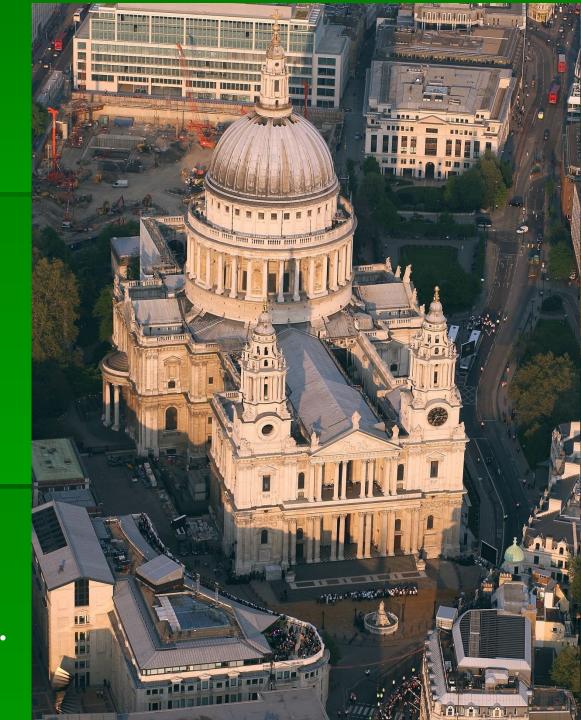




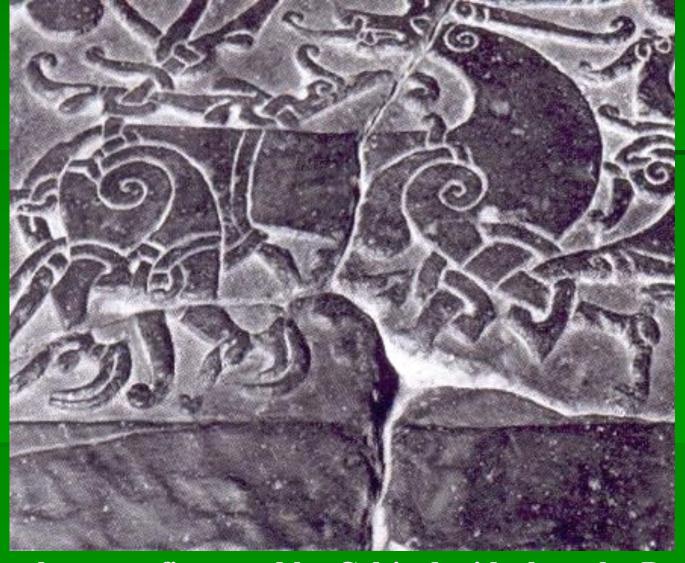
Saint Paul's Cathedral is one of the most famous cathedrals in the world. When in London the tourists look forward to seeing its beauty.

Saint Paul's Cathedral

This cathedral is over fourteen hundred years old. It was founded in 604 A.D. on a worshipped site.



A Viking burial tomb stone (kept in the Crypt)



The place was first used by Celtic druids, later by Pagans, then by early Christians as their ritual site. In the Crypt of the cathedral there are displayed some exhibits,

A detail of a tomb stone dating back to the Middle Ages – a survival of the Great Fire of London. (The Crypt)



that survived the ruinous destruction of the 17th century proving the age old history of the Cathedral. As a matter of fact, Saint Paul's Cathedral was rebuilt many times.

St Paul's Cathedral.
The night view of the Domes

The history of this cathedral is closely connected with the history of London. The modern building of the Cathedral was built after the most tragic events in the life of London and England.



Engraving of the early 17th century showing Londoners suffering from the plague Condons Charitie the Countries Crueltie

In the middle of the 17th century the plague waged in the country. Over 1/3 of London population died of the disease called "the black death".

