

**Bankside and London Bridge are being transformed.**

But ever since pre-history, people have identified this area as a great place to live and work. The exciting schemes that are now reshaping the area again are just the latest in this long pedigree of development and place making.

Today, more than 15 schemes representing £4bn of investment will generate 4,500 construction jobs and 15,000 permanent jobs.

**dbrief Quarterly** is a unique collaboration by these ground-breaking schemes, working together with Southwark Council and Business Improvement Districts Better Bankside and Team London Bridge, to bring you the stories behind – and beneath – the developments.

**In this issue** we look at our very impressive history, from Bronze Age agriculture at NEO Bankside, via Roman walls and Restoration weddings at Borough Market to Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's monumental brick cathedral that became Tate's temple to modern art. And we meet Southwark Council's very own archaeologist.

Bankside's strategic location next to London's first river crossing at the original London Bridge was key to its historic development – not least as a place of entertainment.

By the turn of the millennium it was rediscovering that role.

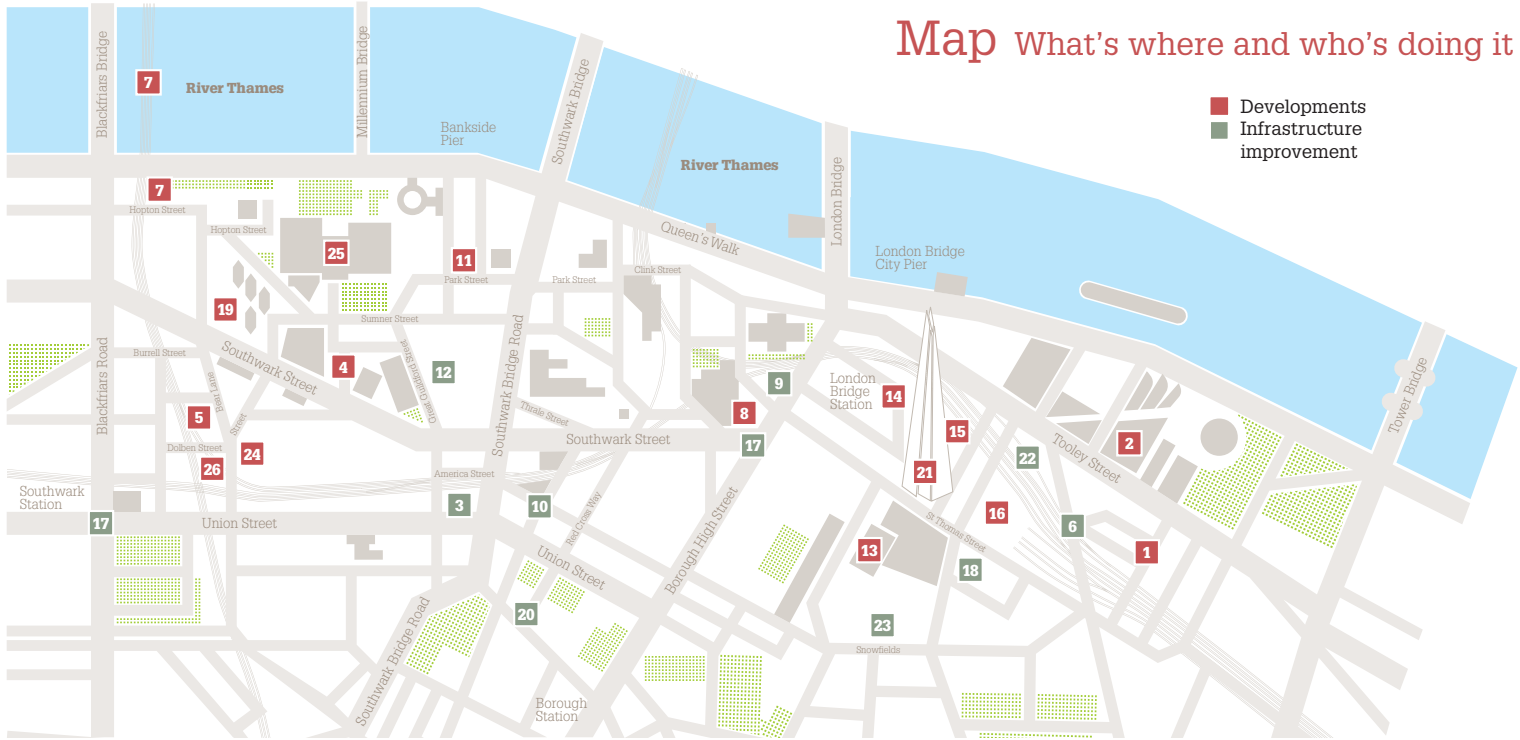
In his vast survey of the capital, *London: The Biography*, Peter Ackroyd predicted that Shakespeare's Globe and Tate Modern would once more bring the south side of the river back into the heart of London: "The ancient hospitality and freedom of the South are emerging once more; in the twenty-first century it will become one of the most vigorous and varied, not to say popular centres of London life

