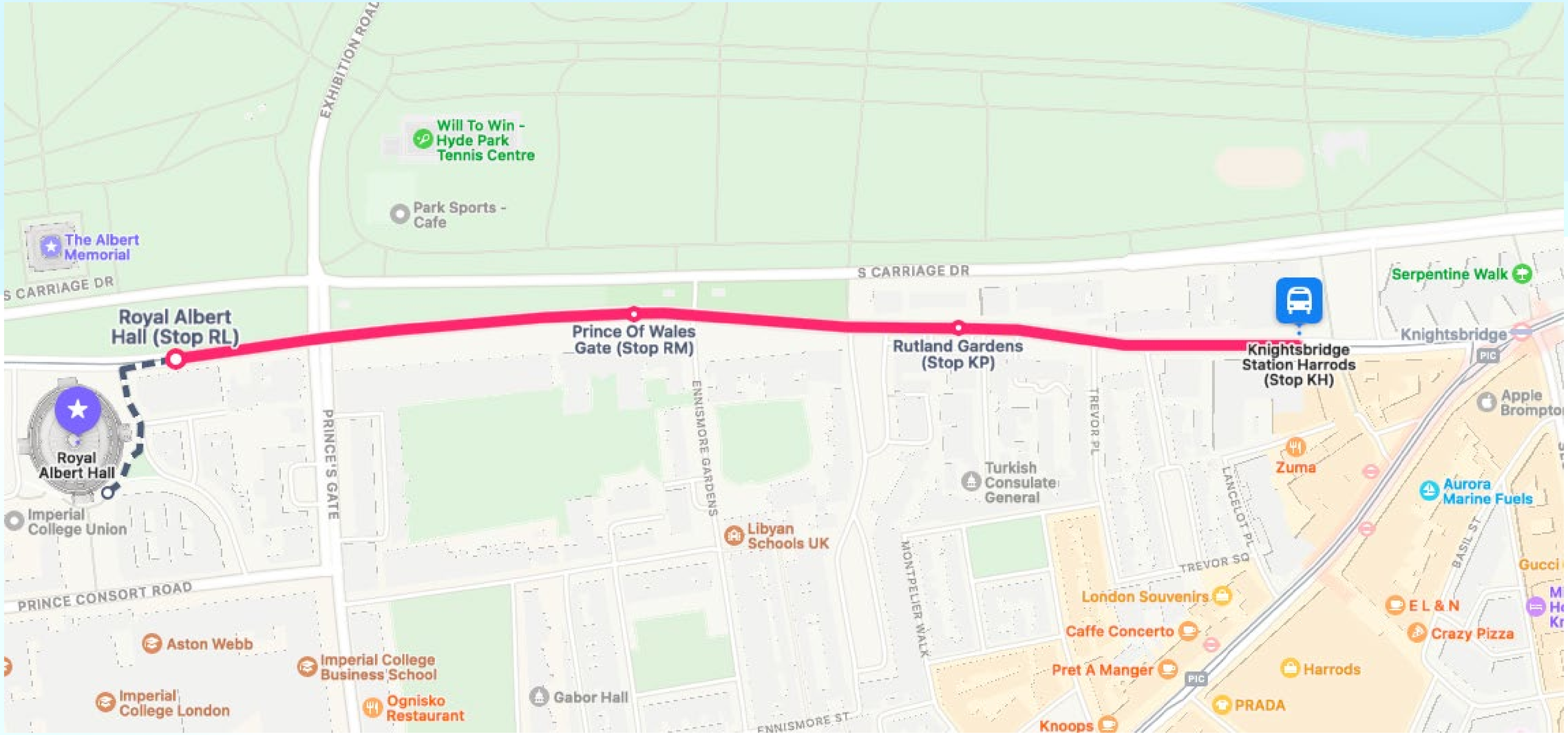
London History

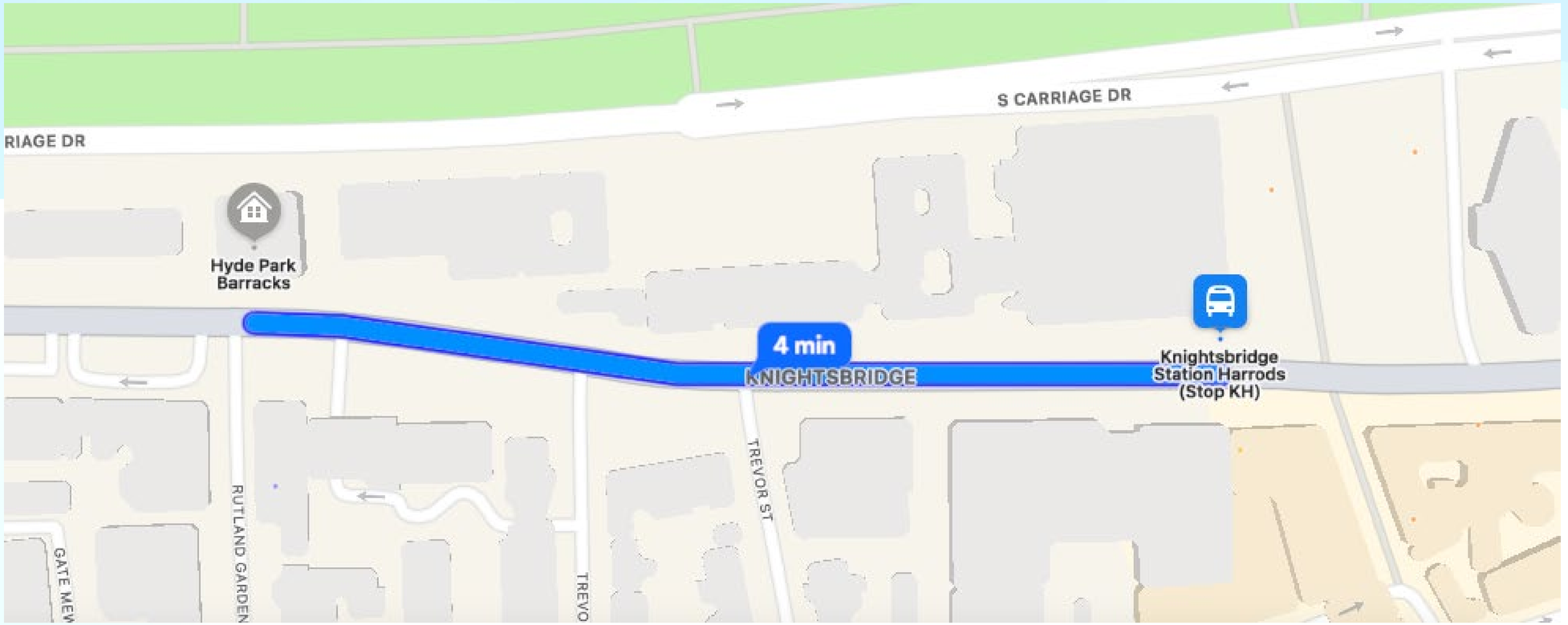
From the 9 Bus - Part 2

Kelly Shaw, 4/2024

Knightsbridge Station



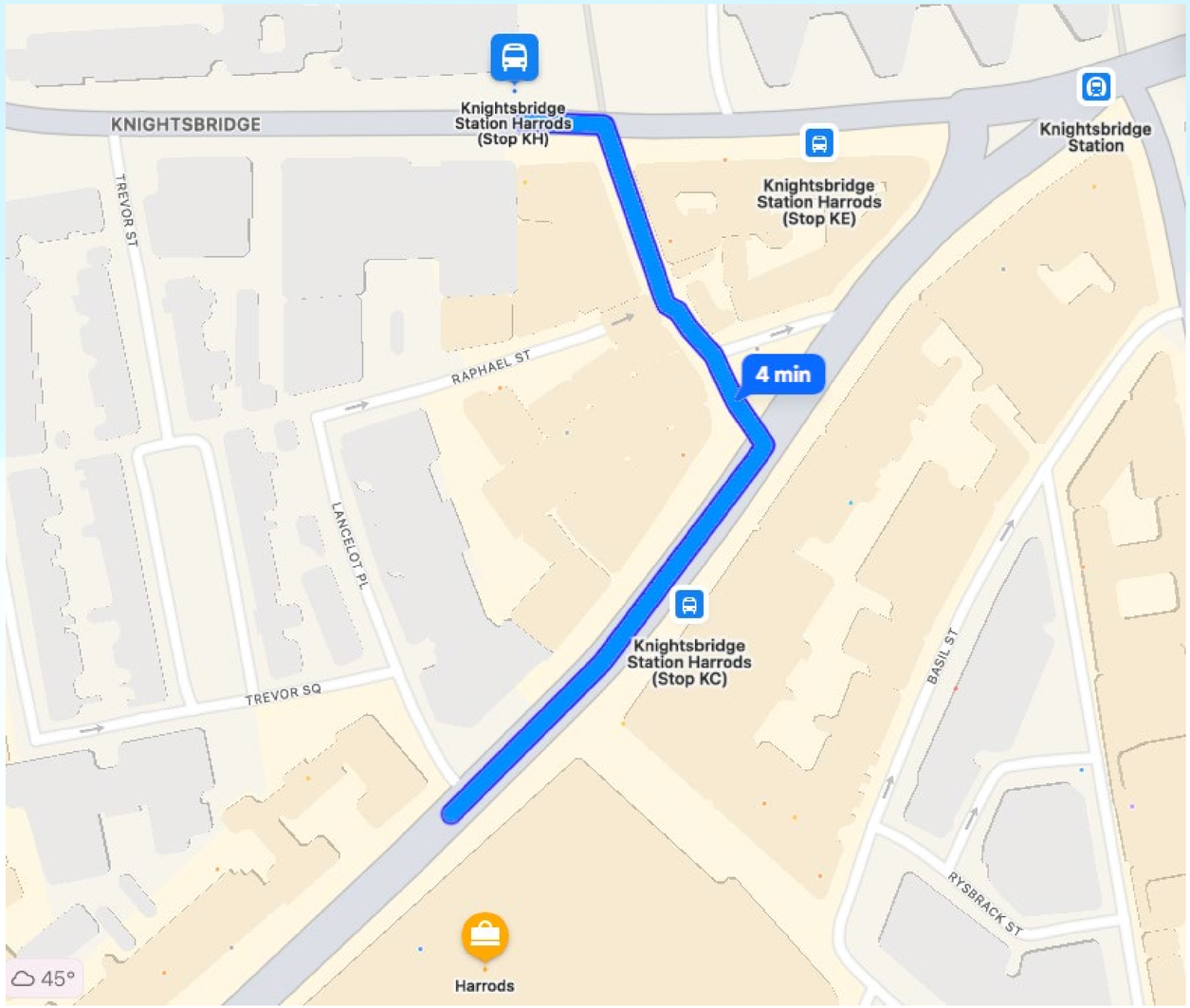
Hyde Park Barracks



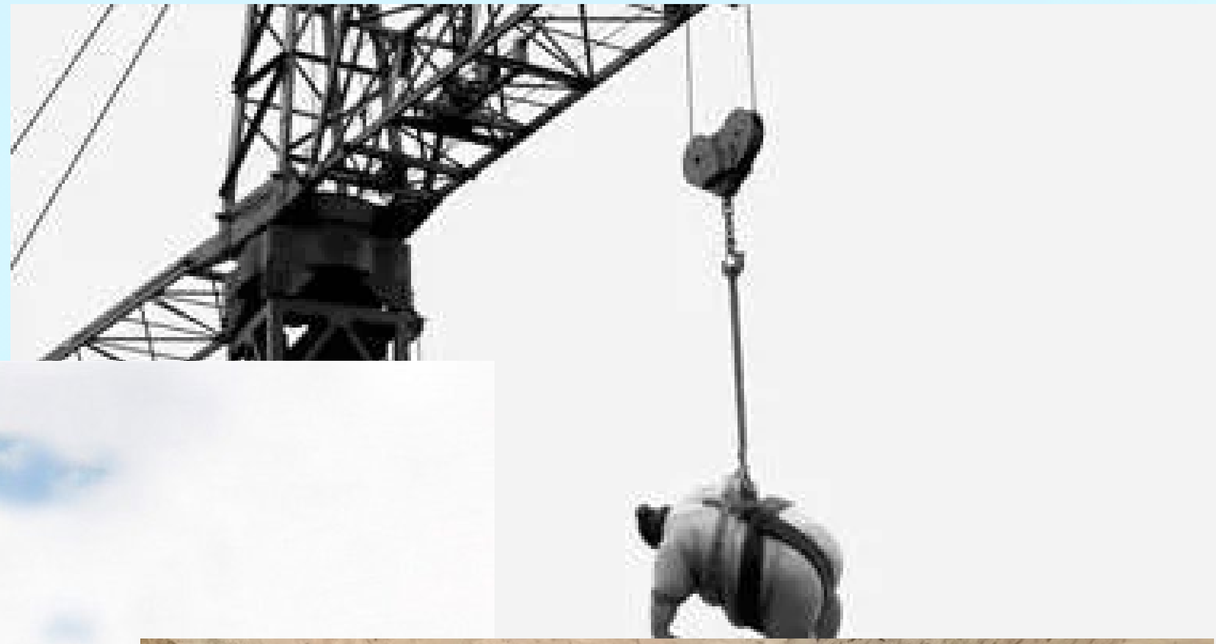
Hyde Park Barracks

- Life Guards Formed by order of Charles II when he returned from exile in 1660 [3]
- Originally a military bodyguard
- Part of the Household Cavalry
- Mostly ceremonial duties