Map of London – the capital of England of the 16th century



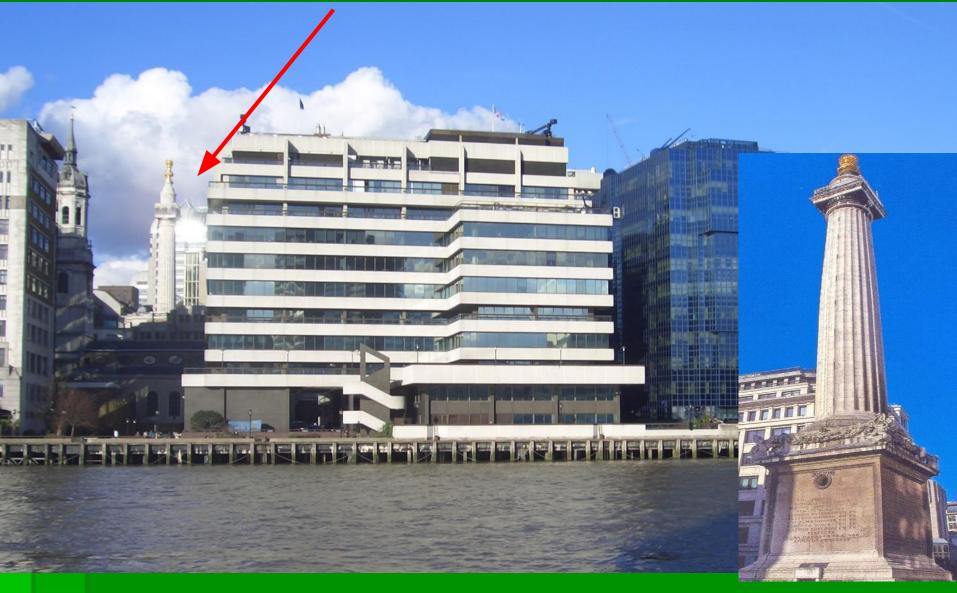
London of that time was an agglomeration of wooden houses and chaotic narrow streets.

The Great Fire of London, 1666

In the summer of 1666 the fire, later called "the Great Fire of London" began. It was a hot and windy day, so the fire quickly spread about the city.



Monument on the site where the Great Fire of London started



It started at a baker's house, pretty close to the bank of the Thames (you see the place in the picture), and it lasted for several days.

The map of London devastated by the fire. ATTE GRONDI der Verbrande Stadt Afbeelding van de Reprefentation curieuse de l'embrasement de la Delineation of the

TADT LONDON VILLE de LONDRES, CITIE LONDON

Practically all of the City buildings were destroyed by the fire, as you see on the map. So was St.Paul's Cathedral.

Sir Godfrey Kneller, Portrait of Sir Christopher Wren, 1711

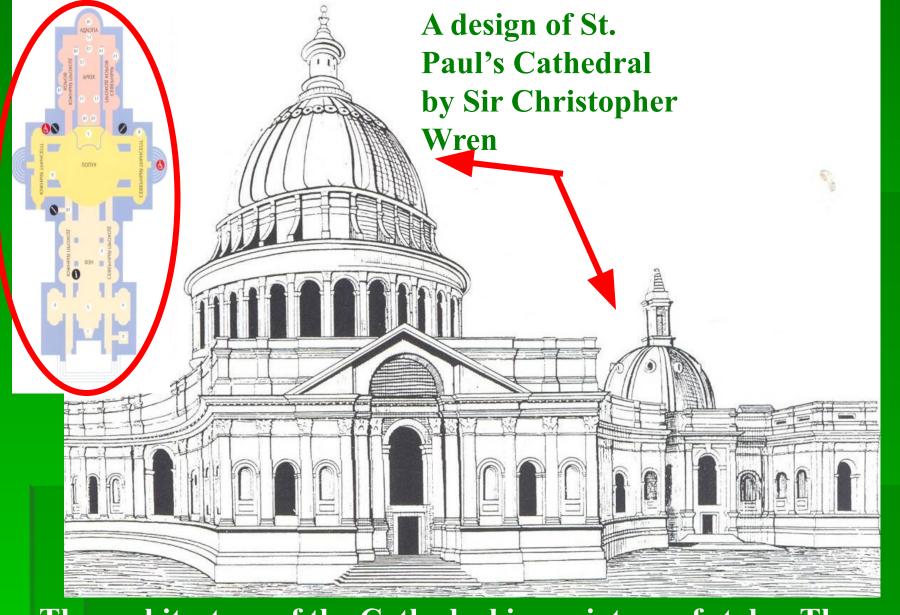
Sir Christopher Wren was in charge of the reconstruction of the city. All in all he designed over 30 churches in London,



Saint Paul's Cathedral



but his masterpiece and the deed of his life was, certainly, St. Paul's cathedral.



The architecture of the Cathedral is a mixture of styles. The Renaissance Domes of the Cathedral dominate the gothic Roman Cross. It was the embodiment of a truly Anglican spirit.

Saint Paul's Cathedral

Sir Christopher Wren presented several plans of the Cathedral restoration, but finally the project, basing on the design of St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome was realized.





Edward Pierce, bust of Sir Christopher Wren

Sir Christopher Wren died in 1723. He is buried in the Crypt of the Cathedral and the sign on his burial site reads: "If you want to see his deed — look around"



The services in the Cathedral started even before it was completed. It is a functioning Cathedral nowadays, and also an architectural treasure.

