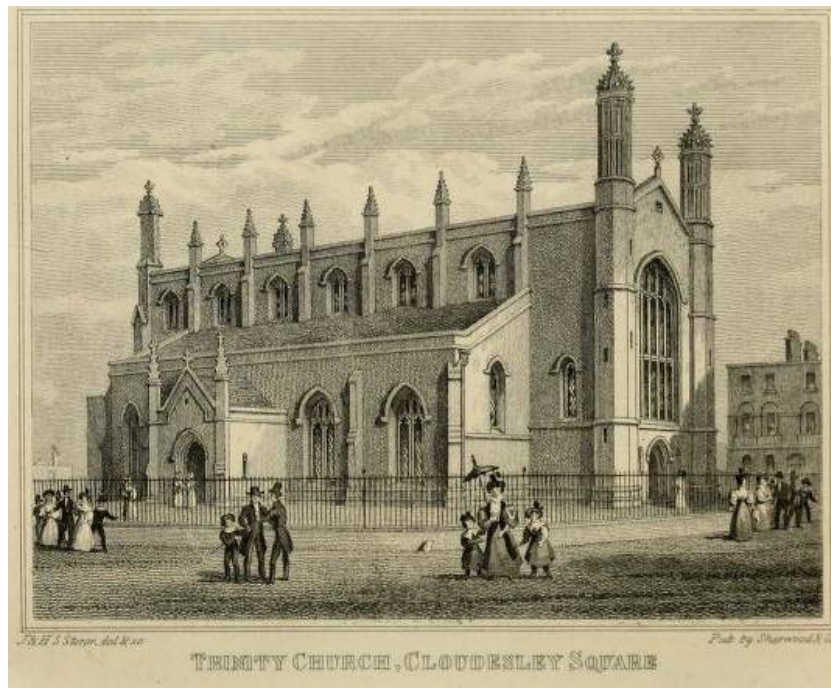


Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, Islington: Chronology of site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

NLHF Tales from the Crypt project



Holy Trinity, c.1829, courtesy of Islington Heritage

Rebecca Preston, September 2019



Introduction and acknowledgements:

Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, was built in 1826-29 to a Tudor Gothic design by Sir Charles Barry, the architect of the Houses of Parliament, and forms the focal point of one of the best-preserved squares in the Barnsbury Conservation Area. When the congregation dwindled in the 1970s the Diocese of London closed the church for Anglican Worship and between 1980 and 2017 it was leased to the Celestial Church of Christ. By 2017 the building had deteriorated and was again closed after being declared unsafe for public use. The Diocese then began the research and fundraising necessary for its urgent restoration and re-opening as a community resource to be known as the Cloudesley Centre.

Until 1814, when St Mary Magdalene, Holloway, was consecrated as the chapel of ease, St Mary Islington was the only Anglican church in the rapidly growing parish. In May 1825, the Commissioners for Building and Promoting the Building of Additional Churches in Populous Districts made arrangements with the parish to build three additional chapels, with encouragement from the charismatic Vicar of St Mary's, the Rev. Daniel Wilson, later Bishop of Calcutta. Although this was not the original plan, all three chapels – Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square (consecrated 19 March 1829); St John's, Upper Holloway (2 July 1828), and St Paul's, Balls Pond Road (23 October 1828) – were designed by Sir Charles Barry. The parish contributed £12,000 towards the building of the churches and fitting them up for divine service, the sum borrowed under a local Act obtained in 1824. In July that year, Wilson told the Commissioners that 'the site for one new church is already obtained & railed in, conveniently situated in the very heart of the New Buildings in the Back Road' (later Liverpool Road). The plot for what became Holy Trinity lay at the centre of Islington Square, which was very soon known as Cloudesley Square, and the building of the chapel from 1826 appears roughly contemporary with the surrounding residential development. This lay on an area of land called the Stoneyfields or Stonefield Estate, which was donated in 1517 to the parish of Islington by Sir Richard Cloudesley. Cloudesley is also commemorated within Holy Trinity in a splendid stained-glass altar window by William Willement.

This chronology contributes to the restoration project and contains transcriptions of manuscript and other primary source material relating to the site and building of Holy Trinity, which was gleaned from research conducted in April–September 2019. Because they were built in tandem and shared some of the same contractors, the document also includes references to St Paul's and St John's. To assist with understanding the building and informing conservation policies, chronological sequences of maps and plans and images of the church were collated alongside.

I would like to thank Rosie Fraser, Edward Holland, Kevin Rogers and Susan Skedd for their collaboration on the research and also the archivists at the three principal archives consulted: the Church of England Record Centre (CERC); Islington Local History Centre (ILHC); and London Metropolitan Archives (LMA). The Tales from the Crypt project team is additionally grateful to Islington Heritage (Museum and Local History Centre) for generous permission to reproduce images from its collection.

Rebecca Preston, September 2019

Chronologically organised transcriptions from manuscript and other primary sources:

The Stone-field Estate or “Fourteen Acres” given to our parish by Mr Cloudesley for the pious uses before enumerated, contains, according to a survey hanging in the vestry room, 16 acres 2 rods and 17 perches. These premises, though appropriated by the testator to superstitious uses, escaped being seized by the crown at the dissolution of chauntries, 1 Edward VI, probably by reason that part of the produce having been directed to be given to “poor people”, or perhaps by motives of respect to the feoffees or executors of the testator, who were persons of great respectability, and connected with the parish, particularly one of whom, Sir Thomas Lovel, who in the preceding reign, possessed great interest at court. Thus it is most probable that the same was suffered to remain vested in feoffees for the use of the parish, as it continues at the present day. The Stone Field is now let to Mr Rhodes, at £84 per annum for the remainder of the lease, which will shortly expire, when it is expected the ground will be let on building leases, with considerable advantage to the parish.

The great increase in the value of land near London since the time of Henry VIII is exemplified in the Stone Field. This plot of ground, then let at the annual rent of £4, has lately been valued in the fee simple at the sum of £22,800, on an application being made by the Corporation of London to purchase the same as an eligible spot for the removal of Smithfield Market.

John Nelson, *The History, Topography, and Antiquities of the Parish of St. Mary Islington*, London, 1811, p. 307

The vestry clerk presented a memorial from Mr Richard Bodfield, the Tenant of the Land called “Stonefields” belonging to this Parish requesting a reduction in the Annual Rent of the said land, on account of the difference in the present value of land and when he took a Lease thereof when it was agreed that the said memorial be referr’d, for future consideration.

ILHC, St Mary Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday, 8 April 1817, p. 167

Places where Plans for new Churches or Chapels have not yet been received: Hornsey, Islington, St Pancras [but only 1500 total accommodation]

CERC, Fourth Annual Report of His Majesty’s Commissioners, 17 June 1824, p. 6

In chearful compliance with your letter of July 10, I immediately requested the churchwardens & vestry clerk, to furnish me with the necessary information. I have myself only just been inducted into this great living & therefore am as yet unable to say much from personal observation.

The population of Islington was by the census in 1821, 22,417, but from the immense number of New Buildings incessantly erected since, the population now must be nearly 30,000.

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It may assuredly be taken at 25,000

The existing accommodation in the church & parochial chapel is only for 2,500 persons; 1,200 in the church & 1,300 in the chapel.

There are no separate townships but the whole surface of the parish in almost every part is rapidly covering in houses; and as the parish is 10 miles, 2 roods, 11 poles in extent & contains 3032 acres 3 roods in area, a large part of the population is 2, 3 or 4 miles from the church itself.

At least four new churches or chapels are wanted, in order to accommodate a third part of the population.

The site for one new church is already obtained & railed in, conveniently situated in the very heart of the New Buildings in the Back Road.

The money that can be raised by a rate is, I fear, at present none; the parish having had 30,000£ to pay for 5 acres of Burial Ground & the New Chapel lately erected in it: but it is hoped that the present rate of about 3000£ a year might be continued & appropriated ... to the expenses of new churches & chapels.

Letter from Rev. Daniel Wilson, Barnsbury Park, to Guy Jenner, 19 July 1824, Ecclesiastical Commissioners' files, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

Application from the Minister Churchwardens and other inhabitants of the parish of St Mary Islington in the patronage of Rev Daniel Wilson

Parish of St Mary Islington: 25,000 population at 1821 census

Parish is reputed to contain 3032 acres 3 roods

The intended New Church is proposed to be built upon Land belonging to the parish [i.e. the exact site or name not mentioned nor is there a site plan attached as suggested by the form]

Attached: New Chapel at Cloudesley Square, sketch of a scale of pew rents and gallery plan

New Chapel at Balls Pond Road, sketch of a scale of pew rents on ground and gallery

Form of Inquiry on applications being made to HM Commissioners for building and promoting the building of additional Churches in populous districts, 25 September 1824, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

The Trustees of the said Parish Report That in consequence of the number of buildings which have lately been built and are now building within this Parish various new Streets and Roads have been set out. That the several builders together with the inhabitants resident in [illeg small word in margin] of the New Streets have made application to the Trustees to form and make such New Streets and Roads according to the provisions of the Act of Parliament.

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That having viewed the several Places submitted for their consideration they are decidedly of opinion there is an absolute necessity of complying with such applications in as much as the same are in so bad a state as to render them unpassable and dangerous to the Parish.

That having taken the necessary measures to form some idea of the sum of money that will be required to perform the several works they are of the opinion the same will amount to £4000 exclusive of what the Builders will be called upon to pay according to the Provisions of the Act.

That the Trustees consider that when so large a sum of money is required to be expended for the future benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish it would not be equitable to levy the same by Rate upon the present inhabitants [.] the Trustees therefore recommend for the consideration of this Vestry the propriety of authorizing them to borrow the sum of £4000: either upon annuities or otherwise to be applied for the purposes before stated. [report dated 16 Feb 1825] ...

Resolved that the Trustees be authorized to raise the sum upon annuities or upon interest the sum of £4000 to be applied in improving and making New Roads and Footpaths

ILHC, St Mary Vestry Minutes, 3 March 1825, pp. 14-15

I should be glad to be informed whether our local act binds us as to the sum to be obtained to meet the Commissioners – our local act says, only such a sum shall be raised for any one [illeg] ... our Islington Statute passed June 17 1824, though our object should be that of contributing to build new churches [scribbled in a rush]

Letter from Wilson, 28 April 1825, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

Do the Acts under which the Commissioners proceed supercede our Local Act and allow the Parish to do precisely as they like; or are we still bound to conform ourselves to the prescribed and limited amount of our own Islington statute passed 17 June 1824, though our object should be that of contributing to build new churches.

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 3 May 1825, p. 46

... that the sum of Ten Guineas be given to the constable for their attendances at the New River Company last year to prevent indecent Bathing. ... carried in the affirmative. ...

The Reverend the Vicar having obligingly communicated to this Vestry that he has lately had several interviews with some of His Majesty's Commissioners for Building Churches from which he is led to consider it probable that if the Parish should offer to provide three suitable scites and pay the Commissioners a sum of £5000 to be applied together with a much larger amount supplied by them to the object of Building three substantial Churches in the most eligible districts of the Parish undertaking at the same time to raise when it should be wanted a further sum not exceeding £5000 for the purpose of fitting up and enclosing those edifices the

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Commissioners might be induced to take upon themselves the whole of the remaining part of the expence together with the care of the erection – whereby the Parish should be provided with accommodation for Public Worship in some degree commensurate to its urgent necessities ... [there follows the usual long explanation of the rapidly growing parish, in a transcribed letter from the Rev Wilson, Barnsbury Park, of 7 May 1825, and signed by him on p. 31] ...

That three new and spacious Chapels of ease should if possible be erected in the parts where the population is most dense or furthest removed from the present Church and Chapel. the first is therefore proposed to be built in the Stoneyfields near White Conduit House; the second at Upper Holloway; the third in Balls Pond Newington Green and Kingsland in which three districts there are 18 or 20,000 souls not only inadequately supplied with Church Room but totally destitute of it. ...

One scite is already provided in Stonefield, by the case of the Feofees of that Estate and is adequately enclosed ...

For the number of assessed houses in this Parish is rapidly increasing, the produce of the Stonefield is now coming in.

ILHC, St Mary Vestry Minutes, 12 May 1825, pp. 25-31

I beg the favour to lay before His Majesty's Commissioners the following information on the part of the parish of St Mary Islington [there is no map]

Population	30,000
The present church room marked D & E on map	2,500
The petition is for three new chapels of Ease to contain	5,000
viz, Chapel in White Conduit fields, marked A to contain	2,000 [probably but illeg after the 2]
Chapel at Upper Holloway, marked B to contain	1,800 [but illeg after the 1,8]
Chapel at Ball's Pond, marked C to contain	<u>1,200</u>
	5,000
The parish is willing to raise towards the building of each chapel, as soon as their Local Act allows	1,750
being altogether the sum of	5,250

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The parish will also engage to find sites for the three chapels, which sites are valued altogether at
5,000

the parish will likewise undertake to enclose the chapels, make them fit for consecration, provide organs, bells &c; this expense is estimated altogether
at 5,000

the parish will also raise in case of any unexpected necessity, such as extraordinary expense in obtaining rites or in completing the three chapels for divine service, an additional reserved sum of altogether

1,750 [probably – in margin]

the various sums stand thus:

money to be paid to HM Commissioners 5,250

value of the three sites 5,000

enclosing & opening the three chapels 5,000

possible contingencies in obtaining sites

& completing chapels 1,750

17,000

I beg leave to observe ... that the population of Islington was in the course of

1801 10,212

1811 15,065

1821 22,417

by the same ratio

it will be at the

next census

(1831) 30,000 upwards

The estimate therefore of 30,000 as the present population, is the lowest possible, considering the incredible rapidity in building in all parts of the parish for the four years since the last census [i.e. we are in 1825]. in fact, the land now actually let for building in different quarters of the parish, will in all probability soon raise the population to 45,000 or 50,000.

in the three districts where the chapels marked A, B & C are proposed to be built, there are now from 18 to 20,000 souls (viz in White Conduit Fields 9,000, at Upper Holloway 6,500, at Balls' Pond between 4 & 5,000) not only inadequately supplied with church-room but absolutely without any.