Walking to Harrods



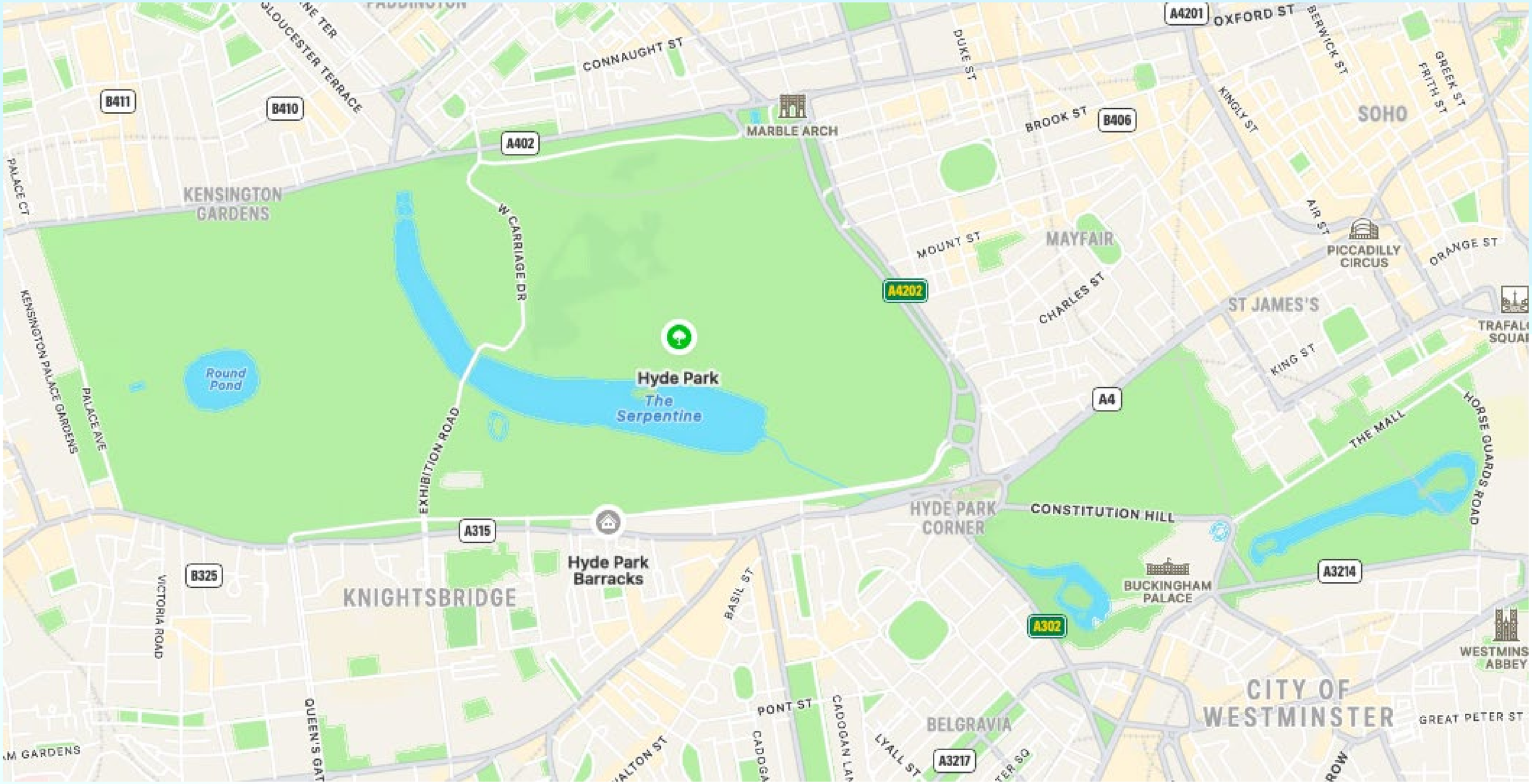
A Rhino?



Pub Names as History

- Tattersalls establish 1766 [34]
- Moved near here in 1865
- Relocated to Newmarket in 1886

Hyde Park Corner


B411
B410
A402
A4201
OXFORD ST
CONNAUGHT ST
MARBLE ARCH
DUKE ST
BROOK ST
B406
KINGLY ST
BERWICK ST
GREEK ST
FRITH ST
SOHO
KENSINGTON GARDENS
PALACE CT
W CARRIAGE DR
MOUNT ST
MAYFAIR
AIR ST
PICCADILLY CIRCUS
ORANGE ST
A4202
CHARLES ST
ST JAMES'S
KING ST
Round Pond
Hyde Park
The Serpentine
KENSINGTON PALACE GARDENS
PALACE AVE
EXHIBITION ROAD
A4
THE MALL
HORSE GUARDS ROAD
HYDE PARK CORNER
CONSTITUTION HILL
A315
Hyde Park Barracks
B325
VICTORIA ROAD
KNIGHTSBRIDGE
BASIL ST
BUCKINGHAM PALACE
A3214
A302
WESTMINSTER ABBEY
QUEEN'S GAT
PONT ST
CADOGAN LA
LYALL ST
BELGRAVIA
A3217
CITY OF WESTMINSTER
GREAT PETER ST

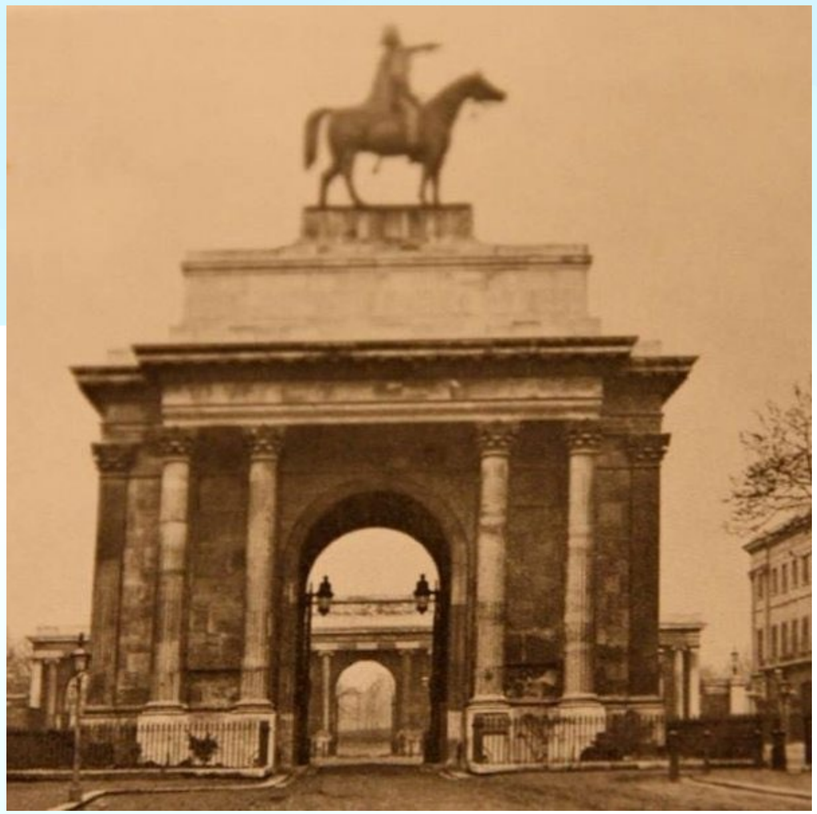
Hyde Park Corner

War Memorials [37]

Wellington

- Completed in 1884, after the Duke’s death in 1852 [37]
- A modest and tasteful monument to the General who defeated Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815

Wellington’s Arch

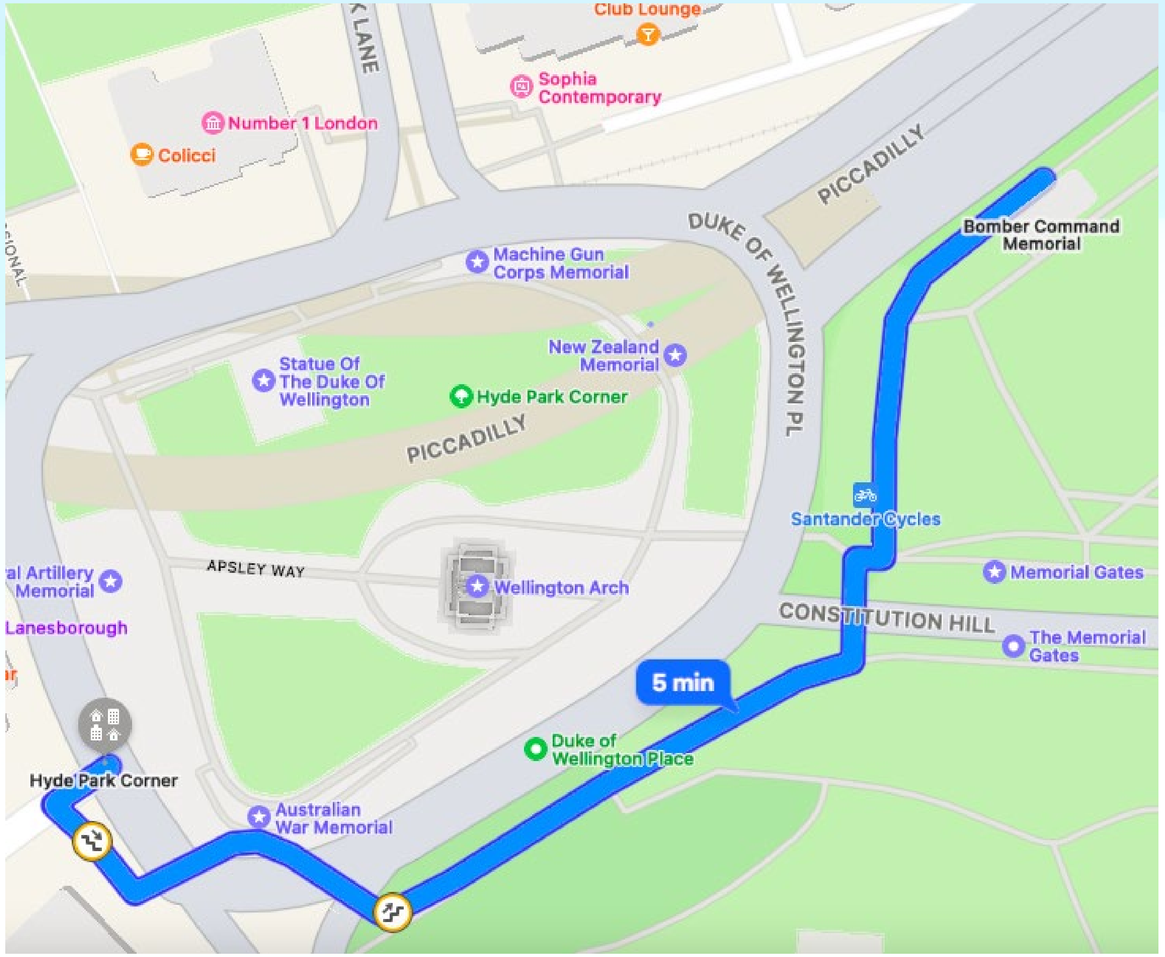


- Originally meant to be an entrance to Buckingham Palace [39]
- Cost overruns forced work to stop before completion
- Giant statue of Wellington added in 1846
- “It was greeted with gales of derision as being both ugly and completely disproportionate to the arch.”
- Government wanted it removed but Wellington threatened to resign

