

Archive

- Plans for development of gallery 9H
- Hirschhorn's Bridge

Success of box 84?

Whitechapel Gallery  
 77-82 Whitechapel High Street  
 London  
 E1 7QX

Will need more time next time

Dear WG,

random

I can appreciate that with the volume of information held at the Whitechapel Gallery Archive our request could seem quite specific but you handled it with great efficiency which allowed for a fruitful visit on Friday afternoon. The information provided gave helpful context to the recent meanderings in the fate of Angel Alley, and whilst perhaps more questions were raised than answers we have come to expect confusion with each step. It seems whenever we talk about change, the gallery comes up?

planning new buildings extensions

Can we add this?

These documents are interesting as a time stamp but there is still narrative missing, such as an artist. Which one is it today?

It is evident that the fate of alleyway and the Gallery are interconnected, especially with regard to development, with each seismic shift in the physical extension of the building, comes a conversation about the alleyway and its impedance or opportunity. The late 1970s is of particular interest here with the fervent conversation regarding gallery 9H. It seems the discourse around the gallery then was not dissimilar to that of today, words such as "unsafe" are tabled with a desire for something more "inviting" and "pleasant". It is from the recurrence of such language that I started to speculate on the haunting question of the gate. → After a while it seems it was no gallery? → WHAT NEXT?

A lot of thinking was done in relation to the bridge. Who built it? When was it decided?

You can keep lifting but what are we looking for? It seemed as if the question might be wrong.

Short archive visits necessitate jumping, often abruptly, to the next most appealing basket of information presented to you. Few were more eye-catching than the documentation for Tom Hirschhorn's Bridge from Freedom to Whitechapel. His chaotic disruption of the physical and social boundaries in the enclave of 82-84 Whitechapel High street both sparked my imagination and evoked my trepidation around the impact of creative intervention. → everyone wants to know, 'what are you guys going to do?' good question

Hirschhorn's work was interesting because it got people talking. The Freedom team remembered it or loved talking about it. Good + Bad

Even in the archive you are never removed from the shadow of the alley cast in people's minds, it was helpful to see the genuine interest and concern many of the gallery staff showed for the project and the passion in which this project has instilled. If nothing else, a moment that spotlights this would be desirable.

it was the entrance. Then they were told not to go.

I hope to visit you again soon, perhaps with a new perspective and fresh eyes.

Yours Sincerely,

Reflex Photo

We NEED to involve those interested parties without misleading their role.

WORK STOPS

mapping the alley?  
 Limited Knowledge + risk

mapping the area?

IT'S NOT JUST THE ALLEY