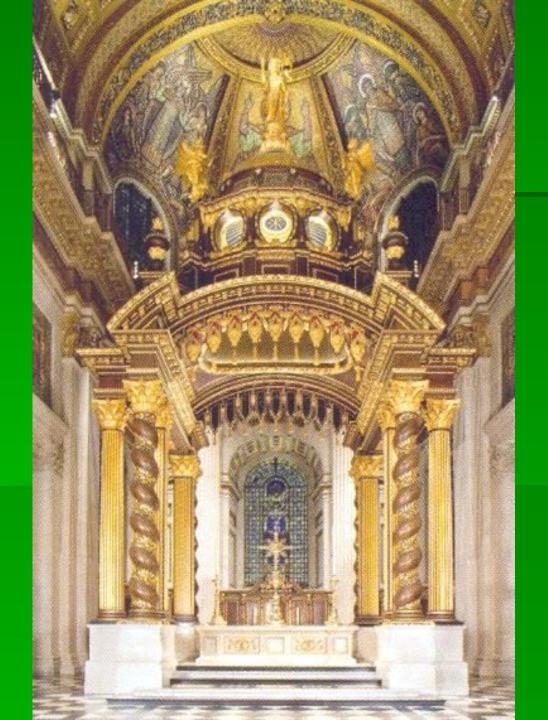


And now enjoy the beauty of the Cathedral with no comments.

