

Droxford Church Plan guide

Author: Michael Collins

www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk





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The window in the north west corner depicts the Creation. It is by Carl Edwards, who also designed stained glass for Liverpool Cathedral and the House of Lords.



Above the pulpit is access to a medieval rood loft, which ran across the chancel arch, and carried a representation of the crucifixion.



The pillars of the nave and chancel were part of the walls of the Norman church. Remnants of the original windows can be seen in the chancel.



The font is from the 20th century, but in a 12th century Norman style. Nearby are several memorials to the Morley family, who lived at the Manor House.

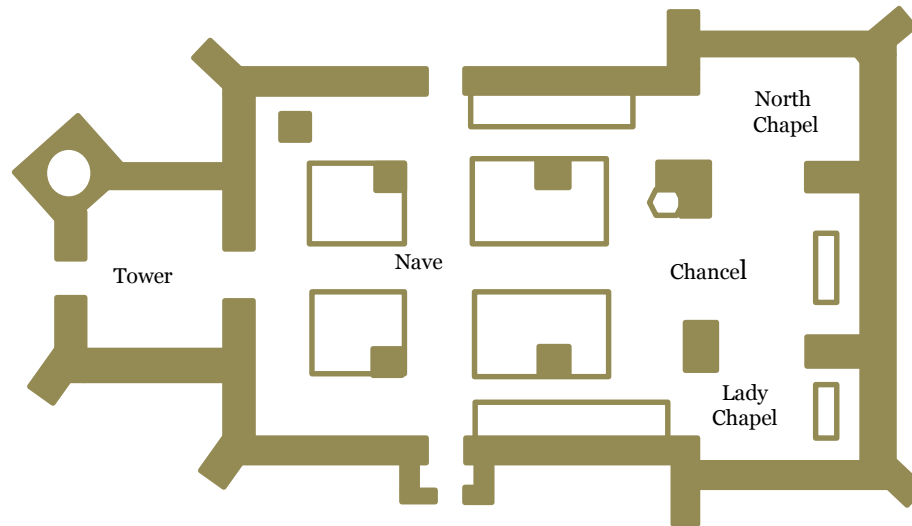


The pulpit is a 19th century copy of a 15th century design, given to Droxford in 1882 by St Matthew's, Denmark Hill.



The chancel arch has distinctive Norman zigzag carving. It can be seen where it was raised by about 4 feet during the 19th century.

The altar rails are Jacobean. The oak panelling in the sanctuary was made early in the 20th century in a similar style.



The stained glass in the east window was installed as a memorial to members of the Hulbert family after it suffered bomb damage during the Second World War.

The figure of a woman in the Lady Chapel is thought to have been part of a memorial erected by John de Drokensford to his parents.



There are faint remains of wall paintings on the arches of the south arcade. These may date from medieval times.



The Lady Chapel was consecrated in 1316 by John de Drokensford, son of a local squire who had by then was Bishop of Bath & Wells.



St Wilfrid is depicted in the east window of the Lady Chapel with the builders of St Mary & All Saints, and the church in the background.

The stained glass window in the south corner of the church was installed to mark the Millennium in 2000.



The stained glass in the south wall of the Lady Chapel is from about 1900. The right hand window shows Mary Magdalene and the risen Christ.



A medieval piscina, used for washing communion vessels, was uncovered in the Lady Chapel in the early 20th century.



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The oak screen leading to the Lady Chapel was designed by Sir Charles Nicholson in 1935.



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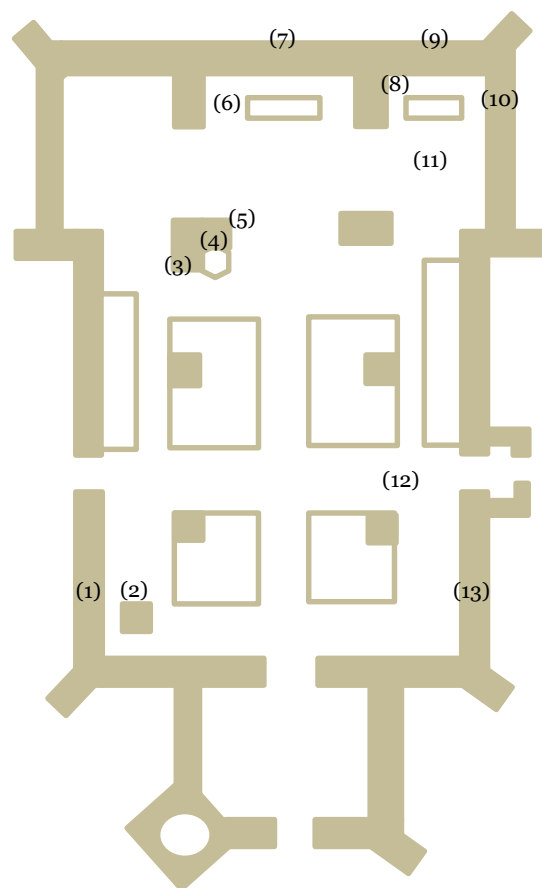
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Above the arch from the chancel to the Lady Chapel are segments of the stonework of the original windows.

