



**ARCHIVAL RESEARCH  
SKIPWITH CHURCH**

**REPORT**  
October 1998

*On behalf of:*

Mike Griffiths and Associates  
Houlgate House  
128/ 130 Clifton  
York  
YO30 6BQ



# FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS LTD

University of York  
King's Manor  
York YO1 2EP

TELEPHONE: (01904) 433952  
FACSIMILE: (01904) 433902  
E-MAIL: arch18@york.ac.uk

*Prepared by:*

Kate Giles MA

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*Reviewed by:*

Annette Roe MA MIFA

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The parish of Skipwith is located nine miles south east of the city of York, on a geological foundation of outwash sands and clay, with areas of alluvium adjacent to the river Derwent. This river forms the eastern boundary of the parish, whilst to the north the village is bounded by a stream towards Riccall. Another stream to the north (known as Dam dike) is joined at the Riccall boundary by Holmes dike, the principal stream within the village itself. To the south the parish boundary with South Duffield and Cliffe lies beyond Skipwith common. The parish encompasses 6258 acres, including the township of North Duffield, and part of the hamlet of Menthorp, and is surrounded by 800 acres of common heath and woodland, parts of which are designated S.S.S.I.

### 1.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The historic importance of Skipwith is in part due to its location on the Selby-Market Weighton market route, as well as the York-Howden road. The VCH (1976) records that an Anglian settlement and sheep farm existed in the area, and there is certainly Anglo-Saxon fabric in the church tower of St. Helen's. It is also possible that the enclosure surrounding the church dates to this period. The village is mentioned in Domesday. Before the Conquest it was held by Gam, but by 1086 its three carucates had been granted to Hugh, son of Baldric (VCH iii, 1976, 89-101). It was also in 1086 that the church of Skipwith was granted to the Bishop of Durham. By the 1120s it had passed to Durham Priory and its church at Howden (which became collegiate in 1267). The church is therefore part of the Howdenshire peculiar, but it also lies within the deanery of Bulmer, and its records are also to be found under the deanery of Harthill.

The wealth of the village may be partly attributed to the various manorial estates in the area, and partly to the trade generated by the market and fair at North Duffield, which received a licence in the thirteenth century. Skipwith's importance is also indicated by the fact that a ferry across the river Derwent is known to have existed from at least the thirteenth century onwards (YAS xiii). A bridge with a toll house was built across it in 1793, the same year as the Selby-Market Weighton road was turnpiked.

Several manors are known from documentary and manorial sources, and are discussed in detail by the VCH (1976, 89-101). However, it is worth noting that the Skipwith or Thorpe family appear in connection with the moated manor site adjacent to the church during the early thirteenth century. In 1454 William Skipwith was granted a licence for a portable altar there (Cal.Papal Reg. x, 680). The house appears to have survived until 1657 when it was apparently 'prostrated and demolished' (ERRO DDFA/ 14/ 19), although a cottage known as the 'Moat Hall' survived on the site until 1973 (VCH iii 1976, 89-101). Parts of the present manor house dates to the late seventeenth century and may represent Richard Herbert's house, which contained seven hearths in 1672, and is well documented from 1705 onwards. The manor of North Duffield was held, albeit contentiously, by the Percy family in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, before it passed to the Salvain family (VCH iii 1976, 89-101).

## 1.2 SKIPWITH CHURCH

In 1084 the Anglo-Saxon foundation of Skipwith church was granted to the Bishop of Durham, but by the 1120s it had subsequently been granted to Durham Priory. The Priory's church at Howden was made collegiate in 1267, and the prebendary of Skipwith was endowed with the church in 1280. In 1226 it seems that the minister lived on a toft near to the church, but a parsonage house was established in 1280 (the same year as the prebendal endowment). Evidence for secular patronage clearly survives in the architectural fabric of the building, and in 1333 Richard d'Avranches was licensed to grant land, rent and turf to a chaplain to celebrate at St. Mary's altar (Cal. Pat 1330-4, 401).