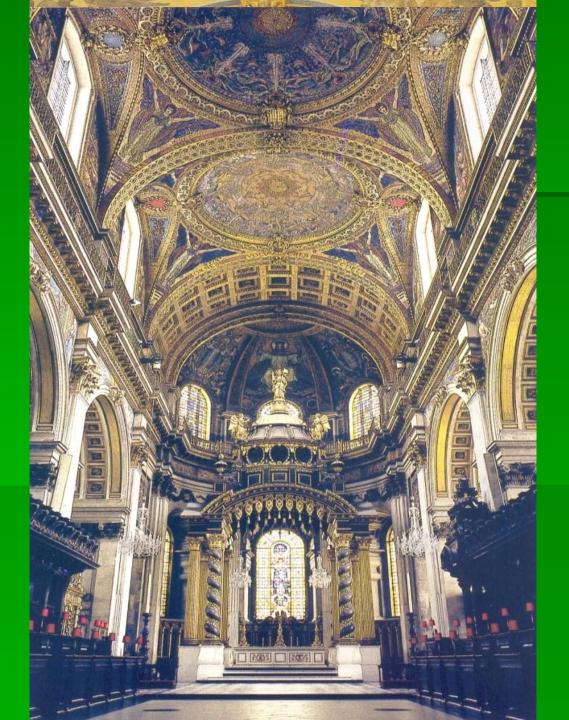




The view of the interior from the main entrance



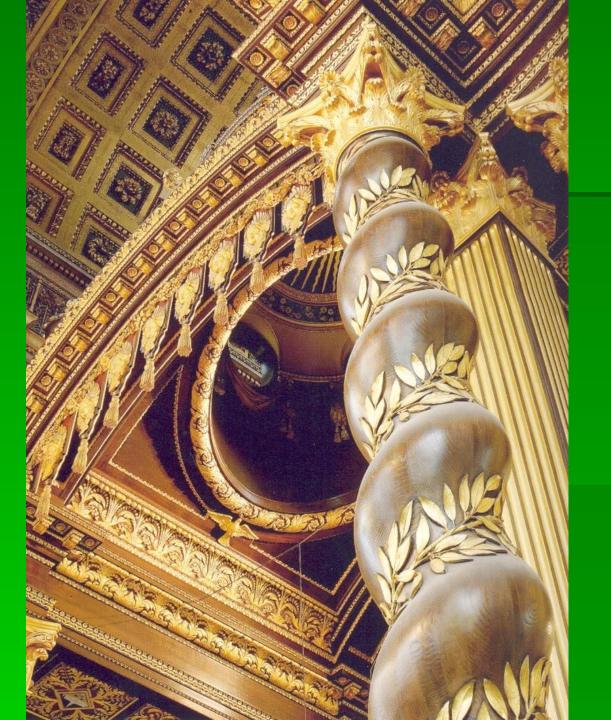
The Main Alter supported by the columns



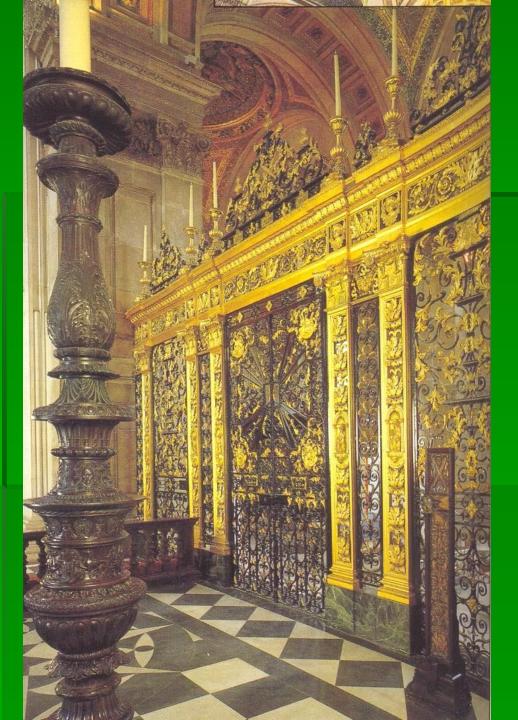
The view of the Choirs from the Main Altar



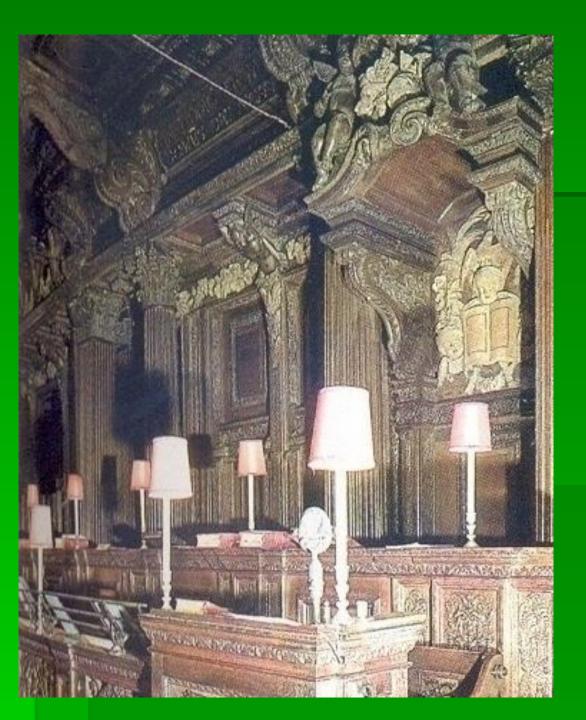
The Cross of the Main Alter



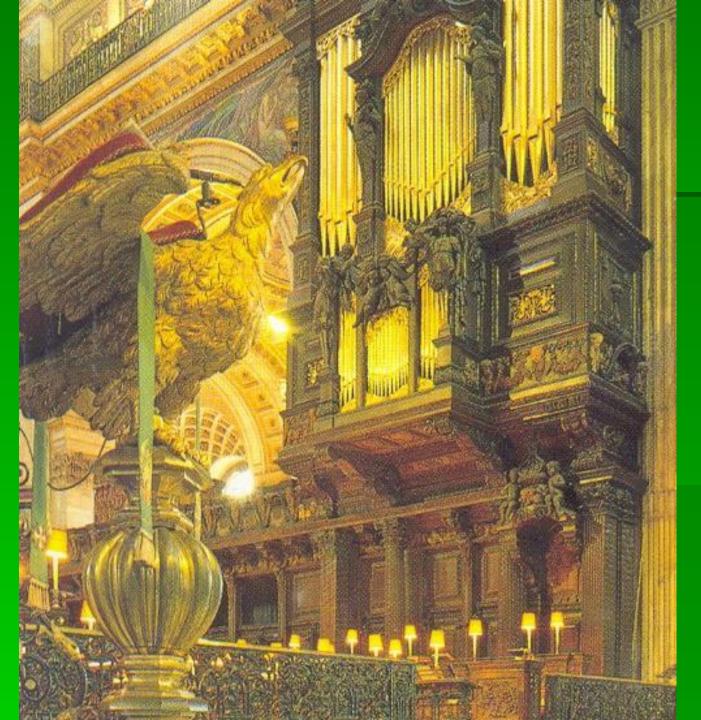
The columns supporting the dome of the Main Alter, created in the 20th century according to the design of Sir Christopher Wren