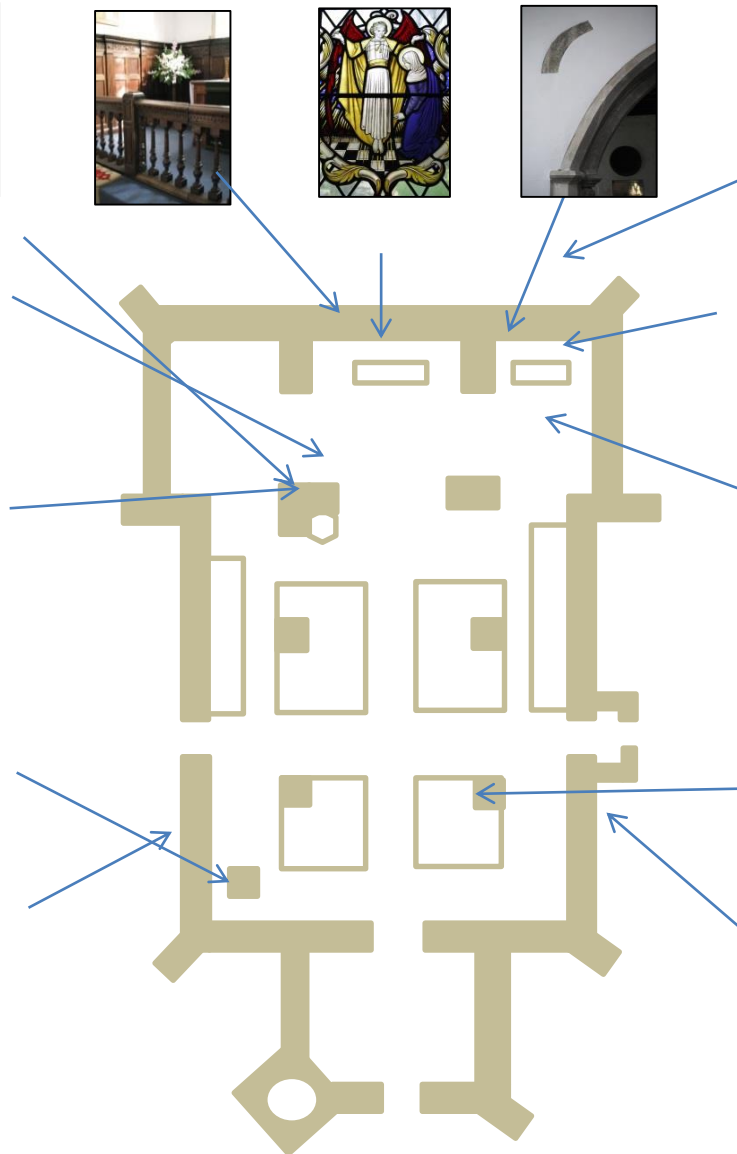
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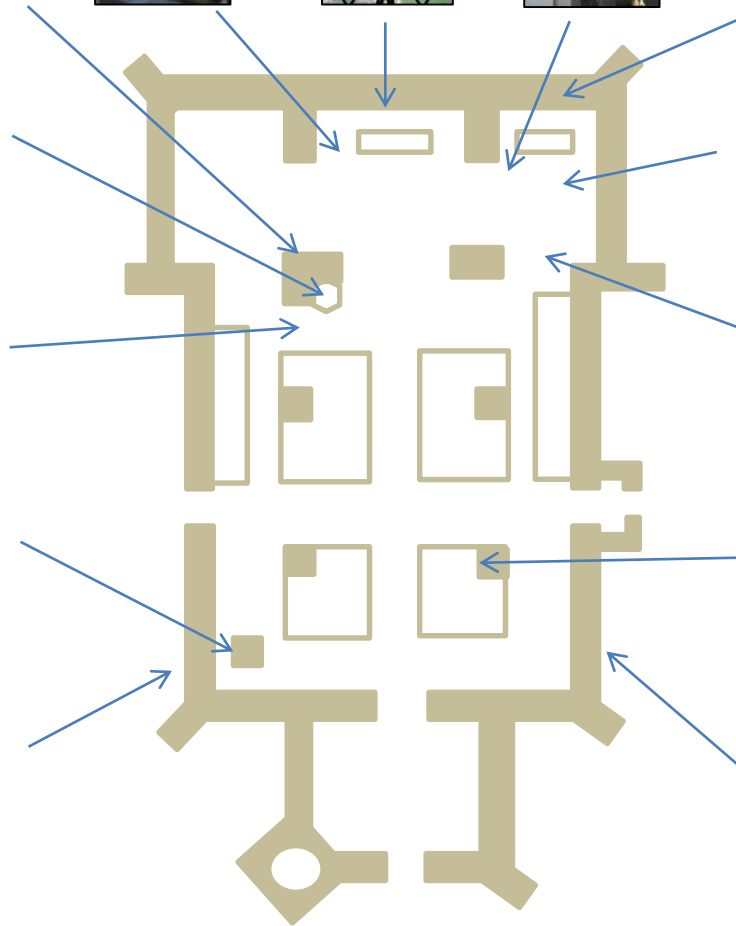
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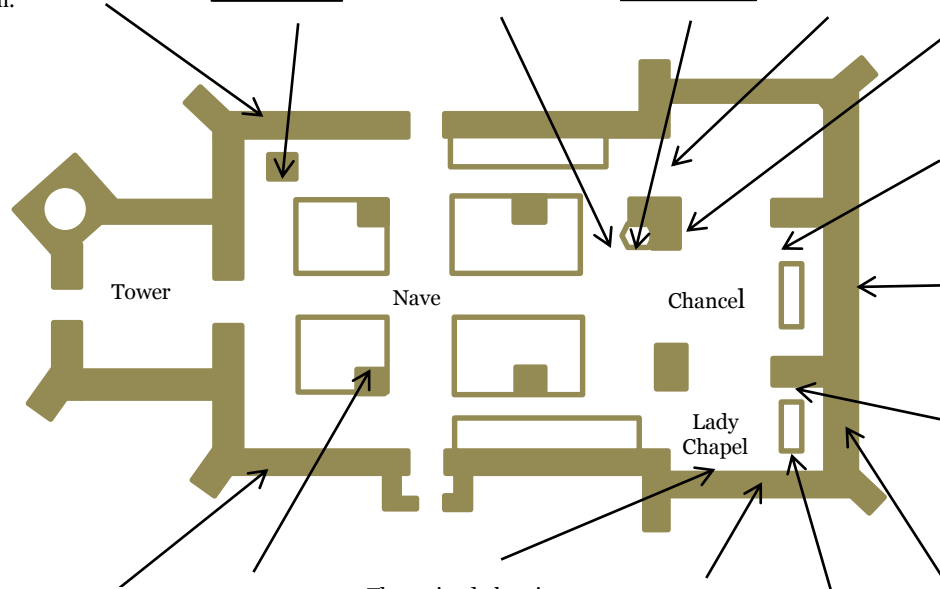
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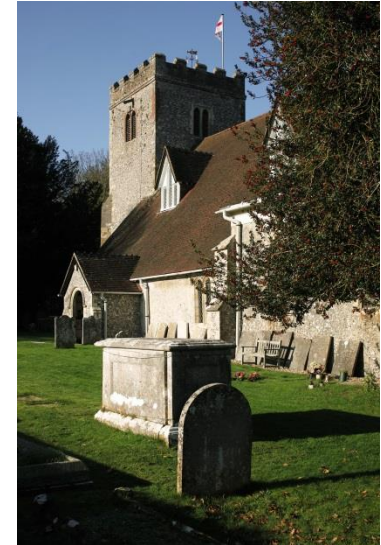
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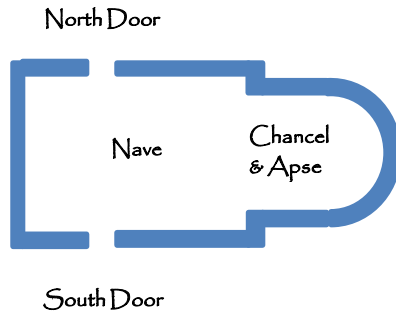
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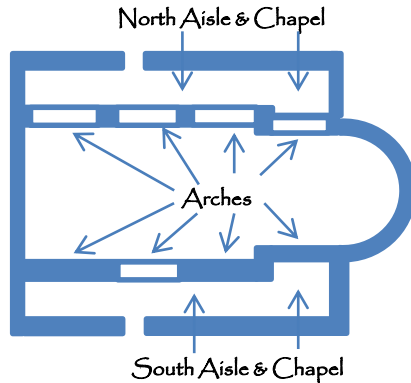
St Mary & All Saints Droxford



