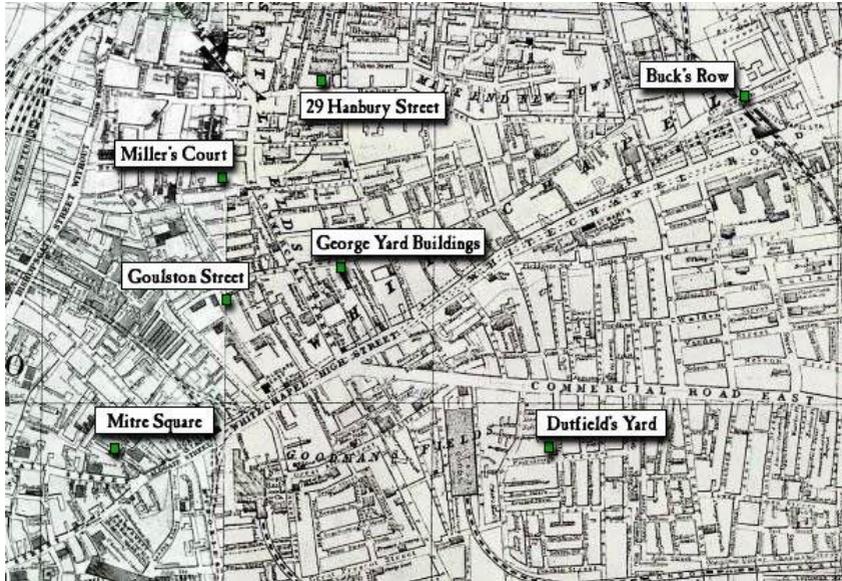


The Whitechapel Murders



1. Emma Elizabeth Smith - Osbourne Street
2. Martha Tabram - Gunthorpe Street

The Canonical Five

3. Mary Ann Nichols - Buck's Row
 4. Annie Chapman - 29 Hanbury Street
 5. Elizabeth Stride - Dutfield's Yard
 6. Catherine Eddowes - Mitre Square
 7. Mary Jane Kelly - 13 Miller's Court
-
8. Rose Mylett - Clarke's Yard
 9. Alice McKenzie - Castle Alley
 10. The Pinchin Street Torso - Pinchin Street
 11. Frances Coles - Swallow Gardens

The Whitechapel Murders

Of the eleven Whitechapel Murders, it is widely believed that Jack the Ripper is directly responsible for five of them. *It is possible* that the Ripper may have claimed more than five victims, but most experts agree that at least five of the East End murders were the work of Jack the Ripper.

Emma Elizabeth Smith

The first victim in the series of Whitechapel Murders was a prostitute by the name of Emma Elizabeth Smith. She was attacked and raped on Osbourn Street in Whitechapel on 3 April 1888. During the sexual assault, her attackers inserted a blunt object into her vagina, an injury which would take her life the following day. Before she died the next day at a London hospital, Smith told authorities that two or three men, one of them a teenager, were responsible for her attack.



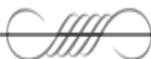
The press had linked Smith's murder to the subsequent Whitechapel Murders, but most experts later believed that particular murder to be the result of random gang violence.

Martha Tabram

The next victim in the series of Whitechapel Murders was Martha Tabram, a prostitute in the East End. She was brutally murdered on 7 August 1888. She had been stabbed 39 times; her body was found at 3:30am on a landing above the first flight of stairs in the George Yard Buildings of Gunthorpe Street in Whitechapel.



Many feel that Tabram was the Ripper's first victim due to the proximity of the murder in relation to the others, as well as the brutal nature of the crime. However, most experts agree that another individual was responsible for Tabram's death, and not Jack the Ripper. Tabram's wound patterns were distinctly different from the Canonical Five, in that she received multiple stab wounds as opposed to being slashed, which is believed to be the *Modus Operandi* of the Ripper.



The Canonical Five

Although eleven women were murdered around the time of the Ripper's reign of terror, five victims stood apart from the rest. The Canonical Five, as they are known, are believed to have all been murdered by the same hand. All five victims, prostitutes of the East End, shared distinct and similar wounds, as well as postmortem organ removal and mutilations in some cases. Other victims in the Whitechapel Murders investigation had been brutally murdered as well, but none were carried out with the same precision and methodology as the Canonical Five.

These five victims were all killed under cover of darkness, typically in the early morning hours. All of these murders also occurred on a weekend, or within one day of, and happened towards the end of the month, or within a week or so after.

Sir Melville Macnaghten, who had been Assistant Chief Constable of the Metropolitan Police Service and Head of the Criminal Investigation Department, wrote a report in 1894 that stated: *"the Whitechapel murderer had 5 victims – & 5 victims only"*.

The police surgeon, Thomas Bond, also linked the killings together in a letter he'd written to Robert Anderson, head of the London CID, on 10 November 1888.