The Altar Entrance



The seats in the Choir of the Cathedral



The Organ of the Cathedral

Arched Ceilings



A Fragment of the Mosaic Ceiling of the Cathedral



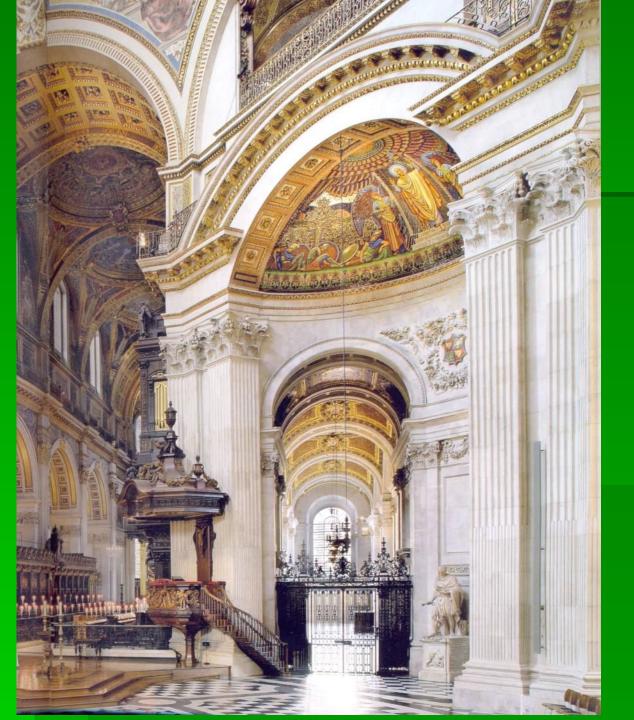


Marble decorations of the Cathedral interior





Marble decors of the Cathedral



The Western Chapel



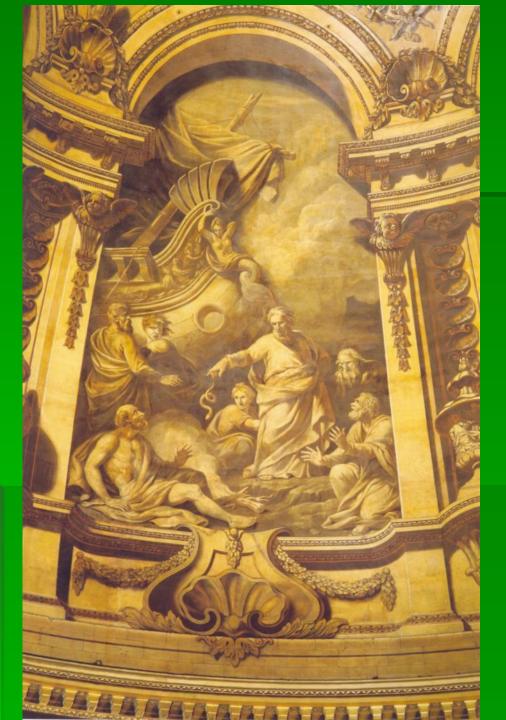
Saint Dunstan Chapel



North-west Nave, dedicated to the Duke of Wellington



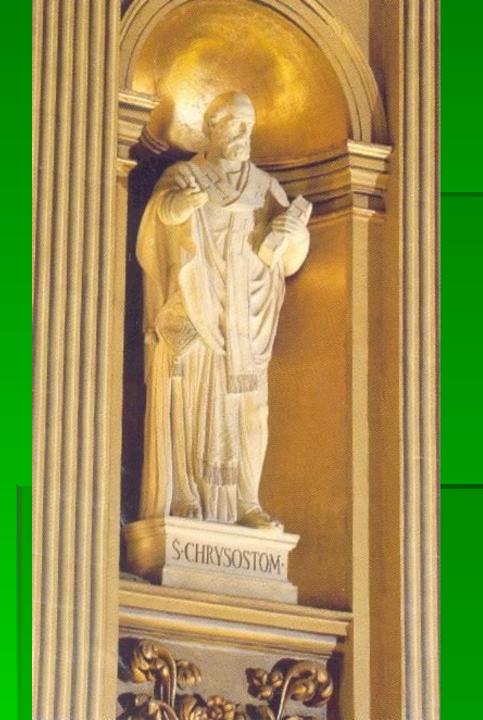
The Duke of Wellington's Chapel



Marble decors of the Cathedral Dome Plafond (upper level)



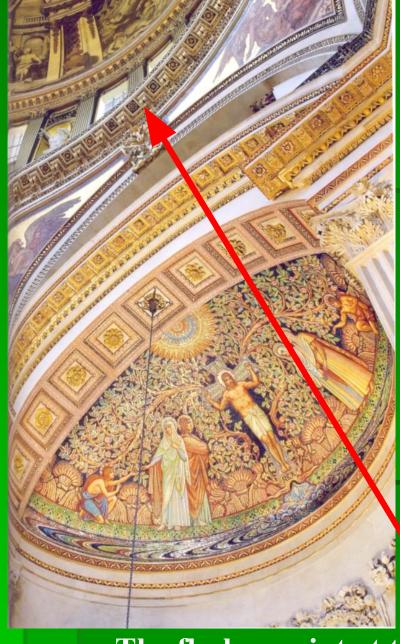
The angel's figure at the priest's chair



