

Dance, George 1741 - 1825



George Dance [also known as George Dance, the younger; and as George Dance, Junior] was born in London, England on 20 March 1741. He was the son of the architect George Dance, the elder (c.1694-1768) who had designed the Mansion House (1739-52) for the Lord Mayor of London. After training with his father in the fundamentals of architecture, in 1758 he went to Rome where he attended the Accademia di S. Luca, and over the next six years made a study of Roman antiquity. During this period, he was evidently influenced by the emerging style of neo-classicism.

Following his return from Rome in 1765, he joined his father's office. One of his first projects was the redesign the Church of All Hallows, London Wall. His father died in 1768 and he succeeded him as clerk of the City works and master of the Merchant Taylors' Company in the City of London. Over the next three decades he designed a number of important public buildings in London including Newgate Prison and Sessions House (1770-84), alterations to Billingsgate Fish Market (1776) St Luke's Hospital for Lunatics (1780) on Old Street, and the Shakespeare Gallery in Pall Mall (1788). He also worked on projects outside London including Pitzhanger Manor in Ealing, his own house (1768); Coleorton Hall in Leicestershire (1802); Laxton Hall in Northamptonshire (1794); Theatre Royal in Bath, (1804); and alterations to Ashburnham Place in Sussex (1812)

Dance designed several town planning schemes for London, however, few of them were realised, although his plans for Finsbury Circus and St George's Circus

were to influence the shape of London's cityscape.

With his brother, Nathaniel Dance, he was a founder member of the Royal Academy in on 10 December 1768 and in 1798 succeeded Thomas Sandby as Professor of Architecture at the Academy, however, he didn't give a single lecture and resigned his post in 1806. He died in Bloomsbury, London on 14 January 1825 .

Worked in
UK
Works

For a detailed list of architectural projects by George Dance see Colvin, 4th edition, 2008 pp. 297-299

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Links

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- Roger Bowdler, 'Dance, George, the younger (1741-1825)', Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Oxford University Press, 2004; online edn, May 2006 [Subscription service] <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/7096>
- Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Dance_the_Younger
- Tate <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/george-dance-2423>
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- The British Museum, London <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/term/BIOG24416>
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- Artcyclopedia http://www.artcyclopedia.com/artists/dance_ii_george.html
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