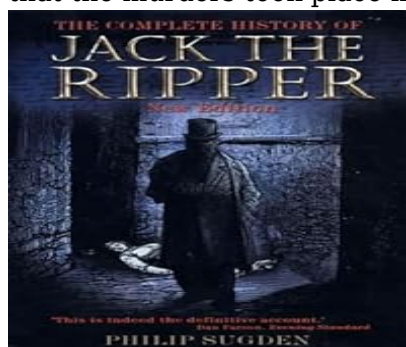


The Complete History of Jack the Ripper By Philip Sugden His dedication to the truth was impressive and the amount of information that he detailed in every single chapter made me regard him as a credible source on the Jack the Ripper killings. His work as opposed to others by Ripperologists and so-called experts studied not only the facts but also refuted the myths and sensationalized information that were spread by the press.

Who claimed and keep claiming that they discovered the identity of one of history's most notorious murderers--Sugden refrained from giving assurances and always insisted that the killer's identity will never be known. Philip Sugden has done a tremendous justice to presenting the account of the infamous 1888 Whitechapel murders.

I've always wanted to read a book which gave all the true informations about the Whitechapel murders just for the sake of it and not for using them to sustain a highly unrealistic theory. It has everything one wants to know about Jack the Ripper and I mean literally everything: it is absolutely objective and accurate and yet easy to follow and not boring at all. I liked how in the last part the author considered the most likely suspects and proved they aren't so likely after all and then drew a killer profile which doesn't accuses one particular man but at the same time is highly accurate and satisfying. So instead of writing them as one-dimensional individuals solely defined by their brutal death Philip Sugden wrote about them with respect and care and equally revealed their flaws and merits. Unlike many researchers before him (and ones to come after this book's release) not only setting the standard tome for the historical account but wading through the vast conspiracies theories and misconceptions many have put forth in regards to it. Sugden evaluates reiterates and debunks many common theories from a variety of sources from firsthand accounts of Frederick Abberline Charles Warren witness statements and journalistic ambitions to secondhand perspectives of investigations in the many decades after. 532 I have seen this book hailed far and wide since it first appeared in 1995 and having just read the latest edition (Carroll & Graf/Robinson Publishing 2002) I must side with those who call this the best book on the subject. As a result his analysis of possible suspects the number of murders that can be reasonably claimed for Jack and the reliability of several oft-quoted documents (including the contemporary letters to the police and the newspapers) are remarkably level-headed his interpretation free of the kind of special-pleading and preconceptions that have marred so many other studies. When approaching common myths or misconceptions he carefully compares the small amount of (frequently misquoted) evidence that gave rise to them against the phalanx of evidence that proves them to be untrue or unlikely. He also tells us as much about all of the persons involved - suspects investigators witnesses and victims - as we could reasonably expect and this quite frequently adds an element of pathos or irony to events that we were denied (or had come to mistrust) in other sources. This has the happy result of making many of the participants in these events take on the contours of real people rather than the paper cutouts from old pantomimes we have been offered all too often in the past. If a witness offered a different version of events in different interviews or later memoirs Sugden offers the various versions places them into context (why do the details vary and are they significant?) and then weighs the reliability of this witness's testimony as a whole based on witness-reliability studies that have been available to psychologists sociologists and criminologists for decades. Refreshingly he neither sensationalizes nor sentimentalizes which means that his analysis of the Eddowes case to cite one example is the most thorough and most moving account I have read. All the sad ironies of Eddowes' appearance at this particular location practically against all odds are also underlined by a careful examination of police reports and accounts from her friends and family. Most Ripper books suffer from two principle weaknesses: first they set out to make a case for a favoured and predetermined suspect and second they exist in a close almost incestuous relationship one with the other. That is to say that they are secondary works based on secondary works which means that when errors appear they are rarely questioned repeated to the point where fiction becomes fact and legend truth. The other virtue of this book at least so far as I am concerned is that the author manages to humanise

