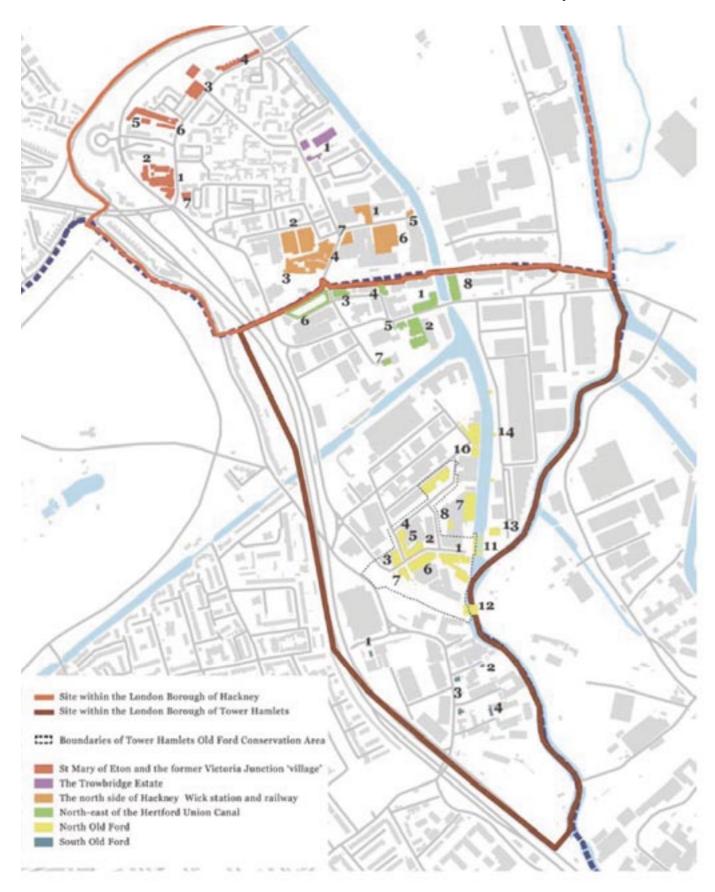
Yard, Wallis Street



Duckets cut

Creative industries and conservation areas in HW and FI

There is a coincidence between conservation area and studio spaces.





2007 Service industries in Hackney Wick & Fish Island

Many of the businesses that were in place in 2007 have now left. On the following pages we take one industry, the printing industry as an example.



001 EQT	Catering And Ventilation Equipment Catering Equipment Suppliers
002 EQT	HF Bates & Sons Ltd Manufacturers- Metals
003 EQT	Leisureline Services Ltd Sauna & Solarium Equipment
004 EQT	United Refrigeration UK Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers & Distributors
	Construction products and merchants
001 CNS	Aston Matthews Limited Bathroom suit warehouse
002 CNS	Bow Buildbase Builders' Merchants
003 CNS	Browmite Ltd Builders (Head Office)
004 CNS	Cartledge Lighting Contractors
005 CNS	H Neale & Sons Stone Merchants
006 CNS	John Bash Timber Merchants Specialist Timber Importer
007 CNS	Keyline Builders merchants, Industrial, Timber & Related
008 CNS	Plumb Centre Plumbers merchants
009 CNS	Prism Profiles Limited Manufactor and distributor of building products
010 CNS	Quandhurst Decorating Supplies Painting & Decorating Supplies
011 CNS	Raft Services Heating Appliance Spare Parts
012 CNS	Scaffolding by DSC
013 CNS	Safety superstore Hardware store
014 CNS	Smerald Roofing Roofing Supplies & Materials Wholesalers

