



All Hallows London Wall



“Beyond the Wall”

Our Goals

To create a centre of excellence for youth work, throughout the metropolis and beyond

To restore a unique 18th Century architectural jewel

To engage with the local workforce, City Guilds, the military, professional organisations, and educational institutions

To welcome other Christian and non-Christian denominations

To establish a site for dialogue between science and religion

To serve the worshipping and pastoral needs of our congregations, especially those who have been marginalised

To provide accessible, flexible, state of the art meeting, exhibition, broadcasting and training facilities, inside and outside

All to nourish and support communities which extend far 'beyond the Wall.'

Our Vision

All Hallows London Wall is a Grade I listed architectural jewel with a 900-year legacy of social responsibility. Built upon the original Roman Wall of the City, our church has evolved from a 12th-century sanctuary for anchorites into a 21st-century hub for youth transformation.

We proclaim the Gospel through worship and pastoral care; through creative, active, diverse, and inclusive use of the church facilities; and through engagement with those at the margins of society and faith, within and without the City of London.

Our History



Fig 1 The west end of the church showing broken and dirty stonework.

Grade I listed, the existing building was completed in 1765 by George Dance the Younger (1741-1825)—the son of the builder of the Mansion House, and the mentor of John Soane. The old Roman Wall of the City of London runs directly under the north wall of the church nave, so the church is, quite literally, 'on the wall'. The original All Hallows was built around 1120. Although it survived the Great Fire of 1666, it fell into disrepair, so the Carpenters' Company commissioned a new building from Dance, considered by some to be the first truly neoclassical church in the country.

In the 12th century, the Church was famous for the anchorites (individual hermits) based there, but by the 19th century, it became noted for its mission to the poor, including women in domestic service, who would take the early trains into the City to avoid peak fares. This led to the Vicar of the Church, the Reverend Sir Montague Fowler, 4th Baronet, to provide special

services for their benefit and to construct buildings behind the Church to be used as an educational institute. As a result of these efforts, the Church had one of the largest congregations in the City.

After the War, the *City of London (Guild Churches) Act, 1952*, allowed the Bishop of London to designate certain churches—out of the 50+ which existed within the City of London—as Guild Churches. Their role was, and is, to cater for the non-resident population of London (unlike a Parish Church ministering to those living within its Parish boundary, who were becoming, inexorably, fewer in number). The church and its annex were restored in 1962 and afterwards served as the headquarters for a variety of organisations including the Church Buildings Council, Christian Aid, and the Amos Trust, each of which altered the buildings to serve their own purposes. Regular Anglican worship ceased in 2012.

That is not to say that the church has been empty or dormant, far from it. Perhaps echoing the work of Reverend Fowler, for the past 13 years, All Hallows has been home to XLP, www.xlp.org.uk, an award-winning organisation which mentors around 4000 young, disadvantaged people across the capital each year—many of whom struggle with youth violence, family breakdown, unemployment, educational failure, and substance abuse. In addition, the church hosts an evangelical congregation, City Gates Church, www.citygateschurch.net, whose mission is very much focussed on the needy and excluded. In 2025, All Hallows became the 'home' church for the West Indian Regiments of the UK armed forces. The church enjoys the support of the Friends of City Churches, who provide a welcome when the building is not otherwise in use. These organisations fund themselves. So, in one sense, the place is thriving—the building

well employed most days with a committed and creative collection of activities, but with ample scope to do more.

Our Plans

However, the years have not been kind to the fabric of the buildings, ironically due to the high level of activity on site over the years:

The tower is suffering from broken and dirty stonework.

The exterior walls are replete with years of soot and grime, with patches of graffiti.

The interior decoration was tired, with a patchwork of temporary repairs.

The stone floor was hidden under linoleum and dated carpeting.

The facilities, including the toilets, need updating to be accessible.

The kitchens are not fit for purpose, lacking proper ventilation and workspaces.

The crypt is ill-lit and stuffy with badly sealed windows.

The Annex has been carved into impractical, poorly serviced offices.

The mechanical services, the plumbing and electrics, need replacing.

The lighting, internally and externally, is expensive, impractical, and unflexible.

The audio-visual system is unsightly and outmoded.

The garden is dark and invites anti-social behaviour.

