

~ Cannon Street Road Conundrum ~

The physical address of Louisa Ker and family in Cannon St Rd, has always thought to be near the church of St George in the East. Some further digging has uncovered some puzzling conflicts and address anomalies.

Firstly, let's look at a list of the addresses which have been noted from various documents. They've been transcribed as found –

1809 – Peter Peterson – Burial – Cannon St

1810 – Rent Book (Peter Peterson) Cannon St East

1810/11 – Louisa Peterson – Tailor – 2 Cannon St, Ratcliff Highway

1811 – John James – Bap – Cannon St

1814 – Edmund – Bap – St George in the East (other parents have Street names listed)

1818 – Joseph – Bap – Canon St

1818 – John's ad in newspaper – 1 Cannon-St

1819 – Insurance (John) 1 Cannon St, Ratcliff

1820 – Insurance (John) 1 Cannon St, Ratcliff

1821 – William – Bap – Cannon St

1824 – George – Bap – Cannon St

1825 – Insurance (John) 1 Cannon St, Ratcliff

1810-1832 – Rent Books – Cannon St

1832 – Insurance (Louisa) – 10 Gloucester Terrace, Cannon Street Road

1833 – Insurance (Louisa) – 10 Gloucester Terrace, Cannon Street Road

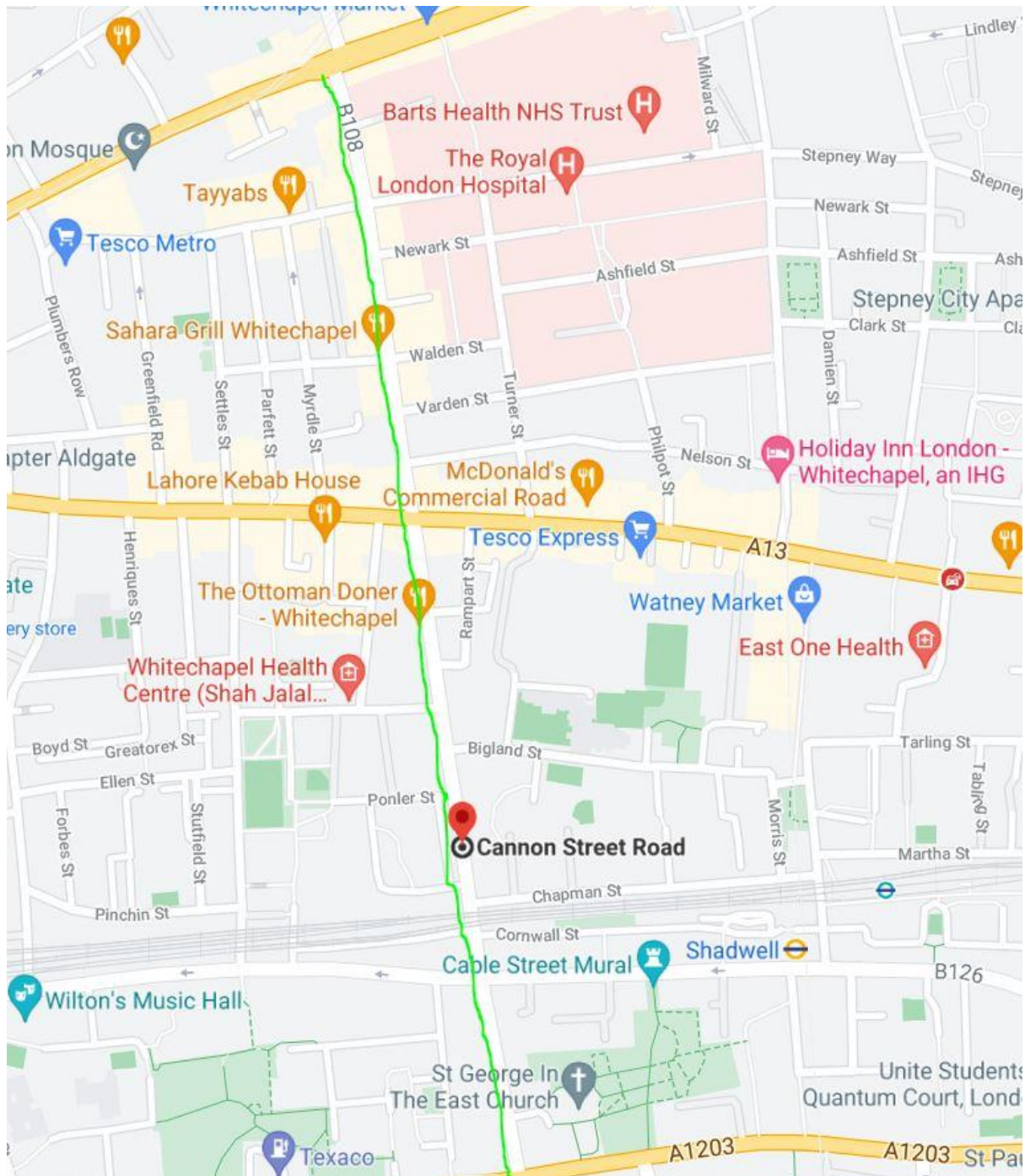
No Rents books found at all for 1833-1836