001172	Metal Fabrications
002 FAB	Foam Products Rubber & Plastics
003 FAB	Plumtree Farms Limited (Found twice on yard) Packaging / bottling
004 FAE	E. Abrahams & Co Ltd Packaging materials & services
	Glass production
001 GLP	Yearn Glass & Co Mirror Manufacturers Yearn Glass & Co Mirror Manufacturers
002 GLP	Altafield Ltd (G1)
003 GLP	The Colour Works China & Glassware Manufacturers & Wholesalers
004 GLP	Britannia Mirrors Mirrors & Decorative Glass
005 GLP	Caplin Glass Glass Merchants Processing & Finishing
	Waste management
001 WM	Wastecare. Co.uk Waste Management, Disposal, Recovery & Recycling
	Engineers/ consultants
001 EGC	Dijan Engineering Works (Unit N) Engineers
002 EGC	Dobbin & Sullivan Surveyors And Valuers

001 FAB Star Open Glove

001 CMS	A B Salvage and Parts Car Breakers & Dismantlers
002 CM	AM Cars Automotive
003 CMS	Balaaj Auto Spares Transport, Automotive, Car Accessories
004 CM	Car Parts Classic Car Specialists
005 CM	Chapman Moto Co Ltd Car repairs
006 CM	East London Commercials Ltd (HGV Motors) – Category: Garage Services
007 CMS	Repair Body Work Car repairs
008 CM	S R A Auto's MOT Station MOT Specialists
009 CM	S Phelps Transport Garage Services
010 CMS	Total Engine & Gearboxes, Garage Services
	Car rental / Car parking / Removals/ Storage
001 CPR	Budget hire Hire Service
002 CPF	Channel Coachways Coach Hire (Office & Administration)
003 CPF	Docklands City Hire Services Car Hiring
004 CPR	ET Moves Homes Removals
005 CPF	Fox Transport Disability and Special Needs services for transport
006 CPF	Longford Street Investments Car Parking & Garaging (Office & Administration)
007 CPR	Speedy Hire Hire service
008 CPR	Supreme Cab Hire Taxis & Private Hire (Office & Administration)
009 CPR	Trans Truck Car Hire - Chauffeur Driven
010 CPR	The Big Yellow Self Storage Company Storage Buissness
	The Big Yellow Self Storage Company Storage Buissness
	The Big Yellow Self Storage Company Storage Buissness
	Import/ export distribution
01 IEP	Distribution Depo Import/ export distribution
02 IEP	Carlton Shoes Ltd Consultancies, Export and Import Agents
03 IEP	Alami International Export & Import Agents
	Furniture repair/production/dealers
01 FUR	Art reproduction/ Furniture (Unit R2/3) Furniture - Reproduction
02 FUR	Asap Carpenters, Joiners & Cabinet Makers
03 FUR	City Furniture Hired Furniture service
04 FUR	Dickens furniture limited Furnishings
05 FUR	Freestyle Of London Furniture Manufacturers
06 FUR	Furniture Maker Furniture Manufacturers
07 FUR	G K Trimmings Upholsterers (Business at Home)
08 FUR	Hossack & Gray Upholsterers (Workshop & Repair Centres)

	Retail/ Office suppliers/ computing
001 RET	ART Litho Computer Retail
002 RET	Bluetex Office Express Office Stationery Supplies
003 RET	Freestyle for London Printer Supplies
004 RET	Office Machine Solutions Office Equipment Servicing & Maintenar
005 RET	Zamo household products Retail
006 RET	
	Stationary
	Catering/ Food industry
001 FCI	Benjys Group Cafes, Snack Bars & Tea Rooms
002 FCI	Boulavard Catering with style
003 FCI	Catering Canterbury Foods
004 FCI	Meat Wholesalers, Food Manufacturers Fresh farm catering LTD
005 FCI	Fruit & Vegetable Wholesalers H. Forman & Son
006 FCI	Food Manufacturers
	Kedassia Poultry Poultry Wholesalers
007 FCI	Lea Hotel Public Houses, Bars & Inns
008 FCI	The Griddlers Cafes & Coffee Shops
009 FCI	Mr Bagells Food Wholesale & Suppliers
010 FCI	The Island Cafe Cafes, Snack Bars & Tea Rooms
011 FCI	Wicker Fisheries Fish Merchants
	Printers/Publishers
001 PRT	ALT Printing services LTD
002 PRT	Astragraphic Services- Printers Services
003 PBS	Central Books Ltd - Distribution Services
004 PRT	Faber House - Printers
005 PRT	First Cut Print Finishers - Printers
006 PRT	Fox Finishers - Printers
007 PRT	Freestyle for London - Printer Supplies
008 PRT	Greenleaf Fm - Printers
009 PRT	Handmade signs and posters
010 PRT	Intonmarts - Printers
011 PBS	Lawrence And Wishart Ltd - Publishers
012 PBS	Mablo Colour Ltd - Publishers Services
013 PBS	Millennium Hand Finishing Ltd - Publish
014 PRT	Paul Green Printing Ltd- Printers Main Yo
015 PRT	Quadrographics Limited Hamlet Indust
016 PRT	Quadroprint Limited Hamlet Industrial C
017 PRT	Riverside Printing Company
018 PRT	Rutland Print
019 PRT	The Blue printing Company Limited

