

THE DIGITAL ATLAS OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2015



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The Digital Atlas of England Foundation
www.digiatlas.org



Front cover: St Mary, 1858-61, designed by J. L. Pearson, South Dalton,
Yorkshire East Riding.

Back cover: St John the Evangelist, enamels on glass, 17th century. Offwell, Devon.

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Director's comment

Welcome to 2015's Annual Report. This year was the 19th year of the project to photographically document all of England's rural parish churches. Unfortunately, due to several factors beyond my control, this year generated the fewest pictures since the second year of the project. A normal year would see the archive expand by about 20,000 images, but this year there have been just over 7000. It is hoped that this will be balanced by an above average year in 2016.

This year is also the first time that the Annual Report will be in purely electronic format. While it is nice to have printed copies, the expense was becoming too much and the money will be better put towards field trips. This is especially important in these uncertain times, when the near future probably holds many church closures and thus the need to cover those that remain unrecorded becomes more urgent.

Speaking of church closures, this year saw visits to several redundant churches. Those in happier circumstances because they are cared for by organisations included the *Friends of Friendless Churches* church at Hardmead, (Buckinghamshire), and the *Churches Conservation Trust* churches at Warburton (Cheshire), and the newly vested Ayston (Rutland). Of uncertain future is the church at Astwood (Buckinghamshire) which has been closed since 2014 and awaits a buyer. In Hertfordshire I finally managed to see inside the privately owned church at Great Munden which is being used to hold concerts.

Some special visits were made to secure images for one current and one future project. The first of these is the *Post-Reformation Wall Paintings Project* that has utilised my current archive of over 400,000 images to catalogue many of the extant post-Reformation paintings. This has never been attempted before and the 70%+ coverage of the country that the archive affords allowed us to create a very good initial list. I made visits to re-record some paintings that I had photographed in the early years of the archive, when digital cameras were of low resolution. The second project is recording cadaver and skeleton effigies for a possible book - more on this project in the next Annual Report! In the mean time, some of the



Opposite: St Wilfrid, Harrogate (Yorks). The interior of the nave. Designed by Temple Moore. The church was built in several phases, beginning in 1908.

Above: Ayston (Rutland). A detail from the mediaeval glass in the east window of the south aisle.

results from this year can be seen at the end of this Report.

This year saw pictures from the archive appear in a number of books and articles. Foremost amongst these were Toby Capwell's *Armour of the English Knight 1400-1450* (Thomas Del Mar Ltd. ISBN: 9780993324604) and Sally Badham's *Seeking Salvation: Commemorating the Dead in the Late-Medieval English Parish* (Shaun Tyas. ISBN: 9781907730474).

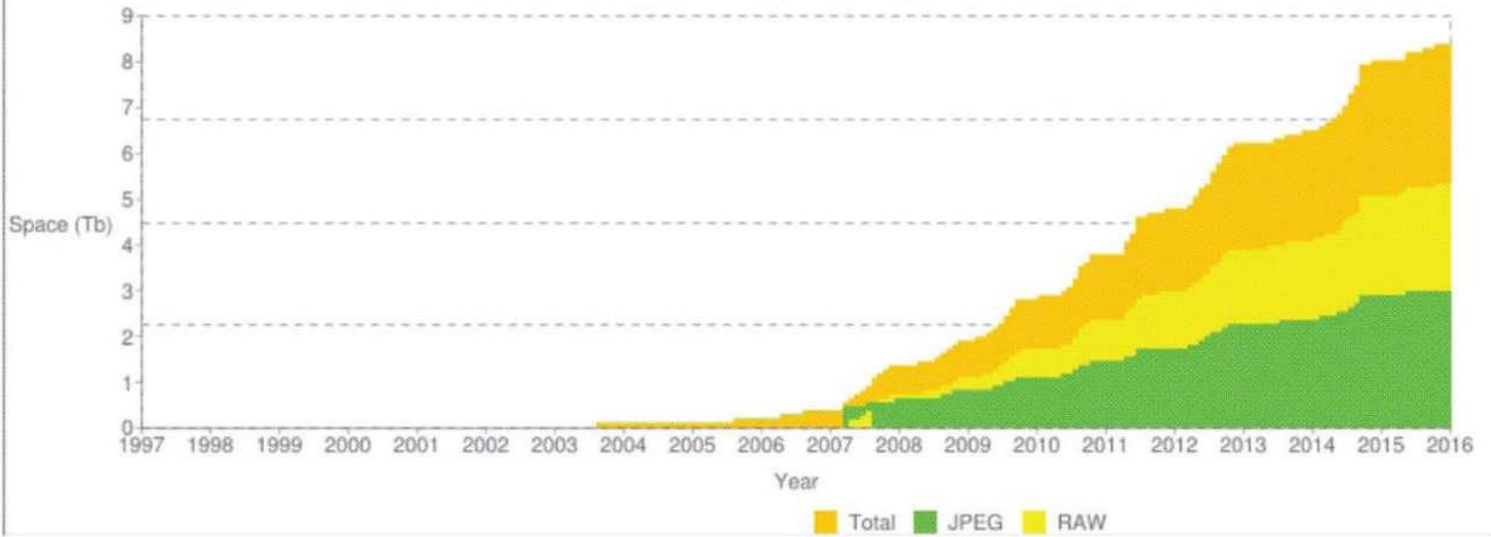
December the 21st sees the 3rd anniversary of the publication of the *Keyholder* Android application. The app allows users to see access information for churches across England, supplied by both myself (during the course of Project fieldwork) and by other users of *Keyholder*. The app has proved very popular and now boasts access status information for over 9,000 churches. Earlier in the year a feature was added whereby users could take photographs using their Android device and add them to the *Keyholder* information. There are nearly 400 photographs now viewable via the app.

C B Newham BSc FSA
Harrogate, December the 17th 2015.

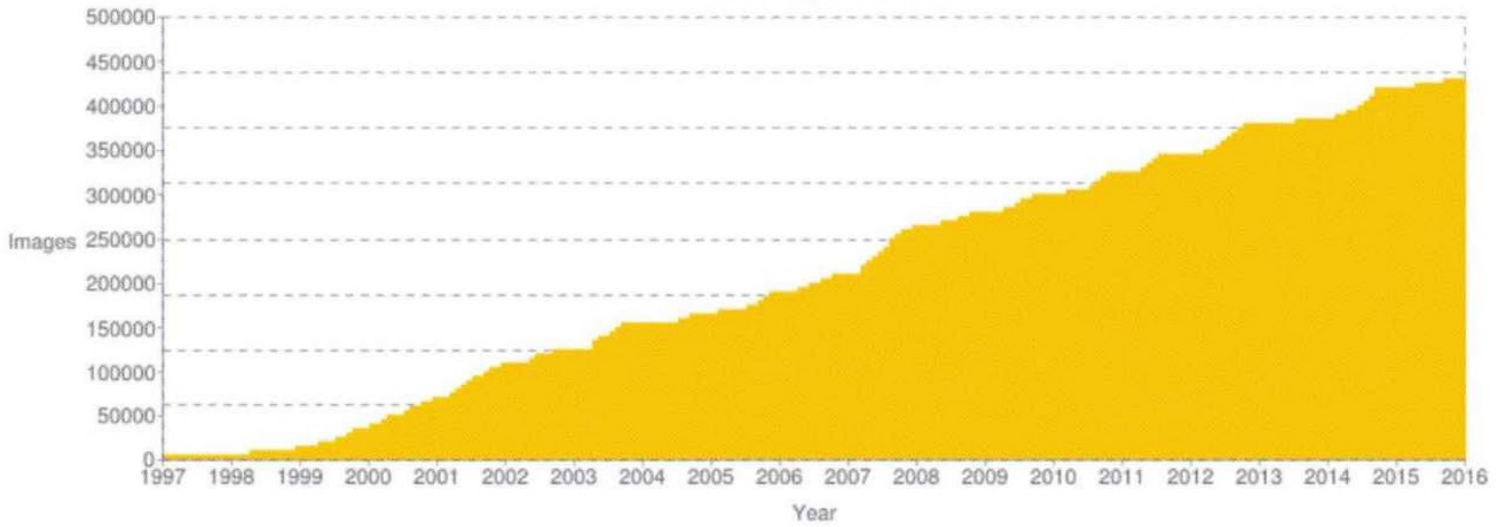
Below: Hemingbrough (Yorkshire East Riding).