1837 – Rent books – Cannon St (all the neighbour names remain the same from 1810 -1837)

Secondly, Cannon St Rd still exists and is also known as B108. Let's start from the south end where the church 'St George in the East' is located. That road is now called The Highway (A1203), but in the early 1800's, the small section that intersected was known as Ratcliff Highway. It then travels north, crosses over Commercial Road, and finishes at Whitechapel Road. The section between Commercial Road and Whitechapel Road was also known as New Road. See map next page.

Thirdly, Cannon St Rd was also known as just Cannon St. Somewhere in time "Road" was added to its name. London had many street-name duplicates, and in order to differentiate them, the name of a main street it connected to, was tagged on the end as an 'identifier'.

This is how it looks today –



This practice of tagging the main road onto one's address resulted in addresses such as

1 Cannon St, Ratcliff, or 2 Cannon St, Ratcliff Highway (as mentioned above). This extra 'identifier' started before numbers were even given to properties. In this case, it tells the postman etc. it's **this** Cannon St, not the one in Southwark.

Many streets were renamed over time, many were also renumbered. Some Streets weren't numbered odds on one side with evens on the other. If three units were demolished and a large building took its place, some numbers would just disappear completely.

Fourthly, the north end of Cannon St Rd (also called New Road) on the west side – gained the name Gloucester Terrace. This presents in the 1832 and 1833 insurance records for Louisa.

It was found in a map dated 1826 as Gloster Terrace.



An interesting site for directions to old London street names is - <https://londonwiki.co.uk/Lockie1810/>

