

A BRIEF TOUR OF THE CHURCH.

Starting at the back of the church look towards the East end and its large window....

1. Notice the ornate rood screen to your left and right.
Originally located between the chancel and the nave, (photo overleaf) it was moved in 1972 when the blank wall behind was built. Now we have a clear uninterrupted space – a feature of many buildings by this architect.
 2. Beyond the screen are two areas for children during the services, created by removing two pews.
 3. Walk past these down the central aisle see the third arch on each side is larger. The original plan was to create two side chapels, making a traditional cruciform church plan.
 4. Go up the chancel steps noting where the rood screen originally stood, a memorial to men of the parish who died in the First world war; their names are carved in stone either side of the steps.
 5. On the chancel floor is a mosaic of the other St. Augustine. The picture on the right hand wall is of Pope Gregory the Great meeting English slaves in Rome, the event which is said have caused him to send our St Augustine to convert the English.
 6. Notice the superb carvings on the ends of the choir stalls, on the altar front and the reredos.
- For details of the windows see over leaf.
10. Also note the organ to your left, installed in 1900 by A. Keates of Sheffield. Until 1914 the Organ was hand blown.
 11. Turn around so that you can see the whole length of the building and three bays which now are the church hall.

THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

The Parish of St. Augustine was created at the end of the nineteenth century to provide for the residents of the new estates springing up along Ecclesall Road and around Endcliffe Park. This area was largely in the parish of St Mark's, Broomhill, whose Vicar was Archdeacon William Fisher Favell. He led the campaign to purchase a quarry site on Brocco Bank and to raise the £10,000 needed to build the church.

Fund raising started in January 1896, building began in July 1897 and the church was opened in December 1898. The Keates organ was installed in 1900, costing £891.



The original location of the rood screen.

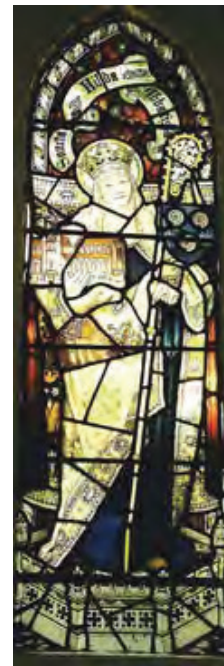
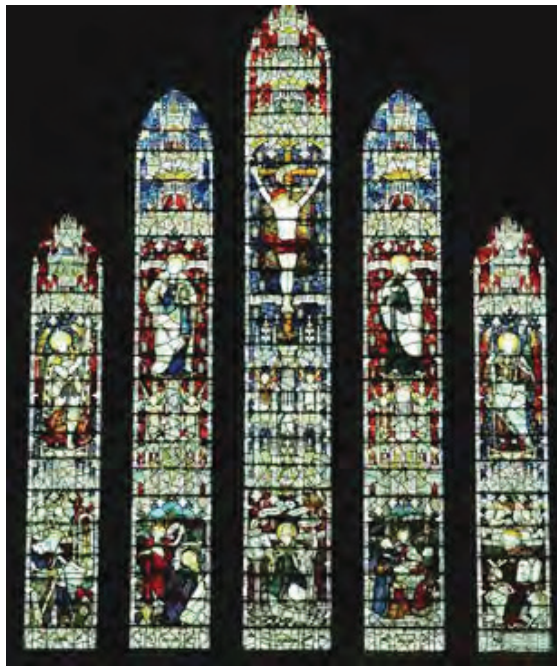
The architect was J.D.Webster, and the building is typical of his Early English Style, but unusual to have the 35m high tower. It has a high and rather severe interior, relieved by the Kempe Stained glass.

In 1973 three bays at the end of the church were cut off to make the Church Hall, and in 1992 the entrance reorganised to create a small meeting room which doubles as a day chapel.

In 2004 the church was re-roofed and the tower strengthened, aided by generous grants from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, English Heritage and an immense effort by the congregation.

THE STAINED GLASS

The most striking feature of the building is the set of stained glass windows by one of the best known and prolific companies started by Charles Eamer Kempe. The East window, with a centre light of the Crucifixion and below it St. Augustine of Canterbury, was designed by Kempe and is a memorial to Archdeacon Favell. The windows in the north aisle commemorate English saints



For more detailed information on the stained glass windows take a look at the document at the back of the Church.....