

CITY WALKS  
Architecture

# Designs of the times

Discover the modern  
face of the City



The centre for  
London's built  
environment



This publication has been produced by the **City of London** – a uniquely diverse organisation with three main aims: to support and promote the City as the world leader in international finance and business services; to provide high quality local services and policing for the Square Mile; and to provide valued services to London and the nation as a whole. As a planning authority we help shape the City and its unique environment. We look for cutting-edge design in new buildings while protecting our historic and contemporary much-loved architecture. We have produced this publication in association with New London Architecture whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)  
[www.visitthecity.co.uk](http://www.visitthecity.co.uk)



The centre for  
London's built  
environment

**NLA** is the centre for London's built environment, bringing together the key figures in London government, development and design to share knowledge, identify opportunities and debate the issues facing London's built environment through a regular programme of seminars, free talks, events and exhibitions. The NLA galleries in Store Street, which feature the Pipers Central London model, are open to the public six days a week and attract over 2,500 visitors from London and abroad each week.

[www.newlondonarchitecture.org](http://www.newlondonarchitecture.org)

### City Information Centre (2007) <sup>1</sup>

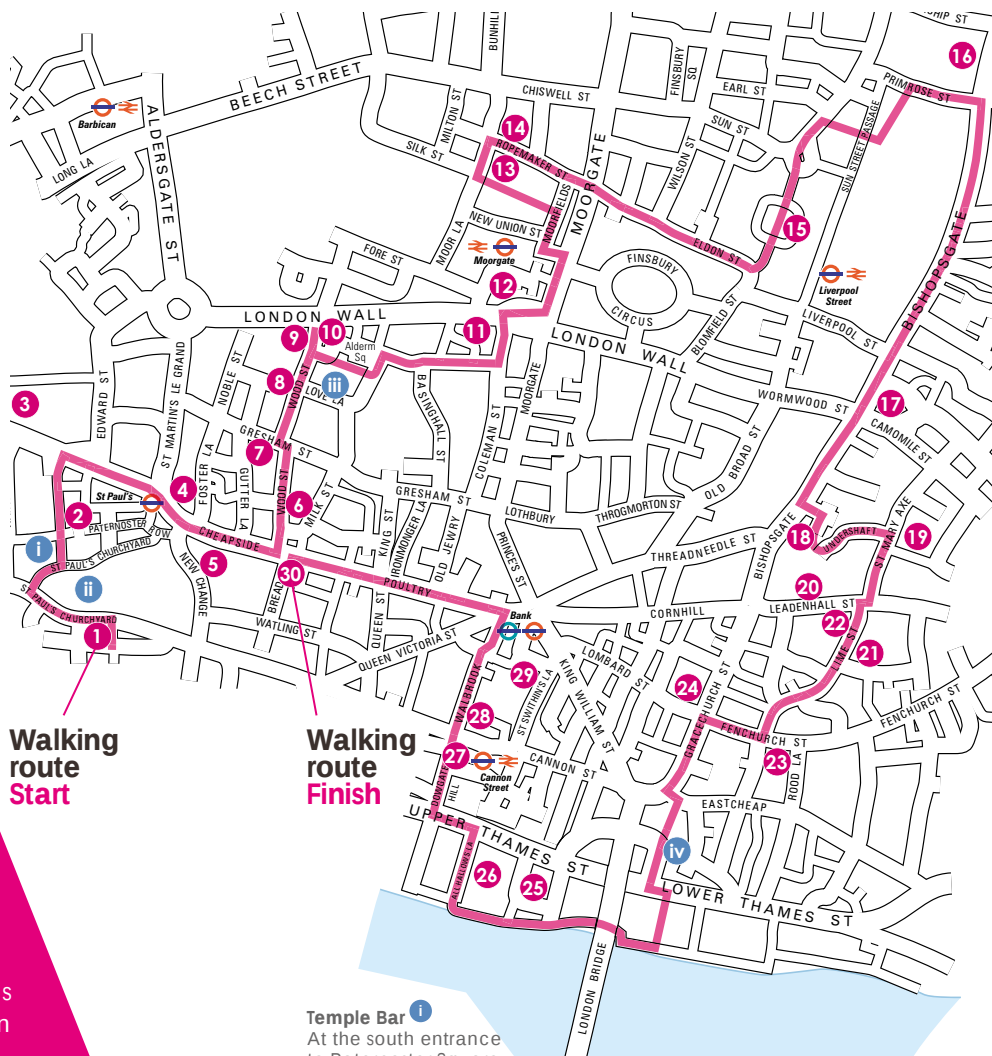
A dynamic contemporary building in an area of exceptional architectural and urban heritage, the centre's triangular plan evolved from analysis of pedestrian flows. Its folded metallic envelope is clad in stainless steel panels, and the sloping roof facilitates the collection of rainwater to irrigate plants. Designed by Make Architects, it won the New City Architecture Award 2007, the RIBA Architectural Excellence Award in 2009 and the Civic Trust Award for Greater London Region in 2009.



