

## Architectural Creation of London Bridge

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### Editorial

London Bridge is a bridge over the River Thames. It is in central London, and connects the City of London with Southward. It is between Cannon Street Railway Bridge and Tower Bridge. On the south side of the bridge are Southward Cathedral and London Bridge station. On the north side are the Monument to the Great Fire of London and Monument tube station. It was previously the only bridge over the Thames downstream from Kingston until Putney Bridge opened in 1729. The current bridge opened on 17th March 1973 and is the latest in a succession of bridges to occupy the spot and claim the name.

The bridge carries part of the A3 road, which is maintained by the Greater London Authority, the bridge itself is owned and maintained by a charity overseen by the City of London Corporation

The current bridge stands at the western end of the Pool of London and is positioned 30 meters upstream from previous alignments. The approaches to the medieval bridge were marked by the church of St Magnus-the-Martyr on the northern bank and by Southward Cathedral on the southern shore. Until Putney Bridge opened in 1729, London Bridge was the only road-crossing of the Thames downstream of Kingston upon Thames. London Bridge has been depicted in its several forms, in art, literature, and songs, including the nursery rhyme "London Bridge Is Falling Down", and the epic poem *The Waste Land* by T. S. Eliot.

The modern bridge is owned and maintained by Bridge House Estates, an independent charity of medieval origin overseen by the City of London Corporation. It carries the A3 road, which is maintained by the Greater London Authority. The crossing also delineates an area along the southern bank of the River Thames, between London Bridge and Tower Bridge, that has been designated as a business improvement district. The bridge area has twice been the target of terrorist attacks—once in 2017, and again in 2019. The abutments of modern London Bridge rest several meters above natural embankments of gravel, sand and clay. From the late Neolithic era the southern embankment formed a natural causeway above the surrounding swamp and marsh of the river's estuary; the northern ascended to higher ground at the present site of Cornhill.

There is archeologic proof for scattered Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement close, however till a bridge was engineered there, London didn't exist. Some miles upstream, on the far side the river's higher recurrent event reach, 2 ancient fords were in use. These were apparently aligned with the course of Watling Street, that crystal rectifier into the heartlands of the Catuvellauni, Britain's most powerful tribe at the time of Caesar's invasion of fifty four before Christ.

The current London Bridge is often shown in films, news and documentaries showing the throng of commuters journeying to work into the City from London Bridge Station (south to north).