Therefore, the Beyond the Wall Project will address all these issues in 5 phases

Phase 0: Preliminaries: Emergency works to the tower, roof void, downpipes, and electrics. Full survey of the site and preparation of detailed plans.

Phase 1 The Worship Space: Restoring original architectural features, commissioning a new altar, replacing the temporary flooring, installing a state of the art-audiovisual system, replacing the chairs

Phase 2a: The Access: Installing an exterior accessible lift and two accessible toilets, providing railings, ramps and new seating in the garden, full repair of the tower, cleaning the exterior

Phase 2b. The Church: rewiring and replumbing, installation of solar panels on the roof and energy-efficient heating, creating a cost-efficient flexible lighting system, upgrading the kitchen facilities, rationalising storage facilities, providing lighting and ventilation to the crypt, redecorating throughout

By repairing the tower and cleaning the historic fabric, we arrest the cycle of decay and "Heritage at Risk" costs. Simultaneously, our "Net

Zero Heritage" initiative—including energy-efficient heating and solar integration—will drastically reduce long-term operational overheads.

Phase 3: The Annex: provision of modern, fully flexible, well-serviced office and meeting space, building an additional two stories above the existing block.

It should be noted that these phases are interdependent. The discrete elements of the work are designed align our funding requests with specific needs, but the ambition requires the entire project to be completed.

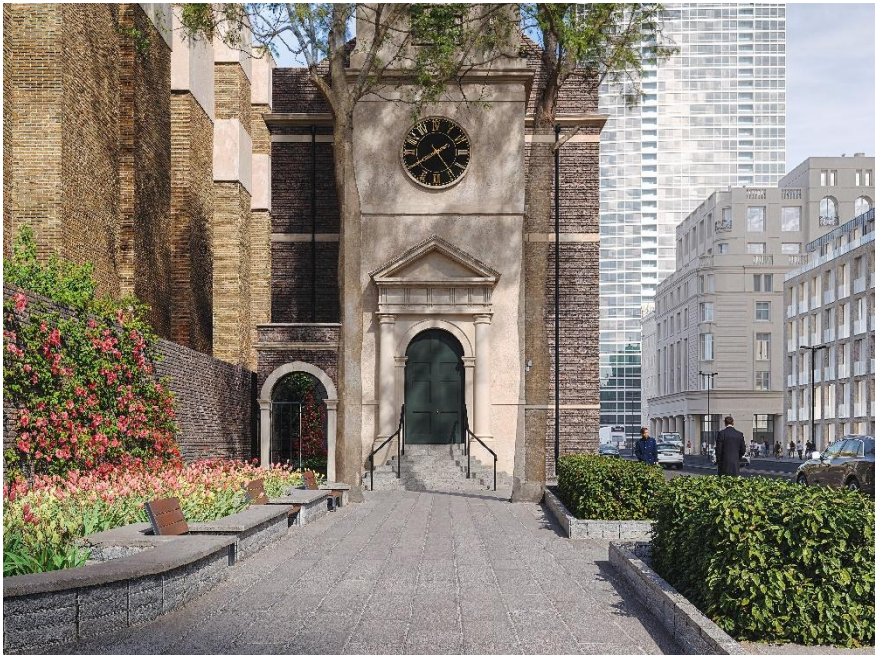


Fig 4 – Artist's impression of how the west end could look with access to a lift and the re-designed garden.

Our Timetable

Phase 0 Work began in mid-2024, and the necessary urgent repairs were completed in January 2025. RIBA Stage two plans have been finalised. Approval in principle received approval from the City of London Planning authorities, the Diocesan Advisory Committee, and the relevant Interested Parties

Phase 1 The Worship Space has been refreshed and updated (*figs 3 & 4*)