- Statue removed to the Garrison Church at Aldershot in 1883
- Arch moved in 1885
- Quadriga added in 1912*

*A chariot drawn by four horses abreast

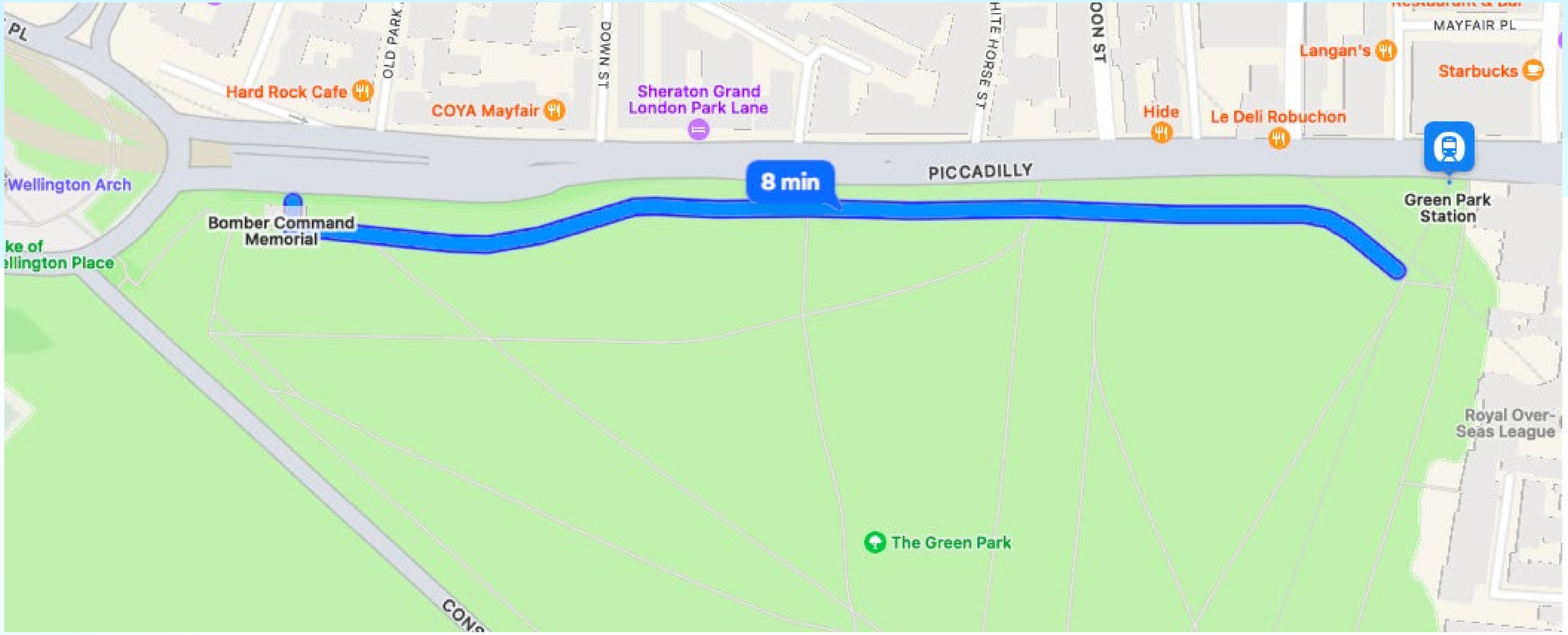
Bomber Command Memorial



Bomber Command Memorial

- Unveiled by QEII in 2012
- Honors 55,573 Bomber Command men who lost their lives in WW II
- Construction funded by subscription and government donation, but not maintenance.
- Les Munro, the last living “Dam Buster” planned to auction his decorations to pay for the maintenance.[41]

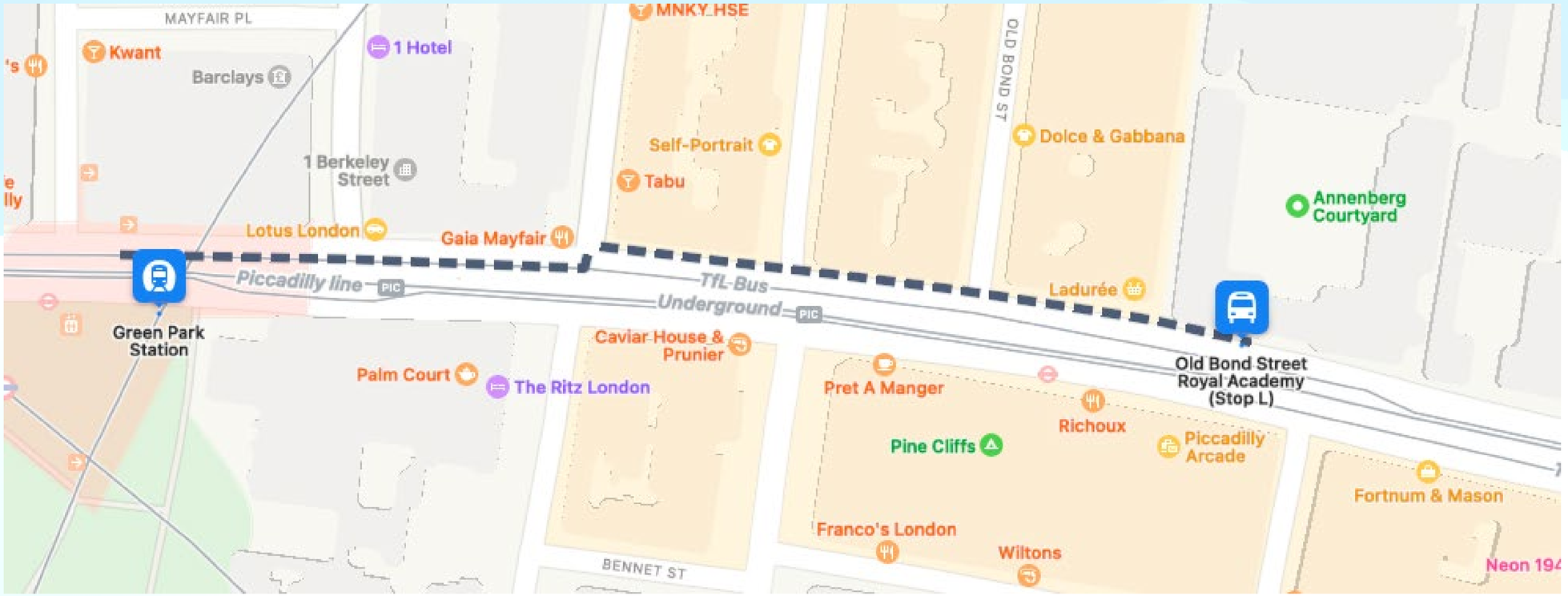
The Green Park



The Green Park

- In 1660 Charles II called it “Upper St. James’s Park” [42]
- No formal flower beds. Caroline, wife of Charles II, ordered them all removed
- Currently a test-bed for ‘natural’ urban parks, to include restoring the Tyburn

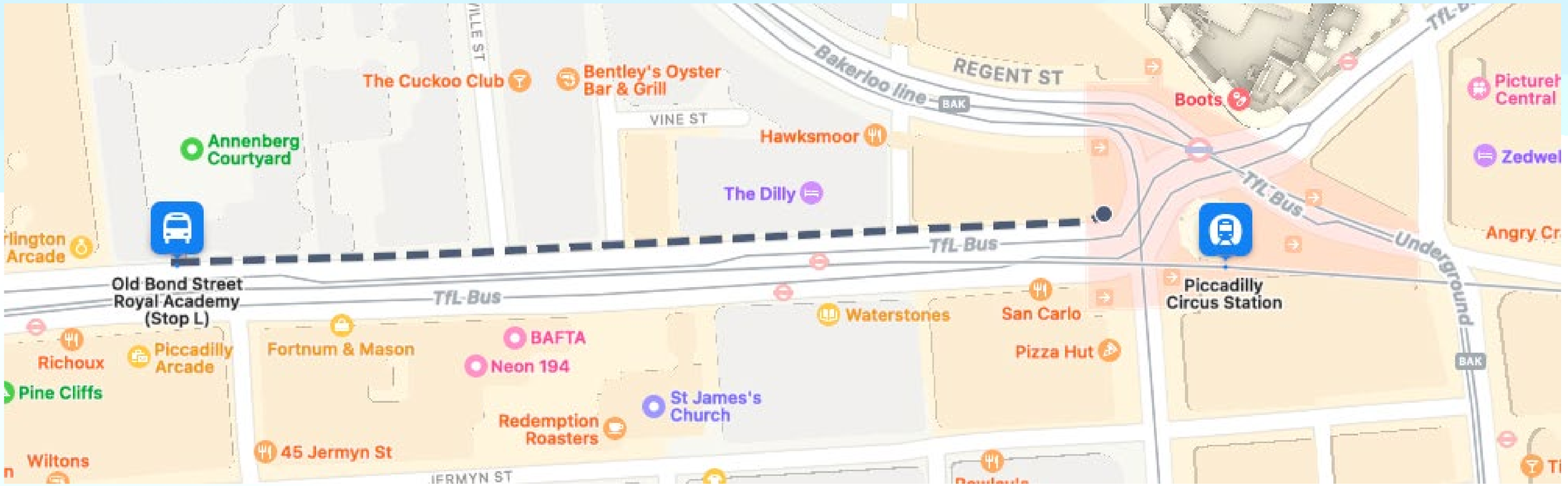
Burlington House



Burlington House

- Built as a private residence in 1664 [3]
- Third Earl of Burlington opened it as a meeting place for poets, artists, etc.
- Government purchased in 1884 to house Royal Academy of Arts
- Home to many ‘learned’ societies

