## **Droxford Church Displays**

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www. friends of drox for dchurch. or g.uk



A church may have been established at Droxford by St Wilfrid during his mission to the Meon Valley in the period 681 to 686, but no evidence has yet been found of a building of this period.

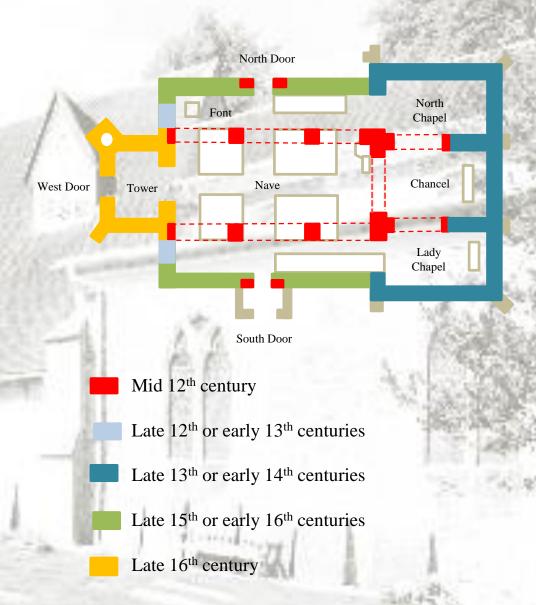
The first historical reference to Droxford was in the year 826, when the manor was granted by King Egbert to the Prior and Monks of the Old Monastery at Winchester.

In 1086 the Domesday Book described 'Drocheneford' as being held by the Bishop of Winchester for the benefit of his monks, and having at that time a church valued at 20s.

The present church could have started as a simple two-cell 12<sup>th</sup> century building with just a nave and chancel. In later centuries aisles and side chapels were added to both sides of the church.

The last major addition to the fabric of the church was the Tudor tower in 1599.

## **South Entrance**



It is believed that the present Lady Chapel was constructed around about the year 1300, and retains its original stone fabric from this period, including the window traceries

To the left of the altar including the window traceries.

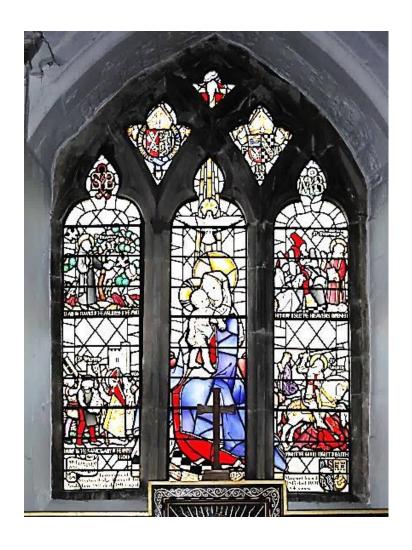
is a stone niche with an ogee shaped canopy, probably dating from the late 14<sup>th</sup> century. The niche shows traces of medieval painting. It would originally have contained a statue. probably of the Virgin Mary, which would most likely have been removed at the time of the Reformation in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.



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The Purbeck marble figure of a woman to the left of the altar is thought to have been part of a memorial erected early in the 14<sup>th</sup> century by John de Drokensford to his mother. It was removed by the Puritans in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but retrieved from a nearby field in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and restored to the church.



The stained glass of the east window, installed in 1938, is a memorial to Stephen Bridge, Rector of Droxford from 1868 to 1886, and his wife Margaret. It was designed by Martin Travers, who was at the time chief instructor in stained glass at Royal the College of Art.