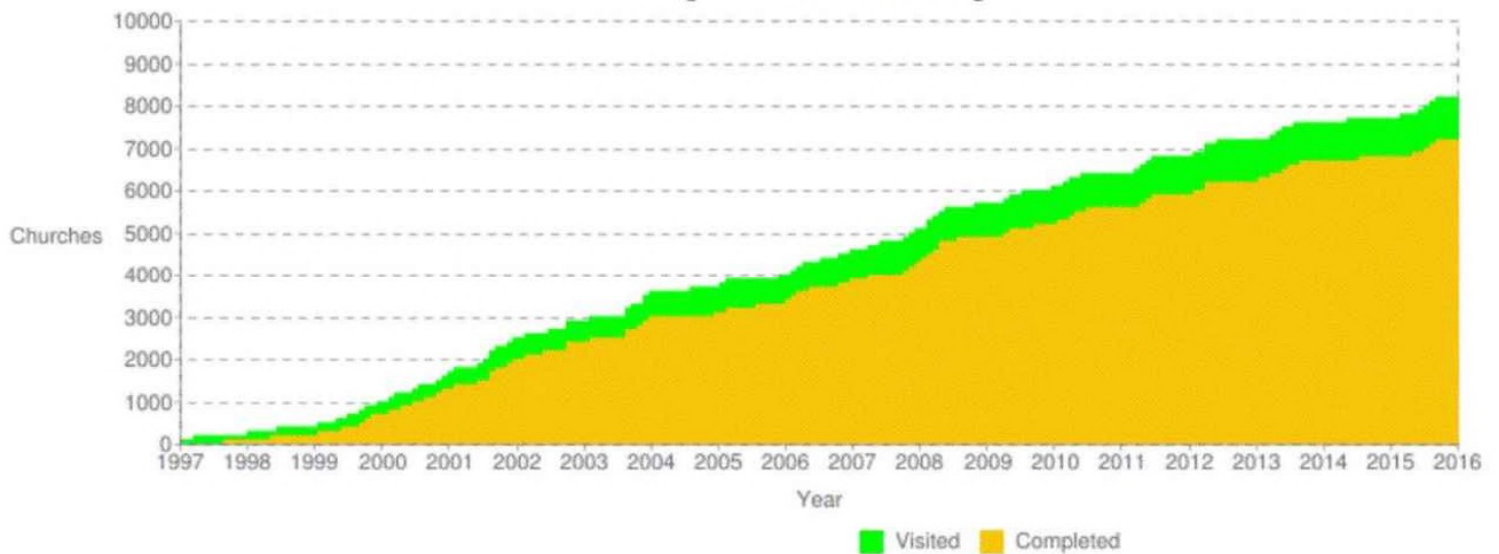
Archive Space Usage



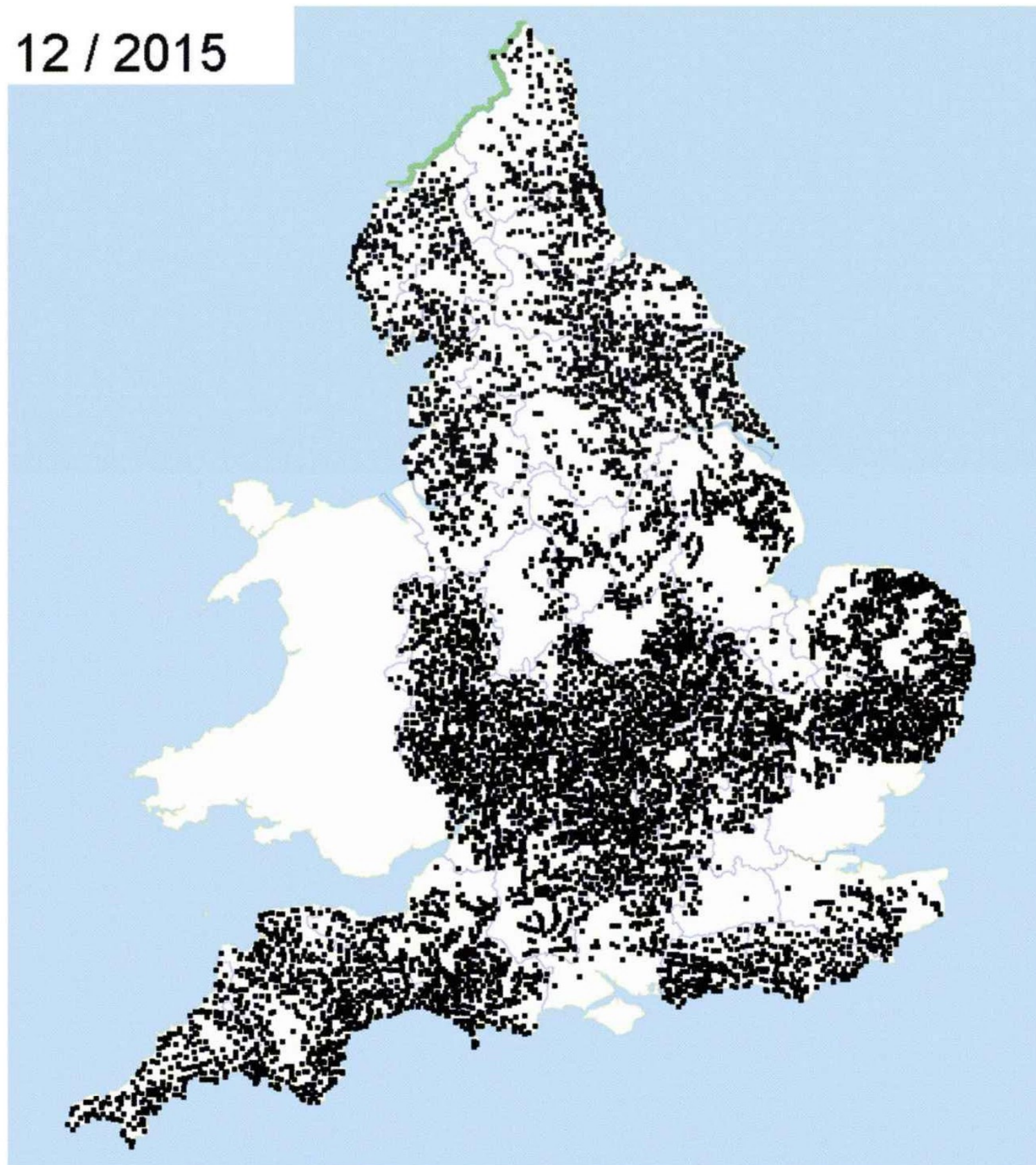
Total Images Taken



Anglican Church Recording

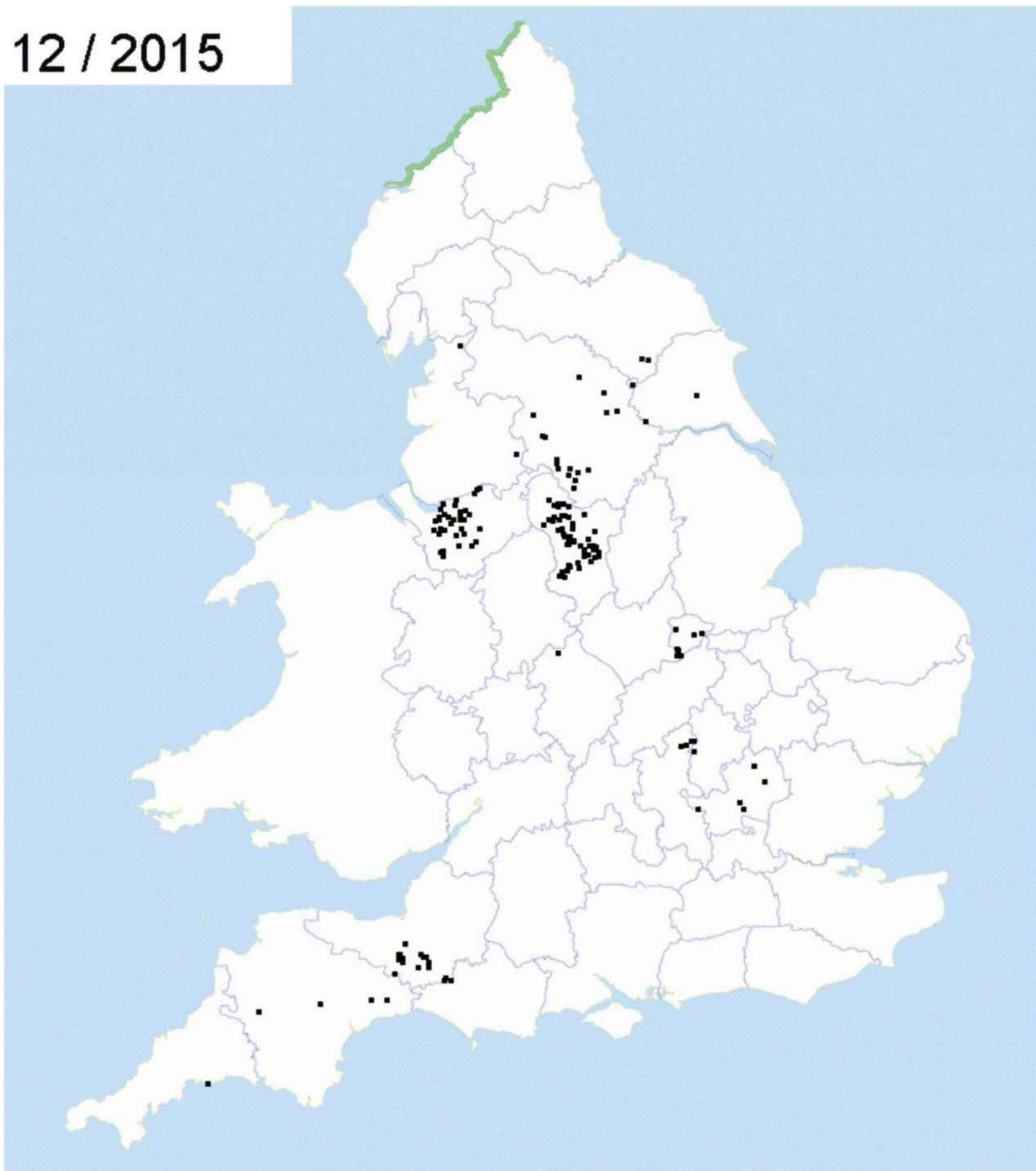


12 / 2015



Above: places visited 1997-2015.

12 / 2015



Above: places visited in 2015.

Report of Project statistics to the end of December 2015

Total field trips: 1638
Total number of images: 428157

Average images per field trip: 261
Most images taken on: apr0712 (645 images)
Fewest images taken on: apr0202 (1 image)

Total sites visited: 13743
Total Anglican churches: 8306
Total Catholic churches: 62
Total other churches: 320
Total other buildings: 5055

Total Anglican churches
Completed (exterior+interior): 7439 (89%)

Bedfordshire

Total Places: 106
Total Sites: 175 Anglican Ch: 103 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 2 Other: 70 Ang Completed (e+i): 86 (83%)

Berkshire

Total Places: 212
Total Sites: 568 Anglican Ch: 206 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 13 Other: 349 Ang Completed (e+i): 107 (51%)

Bristol

Total Places: 1
Total Sites: 2 Anglican Ch: 2 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 0 Ang Completed (e+i): 0 (0%)

Buckinghamshire

Total Places: 159
Total Sites: 246 Anglican Ch: 158 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 6 Other: 82 Ang Completed (e+i): 133 (84%)

Cambridgeshire

Total Places: 142
Total Sites: 295 Anglican Ch: 163 Catholic Ch: 2 Other Ch: 11 Other: 119 Ang Completed (e+i): 150 (92%)

Cheshire

Total Places: 64
Total Sites: 68 Anglican Ch: 66 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 2 Ang Completed (e+i): 53 (80%)

Cornwall

Total Places: 269
Total Sites: 434 Anglican Ch: 263 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 14 Other: 157 Ang Completed (e+i): 252 (95%)

Cumberland

Total Places: 172
Total Sites: 201 Anglican Ch: 185 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 2 Other: 14 Ang Completed (e+i): 173 (93%)

Derbyshire

Total Places: 81
