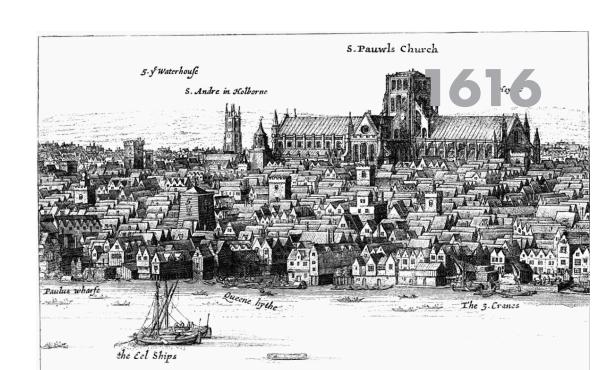
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

AS ASYMBOL







DOMINATED LONDON'S SKYLINE SINCE 604 A.D.



E SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THIS COUNTRY OF THE AREA AROUND ST. PAUL'S IS DUE TO SOMETHING MORE THAN ITS POSITION AT THE CENTRE OF THE CAPITAL, TO MORE EVEN THAN ITS POSSESSION OF ONE OF OUR GREATEST ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECES. IT IS DUE MOST PARTICULARLY TO THE FACT

THAT IT IS THE CENTRE OF THE CITY OF LONDON ITSELF. FOR HERE IS DISTILLED THE ESSENCE OF THE ENGLISH CITY,

WHICH, IN THE INFORMALITY OF ITS PUBLIC PLACES, SOMETIMES PLANNED AND SOME-TIMES ACCIDENTAL, AND IN THE GRANDEUR OF ITS PUBLIC MONUMENTS CAREFULLY BUT SO DIFFERENTLY PLANNED FROM MONU-MENTS OF THE EUROPEAN OR NEW WORLD

CITY, MIRRORS THE VERY CHARACTER OF **OUR SOCIETY AND ITS HISTORY."**

- ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW, NOV. 1946.

IMAGE CREDITS: LEFT PANEL: "PANORAMA OF LONDON, 1616" BY CLAES JANSZ VISCHER COURTESY OF GUILDHALL ART GALLERY. THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON DEPICTED BY UNKNOWN ARTIST, COURTESY OF ROYAL MUSEUMS GREENWICH. "THE THAMES FROM SOMERSET HOUSE TERRACE TOWARDS THE CITY" CANALETTO, 1751, COURTESY OF THE ROYAL COLLECTIONS TRUST. THE DAILY MAIL. MIDDLE PANEL: X. RIGHT PANEL: IMAGES 1-3 COURTESY OF THE LONDON MET-ROPOLITAN ARCHIVES. IMAGE 4, OWN IMAGE TAKEN JANUARY 2017.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP, UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, DEPARTMENT OF BRITISH STUDIES, PROFESSOR W.R. LOUIS, PROFESSOR RICHARD CLEARY, AND PROFESSOR DENISE SPELLBERG.



IDENTITY CRISIS:

THE POST-WWII RECONSTRUCTION OF THE

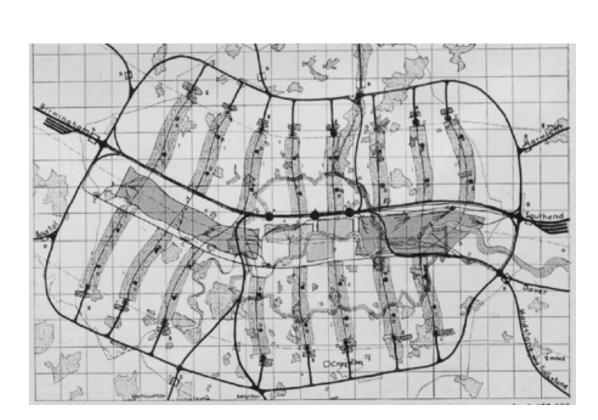
CITY OF LONDON

IF TODAY'S MOST ICONIC BUILDINGS — THE 'GHERKIN,' THE 'WALKIE-TALKIE,' THE 'SHARD' — WERE DESTROYED IN A CATASTROPHE COMPARABLE TO THE BLITZ, WOULD THEY BE PAINSTAKINGLY REBUILT TO PRESERVE THE CITY'S HERITAGE? OR IN THE NEXT DECADES, AFTER THEIR NOVELTY HAS WORN OFF, WILL THESE BUILDINGS TOO COME TO BE REGARDED AS DISPOSABLE FAILURES, JUST AS THEIR MODERN PREDECESSORS?

- INTRODUCTION, 6



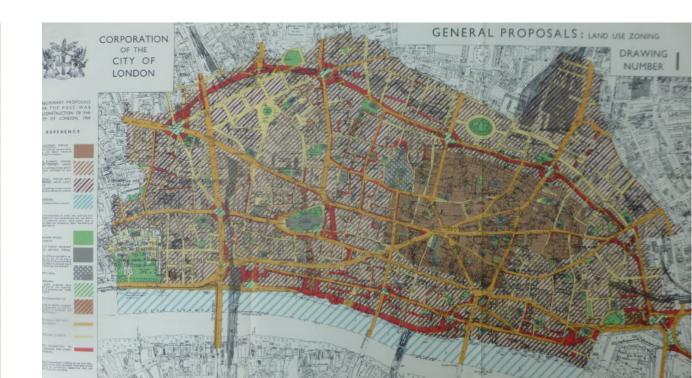
BOMB DAMAGE MAP, 1945



MODERN ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH GROUP PLAN,



ROYAL ACADEMY PLAN, 1942



HOLDEN AND HOLFORD PLAN,

WHAT PLACE SHOULD LOCAL IDENTITY HOLD IN AN INCREASINGLY GLOBALIZED CITY?

"Buildings are among the most

records of the past as well as

enduring and unequivocal

"I hope we shall still try to preserve some sort of British tradition and that the people who visit this great City in the future will not mistake it for any of the other great capitals of the world."

Times, 1956

"Commercial development is

the lifeblood of the City and entitled to priority." - Times, 1945

being memorials to those who build and live in them and buildings are those facts of history which we are in the most continual contact throughout our lives."

Robert Lutyens, 1958

"It is admitted that it will take very many years — possibly a century — to carry the whole scheme through, but while this is being done, is there not a real danger of merchants finding markets elsewhere to make their livelihood?"

> E. Howard, The City of London Real Property Company Limited, 1942



DEC. 1940 NAZI FIREBOMBS DEVASTATE THE CITY