... the South Bank has been able triumphantly to reassert its past."\*

As new landmarks are being built, developers pay for archaeologists to excavate each site allowing new opportunities to explore the lives of those who lived here before us. Some of their finds are already on display in the Museum of London, but as you will read, local community groups also have the opportunity to find out more about the latest finds from Network Rail's Borough Viaduct site. Join us in exploring our rich history.

\**London: The Biography* by Peter Ackroyd, published by Chatto & Windus. Used by permission of The Random House Group Ltd. 2nd image: Rhinebeck Panorama © Museum of London. 4th image: Looking down Clink Street from Southwark Cathedral 1961 © Museum of London

**Map** What's where and who's doing it



- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> 160 Tooley Street<br/>Southwark Council 2009</p> <p><b>2</b> 7 More London<br/>More London Development 2009-2010</p> <p><b>3</b> America Street Arches Idea Competition<br/>Bankside Urban Forest/TP Bennett</p> <p><b>4</b> Bankside Mix<br/>Land Securities 2009</p> <p><b>5</b> Bear Lane Development<br/>Galliard Homes/Panter Hudspith 2009</p> <p><b>6</b> Bermondsey Street Bridge<br/>Light at the End of the Tunnel 2009</p> <p><b>7</b> Blackfriars Railway Bridge/Station<br/>Thameslink Programme 2009-2011</p> | <p><b>8</b> Borough Viaduct<br/>Thameslink Programme 2009-2012</p> <p><b>9</b> Demolitions<br/>Borough Viaduct, Thameslink</p> <p><b>10</b> Flat Iron Square<br/>Bankside Urban Forest</p> <p><b>11</b> Globe Education &amp; Rehearsal Centre<br/>Shakespeare's Globe 2009-2010</p> <p><b>12</b> Great Guildford Street<br/>Bankside Urban Forest</p> <p><b>13</b> Guys Tower Refurbishment<br/>Penoyre &amp; Prasad 2009-2013</p> <p><b>14</b> London Bridge Place<br/>Sellar Property Group 2009-2014</p> | <p><b>15</b> London Bridge Bus Station<br/>Network Rail 2010-2012</p> <p><b>16</b> London Bridge Station<br/>Network Rail 2012-2015</p> <p><b>17</b> Mains replacement<br/>Thames Water</p> <p><b>18</b> Melior Street Garden Pocket Plaza<br/>Team London Bridge</p> <p><b>19</b> NEO Bankside<br/>Rogers Stirk Harbour &amp; Partners<br/>Native Land/Grosvenor 2009-2012</p> <p><b>20</b> Red Cross Way redesign<br/>Bankside Urban Forest</p> | <p><b>21</b> Shard London Bridge<br/>Renzo Piano Building Workshop<br/>Sellar Property Group 2009-2012</p> <p><b>22</b> Shipwright Yard Pocket Plaza<br/>Team London Bridge</p> <p><b>23</b> Snowfields pavement widening<br/>Team London Bridge</p> <p><b>24</b> Student housing/office/retail<br/>Allies &amp; Morrison/UNITE 2009-2010</p> <p><b>25</b> Tate Modern extension<br/>Transforming Tate Modern 2009-2012</p> <p><b>26</b> The Greenhouse SE1<br/>Association of Ideas/Dolben Group LLP</p> |
|---|--|---|---|



24



8



21



25



7



Southwark Cathedral and Borough Market  
20th century © Museum of London

## Roman walls and Restoration weddings – unearthing the past at Borough Market

As part of the construction of Network Rail's 21st century viaduct at Borough Market archaeologists have been given the chance to look further into the past, producing new insights into the way people have lived here over several millennia.