The church, however, contains much earlier fabric. The tower consists of at least two phases of Anglo-Saxon work, which extends into the first two bays of the present nave. This has been interpreted as evidence of a two bay nave with a single storey western porch, built up to form a western tower slightly later in the Anglo-Saxon period. The Anglo-Saxon material was broken through during the twelfth century, probably after the church was granted to Durham Priory in the 1120s. Two bay arcades to the north and south were added, and these were extended by a further bay in the thirteenth century. The chancel was constructed in the fourteenth century. The belfry tower was added in the fifteenth century, and originally supported a steeple. The south porch was constructed in 1821-2 and the church was restored by Pearson in 1876-7.

## 2.0 SURVEY OF SOURCES: AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

The survey of documentary sources relating to Skipwith parish church was designed to inform the project design for the archaeological recording and interpretation of the site in the context of structural problems in the tower and nave. It was concerned to establish whether these were historic problems, since preliminary archaeological analysis had identified at least two early phases of repair within the tower itself. The documentary research sought to link these features with specific programmes of restoration and repair. It therefore focused on sources which would indicate parochial expenditure on building work (particularly two volumes of churchwardens accounts from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and notes within parish registers), ecclesiastical records which referred to the state of the church (Visitations), or applications for architectural alterations to the church fabric (Faculties). Most of these records dated to the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, but earlier sources have been examined where they survive. A full list of existing sources is included in Appendix 1, and recommendations for further work are made in 4.0 below.

### 3.0 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE FOR SKIPWITH CHURCH

#### *Early records of structural repair: Visitations*

The early references to Skipwith Church suggest that the building was in a poor state during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The Visitation of 1578/ 9 recorded that ‘the chauncell is in decaie’ (V1578/ 9 CB1, f.193v) and repairs to the church and the ‘ayles’ appear to have been carried out in 1590/ 1 (V1590/ 1 CB1, f.112v-113r). These do not appear to have been too successful, for in 1604 it was again noted that the church was still in decay, and orders were made for it to be repaired before Michelmas (V1604 CB1, f.69r). The later seventeenth century records are less illuminating, but in 1662-3 the incumbent Philip Herbert was presented ‘for not repairing the Church Windowes’ (V1662/ 3 CB1, f.48r). A more serious campaign of work is suggested by the presentment of Jacob Woodburn of Menthorp in 1712-3 for not paying his assessment ‘to the repairs of the church of Skipwith’ (V1712/ 3 CB, f.96r).

#### 3.1 THE TOWER

The preliminary archaeological analysis of the tower suggested that there had been at least two series of structural repairs consisting of the insertion of iron or steel girders and cement work in the corners of the tower, as well as alterations to the internal floor levels and repointing on the internal and external elevations. Some areas of brick and masonry refacing were also identified within the tower and in the tower arch. The earliest surviving sources detailing restoration work in the tower consist of two churchwardens account books from 1731-1817 (PR SKIP 13) and 1813-1910 (PR SKIP 14 -an unpaginated volume). The most significant point revealed by these volumes was that the church originally had a steeple, which was probably contemporary with the fifteenth century masonry in the upper part of the church tower. By the eighteenth century this was clearly causing problems and required constant repair. PR SKIP 13 records repairs to the steeple top in 1745 (f.97r), the purchase of bricks and leading for the steeple in 1764 (f.160v, f.162v), woodwork within the steeple in 1771 (f.184v) and again in 1772 (f.189r), as well as ‘locks and crooks’ for the steeple door in 1766 (f.167r).

In 1813 a meeting was held to discuss ‘the ruinous state of the said Church and Steeple’ (PR SKIP 14) and the second volume of accounts contains details of further repairs from 1813, the purchase of bricks and leading in 1823, and iron work in 1825. It is possible that the weight of the late medieval steeple was simply too great for the Anglo-Saxon tower on which it was constructed. No record of its demolition has been discovered so far. It is possible that the steeple was removed during the second phase of restoration work in 1876, but it is difficult to believe that the church would not have applied for a Faculty for such a considerable alteration to the church fabric. Its removal must post-date 1825, when it was last repaired, however.