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A large portion of these 20,000 are a mile and half or two miles distant from the present church & chapel of Ease (marked D & E) to say nothing of this church & chapel being insufficient for the mass of the population in the town of Islington, Highbury & Lower Holloway. ...

As respects further, these three chapels, the parish petition for ... substantial buildings, without unnecessary expense to HM Commissioners. the parish should wish to have nothing to do with plans or architects or contracts; but to leave to the Commissioners the whole of the arranging the plans of these great works, as well as the laying them into execution. the parish, [illeg word] by sad experience, wish to avoid from [?the] first any thing that may create divisions and excite heats amongst their immense population.

The parish would beg that vaults may be built under the chapels, & such a proportion of pews be allowed to let as to support the Minister, pay the Salary to the Clerk; & if it might be permitted, to defray some part, or the whole, of the other current expenses of each chapel.

III on the subject of money, the parish respectfully assure the King's Commissioners they would have cheerfully attempted to raise an entire Moiety of the expense of these three chapels, exclusive of the fitting up & opening them, if they had not already been burdened with Annuities for above 30,000 raised in 1814 for erecting the present chapel of ease [St Mary Magdalene Holloway] & purchasing the burial-ground of five acres in which it stands. The parish is now paying £2345 annually, the annuitants on this chapel. But this is not all. The irritation & tumults occasioned by the unfortunate circumstances of this erection, especially by the unforeseen expenses incurred, are still so fresh in the memory of the inhabitants, that it was thought dangerous to make any proposition at all of raising money for new chapels; and the sum above specified was at least judged to be the utmost that could safely be proposed.

The parish would further observe that a spacious burial-ground of five acres at the present chapel of ease, is in some [?sense] a contribution towards the three chapels now petitioned for, as it released them from the necessity of providing burial grounds for the chapels. Otherwise the three sites now valued at £5,000 would have cost £12 or £15,000.

The above circumstances explain the reason why the expenses of enclosing & opening the new chapels are stated in the estimate now given in, and why a sum is allowed for any unexpected necessity. the fact is, an extreme apprehension prevails in the parish, that, from some cause or other, an ultimate heavy expense should be incurred not at first contemplated. [three pages later ...]

... if the parish should unhappily fail in inducing [the Commissioners] to accept the present petition, the Vicar fears he is bound in honor publicly to retract this engagement & renounce the whole affair. [so far the vestries have agreed, with only '5 or 6' dissenting (or similar) voices] ... there are fewer, far fewer bodies of persons dissenting from the church, than in most of the neighbouring parishes. [but raises the spectre of CofE congregations falling away should the established church fail to provide for them]

Letter from Wilson to George Jenner, 23 May 1825, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

Report. That on the 27 inst they had an interview with the Commissioners by whom they were strongly urged to extend the sum to be offered in money on behalf of the Parish to £10,000 upon the ground that what might be wanted for fitting up beyond £2,000 (remainder of the £12,000 voted) would be easily raised either by an additional vote of vestry or the voluntary contributions of individuals and that the Comms however desirous of assisting the parishioners of Islington, having found it their duty to refuse application in cases where the necessity appeared as great and the contribution offered as considerable could not consistently be acceded to the terms as proposed by the deputation who on the other hand found themselves restricted by the vote of vestry not to exceed £12,000 for the whole expenditure and by their understanding of the intention of the Trustees to advance a sum not exceeding £6,000 in money to the commissioners towards the building, reserving an ample fund for enclosing the grounds and providing Bells, organs and all other necessaries which it was understood the Commissioners did not supply – there appeared therefore at the one period of the negotiation considerable danger that it must terminate unsuccessfully. ... His Majesty's Commissioners finally acceded and have agreed that in consideration of the Parish supplying the sites and contribution £8000 in money they will undertake the erection of three Churches or Chapels as prayed, to contain respectively 2000, 1800 and 1200 sittings, which they will likewise enclose and provide with Bells – the parish to supply Organs (clocks, if deemed necessary) communion plate, books, vestments and fittings up of the pulpit and reading desk with everything else (if anything) that may be required, the cost of all which the Deputation estimates will not exceed £3000. ... Daniel Wilson.

New Churches, Report and Deputation to Committee for Building New Churches, 27 May 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/15

I beg to present through you to HM Commissioners, the petition of the parish of Islington, that the site marked A on the accompanying map, **in Islington Square near White Conduit House**, being about 150 feet by 120, may be accepted by the Commissioners as the site in **the first & principal new church or chapel to be erected in the parish.**

Letter from Wilson to Jenner, June 1825, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112 (this is also in the CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes of 28 June 1825, p. 364)

Resolved that the Board Approve of the sites proposed to be obtained for the new Chapel to be built near White Conduit House in this Parish as described on the Plan [not included] laid before them, the quantity of Land being in extent about 150 feet by 120 and further that the Board deem it expedient that accommodation should be provided in the Chapel for 2000 Persons, 800 of such ... being in free seats for the use of the poor.

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Ordered that the Rev Mr Wilson be requested to obtain Plans and an estimate of the Chapel on a low scale of expence as is consistent with the giving to the chapel the character of an Ecclesiastical Edifice and submit the same to the consideration of the Board – also an Abstract of the Title of the Site and a Draft conveyance thereof to the Board.

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 28 June 1825, pp. 364-5

Hornsey, Islington, St Pancras. 1500 total seating. Plans not received for Hornsey or Islington. Under consideration for St Pancras. [Islington doesn't appear in the Sixth Annual Report, for May 1826]

CERC, Fifth Annual Report of His Majesty's Commissioners, 1 July 1825, pp. 16-17

... The forms by which His Majesty's Commissioners regulate their proceedings requiring that their Resolution of 24 May should be ratified by a subsequent Board a considerable time elapsed during which the Committee would not undertake no further measure except that in the interval it was thought right to address a respectful letter to the Feoffees of the Stonefield from whom an answer was promptly received making a tender of the Area in Islington Square as a site for one of the intended Churches.

The Committee met again on the 16 June having in the mean time received from the Secretary of HM Commissioners a regular annunciation of their acceptance of the proposals of the Committee and having through the active and zealous interposition of the Vicar obtained much valuable information with respect to the further steps to be adopted. It appeared that although the ordinary practice of the Commissioners is not in the first instance and directly to nominate Architects yet as these appointments must be submitted to their approbation it would be vain and worse than useless to nominate any other Persons except those in whose favour that approbation might confidently be anticipated [.] the Committee had likewise learnt that it is a maxim of the Commissioners from which they are not accustomed to deviate that no Architect shall be appointed who cannot refer to some creditable important work of his execution as a pledge for the due performance of his engagements. The Committee had moreover found means to discover that Messrs Savage, Bassevi and Barry being known to the Commissioners having executed works to their satisfaction the appointment of those gentlemen would not only be unattended with difficulty but would probably be particularly agreeable to the Commissioners ... Resolved that Mr Savage of Walbrook, Mr Bassevi of Albany and Mr Barry of Ely Place be requested to prepare Plans specifications and estimates to be laid before this Committee ... the first immediately for the intended Church in Stonefields – the second for that at Balls Pond and the Third for that at Upper Holloway as soon as the sites for the latter two shall have been definitely decided on.

Mr Savage is accordingly now engaged in preparing the necessary plans and particulars to be submitted to the Comms for the proposed Church in Islington Square and Messrs Bassevi and

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Barry have respectively inspected the several sites which have been pointed out to them in Holloway and Balls Pond and the Committee are engaged in negotiations on the subject of these sites [signed] 1 July 1825 by Daniel Wilson, Chairman

Report of the Committee appointed to carry into effect the resolutions of Vestry for providing additional Churches for the Parish, 6 July 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/17

Intended Church Islington Square, **Jas Savage**, August 1825

Style of Architecture &c

- 1 Gothic of the 15th century
- 2 With a Tower
- 3 With a Crypt

Materials of the Building &c

- 1 Brick with Bath stone dressings windows and dormers
- 2 Tower same as body of church
- 3 Cast iron girders to Galleries and with iron tie bond to stone bond and the usual ties to timber framing
- 4 The Aisles are to be floored with Yorkshire stone
- 5 The roof is to be covered with slates
- 6 The pews, pulpit and desk are to be of deal

Dimensions of the interior

- 1 The extent of the site is from E to W 150 feet & from N to S 120 feet
- 2 The greatest length of the building externally is 137 feet
- 3 The Tower is 21 feet 6in square exclusive of buttresses – 100 feet high from ground to top of battlement. pinnacles 18 feet higher

The height of the body from the surface of ground to the hip of Roof is 58ft

The depth of the foundation generally from do 13ft

The body of the church internally in the square is 93ft long & 61ft wide

the depth of the recess for the altar is 8ft

8 the dimension of the vestry and robing room are 10ft by 8ft exclusive of closet

9 the height of the church from the floor to the ceiling of side galleries 32 ft and to middle of nave 56ft

10 the depth of the N&S Galleries if 15ft

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11 the depth of the W ditto is 16ft and 14ft but more for children's gallery

12 The height from the floor to the Galleries is 10ft clear

accommodation allowing 20 inches for adults and 14 in for children

Total 2,000 persons viz 1564 adults and 436 children as under

1 Ground Floor in pews containing 588 on open seat 393

2 Galleries in pews containing 607 on open seats 412

1195 on open seats 805

Estimated cost including commission, clerk of works, & all expences of completing church

Total, according to plan, specification & working drawings **£12,900**

Observations

1 Foundation – cost of crypt about £1,400

2 Tower or steeple – cost of tower about £1,000

3 Savings – none the design having been studied with particular reference to economy as far as consistent with characteristic effect.

4 From information that may relied upon and from the appearance of the Neighbourhood the foundation is excellent at about 13ft below the present surface. It having been in great part excavated at 12ft deep and filled in with Hogging and Rubbish. Below that about 1 foot of Gravel and Sand with water and below that a strong clay. The Sewer in the Back Road is about [illeg; check]

August 1825, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

In the indenture of 26 May 1810 the said Edward Flower and others the surviving trustees did bargain sell and release ratify and confirm unto the said Revd Daniel Wilson and others therein named – All that piece or Parcel of Land commonly called the Stone Fields otherwise fourteen acres situate lying and being in Islington.

In pursuance of the Powers vested in the trustees they have demised and leased for the term of 81 years the said land called Stoneyfield otherwise 14 acres for the purpose of building upon, but in the arrangement made for that purpose the trustees contemplating from the increasing number of Buildings erected and erecting in the parish, that an additional Church or Chapel would be required and at the same time showing the very large sums that were given for the purchase of land in eligible situations reserved.

All that piece or parcel of Land called Islington Square, containing in length 155 feet two inches and in breadth 120 feet and two inches is now enclosed with an iron railing and more particularly delineated and described in the plan hereunto annexed being part parcel of the said recited land

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for the purpose of erecting a church or chapel thereon for the use of parishioners. ... at a vestry it was resolved that the Trustees of this parish be and are hereby empowered to treat with HM Commissioners for the erection of three substantial and convenient churches or chapels within this parish; and they are hereby authorised and directed to raise in the manner prescribed by the Act of Parliament under which they are appointed the sum of Four Thousand Pounds to be applied to them ... resolved that the portion of the ground now enclosed in Islington Square reserved by the Trustees of Stonefields be granted and conveyed to HM Commissioners for Building Churches and Chapels

Abstract of the title of the Feofees for charitable purposes of certain lands called the Stonefields, signed by solicitor, 3 August 1825, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

Cloudesley Square. In pursuance of the directions of your letter of the 25 June last, I have laid before Mr Ker the abstract title of the Feofees for Charitable purposes to a site at Islington, which I now return this opinion thereon. I might add that I have this day inspected the leases of part of the stone fields & find that the ground in question was not demised, as suggested in Mr Ker's opinion.

Letter from Chas Bouchier to Jenner, 12 August 1825, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

Sir. The parish of Islington have agreed with HM Commissioners for Building New Churches to erect an additional Church for the Accommodation of the Inhabitants on the land called Stonefields in the said parish and it has been settled that the same shall be erected in the Square called Islington Square being a part of the said Land; the New River Company has a rent charge of £2 13 4 yearly upon the whole of the said Land, and appears from the perusal of the several acts of parliament under which the Commissioners act [lots of crossings out here] ~~that~~ they have no authority to erect any Church upon Land that [has] any charge or incumbrance thereon. The object of any application is to request the New River Company to release by Deed that part of the said land intended for the erection of the Church from the payment of the said Rent Charge which is conceded they can have no objection to, there being sufficient property on the remaining part to secure the payment of the above form, besides which, should a church not be erected upon that spot, it is intended to keep the same as Square as now set out. The plans have already been agreed upon, and there is an anxious desire on the part of the Committee to whom it is referred to carry the same into effect forthwith. I have therefore to request will you have the goodness to lay this application before the Board as early as convenient, and favour me with their determination thereon.