Total Sites: 93 Anglican Ch: 82 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 2 Other: 9 Ang Completed (e+i): 64 (78%)

Devon

Total Places: 529
Total Sites: 1093 Anglican Ch: 579 Catholic Ch: 5 Other Ch: 64 Other: 445 Ang Completed (e+i): 556 (96%)

Dorset

Total Places: 266
Total Sites: 384 Anglican Ch: 269 Catholic Ch: 2 Other Ch: 3 Other: 110 Ang Completed (e+i): 235 (87%)

Durham

Total Places: 128
Total Sites: 158 Anglican Ch: 135 Catholic Ch: 6 Other Ch: 1 Other: 16 Ang Completed (e+i): 114 (84%)

Essex

Total Places: 46
Total Sites: 48 Anglican Ch: 46 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 2 Ang Completed (e+i): 39 (84%)

Gloucestershire
Total Places: 326
Total Sites: 614 Anglican Ch: 329 Catholic Ch: 3 Other Ch: 18 Other: 264 Ang Completed (e+i): 307 (93%)

Hampshire
Total Places: 111
Total Sites: 120 Anglican Ch: 114 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 6 Ang Completed (e+i): 103 (90%)

Herefordshire
Total Places: 243
Total Sites: 376 Anglican Ch: 240 Catholic Ch: 1 Other Ch: 5 Other: 130 Ang Completed (e+i): 235 (97%)

Hertfordshire
Total Places: 152
Total Sites: 397 Anglican Ch: 144 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 3 Other: 250 Ang Completed (e+i): 116 (80%)

Huntingdonshire
Total Places: 95
Total Sites: 234 Anglican Ch: 93 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 13 Other: 128 Ang Completed (e+i): 87 (93%)

Isle of Wight
Total Places: 0
Total Sites: 0 Anglican Ch: 0 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 0 Ang Completed (e+i): 0 (0%)

Kent
Total Places: 123
Total Sites: 137 Anglican Ch: 126 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 11 Ang Completed (e+i): 106 (84%)

Lancashire
Total Places: 263
Total Sites: 322 Anglican Ch: 301 Catholic Ch: 4 Other Ch: 1 Other: 16 Ang Completed (e+i): 252 (83%)

Leicestershire
Total Places: 105
Total Sites: 148 Anglican Ch: 104 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 4 Other: 40 Ang Completed (e+i): 79 (75%)