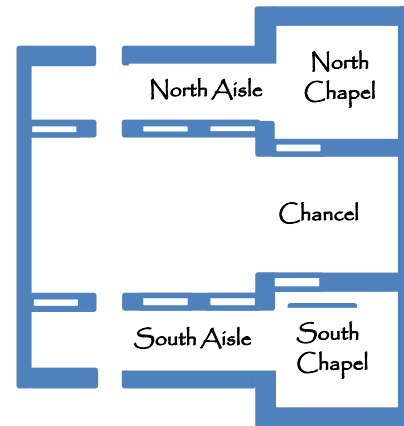
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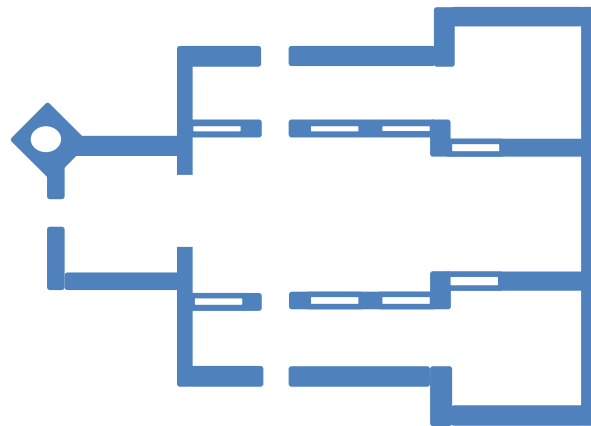
The original Norman church, dating from about 1150, would have had just a nave and a chancel, possibly ending in a semi-circular apse. The chancel arch would have stood in its present position, with the north and south doorways located in the walls of the nave