Borough Market may be more famous for feeding our appetite for good food these days, but archaeologists working on Network Rail's viaduct construction site have been unearthing evidence of our equally long interest in interior design.



One dish is decorated with a boy and a small dog standing on its hind legs, although the boy's strange headwear and the dog's horn-like protuberance have already led the dish to be known affectionately by conservator Dr Liz Goodman as 'colander-boy and the unicorn'.

The largest dish, also mostly cobalt blue and white but altogether grander, was made to celebrate a 17th century wedding. Decorated with three hinds – the crest of the leather workers' guild – the date 1674, and the initials NTE, it gives enough information, perhaps, to trace the happy couple. The archivist at the Leathersellers' Company has already identified one Nathaniel Townsend as a possible contender.

The oldest dish, dating from around 1650, is perhaps the most exciting, with its delicious all-over decoration of yellow tulips. Impressively, this dish is already on display in the museum's new War, Plague & Fire gallery. More evidence, as the head of Archaeological Collections and Archive Roy Stephenson, points out, of the rich pedigree of activity on Bankside.

Everyone can see one of the star finds – the tulip bowl – on display in the Museum of London, but local community groups who would like to get up close and learn more about what has been unearthed will now have the chance to do so, thanks to an offer from Network Rail to bring their presentation on the archaeological finds from Borough Market.

For more information, please contact Toren Smith, Consultation Manager at Network Rail, on 0203 300 7238.

What did any self-respecting Roman in the Borough do when their walls went out of fashion? They got plastered. When a hefty chunk of Roman wall fell face-down many centuries ago (beneath what is now the market roof east of Stoney Street), it preserved several different phases of red, green and white plaster decoration. Like layers of wallpaper, these are now being carefully examined by conservation archaeologists at the Museum of London.

In a second trench, near to the Wheatsheaf, Museum of London Archaeology (MoLA) found not one but three large decorated pottery dishes, more correctly called tin-glazed chargers. Dating from the 17th century, this pottery is known as delftware but was most likely made quite locally to Borough in one of the many Southwark potteries.



**For more information** about the Rose Theatre, including pre-bookable tours of the excavated site, see [www.rosetheatre.org.uk](http://www.rosetheatre.org.uk). The Museum of London has just published *The Rose & the Globe – Playhouses of Shakespeare's Bankside, Southwark*, available from their shop at [www.museumoflondonshop.co.uk](http://www.museumoflondonshop.co.uk).

To find out more about the excavations at Southwark Cathedral, see [www.pre-construct.com](http://www.pre-construct.com). The cathedral bookshop stocks their monograph, *A New Millennium at Southwark Cathedral*.

**Coming up in the next issues**, we will look at new spaces, streets and squares – the 'public realm' – that will grow between the buildings. 'Bankside Urban Forest' is the strategy to coordinate these individual projects into an overall vision, to encourage investment and imaginative, high-quality improvements.

In March the London Development Agency (LDA) announced their support for this Bankside vision with £4million funding to bring the vision to reality.



9

# Ploughing up Hopton Street? NEO Bankside's prehistoric pedigree

As its name suggests, NEO Bankside epitomises the new life springing up south of the river. Archaeological investigations show this is only the latest in a long line of activity in an area that has always been a fertile area for investment.

The prehistoric Thames did not divide so neatly into the north and south banks as it does today. Gravels and sands laid down on top of the underlying London clay formed numerous small islands and by the Bronze Age the south side of the



19

river was braided, with shallow streams flowing between these islands or 'eyots'. The fertile soil of these islands made them ideal for early arable agriculture.

Evidence of this agriculture has been found in 'ard marks' – the marks from the simple early plough, or 'ard' preserved

in the alluvial soils that were laid down on top of them, over hundreds of years. Excavations at the north end of the Hopton Street site showed good evidence of this Bronze Age activity, with the land surface revealing agricultural ard marks cut across by a number of ditches from which struck flints were recovered. Other finds included a Saxon wooden ball decorated with a cross, seventeenth century wooden-lined guttering (re-using planking from Thames boats), and some engraved tankards. Clearly this has long been a popular place to live.

