



0. DARK ANNIE - Story Preface

1. TARGETED MURDERS?

2. WHITECHAPEL: SCENE OF DESPAIR

3. THE TERROR BEGINS

4. A HORRIBLE DEATH

5. DARK ANNIE

6. SIR WILLIAM GULL

7. THE ALLEGED BLACKMAIL

8. LIZ STRIDE

9. KATE EDDOWES

10. JACK THE RIPPER

11. MARY KELLY

12. INSPECTOR FRED ABBERLINE

13. REACTION TO THE CRIMES

This image depicts the back side of 29 Hanbury Street, Spitalfields, where Annie Chapman's body was found on the morning of September 8, 1888. PD

At the end of the 19th century, many poor people rented beds for the night at communal lodging establishments called "doss houses."

Rental payments for the bed (the "doss") were usually owed in advance. Whitechapel had more than its share of such places. (Jack London's description of doss houses, in *The People of the Abyss*, spares few words.)

Annie Chapman (called "Dark Annie" by her friends) was 47 years old on September 8, 1888. Homeless and ill, she had little means of support after her estranged husband's death two years earlier. What little money she had came from selling matches, flowers and her body.

Turned out of her lodging house during the early hours of September 8th, Annie took to the streets to earn enough money to buy a doss for the night. She never made it back to her straw bed, however. Jack the Ripper ended her life several hundred yards away.

Dark Annie's body was found the next morning in the backyard of 29 Hanbury Street, Spitalfields. Once again, no one had heard any sounds of a struggle. The coroner convened a hearing into the cause of death.

The jury viewed the corpse at the mortuary in Montague-street, but all evidences of the outrage to which the deceased had been subjected were concealed.

Even though the second murder occurred in a different jurisdiction (Spitalfields), Inspector Abberline was assigned to work on the case. Everyone agreed Polly Nichols and Annie Chapman had been killed by the same man. (Follow the link to hear another audio clip from the BBC broadcast. Start the play at about 13:50 and stop it at 15:15.)

There is one more important fact to keep in mind. At the time, medical experts believed that Dark Annie had been killed by someone with anatomical knowledge.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/DARK-ANNIE-Jack-the-Ripper)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/DARK-ANNIE-Jack-the-Ripper>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/DARK-ANNIE-Jack-the-Ripper)

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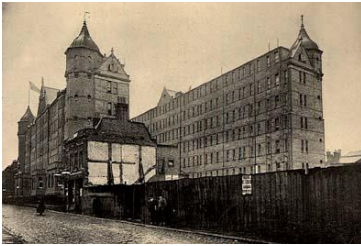
Renting Beds for an Evening - Doss Houses

Image of a "Doss House," online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

PD

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Renting-Beds-for-an-Evening-Doss-Houses>

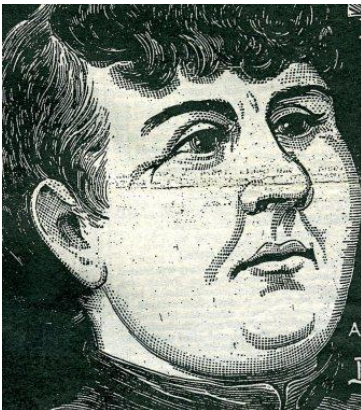


London - Doss House

Doss House image, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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"Dark Annie" - Victim of Jack the Ripper

Image, originally published in the *Illustrated Police News*. Online, courtesy [Casebook: Jack the Ripper](#).

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Annie Chapman Seen Shortly Before Her Murder

Image from *Illustrated Police News*.

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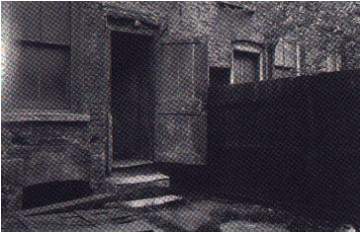
Jack the Ripper - Annie Chapman's Remains

Mortuary image of Annie Chapman. The original photograph is from the Records of the Metropolitan Police Office, UK National Archives, catalog number MEPO 3/140.

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Jack the Ripper - Second Murder Location

Image depicting the location of the Chapman murder, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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