

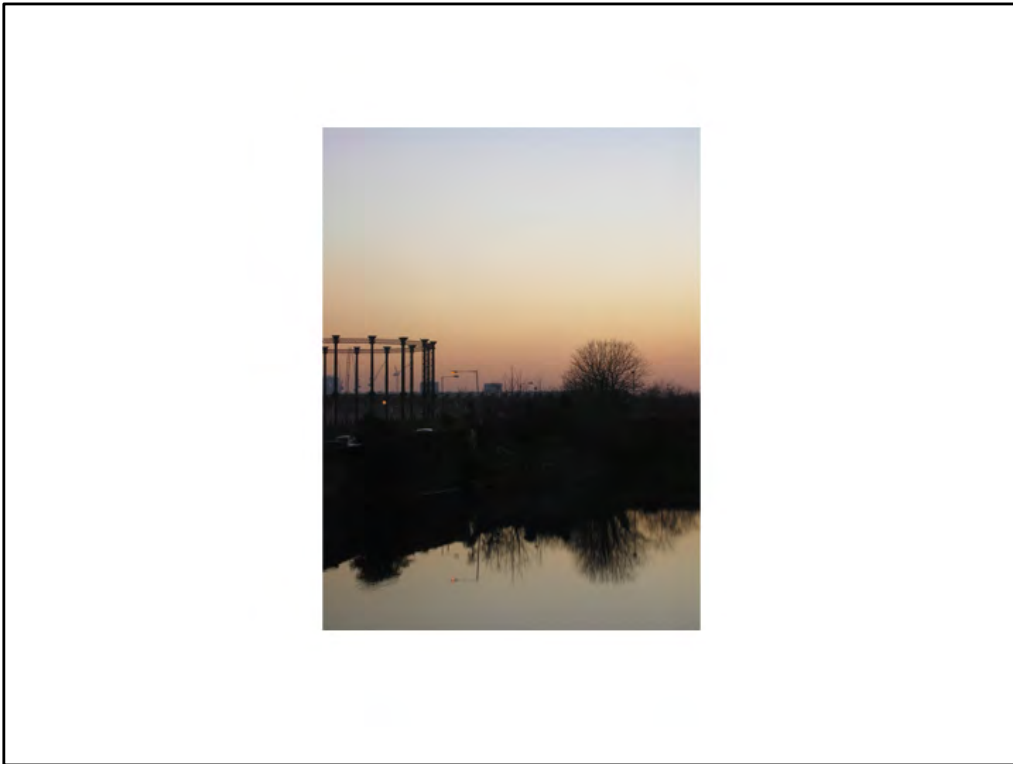


I'm here to talk about two drawing projects - concerning KX regeneration, from the point of view of a local, nostalgic about the lost buildings but excited about change. I am not a historian.

I see the work as visual journalism, fictional documentary, rather than reportage.

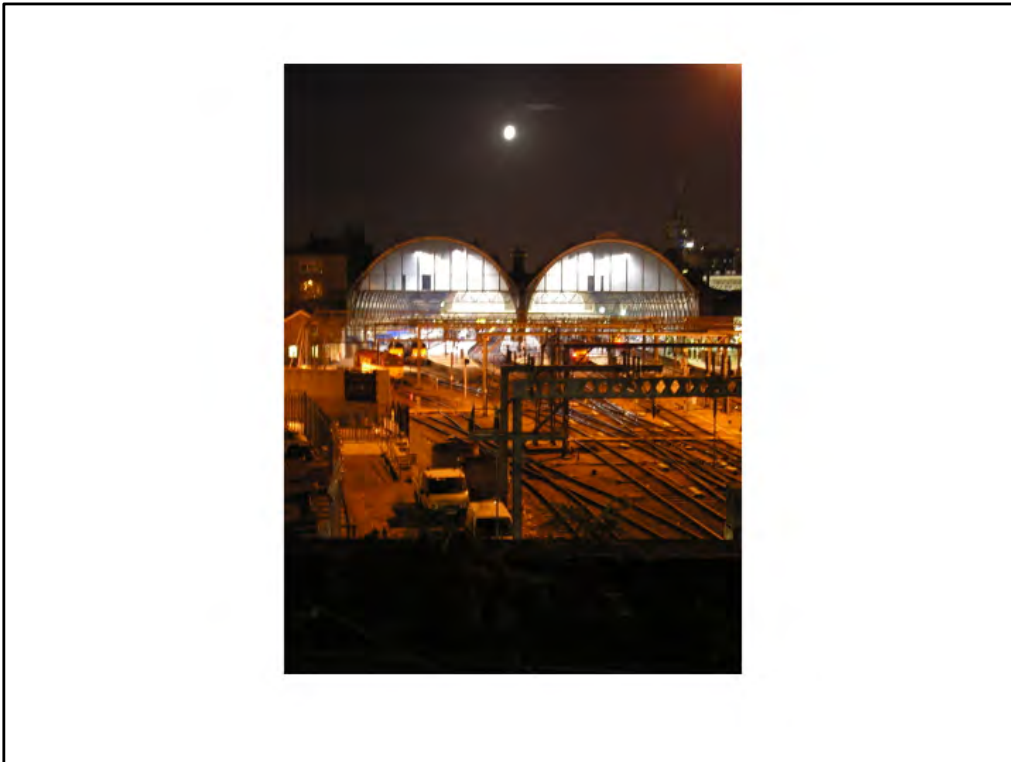
Goods Way prostitutes, gritty canal walks (the film Mona Lisa.) Strong interest in place, recently architectural regeneration.





