Camden Goods Yard Site Narrative and Temporary Facade

Phase One Summary
Phase Two Next Steps

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## INTRODUCTION

Phase one of the workshops is now completed, working with a total of 32 members of the community and 6 facilitators through one – one workshops.

HATO worked with groups who were suggested by Mike Chandler, Arts Development Manager from Camden Council (who HATO are in regular contact with to update him and ask for any advice needed) groups include, Thanet Youth and Community Centre, Pirates Castle's youth groups and also their elderly group (with members of Castlehaven community association joining that session) as well as a session led with community members at the Camden Local Archives in Holborn.

We are keen to develop more trips to the archives with members of the local community, to help research selected themes for phase two further. We are keen to work with Wac Arts and Pirates Club Youth Group for Phase two of the project.

## WORKSHOP CAMDEN LOCAL ARCHIVES AT HOLBORN LIBRARY

Demographics White British, Indian & Afghan Number of Participants 12 Age 55–65 Total Hours Spent in Archive 66 hours

#### SUMMARY

HATO have been working with Tudor Allen at the Local archives in Holborn in researching and developing narratives on their own and with local members of the community.

We took three elder members from the workshops with us to explore more themes together and share findings with the wider group.

An introduction to the archives was made by archivist, Tudor Allen and a tour of the exhibition. There is a great demand from participants to visit the archives again in early March, this time with 9 members of Thanet Youth and Community Centre. This has been a real success in terms of interest and understanding of the area and how it has changed and is ever being redeveloped and re-imagined.

#### WORKSHOP FINDINGS

#### Periods and Sites Researched

- History of Camden Goods Yard
- The history of the Roundhouse and its use and connection to railways and production (1846 – 1965)
- Shops/businesses on Chalk Farm Road
- Canal history
- Stories / findings
- History of Camden Goods Yard
- · Geography of area shaped by canals and tunnels
- Camden Goods Yard becoming a live museum

#### **Stories Around Food & Production**

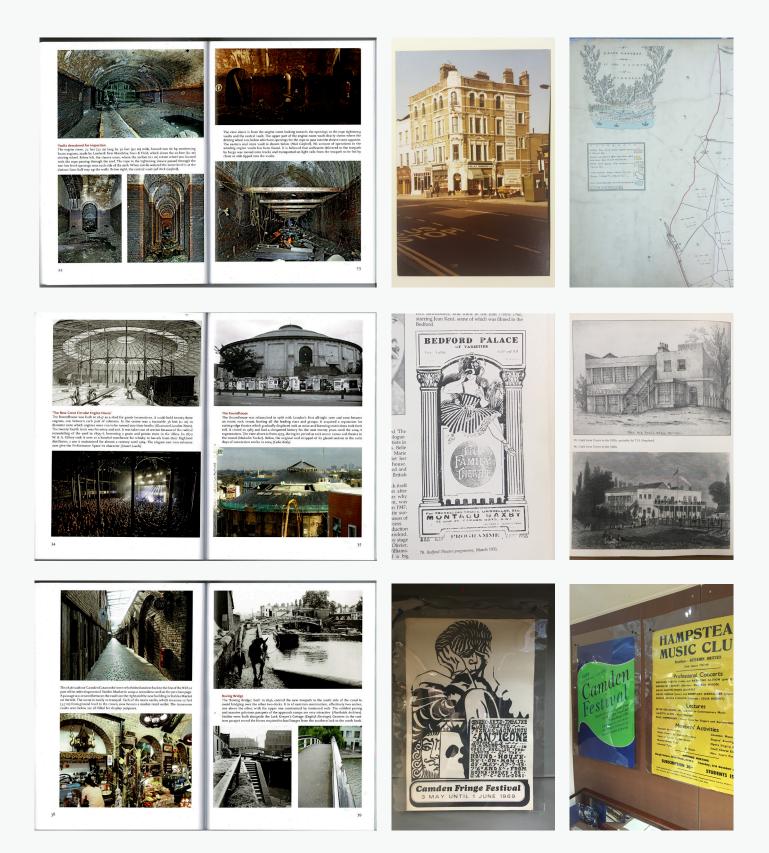
- Watching the canal and seeing boats with lots of orange's going to the marmalade factory
- Cows-diary 'Davis's Dairy', Princess of Wales Road and cows for diary at Maida Vales in early 20th Century

Stories Around Railways and Canals and Tunnels

- Layers of the area underground (tunnels), above ground (railway) and in the ground (canal), these layers had a real visual impact on everyone thinking about layers of history and movement
- How this network connected the local area to the whole country