[Copy letter sent to the New River Office], 3 October 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/5

Mr Oldershaw [Robert, vestry clerk] read a letter from Mr Jenner on the subject of the rent charge upon the Stonefield to the New River Co from which it is necessary the intended site of

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the church in Islington should be [?]exonerated and reported that he had corresponded with the clerk of the New River Co on the subject and expected to receive a formal intimation of the company's consent in a day or two. The Vicar read an official communication from the Secretary of HM Commissioners dated 9 July announcing their acceptance of the ground in Islington Sq as the site of the intended Church there – which was ordered to be entered on the Minutes.

The Vicar further informed the Committee that Mr Savage had in pursuance of the resolution at the last meeting attended at the house of the Commissioners on 26 July but found that there would be no Board until the 9th August that in the meantime he had interviews with different members of the Building Committee and made the necessary arrangements for expediting the business with that Committee when it should regularly brought before them. On the 9th August the Vicar also attended the meeting of the Commissioners who very highly approved the Plans presented by Mr Savage and in the usual course refer'd them to the ~~Building Committee~~ Board of Works [which] expected to meet on the 12th when however there was no meeting of that Board nor until the 16 Sept when having examined them **they required from the architect some further specifications which being likely to occasion further delay** the vicar waited on different members of that Board and with some difficulty learnt that **the required explanation had reference to the supposed want of stronger scantlings in the roof and having communicated this information to Mr Savage that gentleman made the necessary alterations**. It was not therefore until the 4th October that the Board of Works having again met declared their approbation of the whole and on Tuesday the 11 October the Commissioners having received the Report of that Board ordered the Contract to be advertised. it is expected that this will be concluded about the 8th of [illeg. month, presumably October] but **the architect expresses some doubt about the propriety of breaking the ground until the ensuing spring**. The Vicar had intimated to the Bishop of London the wish of the trustees on behalf of the Parish that his Lordship should lay the first stone of this Church to which the Bishop has kindly assented. [paragraph on Barry and the sites for the Churches in Holloway and Balls Pond]. Adjourned.

[Rough Minutes of the Building Committee], 13 October 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/1

Sir. The New River Board having this day taken into consideration your letter of the 3rd inst requesting on behalf of the Parish of Islington that the New River Company will release by Deed, that part of the Stonefields which is intended to be occupied by the proposed new church, from the payments of the Rent Charge of £2 13 4 pa, I am directed to acquaint you that your request will be complied with and instructions will be given to Messrs Hale & Thompson of Salter's Hall to prepare a Deed accordingly: it is being fully understood that no part of the Expenses attending such Deed is to be paid by the New River Company.

[Letter to Oldershaw from the New River Office], 13 October 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/4

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The vicar laid before the meeting the official letter from Mr Jenner accepting the sale of the Ground in Stonefields, dated 9 July 1825 [and also that in Holloway from the Sons of the Clergy] [Rough minutes of] Church Building Committee, 13 October 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/26

Sir. In compliance with an application made to the New River Company we have received the instructions of the Board of Directors to prepare the requisite Deed for discharging the Site of the intended New Church in the parish of Islington from the Rent charge of 4 marks or £2 13 4 payable to the Company in respect of the property called the Stone Fields or Fourteen Acres & for this purpose we will thank you to furnish us with an accurate description of the Situation & dimensions of the Site of the New Church & also a printed copy of the Act of parliament under which the Trustees are enabled to grant Building leases as the schedule will shew a description of the Land &c if materially altered since the passing of the Act, it may perhaps be better to adapt the description to the present circumstances.

[Letter to Oldershaw from Hall, Thompson & Sewell], 15 October 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/2

TO BUILDERS. ISLINGTON NEW CHURCH. Persons desirous of Contracting to perform the several Works in Building an additional CHURCH, situate in Cloudesley-square, Islington, may see the Plans and Specifications, by applying to Mr. James Savage, Architect, No. 34, Walbrook, any day (except Sunday) between the hours of nine and four. The Tenders to be addressed His Majesty's Commissioners for Building New Churches, and to be delivered (sealed up) at their Office, No, 12, Great George-street, Westminster, on or before SATURDAY, the 19th of November next, indorsed Tender for Islington New Church. The Tender contains the gross amount for the whole of the Works, or for the particular Trade tendered for, and the prices of the several articles. The Commissioners do not pledge themselves to accept even the lowest Tender, unless in all respects satisfactory. The Contractors will be required to give sufficient security for the due performance of their Contracts.

Morning Advertiser, 25 October 1825, p. 1

On 26 July Mr Savage the Architect of the intended Church in Islington Square attended your Committee by appointment with the Plans and Specifications for a Church to accommodate 2000 persons including 800 free sittings of which he estimated the expence at £12,000 & with incidental expenses £13,200, to HM Commissioners, who being expected to meet on the next day he was instructed to present them for the approval of that Board the whole having been highly approved by your Committee – but the season of the year having arrived [when meetings cease] it was only by the most urgent representations and active exertions of the Vicar in conjunction with the Architect that on the 11 October the Commissioners having received the final Report of the Board of Works, formally declared their approbation and ordered the

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Contract to be advertised for in the meantime it was found necessary for the purpose of completing the title to apply for an exemption from a Rent charge to the New River Company to which this ground in common with the rest of the Stonefield was subjected and which the Company readily consented to grant. **These repeated (but to your committee absolutely unavoidable) procrastinations will have the effect of postponing the actual commencement of the Building to the ensuing Spring.** ... the Bishop of London consented to lay the first stone of this Church.

Report of the Committee appointed to carry into effect the resolutions of Vestry for providing additional Churches for the Parish, 7 November 1825, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/16

p. 40 The Commissioners report that they have received a set of Plans for this Chapel [Holloway] proposed by Mr Charles Barry with an Estimate amount to [blank] ...

p. 42 Resolved that [at Holloway] ... the Board Approve of the general style and character of the Building and that the Plans be referred to the Building Committee, with a request that they will proceed with the undertaking as usual, and that the Sum of £60 be allowed for an additional termination to the Tower.

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 22 November 1825, p. 40

The forms which HM Commissioners [?word] their proceedings requiring that their Resolution of 24 May should be ratified by a subsequent Board a considerable time elapsed during which the Committee could undertake no further measures except that in the interval it was thought right to address a respectful Letter to the Feoffees of the Stone Fields for whom an answer was promptly received making a Tender of the Area in Islington Square as a site for one of the intended Churches ... it appeared that although the ordinary practice of the commissioners is not in the first instance and directly to nominate architects yet as these appointments must be submitted to their approbation it would be vain and worse than useless to nominate any other persons except those in whose favour that approbation might confidently be anticipated – the committee had likewise learnt that it is a maxim of the Comms ... that no Architect shall be appointed who cannot refer to some creditable important Work of his execution as a pledge for the due performance of his engagements. The Committee had moreover found means to discover that Messrs Savage, Bassevi and Barry being known to the Comms as having executed Works to their satisfaction the appointment of those Gentlemen would not only be unattended with difficulty but would probably be particularly agreeable to the Comms. The Comm therefore considering that it could not be the wish of the Trustees to excite competition amongst professional Candidates which might lead to unnecessary expence while it would not be attended with any practical benefit, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

That Mr Savage of Walbrook, Mr Bassevi of Albany and Mr Barry of Ely Place be requested to prepare Plans Specifications and Estimates to be laid before this Committee and presented to

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HM Commissioners for their approbation , the first immediately for the intended Church in Stonefields – the second for that at Balls Pond and the third of that at Upper Holloway as soon as the scites for the latter two shall have been definitively decided on.

Mr Savage is now accordingly now engaged in preparing the necessary Plans and particulars to be submitted to the Commissioners for the proposed Church in Islington Square and Messrs Bassevi and Barry have respectively inspected the several scites which have been pointed out to them in Holloway and Balls Pond ...

Report [from the Committee appointed by Vestry to carry into effect the three churches]

On 26 July Mr Savage the Architect of the intended Church in Islington Square attended your Committee by appointment with the Plans and Specs for. Church to accommodate 2,000? persons including 800 free sittings of which he estimates the expence at £12,000 and with incidental expenses £13,200 to HM Commissioners who being expected to meet on the next day he was instructed to present them for the approval of that Board the whole having been highly approved of by your Committee – but the Commissioners were less frequent and many individuals of the Board absent it was only by the most urgent representations [from the Vicar] in conjunction with the Architect that on the 11 October the Commissioners having received the final Report of the Board of Works formally declared their approbation and ordered the contract to be advertised for – in the meantime it was found necessary for the purpose of completing the Title to apply for an exemption from a Rent charge to the New River Company which this Ground in common with the rest of Stonefields was subjected and which the Company readily consented to grant. these repeated ... procrastinations will have the effect of postponing the actual commencement of the Building to the ensuing Spring. ...

Holloway – a space sufficient for the purpose ... was accordingly marked out by Barry the Architect who was directed to proceed with ... his Plans and Specs for a Church of 1800 sittings of which 800 are to be free to be erected there.

ILHC, St Mary Vestry Minutes, 1 December 1825, pp. 42-5

To Builders and Others. Such persons as may be desirous of contracting for the Performance of the whole or any portion of the Works required in the erection of a new Church at Holloway are hereby informed that the Plans and Specification may be seen at the office of Charles Barry, Esq., Architect, 39 Ely Place, London , where all tenders (Sealed and addressed to HMC for building additional Churches) must be delivered ... the Commissioners do not pledge to accept the lowest tender.

Morning Chronicle, 14 January 1826

Read. a report of the Building committee – to the Tenders obtained for the performance of the several Works in the new Chapel proposed to be built in Cloudesley Square the tenders have

been received for the performance of the several works in this chapel and that on examination of the same it appears that even the lowest Tenders exceed the amount of the Estimate by £5195 9s 5d and the Committee therefore called upon the Architect to explain the cause of such excess and he has addressed to them the following letter on the subject, which does not appear to the committee to contain a satisfactory explanation, they therefore submit to the Board that according to their usual rule these Plans cannot be carried into effect and that the Parish should be requested to produce Plans from another Architect.

Letter referred to, Letter from Mr James Savage, dated Walbrook 9 January 1826.

In reply to your favour of the 14 inst respecting the difference between the Tenders for performing the several works of the new chapel proposed to be built in Cloudesley Square ... and my Estimate for the same, I beg most respectfully [sic] to submit to the Board that immediately upon learning the difference (the amount of which perfectly astounded me) I proceeded to examine my Estimate and am sorry to have to state that I have discovered therein an error and omission in the Brickwork and Plasterers Work arising from an alteration which I made in the Design previous to submitting it [to] the Board and having directed my assistant to make the necessary alteration in the Estimate I find that he made the deductions but did not make the consequent additions necessary. For this error I beg to express my most unfeigned regret and can only offer in estimation that the desire to meet the wishes of the Parties in expediting the business to the utmost prevented that deliberate revisal which would most probably have detected the error.

There is also an addition made to the Smith and Founders work to remove [illeg short word] objection of the Architects of the Board of Works, since making my Estimate and not included therein.

But these errors and additions (making about £1,100) amount for but a small part of the excess; and after making the most diligent enquiries upon the subject it is with the greatest deference that I submit the following circumstances as causing the greater part of the difference, viz,

1st, An increase in the price of labour since my Estimate was made of about 10 [illeg] amounting to about £600.

2nd, An increase in the price of Bath Stone of about 6d pr foot, amounting to about £250

3rd, An increase in the price of Iron of £3 pr ton amounting to about £100

4th, That the competition among Builders has nearly ceased, and consequently in estimating they are not now so nice in calculating the quantities.

The above circumstances, will I trust account for the greater part of the difference between the Tenders and my Estimate, I trust it will also appear that most of those circumstances were such as I could not have foreseen or avoided – and I beg to submit my request that I may be allowed to revise my estimate and seek other Tenders at lower amounts. ...

Resolved that the Report be approved and that as the Architect is unable satisfactorily to account for the excess in the Tenders the Board cannot permit these Designs ... and that the Parish be so informed and requested to obtain Plans from another Architect.

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 17 January 1826, p. 213-223

Intended Church at Islington Square in the parish of St Mary Islington

Charles Barry Architect

Style of architecture &c:

- 1) Gothic of the 16th Century
- 2) With Turret
- 3) With vaults

Materials of the Building &c:

- 1) The walls of the Church to be bricks and faced with **white bricks** all the dressings of Bath Stone
- 2) The two western turrets to be of the same materials as the Body of church
- 3) Cast iron is introduced in the columns supporting the west Galleries**
- 4) the aisles are to be floored with rubbed York paving
- 5) the roof is to be covered with slates
- 6) the pews, pulpit, and desk are to be of deal

Dimension exterior and interior

- 1) the extent of the site is from E to W 154 ft 6in [check] & from N to S 121 feet
- 2) the greatest length of the building externally is 130 feet 6 in
- 3) the height of the turrets is 75 feet 6 in and their diameter 8 feet
- 4) the height of the body from the surface of the ground to the hip of roof 53 ft
- 5) the depth of the foundation generally from do is 10 feet
- 6) the body of the church internally in the square is 90 long & 62 wide
- 7) the depth of the recess if any for the altar is 10 ft 3 in
- 8) the dimension of the vestry and robing rooms 14 ft by 7 ft
- 9) the height of the church from the floor to the ceiling 46 feet 9 in
- 10) the depth of the N&S galleries is 15 feet 6 in
- 11) the depth of the west do is 35 ft 6 in
- 12) the height from the floor to the galleries is 10 ft

Accommodation, allowing 20 inches for adults and 14 inches for children

Total 2009 persons viz 1721 adults and 288 children as under

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------|-----|
| 1) Ground floor in | 101 pews contg 675 | open seats | 400 |
| 2) Galleries | 68 pews contg 476 | open seats | 170 |

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3) Total 1151 570

estimated cost including commission clerk of works & all expenses of completing the church,
Total according to plan specification & working drawings **£12,142**

[No observations]

Undated form signed by Barry, attached to Savage's proposal of August 1825, CERC,
ECE/7/1/18112

[Papers in the sequence relating to Balls Pond Road chapel, on land belonging to the Dukes of Northampton, show the family objecting to any burials on their land, as tenants for life, under or adjoining such a chapel] as the inconveniences to which it must necessarily subject the immediate Neighbourhood of such Chapel, would deter Builders from erecting respectable Houses within any reasonable distance of it – This objection has been repeatedly stated to Mr Wilson on the part of Lord Northampton ... Lord Northampton ... does not feel that he or his son would be justified in withdrawing the prohibitory clause in question, calculated as it is merely to protect their Family property from nuisance or deterioration.