Printing industries in Hackney Wick Many of the businesses that were in place in 2007 have now left. On the following pages we take one industry; the printing industry as an example.



	Active Printing Services
001 PRT	PRINT FINISHES PRINT FINISHERS 24-7 Unit 5 Dace Road, LONDON E3 2NG
002 PRT	Abba Litho Sales Limited PRINTERS/REPRO Remus House, 35 Monier Road London E3 2PR Tei: 020 8533 5100 www.abbalitho.co.uk
003 PBS	Central Books Ltd PUBLISHERS (40 staff - med-large size) 99 Wallis Road, London E9 5LN Tel: 020 89864854
004 FIN	G and A Print Finishes 4 FINISHERS (small 2 staft) G and A Print Finishes 90 Wallis Road,London E9 5LN Tel: 020 89865123
005 PUB	Lawrence And Wishart Ltd PUBLISHERS (small 4 starf) 99A Wallis Road, London,E9 5LN Tel: 020 8533 2506
006 PUB	Mablo Colour Ltd Publishers Services (40 staff -large) 117 Wallis Road,London E9 5LN Tel: 020 89861800
007 PRT	Paul Green Printing Ltd PRINTERS (large) Unit 94, Faber House Main Yard complex,Wallis Road London E 9 5LN Tet. 020 8888 9511
008 PRT	Quadroprint Itd PRINTERS AND IN-HOUSE FINISHERS (medium) Unit 3,5,8,9,1,thamlet Industrial Centre 96 White Post Lane London,E9 5EN Tet: 020 93864818
009 PRT	Quadrographics Unit 5, Hamilet Industrial Centre Tet: 020 8533 0004
010 FIN	Finishing Factory Ltd Stour Road London E3 2NT
011 PRT	The Colournet Graphic imaging PRINTERS/REPRO Unit 1 and 3,Dace Road, LONDON, 53 2NG Tel: 020 8985 0805
012 PRT	Things Fashion Ltd SCREEN PROCESS PRINTERS 62-68 Wallis Road, London E9 Tel: 020 89854767
013 PRT	Victoria House printing Company

1 PRT	ALT Printing services LTD PRINT FINISHERS
2 PRT	Astragraphic Services Printers Services
3 PRT	Dobbin Sullivan Printers
4 PRT	Dolphin Print Ltd Printers & Lithographers
5 PRT	First Cut Print Finishers Printers
6 PRT	Fox Finishers Printers
7 PRT	Gray & Sons Printers
8 PRT	Greenleaf Fm Printers
9 PRT	Intonmarts Printers
) PRT	K T & Paul Print Studio Printers Textile
I PBS	Millennium Hand Finishing Ltd Publishers Services
2 PRT	Riverside Printing Company Printers
PRT	The Blue printing Company Limited

Printing Industry in Hackney Wick and Fish Island

Printers, Publishers, Distributers, Binders, Print suppliers.



Central Books. 99 Wallis Road, E9



BRG Print Finishes Ltd. Main Yard, Wallis Rd



Things Fashion Ltd. Wallis Road

Nature of Business: Publishers/ Distributer magazine and books

Facts: Distributes over 200 book publishers, approx 5 million books stroed on site.

