

# 8 Gates to the City of London

potted history and our research for the game



# LUDGATE PRIORY



- Supposedly named after King Lud, mythical founder of London.
- More likely it is Floodgate or Fleetgate as it lies at a crossing of the important but heavily polluted Fleet river flowing into the Thames nearby.
- Gate decorated with statues of Lud and his sons which for reference are now to be found outside St Dunstan's Fleet Street.
- The gate was rebuilt in 1580s so stylistically we can choose for it to be old and decrepit or spanking new.
- By our period it has been a gaol for several hundred years, for Freemen of the City and other VIPs and is considered far softer than Newgate. Inmates are provided with food, for example, rather than having to pay for it.

## The Friars:

- These are Dominicans, also known as Black Friars for the dark cloaks worn over plain white habits. If they carry rods or staffs make them plain with no crosses on the top.
- They are mendicant – ie rely on charity – but nevertheless are rich, powerful, worldly and educated men.
- Established in London 300 years before our period, their order has been gifted many valuable city properties by wealthy patrons. The friars even have their own trading quay on the river.
- Foreign sovereigns stay as their guests during state visits, Henry VIII's divorce from Catherine of Aragon is heard in the friars' own court and they even hosted a parliamentary session – the 'Black Parliament' in 1450.

## Surrounding Area:

- As the westernmost gateway Ludgate guards the road from London to the other great seat of power, the rival city of Westminster. The two are separate both geographically and administratively, and people would literally journey from one to the other (by boat if they could afford it).
- The alternative route between Westminster and London – along today's Strand - is lined with sumptuous riverside palaces belonging to noblemen, landed magnates and bishops – very much the richest, most powerful and influential subjects of the Crown.
- Remember besides the palaces there is at this time very little else beyond the city walls – mostly it is meadows, market gardens, a few vineyards and scattered hamlets further afield on high ground such as Islington and Hampstead.
- Looking the other way, up Ludgate Hill, the view is dominated by St Paul's. The 'East Minster' is not the Wren masterpiece we know but an immense and richly decorated Gothic building. With an even longer nave than now at 580', a 460' spire – the second tallest in Europe until a lightning strike in 1561 - it is full of lavish and colourful monuments to dead kings, saints, aristocrats and courtiers.
- Ordinary Londoners are genuinely awed by such grandeur but St Paul's is also the place in London to gather the latest gossip and to spread it. Everyone knows this, including the friars, and people travel up Ludgate Hill expressly for this purpose – to listen to so-called News Mongers - and to hear preachers proclaiming in the churchyard outside.
- The area around St Paul's is also more than usually infested with beggars and whores – and printer/booksellers – and there is a long ongoing battle to prevent Londoners using the nave (known locally as 'Paul's Walk') as a place for business.

# NEWGATE JAIL

‘The prototype of Hell.’

‘An abominable sink of beastliness and corruption.’

## Prison:

- The newest gate but already the prison is ancient: 300 years old. By 1550 it is in ruinous state.
- Smoke-blackened interior expressly designed to instil dread.
- Prison built over an old open sewer with covering grilles to stop escapes – [these could be lever-operated within the game]
- Ventilation so poor a windmill was built on top at this time.
- Typhus (gaol fever) is rife. Stench appalling. Shops nearby forced to close in hot weather when sewer dries out.
- Conditions so bad the authorities several times consider moving prisoners out (but never do).
- It's a holding pen. Long sentences very rare. Mostly prisoners are held in prison until they are physically punished (anything from whipping to hanging).
- Debtors and murderers, men, women and children - all held together. Babies too: women sell sex, and pregnancy might avoid execution.
- Prison privatised so the two gaolers are in it for the money.
- Prisoners pay for everything – candles, prostitutes, ale, even filthy water. Food provided, but it's raw unless you pay to cook it.
- Inmates mostly sleep on cold stone floors. Bedding rare, no beds, no chairs, maybe the odd stool. Mostly communal too. Private cells cost extra, as do upper storeys – [meaning as players fall through trapdoors their position becomes worse and more perilous]
- Visitors allowed to see inmates, especially if they pay.
- Inmates kept in heavy irons unless they pay for their removal – [which could be effected by release levers] - or in stocks but not pillories. Chained to floor usually but sometimes to wall for special cases.
- Many die in gaol but rotting corpses remain until release is paid for. Also: Dogs, pigeons, poultry, rats even pigs have run of the prison.
- Escape more likely over the roof than via the ground floor.
- Anyone facing hanging something of a celebrity...esp. highwaymen who were regarded as glamorous figures.
- Services held in prison chapel but priest has to shout over noise.
- Priest known as an ‘Ordinary’.