CERC, ECE/7/1/1811, Letter from Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, 2 March 1826

Chapel proposed to be built at Balls Pond ... **Resolved that the Board do not approve of the style and character of the Building and that they deem it expedient that this Chapel should be erected according to the Plans prepared by Mr Barry for the new chapel at Holloway** in this Parish in case Mr Barry will superintend the Works for a Commission of two and half per cent as usual in such cases.

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 7 March 1826, p. 36

The vicar reported that he had in conformity with the determination of the last meeting of the Committee given the necessary instructions to Mr Barry –

Mr Barry attended and laid before the Committee his plan for a church in Islington Square. **The estimate as it at present stands is £11,625 but he proposed to make some trifling reductions which he thinks will bring it down to £11,500** the plan as exhibited is calculated for 2009 sittings of which 974 (including 224 sittings for children) are intended to be free leaving therefore only 1025 to be let but the committee desirous of making a sufficient provision for the current annual expenses were of opinion that 1200 of the sittings in this church ought to be so arranged as to produce an income applicable to that expenditure and gave instructions to Mr Barry accordingly.

Mr Barry expressed a confident persuasion that offers would be made to contract for the building within the terms of his estimate – whereupon it was resolved unanimously that the plans

now presented for the intended church in Islington Square are very much approved and that he be requested to present them to HM Commissioners ... No official intimation has yet been made of the appointment of Mr Barry as the architect for the proposed church at Balls Pond but it is understood that he is in fact appointed and the vicar conceiving that it would be candid to make the communication of this circumstance and the ~~consequent~~ rejection of the former plans by the Commissioners as speedily and as respectfully as possible to Mr Bassevi without waiting for the official documents was desirous of doing so but was restrained by the Commissioners who preferred to announce their determination in the usual manner through the medium of their secretary.

The vicar further reported that all his endeavours had been ineffectual to prevail on Mr Boodle to allow the construction of vaults under the church at Balls Pond and there was some reason to fear that this site would finally for that reason be refused by the commissioners who directed their own secretary to make representations to Mr Boodle on the subject but after much negotiation the Commissioners were ultimately induced to accept the site with the restrictions against the construction of vaults and with that condition the necessary deeds are now in preparation.

[Report of the Church Building Committee], 23 March 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/24

Read. A report of the Building Committee, dated 4 April 1826 with reference to the Plans prepared by Mr Charles Barry for the new chapel proposed to be built in Cloudesley Square ... The Committee report that they have received a set of Plans for this chapel prepared by Mr Charles Barry with accommodation for 2009 persons including 570 free seats for adults and 288 for children with an estimate amounting to £12,845 [the forms say £12,142] including incidental expenses and the Architects' Commission, and the Committee lay the same before the Board for their opinion as to the general style and character of the Building and **they suggest that a reduction should be made in the expense so as to reduce the cost of the Building to £11,000.** Resolved that the Board approve the general style and character of the Building and that the Plans be referred to the Building Committee with a request that they will proceed with the undertaking as usual but ... on a reduced scale ... £11,000

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 4 April 1826, pp. 173-5

Cloudesley Square, Islington

Having carefully examined the Drawings under specification prepared by Mr Barry the Architect for a Church proposed to be erected in Cloudesley Square in the Parish of St Mary Islington, I beg leave to report,

That the Drawings appear to be well made out and general construction of the building satisfactory – the specification also appears to be sufficiently full and explicit.

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the Architect calculates that the Church will accommodate 2009 persons, viz,

In 101 pews on the ground floor	675
on open seats on do	400
in 68 pews in the Gallery	476
on open seats in do	170
children in do	288
TOTAL	2009

This calculation is correct

Having examined the Estimate I find that the sum stated by the architect **£11,014 3 4 exclusive of the Architects' commission and clerk of the works is sufficiently exact.**

His Majesty's Commissioners for Building New Churches: Surveyor's Report Book 2, 1824-1828 (1829), To George Jenner sec to comms; signed J H Good Commissioners Surveyor, 22 April 1826, p. 94, CERC CBC/7/1/2

William Rutherford: [clerk of works for the Holloway Chapel]

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 25 April 1826, p. 236

Yesterday being the day appointed for the ceremony of laying the first stone of St John's Church, Upper Holloway ... by his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, a considerable number of the most respectable of the inhabitants of the parish assembled at the Church and shortly after ... the procession moved forward to the spot chosen for the erection of the building in the following order

Street-keeper

Girls of the Parochial School

Boys of ditto

Band of Music

The Contractors for the New Church

Messrs Ward (the Masons bearing a silver trowel on a cushion)

Charles Barry, Esq., the Architect, with plans

The inhabitants and Trustees of the Parish

The committee, bearing the Vase and Inscription Plate

The Churchwardens

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The Clergy in their robes

[etc upwards]

... after which the stone was lowered to its intended station, and the Archbishop receiving a silver trowel from Mr Barry the Architect, proceeded to lay it with the accustomed formalities. ... the workmen employed in the erection of the building then gave three hearty cheers, after which the company separated. ... a dinner was afterwards given at the Highbury Tavern

Morning Advertiser, 5 May 1826, p. 3

Islington Holloway. Herbert and Herbert John Ward, Whole of the Works save Smith and Founders. Total contract £10,464

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 27 June 1826, p. 134

New Churches. The following is an Official copy of the Sixth Report of his Majesty's Commissioners ... HM Commissioners have proposed to make grants in aid of building Sixty-six new Churches and Chapels ... at Balls Pond, Cloudesley-square, and at Holloway, in the parish of Islington.

London Courier and Evening Gazette, 11 July 1826, p. 3

Cloudesley Square New Church

Having examined the plans of the Church proposed to be erected in Cloudesley Square in the Parish of Islington under the superintendence of Mr C. Barry Architect for the purpose of ascertaining in what part of the building the Falling Platform for the more convenient performance of Funerals in Vaults it might with propriety be placed. I beg to report

That – the space within the vestibule at the West End of the Church appears to afford the most convenient situation for the purpose above mentioned

His Majesty's Commissioners for Building New Churches: Surveyor's Report Book 2, 1824-1828 (1829), To George Jenner secretary to the Commissioners; signed J H Good, Commissioners' Surveyor, 21 August 1826, p. 118, CERC, CBC/7/1/2

The Vicar reported that since the last meeting of the Committee on the 29 May HM Commissioners for building churches had approved the new Plans prepared by Mr Barry for the Church at Balls Pond and that Mr Deanes tender for the work had been accepted & the commissioners – the vicar had been much occupied in endeavouring to obtain early possession of the site in Balls Pond and had had many interviews with the agents of the Marquis of Northampton on the subject with whom it was finally agreed that the Architect should meet the

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Marquis's Surveyor to mark out the ground but in the meantime Mr Laycock the tenant in possession advanced a claim for compensation he being required to remove prematurely a large quantity of manure there deposited ... resolved unanimously that £100 be paid to Mr Laycock towards his expenses ...

Mr Barry reported that in digging for the foundations of the Church in Cloudesley Square it had been found necessary to turn the course of a sewer running through the ground for which purpose the consent of the commissioners of sewers must be obtained and that he had had some communication with Mr Wichings the Surveyor of the Commissioners who was desirous of affording all reasonable facility to the object and that he had prepared an estimate of the expense which he laid before the Committee when it was resolved unanimously

that Mr Barry having with the concurrence of Mr Souter [elsewhere Suter or Sowter] the Contractor presented an estimate of the expence of turning the sewer through the site of the contract for the church and amounting to £89 17. That Mr Barry be intrusted to carry the measure into effect forthwith. ... the Committee do recommend to the Trustees to save the expenses attendant on the ceremony of laying the first stone of the churches in Cloudesley Square and at Balls Pond in order to meet the unexpected expenditure occasioned by the preceding resolutions.

Mr Barry reported that the Church at Holloway is proceeding very much to his satisfaction and that the walls have reached to the height of the transoms of the flank windows.

The expenses of laying the first stone of the Holloway Church being now ascertained to amount to £145 8 – resolved unanimously that it be recommended to the Trustees to give an order that this sum be paid provisionally out of the parochial funds to be replaced from the first monies raised in pursuance of the votes of vestry or building three additional Churches for the parish. adjourned.

[Rough] Minutes of [Church Building] Committee, 26 August 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/25

Charles Barry. Estimate of the proposed new Sewer Cloudesley Square Islington

186 feet Run of Brick Sewer including

shoring centring and Digging @ 9/6	£88 7
60 feet run of 12in gun barrel drain @ 1/9	<u>£5 5</u>
	£93 12
deduct the allowance for two cesspools	<u>£4 5</u>
	£89 17

[n.d., c. August 1826], Cloudesley Square, Estimate of the Proposed Sewer, with drawing, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/8

The Vicar reported that he had waited upon the Lord Bishop of London to explain why the Committee thought of recommending to the Trustees to omit the ceremony of laying the first stones at the Churches in Balls Pond & Cloudesley Square and the Bishop agreed in the propriety of the omission on the ground of economy and congratulated the parish on the degree of forwardness into which they have brought their undertaking in comparison with other parishes which have received assistance from HM Commissioners.

The Commissioners of Sewers having required that the Sewer which passed through the ground in Cloudesley Square should be made in a manner which will occasion an additional expense over & above the former estimate of Mr Barry and amounting in the whole (inclusive of the estimate) to £159 19 – the vicar informed the committee that upon enquiry had found reason to believe that the Comms of Sewers will themselves bear the additional charge if an application which it was suggested might be made to HM Commissioners for Building Churches should prove unsuccessful – the vicar had accordingly made such an application to HM Commissioners and their answer is expected.

it was considered whether it might not be advisable to have engravings made from small drawings of the intended churches in Cloudesley Square and Balls Pond for distribution among such of the inhabitants as may be desirous of obtaining them. Mr Barry estimated the expence at £25 to £30 which was resolved unanimously that Mr Barry be required to procure engravings from the Drawings now exhibited by him and to order 1000 impressions to be struck off from each plate.

Mr Wilkinson reported that he had communicated the 1st resolution of the committee at their last meeting, on 26 August, to Mr Laycock, who had required to have his guarantee in writing that the money should be paid and that he had to avoid unnecessary delay addressed the following letter to Mr Laycock.

Sir. The Bearer is Mr Deane the Contractor for the Church at Balls Pond who is anxious to be admitted upon the ground without delay – on Saturday evening last a vote was unanimously passed by the church building Committee which I was authorised to communicate to you that you should receive £100 towards your expenses in removing manure there deposited and I have therefore no hesitation in guaranteeing to you part of the said £100 out of the first monies to be raised under the authority of the vote of vestry last year for building additional churches for the parish. 29 Sept 1826.

Whereupon Mr Deane had been permitted to take possession of the ground. ... Mr Barry reported that at the Church of Holloway the heads of the Aisle windows are being constructed the whole of the internal pillars are erected and that the roof will probably be put on in about 2 months – At Cloudesley Square the basement walls are level with the surface of the ground – and at Balls Pond nearly the whole of the Plinth of the Building is set. Adjourned.

[Rough minutes of] Church Building Committee, 20 October 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/23

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Islington Holloway. Fowler and Jones, Smith and Founders, total contract £330

Islington Balls Pond. Richard Deane, Whole of the works except Smith and Founders, total contract, £9970 12

Islington Cloudesley Square. Benjamin Davies. Clerk of the Works.

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 24 October 1826, pp. 140-1

Sir. I am directed by HM Commissioners for building new churches to acquaint you that they have ordered the sum of £36 15 to be paid to Mr B Davies being the amount of his salary as Clerk of Works in the new Chapel building at Cloudesley Square Islington from the 17 July 1826 to the 23 October 1826.

Letter from Jenner to Wilson, 26 October 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/27

I have received a letter from Mr Jenner of which the annexed is a copy respecting the extra work in the foundations of Cloudesley Square Church. I have also added my letter to the Commissioners upon the subject as well as the Bill of extra work that you may lay the whole correspondence before the New Church Committee if you think proper.

copy of a letter from Mr Barry to Mr Jenner, 9 October 1826:

I send you herewith an account of the extra work which is necessary in the foundations of the intended chapel now building Cloudesley Square Islington in consequence of several pits which have heretofore been dug for gravel below the general level of the footings of the Main Walls.