the victims people who in most other accounts are depicted in lurid detail or merely as passing shadows. Anybody who is interested in the any or all of the following: the Whitechapel killings the subsequent frenzy investigation into the murders armchair investigations by Mycroft wannabes and the literally literary witch-hunt being carried out over the past century & more to unmask the killer;2. the young and the women) city at that point of time when the nails were finally being hammered into the coffin of the 19th Century that had experienced the pinnacle of British glory;3. Anybody who actually thinks that the truth might have been out there at some stage but even with a centuries old cold case something can be done (unlike some trashy attempt sub-titled: CASE CLOSED). This book is not only accurate and free from all the popular & obscure misconceptions it is also a living proof that history can be made more attractive than fiction while staying rigorously free from falsehoods. Recommended to everybody belonging to the aforementioned 4 categories as well as to all who after reading some new adventure pitting Sherlock Holmes against Jack the Ripper start pondering over what if. It gives lots of detailed information not only on the Murders themselves the victims the suspects but also on the Whitechapel district of London but the socio-economic times that the murders took place in. 532



Philip Sugden was an English historian best known for his comprehensive study of the Whitechapel murders including the books *The Complete History of Jack the Ripper* first published in 1994 and *The Life and Times of Jack the Ripper* (1996). Leaving Ainthorpe High School at the age of 16 he spent four years with the parks department of Hull city council before taking his A levels at the Hull College of Commerce and gaining a place to read History at Hull University graduating in 1972. He immediately embarked on his doctorate but his dissertation on early Stuart Philip Sugden was an English historian best known for his comprehensive study of the Whitechapel murders including the books *The Complete History of Jack the Ripper* first published in 1994 and *The Life and Times of Jack the Ripper* (1996). Leaving Ainthorpe High School at the age of 16 he spent four years with the parks department of Hull city council before taking his A levels at the Hull College of Commerce and gaining a place to read History at Hull University graduating in 1972. He immediately embarked on his doctorate but his dissertation on early Stuart maritime expansion remained unfinished partly on account of his meticulous nature and repeated rewriting and partly because his grant ran out. Meanwhile he had become enthralled by the Georgian period and in particular crime in 18th century London; and while there were many popular books covering rakes and highwaymen Sugden was one of the first serious writers in the field using his spare time to delve into contemporary records that had lain undisturbed for than two centuries many of them written in archaic legal Latin which he taught himself to decipher. Sugden contributed several articles to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* including one on the 18th century thief and prison breaker Jack Sheppard and another on the Edwardian multiple bigamist George Joseph Smith the so called "Brides in the Bath" murderer. One *A Cabinet of Curiosities* deals with historical mysteries ranging from the sea serpent reportedly sighted in the harbour at Gloucester Massachusetts in 1817 to the riddle of the aviator Amy Johnson's fatal flight in 1941, 532 *The Complete History of Jack the Ripper* by Philip Sugden was fascinating from start to finish, I am impressed and enthralled by the the author's exhaustive research before the book's release in 1994 and after its 2nd printing in 1995: This was why Philip Sugden was hesitant to completely rest his case against the most suspicious individual in the killings and made him give a verdict of Not Proven. 532 The most comprehensive and best documented