# NEWGATE JAIL contd.

- Executions:

- Public hangings take place directly outside Newgate.
- Gallows silhouette beyond window? Condemned often wear 'Sunday best'.
- Beheadings are a privilege, restricted to wealthy and powerful.
- Popular occasion for huge crowds and drinking and making merry.
- Also burning at the stake – mostly women or for religious crimes.
- Inmates could also be pressed to death. (This took place inside the prison, spreadeagled under a board loaded with stones or masonry.)
- Priests visit the condemned but often just to sell their stories.
- Tenor bell in church opposite tolls mournfully ahead of each execution.

The following is recited three times for an execution:

All you that in the condemned hold do lie Prepare you, for tomorrow you will die. Watch all, and pray, the hour is drawing near

That you before th'Almighty must appear Examine well yourselves, in time repent, That you may not t'eternal flames be sent; And when

St Sepulchre's bell tomorrow tolls,

The Lord have mercy on your souls! [last line shouted]

Surrounding Area:

Newgate St. is busy main road west, out of London (start of the A40). Greyfriars Monastery (monks wear grey) and Charterhouse (wear white) . Vast noisy, smelly Smithfield livestock market - hence

Cowcross Street, Cock Lane, Duck Lane, Goose Alley etc. Cloth fair, internationally important so: foreign merchants.

Nearby tombs of three queens – 'She-wolf Isabella' and Marguerite of England, and Joan of Scotland - if scary she-ghosts needed. Noise of butchering livestock in street. ('Bull in a china shop' f

rom farmers leading live animals through busy London thoroughfares.) Catholic martyrs burned alive at Smithfield. Forgers, poisoners boiled to death (unusual but popular event).

Riotous annual St Bartholomew Fair (eventually banned for licentiousness) where the gaoler traditionally drank a pint of wine with the Lord Mayor. Plague pit: 50,000 victims of the Black Death.

# ALDERSGATE THEATRE

## Background:

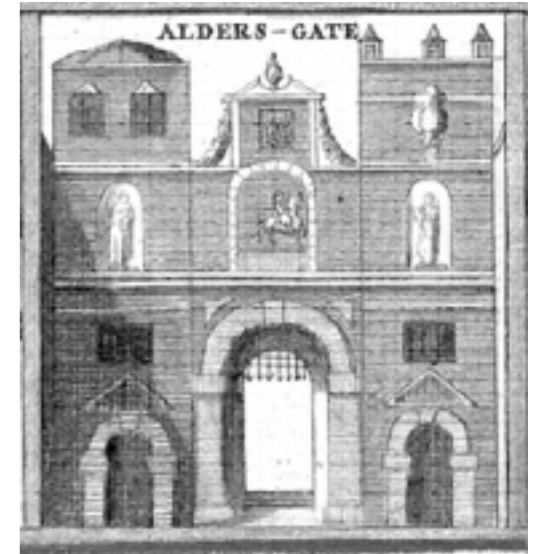
- Dramas v. popular. Thousands go each week, all classes bar royalty.
- Nevertheless actors were looked down on, low status.
- Theatres are considered highly disreputable places.
- Authorities nervous of large crowds, so broadly anti-theatre, and Henry VIII banned any religious plays that might threaten the Reformation.
- Atmosphere therefore slightly anarchic: anti-establishment and 'below the radar'.
- William Shakespeare hasn't been born by 1545.

## Theatre:

- Open to the sky.
- A flag is flown each day to advertise the performance. ! White for comedy ! Red for history ! Black for tragedy.
- No scenery. Wooden backdrop with a curtained balcony. Instead an actor describes the scene to the audience at the start of each act.
- No means of lighting so each performance takes place during day, starting at 3pm. Squalid and grubby environment, like a fair or circus tent today.
- A trumpet blast alerts people to the start of a performance.
- Violent dramas especially popular so stage often littered with dead bodies at the close. Lots of weapons.
- Audience puts money in a box on entry – hence 'box office' today.

