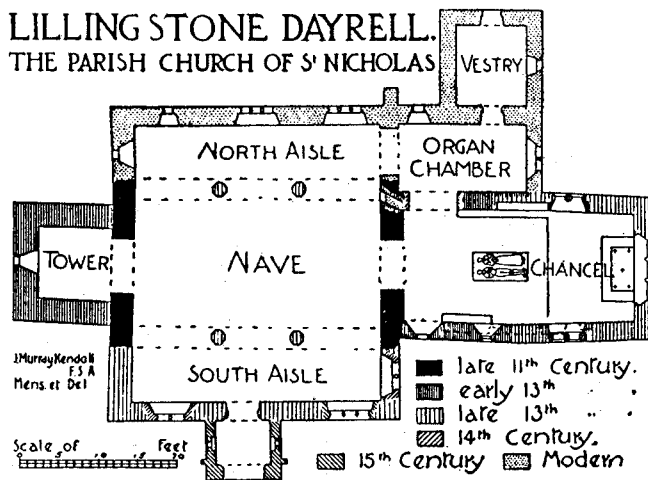

154. LILLINGSTONE DAYRELL.

(O.S. 6 in. ^(a)viii. N.W. ^(b)viii. S.W. ^(c)viii. S.E.)

Ecclesiastical:—

^c(1). PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S.W. of Lillingstone Lovell church, is built of grey limestone rubble, except the S. porch, which is of yellow-brown Northamptonshire stone roughly ashlar-faced. The roofs are tiled, except that of the tower, which is covered with lead, and that of the porch which is made of large flag-stones. The *Nave* is probably of late 11th-century date. The *Chancel* was rebuilt and a window inserted in the W. wall of the nave early in the 13th century; at a slightly later date the *West Tower* was built, probably replacing a small 11th-century W. chamber; towards the end of the 13th century the chancel was lengthened, a N. aisle built, and the *South Aisle* added. The *South Porch* was built in the first half of the 15th century. The third stage



of the tower apparently has been rebuilt, possibly in the 18th century; in the 19th century the *North Aisle* was rebuilt, the *Vestry* and *Organ-chamber* were added, and the church was generally restored.

The church is interesting on account of the early date of the nave; among the fittings the 16th-century effigies in the chancel are noticeable and are evidently by the same sculptor as the Peckham effigies at Denham (see Denham, *Inventory of S. Buckinghamshire*, pp. xxviii, 115); the 13th-century tiles are also remarkable.

Architectural Description—The *Chancel* (30 ft. by 13½ ft.) has a late 13th-century E. window, of three uncusped lights, with three pierced circles in a two-centred head; the internal jambs and mullions are shafted. In the N. wall, at the E. end, is a 13th-century window of two lancet lights, re-set; externally the lights are rebated and the double spandrel has a foliated diamond-shaped ornament; the internal spandrel, under the segmental rear arch, has a circular ornament, now partly hidden: under the window, and extending towards the W. is a wide recess (see *Easter Sepulchre*): W. of the window is a modern arch opening into the organ-chamber. In the S. wall are three windows; the eastern is of the 13th century, re-set, and of two lancet lights under a segmental rear arch; externally the jambs and heads are moulded, and in the spandrel is a foliated circle; the mullion is shafted and enriched with dog-tooth ornament; the second window is an early 13th-century lancet: below the windows and continued towards the W. end, inside, is a late 13th-century wall arcade of four bays, with round attached shafts, moulded capitals carved with nail-head ornament, and a hollow-chamfered label, all curiously rough work; in the westernmost recess of the