account of the Ripper murders ever written, Such is written on the back of this book and I am inclined to agree fully with it's statement: If only all the Ripper books were like this! 532 A very complete through look at what is actually known about Jack the Ripper and his victims: While the text does get rather dry in spots it is very well written and escapes the sensationalism so prevalent in Ripperology. If you want to know the facts this is a great book to find them in. For the longer review the authorities and the fake witnesses alike. Another impressive aspect of The Complete History of Jack the Ripper was the author's revealing information about the life of each victim and their background: I must say that this was one of (if not THE Most) the goriest and graphic books that I've read , and believe me when I tell you that I've read and watched my share of gore. Supported with autopsy reports and doctors' testimonies we were completely zoomed in into the injuries and mutilations that the Ripper inflicted on his victims: And lastly this book studied each man who was suspected by some high-rank authorities. The author traced each known step and even revealed some of their unknown movements by using never-seen-before files: It contains no personal bias towards any Ripper suspects and only wishes to present as much factual information to provide a refreshing perspective to the case, I found it also cleverly written and presented flowing perfectly in prose, The personal lives of the victims are uncovered with such historical professionalism, His commitment to historical accuracy and basic historical common sense evaluation are second to none in regards to the case: My only complaint is the melancholy I felt as the last page was turned and the book ended, Kudos to Sugden for his dedication to historical commitment and accuracy in this case: Sugden has examined all of the available primary materials himself uncovering some material that had hitherto been overlooked: None of the gruesome details are glossed over thanks to Sugden's strict adherence to witness and pathologist's reports, The accumulation of detail has a relentless quality to it which gains more power from Sugden's clean and unmannered prose that it would from melodramatic underlining or sentiment. Short of a more fully illustrated version of this same book appearing in hardcover at a later date I cannot imagine a better book on the subject, 532 A comprehensive account of London's celebrated East End killer revised and updated. The murders in London between 1888-91 attributed to Jack the Ripper constitute one of the most mysterious unsolved criminal cases, The author reassesses all the evidence and challenges everything we thought we knew about the Victorian serial killer and the vanished East End he terrorized. The Complete History of Jack the RipperIf you are interested in Jack the Ripper but don't have the time to wade through all the material on him just read this book: It's a comprehensive study of the Ripper murders and the best book written on the subject in my opinion, Sugden is one of the few Ripperologists who is also a trained historian and he puts his skills to good work here dissecting the available evidence. Also unlike many other Ripper writers he's not trying to propogate one solution theory or another -- he simply presents the facts and lets the reader make up their mind, 532 (A) 87% | ExtraordinaryNotes: A readable in-depth nightmarish account it's no less than required reading for the knowledgeable and novice alike, 532 Is there anything new to say about Jack the Ripper and the infamous 1888 Whitechapel Murders? Well yes there is and Philip Sugden has said it, He is also it might be said a superb detective sifting through the evidence in a careful and forensic manner. He takes nothing for granted plowing through the mythology perpetuated by others and taking the source material as his point of departure: He sifts carefully through contemporary police reports and other primary documents building up his case piece by piece: His arguments proceed on this basis and are mustered with considerable care, He makes one sympathise even with these poor and wretched girls, Above all he brings to life a London of long ago and the desperation of so many lives in the impoverished east-end of the city, Altogether it is a thorough well-written and exhaustive account of the murders and the circumstances surrounding the murders rather than just another piece of vacuous speculation. Those coming to the subject for the first time will obtain no better guide. Even seasoned 'Ripperologists' are likely to uncover one or two surprises: In the end there is no definite conclusion because the evidence will simply not allow such closure: It is a mystery that will remain a mystery but one can only hope that Sugden's magisterial work will help arrest the wilder flights of fancy, If you like good history if you like a good detective story or if you simply like a

good read this book is most definitely for you. 532 First let me state the categories of people who should (please note the emphasis) study (not 'read') this book: -1. Anybody who is interested in understanding the socio-economic dynamics of the world's largest richest proudest and yet ruthlessly exploitative (of its own citizens esp. Anybody who after being overfed on the serial killers (Hannibal et, al) produced by the hot American novelists actually wishes to know how it is like to be chasing a black cat in an enormous dark cavern while blindfolded;4: 532 This is one of the best books on the History the Whitechapel Murders that I have ever read, The author is a historian and you can tell how much research and knowledge went into this book, I also like that this book did not take a stance on who was the killer: So many Jack the Ripper books make a case for who the author thinks was the killer: I like that this book instead focuses on the Whitechapel Murders, If people really want to know more about the case I would suggest this book: The younger of twin boys Philip Sugden was born on January 27 1947 at Hull where his father was a painter and decorator: The younger of twin boys Philip Sugden was born on January 27 1947 at Hull where his father was a painter and decorator: In 1976 he took a teaching job at Chenet School in Cannock a former grammar school that was being transformed into a comprehensive where he taught history English and economics: Becoming disenchanted with teaching he turned to full time writing and researching in 1988: By then on his brother's urging he had determined to write an honest and dependable book about Jack the Ripper who had fascinated him since his school days: Nine years in the research and writing his book was a critical and popular success selling in excess of 100000 copies: The other Forbidden Hero — The Georgian Underworld of Jack Sheppard is set amid the paupers pimps prostitutes thieves and thief takers of Hogarthian London[1]

Please go here:<http://www.epinions.com/review/Philip>. This book is completely objective it only tells the truth. This story is the result of many years meticulous research. This is top-of-the-line history as good as it gets. Sugden is having none of this. He is an historian with the instincts of an historian.-s. If you are interested in Jack the Ripper. This is the book for you. Many people are fascinated by Jack the Ripper. There are so many tv shows movies etc. about the serial killer. He was the first academic historian to work on the case. He was the first academic historian to work on the case. Two other books remained unfinished at the time of his death. {site_link}.