## Actors:

- Strolling companies of players travel from city to city. Women forbidden to appear on stage (and don't). Young boys take the female roles – treated badly by the men but it was regarded as a good job.
- Players arrogant, hierarchical, self-important. Dismissive of others entering their space. Backstage is therefore a very male place for our heroine to find herself. Many are skilled swordsmen or athletes or musicians, which is exploited in the drama. Costumes often not elaborate. A crown might be sufficient to suggest a king, a sword a knight



# ALDERSGATE THEATRE contd

## Audience

- Large, socially mixed, many young apprentices present. • Most stand, crowded into pit before stage, eating and drinking. • Only a few seats for the rich, on the stage.
- Atmosphere noisy and raucous. • Chatter from audience throughout the performance. • Oysters, figs, walnuts, pippins (apples) for snacking. • Shells, peel etc. thrown at actors playing villains – ‘pippin-pelting’.
- Much booing, hissing, cat-calling. • London’s 900+ inns and taverns (and cheap ale) mean fights break out all the time. • No loos, so you can imagine the floor...

## Surrounding Area:

- Clerkenwell just beyond the gate: there is a genuine ‘Clerk’s Well’ around which religious or mystery plays (now banned) had been performed for centuries.
- Church of St Martin’s Le Grand tolls the curfew bell each evening, London gates must close and people are locked up for ignoring the curfew.
- The parish is known for tailoring, counterfeit jewelry, furniture-making.
- Another local: John Day, a prominent printer of religious works.
- The area is so-called liberty, somewhere criminals can hide out and claim sanctuary from the law. Hundreds do.
  - i) One of these was Miles Forrest, a lead suspect in the ‘Princes in the Tower’ murders (obviously before our time period).
  - ii) Prisoners en-route to Newgate to be hanged would also try and escape to here knowing if they did so they might escape execution. ! Liberties were eventually scrapped in the late 1600s.

## Notes:

- . i) There were no actual theatres in 1545 and performances were banned within the walls of London, so this has to be the most fanciful of the seven scenarios. That said, to most minds it is a quintessentially Tudor thing so trumps the alternative abattoir scenario.
- . ii) At this time plays were performed in the courtyards of inns or on wagons in the street, which might provide an alternative for the game to take place in front of the gateway.  
masks, which were very popular in Henry VIII’s time.

# CRIPPLEGATE HOSPITAL

## Background:

- Barts is the model. Founded 400 years earlier it is Europe's oldest hospital.
- Such places were originally religious charities, attached to monasteries and priories.
- Sisters are therefore nuns not nurses.
- Male and female wards.
- More of a hospice as most are here to die not to be cured.
- Poor and orphans accommodated. Also travellers arriving in the capital.
- However the dissolution of monasteries has closed most hospitals in London and left ours poor, struggling, broken down.
- Charitable support from rich London merchants has become fundamental to its survival.

## Diseases

- Flu is a killer, also consumption (TB), typhus, cholera and dysentery. Plague: regular outbreaks kill approx. 15% of Londoners.
- Smallpox leaves people scarred and/or blind.
- Children especially vulnerable. ! A third die before 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. ! The King's first wife loses five of her six children in infancy.
- Ugly skin diseases, open sores and scrofula (see below).
- Rotting teeth endemic among rich and poor.
- Many patients are crippled or blind.
- Lepers are in separate hospitals.
- Tudor Londoners do try to keep clean but fleas and vermin always a problem.
- Diet for poor better balanced than that for rich, but there was never enough of it: an estimated 50% lived at or below subsistence level so malnutrition was common.
- Worst diet is sailors' (arriving via the Thames with scurvy so no teeth).
- Average age expectancy in London: 35-38. Only 10% live past 40.