Lincolnshire
Total Places: 263
Total Sites: 338 Anglican Ch: 263 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 5 Other: 70 Ang Completed (e+i): 231 (87%)

Middlesex
Total Places: 1
Total Sites: 1 Anglican Ch: 1 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 0 Ang Completed (e+i): 1 (100%)

Norfolk
Total Places: 423
Total Sites: 585 Anglican Ch: 446 Catholic Ch: 2 Other Ch: 5 Other: 132 Ang Completed (e+i): 405 (90%)

Northamptonshire
Total Places: 279
Total Sites: 643 Anglican Ch: 275 Catholic Ch: 2 Other Ch: 21 Other: 345 Ang Completed (e+i): 265 (96%)

Northumberland
Total Places: 190
Total Sites: 280 Anglican Ch: 178 Catholic Ch: 6 Other Ch: 12 Other: 84 Ang Completed (e+i): 163 (91%)

Nottinghamshire
Total Places: 109
Total Sites: 125 Anglican Ch: 113 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 12 Ang Completed (e+i): 102 (90%)

Oxfordshire
Total Places: 256
Total Sites: 975 Anglican Ch: 252 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 45 Other: 678 Ang Completed (e+i): 230 (91%)

Rutland
Total Places: 52
Total Sites: 153 Anglican Ch: 50 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 9 Other: 94 Ang Completed (e+i): 50 (100%)

Shropshire
Total Places: 300
Total Sites: 472 Anglican Ch: 288 Catholic Ch: 1 Other Ch: 8 Other: 175 Ang Completed (e+i): 264 (91%)

Soke of Peterborough
Total Places: 27
Total Sites: 56 Anglican Ch: 26 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 2 Other: 28 Ang Completed (e+i): 26 (100%)

Somerset
Total Places: 277
Total Sites: 324 Anglican Ch: 280 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 44 Ang Completed (e+i): 254 (90%)

Staffordshire

Total Places: 43

Total Sites: 51 Anglican Ch: 39 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 1 Other: 11 Ang Completed (e+i): 20 (51%)

Suffolk

Total Places: 490

Total Sites: 720 Anglican Ch: 506 Catholic Ch: 3 Other Ch: 9 Other: 202 Ang Completed (e+i): 492 (97%)

Surrey

Total Places: 15

Total Sites: 17 Anglican Ch: 16 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 1 Ang Completed (e+i): 10 (62%)

Sussex

Total Places: 318

Total Sites: 540 Anglican Ch: 335 Catholic Ch: 6 Other Ch: 13 Other: 186 Ang Completed (e+i): 294 (87%)

Warwickshire

Total Places: 248

Total Sites: 621 Anglican Ch: 242 Catholic Ch: 6 Other Ch: 7 Other: 366 Ang Completed (e+i): 204 (84%)

Westmorland

Total Places: 80

Total Sites: 99 Anglican Ch: 86 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 0 Other: 13 Ang Completed (e+i): 83 (96%)

Wiltshire

Total Places: 215

Total Sites: 282 Anglican Ch: 207 Catholic Ch: 0 Other Ch: 7 Other: 68 Ang Completed (e+i): 184 (88%)

Worcestershire

Total Places: 208

Total Sites: 402 Anglican Ch: 207 Catholic Ch: 4 Other Ch: 6 Other: 185 Ang Completed (e+i): 196 (94%)

Yorkshire East Riding

Total Places: 216

Total Sites: 248 Anglican Ch: 220 Catholic Ch: 1 Other Ch: 1 Other: 26 Ang Completed (e+i): 207 (94%)

Yorkshire North Riding

Total Places: 290

Total Sites: 369 Anglican Ch: 289 Catholic Ch: 4 Other Ch: 6 Other: 70 Ang Completed (e+i): 263 (91%)

Yorkshire West Riding

Total Places: 276

Total Sites: 329 Anglican Ch: 279 Catholic Ch: 4 Other Ch: 1 Other: 45 Ang Completed (e+i): 248 (88%)

2015 in pictures



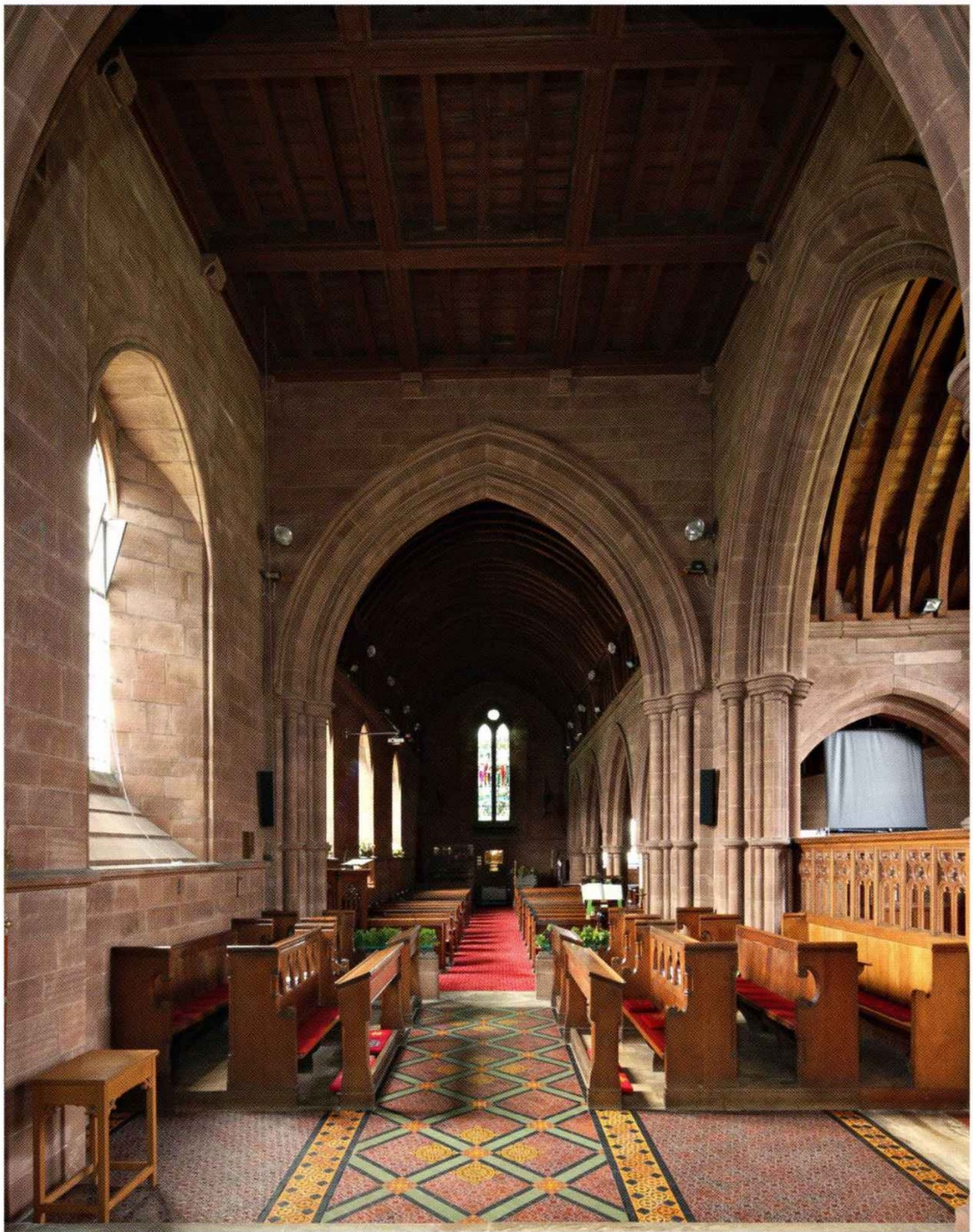
Above: All Saints, York (York). One of the panels from the Corporal Acts of Mercy Window (c.1410), this one showing the act of visiting the prisoners.



