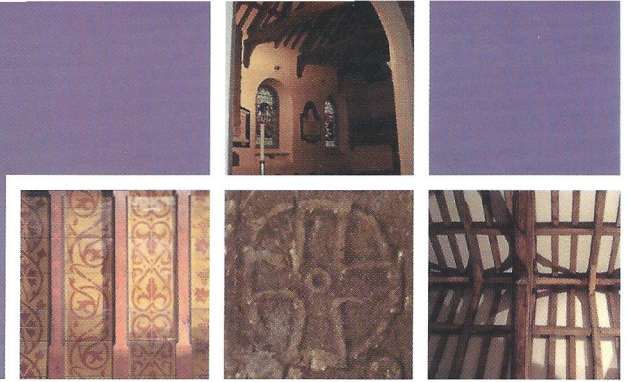
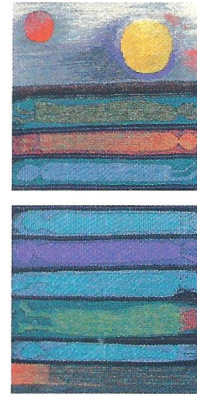


Discovering St Peter's Church, Addingham

'Creating a Christian Timeline for Addingham'



Welcome to St Peter's Church. Please take a moment to sit and absorb the tranquility of this ancient place whose Christian history goes back to Anglo-Saxon times. The first stone church was built between 1155 and 1181. Most of the interior, including the timbers in the oak ceiling, dates from the 16th century. (A separate leaflet about the roof is available.) The South wall, Gallery and Chancel date from the 18th and 19th centuries.

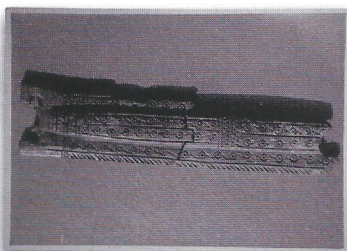


LOTTERY FUNDED

+ Please use this guide to show yourself around the church. Points of interest are identified on the plan, which can be found overleaf. An audio guide with music may be playing during your visit.

From the entrance, turn left to walk past the stone font. **1** Its position reminds us that Christians enter their faith through baptism. On your left step up into the memorial corner. **2** The Roll of Honour has 264 names of men who fought in the 1914-18 war. The village population at the time was 2000.

In the top of a book case, a bone fragment from a Viking comb case is displayed. **3** Discovered in the grounds of the Old Rectory in 1976, it has been dated to the 9th century.



As you leave this area walk forward into the north aisle. The scientific dating of the roof timbers in 2007 supports the view that the aisle was added in the 1520s. The round headed windows and shaped mullions are typical of Tudor buildings. **4**



The ends of the wall supports are carved with various designs, including the coat of arms of the Vavasour family, **5** Lords of the Manor until 1698.

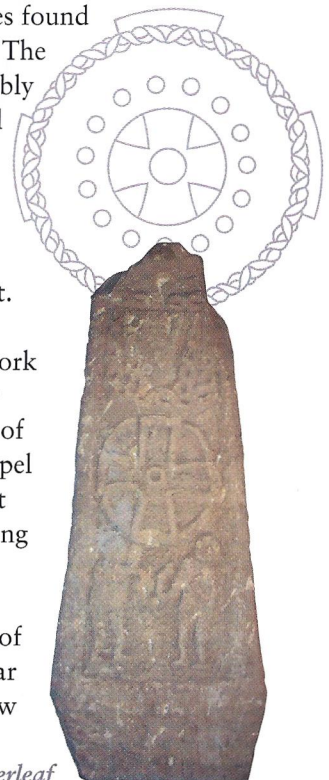
On your left is the board which lists the names of the Rectors of the church. **6** The first name is that of Archbishop Wulfhere of York who fled to his manor here in 867 when York was attacked by Danish forces.

On the front window sill of the aisle are two of the oldest remaining lead memorials. **7**

On the north wall of the aisle, inside the side chapel, is the oldest object in the church - the shaft of a stone cross. **8** This was dug up in the church grounds in 1946. It was carved in the 9th century and is similar to other crosses found in the area. The cross probably had a wheel head and the base would have fitted into a stone socket.