Clients inc: Art galleries, BFI, small press books, UEL, Queen Mary University

Client base: National and International

Date move in: 1989

Number of Employees: 40 staff

Nature of Business: Print Finishers

Facts: Finishers - Specialist industry - located near to Printers and Suppliers

Clients: Local printers, Central London based

Have been established in the area for a long time

Date move in: Business relocated to current premises from Olympic site.

Number of Employees: 12 staff

Large publishing and distribution house in Hackney Wick.

"When we moved to the area there were a lot of printers, publishes and pint related industries in the area.

Attracted to Hackney Wick because rent was relatively low and location on the edge of central London with easy access to good transport routes.

"Location was great for money and space!"

"East London has a poor distribution of book shops, most are located central and west end."

Business that has been relocated due to the Olympic regeneration masterplan.

Requested to stay in the area because have been established in the region for a long time good client base knowledge.

Print finishes are known in the business as 'post print' industries - normally located near to printers and suppliers.

"We know everyone locally in this business."

Local business – transport costs are lower and

Largest fabric printing business in Hackney Wick

Moved to Hackney Wick for larger business prem-

Specialist business - fabric printing.

Location benefits from being within easy access of 'central London' and close to 02 Area.

"This is handy for delivery purposes, as we deliver a large number of t-shirts to the O2 for concerts."

Workforce is local, so location is important.

"This area used to be known as Printers Paradise. Around here there used to be a printers on every corner, everyone lived off each other.

The Muller Martini Stitching Machine

"LDA sent and advisor who they classed as an 'expert' around to value their machines. "The guy did not know the back from the front of the machine, and this machine is common in the

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Workforce is local, so location is important.

Future plans "We are planning to stay in Hackney Wick. If we had to move, where would we go?"

Nature of Business: Screen Process Printers Facts: Print on to fabrics - Specialist industry Clients: 02 Arena, Central London based Located next to Hackney Wick Station Workforce is local, so loaction is important Date move in: 1971 Number of Employees: 30 staff

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VALUE WHAT IS THERE

Displaced Printing Industy



Blue Lithographic Printers



Printers and businesses relocating buildings left empty

Nature of Business: Printers of magazines and books

Facts: Relocated in March 2008 to Essex

Blue Lithographic Printers now relocated to Harlow Essex.

Main reason for move was the change in the area. The area was becoming very run down; business was hard to operate from Fish Island.

Due to

- Road closure and diversions for Olympic site
- Area falling into decline, change of business user in area

Car mechanics operating from Grey Queens Yard which resulted in large number of vehicles being parked on the roads and in Yard, customers and

Blue's vans could not park near business premises.

- Vacant building is being misused. "Blue's old premises since vacated has had 4 rave's"
- Reason for move out of Fish Island, was a business decision.

"We had the opportunity to move to a better area, so we did."

Trends:

Consolidation and rationalisation in industry Rising cost and global competition Industry being pushed out to more affordable sites

"If we move beyond Hackney, we will be struggling." Barry Tucker - Managing Director. BRG Print Finishes Ltd

Light industry need to be located in proximity to market -Concentrated around city fringe.

Big market generator – Soho/ Central London

1,600 print and publishing businesses in London 17, 000 employees £2 billion turn over

Andrew Brown - Corporate Affairs director BPIF

Promote local business.

"We need to keep the life and blood of the area here"

Barry Tucker - Managing Director. BRG Print Finishes Ltd

Transport links crutial to printing industy

Printers rely on 'just-in-time' clients - if deliveries cannot get out on time because of blockages on roads, businesses cannot survive in the current location.

Is there an opportunity for printers to print literature for the Olympics Games?

A major concern amongst manufacturers/fabricators in FI is weather they will be able to continue with "business as usual" during the Olympics. Both the disruption to freight traffic and the potential aspiration to make the area more presentable to visitors is seen as a threat to the continuing operation of local businesses.