Piccadilly Circus



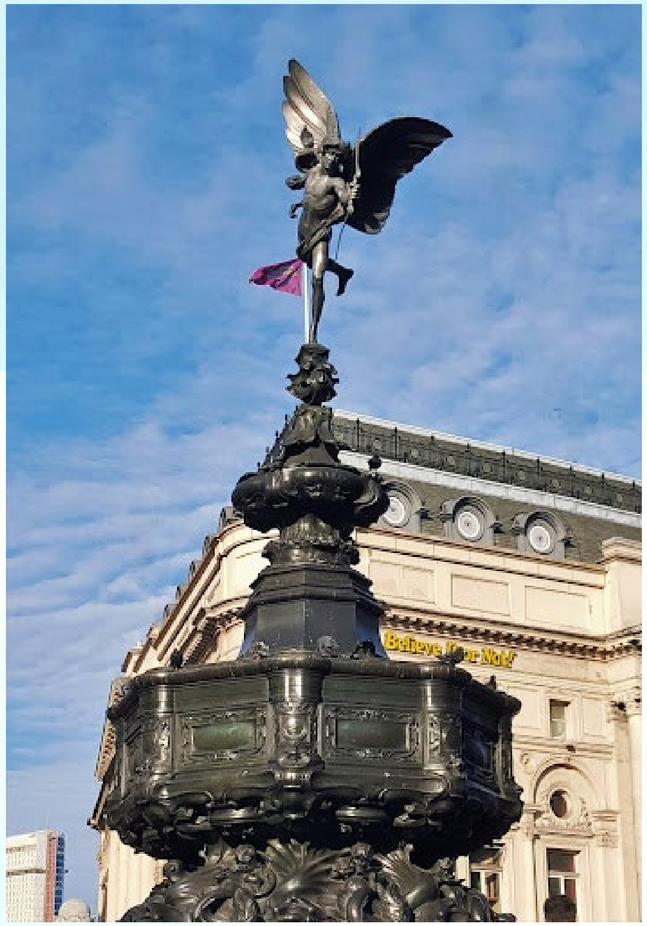
Piccadilly Circus

- In 1904 the first electric sign - Mellin's Food in 6' letters [45]
- 1908 Monico Tea Rooms followed suit
- 1960s it looks modern

Piccadilly Circus Today

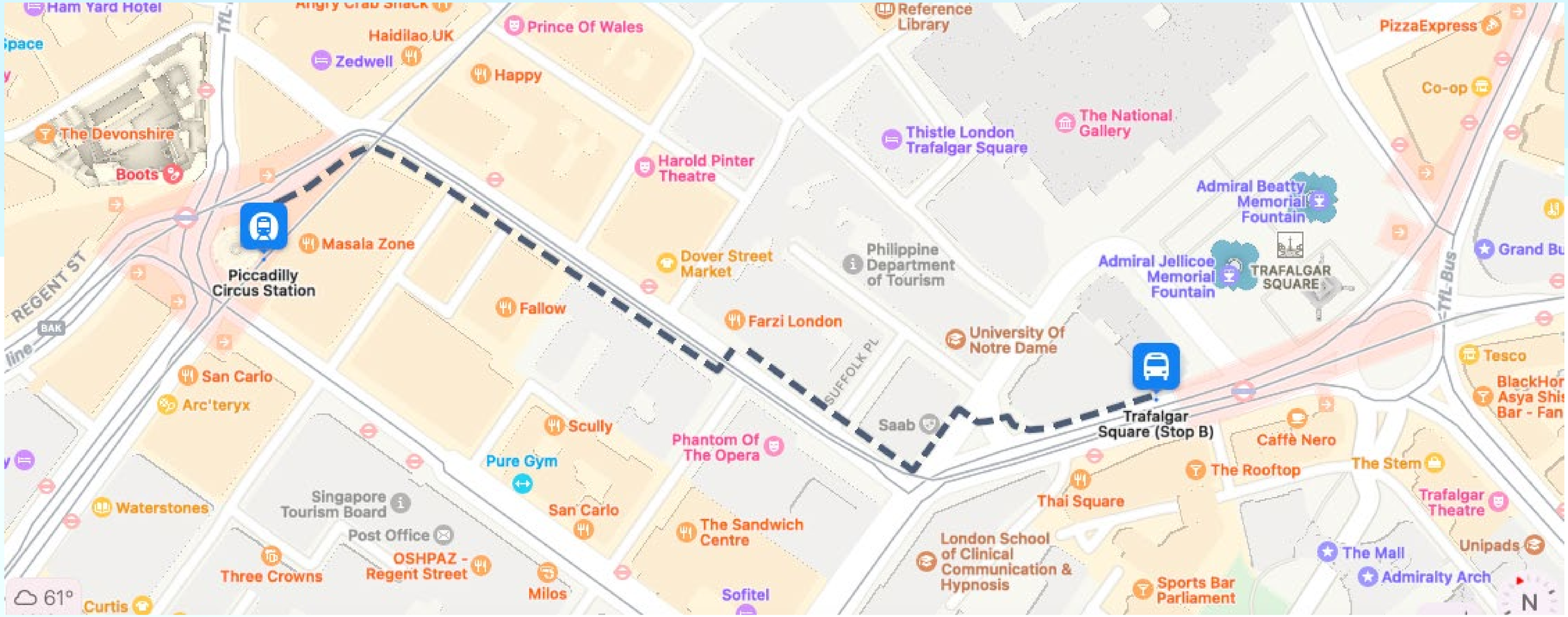
- Lights turned off in 2017 for upgrade [47]
- Single 783.5m**2 screen (2570.5 ft**2) [46]

Shaftesbury Memorial Fountain



- Memorial Foundation wanted a standard ‘coat and trouser’ statue, but the artist declined [48]
- NOT Eros, NOT Cupid - Antheros, brother of Eros, god of requited love

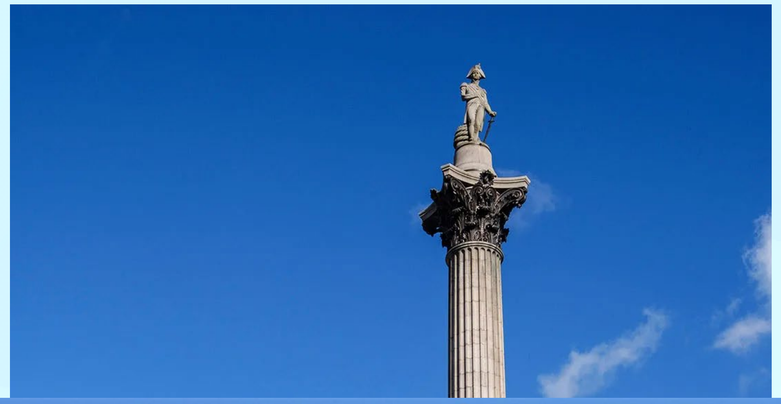
Trafalgar Square

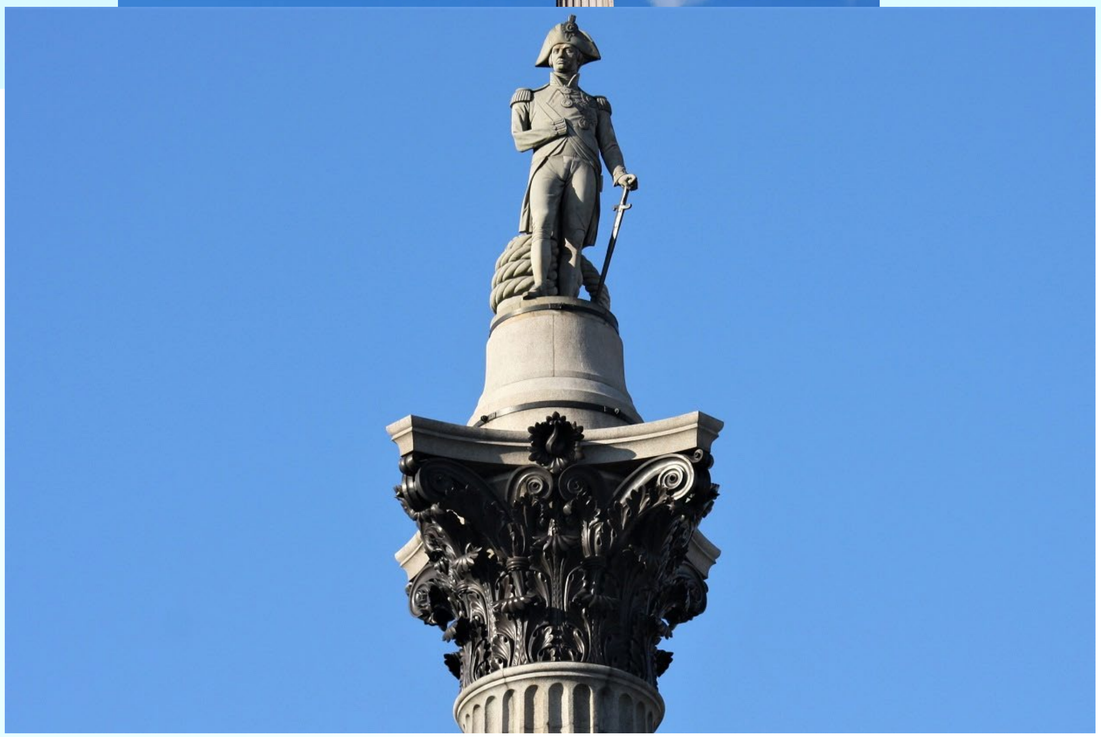


Trafalgar Square

- Started as stables for Whitehall Palace [52]
- Converted to public space and named “Trafalgar Square” after the battle of Trafalgar
- Continued to be developed as a public square
- Feeding pigeons made illegal in 2003

Nelson’s Column

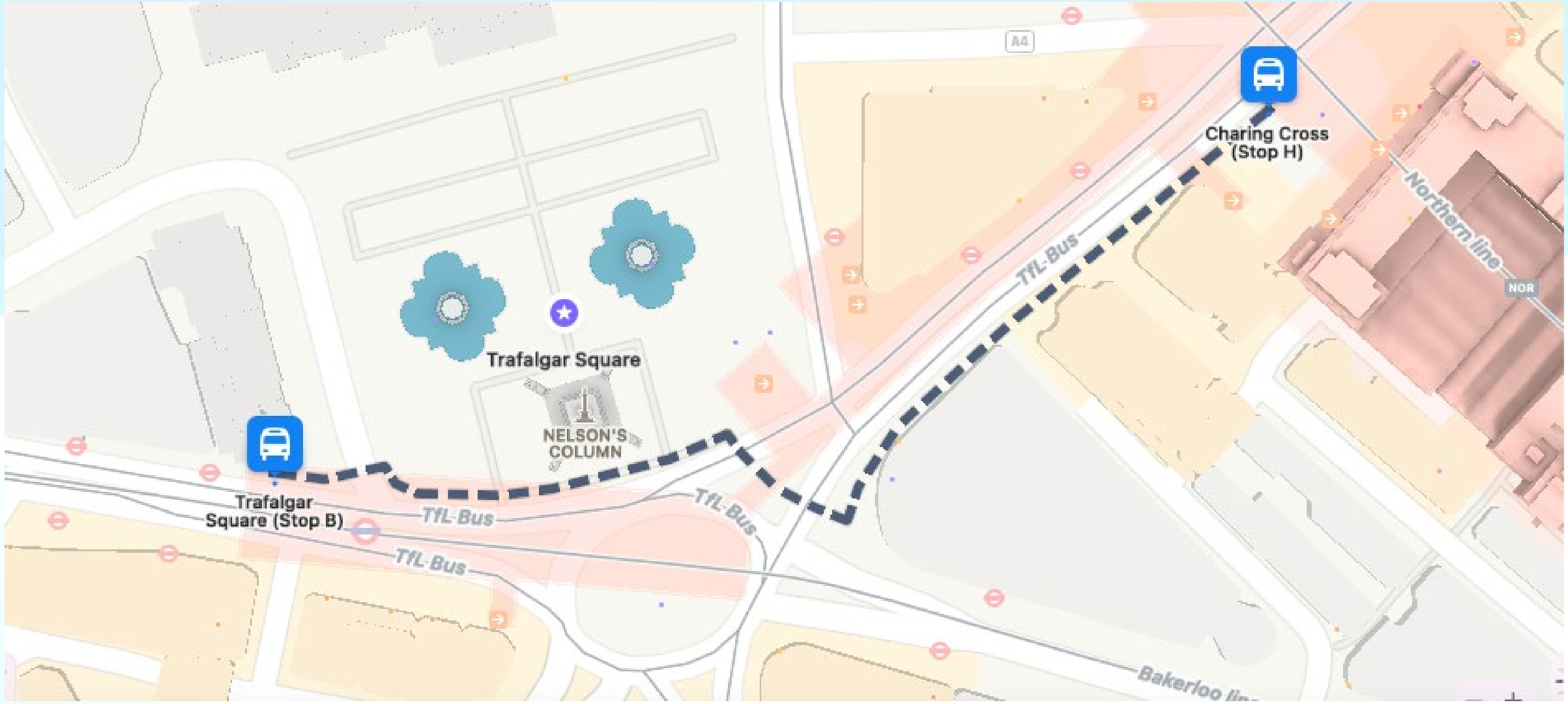




- Built in 1843 to commemorate Adm. Horatio Nelson’s death at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 [53]
- 5.5m statue
- 46m granite column
- Faces the Admiralty
- Funded in large part by the Tsar
- Lions added 25 years later

