

AN ADDENDUM TO  
LONDON'S NATURAL HISTORY

*by*

R.S.R. Fitter

---

PEOPLE COMMONLY FOUND IN LONDON

DEBTS OF GRATITUDE

INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

MONDAY – WEST

TUESDAY – NORTH

WEDNESDAY – SOUTH

THURSDAY – EAST

FRIDAY – CENTRAL

DIRECTORY

---

SEMINAR WEEK

22-28 OCTOBER

STUDIO TOM EMERSON

D-ARCH ETH ZURICH

MMXVII

Cyril Amrein +41 79 585 83 34; Céline Bessire +41 79 742 94 91; Lucio Crignola +41 78 858 54 02; Toja Coray +41 79 574 40 69; Vanessa Danuser +41 78 641 10 65; Nick Drofiak +41 75 417 31 95; Boris Gusic +41 79 287 43 60; David Eckert +41 79 574 40 71; Tom Emerson; Zaccaria Exhenry +41 79 265 02 90; Gabriel Fiette +41 78 862 62 64; Kathrin Füglistner +41 79 384 12 73; Pascal Grumbacher +41 79 595 60 95; Jonas Heller +41 78 880 12 55; Joel Hösle +41 77 483 57 67; Jens Knöpfel +41 77 424 62 38; Shohei Kunisawa +41 78 704 43 79; Juliette Martin +41 78 818 88 34; Khalil Mdimagh +41 76 416 52 25; Colin Müller +41 79 688 06 08; Alice Müller +41 79 675 40 76; Philip Shelley +44 77 5178 05 81; Tobia Rapelli +41 79 646 37 18; Daria Ryffel +41 79 881 67 70; Florian von Planta +41 79 793 52 55; Andreas Winzeler +41 79 537 63 30; Eric Wuite +41 77 491 61 57; Tian Zhou +41 78 676 96 15

#### DEBTS OF GRATITUDE

Many thanks to Taran Wilkhu & family, Kim Wilkie, Rebecca Law, Robert Youngs, Angela Kidner, Alex Sainsbury, Juergen Teller Studio, James Green, Adam Willis, Paloma Strelitz, Raven Row, Rachel Harlow, Katharina Worf, Matt Atkins, Crispin Kelly, Ashley Wilde-Evans, Stephanie Macdonald, Markus Lähteenmäki, Matthew Hearn.

\* and how to find them

London has never accepted master planning and does not accept concepts of any kind. It is disordered, mercantile, opportunistic, at times vulgar but always with an eye for a refined detail. Whether in architecture or in fashion or even in landscapes, unruliness is the natural setting for supremely elegant sequences grafted into the clumsy and the unkempt so easily that a natural order must be hiding in plain sight. London's tolerance and accommodating character, just like its citizens, is bound together by a perpetual natural history; parks, gardens and river that weave throughout London's natural history joining humans and architecture to trees, grasses, flowers, birds, insects, clay and gravel, the past to the present, growth to decay, the visible to the unseen.

Walking from the inland west to the maritime east, we shall go in search of London, which despite its best efforts to avoid the singular in favour of the plural, has one body and one heart that can be found in every brick and every blade of grass however carefully or careless arranged.

*"In spite of everything, London contains many more and more varied masterpieces than Rome or Paris... Nothing ever quite fit to the Continental influence; and the true Londoner will never quite fit in any pattern at all, even an English one...tolerant, shrewd, cheerfully vulgar and with a remarkable eye for quick profit"*