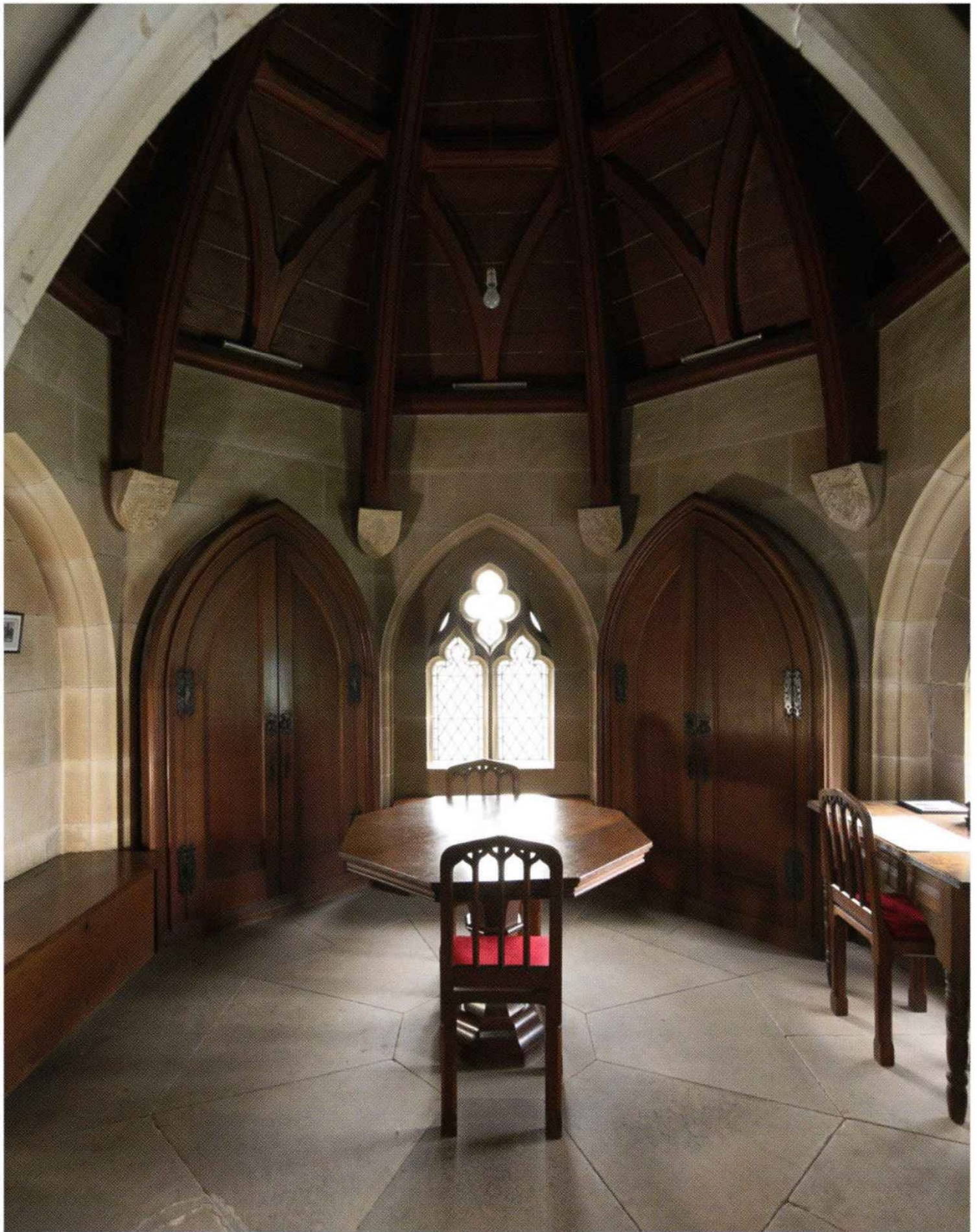
Dunham-on-the-Hill (Ches), Gilt wooden cross hung within the chancel arch. Designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott. Brought from Chester Cathedral in 1921.



Edensor (Derbs), Monument to Henry & William Cavendish (d.1616 & 1625). Attributed to Maximilian Colt (Esdaile).



Norley (Ches), St John the Evangelist by J. L. Pearson, 1878-9. Interior, looking through the crossing from the chancel.



Osmaston (Derbs), St Martin, Octagonal vestry, by Henry Isaac Stevens, 1845.



Top: Matlock (Derbs), St Giles. Perp tower with chancel of 1859 & nave of 1871.

Bottom: Bratton Clovelly (Devon), post-Reformation wall paintings on the nave north wall.

Opposite: Swanwick (Derbs), St Andrew, west window by J.E. Nuttgens, Patrick Reyntiens and Jane Pepler, 1953.







Opposite: Stoke Dry (Rut), north & south Norman chancel arch columns “unwrapped”.

Top: Youlgreave (Derbs), alabaster monument to Robert Gylbert (d. 1492) & family.

Bottom: Muchelney (Soms), post-Reformation painted ceiling in the nave “unwrapped”.



Stoney Middleton (Derbs), St Martin. Perp tower with octagonal body of 1759.



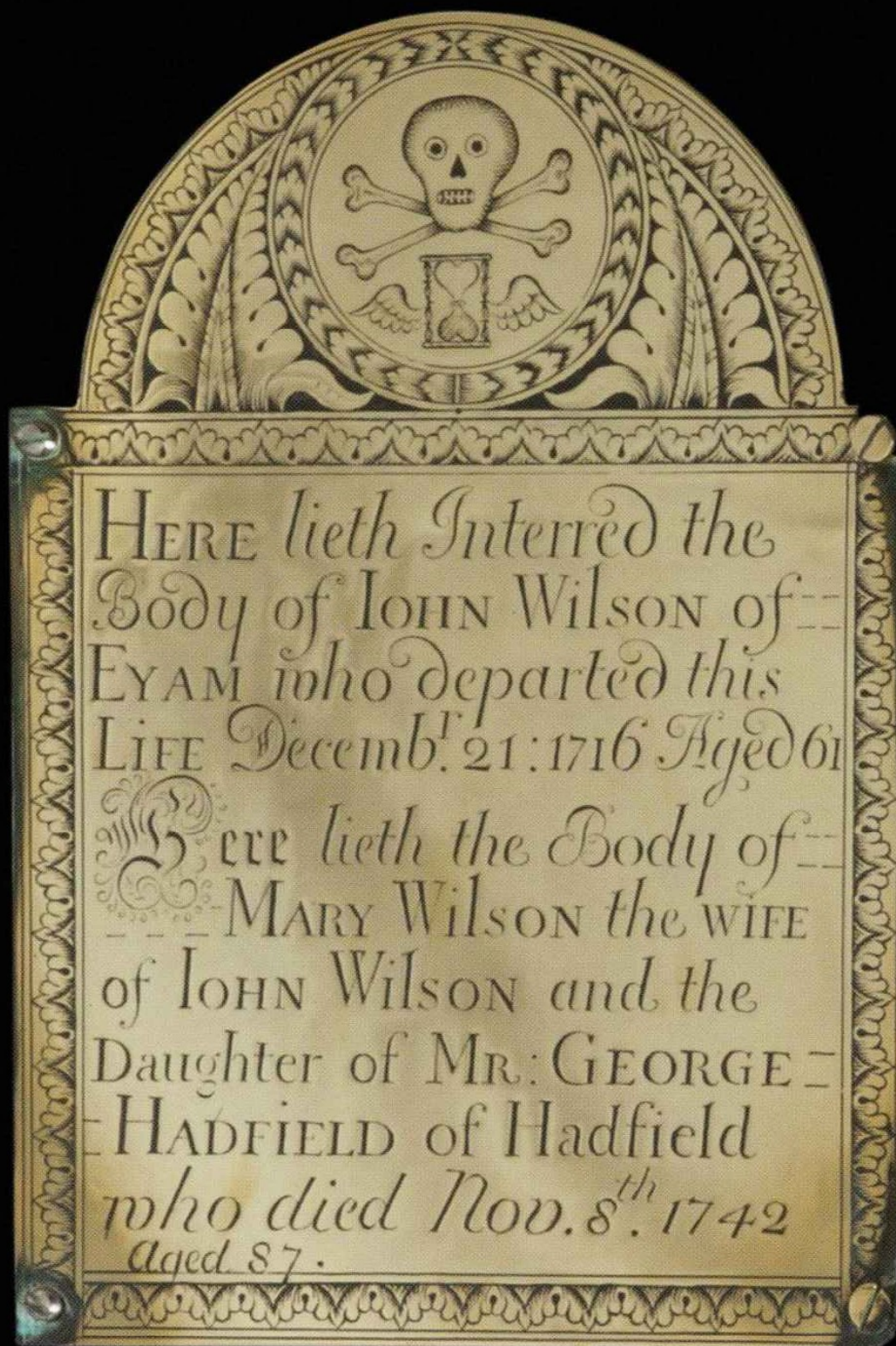
Astwood (Bucks), Monuments in the chancel. The closest is to Samuel Cranmer (d. 1640), then Margaret Lowndes (d. 1764), & William Lowndes (d. 1775).



