

The Cultural Champions Project

'The Cube In The Square' and Birmingham Archives & Heritage

"Art and Archives"

In 2010-11, Birmingham Archives & Heritage was excited to collaborate on a uniquely creative project involving the Erdington-based community arts organization, 'The Cube In The Square'. The Cube's group of artists were given personal access to the rich range of archive materials reflecting upon different themes connected with Erdington and the city. The workshops developed by Andy Green used a range of sources including photographs, scrapbooks, albums, local history documents and maps.

As the project evolved organically, the group decided to use either a specific document or an idea generated by their own experience in the archive as a starting point for creating an artistic response. Some of their final work contains a glimpse of the original archival source within a transformed context, such as in pieces by Faith, Heather, Joan, Marion and Paul. For others, the theme of recording and documenting was used as a starting point, such as Emma's works that translate oral testimonies into 'soundwaves' and play on issues of 'copyright'.

Many of the artworks also formed vividly mixed media responses, such as Angie's recreation of past and present landscapes within a structure inspired by early camera technology. Some Cube artists used their skills to represent local landmarks, such as the portrait of Rookery House on a transparent surface by artist Ev Beard, or Jeanette's depictions of Erdington streets. Also included in the exhibition was a special preview of Andy Spencer's forthcoming film set in the Rookery called 'The Casebook of Eddie Brewer'.

Across the following pages, original heritage documents sit side by side with the creative outcomes produced by 'The Cube In The Square'. We hope this gives you an insight into the special nature of the collaboration practice we evolved and that you enjoy the materials. Please continue to visit and support the good work done by everyone at The Cube: www.thecubeinthesquare.com

Dr Andy Green Birmingham Archives & Heritage



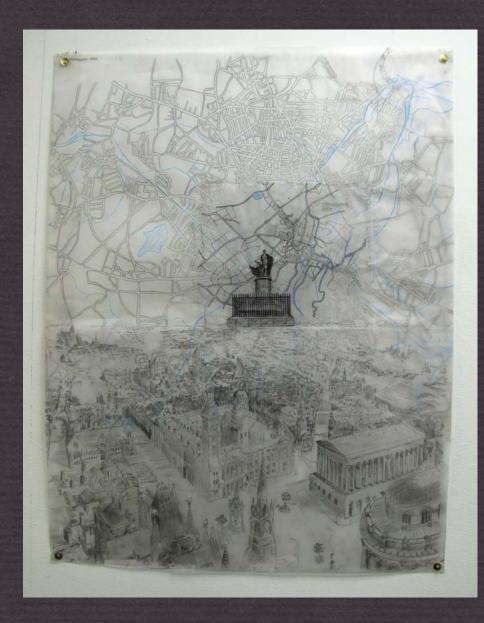




Bird's Eye View of Birmingham, 1886 [BA&H]

ENGRAVINGS

MAPS



FAITH PEARSON





MAPS AND PLANS



AIR RAID MAPS



HEATHER ROWLAND









PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS

SIR BENJAMIN STONE

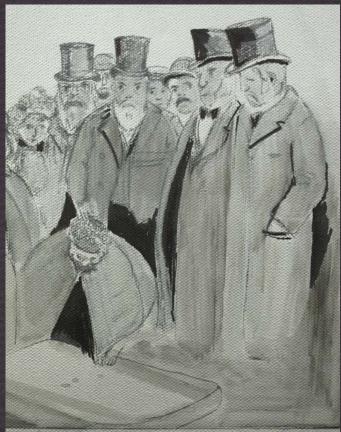


Ord Widows picking up Sixpences from a Tombstone in St Bartholomewi Churchfard. Cit, of London on Good Friday Morning a custom consequent upon an ancient beguest. March 28! 1902.

Good Friday, St Bartholomew's, London, by Sir Benjamin Stone, 1902 [BA&H: Stone/Box110/27]



PAUL MAIDEN



pletting up Sixpenses from a Combistene in St Boothol

WARWICKSHIRE

PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY



Birmingham
Sutton New B. Edington
old port office and stop in High St. (now demolished)

EHSargeont. July 1937 Erdington High Street, 1937 [BA&H:WK/E2/22]







JEANETTE HILL



PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS

Rookery House, 1962 [BA&H: Photographic album 'Erdington in the 1950s and 1960s / Press 1]



an aspencer film

a rookery production

something's calling only one man is listening

presents

The Casebook of Eddie Brewer

Ian Brooker

Peter Wight

Louise Paris

ANDY SPENCER



Upper Priory Court [BA&H/Improvement Scheme Photos/115a]