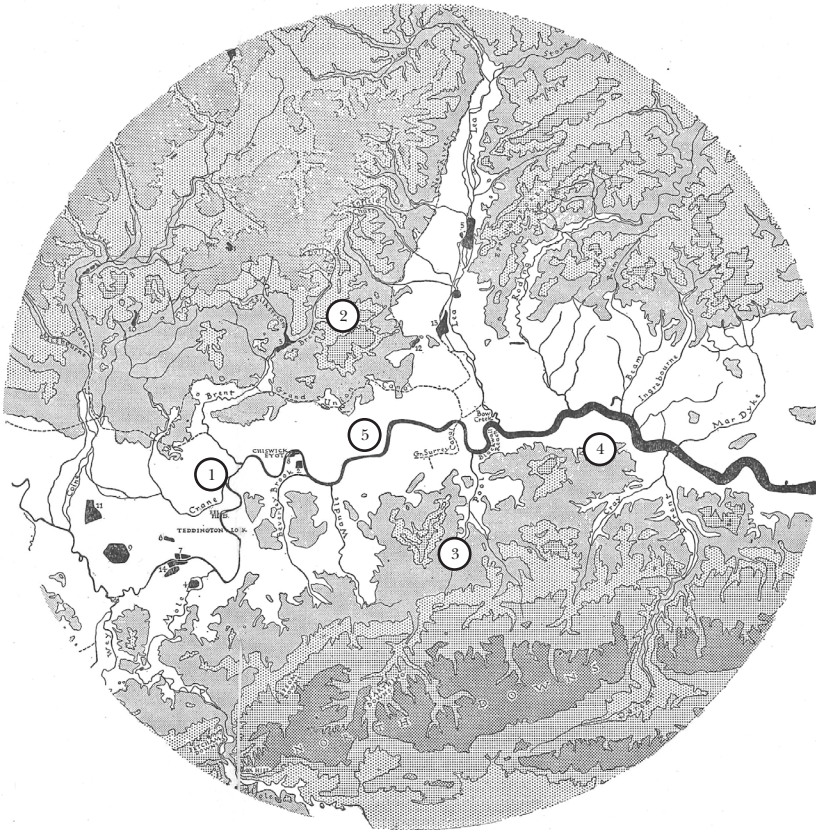
Ian Nairn, Nairn's London, 1966

REFERENCES;

*Overview Map of the major green spaces in London* (p. 156-7)  
*Geological Overview* (p. 29)

Walmer Yard by Peter Salter HELENE BINET





1. MONDAY - WEST
2. TUESDAY - NORTH
3. WEDNESDAY - SOUTH
4. THURSDAY - EAST
5. FRIDAY - CENTRAL

PLATE 2



The Ionic Temple at Chiswick Garden SHELLEY

PLATE 3



Juergen Teller in his studio JUERGEN TELLER

*Waterloo  
Station*

SUNRISE 07:36

The arcadian west of London, to the protected landscape around Richmond and Twickenham. Afterwards we venture northwards to visit two contemporary projects of deep interiority.

*Twickenham*

*Pope's Grotto*

Train from Waterloo station to Twickenham station.

*Richmond Park*

*Chiswick House  
and Gardens*

*Pope's Grotto*, with Robert Youngs and colleagues. The birthplace of the English Landscape tradition, Alexander Pope (1688–1744)

*Juergen Teller  
Studio*

See: (*view of Teddington Lock*, p. 96)

*Walmer Yard*

Walk with Rebecca Law from the Thames Landscape Strategy, to through Ham and Marble Hill to Richmond Park (p.132)

Bus to Chiswick

Lunch at *Chiswick House and Gardens* (Chiswick p.160) one of the first radical garden projects and the beginnings of Palladianism at Lord Burlington's house and gardens at Chiswick by William Kent. New café pavilion by Caruso St John architects.

Bus to Latimer Road

*Juergen Teller Studio*, by 6a architects

See: Chapter 7, *Nature Indoors*, (p. 111 onwards)

Walk to

*Walmer Yard*, by Peter Salter

LEAVE 16:30

EVENING

Goldbourne Road  
Portobello Road  
Elsewhere

SUNSET 17:52

REFERENCES:

See Chapter 17, *The Cult of Nature*

PLATE 4



Alexandra Road by Neave Brown DAVID WHITHAM

PLATE 5



A pigeon having lunch at Tate Britain SHELLEY



*Kings Cross to  
Archway*

SUNRISE 07:38

Priviledged prospects, grand gestures, the seats of power and appropriated structures. A long walk from Highgate down to the river.

*Highgate Cemetery*

*Kenwood*

Northern Line from Kings Cross to Archway

*Hampstead Heath*

*Highgate Cemetery* (p. 64, 192, 196), *Kenwood* (p. 5, 88, 97, 120, 148) and *Hampstead Heath*.

*Alexandra Road*

*Alexandra Road Estate*, 1972–8 by Neave Brown.

*Regent's Park*

The back of London Zoo (p. 48) in *Regent's Park* and *lunch* nearby (p. 181, 201).

*John Nash  
Sequence*

*The John Nash Sequence* (See: Map of Regent's Park down (p. 124-5). Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Portland Place. Pablo Bronstein exhibition, *Conservatism, or The Long Reign of Pseudo-Georgian Architecture*. Regent Street and down to St James'.

*St James'*

*Westminster*

*Tate Britain*

*The Economist building* (Alison and Peter Smithson), *St James' Park* (p. 121, 165, 209, *The Pelicans* p.132 and a description of them, top of p. 96).

*The Embankment*

*180 The Strand*

Tate Britain, Millbank. *Rachel Whiteread Exhibition*.