37 yards cube of digging @ 1/6 £2 15 6

3 Rods 199 feet recd of brickwork @ 14/5 £53 3 6½

Letter from Barry to Wilson, 30 October 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/32

The Rev Wharfdale at the request of the vicar who was from home presented to the committee the answer of HM Comms for Building Churches to his application to them for the expenses of turning the Sewer from the site of Cloudesley Square Church which was ordered to be entered in the Minutes and is as follows:

The Vicar had subsequently applied to the Comms of Sewers by letter ... and had this day attended that Board when a complaint was made that the Sewer had been altered without their permission and they recommended to this committee to ask an explanation of the circumstances from Mr Barry and renew the application to them at their next meeting in the 2nd week of December ensuing [Mr Wilkinson laid Mr Barry's letters before the committee:] when it was

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resolved that in the opinion of this committee as at present advised the contractor for Cloudesley Square Church has no claim upon the parish for an extra allowance on account of the state of the ground.

Mr Oldershaw was requested to give notice to Mr Barry of the next meeting of the Committee in time for his attendance. [adjourned]

Report of Church Building Committee 10 November 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/20

Estimate of the expense attending the erection of two Furnaces for the heating of Cloudesley New Church in the Parish of Islington.

Erection of two furnaces, twelve feet in width, six feet deep, and eight feet six inches in height, air flues for hot and cold air; brass ventilators to admit warm air [QQ or 22].

The whole amount of which will be £280.

Frederick Selane, 20 Pembroke Place, Vauxhall Bridge Road [apparently a German stove maker]

To Charles Barry, Esqr, Estimate for Furnaces, Cloudesley Church, 25 November 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/7

Carpenters & joiners	25
Masons & labrs	18
Bricklayer & labrs	18
Plumbers painters & glaziers	16
Smiths	10
upholsterers	6
organ builders	6
plaisterers [prob] & labrs	14
slaters	4
	117

The above is the No of Men employ'd at the New Church Cloudesley Square

[this is scribbled on a scrap torn from headed paper with the address Copthall Buildings on the reverse and is located in the bundle with November 1826 records but must be later if upholsterers and organ builders are on site, unless he means they are preparing elsewhere]

[n.d.], Rough number of men employed, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/9

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Islington Cloudesley Square. Thomas Souter, Diggers, Bricklayers, Masons, Plasters and slaters.
Total contract, £7,131 16 9

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 14 November 1826, 252-3

The clerk reported that the report of the proceedings of the committee ordered at the last meeting had been laid before the Trustees ... the report be referred back to the committee to carry the recommendations therein into effect –

St John's Church. The Ayles are roofed the upper part of the knave is half its intended height

Trinity Church – Basement walls are completed, plinth set all round Builg

Pauls Church – Main walls up to about one half of the height of the Aisles.

Bill for Engraving £30

laying the first stones [blank]

Mr Laycocke [blank]

Rough Minutes of Building Committee, 21 December 1826, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/19

New Church Cloudesley Square

Having pursuant to general instructions inspected the church now erecting in Cloudesley Square in the parish of Islington under the superintendence of Mr Barry Architect I beg to report

That the works to this Church are proceeding satisfactorily the Building commenced in September last. The masons have completed setting the plinth and it is expected the Church will be covered in early July next. The Walls are covered up to protect them from the frost during the Winter, but the Workmen are employed in preparing the different materials against the spring.

His Majesty's Commissioners for Building New Churches: Surveyor's Report Book 2, 1824-1828 (1829), To George Jenner sec to comms; signed J H Good Comms Surveyor, 26 December 1826, p. 145, CERC CBC/7/1/2

Islington Chapel, Holloway. Henry Ward and son. Whole of the Works except the Smith and Founders.

Islington Chapel, Balls pond. Richard Deane. Whole of the works except the Smiths and Founders.

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 7 January 1827

Islington Balls Pond. Robert Marshall Clerk of Works

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Islington Holloway. William Rutherford Clerk of Works

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 9 January 1827

resolved ... that an Organ shall be provided for each of the new Churches.

Resolved that the specification now presented of the interiors of the organ of the chapel of ease be adopted as the patterns of those to be provided subject to such variation as may hereafter be found expedient and that **Mr Barry be requested to prepare a drawing or drawings of the exterior parts in keeping with the intended churches** to be laid before this committee ... and that Mr Oldershaw be instructed to advertise for contracts for building three organs and giving reference to his office for viewing the specifications

Report of the Committee for Building Additional Churches, 3 March 1827, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/29

Clerk reported that he had received from the Comms of Sewers £64 8s towards the expence of the sewer in Islington Square ...

Tender – to specify expence of case distinct from the organ and to give a price for mahogany & wainscot – shifting movement [for each church]

[Rough minutes of] Church Building Committee, 17 March 1827, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/22

[report questioning Russell's ability to complete the contracts; his was the lowest tender] The Committee next took into consideration the propriety of substituting wainscot for mahogany in the cases of the organs whereby (it was represented) a saving of £76 might be effected while neither the quality nor the appearance of the instruments would be unfavourably affected by the change and Mr Barry who was in attendance having stated his opinion that wainscot would be equally or even more appropriate than mahogany to the interior of the Buildings and Mr Russell assenting to the deduction of £76 from his contract ... agreed ... and resolved subject to the approbation of the Trustees.

Report of the Committee for Building Additional Churches, 5 April 1827, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/30

Islington Cloudesley Square. Zechariah and James Bowden, carpenters and joiners. Total contract £2,610

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 24 April 1827

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

The clerk reported that the Trustees had recd tenders in April last for building 3 organs in the Churches now building & accepted Mr Russells proposal to build the same viz £1475.

Agreed that Mr Russell have the elevations which were accordingly handed to him

[Rough minutes of] Church Building Committee, 5 May 1827, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/22

By Mr Nottage ... on the premises, No. 15 Cloudesley Square, Back-Road, Islington, by order of the Proprietor, Mr Reid, Surgeon, who is removing from the country ... The furniture, which has been purchased new within about twelve months

Morning Advertiser, 14 June 1827

Islington Ball's Pond. Gothic, with Tower. First stone laid 15 Sept 1826. State of building on 1 June 1827. The rafters of the aisle roofs are on, and the nave roof is being fixed. The tower is carried up about 40 feet above the ground. Building will be finished September 1828.

Islington Cloudesley Square. Gothic with turrets. first stone laid 15 July 1826. The whole of the walls of the building are carried up to the height of the aisle roof. the gallery timbers are fixed, and the nave pillars are in a forward state. building will be finished July 1828.

Islington Holloway. Gothic with tower. First stone laid 4 May 1826. The building is roofed in and the walls completed. The tower is carried up to within 10 feet of the top of the parapet. building will be finished 4 May 1828.

CERC, Seventh Annual Report of His Majesty's Commissioners, 22 June 1827, pp. 12-13

The Trustees of the Stone Fields, Islington

His Majesty's Commrs for Building New Churches

On Saturday I left with Mr Bouchier the Draft of a Conveyance from the form pointed out with Act of Parliament from the Trustees and the New River Company to the Commissioners, and yesterday I saw him on the subject, and he desired that would communicate to you the nature of the arrangement which has been made between the Trustees and the New River Company for the purpose of discharging the site of Ground upon which the new Church is building from the Rent charge upon the Estate receivable by the Company.

You are aware that the Company's Rent charge amounts to £2 13 4 annually, and the whole estate consists of 14 acres, nearly covered with dwelling houses of a respectable class.

on the Company being applied [?to] concur with the Commissioners of the Scite of Ground for the New Church, for the purposes of releasing the latter from the payment of the Rent charge, they declined to unless the Trustees purchased $\frac{3}{4}$ [or 3s 4d?] of the Rent charge and paid for the ?scite the sum of £5 13 8.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

The title of the Company to the Rent charge is only known to themselves and their motive for resigning such purchase to be made is not exactly known, and altho perhaps in strictness within? the Company can sell or the Trustees purchase, the amount is so trifling as not make it a matter of great importance.

in confirming with the above arrangement I have prepared a Release from the Company to the Trustees, and herewith I send you a copy of it, but I am not quite sure whether it would not be preferable for the Commissioners if they have the power, to fix the whole Rent charge upon the remainder of the Estate, which is more ample, and produces from Ground Rents alone £1000 pa.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Oldershaw to George Jenner, 7 August 1827

I beg to inform HM Commissioners that I have been labouring to remove the objection raised against the Site of Trinity Church Cloudesley Square on account of a rent charge £2 13 4 payable to the New River Company by the Estate of which the site forms a part. The New River Company have agreed to accept of the payment of the sum £5 16 8 (being 35 years purchase at 3s 4s) as a sale acquittal of the site of the church, leaving 2 10 0 to be paid by the parish, Feoffees for their part of the Estate. The Feoffees have also agreed to pay this sum of £5 16 5 and discharge the site from remembrance. ...

Twice I wrote to you last about the Burial grounds at Islington. I find a clause in the Act passed July 2 which appears to apply to the care of the parish. If His Majesty's Comms should wish for any alteration in the plan for interments which I submitted to them, [illeg word] beg you to give me information thereon. And I beg to submit that the arrangement proposed, ... as most convenient to the parish.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Wilson to George Jenner, 9 August 1827

I have been labouring to remove the objection raised against the site of Trinity Church Cloudesley Square on account of the Rent Charge of £2 13 4 payable to the new River Company by the Estate of which the Site forms a part – The New River Company have agreed to accept the payment of the sum of £5 16 8 (being 35 years purchase at 3/4 as a full acquittal of the site of the church leaving £2 10 to be still paid by the parish feoffees of the other part of the [?estate]. The feoffees have also agreed to pay the sum of £5 16 8 and discharge the [?site] from incumbrance ... the draft of conveyance of the site from the feoffees to the Royal Comm is at your office for correction and approval

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 23 August 1827

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Cloudesley Square Islington. Having pursuant to general instructions inspected the church now erecting in Cloudesley Square in the parish of Islington under the superintendence of Mr Barry Architect I beg leave to report

That the timbers of the roof of this Church are fixed, the south aisle slated and the other part of the slating in progress. The turrets at the West end are expected to be finished by Christmas, the joiners' work is in a state of forwardness and it is expected that the Building will be completed in the course of next year – the works appear satisfactory.

His Majesty's Commissioners for Building New Churches: Surveyor's Report Book 2, 1824-1828 (1829), To George Jenner sec to comms; signed J H Good Comms Surveyor, 12 November 1827, p. 196, CERC CBC/7/1/2

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th, accompanied by the draft release of a new charge of 3/4 on the site of the new Chapel building in Cloudesley Square in this parish with the opinion of Mr Ker thereon.

As I have no copy of the opinion of Mr Ker on the Title, I shall feel obliged by your sending me by the bearer the abstract upon which the opinion is written & I will return it to you with a new draft of Release, drawn according to Mr Ker's suggestion.

Letter from Oldershaw to Jenner, 14 December 1827, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, Islington

A Gothic edifice of similar good taste to that recently mentioned at Ball's Pond, and by the same architect, Mr Barry, and it deserves the same praise, for the characteristic design and solidity of construction, as that very rural looking church.

The New Church of St John, Holloway

is another of Mr Barry's examples of pure ancient English architecture, and is equally creditable to his good taste in that beautiful department of our art as his new church is Cloudesley Square, his restoration of St Mary (Stoke Newington) and his new churches in the Ball's Pond Road and at Brighton. it is composed, like that of St Paul, of a nave and two aisles, with pointed windows and dwarf buttresses between them, and a substantial square tower, with angular buttresses surmounted by crocketed pinnacles. This durable and handsome church is built with brick and stone, after the ancient English method, which is as pleasing in appearance as it is strong in principle.

London in the Nineteenth Century, illustrated by Thomas Hosmer Shepherd, with historical, topographical and critical illustrations by James Elmes, London, 1827

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

That the sum of £350 for cash paid to Mr Russell on account of his contract for the Organ be disallowed.

ILHC, St Mary Vestry Minutes, 27 April 1828, p. 135

Islington Ball's Pond. The whole of the exterior is completed; the plasterer's work is nearly finished, the joiner's work in the galleries is fixed, and the remainder of the joiner's work &c is in a forward state. building will be completed Sept 1828.

Islington Cloudesley Square. The whole of the exterior is completed; the plastering is in a forward state; nearly the whole of the joiner's work is prepared, and part of it is fixed. will be finished December 1828.

Islington Holloway. The building is, with a few trifling exceptions, completed. will be completed July 1828.

CERC, Eighth Annual Report of His Majesty's Commissioners, May/June 1828, pp. 12-13

Cloudesley Square New Church

Having pursuant to general instructions inspected the works now forwarding under the directory of Mr C Barry, Architect, in the erection of the Church in Cloudesley Square in the parish of Islington I beg to report

That the works to this Church appear to be providing satisfactorily.

The plastering to the Aisle Ceilings, are completed and the remainder of the plastering in a forward state.

The joiners are proceeding with the floor of the Galleries a considerable part of which is laid.

His Majesty's Commissioners for Building New Churches: Surveyor's Report Book 2, 1824-1828 (1829), To George Jenner sec to comms; signed J H Good Comms Surveyor, 3 June 1828, p. 231, CERC CBC/7/1/2

Population of the parish is estimated at 30,000

There is one church & one chapel of ease regularly consecrated [?], accommodating together 2500; and there are three churches or chapels now building, viz, Trinity Church Cloudesley Square, marked in the Maps A; St John's Upper Holloway, marked B; and St Paul's Ball's Pond, marked C ...

The parish is bound to uphold & repair both the church and chapel of ease – but the produce of the parish Estate called Stone Fields is applicable to these purposes

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

there are no Burial Grounds to any of the New Churches ABC; but A & B have vaults – C has no vaults. [again, there is no corresponding plan in the file]

There are Burial Grounds to the Parish Church D & the chapel of Ease, E; but that of D is so indecently crowded, that it is proposed to submit to the Lord Bishop the expediency of its being shut up for three years.