The relocation of the manufacturing sector further away from Central/East London, threatens the continuing viability of a specialist manufacturing sector, that currently depends on a skilled work force, and on good transport links via the A12.

It is important to understand the contribution made by the creative sector and small business to a viable mixed economy, around the Olympic Site, before this activity is displaced by large-scale regeneration. For instance, very little work has been done to record the impact of losing independent specialist businesses during the clearance of the Olympic site, it is now difficult to know where these businesses have gone.

Links: Canal network

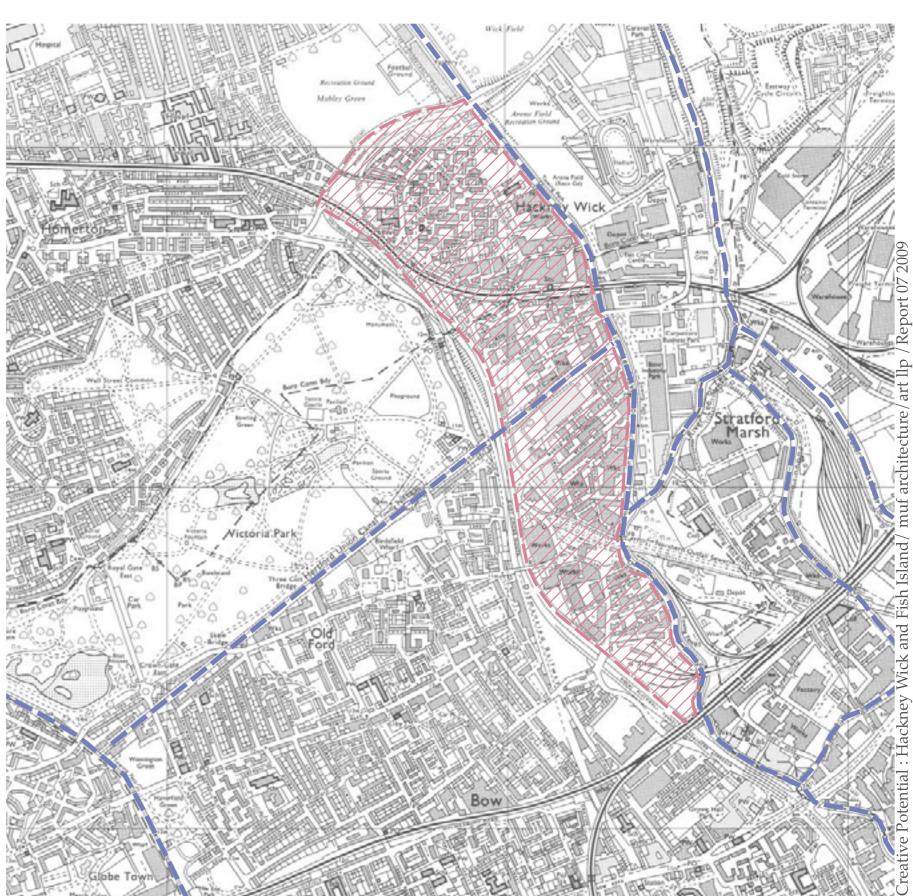
The canal network represents an opportunity to create a network of routes and animated public and semi public spaces.



View from the canal to the buildings' facades.