Walk along the Embankment to *180 The Strand*, an office building now serving as an arts space.

SUNSET 17:50

EVENING

*Gordon's Wine Bar*  
The Embankment  
South Bank  
Elsewhere

REFERENCES:

*Map of Northern Greater London p. 240-1*  
*Green Park (p. 193)*  
*The Embankment (p. 169)*



Self-build housing by Walter Segal TARAN WILKHU



Dawson's Heights by Kate McIntosh, 1964–72

*London Bridge to  
Honor Oak Park*

SUNRISE 07:40

Radical projects, green chain walks, art and construction and the banks of the Thames.

*Forest Hill**Walter Segal  
Housing*

Northern Line from Kings Cross to London Bridge. Train to Honor Oak Park, walk to *Segal Close*. Walk through Forest Hill to the gardens of the *Horniman Museum*. View of *Dawson's Heights*, by Kate MacIntosh.

*Horniman  
Museum**Walk to Peckham*

*Walk to Peckham* via the Horniman Nature Trail, Camberwell Cemetery, Peckham Rye Park, Nunhead Cemetery.

*South London  
Gallery*

Lunch at the *South London Gallery*, by 6a architects. Gabriel Orozco Garden.

*Goldsmith's Art  
Gallery & South  
London Gallery  
construction sites*

*Goldsmith's Centre for Contemporary Art*, building site with Adam Willis from Assemble.

*Assemble Studios*

*South London Gallery* building site visit with Matt Atkins from 6a architects.

*Tower Bridge  
Moorings*

Visit to *Sugarhouse Studios*, home of Assemble

Walk to the banks of the *River Thames*, to the Tower Bridge Moorings, and depending on the tides, down to the shore for mudlarking.

SUNSET 17:48

## EVENING

Shad Thames  
Bermondsey  
Elsewhere

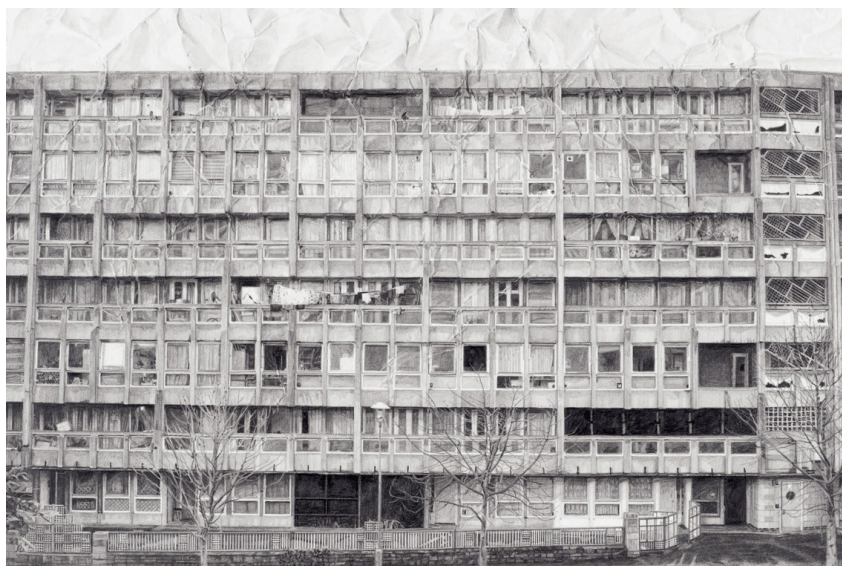
## REFERENCES:

*Suburbia* (p. 105)

*Map of Southern Greater London (Beyond)* (p. 242-3)



Horses at Thamesmead AMANDA VINCENT-ROUS



JESSIE BRENNAN, *A Fall of Ordinariness and Light*. 2014  
(Robin Hood Gardens, by Peter and Alison Smithson)

*Cannon St to  
Abbey Wood*

SUNRISE 07:42

A long walk back upriver; edge conditions, river management, flooding and sewage, grand visions, radical futures promised and abandoned, naval and chronological dominance, followed by an intimate temporary interior.

*Thamesmead*

*Woolwich*

*The Isle of Dogs*

Train from *London Cannon Street to Abbey Wood. Lesnes Abbey Ruins, Thamesmead, Crossness Pumping Station*, walk upstream along the *Thames Path*.