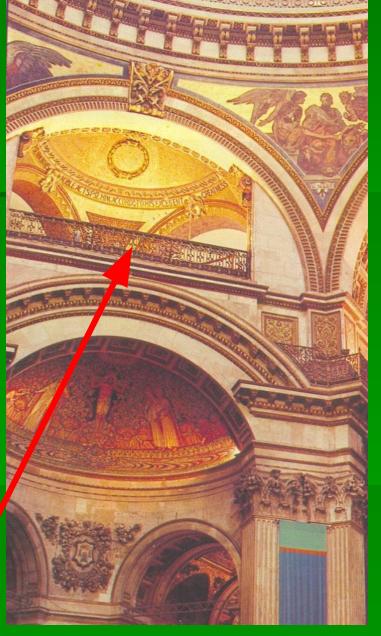
Saint John's statue under the Cathedral dome



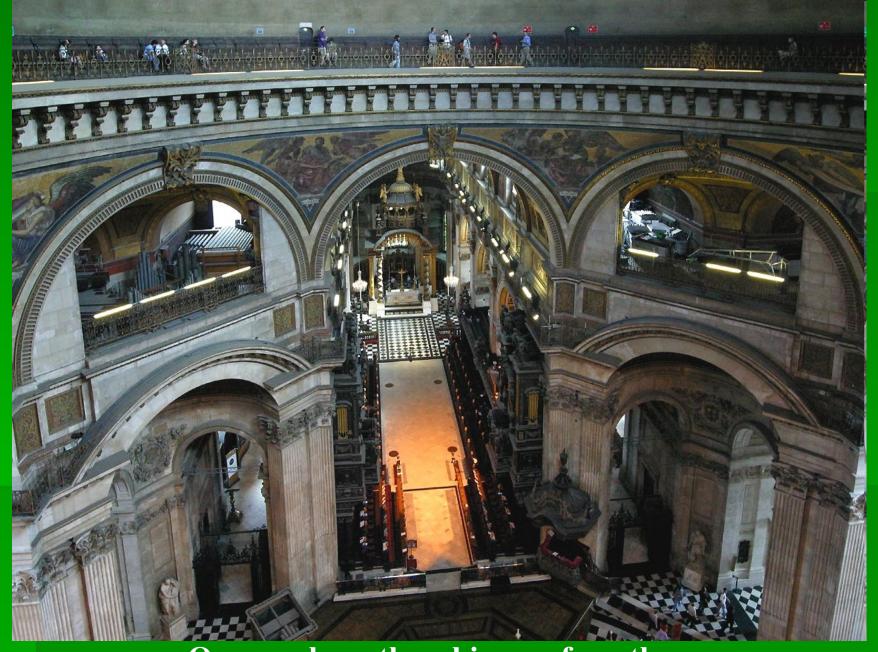
Marble decors of the Cathedral Dome Plafond, presenting biblical scenes (upper level)



Saint Paul's Cathedral "Whispering Gallery"



The fleshes point at the so called "Whispering gallery". Do you know why "Whispering Gallery is called so?



One can hear the whisper of another person standing at the distance of 35 m.



This is the inside diameter of the Cathedral dome at that level.



Saint Paul's Cathedral "Whispering Gallery"



To get to the Whisper gallery" from the ground floor one should walk about 400 steps along the narrow spiral stairs.

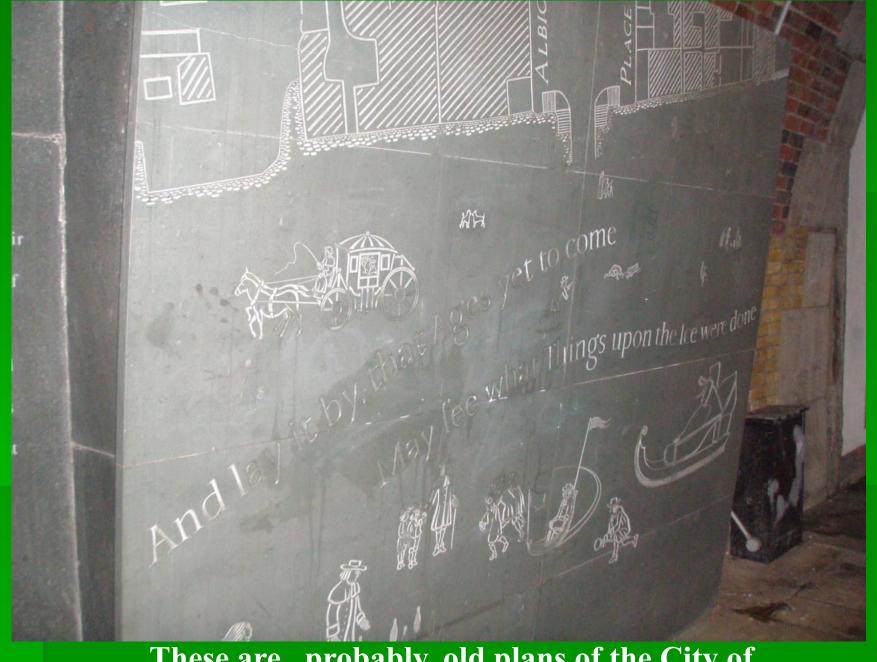
St. Paul's Cathedral. "Golden Gallery"



