

GRAEME LENG-WARD

Industry in Landor Street

Freightliner's Birmingham Terminal is uniquely situated near the heart of the city together with waste management, recycling and ready-mixed cement plants - these industries are serviced by a multitude of large trucks and railway lines. I call these the *bigguns* shown in the first seven photos from west to east.

There are also the *littluns* such as scrap metal dealers and car breaker yards that fit themselves in where there is space, as shown in the last two black and white photos taken on the south side of Landor Street.

I covered both sides of Landor Street and a bit northwards where there was access. The River Rea, HS2 works and Duddeston Mill Road form natural boundaries to the west and north for this area. I walked east as far as the Birmingham & Fazeley Canal. The narrowboat photo shows an assortment of businesses and industrial premises backing on to the canal from Adderley Road.

I was originally attracted to this area by the idea of an image showing stacked multi-coloured containers merging into a background of high rise city buildings. This had its challenges as access to the container terminal is restricted by Channel Tunnel (Security) Order 1994. To get the required higher viewpoint I resorted to travelling back and forth on the Birmingham-Leicester train and snapping photos in the gaps between trees and bushes hurtling past the side of the train – then regaining my composure with a pint at New Street Wetherspoons before trying again.