*Mudchute Farm*

*Greenwich*

*Woolwich Ferry* over the River

*Bloomsbury*

*The Thames Barrier, London City Airport, Poplar, Balfron Tower, The Ruins of Robin Hood Gardens* (Alison and Peter Smithson)

Walk down *The Isle of Dogs*, lunch in *Canary Wharf*, *Mudchute Farm, Greenwich Tunnel*

*Greenwich, Old Naval College*, Sir Christopher Wren

Return to Bloomsbury

*Alexander Brodsky pavilion* for Puskin House in Bloomsbury Square, with the curator Markus Lähteenmäki and project architect Matthew Hearn.

SUNSET 17:46

EVENING

*Princess Louise*

Bloomsbury

Soho

Covent Garden

Elsewhere

REFERENCES:

*Flatlands out east*, see (p. 24, 69,

*Poplar / Bromley by Bow* (p. 185

*Lea Valley* (p. 224)

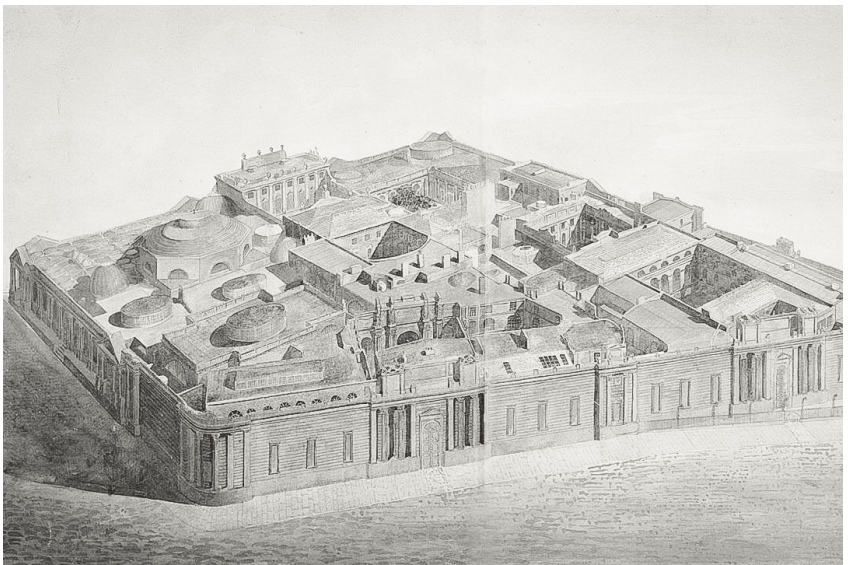
*Chapter 11, The Influence of Trade and Traffic*

PLATE 10



St Paul's and the Barbican seen from Tate Modern SHELLEY

PLATE 11



Sir John Soane's project for the Bank of England, an infinite sequence of interior space (1788-1833)

*Russell Square to  
South Kensington*

SUNRISE 07:42

Economic and cultural influence, refinement, the nature of the art gallery, the most ambitious of the modern projects in London, a citadel of culture, legal power, the power of memory and illusion

*Chelsea*

*The City of London*

Underground, Russell Square to South Kensington.

*Spitalfields*

*The Red House*, Tite St, Chelsea. Tony Fretton architects, Mark Pimlott. 2001

*Barbican*

*Holborn*

Return to the City of London. *River Boat to Blackfriars*.

*Sir John Soane  
Museum*

*The City of London, St Paul's Cathedral* (p. 33) *The Bank of England, Spitalfields*.

*Free time*

*Raven Row*, Artillery Lane. Current exhibition: *Gianfranco Baruchello: Incidents of Lesser Account*

*Final dinner*

*Lunch at the Barbican*

The Inn's of court: Lincoln's Inn, Gray's Inn, Temple

*Sir John Soane's Museum*, Lincoln Inn's Fields  
3pm tour

*Free time*

SUNSET 17:46

*Final dinner together*

REFERENCES:

*Map of the City of London* p.117

*Image*, p. 40

*See Chapter 4 Medieval London*

*Bombed Church Garden* (p.217

*Bombed city site* (p. 209

*The Temple*, p. 81

*The Landscape of London* (p. 41)

EVENING

Open

KEY ADDRESSES	PLACES NEAR TO HOSTEL	RESTAURANTS & BARS NEARBY
Generator Hostel 37 Tavistock Place London WC1H 9SE tel: +44 20 7388 7666	The British Library Kings Cross & St Pancras Stations Brunswick Centre British Museum Post Office Museum, Mount Pleasant Curzon Cinema (in the Brunswick Centre)	The Lamb, Lamb's Conduit St The Duke, 7 Roger St Norfolk Arms, 28 Leigh St (good tapas) Ciao Bella, 80-90 Lamb's Conduit St
6a architects Rapier House 40 Lamb's Conduit St London WC1N 3LJ	<i>for umbrellas</i> James Smith & Sons, New Oxford St	<i>Exmouth Market</i> Many options  <i>Covent Garden/Soho</i> Many options