It appears most desirable that all the offices should be performed at each of the Three New Churches ABC, and also at the present chapel of Ease E, where now Burials only are performed. The mode of division most applicable to the parish appears to be by dividing the same into Ecclesiastical Districts under Clause B

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, form re assignment of churches to population document, 7 June 1827 [10 June 1828 added to top front of document]

V. There are no Burial Grounds to the New Churches A & C. There is ground around B which it is proposed to make a Burial ground. A & B have spacious vaults. C has neither vaults nor Burial ground.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Amended answers to No IV, V, VI, & VII of the printed Queries for parish of St Mary Islington attached to form re assignment of churches to population document, 7 June 1827 [10 June 1828 added to top front of document]

His Majesty's Commissioners beg leave further to report, That forty-eight Churches and Chapels are in progress, at the following places: namely ... at Ball's Pond, in Cloudesley Square and at Holloway

Morning Post, 19 July 1827, p. 2

I have the pleasure of calling ... to convey the Deed for the Ball's Pond church which has been duly executed ... I shall also be glad to hear from you whether the [illeg word] has approved of the Cloudesley Square Deed I directed the apportioning of the Deed Charge. Also I wish to hear if the letter about dividing Islington into Districts has been approved. ...

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Wilson to George Jenner, 14 August 1827

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 27th ulto informing me that HM Commissioners do not see any objection to the arrangement proposed for apportioning the Rent charge of the New River Company on the site of Ground, of which the site of the New Chapel in Cloudesley Square forms a part, and herewith I send you for the approval of HM Commissioners the Drafts of the proposed deeds

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Oldershaw to Geo Jenner, 1 September 1827

Abstract of the title of the Feofees for Charitable purposes of certain Lands called Stone Fields in the Parish of Islington, to pursue on behalf of the Church Commissioners [the latter clause added by hand and signed Ker, date not visible] Richard You otherwise Cloudesley by his will of this date [transcription of the 16th century will with a plan of 'Islington Square' attached – no house plots or church indicated, just the square (actually a rectangle) with the corners knocked off and gates indicated at the north and south ends: 120 2 x 155 2]

[attached to the former in same file] We the Rev Daniel Wilson vicar of the parish of St Mary Islington, Edward Flower, William Scott, Thomas Whittomore, George Wolfgang Widt, William Heath, Thomas Loveland, Richard Percival the elder, Nathaniel Clifton, Robert Meacock, Thomas Walker, William Jones, John Venn, John Greig and Peter Clarke Blount, Trustees of certain lands called Stone Fields in the parish of Islington And also the Governor and Company of the New River brought from Chadwell and Amwell to London send greeting Whereas where is now erected upon the piece or parcel of land hereinafter more particularly described which is part of certain lands called the Stone Fields in the Parish of Saint Mary Islington a New Church for the accommodation of parishioners of the said Parish under the authority and for the purposes of an act passed in the 58th year of the Reign of his late Majesty instituted An Act for the building and promoting of additional churches in populous parishes and of another act passed in the 59th year of the reign of his late majesty intituled An Act to amend and render more effectual an act passed in the last session of parliament for building and promoting the building of additional churches in populous parishes and of ... an Act passed in the 3rd year of the Reign of ... Majesty intituled an act to amend and ... effectual two acts passed in the 58th and 59th year of the reign of ... majesty [etc - largely hidden in the binding] ... day of [long space left blank] 1827 made between the said Governor and company of the New River of the one part and the heretobefore mentioned Trustees of the Stone Fields of the other part After reciting to the effect hereinbefore recited And reciting that it was proposed and intended that the site of the said church should be conveyed by the said Trustees to the commissioners for carrying into execution the above ... Acts and that the said ... should procure the said Governor and Company ... the release the same site from the said ... arrangements the said Trustees had contracted and agreed with the said Governor and company for the absolute purchase of the yearly sum of 3s/4d part of the said sum of 4 marks annually at or for the price or sum of £5 16 8

Draft conveyance of part of Land called Stone Fields, The Trustees of Stonefields and The Governors Company of the New River to His Majesty's Commissioners for Building Churches, date invisible and text also partly concealed by binding and folding, c.1827, CERC ECE/7/1/18112

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

I am directed by the parish of St Mary Islington to inquire of HM Comms “Whether HMC intend to claim or exercise any jurisdiction in the appointment of any which of the officers for the New Churches”.

This Enquiry arises from a canvas having been begun all over the parish by numerous candidates for the situations of organists – as many as twenty perhaps – to the great [illeg word] of the candidates themselves & much inconvenience to the parish. I would therefore beg to be informed whether the Comms have determined upon the question of the Division of the parish into districts or not, & whether it is the intention of the Commissioners to appoint Select Vestries for the districts. [followed by a query about the burial ground]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Wilson to Jenner, 7 December 1827

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, Islington

a Gothic edifice of similar good taste to that recently mentioned at Ball’s Pond, and by the same architect, Mr Barry, and it deserves the same praise, for characteristic design and solidity of construction, as that very rural looking church.

Thomas Hosmer Shepherd, *Metropolitan Improvements: Or, London in the Nineteenth Century ...*, London, 1827, p. 169

Islington Holloway. James Short, Clerk of Works Oct 1827 – Jan 1828

CERC, Commissioners’ Minutes, 29 January 1828

Sir. in the sixth and seventh report of the Commissioners of building new Churches, there are some statements which require an explanation, and this perhaps one of the noble lords or honorable gentlemen who compose this commission can easily give. the contract prices of different churches vary very much indeed. [Bethnal Green, Clerkenwell, Marylebone, Bermondsey, Fulham, Islington, three churches]

The last of these, which is the largest church, and has cost the least money, is in the centre of Cloudesley-square, in the midst of the new buildings in the Liverpool road. It is a handsome-built building, of white brick, with stone copings, and two towers after the model of one of the finest Gothic buildings in Europe, King’s College Chapel, Cambridge.

There appears to me nothing wanting in this building to make it a model for all the other places of worship, some which have cost nearly double the sum.

A Looker-On, *The Times*, 15 March 1828, p. 3

At a meeting of the CBC, The Revd Daniel Wilson, Vicar in the chair

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

the vicar laid before the Committee a letter which he had received from Mr Jenner the Secretary to HM Comms for Building New Churches dated the 9th inst proposing to allow £500 for enclosing the new chapel in Cloudesley Square, if the Parish would take upon themselves the execution of the works agreeable to the plan submitted to Mr Barry, whereupon it was

Resolved that it be respectfully presented to HM Comms by the Revd the Vicar that in the opinion of the Trustees they cannot undertake the execution of the proposed works consistently with their engagements to the Parish to whom they have reported as the fact it, that, their stipulations with HM Commissioners were to the effect, that, the Fences and Bells should be supplied by HM Comms without any expense to the Parish beyond the sum of £8,000 agreed to be paid to HM Commissioners

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, communication of 20 May 1828

HM Commissioners had directed Mr Barry to obtain tenders for enclosing the Church in Cloudesley Square. [the rest of the content about pew rents and prayer book purchase so the church is nearly ready to open]

Rough Minutes of the Committee for Building New Churches, 22 May [c.1828] LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/42 [last in the bundle]

Dear Sir, I have sent to you the Drawing for the Altar Chairs – if you will let me know when the tenders for the upholstery &c are to be opened by the Committee I should like to attend and to question the Tenderers if necessary as to the details of their Estimates. I am dear Sir Your Obedient Servt, Charles Barry

Note from Barry to Oldershaw, 23 May 1828, Foley Place, LMA, P83 MRY1/1126

PARISH OF ST. MARY, ISLINGTON. Three new churches having been recently constructed for the use of the Inhabitants of this extensive and populous parish, viz., St. John's Church, Upper Holloway; Trinity Church, Cloudesley-square; and St. Paul's Church, Ball's Pond, a vestry was held Thursday evening last, for the purpose of electing organists, beadles, and other officers, and was very numerously attended by the friends of the respective Candidates, who had been previously carrying an active canvass amongst the Vestrymen the Parish. The Chair was taken at six o'clock by the Senior Churchwarden, William Allen, Esq.; and after the Candidates had been [nominated] by different Gentlemen, who advocated their claims with great earnestness, their names were put to a show hands, when the Chairman declared the majority to have fallen upon Miss Dowling, Miss Hind, and John Banner, for Organists; and upon Messrs. Tarry, Mallett, and Chisnall, for Beadles and Sextons. Ballots were, however, demanded in both cases, on behalf of some of the other candidates, and the Election was appointed to take place on the two following days. Three Organ-blowers, whose appointment excited some amusement, were chosen by a

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

show hands; and Fifteen Pew-openers were selected in a similar manner a from list containing thirty-five candidates. On Friday and Saturday the greatest activity prevailed throughout the Parish; and the most strenuous exertions were made by the various candidates and their friends to attain the object in view. The ballot closed at six o'clock on Saturday evening; but in consequence of the great number votes, some hours elapsed before the scrutineers could cast them up; and it was nearly ten o'clock when the result was announced by the Chairman, as follows:

For organists		For beadles and sextons	
Miss Dowling	1,199	W. Tarry	859
Miss Hind	1,012	W. Mallett	732
J. Banner	612	T. Odling	611
Mrs Galton	605	-Chisnall	508
Miss King	485	R. Heath	271
J. Clarke	204	H. Billing	246
-Skaratt	169	-Adcock	206
-Jones	149	-Eales	99
-Wade	12	-Cooke	73
		-Theed	63

The three Candidates having the highest number votes on each list were then declared duly elected, and the Vestry was adjourned, after passing, on the motion of Mr. Clifton, a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Allen, for the ability and impartiality with which had presided during the election.

We understand that the Church of St John, Upper Holloway, will be consecrated by the Bishop of London, on Wednesday 2 July next.

Morning Advertiser, 23 June 1828, p. 2

I must request of you to send me the conveyance referred to by Mr Wilson in the inclosed note or to let me know ... whether you take it yourself or will send it to him by Wednesday morning in time for the Consecration

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter to Jenner from Corporation House Bloomsbury Place, 30 June 1828

State of the building on 1 June 1828:

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Islington Ball's Pond. The whole of the exterior is completed; the plasterer's work is nearly finished, the joiner's work in the galleries is fixed, and the remainder of the joiner's work &c is in a forward state. Building will be finished September 1828.

Islington Cloudesley Square. The whole of the exterior is completed; the plastering is in a forward state; nearly the whole of the joiner's work is prepared, and part of it is fixed. The building will be finished December 1828.

Islington Holloway. The building is, with a few trifling exceptions, completed. Building will be completed June 1828.

CERC, Eighth Annual Report of His Majesty's Commissioners, 19 July 1828, pp. 12-13

Islington Cloudesley Square. Fowler and Jones, smiths and founders, total contract, £185

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 10 September 1828

Islington Cloudesley Square. John Hardiman, Plumbers, Painters and Glaziers, total contract, £535 16 7 [Benjamin Davis Clerk of Works]

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 9 December 1828

I have deferred replying to your letter of the 18th ult as I am unable to arrange the amounts of the items therein alluded to until the several contracts are completed – as there is but little now to do at Cloudesley Square Church I hope I shall be able to transmit to you the amounts you require soon after Christmas ... Charles Barry.

Letter from Charles Barry to Oldershaw, re New Churches, 15 December 1828, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/14

Islington Cloudesley Square. James Walker, Whole of the works in the Enclosure to the chapel. Total contract £396

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 23 December 1828

New Churches. James Brookman. Gentlemen. Agreeable to the Request of Messrs Oldershaw I have inclosed my account for Furnishing Trinity Church the articles supplied has I hope given the same satisfaction as I have heard has been manifested at the Two Former Churches – Having in the first instance undertaken the contract at a low rate. Considering the Introduction which the affair would be to a young Tradesman among the gentlemen concerned how far I may have succeeded it is yet to be determined but if I may be allowed to form a conclusion from the kindness and condescension which I have experienced and which it has and will be thy study to

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

deserve ... from the circumstance of their being not a single instance of any of my articles or work disproved. James Brookman.

To The Trustees of the Church Building Committee, St Mary Islington, [n.d.], LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/11

James Brookman. Cloudesley Square Church:

Articles dispensed with	Articles Extra
Oak Chairs for Altar	Robing Room: extra carpet
Altar Rugs	Altar: extra Carpett
Officers Pews	Pulpits: Bensells[?] Carpett; Brown Holland covers; Stools and cushion
Less standards and Rod in organ Loft	clerks desk: Extra velvet & Trimmings, fringe round, Brown Holland covers 2 false bottoms, finished as before
£30	Ministers Pew: Cushions & carpet extra
	Organ Loft: Music Stool
	The Aisles: Centre matting, ditto in cross aisle &c
	£24

To The Trustees of the Church Building Committee, St Mary Islington, from James Brookman, [n.d.], LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/12

Dear Sir. The stained glass for the Great East window of Cloudesley Square Church will be ready for fixing on Monday week – would it not be prudent to have it protected by wire work as it is within stone's reach of the Road? This expense will be about £25 and if it is to be provided it will be very desirable that it should be fixed at the same time as the glass not only for its immediate protection but to avoid the extra expence of putting up another scaffold and the difficulty of fixing hereafter. If you should think proper to order it and will favour me with a line to that effect on Monday next I shall be enabled to have it made in the course of the week so as to [be] ready to fix at the same time as the glass.