For more information about NEO Bankside, contact the sales team on 020 7998 1888.

# Powerful transformation – Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's Bankside Power Station

As Tate Modern celebrates its first 10 years, we take a timely look at the history of the monumental building it calls home.

The transformation of a derelict power station into the cultural icon of Tate Modern continues Bankside's historic role as a place of entertainment. Some of that iconic status has undoubtedly come from the distinctive building itself. But when the power station design was first proposed in 1947 it was described by Lord Llewellyn in the House of Lords as 'like introducing an alligator into the water-lily pond in one's garden'.

The revolutionary design of the London Power Company's Bankside Power Station reflected the pioneering technology that it housed inside. Electricity was to be generated using oil rather than coal to produce a cleaner energy, befitting its position directly opposite the City's supreme landmark, St Paul's Cathedral.

The architect invited in 1947 to handle this sensitive site was Sir Giles Gilbert Scott (1880-1960), designer of the famous red telephone kiosks, but with a track record for dealing with awkward developments on the Thames. Scott had already been the consulting architect for Waterloo Bridge



1951

and for the (coal-fired) Battersea Power Station, which he gave a classical allusion with its four chimney stacks.

Bankside Power Station's relationship with St Paul's was crucial to its critics. Scott went to great lengths to demonstrate that at 325 feet the central chimney stack, encased in its slender brick tower, or 'campanile', was no taller than its illustrious neighbour.



2010

The drama of this chimney soaring from the monumental turbine halls gives an almost cathedral-like appearance – a distinctive combination he also used in Cambridge University Library and the New Bodleian at Oxford.

After its eventual completion in 1963, the power station enjoyed only a relatively brief period as a symbol of modern industry before it was closed in 1981. It stood mothballed until refurbishment began in 1996 and Tate Modern opened in May 2000.



2012

© Hayes Davidson and Herzog & de Meuron

With the Transforming Tate Modern programme the building's evolution continues. In ten years the gallery has already outgrown its brick cathedral: now the vast oil tanks are being given a new lease of life as part of the plans for much-needed new exhibition space.

For more information about Transforming Tate Modern see [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

Photo (top): © Aerofilms Limited from *Building Tate Modern*, Tate Publishing 2000



7



20



9



15



18

# Meet the people behind the schemes

Investigating Southwark's past with Chris Constable

Southwark has such a rich history that, like the Corporation of London, it employs its own archaeologist.



Cross Bones Graveyard Redcross Way

This part of London might be known as a foodie destination these days, but until about 1600 Southwark was famous for a very different type of stew. Stews, or legalised brothels, had been banished from the City of London along with bear baiting and theatres, but they flourished here in the 'Liberty of the Clink' under the jurisdiction of the Bishops of Winchester, who had their summer palace near Southwark Cathedral.

In the 17th century the Puritans put an end to the riotous behaviour, closing down the theatres and the brothels during the

Commonwealth. But Chris Constable, Southwark Council's own archaeologist, says that there is still plenty of evidence of the borough's past if you look for it.

"Without digging for evidence, much of Southwark's heritage can be seen in its street names – Bear Gardens was the site of one of the bear baiting arenas and Rose Alley was the site of the Rose Theatre, the first theatre on Bankside built in 1587, where Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus and Henry VI were first performed.

"Even if you didn't know that pottery or tanneries were big business in Southwark, you might be able to guess it from the place names that survive, like Potter's Fields, or Tanner Street and Morocco Street in Bermondsey.

"And those other professions for which Bankside was celebrated are also clearly evident in the street names, including Paradise Street, Maiden Street and Whore's Nest (by the Market Porter). Not to mention Bandy Leg Walk, which was later renamed Great Guildford Street." There are also plenty of historic monuments in the streets we walk along every day.

"Near to the NEO Bankside site on Hopton Street, there is a stone drinking trough for cattle, one of several put up around London by the Victorian Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association. Around Bankside and within Borough Market we also have some bollards which are reused cannons and are Grade II Listed."

The remains of the 13th century Winchester Palace can still be seen, of course, just around the corner from the Cathedral, which itself has been the subject of extensive excavations recently.