#### OUTCOMES

- · Demand to continue going to archives and researching further
- Really positive, interested in continuing research and they all have a wealth of knowledge about local area and personal connections and stories



## WORKSHOP PIRATES CASTLE UPPER DECKERS

Demographics White British, Indian, Afghan & Other Number of participants 7 Age 50–80 Workshops 1 Meetings 2

### SUMMARY

The workshops with elder groups have been named 'Camden Collage Club', we invited participants to create collages made from the archive material we have sourced in relation to the themes we are searching. The workshop was accompanied by a presentation and group discussions about the history of the area and what key themes people were interested in researching further as well as local knowledge and sharing of stories.

### WORKSHOP FINDINGS

#### **Themes Explored**

- Music/entertainment and music halls
- Food
- Canal/transport history
- Industrial Revolution

#### Stories Around Food Import & Export

- Memories of key characters and people that would let children have treats of different foods
- Thinking about production and how things are made, changed, and distrusted
- Diversity of area meant there were many food to sample, taste from all over the world. Changed the way people ate, consumed and understood different ways of cooking and making food.

- History of ice coming to the area 'first taste of icecream' for Londoners, great chunks of ice coming down canal all the way from Norwegian Glaciers through canals it arrived in Camden and stored
- Farmland, what was here before? Ideas around production of food and where it comes to and from
- History of food markets on Inverness Street, idea of local, sharing recipes and food and tastings
- ABC Industrial Bakery mass production
- Memories of biscuits being damaged when being transported lots of broken biscuits which were given as treats to kids

#### Stories Around Railways and Canals and Tunnels

- Memories of goods coming in and out (including exotic woods used for pianos being made)
- Meeting new people

### **OUTCOMES**

- Collage Club set of collage's using archive imagery
- Research Group This workshop led to the next phase of research at the Camden local archives in Holborn with the participant's present or / and leading that phase of research















Upper Deckers club set up to engage into collaging memories through archival imagery

## WORKSHOP THANET YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE OVER 50S GROUP

Demographics Mixed (Not sure) Number of participants 17 Age 50-80 Sessions 4 Total Hours Spent in Archive 4 hours

### SUMMARY

Workshop follows same layout and themes as previous over 50s Pirates Castle Upper Deckers workshop.

### WORKSHOP FINDINGS

Themes Explored

- Music / entertainment and music halls
- Canal/transport history
- Pubs/cafes/shops on Chalk Farm Road

#### Stories & Findings From Participants

- Participant's had family members that worked at Roundhouse when it was a good yard, providing catering/food for workers
- Participant's member family member's stealing odd bottle of gin from warehouse
- A lot of interest in who played at music halls and their memories

## OUTCOMES

- Collage Club set of collage's using archive imagery
- Research Group This workshop led to the next phase of research at the Camden local archives in Holborn with the participant's present or/and leading that phase of research



Over 50's club set up to engage into collaging memories through archival imagery

'There used to be a boat that would bring down all the oranges used to make marmalade in the factories. Sometimes they would throw an orange to us as they went by.'



## WORKSHOP YOUTH PIRATES

Demographics Mixed, Local children from low income families Number of participants 5 Age 10-15 Meetings 1 Workshops 2 Total Hours 7 hours

The workshops with young people explored the history of the local area through an interactive map making session with particular reference to the canal and the young people's perspective on it. A new handmade typeface was also created together using potatoes in response to the history of the farmland in the area.

The typeface will be digitised and used for upcoming projects as our own bespoke typeface, Prates Castle want to now use it for their own flyers etc which us a great output of the project and legacy.

## WORKSHOP FINDINGS

#### Themes Explored

- Brief history of area through an interactive map making session
- History of farmland and geography
- Canal/transport history

### OUTCOMES

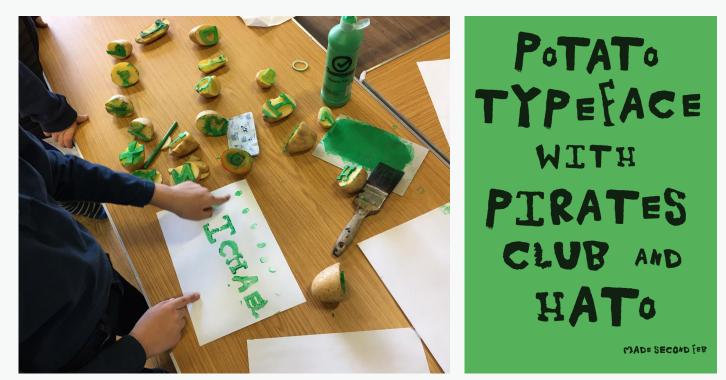
- · Interactive map of history of area
- Mapping of canal geographically
- Mapping of farmland
- A creation of a font by the young people