Mary Ann Nichols

The body of Mary Ann "Polly" Nichols was discovered in the wee morning hours of August 31, 1888, at about 3:40am. Her body was found in front of a gated stable entrance in Buck's Row, Whitechapel. Her throat had been deeply severed in two locations and her lower abdomen partially ripped open by a deep, jagged wound.

The killer had also made several other incisions in her abdomen with the same knife.



Annie Chapman

A witness had reported seeing Annie Chapman talking with a man outside 29 Hanbury Street, Spitalfields, at 5:30 on the morning of her murder. Approximately twenty minutes later, her badly mutilated body was found near a doorway in the back yard. Her throat had been cut much in the same manner as had Mary Ann Nichols' and her abdomen slashed entirely open. A later autopsy revealed that the killer had removed her uterus.



Elizabeth Stride

The Ripper would claim two victims in the early hours of 30 September 1888. The first was Elizabeth Stride. Her body was discovered in Dutfield's Yard, off Berner Street, at approximately 1am. The killer had cut her throat, severing her left artery, yet no other slashes or incisions had been made.



Because of the absence of abdominal mutilations, there has been some doubt as to whether or not Stride was in fact killed by Jack the Ripper. However, most experts agree that Stride was murdered by the same killer due to the nature in which her throat had been cut.

It's also believed that the reason Stride had not been mutilated like the others, was due to an interruption of some sort. It's possible the killer feared he was in jeopardy of being detected by nearby witnesses, and elected to flee before finishing his ritual.

Catherine Eddowes

Just forty five minutes after Elizabeth Stride's body was found in Dutfield's Yard, Eddowes' body was discovered in Mitre Square, within the City of London. Her throat had been severed and her abdomen torn open with a deep, jagged wound. Her left kidney had been removed, along with a major portion of her uterus.



The Stride and Eddowes murders were later referred to as the "*Double Event*".

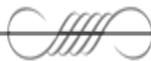
Mary Jane Kelly

Considered to be Jack the Ripper's Swan Song, Mary Jane Kelly's murder was the most gruesome of all the Whitechapel Murders. She was found horribly mutilated, lying on the bed in her single room flat where she lived at 13 Miller's Court, off Dorset Street, Spitalfields. She was discovered at 10:45am on Friday, 9 November 1888.



The landlord's assistant, Thomas Bowyer, had been sent over to collect the rent, which she had been weeks behind in paying. When she failed to answer his knock at the door, Bowyer reached his hand through a crack in the window, pushing aside a coat being used as makeshift drapery. What he saw at that moment was absolutely horrific.

Kelly's body was mutilated beyond recognition. Her entire abdominal cavity had been emptied out, her breasts cut off, and her viscera had been placed about the room, as if for decoration. Kelly's face had been hacked away and her heart removed, which was also absent from the crime scene. Kelly's murder was by far the most grisly and ritualistic of all.



The Fate of the Ripper

Regardless of whether or not the Ripper's blood sport ended with Mary Jane Kelly, it's certain that it did end. Many speculate that this was due to either illness and eventual death, or perhaps insanity which led to institutionalization.

Some suggest he may have fled the country and lived in self-imposed exile. One thing that is certain, along with the other killer(s) involved in the Whitechapel Murders, his true identity has never been obtained.

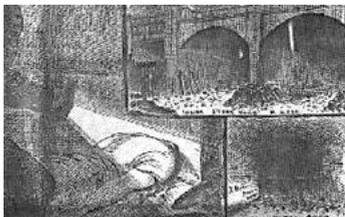
Later Whitechapel Murders

Following Kelly's ghastly murder, four other women were killed in the Whitechapel district during that same period, the first of which was **Rose Mylett**. Mylett was found strangled in Clarke's Yard on High Street on 20 December 1888. Investigators assessed that her death may have been the result of a drunken stupor as there were no visible signs of a struggle apparent anywhere on her body or clothing. Even though the inquest deemed it to be a murder, her death in no way resembled a Ripper killing.

The body of **Alice McKenzie** was found on July 17, 1889, in Castle Alley, Whitechapel. She had suffered a severed carotid artery, along with multiple small cuts and bruises across her body – evident of a struggle. One of the pathologists involved in the investigation dismissed this as a possible Ripper murder, as it did not match with the findings of the three previous Ripper victims he had examined. Writers have also disputed McKenzie as being a victim of Jack the Ripper, but rather of a murderer trying to copy his modus operandi in an attempt to deflect suspicion.



The tenth Whitechapel murder victim was "**The Pinchin Street Torso**". The victim was named as such because she was found headless and legless under a railway arch on Pinchin Street, Whitechapel, on 10 September 1889. Investigators believed that the victim was murdered at a different location, and the body dismembered for disposal.



Frances Coles was murdered on 13 February 1891. She was found under a railway arch at Swallow Gardens, Whitechapel, with her throat slit. A man named James Thomas Sadler, whom authorities believed to be Jack the Ripper, was arrested and charged with her murder, but was later discharged on 3 March 1891 due to lack of evidence.