# CRIPPLEGATE HOSPITAL contd.

## Treatment. (Very limited)

- Medical care expensive so for ordinary people the few surviving hospitals are their only hope. (It's a slim hope.)
- Leeches and bloodletting still practised.
- Barber-surgeons learn on the job, and offer nothing to relieve pain.
- They cut for stones, set bones, pull teeth
- No doctors or physicians (until 1560s) and no training.
- Apothecaries mix remedies for sale. Magical element: a mysterious dark art not understood by superstitious layfolk. • Herb usage explain names, eg lungwort for lung problems.
- Some herbs poisonous - [element of jeopardy if wrong one selected]
- Scrofula (see above) cured by the King's Touch. People believe this and some monarchs indulge them by touching their faces and presenting special gold coins.
- Smells are associated with infection so rich carry strong-smelling posies of, say, ginger and chervil, to ward off illness. Sprinkles of vinegar for same reason. (Judges still do this at the Old Bailey.)

## Specific Cures:

- Smallpox: hang red curtains around the bed or wrap patient in red blanket.
- Cancer: smoke a claypipe of tobacco. (Tobacco actually arrives in 1550s and is also thought to conquer toothache.)
- Gout: apply mix of worms, pig marrow and dog hair to foot (or goats grease and saffron if rich).
- Lice: pour tobacco juice onto the scalp.
- Jaundice: eat the lice washed down with ale for seven days straight. • Baldness: shave the head and rub with garlic • Plague: burn leather to produce smoke in the victim's room
- Migraine: touch a hangman's rope to the head.

## Surrounding Area:

Hospital has own herb garden tended by an apothecary. • The name Cripplegate may derive from the number of cripples begging in the area. • There are several thousand of these, a growing problem since the Dissolution. • Area otherwise filthy, smelly and dangerously unsanitary. • Open sewers or no sewers. The health risk is understood but nothing is being done about it. • The lowest class of barber-surgeons extract teeth in the street outside. Watching their victims squirm is a popular entertainment.



# MOORGATE INN

## Inns and Taverns:

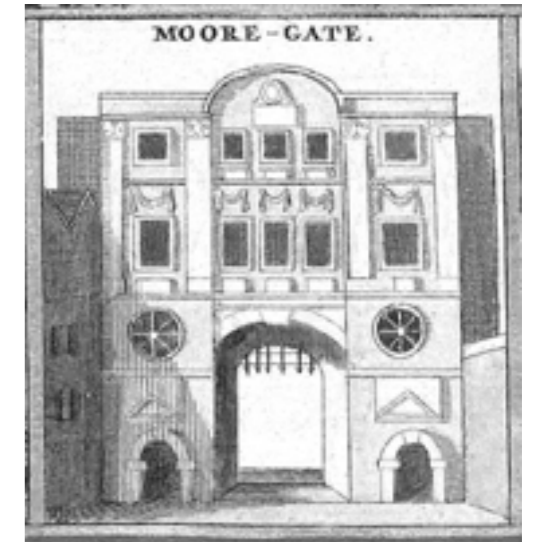
- Almost a thousand of them at this time – in a single square mile. • Inns (unlike taverns) provide bed as well as board.
- Some are quite large, with galleries, cobbled yards for horses/wagons - but never grand or luxurious.
- Timbered black and white the obvious style.
- No interior decoration: much too costly. Straw on floor. Light from fires and smoking tallow candles/rushes - not expensive beeswax.
- No chairs. Settles, benches, stools.
- At night people literally 'hit the hay'. Straw pallets not beds. No pillows or bedclothes and absolutely no four posters.
- Strolling players, minstrels, troubadours and musicians entertain – but mostly informally, like buskers.
- Cockfighting, bull and bear-baiting also popular but take place outside city walls.

## Patrons:

- No such thing as an hotel yet, and Dissolution means even high status travellers can no longer stay at monasteries.
- Most arrive on foot, however, not on horseback or by coach. Travelling this way is dangerous – high risk of robbery – so many travel in groups (like Chaucer's pilgrims).
- After dark 'link boys' carrying flaming torches accompany pedestrians around streets for a small fee.
- Customers also robbed by inn servants who rifle through their luggage.
- Served ale, cider, perry. Wine only for rich. No-one drinks water. Stoneware mugs not glasses.
- Positively no great Falstaffian joints of meat either. Bill of fare is uniformly poor quality: onions, rough bread, cheese, porridge, maybe a few small strips of meat.
- Even working classes gamble in these places (using dice not cards).

