

EAST TWERTON REVISITED

Written and Compiled by David Knight

This account of the part of Twerton closest to the city centre is a mixture of maps, archival photographs, pen portraits of important local people and bits of family history.

The accounts of small local businesses, including the little foundry that cast manhole, drain and waterworks covers are new and invaluable insights into the complex business community of the area. Populated with pictures of the people at work, the history of Twerton comes alive.

The ariel views show the huge extent of the Newark Works, the Gas Works, the railway yards and The Pitman Press sites and although some of these are previously published the pulling together of them to show the density of the industrial development of the area is impressive.

The potted biographies of people with names well known to people around Bath are an appropriate reminder of just how much some of them contributed to the prosperity of the city and its civic functions. The everyday local community activities that were so important before electronic communication arrived highlight much of value that has been lost to redevelopment and realignment of businesses.

The contrasts between the old sites and the new uses of them are sometimes very stark.

In some instances the backgrounds of the photographs tell as much as the main subjects of the images not least in the working conditions and clothing people wore to work and at play.

Towards the end the author strays into personal political comments and sometimes onto individual peoples performance which is disconcerting but overall the book is a significant contribution to our understanding of the history of the city.

The book is on sale at [Oldfield Park Bookshop](#), 43 Moorland Road, Bath, Somerset