This hypothesis would also explain the constant repairs made to the chambers within the tower itself. The two volumes of churchwardens accounts distinguish clearly between the ‘bell chamber’ and the ‘chamber’ and/ or ‘high chamber’ within the tower (the latter distinction may also have implied two

separate spaces). PR SKIP 13 refers to repairs to the bell chamber windows, and the 'making' of a new window in 1744 (f.90v), as well as repairs to the bell chamber floor in 1781-5 (f.229r) and in 1814 (PR SKIP 14). Constant expenditure was also made on the bells themselves, which are further discussed below. The chamber was mended in 1765 (f.163r), and the 'high chamber' in 1766 (f.167r and 169r). Its windows were repaired in 1765 (f.165r) and a new beam 'to prop the roof' was purchased in 1854 (PR SKIP 14).

The changes in floor levels within the tower visible today may reflect these earlier divisions and alterations, including the replacement of the timber floor of the 'first floor chamber' which had become infested with death watch beetle in 1955 (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72). The wooden floor at the level of the tower arch dates to 1876 when Faculty was granted 'to construct and place a Wooden floor above the Tower Arch at the North end and to repair and if found necessary to rebuild the said Arch .... Also to entirely remove the Gallery' (FAC 1876/ 8).

This gallery appears to have been associated with the tower arch or eastern wall of the tower. It was constructed in 1761 (PR SKIP 3), and the churchwardens accounts record expenditure on its construction (PR SKIP 13, f.146r, f.147r), maintenance in 1763 and 1766 (f.156r, f.169r) and on its doors in 1774 and 1775 (f.198v, f.200r). The use of the gallery for music is indicated by expenditure on strings for the bass viol and other musical instruments throughout the nineteenth century (PR SKIP 14), before its removal in 1876-8 (FAC 1876/ 8). This may well reflect a shift towards the use of organ music. The old organ in the chancel was replaced by a new organ in the east corner of the north aisle in 1898 (FAC 1898/ 1), which was in turn replaced in 1945 (FAC 1945/ 20).

The ground floor of the tower had long been used as a vestry, and the purchase of a chest and fire irons is recorded in 1813, along with a reading desk in 1833 (PR SKIP 14). In 1844 and 1876 the old stove was repaired, and in 1895 a new combustion stove was purchased by the parish (PR SKIP 14). The chimney stack in the north east corner of the tower probably relates to the earlier stove, for a loose leaf filed in PR SKIP 14 records an agreement between the church and a Mr Leaper in 1908 to build the existing 'Tower chimney up with cement'.

It seemed puzzling that neither the churchwardens accounts, the Faculties of 1876, nor later Faculties (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72) provided evidence for the iron ties and cement reinforcements which had clearly been inserted to alleviate structural problems in the tower. However, a series of notes at the back of PR SKIP 14 referring to the restoration work of 1876, noted that after the initial restoration work, 'It was afterwards found necessary to repair the Tower - which was done at a cost of £531'. This was a substantial part of the entire restoration bill which amounted to £2321 (and with the architects' fees £3527 9s 6d -PR SKIP 14). It is hard to avoid the conclusion that the iron or steel structural supports within the tower date to these repairs, since subsequent substantial expenditure would surely have been noted in the churchwardens accounts, or featured in later Faculties. Once again, it may suggest an historic problem with subsidence or structural weakness, which might only recently have been alleviated by the demolition of the steeple. The note makes no mention of the latter's demolition, for which Faculty would have been required.

The exterior of the church tower was repointed in 1955, when the Faculty citation highlighted two courses of rase bedded masonry below the string course, which the architects sought to replace. However, opposition to the replacement of any stones within the tower was expressed by George Pace (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72). These two courses survive today, and the work appears to have largely consisted of re-pointing with lime mortar. The citation notes that the fifteenth century pinnacles and tracery were in a good condition, but that the sandstone around the later church porch required conservation. Repairs were also made to the lead work and fall pipes around the tower at the same time (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72). The cost of the work was £60 on timberwork, £535 for the stonework on the main body of the tower, and £375 on the upper part of the tower and string course (1955/ 2/ 72).