The City of London has always been a centre of groundbreaking architecture. As a world leader in business and finance, the City has to continually adapt to changing needs – combining the best of the old with the best of the new – and over the centuries many of its buildings have become icons not just of London but of the country as a whole.

This route has been devised to take you through the City and explore some of the latest developments in architecture. From start to finish the walk will take about 90 minutes at an average walking pace. You can also dip in and out of sections of the route as many buildings are grouped closely together.

The buildings chosen are just a sample of the many architecturally fascinating buildings you can see in the City. For a more comprehensive list and fuller descriptions of each go to [www.visitthecity.co.uk/architecture](http://www.visitthecity.co.uk/architecture)



**Walking route Start**

**Walking route Finish**

**Temple Bar <sup>1</sup>**  
At the south entrance to Paternoster Square is this 350 year-old monument. One of the Bars through which people and traffic had to pass to enter the City, it was removed in 1878 because of congestion but returned to its new City location in 2004.



### Paternoster Square (2003) <sup>2</sup>

Paternoster Square was redeveloped to create an appropriate setting for St Paul's. After a series of stop-start plans in the late 1980s and early 1990s, Sir William Whitfield was brought in to masterplan the site, along with architects including Richard MacCormac, Eric Parry, Allies and Morrison, and Sheppard Robson. The area now houses a selection of shops and restaurants, as well as the London Stock Exchange.

### Merrill Lynch, Newgate Street (2001) <sup>3</sup>

Acclaimed as a significant architectural contribution to the City, this has provided Merrill Lynch with high quality office space,



**St Paul's Cathedral** <sup>ii</sup>  
The current cathedral, the fourth to occupy this site, was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and built between 1675 and 1710. As well as a spiritual focus for the nation it has also become an icon of London.

Paternoster Square



and two of Europe's largest trading floors. The site is Grade II listed and includes four Scheduled Ancient Monuments, three major street frontages, two conservation areas, and a disused post office railway system. It was designed by Swanke Hayden Connell Architects.

Merrill Lynch,  
Newgate Street



150 Cheapside



#### 150 Cheapside (2009) <sup>4</sup>

This landmark office development, designed by Michael Aukett Architects, is a contemporary design of glass, aluminium and traditional Portland stone. It has been designed to blend with the historical buildings around it, and the curve of the main elevation has been generated by the sweep of the road line from Cheapside into St Martins Le Grand.



One New Change

#### One New Change (2010) <sup>5</sup>

A new mixed-use scheme of office accommodation and retail space by architect Jean Nouvel, this is a significant addition to the City's landscape and a major part of the retail expansion ongoing on Cheapside. The building's glass exterior is an attempt to echo the surrounding Portland stone and brick façades. It has a gradual change in density from clear to opaque, with 22 different colours and more than 250 different patterns. There are more than 6,300 glass panels of different sizes and shapes, with 4,300 individually unique pieces of glass.