To me KX is a romantic place. Some years ago when regeneration started, I began to take photographs at night, wanting to record it before it changed for ever. Still waiting to see what the new place will be like.





Interested in the space between fact and fiction, inspired by writers like WG Sebald, (Aussterlitz) Virginia Woolf, Humphrey Carpenter's 'Pandemonium' (first hand accounts from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries on the coming of the mechanical age) and Apollinaire's Zone (shepherdess of Paris) William Blake's 'London', Dickens –Our Mutual friend

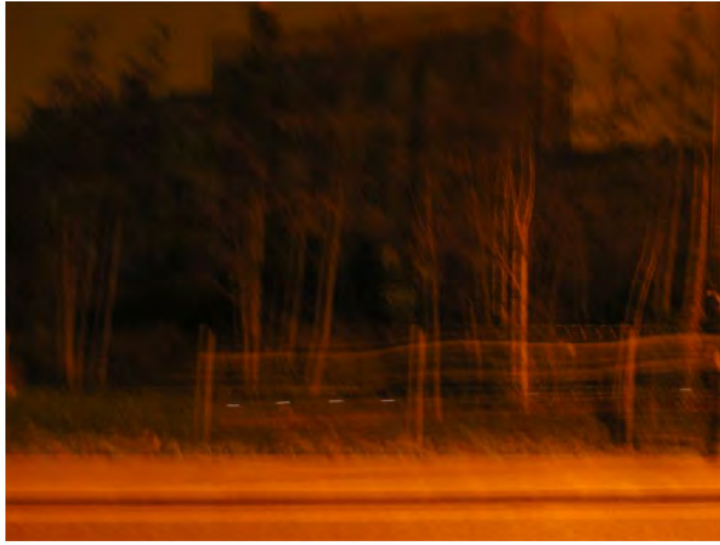








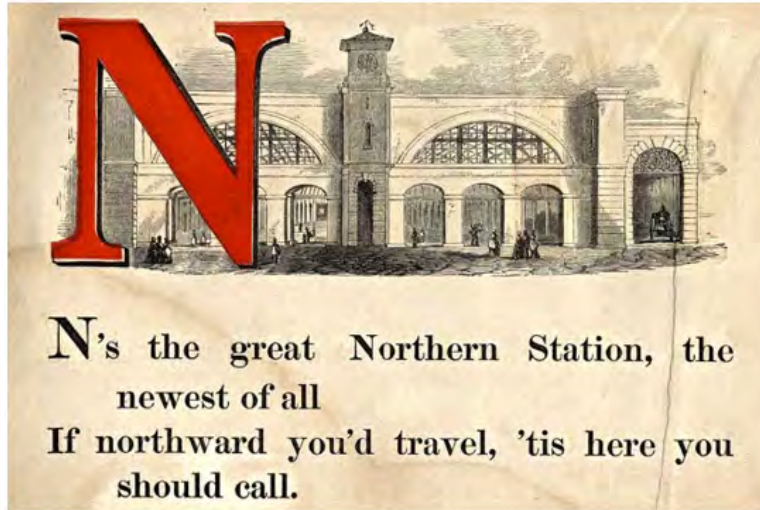








KX appeared in drawings before I began the first series of KX drawings. Eurostar track/gasholder. Minarets (lighthouse) and mosques. This is an imagined architectural space. Crossover happens between series unconsciously.



KX station: opened 1852. View now similar to the one unveiled in Sept 2013.