The stonework of the pillar to the right of the side chapel has been cut away, creating a 'squint' opening to give a view of the high altar from the new aisle. **9**

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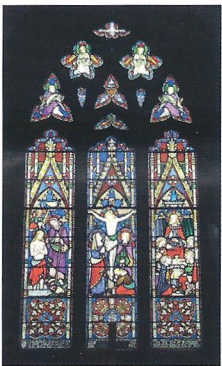


It is likely that the walls of the arch were decorated with religious pictures. They may have been painted over in the time of Oliver Cromwell, possibly in 1650.

The impressive arch leads into the chancel. The painted roof dates from the 19th century. ¹⁰ It is in the style of Pugin, the architect of the Houses of Parliament.



¹¹ The wall tablets and stained glass windows are memorials for members of two important Addingham families who were related by marriages. The Cunliffe Lister family were important mill owners during the 19th century, and members of the Thompson Coates family were Rectors in the parish whose ministries spanned 150 years.



¹² The organ was installed in 1861. It was electrified in 1958 and enhanced with electronic technology in 2000.

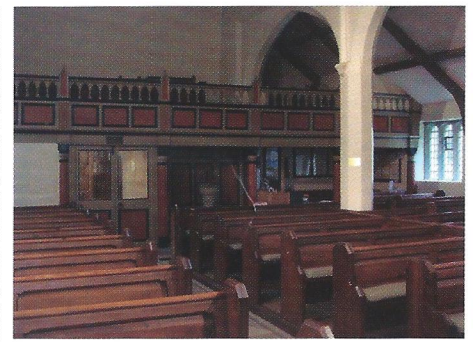
The variety and quality of its sound were greatly improved.

The oak furniture in the chancel ¹³ was carved by Thompson of Kilburn. The maker's mark of a mouse can be found on 14 pieces of furniture in the church. Children enjoy hunting for them.

The nave ¹⁴ is the oldest part of the building though it has undergone a number of structural changes over the centuries. On one of the pillars there is a painted stone shield of the Vavasour family - a black chevron on gold. ¹⁵



The principal rafter in the Tudor roof ¹⁶ is curved at the bottom to help transfer the weight to the walls. This feature appears to be a local innovation. There are also carpenters' marks on the roof beams which resemble those on beams at the Great Barn at Bolton Abbey.



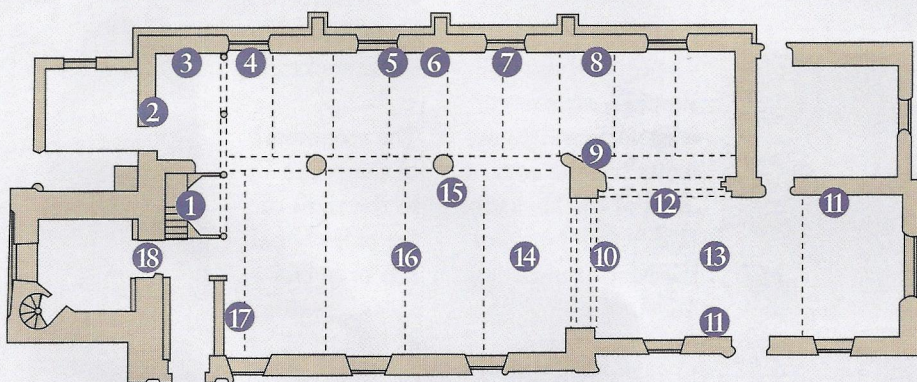
As you face the entrance you can examine the Gallery. ¹⁷ This was built as part of a major building programme in 1757. It provided extra seating and may have been used by musicians and singers. At the same time the Tower was built with six bells which are still rung for services today. These changes may have coincided with a larger congregation, influenced by the Methodist Revival.

The door into the bell tower is seen from the inner porch. ¹⁸ It is from the 15th century and was reused from elsewhere in the building.

+ Please spend a few moments in prayer and contemplation before you leave. May God bless you on your journey.
Thank you for visiting.

Plan of St. Peter's Church, Addingham

Major points of interest:



- 1 Font
- 2 Roll Of Honour
- 3 Viking bone fragment/comb case
- 4 Round headed windows
- 5 Vavasour family coat of arms
- 6 List of Church Rectors
- 7 Lead memorials
- 8 Stone cross
- 9 'Squint' opening in pillar
- 10 Chancel and roof
- 11 Wall tablets/stained glass windows
- 12 Organ
- 13 Oak furniture
- 14 Nave
- 15 Vavasour family stone shield
- 16 Principal roof rafter
- 17 Gallery
- 18 Bell tower door

