

Legacy of Sir Christopher Wren and His City Churches

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Overview

Churches stand as a reminder of our past as time moves on. In London especially, the churches hold onto the stories from centuries before.

This project focused on Sir Christopher Wren, the architect credited with the rebuilding of 51 city churches in London following the Great Fire in 1666.

The Churches over the Years

Of the 51 churches...

- 24 churches still stand in London
- 27 have been destroyed in the following centuries
 - 1780-1800: 1
 - 1800-1820: 1
 - 1820-1840: 1
 - 1840-1860: 2
 - 1860-1900: 13
 - Union of Benefices 1860 combined and closed many parishes to support London gov
 - 1900-1920: 1
 - 1920-1941: 8
 - The Blitz in 1940 destroyed most of these churches
 - St. Mary Aldermanbury relocated to Fulton, Missouri in 1966

Bibliography/References:

1. Jeffery, Paul. *The City Churches of Sir Christopher Wren*. Hambledon, 1996.
2. Nixon, Jace L. *London Fire Monument*. 13 Mar. 2024.
3. Nixon, Jace L. *St. Mary Aldermanbury*. 13 Mar. 2024.
4. The National Archives of the UK (TNA): WORK 14/2262.
5. Union of Benefices Act 1860, 23 & 24 Vict. c. 142.

Acknowledgements

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Walking Tour

To explore the lasting legacy of these churches, I created a walking tour.

- Originally 5 churches, but ended with 10 churches



London Fire Monument
Credit: Jace L. Nixon



St. Mary Aldermanbury
Credit: Jace L. Nixon

- Half the churches claim Wren's involvement on the outside plaque
- Most were easily accessible to the public, on the main streets

Impact

- The churches stand as a remnant of the 17th century and the following centuries
 - The resilience of London through disasters like the Blitz
 - An example of how society has changed over time