**Almost 150 years ago same kind of regeneration taking place.**

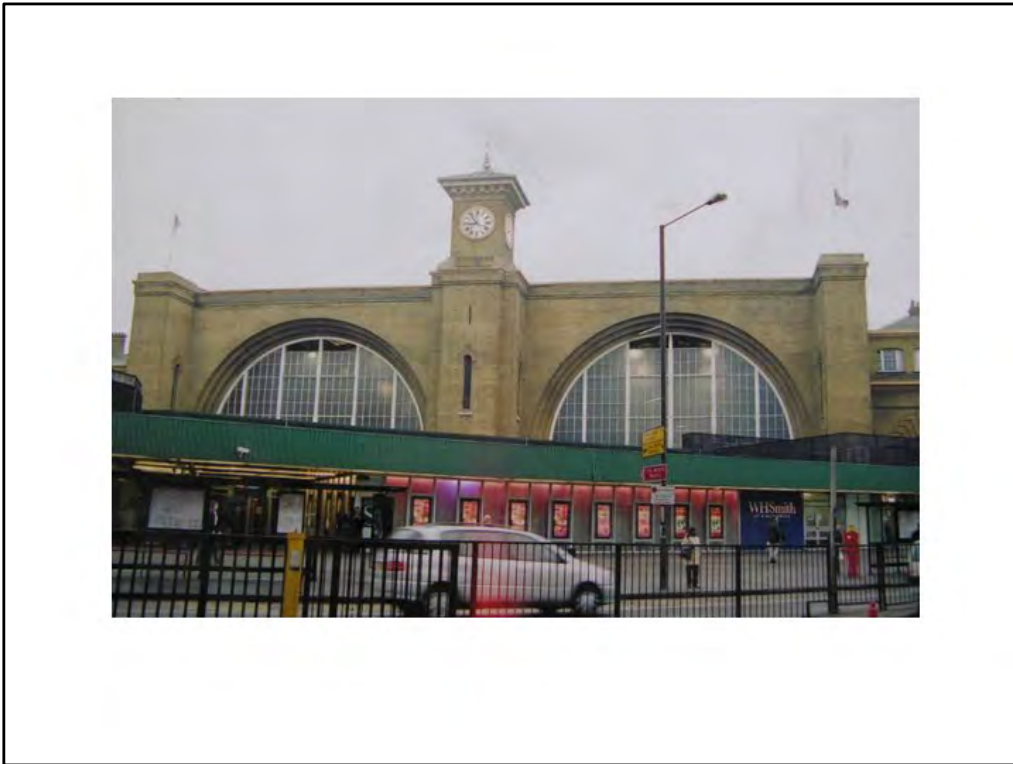
In space of 20 years two stations built. No stations allowed to cross Euston Road. St Pancras station opened 1868 (Barlow Shed)  
Gilbert Scott's Midland Grand Hotel opened 1873.

KX going through huge regeneration - area of 67 acres.

Nostalgia mixed with excitement. 20 new streets 2000 new homes Refurbishment of 20 historic buildings 10 major new public spaces/ 50 new buildings. Kings Place (office block and arts centre) main vision: the building should be open to the public/contribute substantially to cultural life of city.



6338 GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY STATION KING'S CROSS, LONDON



Green plastic canopy added in the 1970's.

