

Reclaimed Transcripts: Sill Arse Broke It

The photographed notes included in this project were collected from a north London council estate. The six blocks that make up the estate house over 1000 people in 354 various sized units.

In 2002 I began photographing the residents using portrait and reportage photography. Not satisfied with the limitations of these styles for my particular project, I started collecting small discarded objects that I had found on the estate. These small pieces of detritus were then photographed on location and in a studio. Although some interesting images were being made I still wasn't happy with the outcome.

Included in the debris I had collected were a number of handwritten notes. Photographed and grouped together this quotidian litter came much closer to what I wanted to represent. I have been collecting these abandoned transcripts from the estate for the last 9 years.

On one level they are simple records of the everyday. They remind, instruct, organise and explain. They tell of journeys planned and taken. They list items to purchase and food to take away. They make political and philosophical statements. Some are simply mysterious.