### *The Bells*

The two volumes of churchwardens accounts are filled with annual expenditure and maintenance on the church bells, particularly bell clappers, wheels and ropes, but also repairs to the bell frame itself. Two new bells were purchased for £35 for the King's coronation in 1748 (PR SKIP 13 f.104v), and three new treble bells with a new superstructure and Ellacombe Chiming Apparatus were hung in 1934 (FAC 1934/ 1/ 33). These were made by Gillet and Johnston, Croydon, and surviving plans indicate the way in which they were integrated into Skipwith's existing peal (FAC 1934/ 1/ 33).

### *The Clock*

Repairs to the clock's wheel and dial plate were made in 1742 (PR SKIP 13, f.85r and f.87r), and this clock mechanism is probably that surviving in the current tower. The clock house door was repaired in 1761 (f.171r). In 1814, a new clock face was erected along with the Ten Commandments (PR SKIP 14), and it was dressed and repaired in 1851 and 1869 (PR SKIP 14).

### *The Porch*

An earlier south porch with its associated 'horseing steps' was repaired in 1797 (PR SKIP 13 f.252r) and in 1814 (PR SKIP 14). A new porch was constructed in 1821 by Robert Gray (PR SKIP 14) but this was in turn replaced by Pearson in 1876, along with the south door whose iron fittings were evidently transferred to the new structure. The sandstone used by Pearson in the new porch required conservation in 1955 (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72).

## 3.2 THE NAVE AND CHANCEL

It is hard to reconstruct the appearance of Skipwith church prior to the restoration work of 1876. All traces of the medieval fabric were swept away by Pearson's alterations, which included the removal of the pews, and most of the historic fixtures and fittings of the church interior. The Visitation records of 1865 noted that 'the walls are good but the sittings are very old and in bad repair' (V1865 RET 2). Some idea of the state of the church in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries can be gleaned

from the churchwardens accounts which record regular expenditure on the scraping and 'whitening' of the walls with limewash, often prior to Visitations. PR SKIP 13 records expenditure on the 'cleaning and whitening walls and carrying out of Rubbish where walls were scraped' in 1742 and 1743 (f.85r, f.87r) and 1779 (f.215r, f.228), the cleaning and 'beautifying' of the walls prior to Visitation in 1770 (f.178r), and the painting of the church in 1794-5 (f.248v-249r). PR SKIP 14 records similar activities in 1816, 1821, 1825, 1832-8 and 1855. No structural repairs were made to the walls during this date, but in 1794 the 'passage into the Chancel' was widened (PR SKIP 13, f.247r).

There is no mention of major structural problems in the nave and chancel in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, but it is clear that the windows of Skipwith church required constant expenditure. References to glazing, leading and re-pointing work occurs throughout the two volumes of churchwardens accounts, and suggests the annual replacement of several panes of glass and decayed masonry. PR SKIP 13 records expenditure on glazing church windows from 1749 (f.108v), 1754 (f.120v), and on windows and their leads in the 1760s (f.127r, f.147r, f.151r). In 1764 the windows were examined by a York glazier (f.155r) which resulted in considerable expense on glazing and re-pointing (f.160v, f.165r, f.169r). In 1781 the windows were again re-pointed (f.223r). PR SKIP 14 notes a similar pattern of maintenance and repair to window glass and leads in 1815, 1821, 1825, serious repairs and re-pointing in 1843, and further repairs in 1850, 1854, 1855, 1864 and 1868-9.

The Faculty of 1876 does suggest that there were some structural problems in the south aisle wall of the church, granting permission to 'restore, shore up and replace in its original position the south aisle walls of the said church' (FAC 1876/ 8). In 1955 this problem had clearly manifested itself at the junction of the chancel arch and nave. Recommendations were made for a datum mark to be placed at the bottom of a fracture which had opened up to reveal further movement (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72). This movement may well explain the need for the re-flooring of the chancel itself, and subsequent structural movements which are now visible in the fracturing of the chancel steps. The 1876 restorations also included the scraping and cleaning of the interior walls, and general repairs to the copings, parapets and roofs, and the selective replacement of stones within the Anglo-Saxon western arch. Although the masonry on the interior of the church seemed sound in 1876, its condition had deteriorated considerably by 1955, a phenomenon attributed by the architects to damage caused by the coke heating system (FAC 1955/ 2/ 72).

