

Architecture of Fleet Street

South Side - from Temple Bar to Pleydell Court

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THE HERITAGE of FLEET STREET

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(claxity.com) indicates there is a full description on <https://www.claxity.com> Further details and images of Listed buildings can be accessed on www.historicengland.org.uk/sitesearch and entering the address; if accessing many listed buildings, use the map search

Child's Bank (No. 1)

A dignified high Renaissance façade with full Portland Stone detailing, including a giant Corinthian order, balustrade running along the Piano Nobile and arched openings on the ground floor. Though now owned by NatWest, it has retained its historic signage. 1878 by John Gibson. Grade II* listed. (*claxity.com*)

S. Weingott & Son (No. 3)

1912 re-fronting of a C18 house for tobacconists S Weingott & Son. The façade was opened to broad, multipaned metal-framed windows against which the quoining seems a rather secondary gesture. Grade II listed.

Middle Temple Gateway

Replacing a 1520 structure, this elegant 1684 entrance building by Roger North prefigures decades of refined but restrained British Palladianism. Red brick and stone dressing which includes four giant Ionic pilasters, lateral balconies and a finely dentilled pediment with oculus. Grade I listed.

Legal & General Assurance (No. 10)

Brick and terracotta in a loosely Flemish style and asymmetric composition, especially after a wider bay was added in 1904, to its right. 1885 by RW Edis. Grade II listed.

Union Bank of London (No. 13-14)

Dignified stone cladding on a very regular Neoclassical façade composition. Satisfyingly tripartite with articulated Doric order on the ground floor. 1856 by G Aitchison Sr. Grade II listed.

Wildy & Sons (No. 15-16)

Quite narrow but ornate frontage by JH Stevens (1856) with a fanciful Venetian window

Inner Temple Gateway

Built in 1610-11, this half-timbered façade fronts a structure that was much altered in successive centuries, not least in a 1900-06 restoration by the LCC. Its character and feel have been well-preserved, however. Used alternatively as a pub, wax museum, etc., it is a rare survivor of pre-Great Fire style. Grade II* listed.

Goslings & Sharpe (No. 18-19)

Renaissance Revival. More vertically emphasised and with bolder articulation than Child's but also a long-term private-banking survivor with strong Neoclassical features. It is now owned by Barclays. Note the window apron detailing and pediments. 1898 by AC Blomfield. Grade II listed. (*claxity.com*)

London & Provincial Life Assurance (No. 21)

Ornate Italianate Renaissance Revival with tall, narrow frontage nicely punctuated by carved detail. 1853 by J Shaw Jr. Grade II listed.

Ye Olde Cock Tavern (No. 22)

Tudor Revival re-fronting of an earlier 1888 structure cut back due to street widening. 1912 by Gilbert & Constanduros. Grade II listed.

Temple Bar House (No. 23-28)

Classicising historicism with Baroque details, ground-floor granite cladding and much blocking in the upper storeys; 1902 by Joseph, Son & Smithem.

Promoter Insurance (No. 29)

High Victorian decorated Eclecticism with mixed stone dressing. Nicely diversified storeys culminating in arched attic windows. 1860 by WG Bartleet. Grade II listed.

Messrs Philip (No. 30-32)

Portland stone bays with historicist details and picturesque window canopies on top. 1883 by TE Knightley). Grade II listed.

No. 33

Lone C18 survivor of the plain Georgian brick variety, housing Murray's Publishers 1768-93. Grade II listed.

Hoare's Bank (No. 37)

Among the last remaining privately owned banks in Britain, Hoare & Co. still occupy this very refined, even sedate suite of offices that are remarkable for their provenance, warm sandstone cladding and well-preserved, elegant interiors. Stately classicism. 1829 by C Parker. Grade II* listed. (*claxity.com*)

No. 40-43

Neoclassical tripartite façade with extended base, Ionic pilasters and simplified attic storeys. 1913 by OC Wylson.

Mitre House (No. 44-45)

Stripped Classical with hints of Art Deco, especially in the lettering of the main frieze. 1929 by MK Matthews.

London News Agency (No. 46)

A relatively utilitarian brick building with ample fenestration but limited ornament. Interesting early C20 lettering recalls its former use (1908-1972) as the offices of the photographic archive of the London News Agency.

El Vino wine bar (No. 47)

Historic wine bar. The Edwardian brick building is quite plain but the original sign and reasonably preserved interiors offer a glimpse into early C20 'hospitality' practices aimed at the nearby legal and press workforce. Known as Bower's before 1923, it inspired the fictional Pomeroy's wine bar in the Rumpole of the Bailey stories.

Norwich Union Insurance (No. 49-50)

Grand Edwardian renaissance revival. A complex composition that includes arched opening and windows in the base storeys, a screening colonnade, between antae, in the middle and rather palatial attics and balustrade above the main cornice. Unapologetically grand, in the manner of many insurance offices of the time. JM Brooks design built in the 1911-12 heyday of Edwardian splendour. Grade II listed

No. 53

Colourful, narrow façade with diapered-pattern glazed red and green brick and bay windows with gothic details. Circa 1905.

Clifford Milburn and Co. (No. 54)

Chamfered uprights and plain aprons emphasise vertical proportions. 1927 by Trehearne & Norman.

No. 55

Three bays of brick and stone with well-applied classicising elements like the shallow pilasters and terminating arch. Reassuring though old-fashioned for its period (1930s).



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Additional notes

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Further reading: The www.claxity.com website has extensive pages covering all the classical buildings within the City of London.