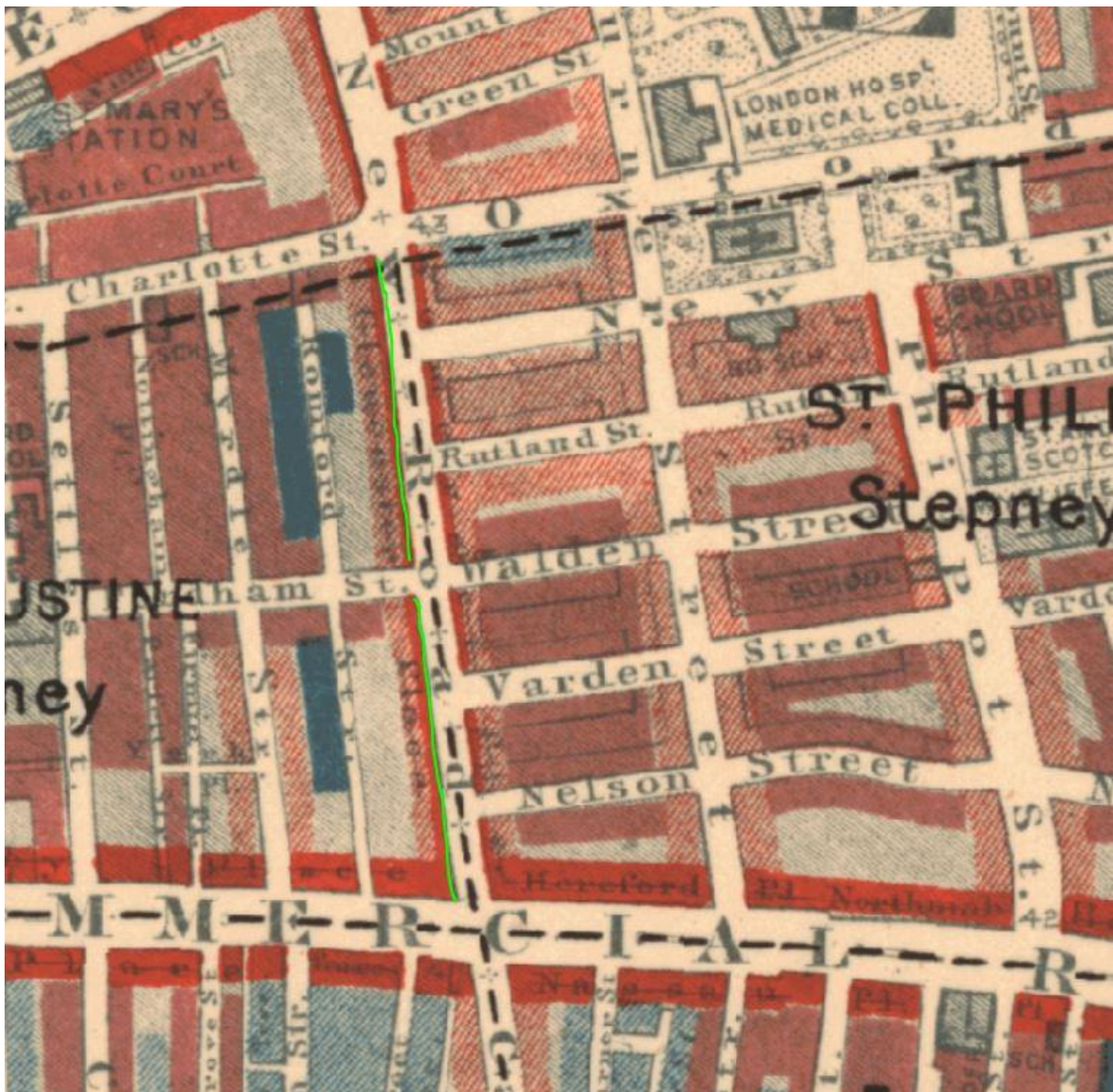
Mr Lockie wrote in 1810 -

“Gloucester Terrace, Cannon Street Road, forms part of the West side, it extends from the Commercial Road to Charlotte St, Whitechapel.”

These are the second and third blocks down from Whitechapel Road.

Charlotte St is now called Fieldgate St. Quite a lot of the street names from that map have since changed.

The name Gloucester was picked up again in Charles Booth's poverty maps of 1898 as Gloucester Place - <https://booth.lse.ac.uk/map/16/-0.0639/51.5157/100/0>



The legend shows these houses as “Fairly comfortable. Good ordinary Earnings”. It’s the same colour for dwellings opposite St George in the East.

Here are a couple of links to a property one block south of number 10. It’s been restored to it’s former glory of the 1800’s. Amazing!

<https://www.eyerevolution.co.uk/tours/33NewRoad/>

<https://spitalfieldslife.com/2012/08/29/an-old-house-in-whitechapel-2/>

Fifthly, Booth's map also shows that Cannon St Rd/New Street is in six different parishes!



St George – in the East

St John the Evangelist – Commercial Road

Christ Church – Watney Street

St Augustine – Stepney

St Philip – Stepney

St Mary – Whitechapel

Saying you lived in Cannon St Rd may have been enough to get your family's religious needs met at St George in the East, regardless of which end one lived at.

Number 10 Gloucester Terrace is marked by the green square.



It looks like this today (under the blue arrow) –



It's hard to know whether it had a shop below in the early 1800's.

