St Paul’s Heights Study

Published by the City of London Corporation
Department of the Built Environment, April 2015

Part 5 of 7

The study is divided into 7 parts, all available to download from the City of London Tall buildings and St Paul’s Heights Study page:

Part 1: Policy context and history and form of St Paul’s Heights

Part 2: The History of the St Paul’s Heights Study, Infringing Buildings of the St Paul’s Heights policy and Existing Views - Introduction

Part 3: The Existing Views – analysis of the views (part 1)

Part 4: The Existing Views – analysis of the views (part 2)

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The Existing Views

South-East Sector

1. This view from Bankside, adjacent Red Lion Court, improves as you approach SE2 with more of the dome and peristyle becoming visible as well as the two towers. Since 1978, the removal of the Sudbury House infringement has opened up clear sky in the background of the dome and drum.

2. This view from the Anchor P.H. is a good view of the Cathedral. As well as the dome, drum and two towers, most of the balustrade and nave roof is visible as well as the pediment of the south transept to cornice level. Since 1978, the removal of the Sudbury House infringement has opened up clear sky in the background of the dome and drum.

3. This point on Cannon Street Railway Bridge was used in the original Heights calculations. Since it is not commonly viewable, it is not considered in this Study.
4 In 2013 this view from the Bankside adjacent Old Thameside Inn shows how plant on Cannon Street Railway Bridge obscures much of the peristyle and towers. The listed Thames House also obscures most of the eastern end of the Cathedral.

5 In 1978, this view from Bankside (Montague Close) was obstructed by Vintry House and Five Kings House / Thames House which obstructed the dome up to the middle of the peristyle and the two towers. The redevelopment of Vintry House to a lower design has opened up views of the two towers.
This view from the southern end of London Bridge allows the entire dome to be seen as well as the peristyles of the towers. Since 1978, the redevelopment of Vintry House has allowed more of the southern tower base to become visible. The listed Thames House obstructs the balustrade but does not obstruct the peristyle and drum. The removal of Sudbury House has opened up clear sky in the right background of the dome and drum.

This view from the centre of London Bridge was partially obscured by Mondial House in 1978. The redevelopment of this site has created more clear sky around the dome and the drum although the glimpse of the peristyle is no longer visible.
This view from the northern part of London Bridge is not controlled directly by the heights. The 1978 view shows the dome was almost obscured by Mondial House. The redevelopment of this site has improved views of the dome and drum from a longer stretch of London Bridge beyond SE7.

Protected Views from the top of the Monument to the Great Fire of London are implemented through policy CS13 of the City of London Local Plan 2015. View 5 is the north-west view towards St Paul’s Cathedral.

In 2013, this view provides a clear outline of the dome and drum and parts of the towers above the rooftops of foreground buildings. None of the balustrade of the Cathedral is visible from the Monument. The buildings at New Street Square in the background of the Cathedral interrupt the profile of the drum on the west side against the sky.
The foreground of the view was improved significantly recently by the replacement of a 1960s tower at 78 Cannon St with a lower building over the railway station.

The protected Monument view to the base of the Cathedral’s lower drum is consistent with the geometric protection of the strategic view from Greenwich Park required by the London View Management Framework.

Note: Further details of the Monument Views Policy and its context within Protected Views policy can be found in the Protected Views Supplementary Planning Document.