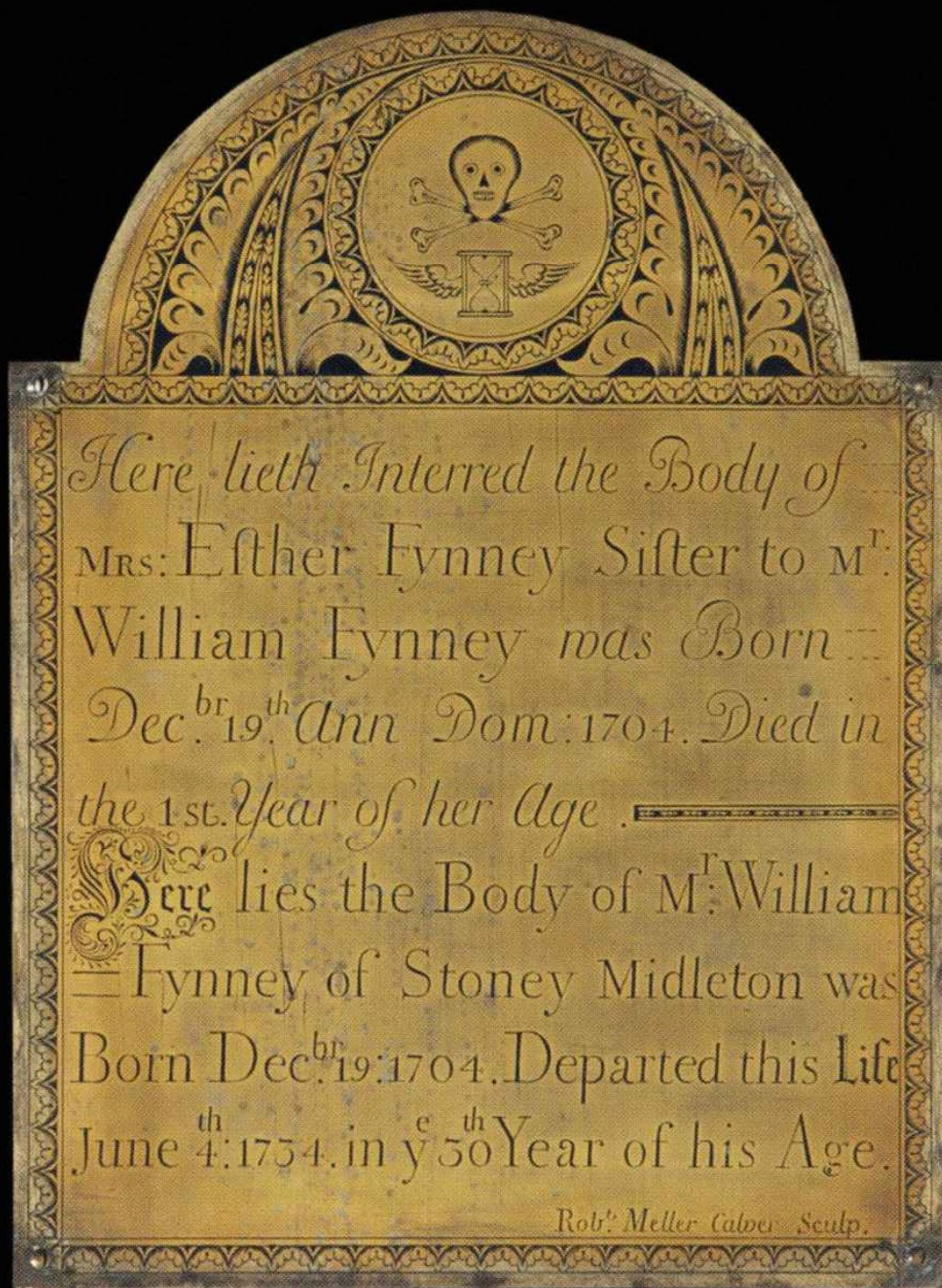
Hardmead (Bucks), monument to Francis Catesby (d.1636). Note the books behind the columns and under the recumbent effigy.



Hathersage (Derbs), Tomb chest with brasses to Robert Eyre (d.1459) and wife.



Eyam (Derbs), brass to John Wilson (d. 1716) and Mary Wilson (d. 1742). Probably by Robert Meller of Calver (Derbs).