Letter from Charles Barry to J. Allen, Churchwarden, re New Churches, 27 December 1828, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/13

Richard Cloudesley.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

A parishioner of Islington of pious memory gave to this parish by will dated the 13th day of January 1517 a certain parcel of ground calld Stoney field comprising about 16 acres upon part of which this church was built with the assistance of his majestys commissioners for building churches and dedicated to the service of almighty god on the 19th day of March in the year of our Lord 1829 to perpetuate the memory of so great a Benefactor to the parish the Feofees of the said estate have caused this window to be thus Embellished.

[n.d, c.1829], Copy of the inscription of the painted window of Trinity Church Cloudesley Square, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/43

I send you the Engrossments of the Draft Conveyance of the site of the New Church, building in Cloudesley Square in this parish, and of the Draft Deed of apportionment of the Rent charge on the land, which have been executed by the Trustees and the New River Company.

you will observe that there are three parts of each deed – one for HM Commissioners, one for the New River Company and the other for the Trustees. When the Deeds are executed I will thank you to let me know that I may send for them in order that I may get the conveyance of the Ground, which is to be retained by the Commissioners, registered at the Middlesex Registry, which I presume will be necessary.

Trustees of Stone Fields Islington to HM Commissioners, signed by Oldershaw, 6 January 1829 [CERC? reference??]

I have availed myself of your kindness in allowing me to make use of your name in an advertisement I have put into the papers on the subject of the iron railing which was formerly in Cloudesley Square. I am Sir yours faithfully, Charles Barry.

Letter from Charles Barry to Oldershaw, re New Churches, 7 January 1829, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/15

Cloudesley Square Chapel. Sir. We shall be glad to receive the two Deeds herein which belong to the New River Company properly executed and complete. We now forward you our little account herein amounting to £6 5 4. You are aware that at the request of the Rev Daniel Wilson we represented to the Board of Directors of the New River Company that the parish would incur considerable expence in obtaining the exoneration of the piece of land in question from the 3s 4d Rent charge and that it would be duly appreciated if the Board would relinquish the consideration money to be paid them respect thereof when the Board determined that they would give up the same or rather that it might be appropriated in part payment of our charges which were to be borne by the parish.

[Letter to Oldershaw from Hall, Thompson, Sewell, Salter's Hall re] New Churches, 22 January 1829, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/6

we are directed by the Committee for building New Churches to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31 December last addressed to the Revd Wilson requesting that the sum of £2000 remainder of the sum of £8000 to be contributed by the Parish in aid of the three new Chapels building in this Parish might be remitted to you; and to inform you that the committee will take the earliest opportunity which the forms of the local Act will allow, of raising and remitting the amount required.

sent from Islington and signed Oldershaw & Son, Clerk, 6 February 1829 [CERC/LMA? reference?]

Gentlemen, I will thank you to give to the Bearer all the tickets you may have set apart for me or that you can share for admission to the ceremony of the consecration of Trinity Church, and if you could accommodate Mr Legg a parishioner who has taken 2 sittings with 4 tickets for the ceremony I shall esteem it a favour – Mr L will call upon you on the subject.

Believe me, Gentlemen

Yours very truly,

Charles Barry

Letter from Charles Barry [to the vestry?], Saturday morning, LMA, P83/MRY1/1139/28

No. 30 Benjamin Davis, ‘Clerk of the Work’ (3 tickets applied for);

No. 109 Mr Bowden, Market St, St John Street, ‘the Carpenter’.

Application for tickets to the consecration ceremony, including these two contractors, LMA, P83/MRY1/126, pp. 2 and 4

The new church at Islington will be consecrated this day, by the Bishop of London.

Brighton Gazette, 19 March 1829, p. 4

On Thursday the elegant and commodious Church, lately erected in Cloudesley Square, was consecrated by the Bishop of London, in the presence of a great number of persons, including upwards of forty Clergymen of the Established Church. A most impressive sermon was delivered by the Rev. Daniel Wilson, from Hebrews 10, 25.

This is the third Church which was lately been erected in this extensive and populous parish, chiefly through the instrumentality of the worthy and respected Vicar, Rev. Daniel Wilson. It is a beautiful structure, in the pure Gothic style, after the model of King’s College Chapel,

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Cambridge, and is calculated to seat upwards of 2000 persons. The interior is fitted up with great neatness and propriety, and is divided into a nave, chancel, side aisles, and cross aisle. The nave being elevated a story above the side aisles, from which it is separated by massive stone pillars and arches after the manner of the ancient Cathedrals, which gives the building a grand and imposing appearance. The Altar is embellished with a fine stained window – a capital organ is placed in the organ loft, which is raised above the west gallery.

The Rev. Mr. Fell is appointed Minister of the Church, which is dedicated to Holy Trinity.

Morning Advertiser, 21 March 1829, p. 3

The organ in Trinity Church is ready for inspection

[letter from Timothy Russell, Gray's Inn Terrace to Oldershaw], 6 April 1829, LMA, P83/MRY1/1138/10

Islington Cloudesley Square. Thomas Souter, bricklayers, masons, plasterers and slaters. total contract, £7,131 16 9 and £55 19

Islington. Cloudesley Square, Balls Pond, Holloway: Thomas Mears bell founder for providing a bell for each chapel. total contract £194 12

CERC, Commissioners' Minutes, 7 April 1829

On Wednesday last, the Rev Daniel Wilson and the trustees of Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, Islington, met at the church, which has been just finished, to decide upon the merits of the organ. The professors Whitaker, Blewitt, Harris, Banner, the Nightingales and Adams, displayed their skill in the blending of the stops and performing upon their various parts of the instrument. The effect was magnificent. The organ, which was built by Russell, brother to the eminent composer, is admirably adapted to the size of the church, which holds nearly 3,000 persons.

The Standard, 10 April 1829, p. 3

In respect to the three chapels built in the parish of St Mary Islington.

Cloudesley Square. new chapel and enclosure. Charles Barry Architect

Messrs Souter [elsewhere Suter or Sowter] Bricklayers, masons, slaters & plasterers work
£7131 16

ditto. extra work in the foundations £55 19

Messrs Bowden. amount of contract for the carpenters and joiners work £2,610

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Messrs Fowler and Co amount of contract for the smith and founders work	£185
John Hardiman amount of contract for the plumbers painters and glaziers work	£535 16
Thomas Mears for a bell	£64 17
James Walker contract for the whole of the works in the enclosure	£396

total £10,979 9

architect's commission at 5pc £548 19

incidentals. clerk of works for salary £371 2

and preparing contracts and bonds £371 [looks like]

total £11,350 11 8

Total cost of building with enclosure £11,899 10 8

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 5 May 1829

Churches and Chapels have been completed at Ball's Pond, in Cloudesley Square, and at Holloway, in the parish of Islington.

CERC, Ninth Annual Report of His Majesty's Commissioners, 12 June 1829, pp. 12-13

Statements of Brick and Glass used in the erection of the three new churches in the Parish of St Mary, Islington, and the amount of Duty paid and returnable thereon.

Balls Pond:

Builder, Richard Dean, 5 Milner Place, New Cut, Lambeth

754,170 stock bricks in Church

73,000 stock bricks in Enclosure

827,870 total bricks

Duty at 5s 10d per thousand, £241 9s 2 ¾d

1142 superficial feet of Crown Glass at 10 oz pr foot duty at £3 13 6d per cwt, £23 8 6¾d

Total duty: £264 17 9½

Holloway:

Builder, Harbert John Ward, Water Lane, Bridewell Precinct

824,000 stock bricks in church

83,700 stock bricks in Enclosure

907,700 total bricks

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duty at 5s 10d per thousand, £264 14 11d

1284 superficial feet of Crown Glass at 10 oz, duty at £3 13 6d, £26 6 3³/₄

Total duty, £291 1 2³/₄

Cloudesley Square:

Builder, Thomas Suter [otherwise Souter or Sowter], 111 Golden Lane, St Luke's

750,000 stock bricks in church, duty: £218 15s

[bricks in enclosure not itemised]

1260 superficial feet of Crown Glass, duty: £25 16 5¹/₂

Total duty: £244 21 5¹/₂

LMA, P83 MRY1/1127, [n.d. c.1829]

NEW CHURCHES.—No. XX.

Our present engraving comprises views of the three New Churches built in the parish of Islington. In the outset, it is but justice to remark, that great credit is due to all the parties concerned in the work; to the parish particularly, for the selection of a style of architecture peculiarly adapted to ecclesiastical buildings, and for the choice of architects possessed both of taste and talent. The first and last subjects are the production of Charles Barry, esq. the architect of St. Peter's, Brighton; the new spire of Petworth Church, Sussex; and the alterations of St. Mary, Stoke Newington. The middle subject is by James Savage, esq. architect of St. Luke's Church, Chelsea; St. James's, Bermondsey, &c. Both of these gentlemen have distinguished themselves above their predecessors and their contemporaries, by their excellent designs in our national style of architecture. The first in order of date, and having priority in the engraving, has the preference in point of description, as it would be invidious to make a distinction in the merits of the buildings.

St. John's CHURCH, UPPER HOLLOWAY. Architect, Barry.

This Church is situated on the south side of the high road, and nearly opposite to the branch leading to the Archway. It is built with a fine white brick, the ornamental portions executed in Bath stone. The plan gives a nave and side aisles, with a square tower, flanked with vestibules at the western end, and a small vestry attached to the opposite extremity. The basement floor is occupied by catacombs.

The western front of the Church is made in breadth into three portions. The centre is occupied by the tower, in which is the principal entrance. It has a Pointed arch, with an ogée canopy, crocketed, and ending in a finial; the outer moulding springs from bustos. Above this is a window of a single light, and to this succeeds a pannel, intended for the dial. The upper story of the tower is clear of the Church; it owes more to the gracefulness of its proportions, than to its

height or dimensions; the angles are guarded by duplicated buttresses, and in each face is a Pointed window, nearly occupying the space between the buttresses. The windows are each divided by a single mullion into two lights, with arched heads, inclosing five sweeps; the head of the arch is occupied by a single division of a similar character, and its exterior lines are inclosed in a sweeping cornice. Over a cornice charged with reliefs of masks and roses, an embattled parapet finishes the walls; and the buttresses at the angles terminate in square pedestals, surmounted by crocketed pinnacles, crowned by finials. The remainder of the west front is plain and unadorned. The flanks are uniform, or nearly so. The aisle is made into seven divisions by buttresses, those at the angles project diagonally from the wall, and are crowned with pinnacles; the others finish below a cornice just above the points of the windows, over which the elevation is terminated by a plain parapet. The windows resemble in design those in the tower already particularized; they are divided into two heights by a transom, the lights below which are distinguished from those above by the arched heads being destitute of the ornamental sweeps. The first window from the west in the south aisle, and the first and last in the north aisle, have their lower series of lights omitted to make way for doorways. The frontispieces are all alike; the arches are pointed, and inclosed in a square head, the sweeping cornice resting on busts of a King and a Bishop, which are all copies of each other—a want of invention seldom or ever displayed by our ancient architects. The spandrils of the several doorways are filled with foliage, inter-woven with ... monograms ...

The aisles fall short of the nave in length by one division at both extremities, allowing for the projection of the tower at one end, and of a chancel at the other. In the eastern ends of the aisles are simple windows of one light each, which, however, are only introduced to avoid a dead space, as they give no light to the Church.

The clerestory is divided by buttresses into the same number of divisions as the aisle, and each contains a window of two lights divided by a single mullion. The upright is finished with a plain parapet and coping, similar [p. 10] to the aisle. The east end of the chancel has a handsome window nearly occupying the whole of the wall; it is made in breadth by four mullions into five lights, which are subdivided in height by a transom; the head of the arch is occupied by smaller perpendicular divisions, and the detail of the whole assimilates with the aisle windows; the arch is finished by a sweeping cornice. Below this window is the vestry, a plain room, semi-octagonal in plan, with a square window in the eastern face. At the angles of the main building are buttresses crowned with pinnacles; a little above the point of the window is a square aperture inclosing a quatrefoil; and then succeeds a pedimental cornice, over which the elevation is finished with a coping of the same form. On the point is an elegant cross flory, pierced with a lozenge in the centre.

THE INTERIOR

Is simple, and chaste; the arches form a medium between the obtuse and low forms of the Tudor era and the acutely-pointed ones of the thirteenth century, occupying a larger space, with reference to the pillars, than those gracefully formed arches which are always found in works of

the fourteenth century; they may in consequence be said to form a medium between the last period and the first-named era — the architect having adopted that modification of the Pointed style, in which a vast number of the ancient parochial churches is erected, a simple unostentatious style which prevailed about the middle of the fifteenth century, and which, from its light and unornamented character, seems peculiarly adapted to the village church. On each side the nave are six arches, and they are well adapted to prevent any unpleasant interference with the sight of the congregation in the galleries. The piers from which the arches spring are octangular, to the sides of which are attached cylindrical columns, with the usual capitals and bases, which serve to sustain the mouldings ornamenting the soffites of the arches; a similar column is applied to the inner faces of the pier, which is carved up to sustain the beams on which the ceiling of the nave reposes: the capitals of these pillars are foliated. The jambs of the clerestory windows are brought down to a cornice over the points of the main arches; but a portion of their height being built against by the aisle roofs, pannels of stone carved with shields in quatrefoils are introduced below the glazing, which has a pleasing effect. The ceilings are plain plaster, resting on beams of oak; those of the nave show obtuse arches, with pierced quatrefoils in the spandrels; the soffit is pannelled into compartments by ribs, with roses and lozenges at the intersections. The compartments are coloured with a light blue tint. The beams of the aisles are segments of arches springing from corbels attached to the side walls, and abutting against the main arches; the ceiling, like the nave, is plain plaster untinted, and this is the only modern innovation of which we have to complain. The architect has perhaps been compelled by circumstances to adopt the expedient, but it would have been far better, in point of appearance, had he made the whole to imitate an oak ceiling; the mixture of wood and plaster has the appearance of an ancient work modernized by a tasteless repairer.