Sixthly, and interestingly, this extra delving into the address actually came about from Louisa's death duty document dated 1837 –

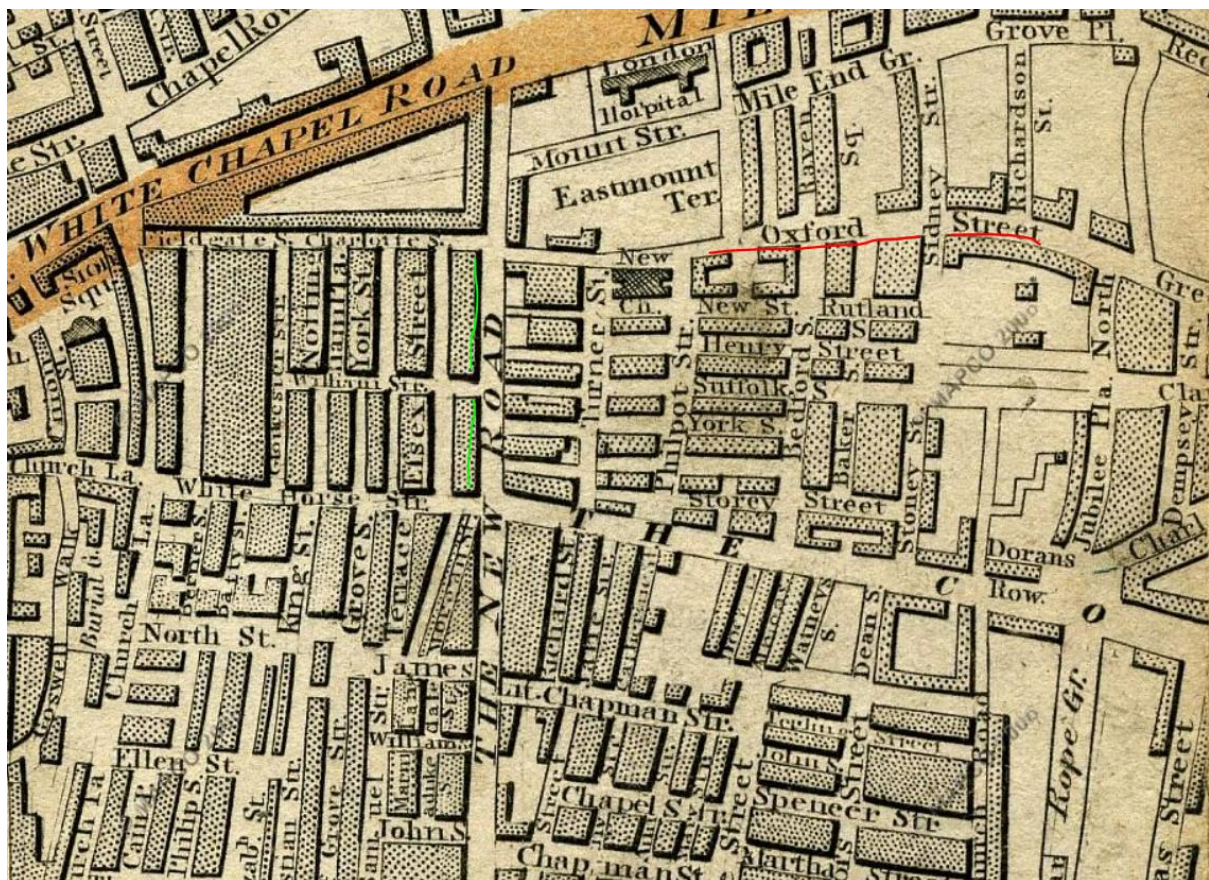
Intestate	Name and Residence of Administrators or Administratrix	Vol.	Folio
Utting	Joseph May, Northam, Hamp. Langley, Beds.	1	110
Underhill	Mary Underhill, Park St. Dudley, Worcs	1	120
Underwood	Henry W. Underwood, Yorkly, Hastings, Sussex	1	110
Wheeler	Louisa Shepherd, 15 Oxford St. Cannon St Rd	1	161
Wright	Elizabeth, Little Bodm., Stalstead, Essex	1	255

She died intestate. The Administratrix was her daughter Louisa (Peterson) Shephard.

The address – 15 Oxford St, Cannon St Rd.

Initially taken as Oxford St in Soho, with some additional information of Louisa's address.