One Wood Street

#### One Wood Street (2007) <sup>6</sup>

Fletcher Priest Architects' mixed-use scheme boasts a courtyard with grass and cherry trees. It features a dramatic lattice Portland stone façade, 'pavilion style' executive floor and two roof terraces to allow workers to gaze at St Paul's. It sits opposite one of the oldest trees in the City.

10 Gresham Street



#### 10 Gresham Street (2003) <sup>7</sup>

The design includes 18m column free spans and full height glazing which provide great interior flexibility, whether for trading, open plan or cellular layouts. The building occupies an island site – a comparatively rare phenomenon in the City where land is scarce. This has created a new urban space for pedestrians, with a walkway, wall fountain

100 Wood Street



and retail building adding to amenities. It was designed by architects Foster + Partners.

#### 100 Wood Street (2000) <sup>8</sup>

Designed by Foster + Partners, the east façade is clad in a simple arrangement of alternating Portland stone

and glass, and a curved roof features alternating and transparent panels. On the other side, a great curved glass scoop with leaning steel columns brings light into the building, and frames the former churchyard of St Mary Staining.

88 Wood Street



5 Aldermanbury Square

### 88 Wood Street (1999) <sup>9</sup>

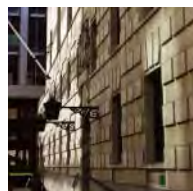
Designed by the Richard Rogers Partnership, this has three linked blocks of office accommodation that step up from eight storeys on Wood Street, to 18 storeys to the west. Ultra-clear, low-iron glazing has been used for most of the building's façades. The glass's extraordinary level of transparency allows internal elements, such as lift shafts and stairwells, to be displayed to dramatic effect.

### 5 Aldermanbury Square (2007) <sup>10</sup>

This 18-storey commercial office building draws together Wood Street and Aldermanbury Square. It creates a new public space and links to a pedestrian route at ground level which connects to the Barbican Highwalk. The building is composed of stacking and weaving stainless steel elements, while the ground floor materials have a more geological character: granite, concrete and water, over which the steel framed building is 'perched'. Designed by Eric Parry Architects, it was shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize in 2009.

### One Coleman Street (2007) <sup>11</sup>

Designed by David Walker Architects, this has a strong repeating pattern and deep window reveals. The subtle angles of the concrete create a varied composition topped with a stainless steel crown whose reflective surface changes with the light:



**Wood Street Police Station** <sup>iii</sup>  
This 1966 building was designed by McMorran & Whitby. They produced durable buildings with a respect for context, but avoided any accusation of unimaginatively reproducing the past. There was a progressive classicism full of invention and beauty.



One Coleman Street

sometimes it almost disappears into the sky, sometimes it appears as a dark and very visible 'hat'. It won the Concrete Centre's Award for Sustainability in 2007 because it used a very high percentage of recycled materials.



Moor House

### Moor House (2005) <sup>12</sup>

A Foster + Partners-designed 19-storey office building, Moorhouse is situated on a prominent island site and features a curvaceous façade and an offset grid pattern to the side façades. It also rises up from a two storey retail plaza. The curves draw the visitor into what is an impressive reception, boasting 10m high walls. Moor House also has the deepest foundations in the City.

### CityPoint (2001) <sup>13</sup>

As the first in a series of developments shaping the area on which it sits, Citypoint marks the City of London's northern fringe. The distinctive, highly glazed skyscraper, with its trademark upper 'crown' and restaurants and bars at ground level, was designed by Sheppard Robson. It is one of the tallest buildings in the City along with Tower 42, Heron Tower and 30 St Mary Axe.



CityPoint

### Ropemaker Place (2009) <sup>14</sup>

Arup Associates has designed a tall section and series of 'step-backs' with four roof gardens creating eco-terraces and an atrium bringing in more light. It features cladding of tilted, projecting indigo-hued windows. These change as the sun's position moves but will also help reduce energy required for cooling and alter the exterior's 'canvas'. It won the Estates Gazette's Green Building of the Year Award.