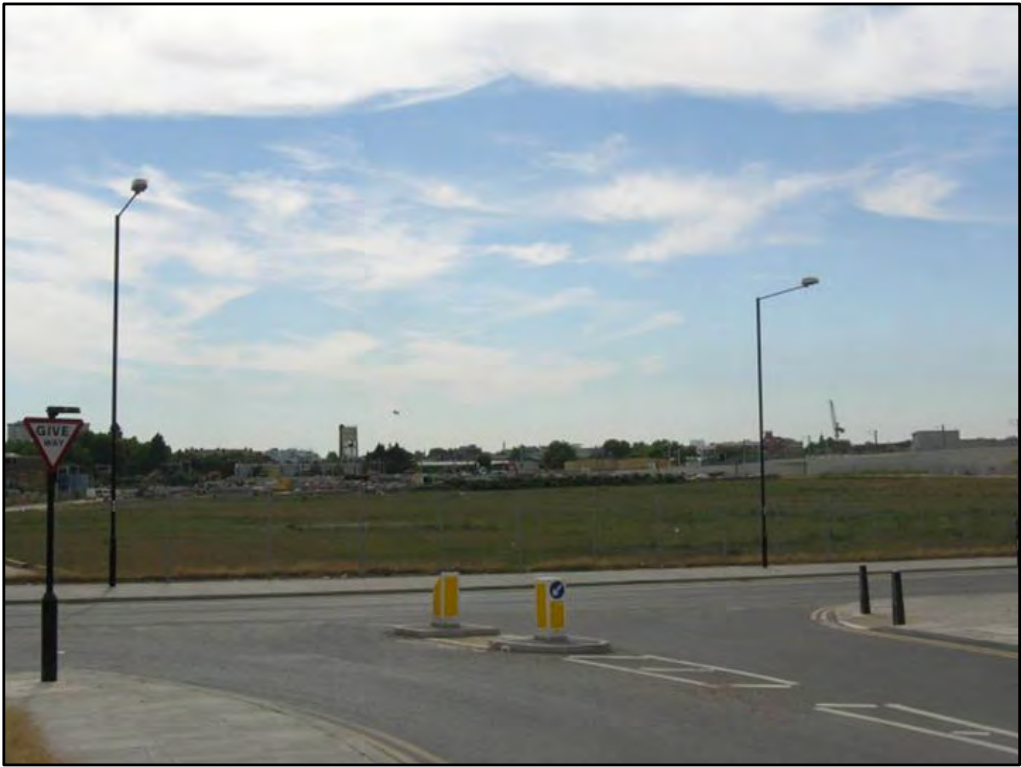


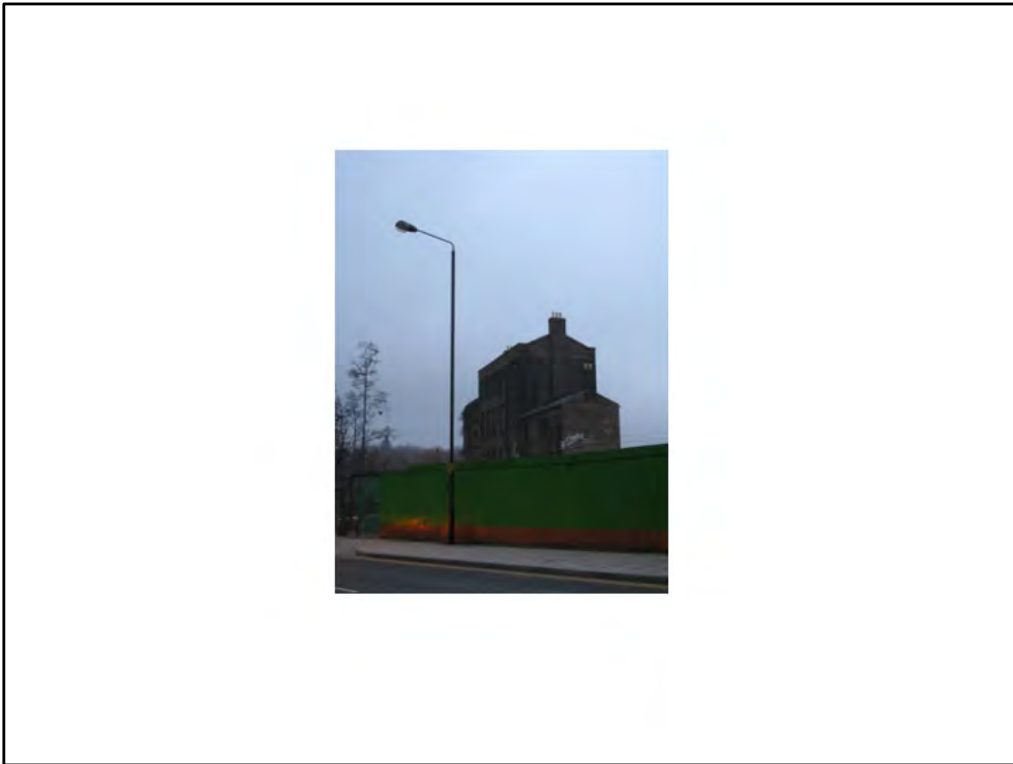


1835 Maiden Lane (muddy lane) - York Way. Dust heaps nearby. KX and Islington were fertile dairies/gardens/Health Spa's (St Pancras Wells).

In Our Mutual friend Dickens says that it was a semi industrial twilight zone, "a tract of suburban Sahara, where tiles and bricks were burnt, bones were boiled, rubbish was shot, dogs fought, and dust was heaped by contractors". In the distance you can see the tile kilns – more on that later.







Coal and Fish: one of the early buildings that I first loved and wanted to commemorate





Coal and fish fictional future - made 2/3 years before the high rise building went up. My concern was that the buildings would be corporate, huge in scale and uninteresting to look at - not allowing for a real mix of uses/living space. However some places positive (King's Place).