### Stories & Findings From Participants

- Looking at the lines of canals and railways and how they connect to country and London was of interest and worked with a lot of ideas of creating patterns through lines / connectivity / mapping
- Potatoes and links to farmland



Historical timeline of site narrated by Youth Pirates



Font design exploring history of site

## OVERVIEW OF WORKSHOPS SUMMARY OF THEMES AND CONVERSATIONS

Throughout the sessions all groups and participants have been really interested in the history of Camden Goods Yard and the fact that it represents and talks to/about the great industrial history of the area, acting a like a landmark in itself. The site of Morrisons and the new developments are like a living museum/archive.

There has been a lot of interest in how this history connects to other parts of the country through railways and canals, connectivity plays a key part for local people as well as the idea that Camden Goods Yard was described as an island, sitting between places this became a strong visual reference.

Another key interest has been food / farming history of the land and how food was coming in and out of the area.

### **KEY THEMES TO CONSIDER**

- Connectivity
- Diversity
- Museum
- Landmark
- Food
- Import / export
- Production
- Interchange
- Process
- Function of sites / places

### **OVERVIEW OF OUTPUTS**

- Collage club
- Production of interactive Maps
- A new font designed
- Lead research groups made up of local people
- Collage pack

# CONTACT WORKSHOP DETAILS JANUARY – MARCH

WORKSHOP DATE / TIME	FACILITATOR	COMMUNITY GROUP DETAILS	WORKSHOP / EVENT OUTLINE
WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 1 – 3PM	POLLY	THE PIRATES CASTLE ELDERS' GROUP OVER 50S WITH CASTLEHAVEN PARTICIPANTS JOININGGilbey's Warf, Oval Rd, London NW1 7EA7 people4 Upper Deckers form Pirates Castle 3 members of Castlehaven ages 50 – 80	INTRO/TALKING/MAKING A collage/design workshop to encourage them to share their knowledge and ideas about the local area and area of research. THEMES Music Food Canal / transport history Industrial Revolution This workshop led to the next phase of research at the Camden local archives in Holborn with the participant's present or / and leading that phase of research They produced collages and we had an in depth conversation around local history, Camden Goods Yard and the canal
FRIDAY 31 JANUARY ARCHIVE VISIT	POLLY	HOLBORN LIBRARY, LOCAL ARCHIVES WITH THE PIRATES CASTLE AND CASTLEHAVEN ELDERS' GROUP OVER 50S Gilbey's Warf, Oval Rd, London NW1 7EA 3 local residents joined Polly for research	ARCHIVE VISIT 3 people joined Polly at the archives to explore the histories and led their own research in the archives. We found lots of links directly to the site as well as history of food and factories. An introduction to the archives was made by archivist, Tudor Allen and a tour of the exhibition. Next steps: The group form pirates / castlehaven will be invited to join us again for an archives visit with members of the Thanet community centre and their elder members.

WORKSHOP DATE / TIME	FACILITATOR	COMMUNITY GROUP DETAILS	WORKSHOP / EVENT OUTLINE
SATURDAY 1 FEBRUARY 12.30 – 2.45	POLLY AND ANYA	THE PIRATES CASTLE YOUTH SATURDAY YOUTH CLUB Gilbey's Warf, Oval Rd, London NW1 7EA 5 young people (10-15 year olds)	YOUNG PEOPLE'S SESSION/DESIGN AND ART SESSION They worked with us on a collaborative map on the history of the area with particular reference to the canal that they use and have access to regularly through their work with the Pirates Castle. They developed a new font for the project using potatoes (linking history of farmland in the local area). They also remade mappings from the archives that older participants had found of the local area in 1700s.
TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 10 – 12.30	POLLY	THANET YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ELDERS GROUP, OVER 50 Malden Rd, Herbert St, Kentish Town, London NW5 4HD 17 participants aged 60-80 Lead contact/ Group facilitator: emily.momoh@gmail.com	INTRO/TALKING/MAKING A collage / design workshop to encourage them to share their knowledge and ideas about the local area and area of research. THEMES Music Food Canal/transport history Industrial Revolution This workshop will lead to the next phase of research at the Camden local archives in Holborn in March with the participant's present or / and leading that phase of research They produced collages and we had an in depth conversation around local history, Camden Goods Yard and history of railways and roundhouse

