

Octavia Hill 1838 -1912

What else was happening in Britain during her lifetime?



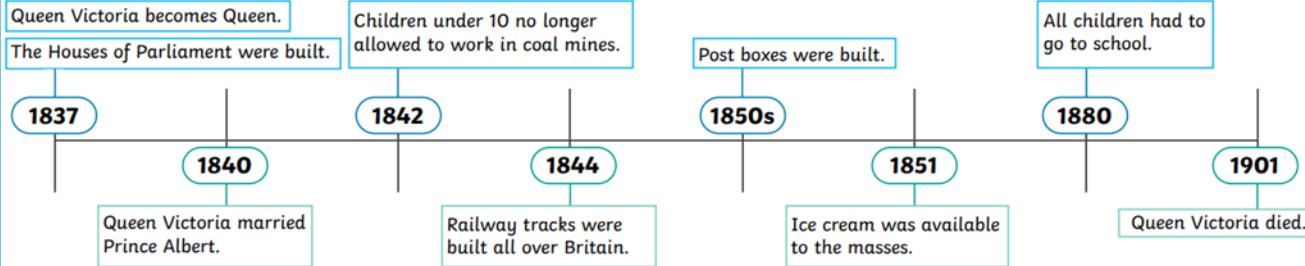
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Mary Seacole
1805-1881



Florence
Nightingale
1820-1910



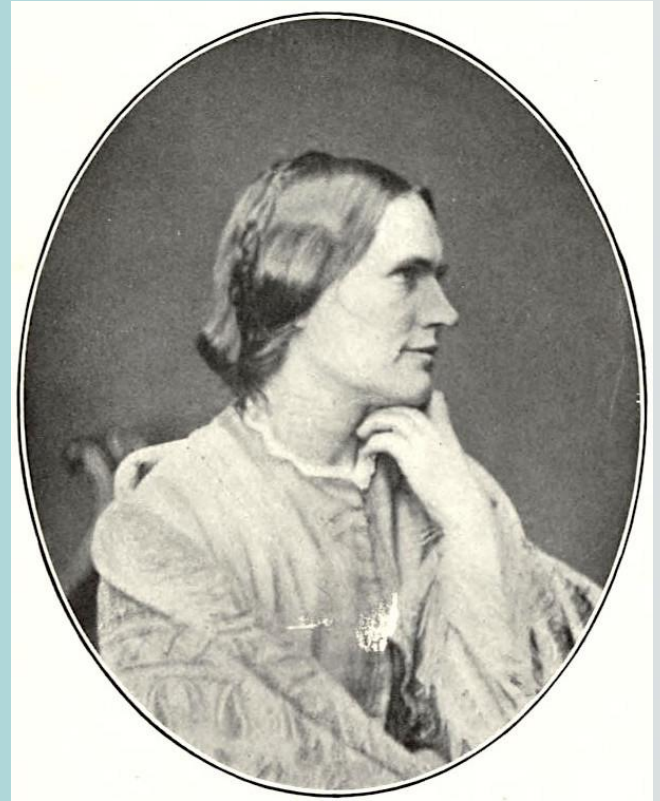
Who Was Octavia Hill?

- Born in London, England in 1838
- Believed everyone deserved safe and decent housing
- Worked to improve living conditions for poor families



