

ST. LAWRENCE HUNWORTH

A walking guide to the building history of the church - the numbers relate to its historical development.

7 THE WEST TOWER

Often prestige of the local community was reflected in the height of its church tower and the number of church bells. Hunworth had six in 1605!

The 3 lower stages of the current tower probably replaced an earlier tower and date from @ 1370. The belfry stage was added later with the diagonal buttresses and modifications to the internal tower arch providing additional structural support.

The design of the lower tower windows is similar to those in Swanton Morley. Notice the Saxon cross in the walls and the Star of David on the buttresses

8 THE SOUTH PORCH A single storey, disproportionately tall - typical of middle 1400s. Complex flint work, coursed cut, some squared with galleting. Notice, on the lower diagonal buttresses, the knapped flint design of an L surmounted by a crown and a griddle, which refers to St. Lawrence's martyrdom.

The similarity of the external arch mouldings to those at Wiveton and on the Erpingham gate at Norwich Cathedral gives us an insight into medieval masonry techniques.

Notice the Rev. Fullager's Lamp hanging in the porch.

1. NAVE

The scale of the aisle-less nave is typical of early Norman churches - compare with All Saints at Newton by Castle Acre

4. EXTERNAL NORTH WALL

The wall construction of loose coursed flints could date from early 1100. Much evidence of re-working with 2 blocked doorways. Notice the quoins at the west end.

5 NORTH DOORWAY

AND THE TWO LIGHT TRACERY WINDOW date from 1300.

6 PERPENDICULAR WINDOWS

date from the 1350s and provide evidence of changes in design & construction arising from the impact of the Black Death. Notice the number of rectors holding office in 1349 and 1361/2.

10. THE ORIGINAL CHANCEL

was devastated in 1779 by a great gale. There is evidence of wall murals based on the Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Corporal Works of Mercy.

This chancel is a Victorian restoration of c. 1850, directed by The Rev. James Bulwer, a well-known Norfolk antiquarian and artist. The East window has been described, somewhat critically, as a 'bizarre attempt to give Victorian flamboyance to a triple stepped lancet arrangement...' [See over page for more details]

Poppy head benches are also c. 1850.

9 SOUTH TRANSEPT

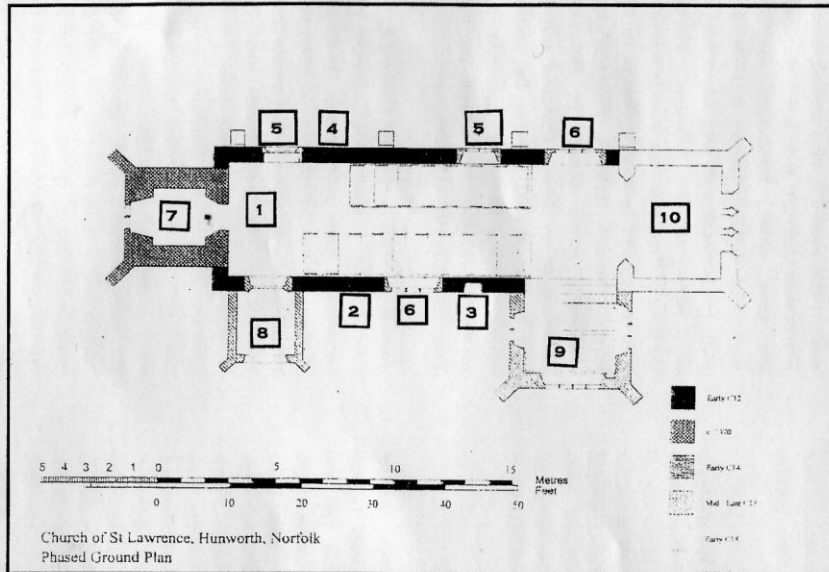
A well-designed structure - evidence of a wealthy and well-informed patron. Dated from 1450. This was the Lady's chapel with a piscina for washing church vessels.

The internal roof is the only extant medieval carpentry in the church.

Notice the plinth course and diagonal buttresses. Walls of closely laid course whole & knapped flints with galleting.

A unified group of 3 windows with panel tracery typical of later medieval design and technical developments. Tudor arches unusual for eastern counties.

Notice the roofline - the gables, crosses, pinnacles and gargoyles.



Church of St. Lawrence, Hunworth, Norfolk
Phased Ground Plan

2. EXTERNAL SOUTH WALL

whole flints laid in wider courses typical of early flint work.

Notice the blocked doorway, roman tiles and car stones in the wall. It is just possible to see the original conglomerate west quoins before the church was extended. Flint walls would have been rendered and lime washed

3. THE BLOCKED

DOUBLE SPAYED

WINDOW has splays facing both inside and outside. [See over page for more details]