Ropemaker Place



Broadgate

#### **Broadgate (1985) <sup>15</sup>**

This was developed in the 1980s to offer prestigious office buildings with large, flexible floor plates. It provides high specification lobbies, atriums and façades as well as open spaces to relax in. First phases were designed by Peter Foggo of Arup Associates; the latter by SOM.

#### **The Broadgate Tower (2009) <sup>16</sup>**

This 165m tower, designed by architects SOM, has become a new landmark. Significant investment has been made in landscaping the surrounding area, including the creation of a large plaza to the front. The 35-storey

The Broadgate Tower



Heron Tower

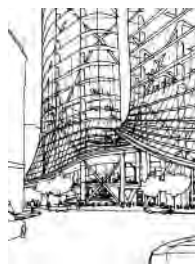
tower expresses its structural engineering on its façade, with the A frames visible along steel and glass frontages.

#### **Heron Tower (2011) <sup>17</sup>**

Designed by KPF architects, this 46-storey building stretches 230m into the skyline. The tower is the tallest in the City and provides 36 storeys of office space with a restaurant and skybar on levels 38-40. Heron Plaza will further incorporate new public spaces and a network of squares and gardens to create new green space in the City's heart.

#### **The Pinnacle (2014) <sup>18</sup>**

Also designed by KPF, this tower on Bishopsgate has been dubbed 'The Helter Skelter'. Standing at 288m tall, it will form a distinctive spiral created by the glass exterior wrapping around itself and forming a twisting flick shape at the peak. Its tapered geometry comprises inwardly inclined planar surfaces, which are linked by conical surfaces. The upper floors will contain restaurants and viewing decks – the highest observation



gallery in the country on opening – accessible to the public.

#### **30 St Mary Axe (2004) <sup>19</sup>**

Known as 'The Gherkin', this has become an instantly recognisable addition to the City's skyline. The building has a circular plan, widens in profile as it rises and tapers towards its apex. This distinctive form responds to the constraints of the



The Pinnacle



30 St Mary Axe



The Leadenhall Building

site: it appears more slender than a rectangular block of equivalent size, and the slimming of its profile towards the base maximises the public realm at ground level. At the top, some 180m high, a restaurant and hospitality area offers 360° views of London. Designed by Foster + Partners, it won the RIBA Stirling Prize in 2004.

#### The Leadenhall Building (2014) <sup>20</sup>

This site is to become home for a new tower designed by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, with a distinctive tapering form designed to protect views of St Paul's Cathedral. The triangular shape led it to be called 'The Cheesegrater'. Rectangular floor plates will be unencumbered by internal columns and the building's services are contained in a separate structural element to maximise net floor space. The base will form a six-storey public space with shops, cafes and restaurants.

#### The Willis Building (2008) <sup>21</sup>

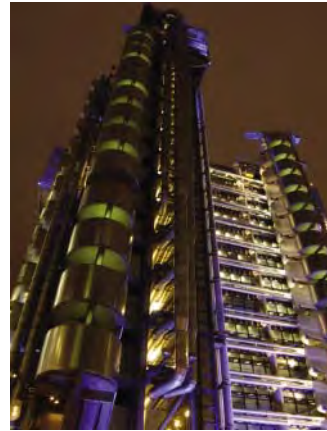
This was designed by Foster + Partners, with a striking 28-storey tower and a series of overlapping curved shells, in plan resembling the shape of a fish tail. The tower reduces in width and height as it curls towards the east down to six storeys at its lowest point. The lower podium building incorporates a central atrium as well as a roof terrace and roof top pavilion.



The Willis Building



Three iconic buildings in one area – The Lloyd's Building, 30 St Mary Axe and The Willis Building



The Lloyd's Building

#### The Lloyd's Building (1986) <sup>22</sup>

Richard Rogers' famous 'high tech' modernist icon expresses its structure and exposed services on the outside, freeing up the interior. The building consists of three main towers and three service towers around a central rectangular space. Revolutionary as it was, the Lloyd's Building still succeeded in complementing the City's existing architecture. Stroll down Leadenhall and take time to look at the classic archway framing the Lloyd's futuristic elevation.