EMERGENCY NUMBER  
DIAL 999



MUSIC / THEATRE / CLUBS	MUSEUMS / GALLERIES	FILMS (FOR LATER)
Ain't Nothin' But... (blues bar), 20 Kingly St.	Tate Modern British Museum V&A Museum The Design Museum British Museum National Portrait Gallery Barbican Somerset House Whitechapel Gallery Christies / Sotheby's Wellcome Collection Tate Modern / Tate Britain Gagosian Gallery	London, Patrick Keiler The London No Ones Knows Blow-up London: a Modern Babylon The Long Good Friday My Beautiful Landrette
Scala, St Pancras (Monday) Michael Kiwanuka (Tuesday) Bethnal Green Working Men's Club (Thursday) Waterloo Vaults (Friday)		ESSENTIAL BOOKS (FOR LATER) Steen Eiler Rasmussen, <i>London: the Unique City</i> Ian Nairn, <i>Nairn's London</i> Peter Ackroyd, <i>London: a Biography</i>
The National Theatre on the South Bank, currently: <i>St George and the Dragon</i>		
BFI Southbank Wigmore Hall Royal Festival Hall Barbican National Theatre Royal Opera House Royal Ballet Globe Theatre Everyman Cinema Curzon Bloomsbury	Betts Projects <i>Pier Vittorio Aureli exhibition</i>	SHOREDITCH Broadway Market // Columbia Road flower market // The Marksman (254 Hackney Rd) - great little gastro pub // Morito (195 Hackney Rd) - tapas restaurant // Ridley Road Market Bar (49 Ridley Rd) - late night party bar (low key) // Rochelle Canteen (Arnold Circus) - hidden away lunch spot. // Hawkmoor (157A Commercial St) - classic steak restaurant and cocktail bar

## OTHER RESTAURANTS

*St. JOHN Bar and Restaurant*

26 St. John Street  
EC1M 4AY

*Jerusalem Tavern*

Britton St  
Clerkenwell

7 Roger Street  
WC1N 2PB

*The Well*

Clerkenwell  
180 St John Street  
EC1V 4JY

*The Peasant*

Clerkenwell  
240 St John Street  
London  
EC1V 4PH

*The Quality Chop House*

Islington  
94 Farringdon Road  
EC1R 3EA

*Viet Grill*

Shoreditch  
58 Kingsland Road  
London E2

*Gordon's Wine Bar*

Embankment  
47 Villiers Street  
WC2N 6NE

*Fryers Delight* (best fish and chips)

Holborn  
19 Theobalds Road,  
WC1X 8SL

*Story Deli* (organic pizza)

Old Truman Brewery, Brick Lane  
4-5 Dray Walk,  
London, E1 6QL

*Prince George*

Dalston  
40 Parkholme Road  
London E8 3AG

*The Slaughtered Lamb*

Clerkenwell  
34 - 35 Great Sutton St.,  
EC1V ODX

## OTHER BARS &amp; PUBS

*The Princess Louise*

Holborn  
208 High Holborn  
*Duke of York*  
Holborn

*The Royal Oak*

Hackney  
73 Columbia Road  
London E2 7RG

*The Royal Inn on the Park*

Victoria Park

111 Lauriston Rd  
E9 7HJ

*The Spurstowe Arms*  
Hackney  
68, Greenwood Rd  
E8 1AB

*Favela chic*  
91-93 Great Eastern Street  
E2

*Bar Kick*  
126-127 Shoreditch High St  
Shoreditch  
E1 6JE

*Catch*  
22 Kingsland Road  
Shoreditch  
E2 8DA

*AA Bookshop*  
Architectural Association  
36 Bedford Square  
WC1B 3ES

*Walther Koenig (Bookshop)*  
80 Charing Cross Road  
WC2H 0BF

CLOTHES  
*Folk* (men & women)  
Holborn  
49 Lamb's Conduit Street  
WC1N 3NG

*Beyond Retro*  
Soho  
58-59 Great Marlborough Street  
W1F 7JY

*Theobald's Butcher*  
21 Theobalds Road  
WC1X 8SL

CHEESE  
*Neal's Yard Dairy*  
Covent Garden  
17 Shorts Gardens  
WC2H 9AT

*Neal's Yard Dairy*  
Borough  
6 Park Street  
SE1 9AB

BUTCHER

BOOKSHOPS