Official Center of London

Charing Cross



The Charing Cross

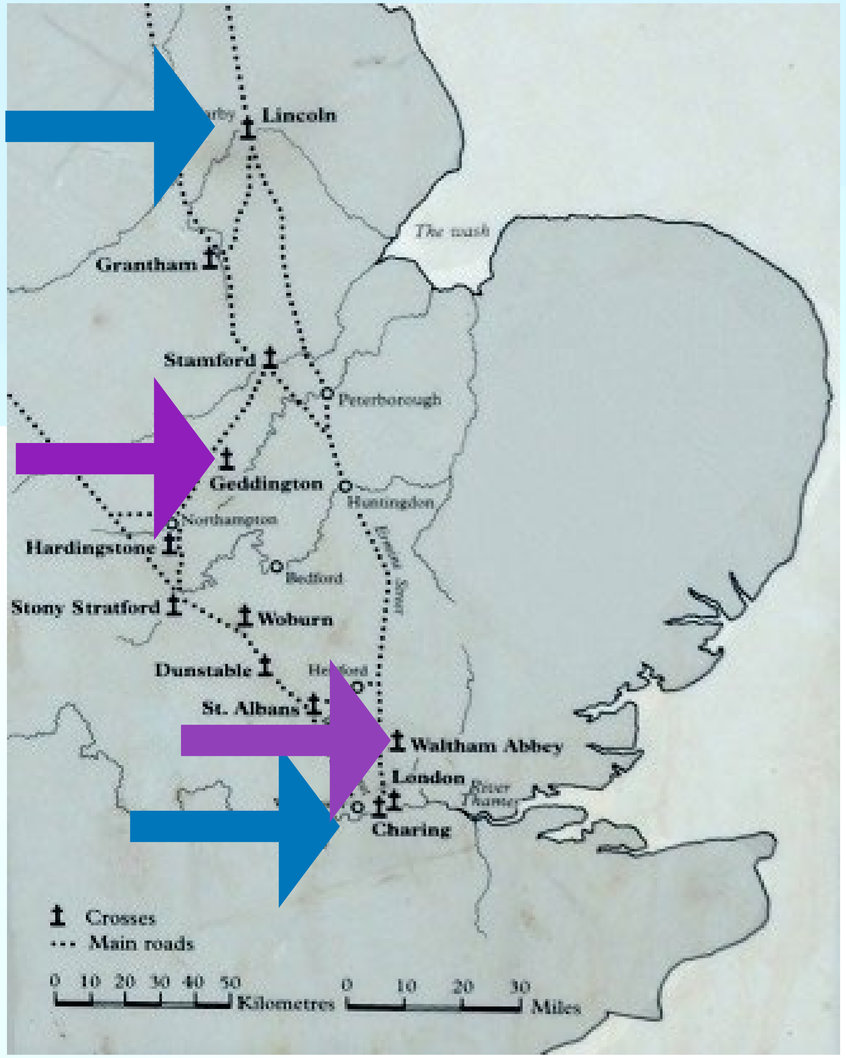
- Victorian replica of a 13th century cross [54]
- Original destroyed by Cromwellian Parliamentarians
- Commemorates funeral procession of Eleanor of Castile, wife of Edward I

Eleanor of Castile (1241 - 1290)

Beloved wife of Edward I (Longshanks)

- Political marriage to E I in 1254
- Had 16 (maybe 17) children between 1264 and 1284 [56]
- Often accompanied her husband on crusade, to wars, and on tour [55]
- Died while traveling to meet up with him in Scotland
- 12 crosses erected to mark locations where the funeral stopped between Harby, near Lincoln, to Westminster

The Funeral Procession

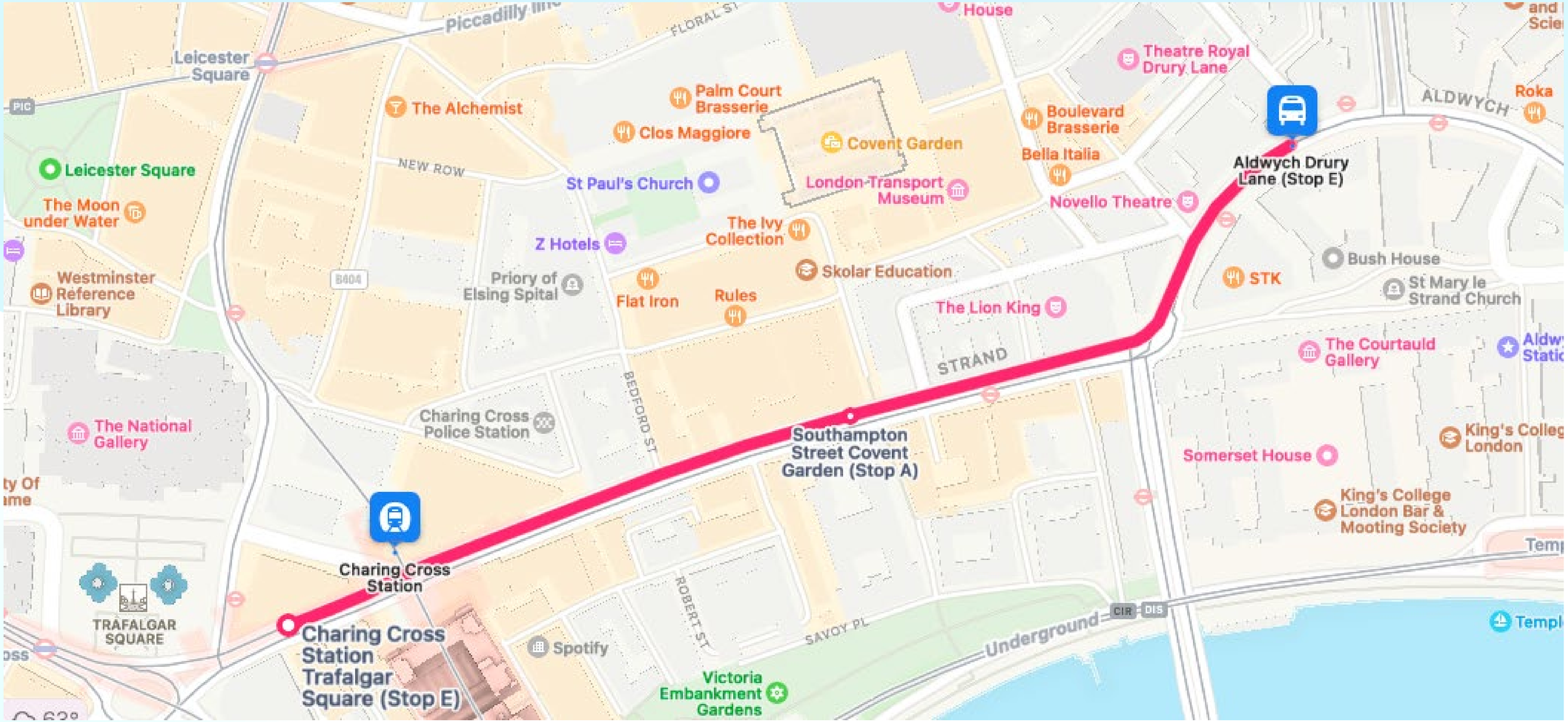


- Started near Lincoln
- Ended at Westminster
- Final Stop at Charing
- Two Originals Remain
  - Geddington
  - Waltham

Geddington, Northampton

Waltham Cross, Herfordshire

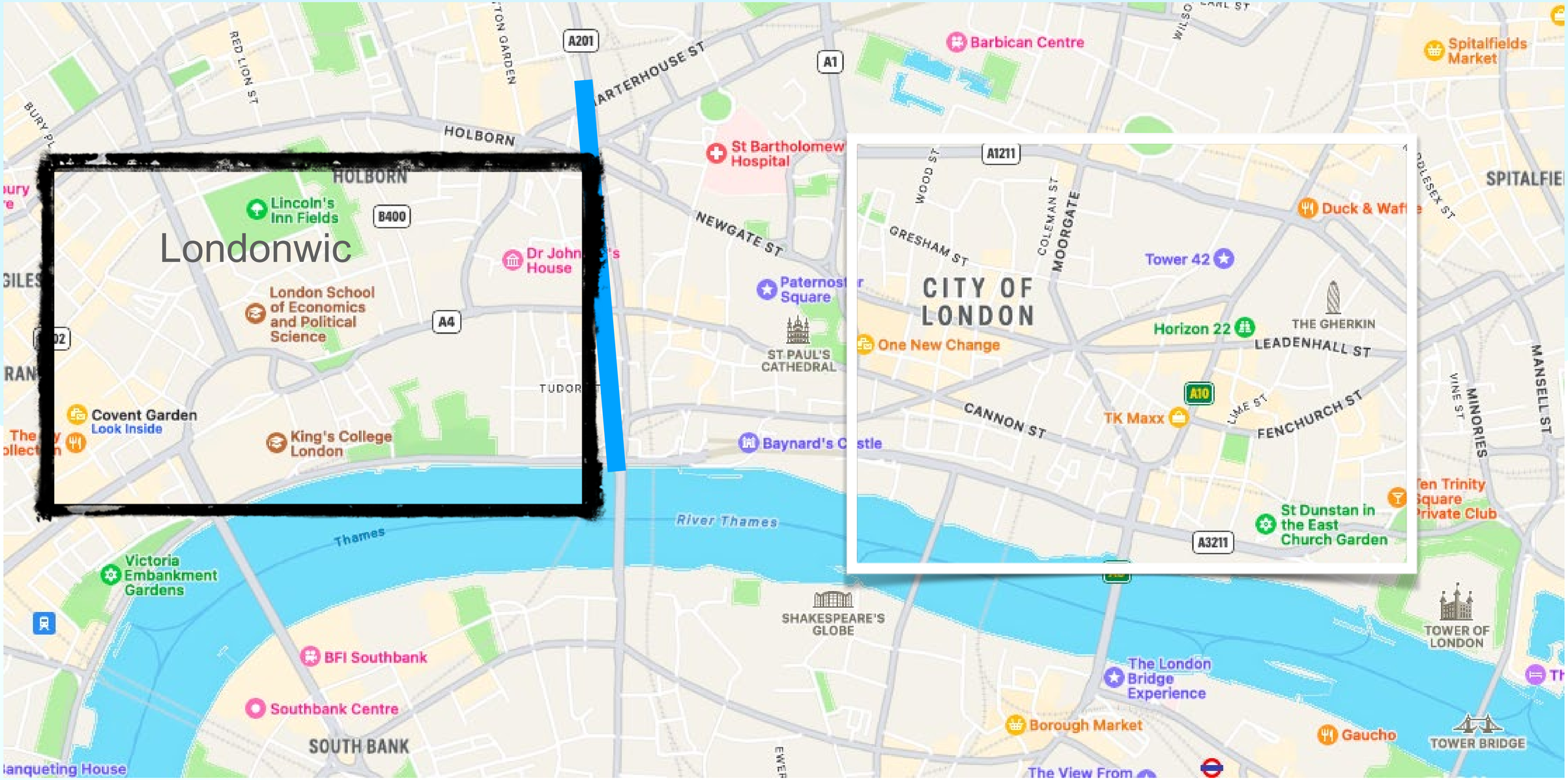
Aldwych


Piccadilly line
FLORAL ST
House
Theatre Royal Drury Lane
Leicester Square
PIC
The Alchemist
Palm Court Brasserie
Clos Maggiore
Covent Garden
Boulevard Brasserie
Bella Italia
ALDWYCH
Roka
Aldwych Drury Lane (Stop E)
Leicester Square
NEW ROW
St Paul's Church
London Transport Museum
Novello Theatre
The Moon under Water
The Ivy Collection
Z Hotels
Bush House
Westminster Reference Library
B404
Priory of Elsing Spital
Skolar Education
STK
St Mary le Strand Church
Flat Iron
Rules
The Lion King
STRAND
The Courtauld Gallery
BEDFORD ST
Charing Cross Police Station
Southampton Street Covent Garden (Stop A)
The National Gallery
King's College London
Somerset House
King's College London Bar & Mooting Society
Charing Cross Station
TRAFALGAR SQUARE
ROBERT ST
SAVOY PL
Spotify
Underground
CIR
DIS
Charing Cross Station Trafalgar Square (Stop E)
Victoria Embankment Gardens