Further investigation found that Cannon St Rd was the main St 'identifier' and Oxford St (also known as New Oxford St) was located here on a map from 1830.



Daughter Louisa was yet again living very close to the home she grew up in. She was also the only remaining child of Louisa's still living in the UK.

15 Oxford St has been difficult to pin down. Note that the Royal London Hospital is now located on both sides of the street – now called Stepney Way.

Seventhly, the names of the neighbours in the rent books have stayed the same from Peter Peterson in 1809 –

35	0°	Kyle	16 8
		<i>Cannon Street</i>	1 9 2
12	0°	Peter Peterson	10
12	0°	Outhwaite	10
12	0°	John Kent	10
12	0°	Abraham Crofft	10

...to 1837 –

		<i>Trustees of Wapping School</i>	13 10
	0°	Mills	13 10
	0°	John Curby	13 10
	0°	Sam ^r Matthews	1 3 10
		<i>Cannon Street</i>	
	0°	John Usher	0
	0°	Outhwaite	0
		John Kent	0
		Abraham Crofft	0

While Louisa was now a widow, the rent book name has remained as John Uhr.

The property was still subsidised by the Trustees of Wapping, and the neighbours were still Outhwaite, John Kent, and Abraham Crofft. Bizarrely the rent had actually gone down for all of them.

		<i>Cannon Street</i>	
		John Usher	0
		Outhwaite	0
		John Kent	0
		Abraham Crofft	0

Even stranger are the listings in the pages which are in the years to follow...mentioned in the article [The Mystery Mariner](#). This from 1847 (10 years after Louisa had passed), looks very much like Daniel Uhr or Usher.

Does this mean the rent books couldn't be trusted for accuracy?

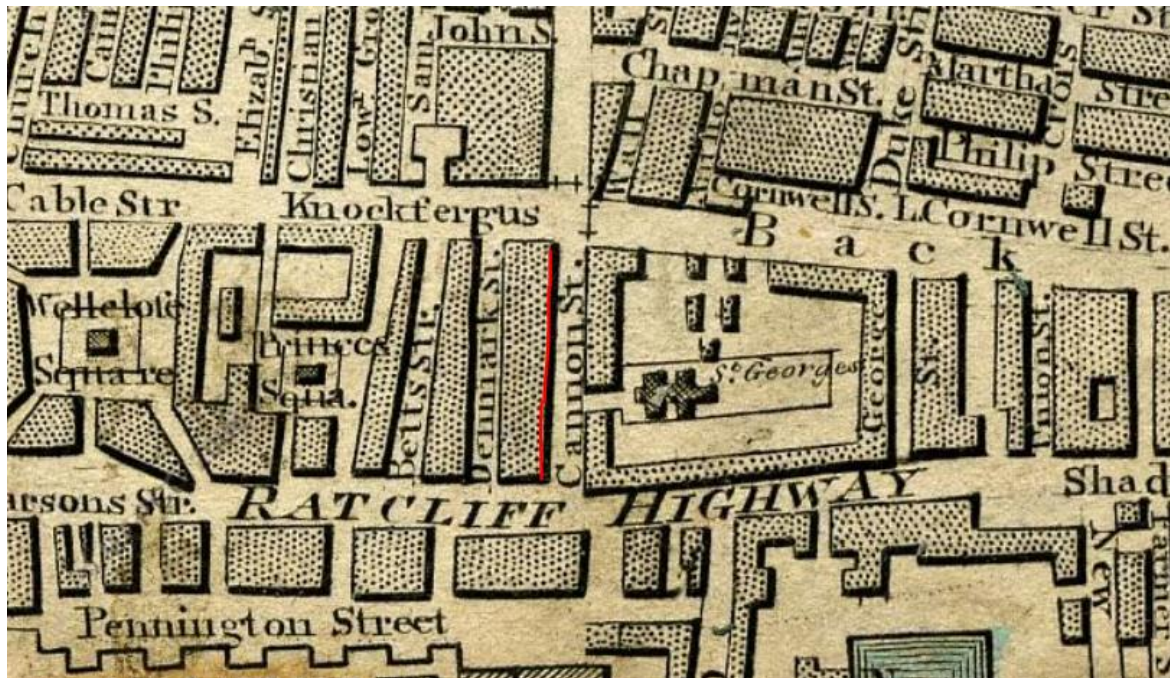
Was Louisa and family actually at the south end of Cannon St Rd?