## Surrounding Area:

- Many soldiers. Open land behind gateway is used by the Guild of Artillery of Longbows, Crossbows and Handgonnes - today's Honorable Artillery Company, the army's oldest regiment. • Moor Fields one of the last remaining open spaces in the city, used as an informal rubbish dump – scavengers active – hence the name Moorgate for this small and relatively unimportant gateway into the capital. • It is mostly still a flood plain - marshland, spooky and misty. Crossed by ditches and the haunt of muggers and footpads. • Londoners skate on the ice in winter using blades of bone. • Others make sledges from lumps of ice and are pulled along. • Large moated manor house (Finsbury Court) a few hundred yards beyond the gate. • Clay quarried and used for pottery manufacture.



# BISHOPSGATE BEDLAM

## Background:

- Bethlehem Royal Hospital aka Bethlem = Bedlam.
- Housing the insane or 'distracted' since at least 1403.
- The only lunatic asylum in England. The oldest in Europe.
- Royal status but nevertheless as much prison as hospital.  
Patients:
- Despite reputation it is small at this time: 20-30 patients only.
- No more than a dozen cells.
- A few patients are chained to wall by leg or ankle. Most free to wader around.
- Whipped or ducked in water barrel if they misbehave.
- Solitary confinement for rare violent ones.
- Something of a freak show as the public can pay to see them.
- Also some are hired out as entertainment for weddings and banquets.
- Trusted inmates, called Abraham-men, are allowed out to beg. Decorated 'with party- coloured ribbons, tape in their hats, a fox-tail hanging down, a long stick with streamers...for all their seeming madness, they had wit enough to steal as they went along.'
- Under cover of this other beggars, such as Tom O'Bedlam, pretended to be mad to avoid falling foul of punitive vagrancy laws\*, using the cover to steal from market stalls etc

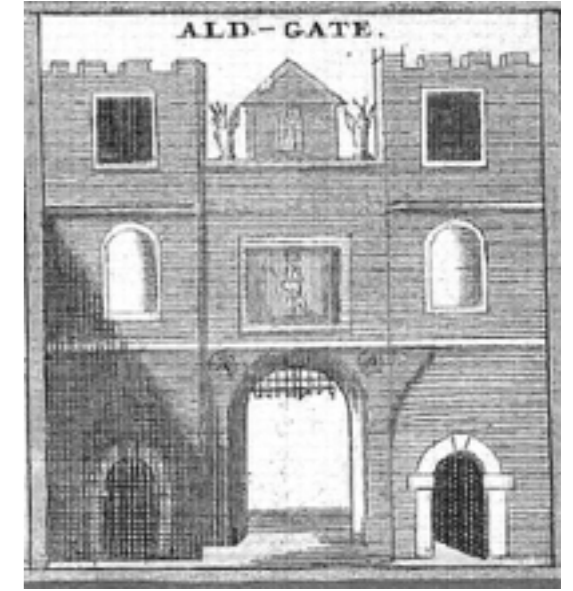
(\*In the 1530s vagabonds are tied to carts, whipped 'til bloody, and then sent back to their home parishes.)

## Surrounding Area:

- Adjacent is the hospital's vegetable garden. • The gateway itself was built at end of 15<sup>th</sup> century by resident Hanseatic merchants (Germans, essentially) to butter up city authorities and grease the wheels of commerce. • Heads on spikes occasionally displayed here and traitors' limbs. • Many coaching inns (this is the start of main road north) so many travellers from out of London. • Crosby Hall is nearby: important mansion belonging to Sir Thomas More. Also others belonging to merchants grown very, very rich from booming European trade. • School for 'Bluecoat' boys and girls (wearing distinctive blue frock coat and yellow stockings – see modern Christ's Hospital uniform for reference). • Notable local priest, the Blessed John Larke of St Ethelburga's church, upsets Henry VIII and is soon executed. Lots of nuns in the area, from St Helen's Nunnery.



# ALDGATE BREWERY



‘What two ideas are more inseparable than Beer and Britannia?’