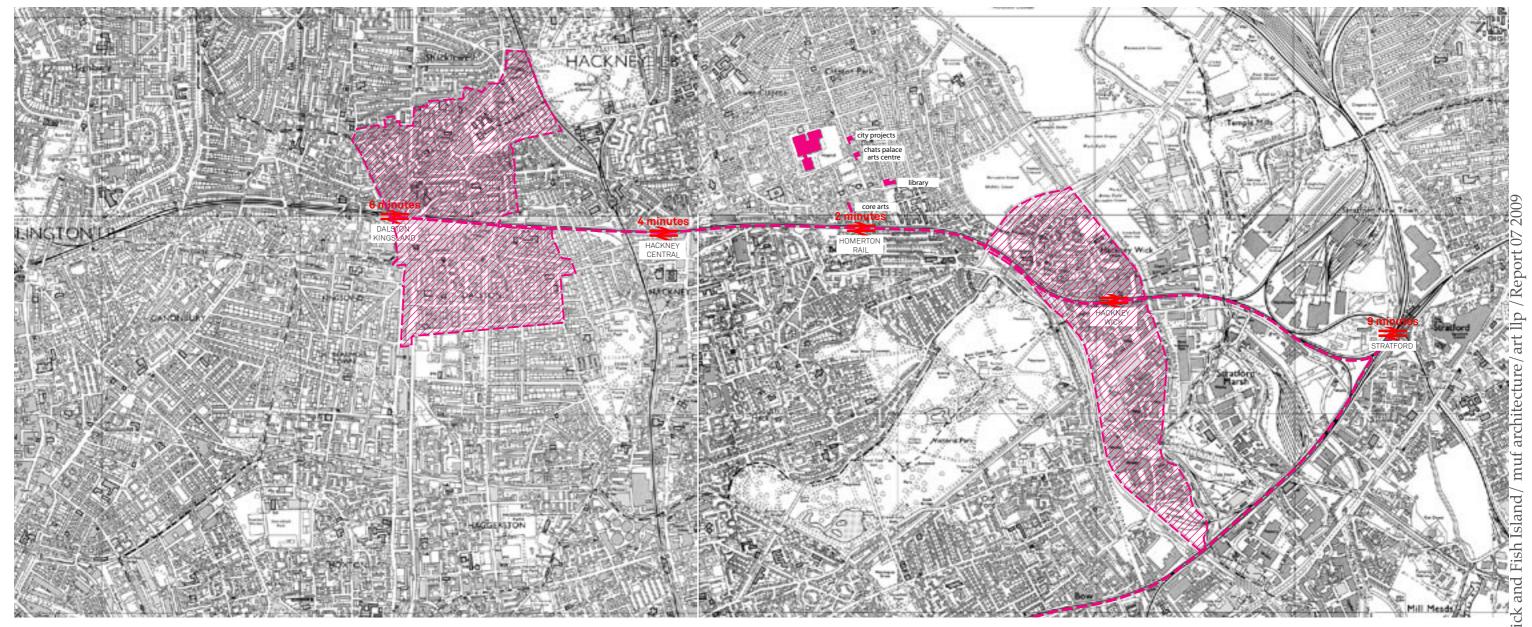


Animation of canal by art intervention -William Shannon 2009-.



Links to Dalston and Homerton.

Even though Hackney Wick and Fish Island might be though of as close to Stratford there are strong connections back to Homerton and Dalston reinforced through transport links. These connections were gleaned through anecdotal evidence of for example people living in Dalston and working in Hackney Wick but other links include the community amenities and arts organisations in Homerton used by residents in Hackney Wick.



Creative Potential: Hackney Wick and

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VALUE WHAT IS THERE: CASE STUDY

Shoreditch Trust has strong eco precedents



Waterhouse Restaurant, Shoreditch 10 Orsman Road, London, N1 5QJ

A social enterprise funded by Shoreditch Trust.

Location of restaurant adjacent to canal. Uses the ambient water temperature from the canal and heat pump technology for energy efficient cooling.

Renewable hydro-electric power to minimise carbon emissions.

Roof-mounted solar panels to provide hot water.

Photovoltaic cells to produce renewable electricity.

Building materials, from sustainable sources – recycled plastic chairs, wood from sustainable forest source.

Waste management system

- 'Wormery' digesting raw food for composting
- Lavatories featuring a sustainable, 'paperless' toilet
- A hot composter to manage the garden's waste

Produces filtered chilled bottled water on-site, using a filtration system from 'Greencare H20' in association with Belu. www.greencareh2o.com



Funded by Shoreditch Trust.

The Barge was funded by Shoreditch Trust using a variety of green technology.