Aldwych History

https://hidden-london.com/gazetteer/aldwych/

- London began to decline in the 4th century (raids, rebellions) [63]
- 410 CE Roman Legions abandon Britania
- London completely abandoned by the end of the 5th century (raids, floods, disease)
- Saxons and Danes settled outside the walls. Museum of London calls the area Londonwic


Londonwic
HOLBORN
Lincoln's Inn Fields
B400
London School of Economics and Political Science
A4
Covent Garden
Look Inside
King's College London
A201
A1
Barbican Centre
Spitalfields Market
St Bartholomew's Hospital
NEWGATE ST
Paternoster Square
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
Baynard's Castle
River Thames
Thames
Victoria Embankment Gardens
BFI Southbank
Southbank Centre
SOUTH BANK
SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE
The London Bridge Experience
Borough Market
Gaucho
TOWER OF LONDON
TOWER BRIDGE
The View From
A1211
GRESHAM ST
COLEMAN ST
MOORGATE
CITY OF LONDON
Tower 42
Duck & Waffle
Horizon 22
THE GHERKIN
LEADENHALL ST
One New Change
A10
CANNON ST
TK Maxx
FENCHURCH ST
St Dunstan in the East Church Garden
A3211
MINORIES
MANSELL ST
SPITALFIE

Alfred the Great (849 - 899)

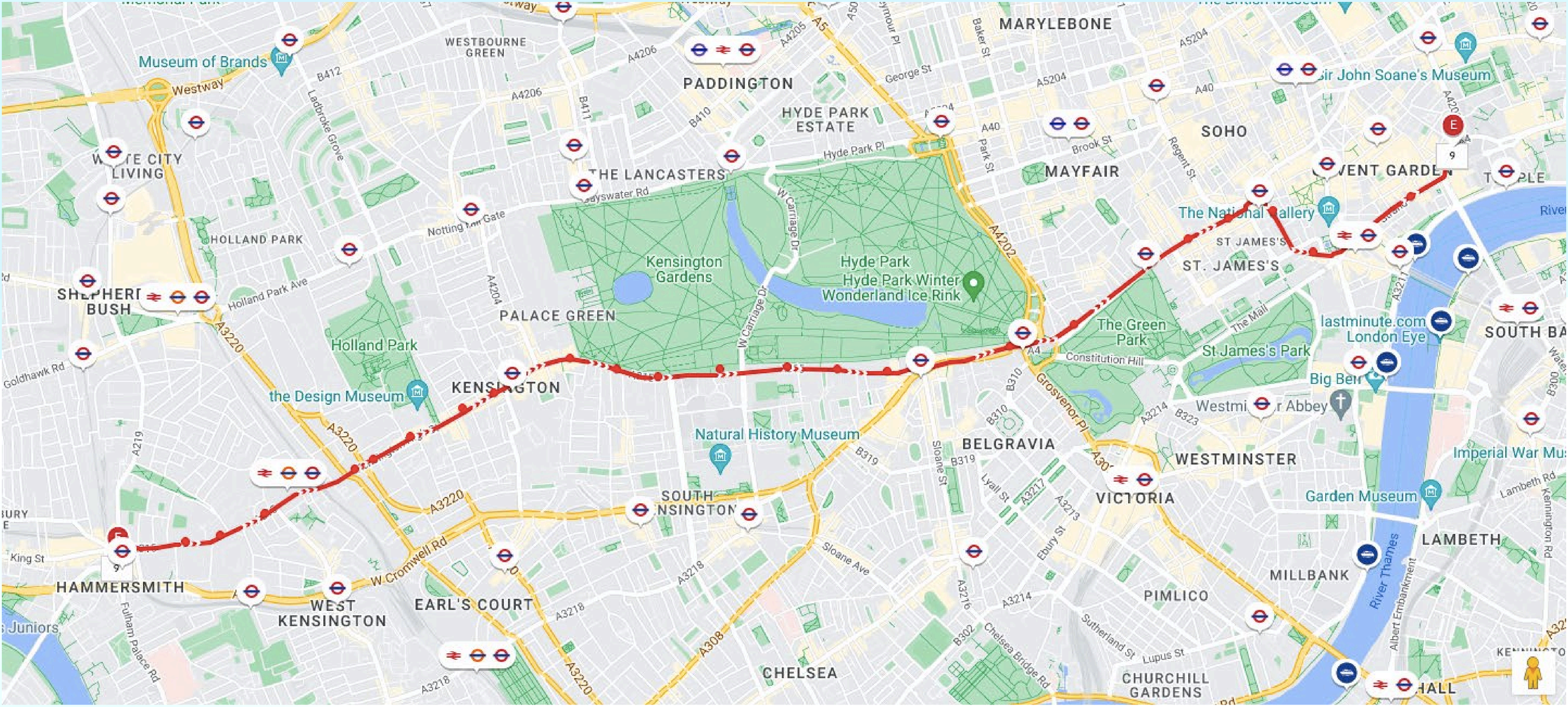
- King of Wesex, 871 - 899 [64]
- Constant threat from the Danes
- Danish forces pushed him into a marshy island in Somerset
- Rallied resistance in 878 and stopped Danes from overrunning west Britain
- Revamped military forces and built fortifications

Why “old”

- Rebuilt London walls in 886 [65]
- Moved “Londonwic” back behind the walls
- Danes moved in, so “London trading town” became “Old trading town”

Aldwych

Aldwych Today



Museum of Brands
WESTBOURNE GREEN
PADDINGTON
HYDE PARK ESTATE
MARYLEBONE
SOHO
MAYFAIR
THE LANCASTERS
HOLLAND PARK
Kensington Gardens
Hyde Park
Hyde Park Winter Wonderland Ice Rink
PALACE GREEN
Holland Park
the Design Museum
KENSINGTON
Natural History Museum
BELGRAVIA
WESTMINSTER
VICTORIA
The Green Park
St James's Park
ST. JAMES'S
The National Gallery
Big Ben
Westminster Abbey
Garden Museum
LAMBETH
MILLBANK
PIMLICO
CHURCHILL GARDENS
CHELSEA
EARL'S COURT
WEST KENSINGTON
HAMMERSMITH
SHEPHERD BUSH
SOUTH KENSINGTON
Westway
Ladbroke Grove
Hyde Park Pl
W Carriage Dr
Holland Park Ave
Goldhawk Rd
W Cromwell Rd
Sloane Ave
Sloane St
Grosvenor Pl
Constitution Hill
The Mall
Lambeth Rd
Kennington Rd
Albert Embankment
River Thames
Chelsea Bridge Rd
Sutherland St
Lupus St
Ebury St
Lyall St
King St
Fulham Palace Rd
A3220
A4202
A4206
A4205
A5
A40
A5204
A3218
A3214
A3216
A3217
A3213
A3211
A4204
A4
A219
A308
B410
B411
B412
B319
B310
B323
B302

Caption

References

1. https://fhhs.wordpress.com/fulham-and-hammersmith-background-information/

2. https://opendomesday.org/place/

3. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1963/33

4. Old and New London: Volume 6. Originally published by Cassell, Petter & Galpin, London, 1878. Digitized and posted to British History Online pp. 529 - 548. Note that from now on when I cite British History Online I will just post the url with original references.

5. https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/article_attachments/dday_st_pauls_open_space_historical_board.pdf

6. https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/listed-buildings/#Categories

7. https://www.architecture.com/explore-architecture/brutalism

8. https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2009/jun/16/richard-rogers-prince-charles-architecture

References

9. https://20bedfordway.com/news/guide-to-brutalist-architecture-london/

10. https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2022/nov/06/national-gallery-entrance-revamp-row-recalls-king-charles-carbuncle

11. https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/volunteering/search/the-design-museum

12. https://londonist.com/2016/05/the-history-of-the-tube-map

13. https://tfl.gov.uk/tfl/syndication/widgets/tubemap/default-search.html

14. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol42/pp77-98

15. https://www.mylondon.news/news/west-london-news/kensington-high-street-shops-wont-20251555

16. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/old-new-london/vol5/pp138-152

17. https://www.hrp.org.uk/kensington-palace/history-and-stories/the-story-of-kensington-palace/#gs.56gl7p

References

18. https://www.historyextra.com/period/victorian/queen-victoria-childhood-kensington-system/
19. https://www.royalparks.org.uk/visit/parks/kensington-gardens/history
20. https://londonist.com/london/transport/circular-tube-map-stations
21. https://www.londonremembers.com/memorials/ha-ha-in-hyde-park
22. https://www.royalparks.org.uk/about-us/history-royal-parks
23. https://www.royalparks.org.uk/visit/parks/green-park
24. https://alondoninheritance.com/london-monuments/albert-memorial-19th-century-world-view/
25. https://www.historyhit.com/locations/albert-memorial/
26. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol38/pp159-176

References

27. https://www.royalalberthall.com/about-the-hall/our-history/explore-our-history/time-machine/pre-opening/

28. https://www.royalalberthall.com/about-the-hall/news/2017/january/from-the-archives-acoustic-mushrooms-and-the-albert-hall-echo/

29. https://www.royalalberthall.com/about-the-hall/news/2013/april/the-beatles-at-the-hall/

30. https://theguardsdepot.co.uk/the-history-of-the-regiments-of-the-household-division/

31. https://idoxpa.westminster.gov.uk/online-applications/caseDetails.do?caseType=Application&keyVal=O3S7HJRPIXH00

32. https://idoxpa.westminster.gov.uk/online-applications/files/CA5E264D78FF46DEEB5B55743F0A7159/

33. https://www.westminster.gov.uk/search&cx=73650ff5cad0c4549&keys=rhinocerous

34. https://www.tattersalls.com/about

References

35. https://edition.cnn.com/2019/09/27/sport/tattersalls-horse-racing-sale-of-the-century-spt-intl/index.html

36. Potts, James and Cullen, Sam, What's in a London Pub Name? Capital History, 2022

37. https://aviewoncities.com/london/hyde-park-corner

38. https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/new-zealand-memorial-london

39. https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/wellington-arch/history/

40. https://bbm.org.uk/of-interest/places-of-interest/bomber-command-memorial/

41. https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3009380/Lord-Ashcroft-stops-Dambusters-pilot-auctioning-medals-pay-upkeep-Bomber-Command-memorial-donating-75-000-RAF-fund.html

References

42. https://www.royalparks.org.uk/visit/parks/green-park/history

43. https://www.sal.org.uk/about-us/burlington-house/

44. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vols31-2/pt2/pp85-100

45. https://londonist.com/london/history/piccadilly-circus-lights-history-electric

46. https://oceanoutdoor.com/locations/piccadilly-lights/

47. https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/piccadilly-lights-out/index.html

48. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vols31-2/pt2/pp101-110

49. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol20/pt3/pp95-100

References

50. https://www.londontheatre1.com/map-of-london-west-end-theatres/
51. https://www.agathachristie.com/en/theatre/the-mousetrap
52. https://www.london.gov.uk/who-we-are/city-halls-buildings-and-squares/trafalgar-square
53. https://www.walklondon.com/london-attractions/trafalgar-square-nelsons-column.htm
54. https://lookup.london/charing-cross-history/
55. https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryMagazine/DestinationsUK/The-Eleanor-Crosses/
56. https://abitofhistory.net/html/descendants/eleanor_of_castile.htm
57. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/old-new-london/vol3/pp59-63
58. https://www.sciencephoto.com/media/693470/view/map-of-london-18th-century

References

59. https://knowyourlondon.wordpress.com/2022/02/07/strand-outline-history-60-romans/

60. https://www.british-history.ac.uk/old-new-london/vol3/pp322-329

61. https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/photographs/the-great-stink/

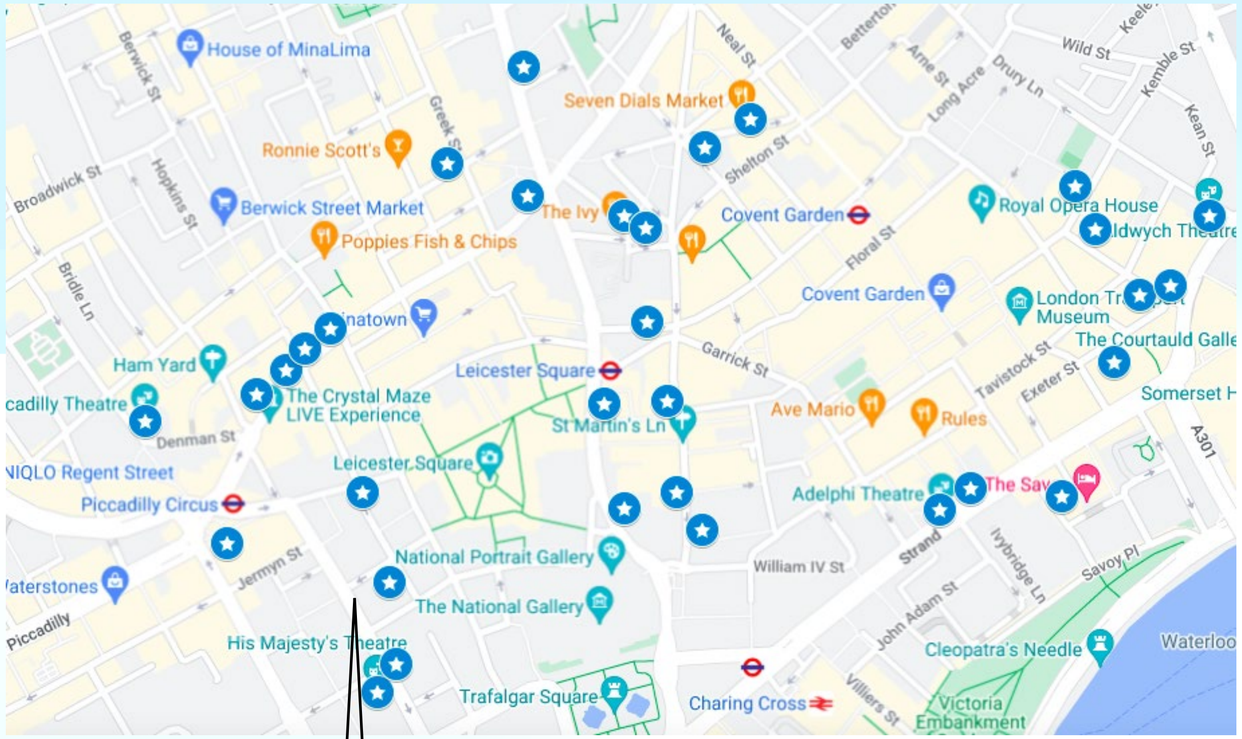
62. https://www.londonpicturearchive.org.uk/gallery?i=343920&WINID=1710168945639

63. https://www.thehistoryoflondon.co.uk/the-decline-of-londinium/

64. https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/Alfred-the-Great/

65. https://hidden-london.com/gazetteer/aldwych/

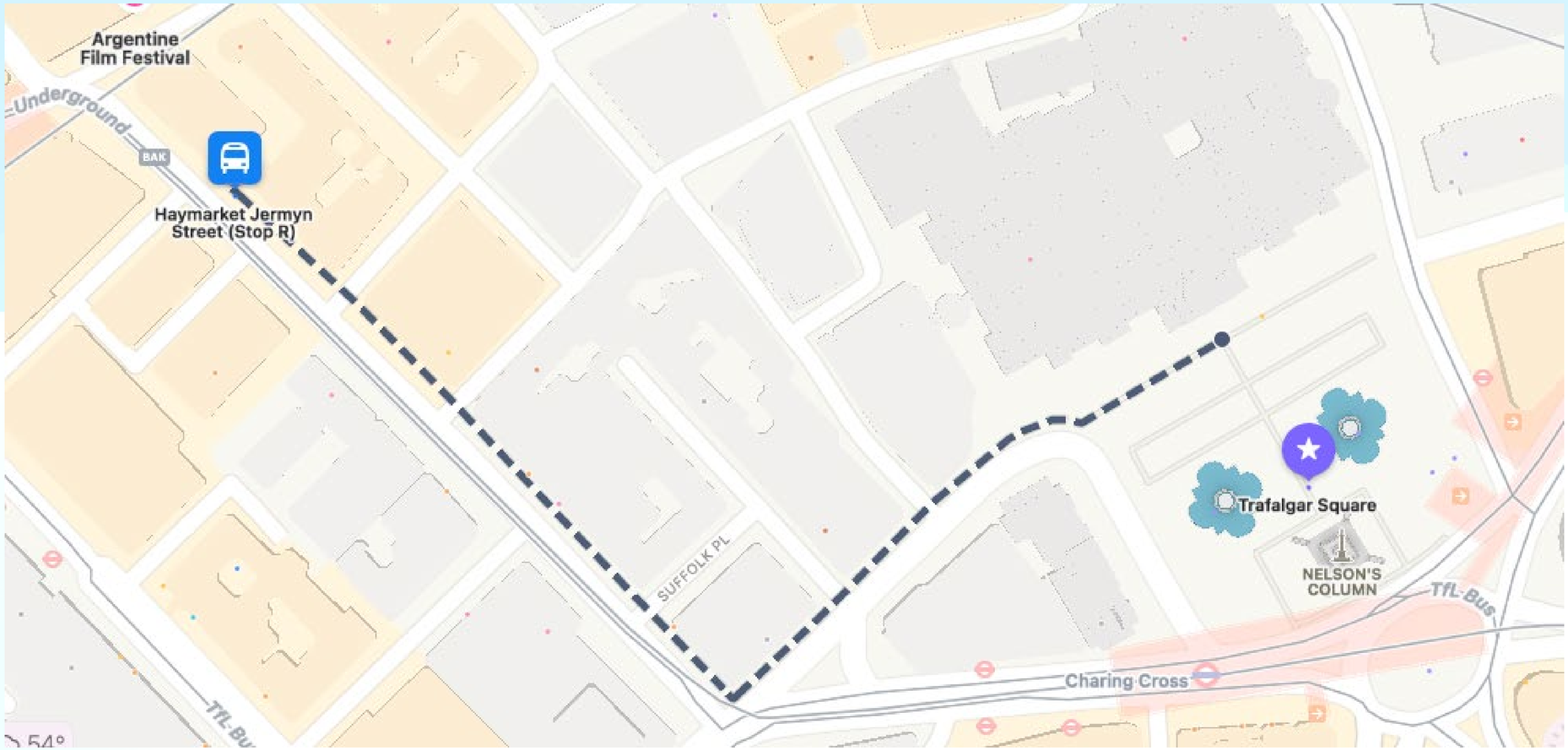
London Theater District



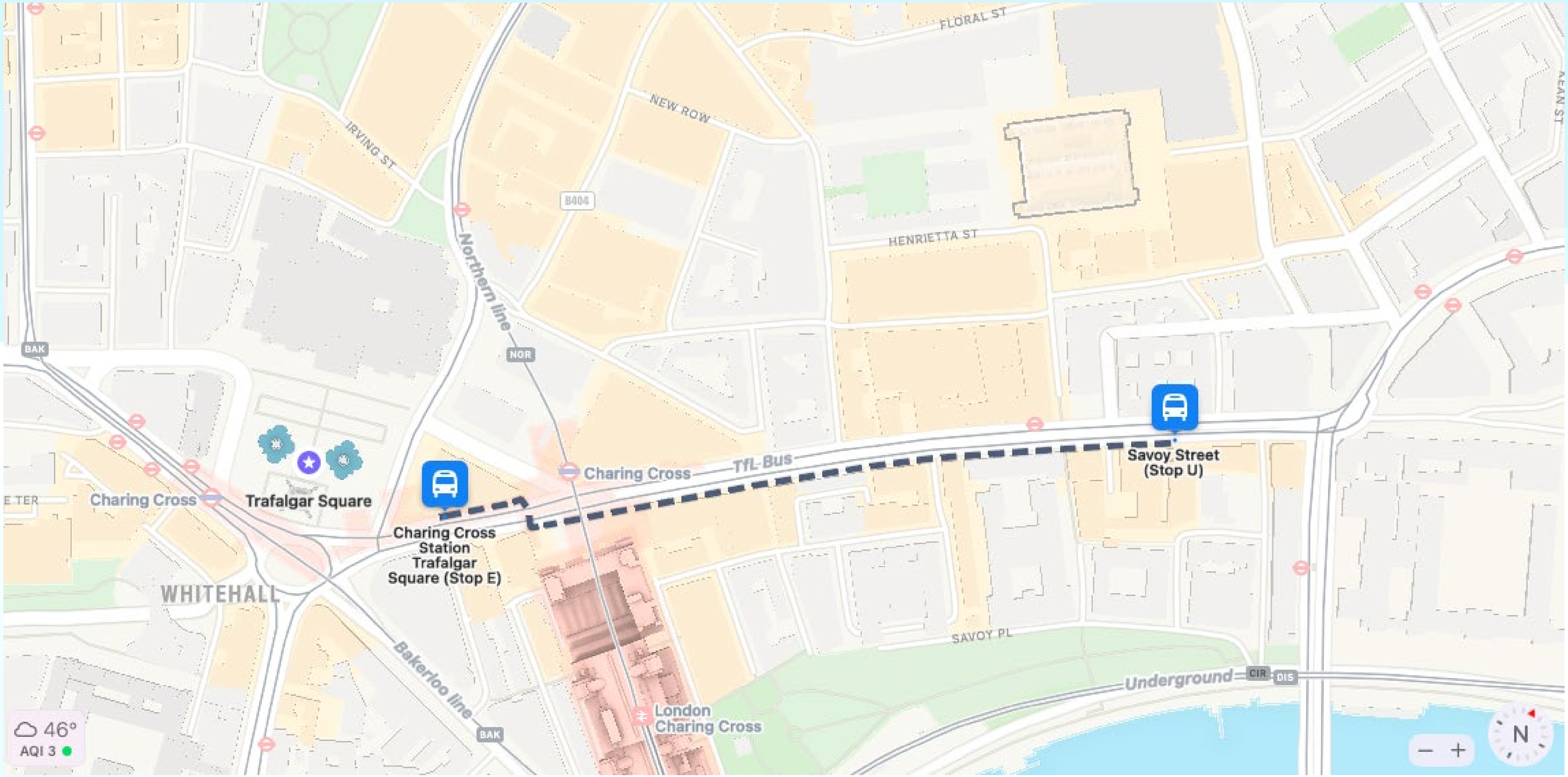
You Are Here

- Haymarket started as a market to sell Hay and other livestock supplies [49]
- Now part of the London Theater District [50]
- ~46 “West End” Theaters
- ~41 Broadway theaters
- Longest running play - “The Mousetrap” since 1952 [51]

