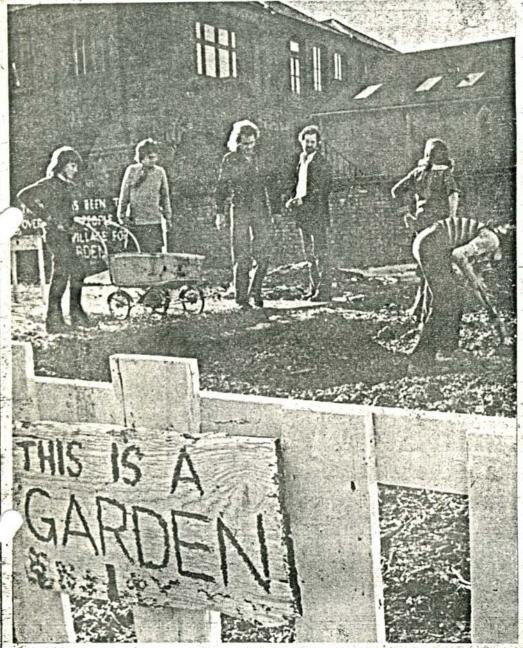
## squatters take ov



## By Howard Hannah

FOR THE KIDS in the Tolmers Square area there'll be plenty to do during the Easter schoolbreak. They've a play-space to construct and it's the first one they've ever had.

Because at the weekend, the Tolmers community got tired of waiting and acted. They took over a site at the corner of Drummond Street and Coburg Street and now they're going to make it into a long needed playspace for the kids and a community garden where the 'old folk can sit.

The site, which has been vacant since the war, except for a few years when it housed temporary huts for contractors, is owned by Connolly's (Blackley) Ltd., — a Manchester firm.

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In property terms, it's a valuable site — slap in the middle of one of London's biggest redevelopment

But in their terms, the community believe it is an even more valuable site.

So on Saturday after-noon, members of the Tol-mers Village Association moved in with shovels, wood and paint.

As one group hammered in the stakes and nailed up a fence, another group fol-

lowed closely behind with the white paint.
"What are you doing?" asked a passer-by.
"We're making a play-space and garden," replied a man with a shovel.
"If you've a spare one I'll give you a hand," said the passer by.

Some thirty or forty locals worked into the late evening and finally the site was cleared of rubbish and fenced off.

Meanwhile, from Man-chester no word from the owners. Early last month, the Tolmers Village As-sociation wrote to them asking if it could be used as temporary gardens and kid's playspace.
On Saturday, they got

they sick of waiting.