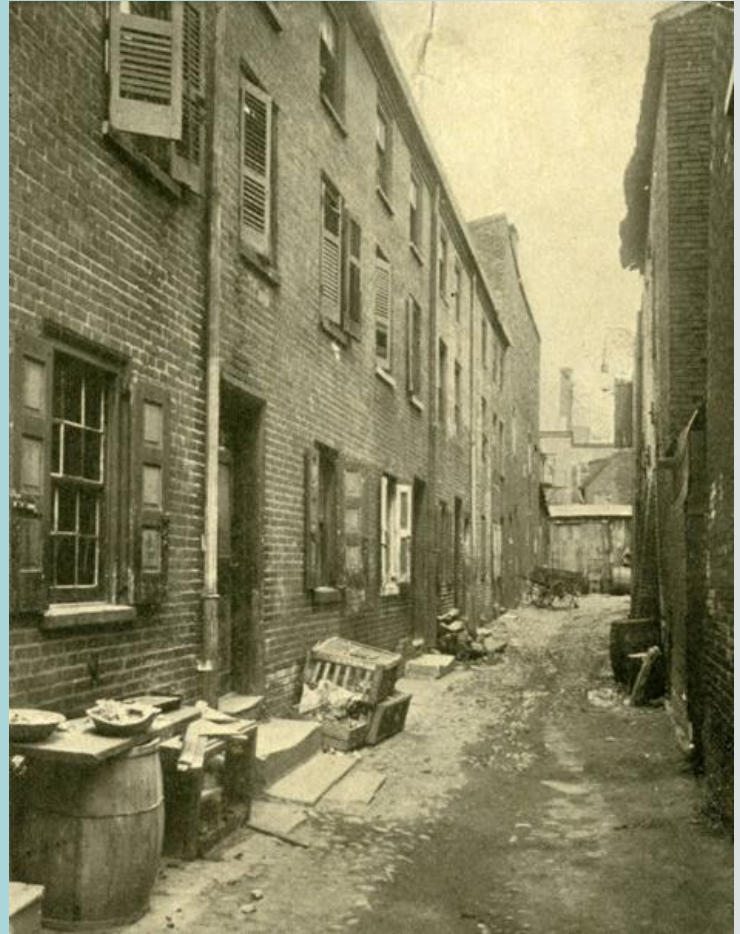
Early Life and Family

- Grew up in a large family with limited income
- Started working at a young age to help support her family
- Developed strong ideas about social justice early on



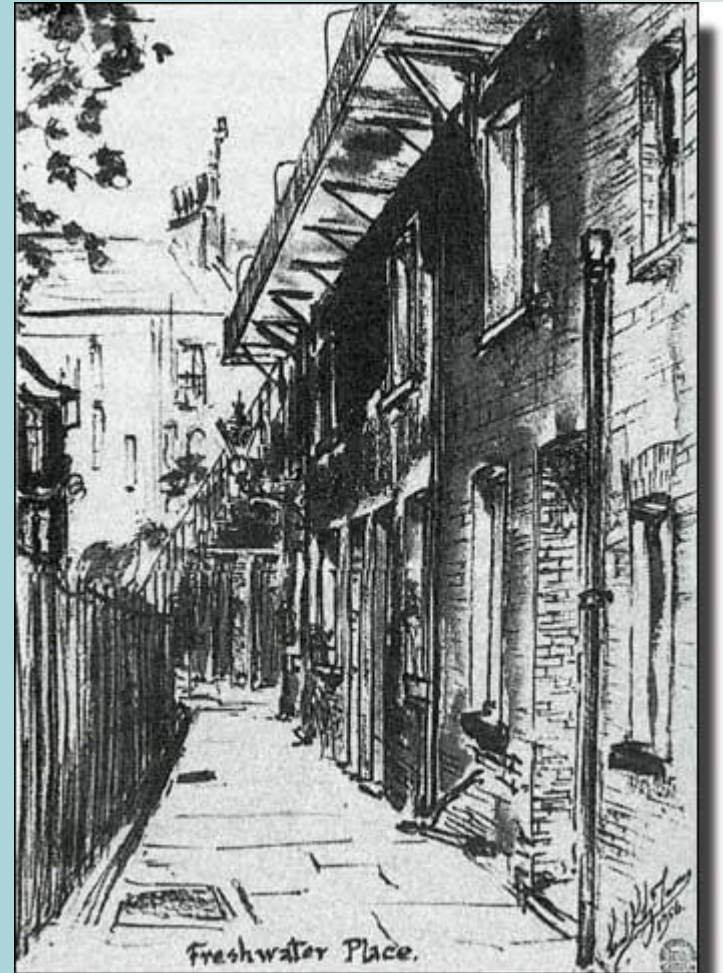
Housing Reform: Her Big Mission

- Bought run-down houses in London's poorest neighbourhoods
- Renovated buildings to create clean, affordable housing
- Charged low rents to working-class families
- Managed properties personally and with care



How Did She Improve Housing?

- Cleaned and repaired buildings
- Installed basic sanitation and water
- Created safe spaces for families
- Taught tenants about cleanliness and personal responsibility



National Trust Founder

- Helped establish the National Trust in 1895
- Worked to preserve beautiful landscapes and historic buildings
- Believed nature was important for people's well-being
- Protected land for future generations



Her Ideas About Social Change

- Thought personal connection was key to helping people
- Believed in respect for all
- Worked closely with communities



Challenges She Faced

- Worked in a time when women had few rights
- Challenged social norms about poverty
- Faced criticism from wealthy people
- Long term partner was Harriet Yorke



Her Lasting Legacy

- Improved housing for thousands of people
- Inspired modern social housing concepts
- Showed how one person can make big changes





Click on the image to see a short video about Octavia's life and legacy.

What made Octavia Hill's approach to helping poor families unique?

- 1) She simply gave them money
- 2) She personally managed properties and taught tenants responsibility
- 3) She worked only with wealthy families
- 4) She ignored housing problems entirely

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Hill's work challenging social norms was significant because:

- 1) Women had very few rights during her time
- 2) She was always popular with everyone
- 3) She worked in a large city
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