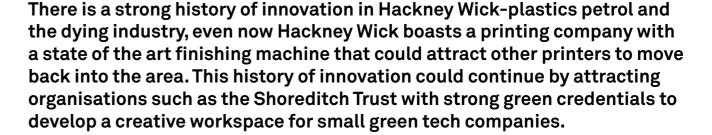
"We are working with British Waterways on their contribution to 'Boris' City Growth Strategy 'and '2012 food growing places.' We have taken ownership of a 60ftX15ft hopper – its now a work in progress but it will be a floating allotment moored in the Kingsland Basin. The hope is this will be Hackney's version of the Science Barge currently on the Hudson in New York."



The Beacon, Shoreditch

Six metre tower of coloured Plexiglas, colour panels and light. Installation produces its own electricity through solar panels mounted at the top of the tower and through photo voltaic technology in solar paving slabs.

The Solar Slab used for the beacon were designed by Beau Lotto at Lotto Lab, and manufactured by Studio Van De Graf in Homerton, using recycled waste glass set in resin.



Shoreditch Trust have a policy of supporting emerging green tech industries, showcasing green materials, a low carbon technology in developments such as the Water house restaurant and the Shoredicth Beacon.



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Consultation

A Foundation & the Cut Up Collective

Abrahams Cases

Ansel Associates

Blue Lithographics Printers

Blue Marble Trust

BRG Print Finishers

British Printing Industries Federation (BPIF)

Central Books

City Fringe Partnership

Counter Cafe

David Powell Associates

Elevator Gallery

www.fishisland.co.uk

Furniture Manufacturers Yard

Gavin Riding - Fish Island Business Club

Gavin Turk & House of Fairytales

Griddlers Café

Jennifer Richardson Tower Hamlets Council

Lotto Lab

Mapps Café

MD Set Design

Morning Star Newspaper

Quadroprint Ltd

Schwartz Gallery

Shoreditch Trust

Space Studios

Sweet Love Cafe

Things Ltd

Water House Restaurant

Van-der-graaf

Voluntary Design & Build



Furniture Manufacturers Yard Unit 3, Autumn Street, London

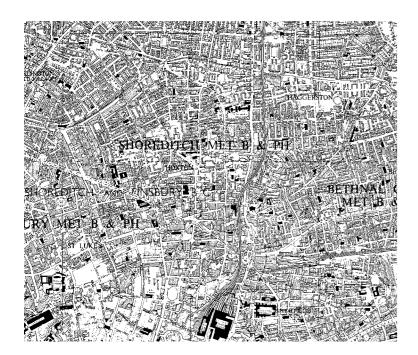
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VALUE WHAT IS THERE

Consultation



Shoreditch Park, picture taken by Alan Denney.



"I set up www.fishisland.co.uk because I was intrigued to find out more about who was working in the area and where they really were based. There is so much potential for collaboration, is important to know where other people are based. For instance I work in Omega Works and I could imagine a successful digital media studio based here, it has all the right type of facilities, it is just a question of connecting with other people working in the area." - Eject Creative Studios -

"One of the best things about running a cafe in HW, is that it creates an opportunity to meet all the creative people working in the area. We opened only a few months ago, to support the launch of a new film magazine, and its amazing how many film makers we have already met who are working in the area." - Sweet Love Cafe -

"Working alongside other creative organizations is one of the things that makes the area attractive as a location, for instance our Gallery is based on the ground floor of a building that houses 42 long established live/work units. The success of the Hackney Wick Festival has inspired a forthcoming collaboration showcasing the work of all 42 people living and working in the building." - Schwartz Gallery -

"Hackney Wick is what Shoreditch was 50 years ago." - Shoreditch Trust -

"There are 3 dozen artist studio providers, operating across the five host boroughs. Although this is a small economic sector, artist studio provision should be understood in the wider context of affordable workspace provision, a concern that affects SME across all economic sectors." - DPA David Powell Associates Ltd. -

"HW & FI has potential to be New Soho, if the right advantage is taken of new media infrastructure and existing arts community is supported to grow into Olympic Park." - Space Studios -