arcade is a 13th-century low-side window, rebated for an internal shutter. The late 11th-century chancel arch is semi-circular and of one square order; the chamfered impost are much scraped. At the N.W. corner of the chancel is a squint from the nave, now blocked. The *Nave* (31½ ft. by 16 ft.) has late 13th-century N. and S. arcades, of three bays, much scraped and restored; the two-centred arches are of two chamfered orders, with chamfered labels in the aisles, and hollow-chamfered labels in the nave; the pillars are octagonal, with moulded capitals; the moulded bases of the N. arcade are modern; those of the S. arcade much restored; the outer order of the arches dies into the E. and W. walls, the inner order is carried on corbel-capitals. The *North Aisle*, *Vestry* and *Organ-chamber* are modern. The *South Aisle* (7 ft. wide) has, in the E. wall, a window of 1330-40, considerably restored, and of three trefoiled lights with net tracery in a two-centred head. In the S. wall are two windows; the eastern is of early 15th-century date, and of three cinquefoiled lights under a square head, all of Northamptonshire stone; the western window is of 1330-40, and of two trefoiled lights with a quatrefoil in a two-centred head: between the windows is the S. doorway, of late 13th-century date, with jambs and two-centred head of two moulded orders, the inner order continuous, the outer order with shafts in the jambs. The *West Tower* (9 ft. square) is of three stages, marked by slight off-sets; the third stage is unusually low, and without a parapet. The 11th-century arch opening from the nave probably opened originally into a small chamber at the W. end of the church, and is similar to the chancel arch; the moulded impost have been re-cut: above the arch is a long 13th-century

lancet window, set high in the wall, and now opening into the tower. The W. window is a small 13th-century lancet with an external rebate; in the W. wall of the second stage is a similar lancet, much restored. The bell-chamber has two lancet windows in each wall; in the N. and S. walls the two lancets are set in a slightly sunk outer order with a two-centred head. The *South Porch* (7 ft. by 5½ ft.) is entirely of early 15th-century date; the two-centred entrance archway is of two chamfered orders; in the E. and W. walls are small quatrefoil windows. The steep-pitched *Roof* of the chancel is of the 15th century, with chamfered tie-beams, curved struts, angle-brackets, curved wind-braces, chamfered purlins and no ridgepole. The steep-pitched roof of the porch is of the 15th century and of flagstones, without wooden framing or ceiling.

Fittings—*Bells*: three, 3rd by Richard Chandler, 1674. *Brasses* (see also Monument (1)): In chancel—at E. end, of Richard Blakysley, rector of the parish, 1493, small figure of priest in Mass vestments, headless, with inscription. *Easter Sepulchre*: In chancel—in N. wall, recess with drop arch of one filleted and hollow-chamfered order, with similar ribs springing from a corbel-capital in the middle, shafted jambs, all of rough workmanship, similar to arcade on S. wall, late 13th-century. *Monuments and Floor-slabs*. *Monuments*: In chancel—in third bay of arcade on S. wall, (1) of Paul Dayrell, 1491, and Margaret his wife, altar tomb, of rough workmanship, in slab at the top brass with two figures, man in elaborate plate armour, woman in fur-trimmed gown, with inscription; on S. wall, (2) to Paul Dayrel, 1690; in middle of chancel, (3) of [Paul Dayrell, 1566, and Dorothy, daughter of John Young, of Croome, wife firstly of William Haddon, secondly of William Saunders, thirdly of Paul Dayrell, 1571], monument with recumbent effigies of man in armour and woman in close head-dress and gown with fur tippet, on sides of tomb small kneeling figures of nine sons and six daughters, slab at the top supported by Doric columns with fluted shafts springing from urns and acanthus leaves, frieze with metopes carved alternately with cinquefoils and elephants' heads razed (for Saunders), on plinth inscription to 'Doretie' by her son Walter Haddon, dated 1571, on all sides of tomb shields with arms. *Floor-slab*: In chancel—at E. end, to Frances, daughter of Peter Dayrell, wife of Matthew Wilkes, 1694, inscription and arms. *Piscina*: In chancel—with trefoiled head, label of arcade carried over it, late 13th-century. *Plate*: includes two cups, one of 1604, the other of 1618-1637, and standing paten of 1662. *Sedilia*: In chancel—in two eastern bays

of arcade on S. wall, late 13th-century. *Tiles*: In chancel—at E. end, eight with raised design, each forming quarter of a complete design, early 13th-century; on N. and S. sides, 'slip' tiles, 14th-century. *Miscellanea*: In chancel—on N. wall, two *funeral helms*, one made up with skull of 16th-century close-helmet, the other apparently all imitation, both probably 17th-century; *curtain*, of red velvet with embroidered shield bearing arms of Dayrell, helm and mantle, scroll with motto, inscription to Thomas Dayrell, 1669; lying on the Dayrell tomb, two carved wooden *crests*, goats' heads, probably belonged to helms.

Condition—Good.