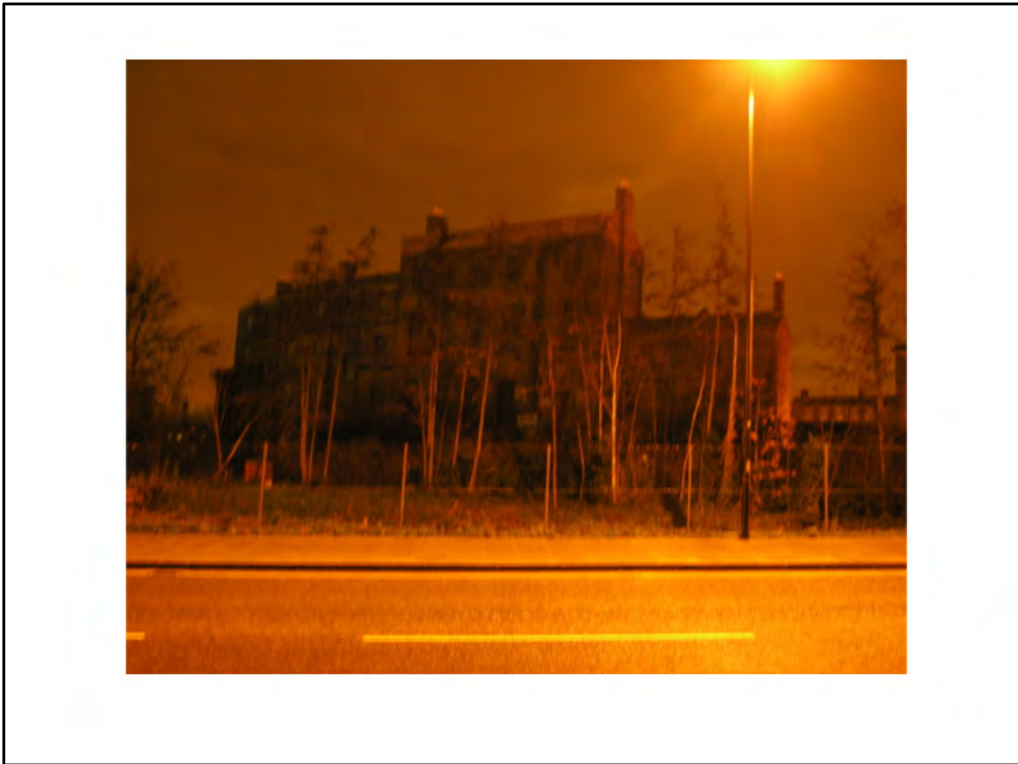


Canary Wharf comes to Coal and Fish

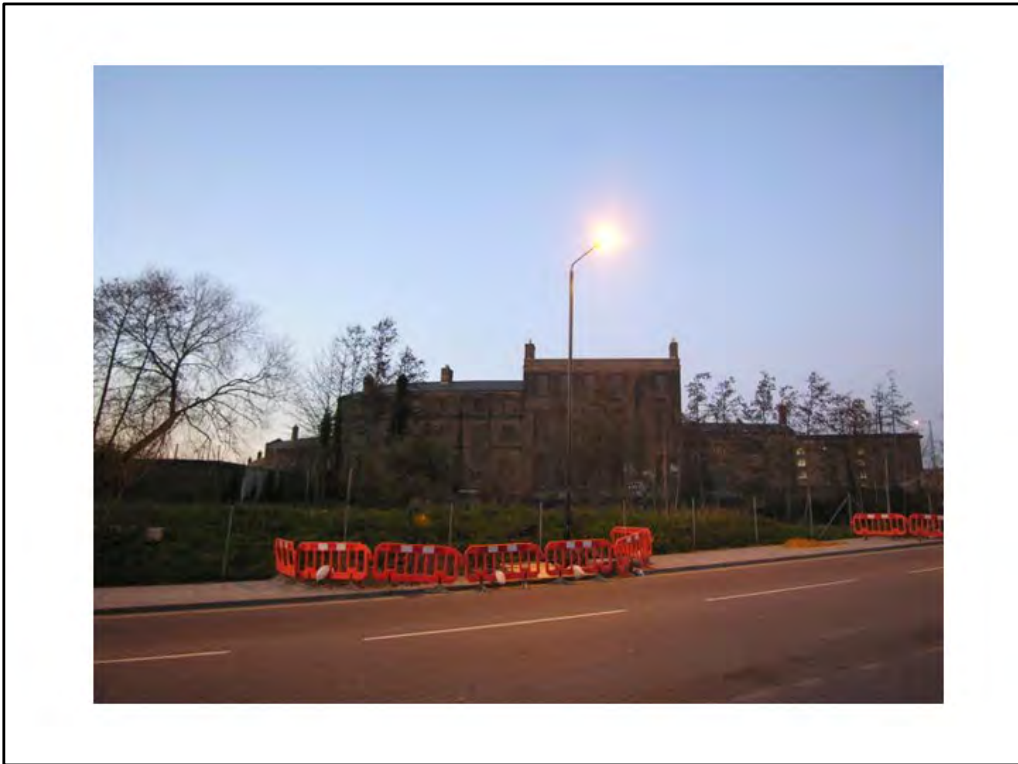


Guardian purchase



















**HALF WAY**

Culross Vanishes



Last person left Culross in app.2001



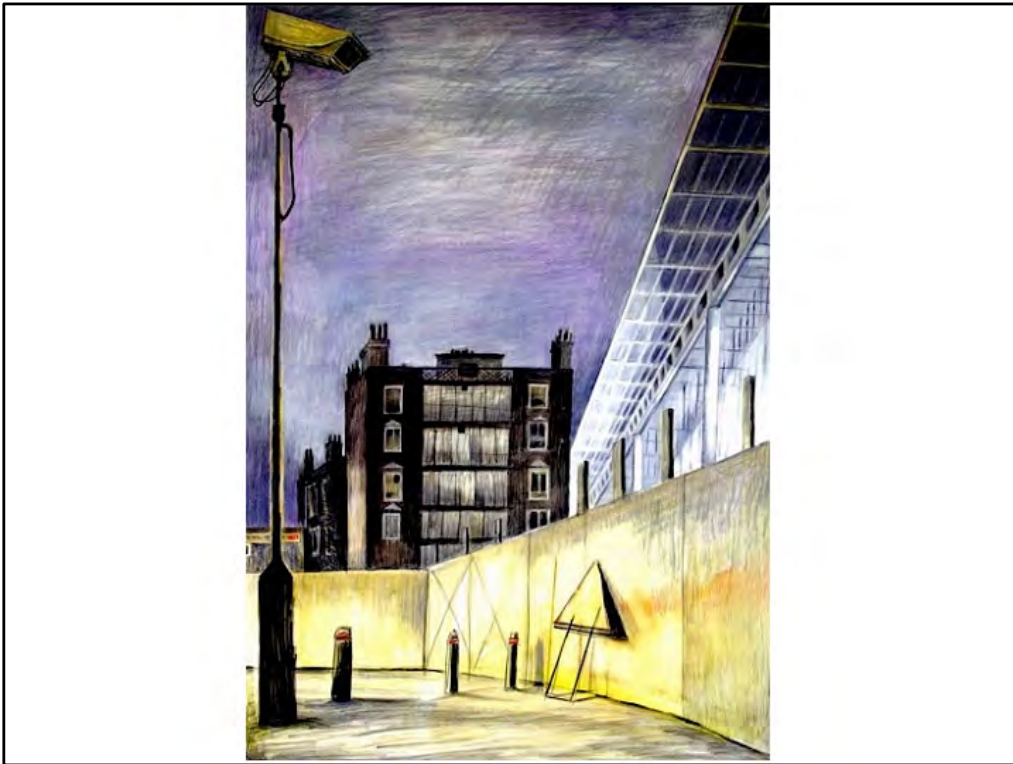






Stanley Buildings - marooned inside the development area waiting for destruction





Stanley's Cornered

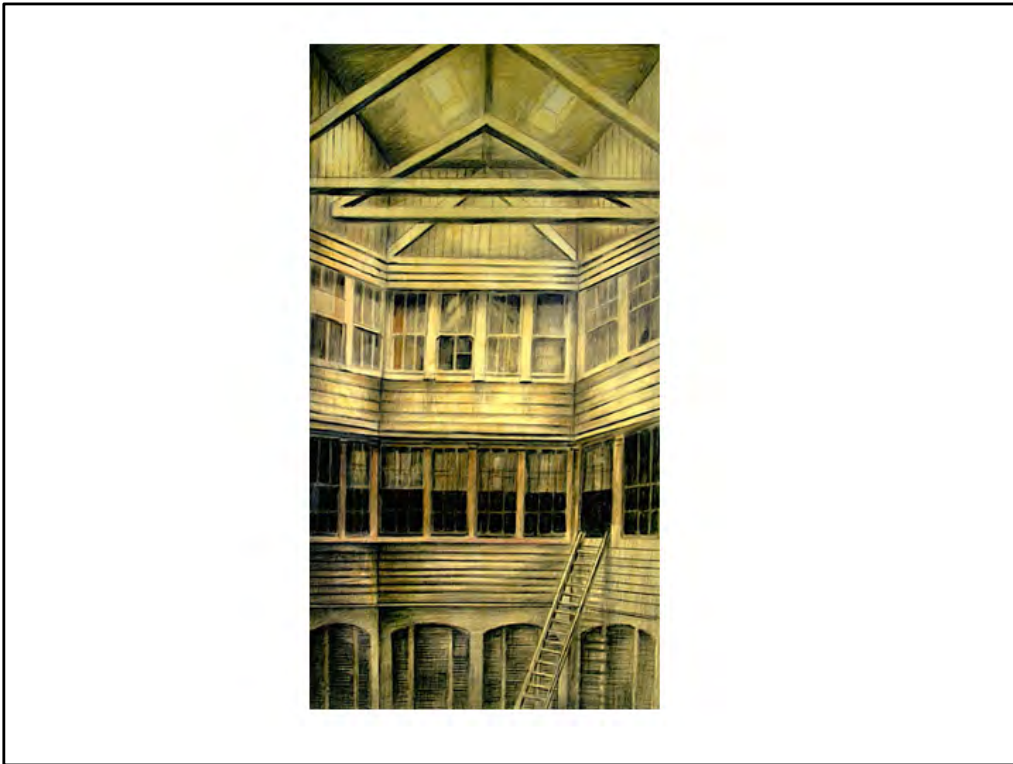