WORKSHOP DATE/TIME	FACILITATOR	COMMUNITY GROUP DETAILS	WORKSHOP/EVENT OUTLINE
UPCOMING WORKSHOP FINALISING RESEARCH TUESDAY 3 MARCH TIMES TBC	POLLY	THANET YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ELDERS GROUP, OVER 50 Malden Rd, Herbert St, Kentish Town, London NW5 4HD Talk with group-17-20 people archive visit after talk - 5 - 7 participants TBC	ARCHIVE VISIT AND SECOND SESSION AT THEIR SITE Polly will follow up with a talk / presentation at the Thanet and then bring the interested core group to the archives with the Thanet staff member, Emily. The group will work with Polly to unearth more histories and local knowledge and have a chance to have a talk and introduction to the archives by Tudor Allen. We hope that members of the Upper Decker group from Pirates Castle will join us too which will then ensure we have a core research team on the project made up of local residents.
APRIL EASTER HOLIDAY TIMES TBC	POLLY	PIRATES CASTLE SATURDAY YOUTH CLUB Gilbey's Warf, Oval Rd, London NW1 7EA	FOLLOW UP/DESIGN WORKSHOP Follow up session and inviting more young people to work with the font the previous youth members form this club made. We will invite them to design a poster/invite format for the final performance (workshop details TBC)

## OTHER GROUPS HATO HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH

GROUP	WORKSHOP/EVENT OUTLINE
YOUNG CAMDEN FOUNDATION	PB spoke with Cheryl who gave some more leads and possible contacts which we are still yet to follow up as we may have found our core groups now. Cheryl did recommend WAC as a group to work with due to the fact that they do not get as many opportunities as Roundhouse do for external partner project opportunities.
THE MUSIC WALK OF FAME, LEE BENNETT AND MARK WILLINGALE	KK and PB met with them to talk about their project and possible overlap in resource/research. There is a potential for the young people to perform their spoken word/poetry at public events through their own connection and productions in festivals/gigs. This is TBC
CAMDEN TOWN UNLIMITED	KK and PB met with Simon Pitkeathley, Chief Executive and his team to discuss the façade project and were given some more links and leads and possible overlaps and opportunities for expansive and reach of project.
CAMDEN LOCAL ARCHIVES	We have met with Tudor Allen and his team and introduced the project and will be collaborating with them. They are supporting us in assisting our research into various areas of research and archives material for workshops and have / are hosting visits with us for the 'research' groups of elders. We spent a day in the archives gathering material for our initial workshops and have taken a group to meet Tudor, have an introduction and delivered their own self directed research for their project.

## PHASE TWO CO-DESIGN

Moving forward we now propose to work with young people from the Pirates Castle as the lead co-designers. The young people are local to the area and have limited access to visual arts projects in the public realm, they are from low economic backgrounds and this would be a great opportunity for them to work so closely with designers, artists and writers in such a project, gaining real experience and opportunity to work on a long term artwork in their neighbourhood.

They have a real interest and understanding of Camden Good Yard, the geographic links make it a great opportunity to build relationships longer term. The historic links between the Pirates Castle and Camden Goods Yard are of real interest, the canals, trains and vaults (which are underneath the Pirates Castle and we can have access to them) makes it truly unique and tells such a brilliant story.

The team there have been so supportive of the project and it links really nicely with the workshops with Over 50s group that we ran there. We would like to find a way to keep the voices of the elder community in to phase two after such a successful project as part of phase one. There is such a demand to continue with the research and connection to the archives that we feel its important to work with Thanet Community Centre, the participants from Castlehaven community association and The Pirates Castle.

We have also been in conversation with Chas Mollet, the Assistive Creative Technology Officer there and his team to talk about the potential of working with them on the spoken word / performance second phase of the project with their outreach members (18-26 year olds with learning difficulties). The only issue with this group is their time-frames and schedules and our deadlines.

Moving forward we would still love the opportunity to work with Roundhouse and their young people's programmes, we would like to make a proposal directly to them about the opportunity for their young members to have paid mentoring sessions, working with Young Pirates to produce stories and poems based on their findings and archival references.

We propose that this work takes place during the Easter Holidays in April 2020.

## NOTES