If you decide to go higher you can make your way to the "Golden Gallery". It has an exit to the open.



On the walls of another set of steps one can see carvings that don't look like made by modern tourists.



These are, probably, old plans of the City of London dating back to bygone centuries.



From the Golden Gallery one can see the whole of London because the height of the gallery is 85 meters. It is worth climbing.



The view of the City of London from St. Paul's Cathedral's dome



Saint Paul's Cathedral Bell "Great Paul"

In one of the Saint Paul's Cathedral Towers there is one of the largest bells in the World. "Great Paul" weighs 17 1/2 tons, and its hammer weighs 180 pounds, almost 90 kg.

St. Paul's Cathedral Crypt



If you go down, you will get to the Cathedral Crypt, where the most prominent people of the country rest in peace.

Tomb of Sir Christopher Wren

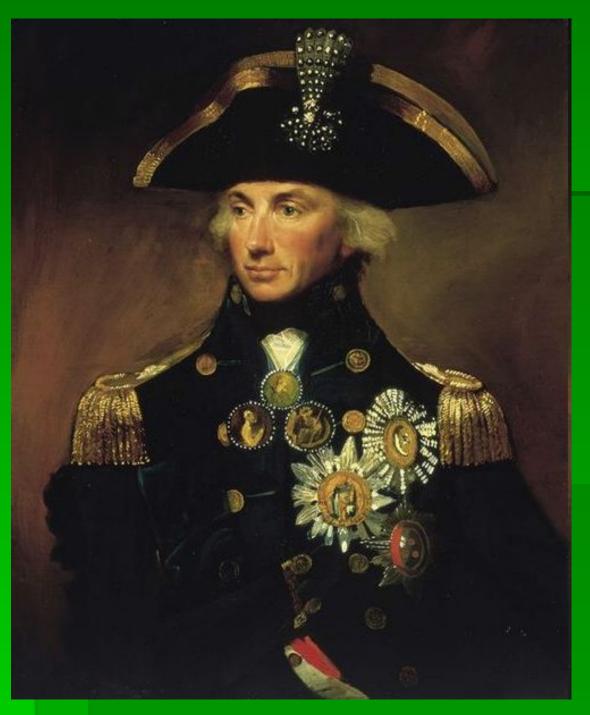


There is the tomb to Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of the Cathedral. The memorial plaque reads: "Reader, if you seek his memorial — look around you".

Tomb of Admiral Nelson in the Crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral



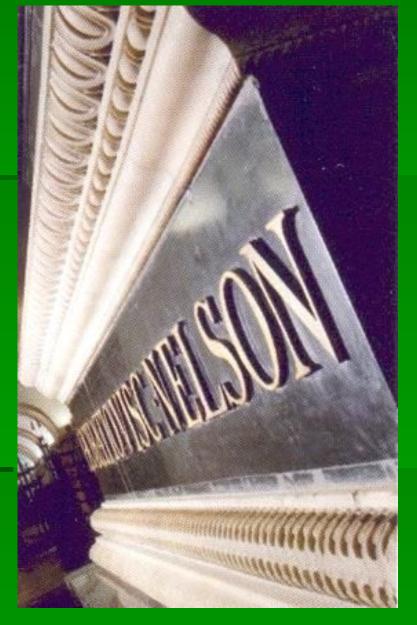
There in the Crypt of the Cathedral is the burial site of Admiral Horatio Nelson.



Sir Admiral Horatio Nelson

Admiral Horatio Nelson was a great seaman. He won many sea fights.





He was badly wounded in the Battle of Trafalgar against the Napoleon fleet. He perished in 1806, having defeated the Napoleon Navy.



The battle was won by the British. The picture shows the last three letters of the famous signal, "England expects that every man will do his duty", flying from his flagship "Victory".