William Blake

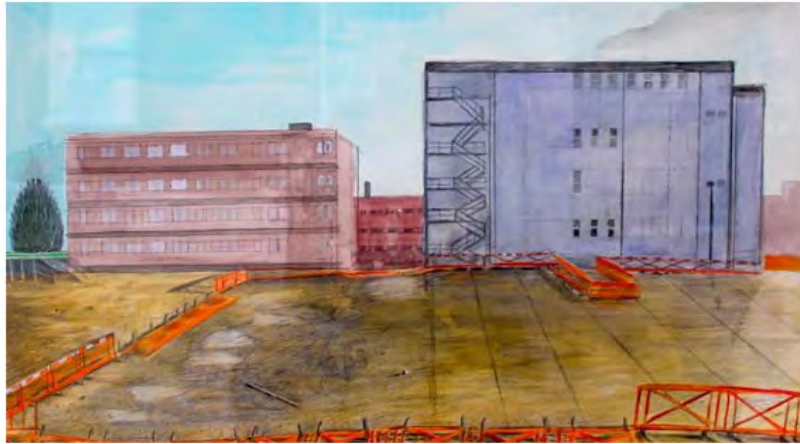
NETWORK RAIL



The Parcel Shed Fullers Pub seen on TV documentary about English Heritage



NETWORK RAIL buys use of these images for the Business lounge



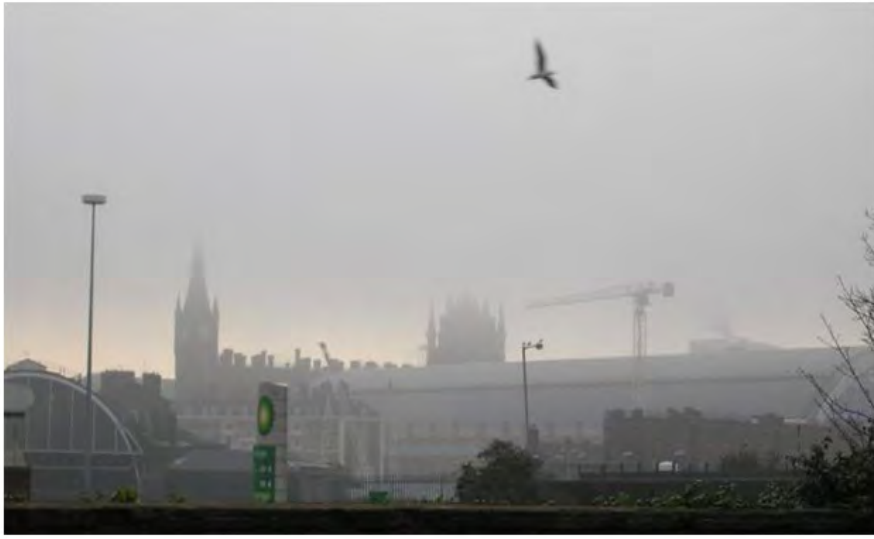
Francis Marshall, curator from Museum of London, came to Guardian show /bought including 'No Place KX' - Started collaboration with MOL archive.



