



In 1859, Charles West Cope (1811-1890) imagined this scene of Cardinal Wolsey, arriving at Leicester Abbey, as he traveled south to London to stand trial for various alleged offenses. (Click on the image for a better view.)

It would prove to be the last stop on Wolsey's life journey. He died at Leicester Abbey on the 29th of November, 1530.

Not much is left of the Abbey today. Founded in the 12th century, the Augustinian religious house suffered ruin not long after Wolsey's death.

By 1538, the impact of the English Reformation—resulting in the dissolution of the country's monasteries—hit the Abbey. Not only was the monastery dissolved, the abbey buildings were destroyed. Those building materials were reused in other structures around the town of Leicester.



An individual with the nickname "Not from Utrecht" took this picture of the Abbey ruins as they appeared on the 15th of May in 2010. The nave of the old abbey church is on the left; the old cloister is on the right. (License, to use the photo, is via [CC BY-SA 3.0.](#))

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Remains of Leicester Abbey

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