The most obvious change to the church interior made by the 1876 restoration work was the replacement of the pews. These had been repaired in 1744 (PR SKIP f.91r), but were in a poor state by 1865 (V 1865 RET 2). The plans accompanying the Faculty citation do not include a plan of the pre-Restoration arrangement, but include the addition of seats in the vestry (the ground floor of the tower). These were subsequently removed in 1909 on the grounds that they had never been used (FAC 1909/ 36). The present screen separating the tower from the nave was also constructed at this date. Apart from the pews, sweeping alterations were made to the church's fixtures and fittings in 1876. The licence granted permission to

'take up all floors and remove all the seats pews or fittings, the Pulpit, Font, the Communion

rails (new ones being provided in lieu thereof) and also the old screen now placed at the east end between the Chancel and the Nave, and repair and replace the same if expedient to do so, together with all the interior fittings, carefully removing, if found necessary to do so, any tombs, monuments, mural or other tablets or sepulchral stones now placed in the said church or against the Walls thereof, and carefully replacing the same in such other positions or situations in the said church as may be found most suited for them' (FAC 1865/ 8)

This may have included the re-positioning of some early grave covers on top of the churchyard wall (see below), whilst other fixtures and fittings were to be sold to defray the costs of the restoration work (FAC 1865/ 8). The screen at the east end was not, however moved at this date. In 1955 it was discovered to be suffering an infestation of death watch beetle (along with several of the choir stalls and the first floor of the tower chamber FAC 1955/ 2/ 72). The Faculty citation recommended its removal on the grounds that it 'tends to isolate the clergy from the congregation and undoubtedly blocks the view', but it was not finally moved until 1959 when the fifteenth century material within the screen (the spandrels and heads of the lights) was re-used in the screen which separates the Lady Chapel from the nave. Similarly, although the Faculty of 1865/ 8 refers to the altar rails and steps, which had been repaired in 1855 (PR SKIP 14), these were not actually replaced until 1959. One altar step was removed, and the Faculty granted permission for the chancel to be re-paved with stone, although the survival of Victorian encaustic floor tiles in the chancel suggests that this part of the Faculty was never executed.

The 1959 citation (1959/ 2/ 75) expresses the intention to incorporate the medieval altar stone into a longer oak altar, re-using the legs and side rails of the church's Victorian side table. The altar rails were to be replaced, along with the 'unworthy' credence and kneeler adjacent to the Bishop's chair and an oak reredos which had been erected behind the altar in 1904 (FAC 1904/ 49). The figures of St. Helen and St. Simon the Zealot were placed on existing corbels flanking the altar in 1965 (FAC 1965/ 1/ 10).

### *The Windows*

The restorations of 1876 referred briefly to the repair and reglazing of the East window, and the replacement of stone in other windows in the church. The re-glazing of the other windows in the church dated to the twentieth century. In 1944 the three light westernmost window in the north wall was erected to a design of GER Smith (AK Nicholson Stained Glass Co.). It depicts the Tree of Life as a metaphor for the healing of nations, with Christ forming the trunk of the tree (FAC 1944/ 39).

This was followed in 1948/ 82 by the construction of four new windows: two depicting scenes from Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress were placed on the north and south sides of the west tower; a third three light window depicting St. Helen, St. John, St. Hilda and St. Etheldreda was placed in the eastern window of the south aisle south wall; and a fourth depicting St. Francis of Assisi was erected in the returning east wall of the south aisle. At the same time some fourteenth century fragments of glass from Blowstrolme's Hall in Clitheroe (which had been acquired by the rector) were re-set in the middle of the south wall (FAC 1948/ 82). In 1953 two windows for the north aisle featuring further

scenes from Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* were designed by GER Smith, but rejected and had to be re-submitted on the grounds that the initial designs were mere 'illustrations', likely to 'pervert' the lines of the fourteenth century chancel (FAC 1953/ 1/ 8).