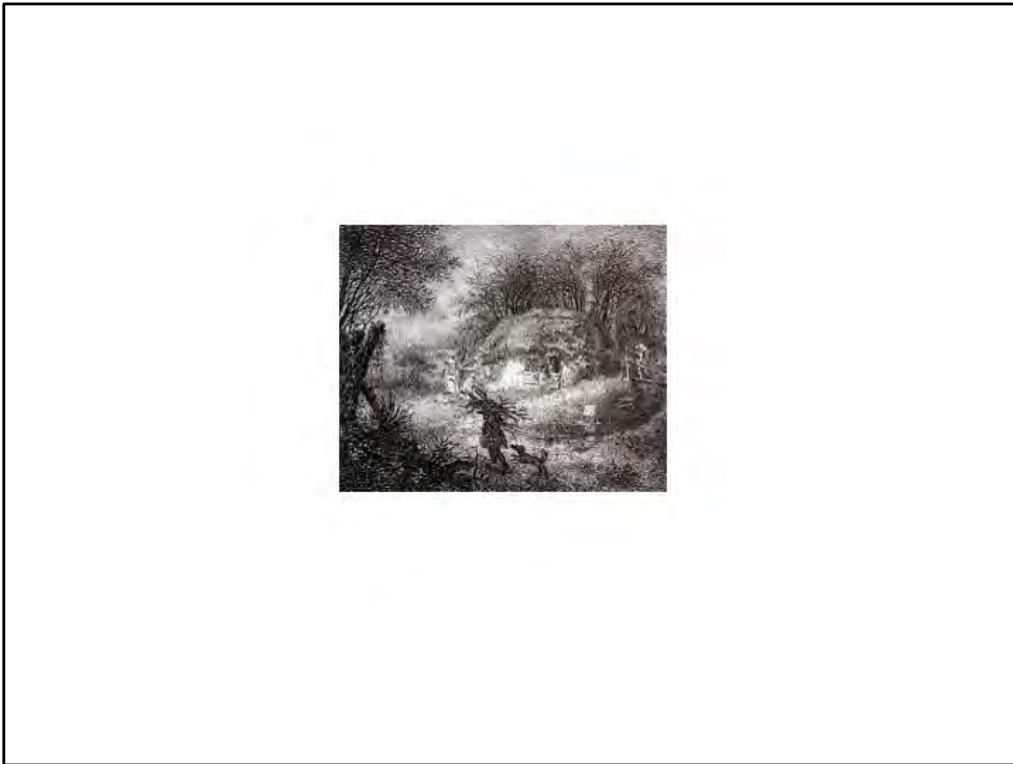










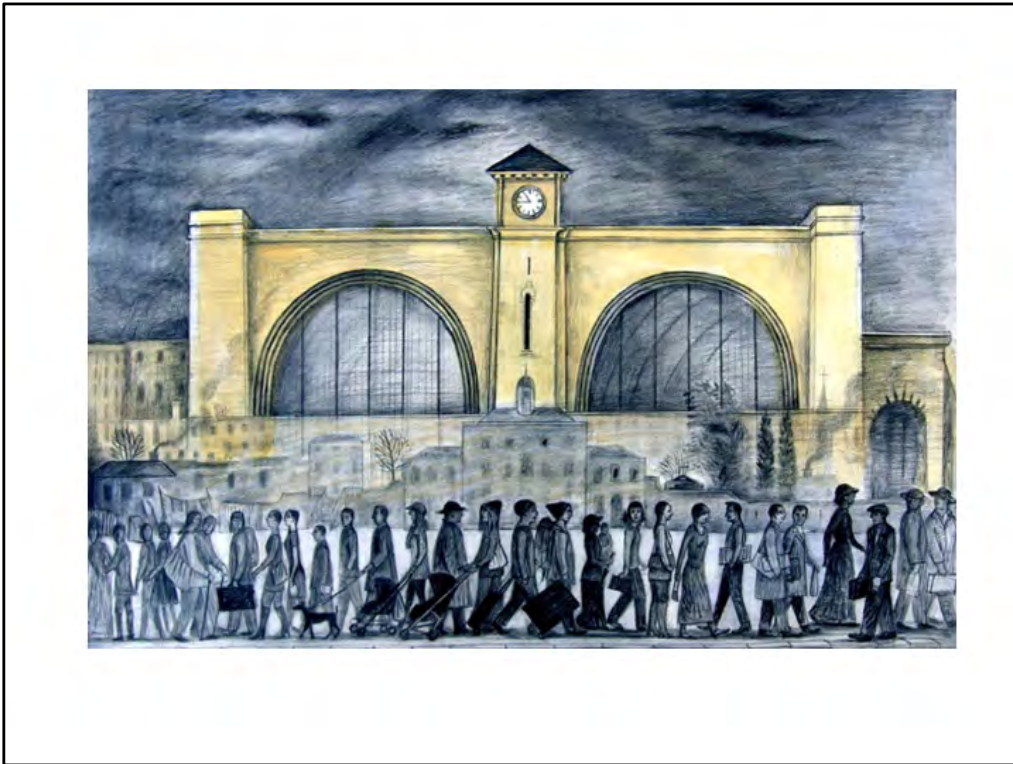


Battlebridge 1797

Part two of project: 'The Present in the Past' I start with the original print, take a bad photo of it, blow it up digitally (or an excerpt) onto heavy paper. This creates a confusion between the two versions. I see this as a kind of conversation between me and the earlier artist.

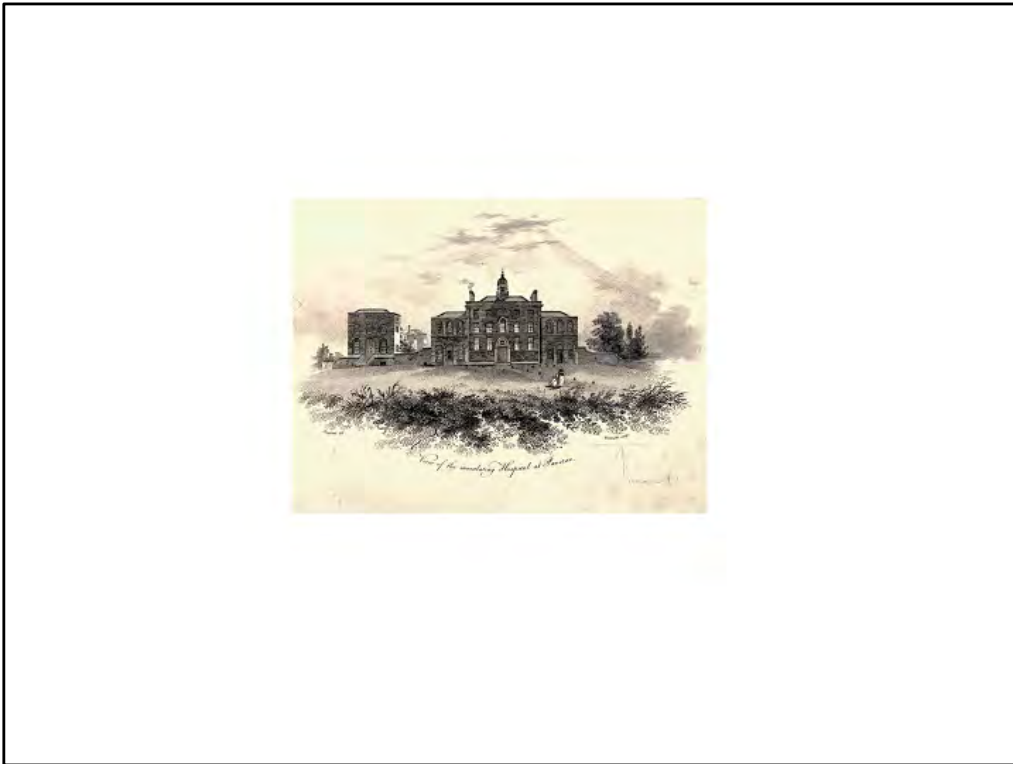
Sometimes I work directly onto the print – as in this one, other times I make my own version from scratch, without a print underneath.





KX and the Small pox Hospital (transition period between the two projects - referencing the earlier prints, but not drawing on top of them) see next slide for more on Small Pox





Small pox hospital 1806 demolished in 1846 to make way for the building of KX station



Small pox Hospital: certain themes have emerged: KX and ST Pancras as a place connected to health (as it still is with the Wellcome , and the Crick Institute (research institute for understanding diseases)



St Pancras Wells. In the 17<sup>th</sup> its waters were known for their curative values.







DUST HEAP Maiden Lane 1836





ST PANCRAS OLD CHURCH.  
WITH THE FORTIFICATIONS AT THE BRILL DURING THE CIVIL WARS 1642.







The River Fleet still runs past the church in a huge black pipe, and can sometimes be heard through drain holes in Argyle square.



Death. St Pancras known for its cemeteries. As I worked on these prints I became more and more drawn to prints of the cemetery where John Soane is buried (and Mary Wollstonecraft). As a young architect, Hardy was involved in work there, when graves were dug up and piles of gravestones gathered together to make way for the Midland Railway.



Celebrations of the dead – always a gravedigger in the background



