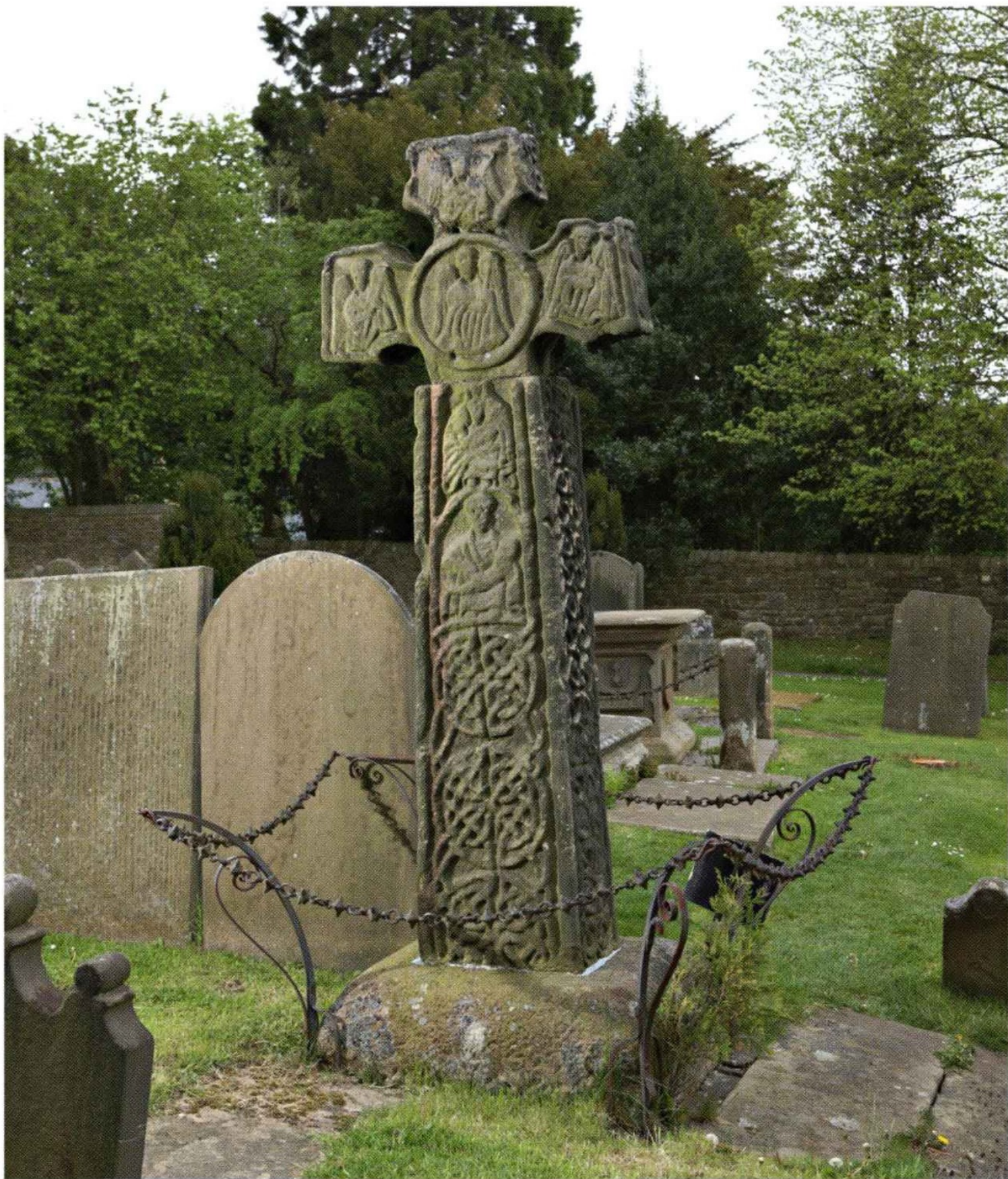
Stoney Middleton (Derbs), brass to Esther Fynney (d. 1704) and William Fynney (d. 1734). Note that at one year old she is titled "Mrs". By Robert Meller of Calver (Derbs).



Above: Lemsford (Herts), Carved scenes dated 1605 & now used as an altar frontal.

Opposite: Sheriff Hutton (Yrk NR), mediaeval door to the vestry.