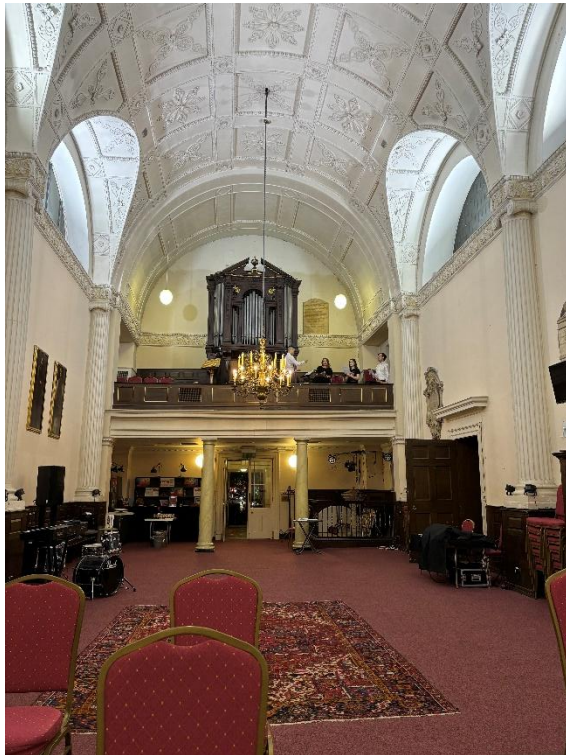


Fig 3 West end of the church 2025

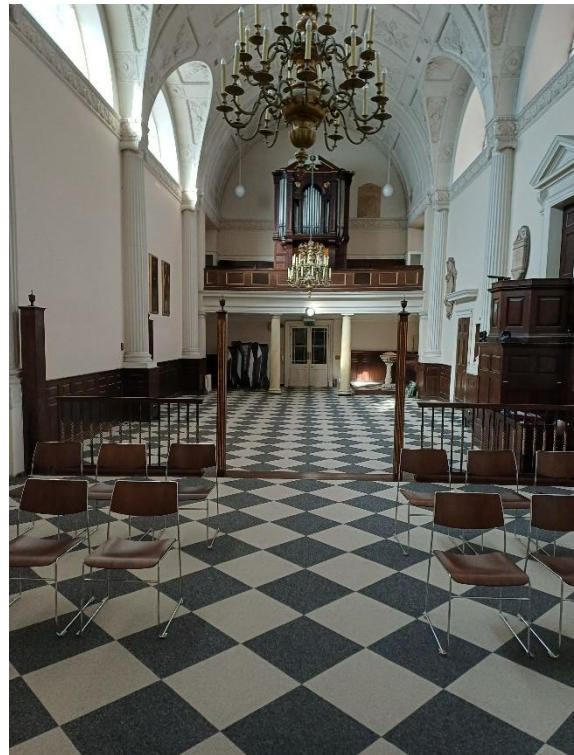


Fig 4 West end of the church 2026

Phase 2a Detailed plans are being reviewed by quantity surveyors. Work will begin once funding is secured in the hope that it can be finished by early 2027.

Phase 2b Proposals are being finalised to approach major funders early 2026, in parallel plans will be refined and budgets updated. As contractors have already been identified, work would begin once funding is secured.

Phase 3 This phase mirrors phase 2b. Equivalent activity will take place concurrently

Our Financial Strategy

We recognise that heritage preservation is only successful if it is sustainable.

With the completion of the project, All Hallows will be financially self-sufficient, with sufficient resources to continue its work indefinitely.

We will proceed based on obtaining funding, either received or promised, and have engaged funding advisors. Works already completed have been *on time and under budget*. The actual and estimated costs are, as of October 2025:

Phase 0	£125,000, Actual, (versus budget of £142,000)
Phase 1	£140,000 Actual (versus original estimate of £200,000)
Phase 2a	£828,000 Estimate (subject to final review by value surveyor)
Phase 2b	£2,345,000 Preliminary Estimate (including inflation and contingency)
Phase 3	£3,038,000 Preliminary Estimate (including inflation and contingency)

Your investment in Phase 2a is the "bridge" that allows us to reach a point of permanent independence.

Our Commitment

Being rooted in the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Church seeks to serve a unique, metropolitan, and varied collection of partners, users, and visitors. As well as offering a pastoral, liturgical, theological, social, and cultural contribution to those who live and work in—and visit—the City of London, it seeks to inspire and enhance the work of those who reach out from the City to those at the margins of society and faith, particularly to young people.

Contact Us

All Hallows on the Wall (Registered Charity Number 1213743)
83 London Wall
City of London
EC2M 5ND

Priest in Charge: The Reverend Paul Gismondi
allhallowslondonwall@gmail.com
07435 397051

Head of Fundraising: Maryanne Fleming
fundraisingallhallows@gmail.com

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank
Account Name: All Hallows on the Wall
Account Number: 33297563
Sort Code: 30-99-50