

## **Beckford plaque text**

**William Beckford 1709 - 1770**

**John Francis Moore, Alderman William Beckford, 1772**

British politician and twice Lord Mayor of the City of London – Beckford derived his wealth from generations of enslavement on his plantations in Jamaica. On his death, he held 1,356 enslaved Africans who together with his plantations and estates in Jamaica accounted for the overwhelming majority of his fortune. His son and heir, at the time of abolition (1833-1834), received the equivalent of millions of pounds in compensation for loss of his ‘chattels’. The enslaved were not compensated.

Co-authored by Rachael Minott