

# Droxford Church Nineteenth & 20<sup>th</sup> Century

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[www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk](http://www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk)

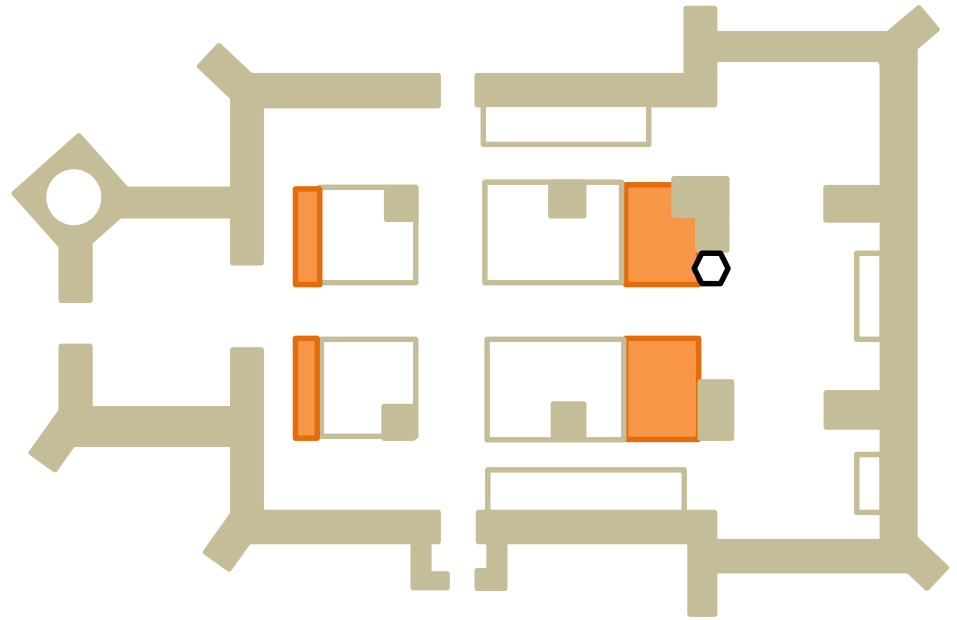


## Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



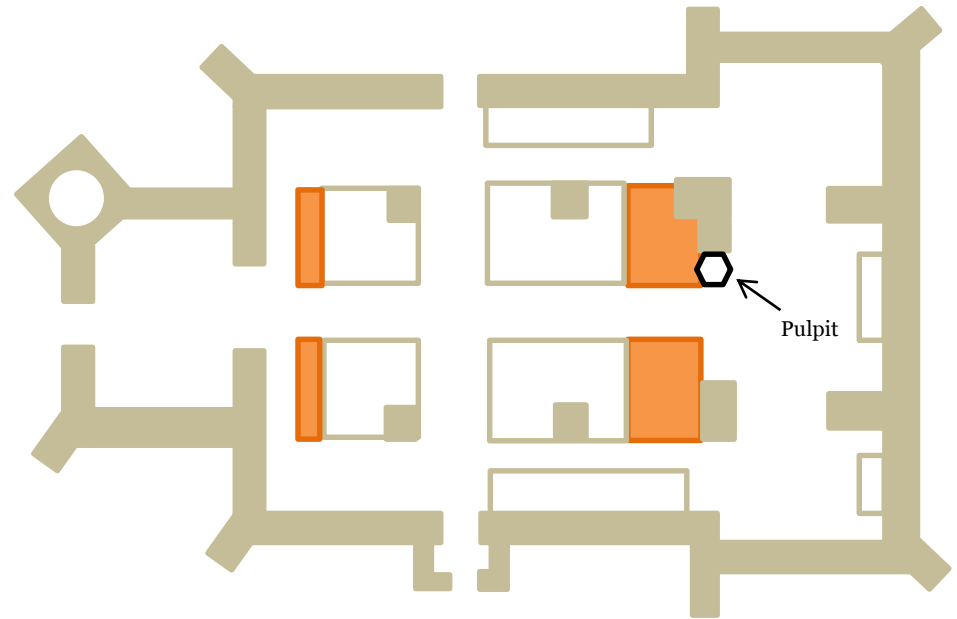
A photograph in the Vestry with the caption 'Droxford Church before the restoration which was made in 1903 by Canon Vaughan' gives some indications as to how St Mary & All Saints was furnished in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

# Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



The present pews had been installed in 1847 in place of Georgian oak box pews (*Memorabilia*). The photograph shows three more rows of pews at the front of the nave than there are now, and one more row at the back. There were also more pews in the side aisles, providing seating for 60 – 80 more people than the present number of pews.

# Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



The medieval rood loft access had not been discovered by Canon Vaughan at this date.



The pulpit was not in its present position in front of the chancel arch, but located under the arch against its north respond, where it would have blocked the view of the altar for many in the congregation.

# Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



The east window contains the glass that was damaged during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. It cannot be seen clearly in this photograph, but an image from Ken Ward's book shows it to better effect.

# Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



The gallery above the east end of the nave had been removed by 1847 (*Memorabilia*). Religious inscriptions have been painted around the chancel arch, and also around the arches of the arcades.



## Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



The brass eagle lectern that is now in use was given by Mr Richard Redfearn Goodlad of Hill Place in memory of his wife who died in 1867, but this is not the lectern in the photograph. Why was Goodlad's lectern not being used at this time? Was it in some other part of the church? What happened to the lectern shown in the photograph?

## Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



The panelling behind the altar is quite different to the present plain oak panelling installed soon after the photograph was taken. It is the form of a blind arcade, with texts, which might have included the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Creed. There appear to be no candles on the altar, no sign of a crucifix, and only one book, presumably the Bible.



## Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



There seems to be only one step up to the altar, and the altar rail, preceding reinstatement of the Jacobean altar rails early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, appears to be of brass. The altar table in the photograph was put in the Vestry after reinstatement of the Jacobean table in the same period. It is recorded in 1934 that when it was replaced in the Vestry by an oak flap table 'A faculty was obtained for the removal and destruction of this old and now worm-eaten piece of Victorian furniture and it was burnt to ashes on the Rectory premises.' (*Memorabilia*)

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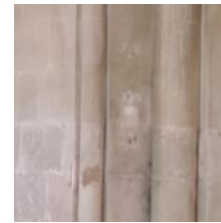


‘For a long period the character of the Church services in Droxford Church was that of the extreme Evangelical type. The Rev. Stephen Bridge was of that type of Churchmanship .... and was jealous for the appearance of the Church’ (*Memorabilia*). This evangelical approach is likely to be the reason that St Mary & All Saints did not suffer from a major Victorian gothic-style restoration, as occurred in so many other churches.

# Droxford Church during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries



Oil lamps are fitted either side of the chancel arch. The fitting holes for these can still be seen.



The numbers in the hymn boards, which are assumed to come from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* of that time, suggest that the decorations shown in the photograph are for Harvest Festival.