



THE CHURCH TRAIL: ALL SAINTS



RNE

Notable

Like many churches in the area, All Saints is on high ground giving you a commanding view. From the road it looks like a castle because of the high walls. All Saints' has been extensively altered on many occasions. The main tower was traditionally the north door, so people avoid using a door, so people avoid using a door.

Outside

The large churchyard has a wide variety of styles, and a tombstone which is very clean. Emblem of ornate vent

Inside

The church is white, this gives light and a sense of spaciousness. There is a mounted sideways on the wall opposite the entrance. Near this the pews of Carisbrooke Castle five miles away. Behind the f Leonardo Da Vinci's last supper carved in stone. Above these a variety of beautifully carved faces.



The origins of the church

Calbourne is one of the five ancient settlements on the Isle of Wight. So it appears in the detailed inspection of how much tax everyone should pay by the Normans, the Domesday Book.

In 1086 it was as a possession of Malger, the Archbishop of Rouen, an uncle of William the Conqueror this tells us that is must have been valuable and therefore important. The silver chalice, of a later date, is too valuable to be used now so it is kept in Carisbrooke Castle Museum, but is proof of the great wealth.

Sadly, none of the building from 1086 is visible today. What we can see is from the Thirteenth Century and later. By this time there were two large manor houses nearby, Swainston and Westover. These estates, along with the houses along Winkle Street necessitated a fairly large church.

The Victorian era and after

The enlargements in the Nineteenth Century have not been welcomed by all, even to the first Norman church here, of which there are now no remains.

The main door has a pattern above that was typical of Norman doors. An eminent church historian, Charles Cox, writing in 1911 was deeply critical saying that 'what it was unsuitable alongside the rest of All Saints' Century. What do you think?

Also, the font that has been 'mutilated' by having its corners in the Nineteenth Century. The pews face in many directions and this has come about because of the extensions church seems to lack focus.

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Some of the many interesting features at All Saints', Calbourne

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Outside



Door with mesh to stop sheep entering



Door cut through two windows

Inside



Normanesque Door



The East Window

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Brick Table Tomb

Coffin Grave

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Memorial Brass

Pulpit



Organ Vent



Mother & Baby crosses



Reredos



Carved Keystone



Stone Corbel



Steps to Crypt

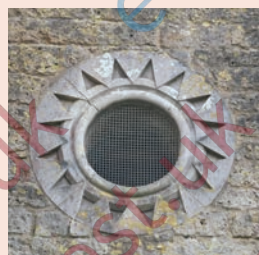


Stone Corbel

Bishop's Chair



Weather Vane



Sun-shaped Window



Carisbrooke Castle graffiti



Skeleton Memorial