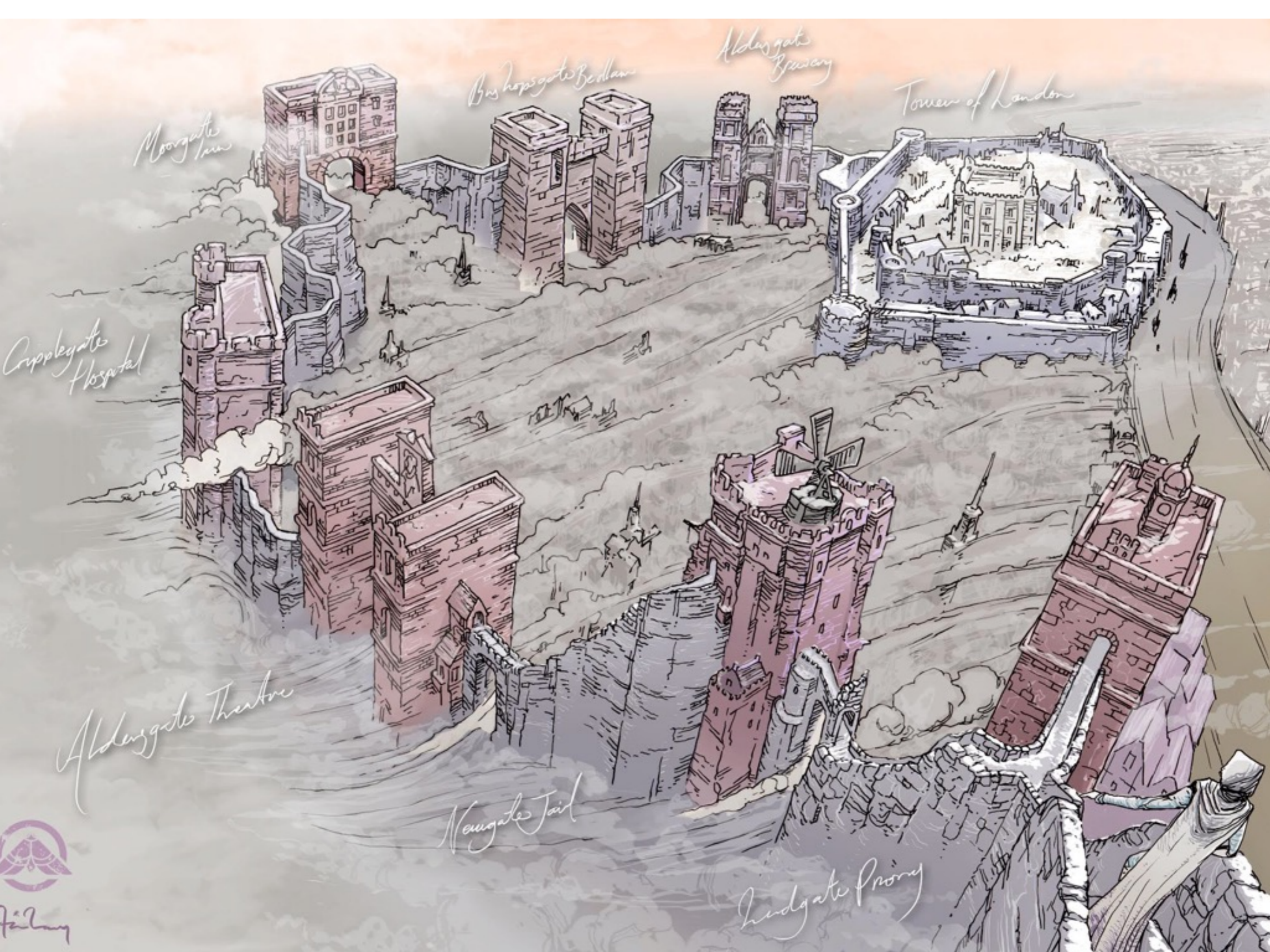
## Background:

- Tudor London is renowned for its brewing and has been since Chaucer’s day. St Thomas a Becket is the brewers’ patron saint.
- Water pollution means Londoners all drink ale or beer, except the very rich (imported wine) and very young (milk).
- A gallon per head per day is normal but it’s weaker than today so everyone is not wandering around permanently drunk.
- Beer still regarded with some suspicion by Londoners – it first arrived from Low Countries then Germany - so sells half as much as ale.
- Being drunk in public becomes an offence in the 1550s, with repeat offenders paraded through the streets wearing ‘the cloak’ – a barrel with holes for legs, arms and head.