Did she move from one end to the other, and the rent books are seriously that wrong?

Did the address Cannon St Rd, Ratcliff Highway signify they were opposite St George in the East? Or was this simply the name of the main street 'identifier' at the time?

Why was it # 1 or #2 Cannon St Rd?

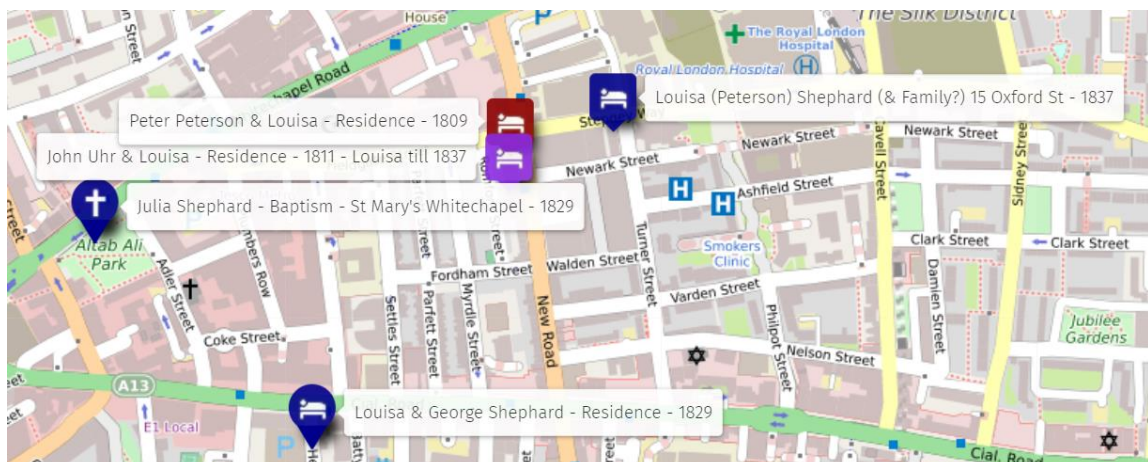
1830 Map –



Did Sun Fire Insurance make an error in the address of 10 Gloucester Terrace?

These are puzzling questions, but none more than puzzling than the numerous people insured by Sun Fire Insurance at Gloucester Terrace. The dates which start in 1803. Therefore, why was it not always referred to as Gloucester Terrace for this family?

Maybe the [Interactive London Map](#) located in 'Resources' located on this website, should have the premises back down the south end, not as shown here?



One thing's for sure, Daughter Louisa had stayed close to home before her mother passed.

Regardless of just how close her daughter lived, it should also be noted that from page 8 in the Petersons and Uhrs Book, it was believed they lived on the east side of the street.

the PETERSON home, rented from the Trustees of the Wapping Charity Schools, was a few doors south of the church entrance and backed onto the extensive churchyard. St George's was a large and

Eighthly, if Louisa was in fact ever at the north end in Gloucester Terrace, then possibly she had boarders.

Louisa's insurance dated 24 October 1832 –

Insured: Louisa Uhr, 10 Gloucester Terrace, Cannon Street Road, widow

Records of Sun Fire Office. Insured: Louisa Uhr, 10 Gloucester Terrace, Cannon Street Road, widow

Held by: London Metropolitan Archives: City of London
Date: 24 October 1832
Reference: MS 11936/537/1145526

Insurance for the same address on 26 July 1832 for Leopolt (Leopld) Amelang and Augusta (Augustus) Berthold. Comb makers and horn manufactures. [Maybe some hair combs with Louisa's ostrich feathers attached? I dread to think of the noise testing horns would make.]

Insured: Leopolt Amelang and Augusta Berthold, 10 Gloucester Terrace Cannon Street Road, comb makers and...