### 3.3 SKIPWITH CHURCHYARD

The churchwardens accounts (PR SKIP 13, 14) also contain information about the churchyard and churchyard wall. The church fence was 'in decaie' in 1640 (V1640 CB f.133v-4r). An early church gate received repairs in 1744 (f.90v) and 1814. The churchyard wall was repaired in 1763 by Thomas Wharram (f.151r), and in 1773 (f.195r). It received regular cleaning (f.230v-231r) and weeding (f.236v) prior to its reconstruction in 1867, when 3000 bricks were purchased by Thomas Deighton in conjunction with a new gate and fencing. A new gravel walk had been laid in 1861 and 1864, but the new gate of 1867 was part of a scheme to enlarge the churchyard which involved the drainage of glebe land (PR SKIP 14 1867) donated by the vicar (PR SKIP 9). A temporary licence was granted in 1867 (Lic./ Temp. 1867/ 2) and a consecration licence followed (CD.Add. 1892/ 5) some years later.

The early cross shaft grave slabs which now form the coping of the churchyard wall may well have been taken from the churchyard during the churchyard extension of 1867, or they may have been moved from inside the church during the restorations of 1876 (FAC 1876/ 8). Their weight may have caused the bowing of the wall which was evident by 1955 when the diocesan architects Biscomb and Ferrey noted that it was in 'a deplorable state and whoever built it has left you a real problem' (1955/ 2/ 72).

Further problems with drainage are suggested by the fact that the citation of 1876 included plans for the excavation of a drainage channel around the entire church, some five feet from the wall surface to a depth of four inches (FAC 1876/ 8). Later alterations to the churchyard include the digging of a trench from the main road to the north side of the church to provide cold water for the new oil-fired central heating system (FAC 1970/ 2/ 27), and the removal of some of the kerbstones around graves within the churchyard in 1972 and 1975 (FAC 1972/ 67 and 1975/ 158).

## 4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The documentary research suggests that Skipwith church has suffered historically from structural problems, particularly in the tower, and the area adjacent to the chancel arch. There are several possible explanations for this. The fifteenth century steeple may have simply been too large and heavy for the Anglo-Saxon tower to support. Minor structural problems which may have developed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries necessitated constant expenditure throughout the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and ultimately resulted in the dismantling of the steeple at some point between 1825 and 1876.

It would be of considerable importance to examine the parish registers and glebe terriers of the period,

to see if they shed any light on this matter, and also to examine the archives of the diocesan architects (now Ferrey and Menim, Minster Yard). The subsidence and cracks within the tower and nave may also relate to Anglo-Saxon structures on the site, particularly the huge enclosure within which the church and the adjacent moated manor site are situated. For example, the cracks within the nave and chancel arch, and the lifting of the floor around the chancel step may well relate to the position of the original Anglo-Saxon chancel. Moreover, the drainage of the churchyard extension in 1867, and the construction of a drainage channel around the entire church in 1876 suggests that there may have been a problem with the waterlogging of the early medieval enclosure, which could have caused or exacerbated existing subsidence problems.

There is considerable potential for further documentary research into Skipwith church. The examination of glebe terriers and enclosure awards might illuminate the historic context of the site, as would the study of manorial records from Skipwith and North Duffield. Further light might be shed on the construction and patronage of the church through these records, as well as those of Durham Priory's collegiate church of Howden. These sources would inform the research design and agenda for the archaeological analysis of the church and enclosure, as well as the engineering work deemed necessary for the conservation of the historic fabric.

## APPENDIX A: SKIPWITH CHURCH - LIST OF DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

All sources are held by the Borthwick Institute for Historical Research, York, unless otherwise stated.  
Sources consulted by the present survey are marked with an asterisk \*

### General parish history \*

1976 The Victoria History of England. A History of Yorkshire: East Riding Vol. III, 89-101

### Parish Records - Registers PR SKIP

1. 1670-1725 (Marriages from 1710 only)
2. 1726-1762 (Marriages to 1754 only)
3. 1763-1779 Baptisms and Burials  
-with copies of terriers 1764, 1770, 1777, also a list of subscribers to the gallery 1761, and a note on repairs to the Chancel \*
4. 1754-1812 Marriages
5. 1778-1810 Baptisms and Burials
6. 1811-1812 Baptisms and Burials
7. 1813-1853 Baptisms
8. 1813-1837 Marriages
9. 1813-1880 Burials  
-note on end papers about rebuilding of church porch 1822, and restoration work of 1876-7 \*
- 10-12. **Banns Registers**  
1813-1824, 1824-1874, 1874-1963