So who lived in a borough like this? The clues are there...



is brought to you by



Better Bankside 020 7928 3998  
www.betterbankside.co.uk

Southwark Council 020 7525 5450  
www.southwark.gov.uk/  
londonbridgedevelopment

Team London Bridge 020 7407 4701  
www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk

Disclaimer: Responsibility for the accuracy of information published in dbrief lies with the individual contractors, developers and other companies who supply the information. For further information, please see the contact details given for each development. Edited by placeworks.co.uk. Design by mediamixer.co.uk

May - July 2010

## In this Issue



Roman walls and Restoration weddings – unearthing the past at Borough Market



**Ploughing up Hopton Street? NEO Bankside's prehistoric pedigree**



Powerful transformation – Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's Bankside Power Station



**Meet the People – investigating the past with Chris Constable**



## Plus

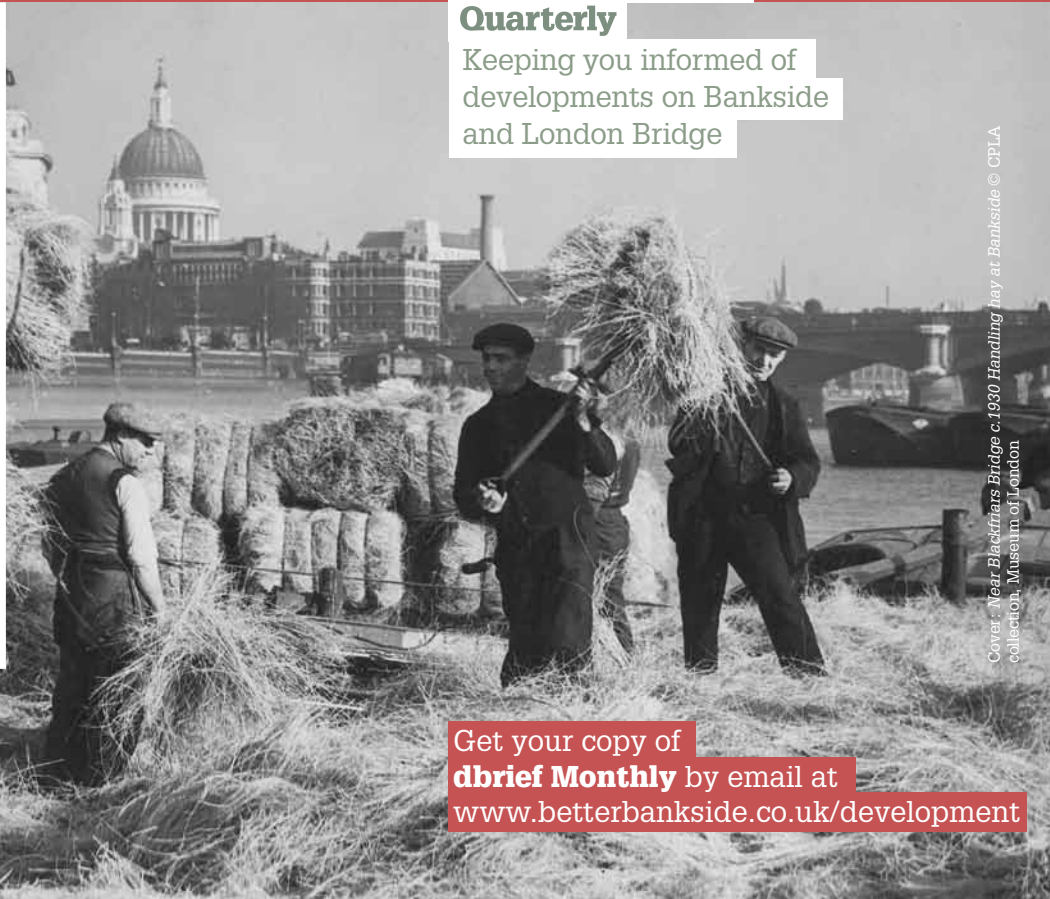
Map of what's where and who's doing it



**Coming up in the next issues of dbrief Quarterly**

# dbrief Quarterly

Keeping you informed of developments on Bankside and London Bridge



Cover: Near Blackfriars Bridge c.1930 Handling hay at Bankside © CPLA collection, Museum of London

Get your copy of **dbrief Monthly** by email at [www.betterbankside.co.uk/development](http://www.betterbankside.co.uk/development)