Records of Sun Fire Office. Policy register. Insured: Leopolt Amelang and Augusta Berthold, 10 Gloucester Terrace Cannon Street Road, comb makers and horn manufacturers

Held by: London Metropolitan Archives: City of London
Date: 26 July 1832
Reference: MS 11936/532/1143525

Leopold Amelang was registered to vote at that address in 1833 and 1835. Sun Fire Insurance also has him there in 1831 and 1834. He was also at that address in the 1839 in Pigot's Directory. It may be the same person who married Catherine Topping in 1833 at Creechurch (down Whitechapel Rd). For the record, he was born 1804, Dessau, Dessau-Roßlau, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany, died in Kent in 1870.

Did he continue to just pay rent after Louisa had passed?

The Sun Fire Records show many names for other numbers at Gloucester Terrace, so it wasn't simply the block number.

London, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1965 for Lang Augustus Berthold			
Tower Hamlets >	Mile End Old Town >	1833	
893	Brown, William	House	Stracey-street
894	Barker, John	House	Commercial-road
895	Barnett, John	House	Turner-street, East
896	Barker, Matthew	House	Commercial-road
897	Burton, William	House	Commercial-road
898	Bethell, John	House	New Suffolk-street
899	Binstead, Joseph	House	Commercial-road
900	Baker, Zechos	House	Commercial-road
901	Bowtell, Samuel	House	Exmouth-street
902	Barrett, John	House	Turner-street
903	Bennett, Robert	House	Bermuda-street
904	Bull, James	House	St. Vincent's-street
905	Beall, John	House	Grenada-terrace
906	Barcey, John	House	Arbour-square
907	Ballance, James	House	Arbour-square
908	Barrett, Benjamin	House	Arbour-terrace
909	Brown, George	House	Arbour-terrace
910	Bennett, Charles	House	Heath-street
911	Brown, Anthony	House	Heath-street
912	Bisson, William	House	Heath-street
913	But, Richard	House	Wellington-place, South
914	Berhold, Lang Augustus	House	Gloucester-terrace
915	Baddeley, Thomas	House	Gloucester-terrace
916	Brunning, John	House	York-street
917	Botterill, William	House	York-street

(Lang) Augustus Bertold is on the electoral register for Gloucester Terrace in 1833, but has moved to **Berner St** by 1835. He was possibly also known as Gottlob Frederick August Bertold, who was born 1807, Fribourg, Switzerland, married Mary Ann Harvey in 1843, and died in 1865 at Mile End, Old Town London. Interestingly Louisa Shephard was living in **Berner St** in 1829.

Ninthly and lastly, as for 1 or 2 Cannon St Rd, it's also been given the added 'identifier' of New Road for some other people –

Insured: George Williams, 1 Cannon Street Road, corner of New Road, oilman, grocer and cheesemonger; Other...

Records of Sun Fire Office.Policy register. Insured: George Williams, 1 Cannon Street Road, corner of New Road, oilman, grocer and cheesemonger; Other property or occupiers: 30 Alfred Street, Stepney

Held by: London Metropolitan Archives: City of London
 Date: 29 November 1827
 Reference: MS 11936/512/1069076

Insured: Clark Stanley 2 Cannon Street Road near the New Road builder Other property or...

Records of Sun Fire Office.Policy register. Insured: Clark Stanley 2 Cannon Street Road near the New Road builder Other property or occupiers: west side Joseph Street Sun Tavern Fields

Held by: London Metropolitan Archives: City of London
 Date: 17 May 1826
 Reference: MS 11936/506/1045593

What are your thoughts on the physical locality of where Louisa and her families lived?

HOLD THE PRESS! Check out the next page (12).

Written by Annie S. for the Uhr Family Name website 2021, with eternal gratitude to **Margaret Ker** for her map and street name searching abilities. As well as for her dedication during the 50 plus emails we shared whilst researching this puzzle!

Eagled-eyed Margaret has found another map. This one has dwelling numbers –

<https://www.romanticlondon.org/explore-horwoods-plan/#18/51.51035/-0.06061>

Its creation date was 1792-1799. Its also interactive and scrolls around.

You can be forgiven for thinking this would solve the mystery.

In the block along the church, the number 2 appears **six** times, number 1 appears **five** times!!



Up the road at Gloucester Terrace, the numbers go from 1-9, then skip 10 and go to 11!