## The Brewer:

- Beer mostly brewed by immigrants and ale by Englishmen. Until 1550 immigrants often settle across the river in Southwark to avoid city jurisdiction.
- Famous London brewers from our period: Mr Pott, Mr Campion, a whole dynasty of Greenes.
- Importance of ale and beer means the brewer is a significant figure.
- Traditionally brewing was by monks (more than half a million pints a year from St Paul’s Cathedral) but with monasteries disappearing commercial breweries are booming.
- However many innkeepers along with women known as ale-wives still brew their own so our brewer faces a lot of competition. His is not an easy life.
- He has to deal with regulation: e.g. beer and ale cannot legally be brewed in the same place. The Worshipful Company of Brewers, one of the City’s powerful Livery companies, controls price and quality together with inspectors (very unpopular) known as ale-connors.
- Brewers are also forbidden to make their own casks in case they cheat on the size.
- Brewers resent having to buy these from coopers who mark their casks with ‘St Anthony’s Cross’ to show they are legitimate.





Moorgate Lane

Bishopsgate Bedlam

Aldersgate Buryary

Tower of London

Cripplegate Hospital

Aldersgate Theatre

Newgate Jail

Rudgate Priory





# ALDGATE BREWERY contd.

## The Brewing Process:

- Costs as little as 2d a gallon to make – 1p – but finished product sells for at least 2/-.
- Made locally and sold locally. Liquids expensive to move, and don't keep well.
- Ale = malted barley + yeast + liquor (ie water, from brewer's own well)
- Beer = malted barley + yeast+ liquor + hops for flavouring.
- Malting: barley is soaked to germinate it then dried in kilns over smokey fires of the poorest quality seacoal or wood. Endless complaints about the smell and smoke - by Tudor standards city breweries are heavy not cottage industries.
- Customers similarly complain about headaches from brews 'stenched with the smoak of the wood' so brewers work hard to improve their craft. There is no science to this, just experience and intuition.
- Brewing requires large copper vats and lead troughs. Storage is in wooden casks.
- Cask sizes, smallest first: gallon, pin, firkin, kilderkin, barrel, hogshead, butt, tun.
- Beer varieties, weakest first: small beer, double beer, double-double beer, dagger ale, bracket, mad-dog.
- Tools of the trade include scavel (spade) jet (ladle) stuke (handle) skep (basket) and cowl (bucket).

## Surrounding area:

Aldgate probably derived from Saxon – ealdgate meaning old – but could be ale, or east as it's the road out to Colchester and East Anglia. • CHAUCER lived above the gateway (1374-86). Peasants' Revolt forced the entry into London here (1381). Bloody Mary made her entrance to London through here as queen (1553). • The Alegate Well is the scene of occasional gibbetings. • Very famous bell foundry. Already 100+ years old and still exists now (at Whitechapel). • Holy Trinity, an exceptionally rich priory founded by Matilda, wife of Henry I. The first religious house to be established inside the city walls. Owns most of the land around the gate. Its prior is an unpopular figure and when Henry VIII confiscates the priory in 1532 – the start of the Dissolution - most Londoners are pleased to hear it. • Also St Botolph's church, the travellers' patron saint. [There is another St Botolph's outside Bishopsgate.]

# TOWER OF LONDON

## + TRAITOR'S GATE



### The Tower:

- Effectively a small town, it is a self-governing Royal Palace not simply a fortress or prison.
- Not quite the bloodthirsty place we imagine: Torture was also rare
- Only 7 beheadings in Tudor period they took place on Tower Green,
- The Tudors rarely use it as a royal palace. For them it is mostly a mint, armoury, storehouse and a prison for VIPs
- GHOSTS –Henry VI (49, pious); Lady Jane Grey (17, young, terrified); Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury (67, pious); the young Princes in the Tower (10 and 13); and Anne Boleyn (early-30s, carrying her head, still glamorous).
- Structurally it comprises 22 separate towers:

Beauchamp Tower: named after a 14<sup>th</sup> century prisoner, Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. Housed England's tragic nine-day-queen Lady Jane Grey whose husband carved the word 'Jane' into the wall before both were beheaded in 1554.