#### 20 Fenchurch Street (2014) <sup>23</sup>

Nicknamed 'The Walkie Talkie', this new 155m tower will have its largest floorplates at its summit, not its base. Designed by architect, Rafael Viñoly, it will incorporate office accommodation, retail, a café and a publicly accessible Sky Garden over three floors. The garden will be the highest public park in London with an outside roof terrace, restaurant and a 360° panorama of London.

20 Fenchurch Street



#### 20 Gracechurch Street (1992) <sup>24</sup>

This 19-storey Art Deco-inspired building, formerly known as 54 Lombard Street, was originally the headquarters of Barclays and designed by GMW Architects. It was refurbished by ORMS in 2009 and features a new four-storey stone façade and retail space at ground and basement levels. The facelift also saw the addition of an urban courtyard and new entrance.

20 Gracechurch St





Riverbank House

Watermark Place



**The Monument** <sup>iv</sup>  
Sir Christopher Wren's flame-topped monument to the Great Fire of 1666 is the tallest isolated stone column in the world. Built in 1677 the Monument stands 202 ft high and is positioned 202 ft from the spot in Pudding Lane where the Great Fire started. Every year, over 100,000 visitors climb the 311 spiral steps to the Monument's observation gallery to enjoy views across the capital.

Cannon Place



**Cannon Place (2011)** <sup>27</sup>  
Designed by Foggo Associates, this office building above Cannon Street station is conceived as a smooth-skinned bubble with part spherical corners. On the ground level is a dramatic new station forecourt. The steel mega-structure's spans and cantilevers minimise the impact on the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Roman remains below.

**Riverbank House (2010)** <sup>25</sup>  
Riverbank House, designed by David Walker Architects, is an excellent example of Walker's striking but light-touch architecture. The tapering balconies with their striking yellow undersides provide an interest and excitement to what might otherwise be a rather ordinary structure.



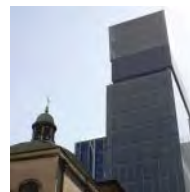
**Watermark Place (2010)** <sup>26</sup>  
This includes the largest area of open riverside space in the City. Fletcher Priest Architects have designed high performance glazing so tenants can make the most of the views – dot matrix glass with a palette of colours from a pixellated image of the water creates a dappled façade. At lower levels, the waterside buildings have clear glass cladding protected by a massive five storey timber structure redolent of historic wharf structures and responsive timber louvres.



The Walbrook

**The Walbrook (2010)** <sup>28</sup>  
Designed by Foster + Partners, this provides trading floors and office accommodation over 10 floors and around two atria. Retail accommodation has been provided along the Cannon Street frontage. The building's curves and distinctive cladding create a ripple effect.

New Court



**New Court (2011)** <sup>29</sup>  
This is the first scheme to be built in the UK by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Rem Koolhaas. It is made up of a central cube of 10 efficient and flexible open-plan office floors, with a landscaped roof garden and outdoor meeting areas. The central cube has a distinctive repeated pattern of structural steel columns embedded in the façade.

Bow Bells House



**Bow Bells House (2007)** <sup>30</sup>  
Designed by David Walker in association with HOK, this takes its name from St Mary le Bow church. It incorporates Portland stonework, treated as smooth planes of masonry, into which large-scale windows are deeply set. At the upper levels, projecting white glass fins provide shading to the interior and give a vertical counter-point to larger, horizontal proportions of the projecting 'cassettes' (a ventilated cavity feature) below.

We hope this has given you some insight into the variety of exciting modern architecture on display in the City. This has been just a taste – more detail is available from the City Information Centre opposite St Paul's Cathedral or at [www.visitthecity.co.uk/architecture](http://www.visitthecity.co.uk/architecture)