Admiral Nelson's words pronounced before his death





He was buried as a national hero of England. Thankful British people honour the memory of Admiral Nelson.

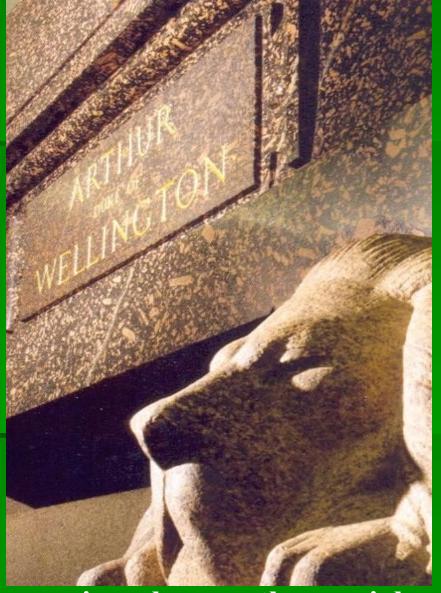


The Crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, The tomb of Duke of Wellington

Duke of Wellington, another national hero of England, is buried there too.

The Crypt. Duke of Wellington's tomb stone over his burial site





He is highly honoured as a warrior who won the crucial battle against Napoleon's army at Waterloo in 1815.

The Crypt, World War II Memorial Chapel

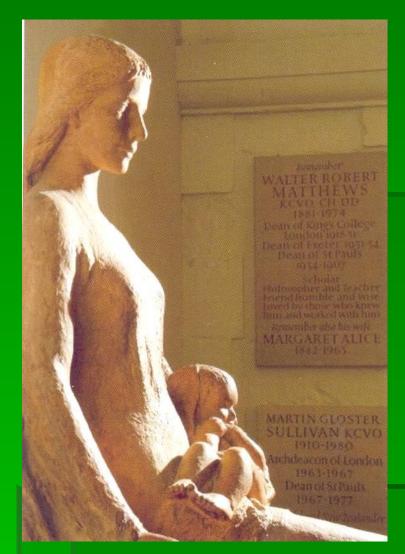
American eagle



Descent of allied army



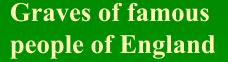
In the Crypt there is the World War II Memorial Chapel. Great Britain and the USSR, as you remember, were allied countries in the fight against the Nazi.



The pain of the Motherland mourning her fallen sons is the same in any country.

South Atlantic Group Warriors Memorial





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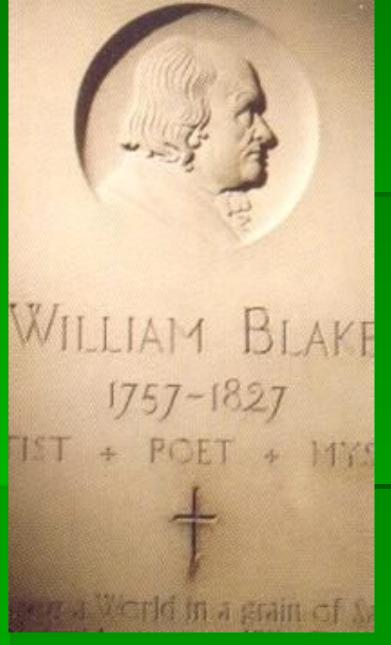
BENEATH THE PLACET

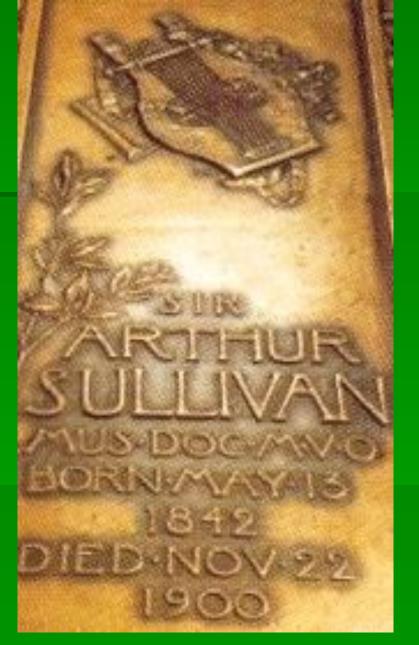


JOSEPH

IALLORD WILLIAM

TURNER





a great poet and artist William Blake and a great musician Arthur Sullivan.



It's next to impossible to describe the charm and spirit of this wonderful monumental building, dominating the City of London. But now when you visit it you'll have some idea of what it's like.



Welcome to Saint Paul's Cathedral!