Bell Tower: dating back to the 1190s so one of the oldest. The name refers to a curfew bell rung here nightly. Queen Elizabeth and Sir Thomas More both spent time locked up in it.

Bloody Tower: the Garden Tower was renamed after the legend of the 'Princes in the Tower' suggested they were murdered here.

Bowyer Tower: Where according to tradition Richard III's brother, the Duke of Clarence, was drowned in a butt of malmsey wine.

Brick Tower: Sir Walter Raleigh impregnated and married Elizabeth's maids of honour without permission. Disgraced in 1592 he spent some time locked up here.

Broad Arrow Tower: a 13<sup>th</sup> century addition. The name refers to a carved motif indicating who owns the contents – the sovereign - so a warning not to steal from here.

Byward Tower: literally by-warden, referring to its proximity to the Warder's Hall. The tower from which the senior warden emerges to secure the premises following the celebrated Ceremony of the Keys each evening



# TOWER OF LONDON contd 2

Constable Tower: home of the Constable of the Tower

Cradle Tower: a reference to a hoist or crane used to raise up boats from the river.

Develin Tower: a postern (small back) gate, and the most easterly tower. Built by Edward I leading onto a causeway across the moat.

Devereux Tower: named for Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, a favourite of Elizabeth's. Mounted a coup in 1601 and locked up here before his execution.

Flint Tower: built of flint by Henry III.

Lanthorn Tower: the name refers to a lantern lit at the top to guide shipping on the Thames.

Lion Tower: part of the Royal Menagerie (see below).

Martin Tower: aka the Jewel Tower as the Crown Jewels were kept here.

Middle Tower: midway between Lion and Byward towers.

St Thomas's Tower: royal accommodation.

Salt Tower: storage for SALT

Wakefield Tower: where Henry VI was murdered while praying.

Wardrobe Tower: used to store the king's clothing, armour and regalia

Well Tower: two deep well-shafts for vital fresh water (Thames polluted)

White Tower: The original and oldest. Contains a magnificent Norman royal chapel.

- church - St Peter ad Vincula (Peter-in-chains). The executed are buried here as well as castle residents
- MOAT would have been filled with filthy Thames water.
- 'Traitors' Gate' for visitors – not just traitors – arriving by boat.

# TOWER OF LONDON contd 3

## Personnel:

- Constable of the Tower of London is in overall charge. Perks of the job include the right to a barrel of rum from passing naval vessels, any livestock falling off London Bridge, a penny per leg of animals falling into the moat, and two pennies from pilgrims visiting the shrine of St James. Also a portion of any herring, oysters, mussels and wine being imported to London.
- Below him Lieutenant of the Tower, a senior military figure.
- Master of the Jewel Office
- Keeper of the King's Animals

ZOO: lions, leopards, polar bear which attached to a long chain regularly fishes the river for its meals.

- Yeoman Warders: bodyguards + guarding prisoners + Crown Jewels.
- Traditional blue/red 'undress' uniform is usual. The red/gold 'dress' is for state occasions only.
- no ravens in Tudor times.
- From the Tower it's always a 62-gun salute not a 21.
- Red roses are placed on Anne Boleyn's grave on her birthday each year – they still are, but no-one knows on whose orders this is done.
- Ceremony of the Keys: the nightly locking-up and changing-of-the-guard, a ritual unchanged in 700 years. A bugler then sounds the Last Post but probably in Tudor times a trumpet blast or drumroll would have sufficed.

## Surrounding Area

- East of the Tower mostly meadows, hunting grounds.
- Another huge plague pit nearby if we need hordes of dancing skeletons.
- No Tower
- No docks just quays.
- At night noise drifts across from Southwark, where Londoners go to misbehave: theatres, bear-baiting, cockfighting, and lots of prostitutes .



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1545

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