From the end of the 12th century narrow side aisles and chapels were built. The Norman outer walls were pierced with arches to become internal arcades, and the north and south doorways moved to the outer walls of the aisles.



The north and south chapels may have been enlarged at the end of the 13th and beginning of the 14th century. The apse could have been removed at the same time to leave a rectangular chancel. At the end of the 15th century both side aisles were widened by a few feet.



The present tower may have been built in 1599, as indicated by the plaque above the West Door. Some records indicate that there may have been an earlier tower with a spire.



The elaborately carved Norman doorways were moved to the outer walls when the aisles were added between the end of the 12th century and the beginning of the 14th century.

There are four medieval mass dials on the south side of the church, used to indicate the time of services. Two of them can be found on the jambs of the south doorway .



Above the west door is a plaque with the date AD1599. This may refer to the construction of the present tower, although the plaque itself and the stonework of the doorway itself appear to be later.



The Lady Chapel



The Lady Chapel was consecrated in 1316 by John de Drokensford, who was son of the local squire, and at various times Rector of Droxford, Keeper of the King's Wardrobe to Edward I, Chancellor of the Exchequer to Edward II, and a chaplain to the Pope.

The Purbeck marble figure of a woman in the Lady Chapel is likely to have been part of the altar tome erected by John de Drokensford to his mother. It was buried in a nearby field at the time of the Puritans, and restored to the church in the 19th century.



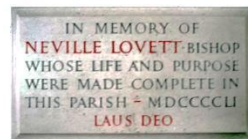
The Virgin and Child are depicted at the centre of the east window. Mary is clothed in the blue with which she became associated in the Middle Ages, since this pigment, derived from lapis lazuli, was the most precious in an artist's palette.

To the left of the altar is a stone niche with an ogee shaped canopy, probably dating from the late 14th century. The niche shows traces of medieval painting. It would originally have contained a statue, which would have been removed by the Puritans in the 17th century.



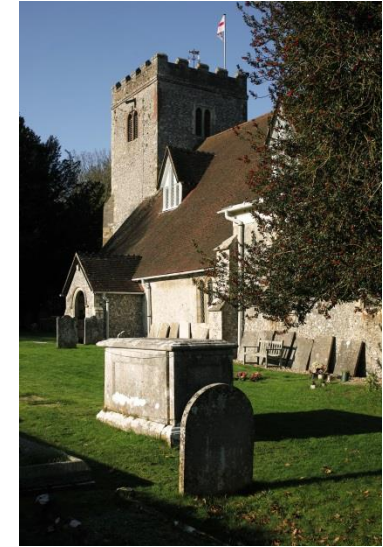
A pre-Reformation piscina, used for washing communion vessels, was uncovered to the right of the altar during restoration of the church in the early 20th century. There are others in the North Chapel and under the oak panelling in the chancel.

The stained glass of the windows in the south wall of the Lady Chapel dates from about 1900 The right hand window shows Mary Magdalene with the risen Christ.



A memorial on the south wall commemorates Neville Lovett, first Bishop of Portsmouth and later Bishop of Salisbury, who retired to Droxford in 1946. The Lady Chapel is also known as the Bishop Lovett chapel.

St Mary & All Saints Droxford



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