### Churchwardens Accounts

13. 1731-1817 (first part is a lock-keepers log book; second part churchwardens' accounts)\*
14. 1813-1910 \*

### 15. Miscellaneous Volume

-population count 1801, 1811, 1826 and collections upon briefs 1804-1811

### 16. Leaf of Parish register

1654-6

### 17-18. Overseers of the Poor Accounts

### 19-20. Parish registers

1837-1966 Marriages

1966-1972 Marriages

### 21. Marriage Licences

### 22-25. Service Registers

### 26-33. Church and Churchyard Records

### 26. Faculty Licences \* - see also citations and Faculty files in Diocesan archives below

1876 - Restoration of Church

1909 - Removal of pews in Tower and construction of oak screen

1924 - Memorial Clock and tablet

1934 - Three new tenor bells

1939 - Calor Gas Heating

1945 - New Organ

1945 - Stained Glass window, north wall

1946 - Stained Glass window, south wall



- 1946 - Four stained glass windows  
 1952 - Two stained glass windows, north aisle  
 1957 - Brass Memorial Plaque  
 1959 - Alterations to Altar and Lady Chapel  
 1963 - Memorial Plaque  
 1964 - Oak communion rails  
 1964 - Two statues flanking altar  
 1965 - Exhumation and re-interrment of Mr. E. Morley  
 1967 - Construction of Sunday School area
27. **Faculty for reservation of grave spaces**  
 1942-1956
28. **Licence for Burial Ground pending Consecration**
29. **Licence for services in schoolroom**
30. **Insurance Policies 1908-1973**
31. **Third Quinquennial Report 1970**
32. **Repairs to Tower -correspondence 1955-9 \***
33. **Report on bells.**
34. **Terriers**  
 1849, 1865, 1899 (with inventory)
35. **Deed of exchange of Glebe Land**
36. **Mortgage - counterpart 1864**
37. **Mortgage -1865**
38. **Mortgage - counterpart 1956**
39. **Architects' plans for new vicarage**
40. **Ground Plans/Elevations of the same**
41. **Notification of parish stock 1935**
42. **Tithe Map 1841**
- 43-4. **Altered Appointments**
45. **Tithe Rdemption Certificates**
- 46-56. **PCC and Parochial Finances**  
 1923-1973
57. **Skipwith School Managers' Book**  
 1903-1956
58. Rev Headley -reading in 1960
59. **Correspondence regarding memorial tablet 1964**
60. **Calor Gas Heaters**
61. **Copy of the Peoples' Declaration**
62. **Award -concerning common rights, Skipwith Common 1904**
63. **Amendment to Enclosure Award**
64. **Diocesan Quota Correspondence**
65. **Skipwith C of E school file**

OTHER SOURCES HELD BY THE BORTHWICK INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH



**Bishops (Parish Register) Transcripts**

1639 1662 1684 1697 1701-3 1706-20 1724-6 1724-6 1728 1731-3 1750-1811 1813-1856

**Cause Papers** CPH 1800, 2721**Deeds and Leases** 1654  
1704/ 5 Sw a.9, 44**Dissentors Meeting Houses** 1764 Fac.Bk.1, 388**Enclosure** Printed acts and bill 1809 Enc. 1809/ 4  
*-see also North Duffield Enc. 1809/4***Bargain and sale** 25 April 1649 BED.17**Nomination of parish clerk** 1770/ 2**New Parsonage House** NPH 1967/ 7**Sequestration** 1892 Seq.70**Terriers** 1663 1685 1716 1727 1743 1749 1760 1764 1770 1777  
1781 1786 1809 1817 1825 1849 1853 1857 1861 1865**Visitation Records \***

