

SQUATTING

the real story

Publication date: 8 December 1980
Large format, 248 pages
Over 500 photographs and many cartoons and illustrations
Four pages of full colour

Edited by Nick Wates and Christian Wolmar
Designed by Caroline Lwin and illustrated by Andy Milburn

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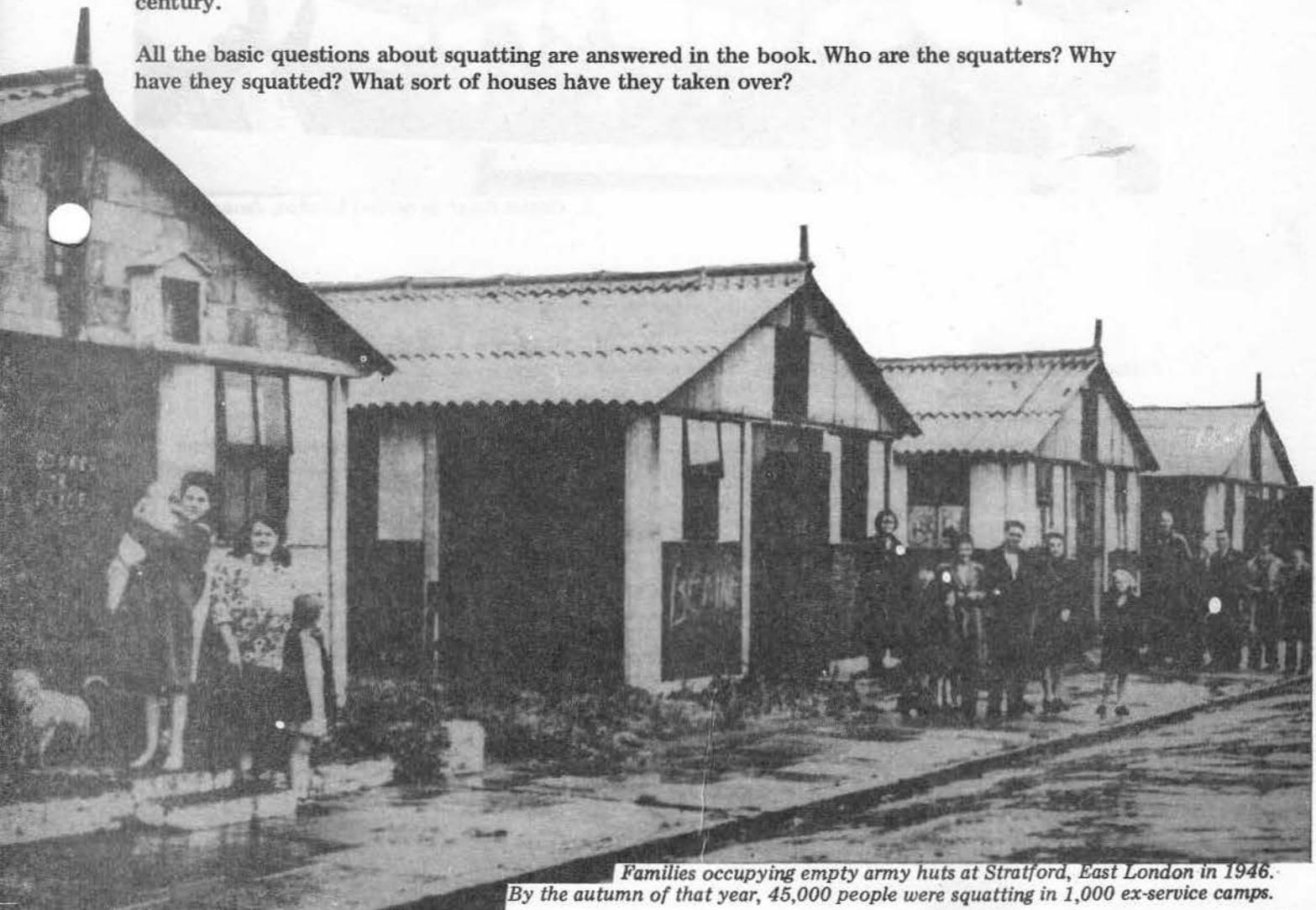
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ADVANCE BOOK INFORMATION

Few groups of people have aroused more controversy in recent years than squatters. Their actions have received massive coverage in the press which has normally portrayed them as worthless scroungers hell bent on disrupting society. Here at last is the inside story of the 250,000 people from all walks of life who have squatted in Britain over the past 12 years.

The country is riddled with empty houses and there are thousands of homeless people. When squatters logically put the two together the result can be electrifying, amazing and occasionally disastrous. Squatting is one of the most significant grass roots movements involving housing this century.

All the basic questions about squatting are answered in the book. Who are the squatters? Why have they squatted? What sort of houses have they taken over?



Families occupying empty army huts at Stratford, East London in 1946. By the autumn of that year, 45,000 people were squatting in 1,000 ex-service camps.

"SQUATTING, the real story" is a unique and diverse account of squatting. Written and produced by squatters, it covers all aspects of the subject;

- o A detailed history of the last decade of squatting by Steve Platt
- o Squatting from the Middle Ages to the Second World War by Colin Ward
- o Squatting in 1946 (with analysis of Cabinet papers on the subject) by Andrew Friend
- o Dramatic case studies of four successful squatting campaigns by Nick Anning and Jill Simpson, Piers Corbyn, Ann Pettitt and Tristan Wood
- o The Law on squatting by barrister David Watkinson
- o Squatting as a cultural challenge; how, as well as providing a roof, it can be good for you. Five essays by Celia Brown, Andrew Ingham, Pat Moan, Tom Osborn and Heathcote Williams.
- o Squatting around the world (including up to date coverage of this years battles in Amsterdam) by Mark Gimson
- o The background to squatting: facts and figures on the housing crisis and empty property.

All chapters are comprehensively illustrated with a unique collection of photographs.

As this book is published, squatting is increasing rapidly again after several years of decline and with the cuts in the housing programmes it is likely to continue to be in the public eye.



Centre Point in central London, January 1974.

Promotion and publicity is being handled by:

Gail Chester, Ultra Violet Enterprises, 25 Horsell Road, London N5, tel: 01 607 4463.

Review copies, further information and illustrations from the book are available on request from Gail Chester. No reviews to appear before publication date (8 December). (Please send two copies of any review you publish)

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Scottish and Northern Books, 45/47 Niddry Street, Edinburgh EH1 1LG (031 557 0133) or 18 Granby Row, Manchester M1 3GE (061 228 3903)

Individual copies may be obtained from the publisher (allow £1 for postage and packing)