Trafalgar Square



The Strand

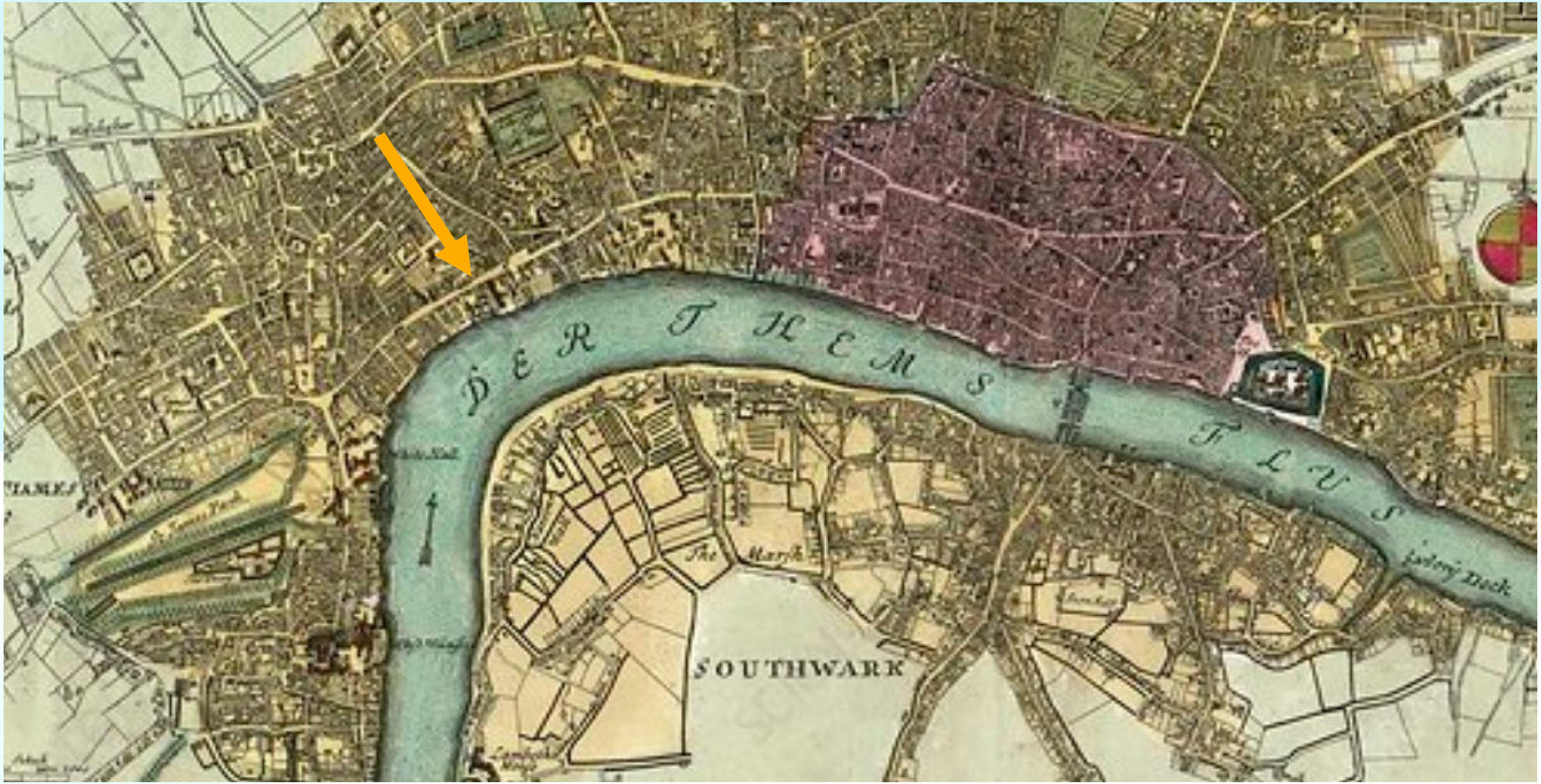

FLORAL ST
NEW ROW
IRVING ST
B404
Northern line
NOR
HENRIETTA ST
BAK
Charing Cross
Trafalgar Square
Charing Cross
Station
Trafalgar
Square (Stop E)
Charing Cross
TfL Bus
Savoy Street
(Stop U)
WHITEHALL
Bakerloo line
BAK
SAVOY PL
Underground
CIR
DIS
London
Charing Cross
46°
AQI 3
N

The Strand

- Romans built the original Road in 60 CE [59]
- Major highway between London and Westminster called “Strand” since 1185 [57]
- “Beach” in old Anglo-Saxon and in modern German

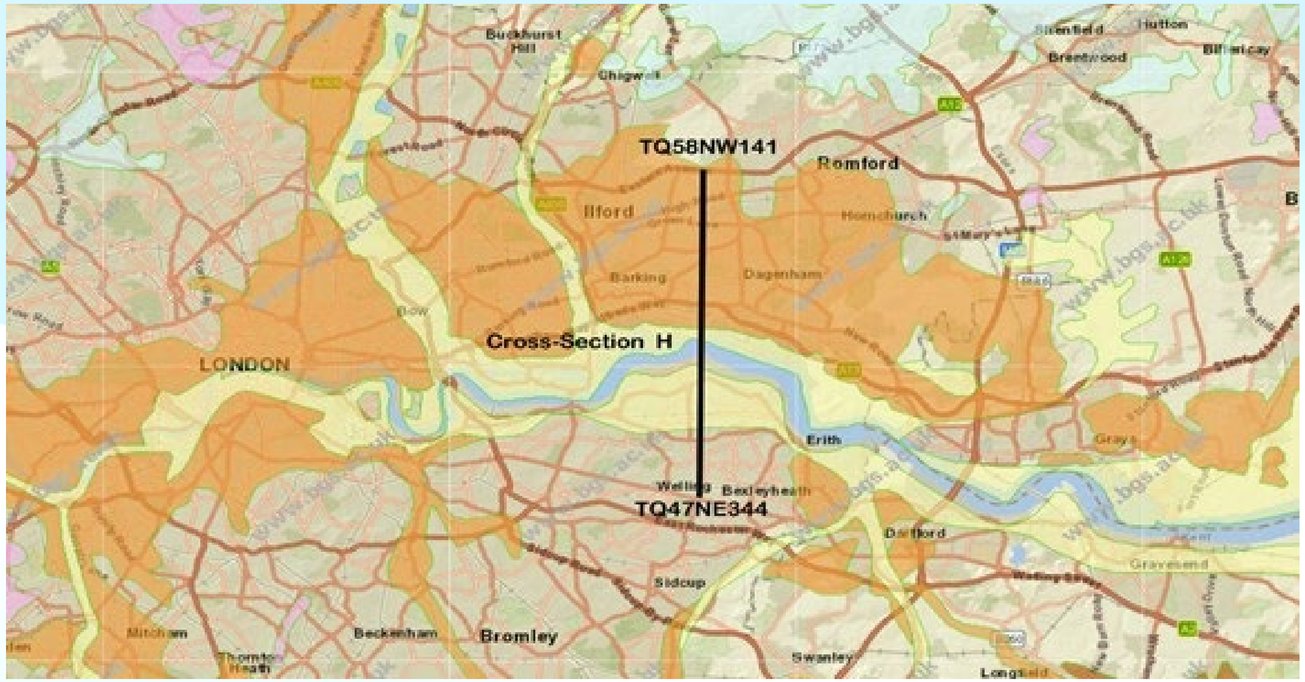
“…very noyous and foul, and in many places thereof very jeopardous to all people passing and reposing, as well as on horseback as on foot, both in winter and in summer, by night and by day.”*

* Old and New London quoting a government statute in the time of Henry VIII



https://www.sciencephoto.com/media/693470/view/map-of-london-18th-century

The Thames Marsh



- Originally a marsh rather than a river [60]
- Much of London is *below* the level of Thames at high tide
- Embanked by the Victorians

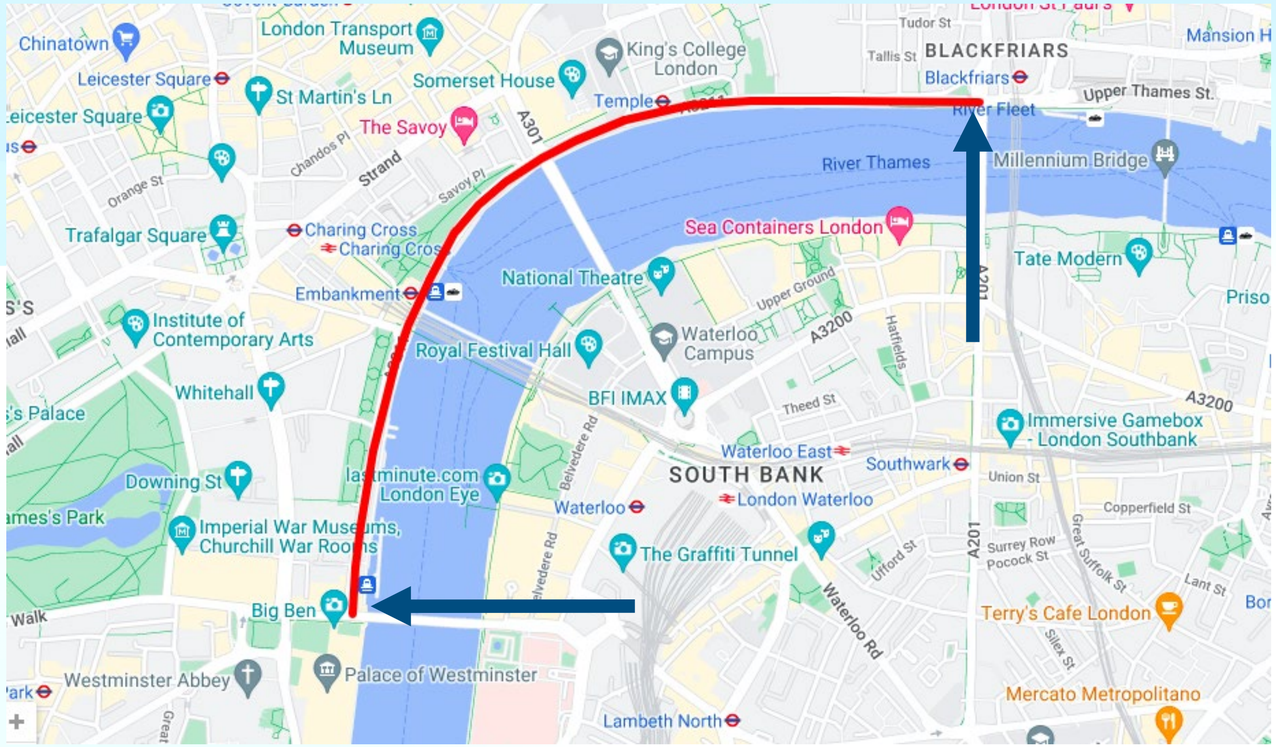
https://prehistoric-britain.co.uk/london-the-thames-through-time

The Victoria Embankment

Punch Magazine, 1858

- By 1831 the Thames was an enormous sewer [61]
- ‘The Great Stink’ of 1858
- Parliament approved construction of “The Victoria Embankment”
- Constructed between 1864 and 1870

The Victoria Embankment



- Reclaimed 37.25 acres
  - Buried sewers
  - District and Metropolitan railway lines
  - Embankment Pier
  - Victoria Embankment Gardens
  - Victoria Embankment Roadway
  - Cycle super-highway

Tapping the Admiral (Kentish Town)

- After Admiral Nelson died, his crew preserved his body in a barrel of brandy
- His officers drilled a small hole in the barrel and sipped a bit in his honor