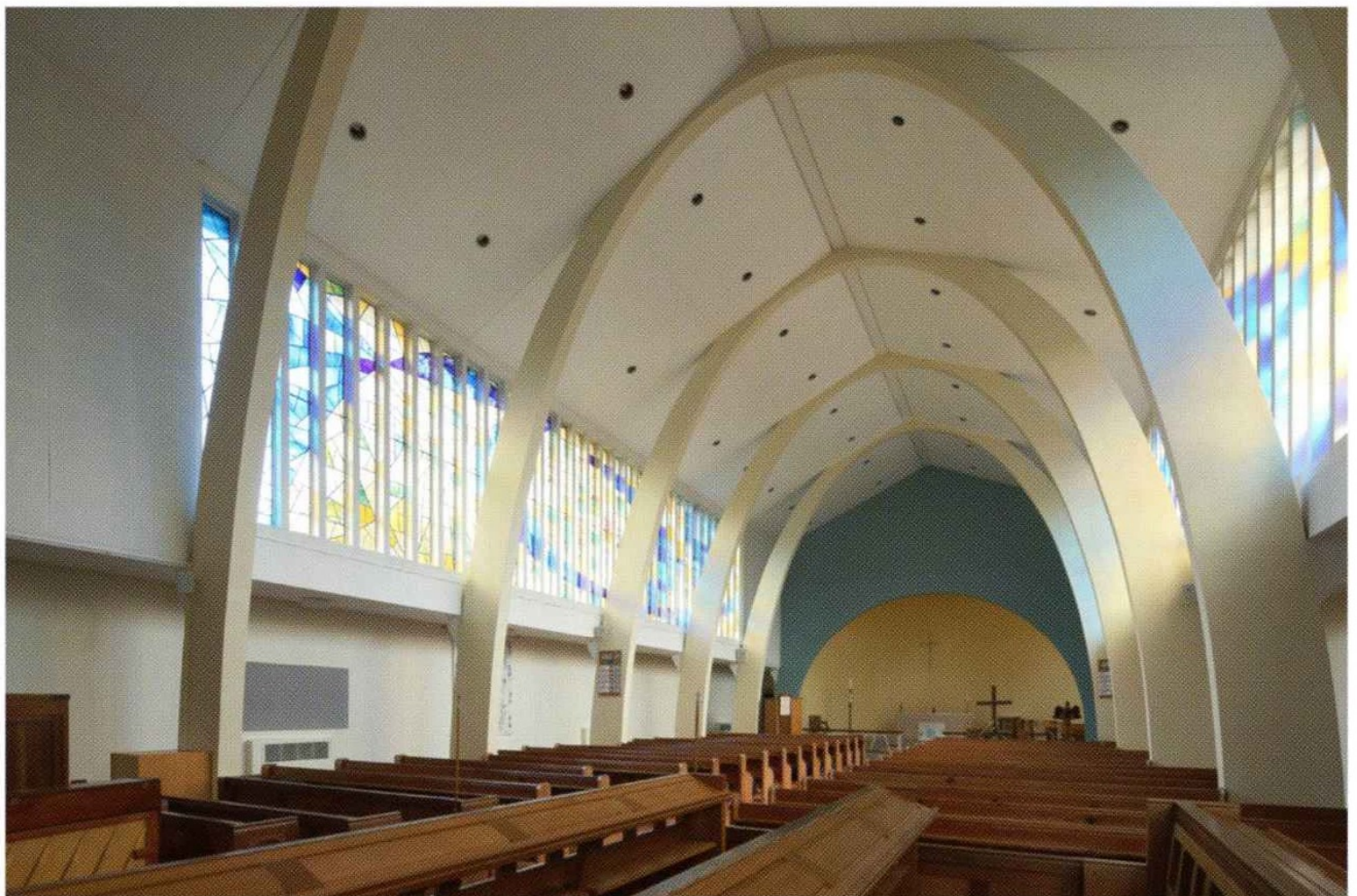


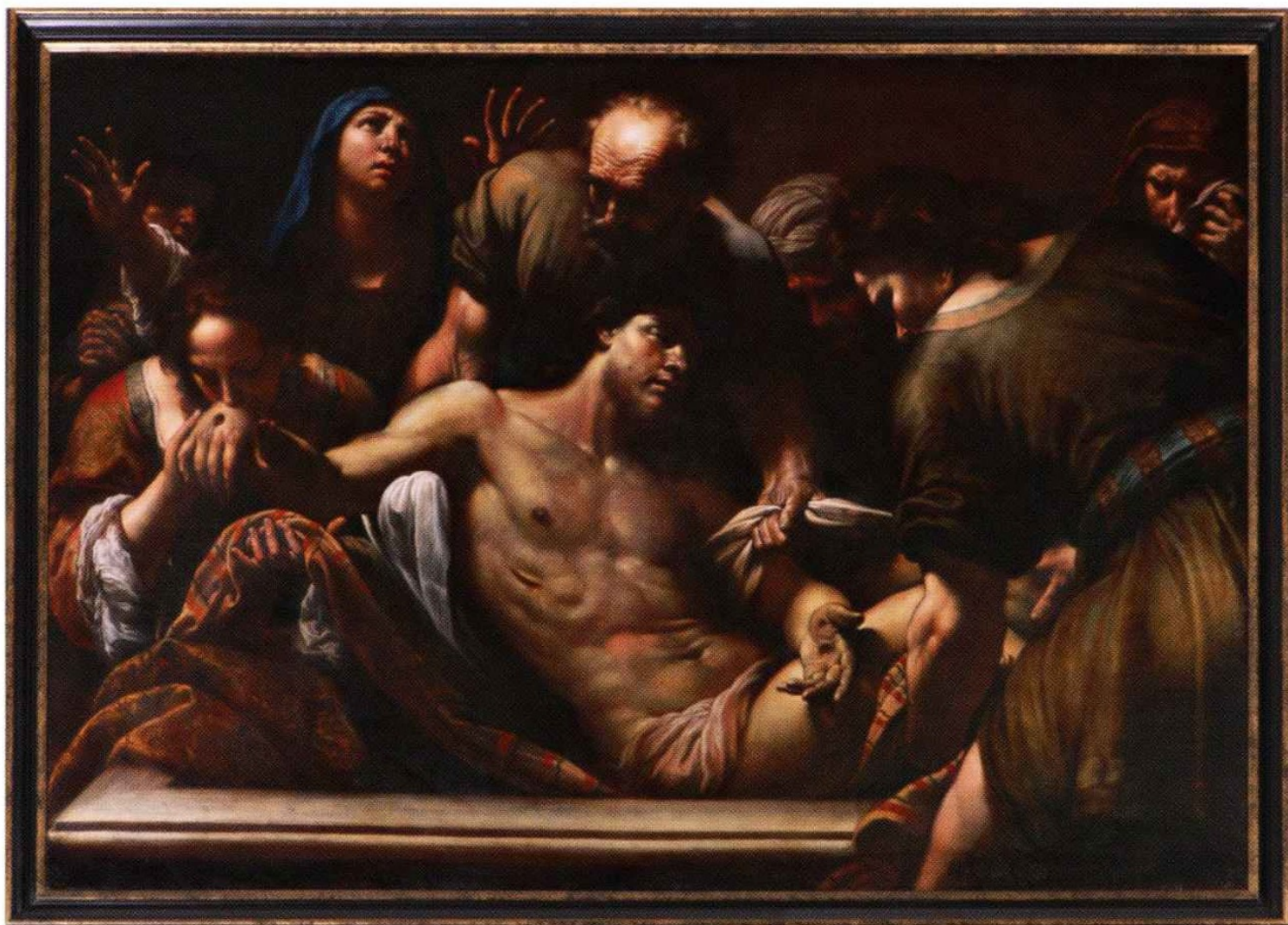


Above: Eyam (Derbs), 8th or 9th century Anglo-Saxon cross in the churchyard.

Opposite top: Warburton (Ches), the old church, interior of nave. A CCT church.

Opposite bottom: Wingerworth (Derbs), north extension to the old church, 1963.



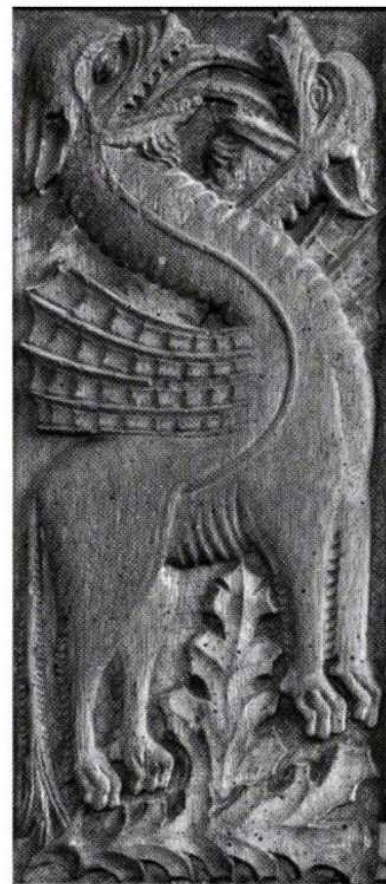
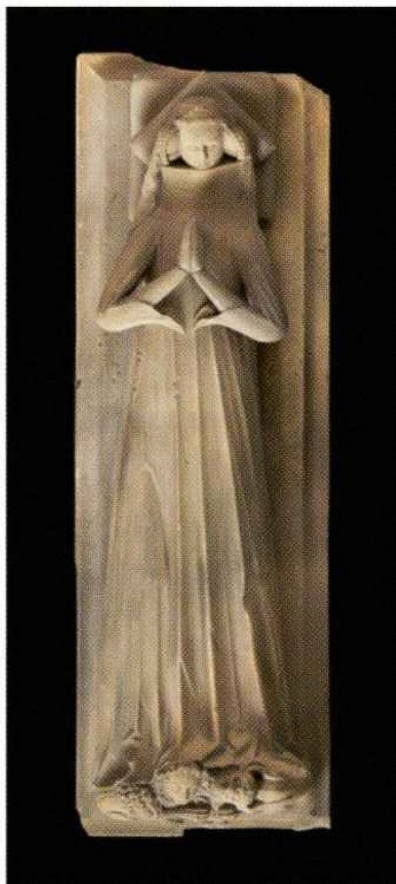


Above: Little Budworth (Ches), *The Entombment*, 17th century painting on canvas.

Right: Church Fenton (Yrk WR), early 14th century effigy of a Lady.

Far right: Hemingbrough (Yrk ER), panel, probably from a bench end, c.1520-30, now mounted on the wall.

Opposite: Worsbrough (Yrk WR), heraldic commemorative board to John Rayne (d. 1632), enlarged and repainted 1684.





Above: Tickencote (Rut), the Norman chancel arch.

Right: Wallington (Herts), hobbyhorse graffito, probably post-1606.

Opposite: Kingsbury Episcopi (Soms), mediaeval carving on the exterior of the tower.





Cadavers and skeletons

Some of the most unusual, not to mention gruesome carvings to be found in English parish churches are shrouded and skeletal effigies. They date from the second quarter of the 15th century (the earliest being to Henry Chichele, 1424/5, although an earlier example in brass of c.1370 was at Brightwell Baldwin, Oxfordshire) through to the late 17th century (the latest being for John Hotham who died in 1689).

While there have been several books and academic articles on this form of sculpture, there currently exists no published complete catalogue for England and, in most cases, very few good photographs of the effigies. One of the reasons for the lack of photographs is because the effigies are usually very difficult to see. This is especially true of the effigies on "double decker" tombs; these displaying an effigy of the person commemorated as if alive or "just dead" on the top, and in their decayed state underneath. The bottom effigies are usually in an enclosed space, or sometimes inside a tomb chest, thus making photography extremely difficult.

The Digital Atlas of England project has already compiled a fairly complete list of these effigies and will, over the next couple of years, attempt to photograph them. A start has already been made, the results of which can be seen in the photographs on the next few pages.

Photographs of the effigies as seen from above show some remarkable and intriguing aspects. Many of the effigies are not anatomically correct - some even grossly inaccurate - reflecting one of their primary functions as reminders of death rather than as accurate representations of the human body.

Further progress will be made during 2016 on the photographic documentation of these fascinating objects. An interim report will be made during the *Death, Art and Anatomy Conference* to be held at the University of Winchester on the 3-6 June 2016.

Following pages:

1. Hatfield (Herts). Robert Cecil (d. 1612).
2. Feniton (Devon). Unidentified male (15th century).
3. Tideswell (Derbs). Sir Sampson Meverell (d. 1462).
4. Ewelme (Oxon). Alice, Duchess of Suffolk (d. 1475)
5. Edensor (Derbs). Henry Cavendish (d. 1616).