IMPROVEMENT SCHEME



PHOTOGRAPHS





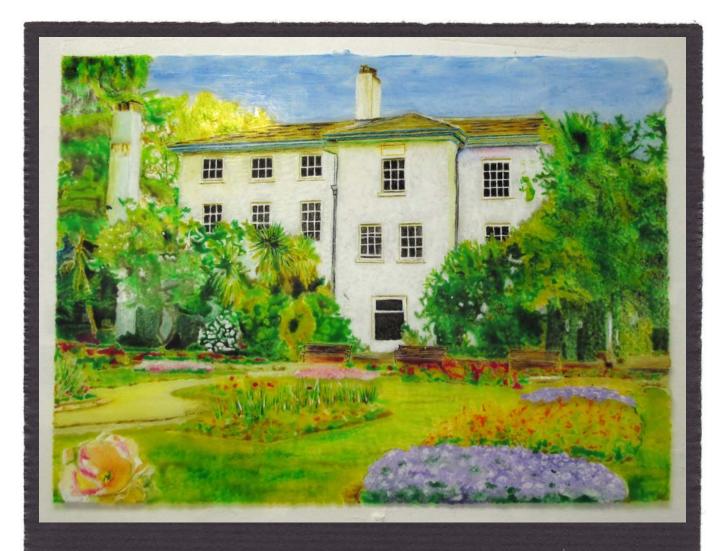
JOAN MENSOR



POSTCARDS



Rookery House, Erdington [BA&H: Birmingham Postcards Collection/suburbs/ERD]

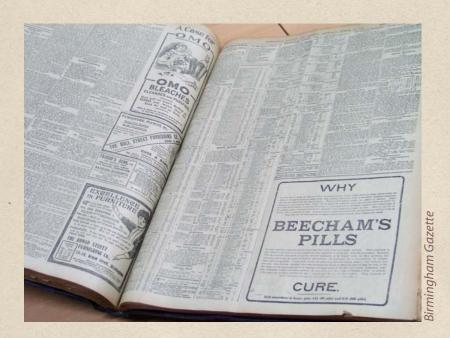


EV BEARD

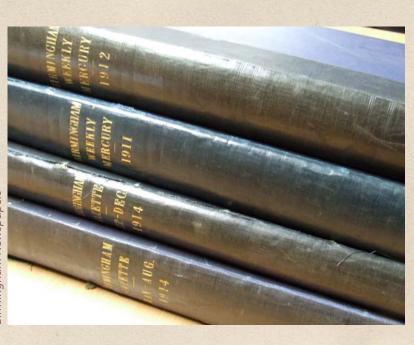




LOCAL NEWSPAPERS



NEWSCUTTINGS



Birmingham Newspapers



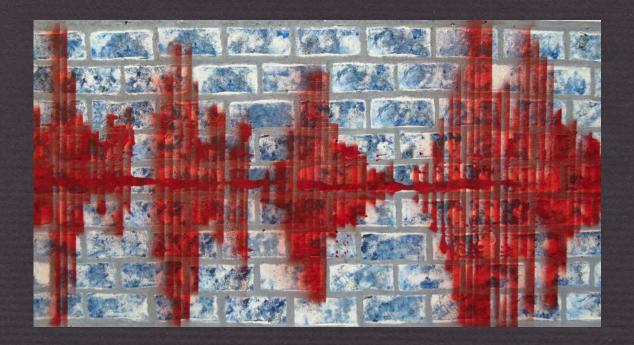


MARION PAINTER



ORAL HISTORY





EMMA TRUMAN



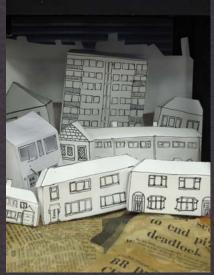






ARTEFACTS







ANGIE CHAPMAN

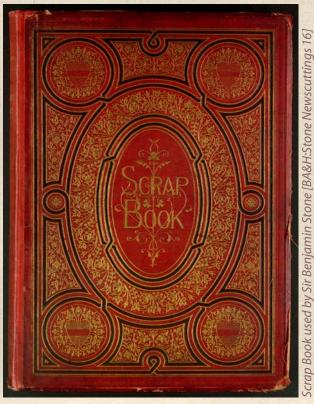


SKETCH BOOKS

Anatomy of the Human Figure, by Samuel Lines, 1821 [BA&H: 243973]



SCRAP BOOKS





ANDY GREEN