V1578/ 9 CB1 f.193v -	'the Chauncel is in decaie'
V1586 CB f.67r -	Alms Box mentioned
V1590-91 CB1 f.112v-113r -	orders repairs to the church and the 'ayles'
V1594 CB f.128r -	Presentments
V1595-6 CB3 f.176r -	Presentments
V1600 CB1 f.56r -	Presentments
V1604 CB1 f.69r -	'the church in decaie', and to be repaired by Michelmas
V1607 CB f.233r-v -	Presentments
V1615 CB f.244r -	Presentments
V1619 CB1 f.182r -	Presentments
V1623 CB f.221r-v -	Presentments
V1627 CB f.271r-v -	'they have not exhibited their register'
V1633 CB1 f.319v -	nil
V1636 CB f.417v-418r -	Presentment
V1640 CB f.133v-4r -	'churchyard fence in decaie'
V1662-3 CB1 f.48r -	Presentment of the incumbent Philip Herbert for 'not repairing the Church Windowes'
V1667 CBa f.77v -	Presentment
V1674 CB f.409r-v -	Presentment
V1684-5 CB f.13 -	Presentment
V1693-4 CB f.74a r -	Presentment



V1712-13 CB f.96r -	Presentment of Jacob Woodburn of Menthorp 'for not paying his assesment to the repaires of the Church of Skipwith'
V1714-16 CB f.182v -	Presentment of Edward Johnson and George Pearson 'for not exhibiting a terrier'
V1717-19 CB f.269r -	Presentment of Stephen Thompson and Johnathan Winder for detaining the parish clerk's dues
V1720-2 CB f.197 -	omnia bene
V1726-7 CB f.317v -	Presentments and failing to exhibit a terrier
V1743 CB f.167v -	Presentment of William Summerson and John Ripley for failing to exhibit a terrier
V1748-9 CB f.411r -	blank
V1764 CB f.322r -	Presentment of Thomas Franks for failing to exhibit his licence and letters of order
V1770 CB f.299r -	as above
V1865 RET 2 f.497r -	'The walls are good but the sittings are very old and in bad repair - all things necessary for the decent performance of divine service are provided'

#### **Mortgages Under Gilbert's Act**

1864/ 5  
 1906/ 3  
 1956/ 2  
 1968/ 5

#### **Faculties - Citations and Correspondence \***

FAC 1876/ 8	Restoration
FAC 1898/ 1	Removal of Pews
FAC 1904/ 49	Erect reredos
FAC 1909/ 36	Move pews in Vestry; screen under Tower arch
FAC 1922B/ 24	War Memorial
FAC 1923A/ 31	War Memorial tablet
FAC 1924B/ 6	Clock
FAC 1934/ 1/ 33	Three new bells in Tower
FAC 1939/ 2/ 42	Calor Gas Lighting
FAC 1942/ 19, 1943/ 50, 1944/ 6	Grave spaces
FAC 1945/ 20	Organ
FAC 1945/ 24	Grave Space
FAC 1945/ 39	Stained Glass window
FAC 1946/ 35, 1947/ 54, 1947/ 86	Grave spaces
FAC 1948/ 1/ 82	Four stained glass windows
FAC 1948/ 2/ 3, 1949/ 16	Grave spaces
FAC 1951/ 2/ 18	Electric Organ Blower
FAC 1952/ 2/ 47, 1952/ 2/ 47	Grave spaces
FAC 1953/ 1/ 8	Three Stained Glass windows
FAC 1955/ 2/ 72	Repairs to Fabric (including Tower)
FAC 1959/ 2/ 75	Chancel and Lady Chapel alterations



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FAC 1963/ 2/ 12	Memorial Plaque
FAC 1964/ 2/ 13	Oak Communion Table
FAC 1965/ 1/ 10	Figures to be placed on corbels flanking altar
FAC 1967/ 1/ 27, 1969/ 1/ 55	Sunday School Area
FAC 1970/ 2/ 27	Heating
FAC 1972/ 25	Exhumation of body
FAC 1972/ 67	Kerbstones
FAC 1975/ 157	Bookshelf and Almsbox
FAC 1975/ 158	Removal of Kerbstones