Both the aisles have galleries. The fronts are varnished in imitation of oak, and ornamented with square panels, each containing three arched heads, tolerably executed, but the carving wants relief. A continuation of the same gallery crosses the west end of the Church, and above this latter branch is a smaller gallery, with a plain front, which contains the organ and seats for the charity children. The chancel is separated from the Church by an obtuse arch. The mouldings are continued from the jambs to the archivolt without interruption. The ceiling is vaulted in imitation of stone, and groined with arches and cross springers, at the intersections plain bosses. Below the window sill is the altar screen; it consists of six perpendicular divisions with arched heads covered with ogée canopies; between each is a buttress capped with a pinnacle, and behind the canopies a series of niches, the whole crowned with an embattled cornice. The usual inscriptions occupy four of the compartments, and two are vacant; the screen is executed in composition, in imitation of Bath stone. In the wall at the side of the screen is a lintelled doorway, from which, and other [p. 11] indications, it is evident that the altar is unfinished; and did we not know that Mr. Barry possesses too much knowledge of sacred architecture to leave this part of a church in a plainer state than the nave, and that he is too well acquainted with Pointed architecture to admit of any doorway but an arched one, we should be inclined severely to criticize this deviation, but we suspend our complaint against the naked appearance of the

chancel in the resent instance, because, seeing what Mr. Barry has done at Brighton, and in the Church which forms the subject of the ensuing article, it would not perhaps be fair to censure what we have no doubt the architect would have avoided, had he been able. Within the altar rails are two chairs for the officiating clergymen, designed on the model of the Coronation chair.

In the great window are the Royal arms, encircled in the garter, and surmounted by the regal crown, executed in a style closely resembling the antique. The introduction of this beautiful morceau raises a wish that the arms of the Bishop, &c. were added, until the whole of the window was filled up in a corresponding style, which would then have a splendid effect.

The designs of the pulpit and reading desk, for they are copies of each other, are marked with the highest excellence. An octagon pedestal of good proportions, each face of which is enriched with perpendicular panels, is surmounted by a succession of mouldings gradually increasing in size until they form a base to the pulpit, which keeps the same form, and is decorated with upright panels of a richer character than the pedestal. The bold relief of the mouldings approaches to the excellence of original works of the period ; but here we have to regret, that in a building possessing so much excellence, this stupid innovation has been allowed to creep in. We have always objected to two pulpits, even in a Grecian Church ; but in an old English edifice to witness such an innovation makes our very eyes to ache. If the Parish Committee, or the King's Commissioners, have directed this modern arrangement, the architect is excused; if Mr. Barry is chargeable with the fault, we trust he will avoid it for the future. The service of the Church is to be read from a desk, and not a pulpit ; and bating the impropriety of the alteration, let any of the new Churches, with their two pulpits, be contrasted with the old arrangement adhered to still in most of the churches built by Sir Christopher Wren, and the comparison will certainly manifest the superiority of the old and approved custom above idle and fanciful alterations, to suit modern ideas of uniformity.

The font is small, but the design is very chaste. It is an octangular basin with a quatrefoil panel, enclosing a flower on each face, and is sustained on a pillar of the same plan. It assimilates exceedingly well with the Church, and is in itself a very pleasing design. As a proof of the taste of the architect, we cannot quit the Church without noticing the neat screens which hide the staircase and room at the sides of the lower story of the tower: the designs are good, and the idea excellent; we only wish the funds had been sufficient to render the execution equally so. The church-yard is inclosed with a dwarf wall, surmounted by a stone coping, and adds by its simplicity to the antique character of the Church. The first stone was laid on the 4th of May, 1826, and it was consecrated by the present Archbishop of Canterbury, then Bishop of London, on the 2d of July, 1828. The number of persons accommodated are 1782, and the estimate is the exceedingly low sum of 11,013l. 5s. 7d.

St. PAUL'S Church, BALL's Pond. Architect, Barry.

The design of the present Church is so nearly similar to the last described, that much of the descriptive portion of the building is anticipated. It is built of brick and stone, like the last church, but differs in the plan, inasmuch as the tower is placed at the east end. In the addition of

staircase and vestry room projections, the architect has displayed an equally bold defiance of dull uniformity with those admirable architects whose works he almost rivals. The present structure is not so regular as the last, but in some respects it has a bolder character. The principal front, owing to its local situation, is the eastern one. The lower story of the tower forms a porch; the front is occupied by a bold Pointed arch, with [p. 12] moulded architrave, the mouldings dying into the jambs; the spandrels are filled with the Tudor rose, encircled with a profusion of foliage. The ceiling of the porch is groined, and in the side walls are doorways communicating with the stairs to the galleries. In the second story is a very neat window of three lights, with arched heads, enclosing five sweeps; the head of the arch is occupied by perpendicular divisions, and finished by a sweeping cornice. To this succeeds the clock dial, the very figures of which are antique, with a cross in lieu of the XII. The upper story is entirely clear of the Church; and, except in some minor particulars, which are easily distinguishable in the engraving, it resembles the tower of the last church. The north aisle is made by buttresses into six divisions; all, except the one nearest the west, contain windows, copies of those described in the last subject, but the pinnacles at the angles are omitted. The clerestory has five windows. The aisles, like the last subject, fall short in length at both extremities. As the west end of the south aisle is an attached polygonal staircase, lighted by small windows. The west end of the nave has double buttresses at the angles, ending in pinnacles. The elevation is made by a string course into two stories; in the lower is the principal doorway; it is a simple Pointed arch, the sweeping cornice resting on busts. The door is neatly and appropriately carved in compartments, in the style of the windows. On each side are loop-holes, giving light to small apartments within-side. In the upper story is a window of four lights, divided by a transom, the head of the arch filled with perpendicular divisions. Over this is a small quatrefoil aperture, and the elevation is finished with a gable and cross, copied from the other example. In the west end of the north aisle, which is unencumbered by a staircase, is a window of a single light. The north front of the Church is in its general features similar to the southern.

THE INTERIOR

In its detail, closely resembles the last described Church. There are, however, on each side only five arches; the trusses which sustain the ceiling of the nave are of a more ornamental character than in the last; they form obtuse arches, their spandrels filled with upright open divisions with trefoil heads, and the whole crowned with an embattled cornice; the same mixture of plaster and wood is, however, to be regretted. The clerestory windows, organ, and galleries, agree with the last Church. The fronts of the lower gallery are here ornamented with narrow perpendicular pannels, with cinquefoil heads.

The decorations of the altar are, however, far more magnificent. In that wall of the tower which is within the Church, is formed a lofty arch, high enough to embrace two stories of its elevation; the jambs and archivolt are canted and relieved by ogée moulding, in a simple but bold style; the lower part is occupied by a handsome screen, and the upper by a deep recess, covered with a groined ceiling. The altar screen is in imitative stone, it consists of seven divisions made by buttresses, and each covered by a canopy, in the style of the altar tombs of the fifteenth century.

The three central divisions are recessed, and in consequence the buttresses are omitted, the arches springing from pendants. In the recess, which has a groined ceiling, is placed the altar; the two succeeding divisions are niches, and form seats for the officiating clergyman. The exterior divisions contain the decalogue, and here the antiquarian skill of the architect is displayed in the letter and style of the inscriptions, which is the black letter of the 15th century. The initial letters are red, and are illuminated with leaves and flowers; the small letters are black; and the figures denoting the numbers of the Commandments are blue: the enrichments in blue and red have a singular effect, and the entire inscription possesses the appearance of a MS. of the same age as the Church purports to be. Behind the canopies are a series of upright panels, and these are surmounted by a cornice, which is splayed up to a breast-work, also of stone, but in a somewhat plainer style; it belongs to a pew or gallery situated over the porch in the basement story of the tower, and has the effect of giving an additional height and value to the screen; it is made into five divisions by tall pedestals crowned with pinnacles, each division forming an ornamental panel: in the three centre are the letters IHS in Roman letters. From the lozenge [p. 13] which forms the horizontal member of the central letter, rises a cross flory. The three letters and cross are handsomely painted in an ethereal blue, relieved with red, edged with gold, and ornamented with flowers in white. The recess above the altar is lighted by the eastern window, and adds to the effect of the screen below it by the depth of its shadow, and the whole is heightened by the arms of his present Majesty in stained glass, so admirably executed, as to be in perfect keeping with the Church. The arms in the garter, surmounted by the crown, fill the centre compartment; the side one contains the lion and the unicorn, holding banners; that of the first supporter being charged with a rose, and that of the second with a thistle. The rest of the glass is lozenge shaped panes diapered. The splendour of the decorations of the altar of this Church are sufficient to acquit the architect of the charge of wilful neglect in this particular. The whole forms so appropriate, and in modern churches so unusual, a finish to the interior, as to leave a hope that it will draw the attention of the higher authorities to the consideration of the expediency of more appropriately ornamenting this portion of the Church.

The same impropriety occurs in this Church, in regard to the pulpits, as pointed out in the other; in the present, the designs are not so elegant as in the other; they exhibit an open frame of four arches, sustaining a square pulpit, each face occupied by a handsome quatrefoil panel highly enriched; with this exception, the wood-work is in general of a more correct character than at the other church, and more attention appears to have been paid to the keeping of the design in the present Church.

The font is a counterpart of the one in the church last described. It is situated in a pew beneath the lower western gallery, and divided from the Church by a Pointed arch, which with two others forms a kind of triple entrance. The first stone of this Church was laid on the 15th Sept. 1826, and it was consecrated by the present Bishop of London, on the 23d of Oct. 1828. It will accommodate 1793 persons, and the estimate, like the last church, is equally low, being 11,205l. 14s. 7d.

The site was given by the Marquis of Northampton.

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Having now concluded our survey of Mr. Barry's Churches, it only remains to observe, that they present very correct specimens of the style of architecture which prevailed in the beginning and middle of the fifteenth century. Among modern specimens they deserve to stand in the highest rank; and, when the smallness of the estimates is considered, the superiority of the Pointed style above modern or Grecian architecture, as it is usually termed, both for cheapness and effect, must be apparent to all. If the estimates of the numerous modern churches already described in our pages, be compared with the present, it will be seen how much more is given for the money in the present class of buildings. On the Sunday after the consecration, the Church was opened for the public services, and on that occasion the Vicar of the parish, the Rev. Daniel Wilson, preached an excellent sermon from 2 Cor. ch. vi. ver. 16, 17, 18. In concluding his discourse, after noticing individually the various persons who had been engaged in the building of the Church, and adverting in the most feeling terms to the advantages which the erection of a new Church would bring upon the district, in the regular administration of the Sacraments and Services of the Church of England, and the residence of a Minister—the preacher, stated a fact, that, to every well-wisher to the Establishment was a most agreeable piece of intelligence, viz. that the three Churches had proceeded from the commencement of the undertaking to the completion without the least opposition from the parishioners, without any of those unhappy dissensions which have in too many instances followed the proposition for increasing the Church accommodation. If this desirable unanimity was brought about by the exertions of the excellent Vicar, as no doubt was the case, it argues well both for the parishioners and their pastor; and much it is to be regretted that a similar good understanding does not everywhere exist between beneficed clergymen and their flocks. The rev. gentleman embraced the opportunity of urgently pleading for the Incorporated Society for enlarging Churches, &c. The important work in which it [p. 14] was engaged, and the benefits likely to result from the increase of Churches by the means of this Society, were urged with an earnestness and an energy which did honour to the preacher's heart and understanding; and the collection from an exceedingly crowded church considerably exceeded the amount of the preacher's expectations. We have not space to do justice to Mr. Savage's Church, to which we will recur on a future opportunity.

E.J.C.

Gentleman's Magazine, January 1829, pp. 9–13

Mr Urban, I take the earliest opportunity of correcting an error I have unwittingly led you into, of attributing the new Church in Cloudesley-square, Islington, to Mr Savage, the architect (vide January Mag, p. 9). I did not ascertain, until after your number had gone to press, that all the three Churches in Islington parish were designed by Mr Barry; to that gentleman I can only say by way of apology, that it was far from my wish to transfer any portion of the merit so justly due to him, to any other quarter. Mr Savage as the architect, I had fallen undesignedly into an error, the consequences of which I feel satisfied can be no injury to the fame of either party; the true architect will see that his design has not been attributed to an inferior hand, and the excellence of

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the building will bar any diminution of the reputation of Mr Savage, by the misappropriation to him.

I have since learnt the following particularly, which you will probably think worthy of adding as a supplement to my description.

Mr Savage was the original architect of Cloudesley-square Church, but, as the tenders sent in did not agree with that gentleman's estimates, the Commissioners rejected his plans, and required the parish to send in other plans by another architect. In a similar manner Mr Basevi was the original architect of Balls-Pond Church; his plans were disapproved, and the Commissioners directed Mr Barry to repeat his designs, &c of St John's. At the instance of the parish he was allowed to vary them slightly afterwards, and, as I before observed, he has improved upon the design.

The Commissioners built the Churches on plans submitted by the parish, the parish paying the contribution of 8000l and engaging to fit them up for divine service. I have here to notice a correction of the amounts which the buildings cost the sums I stated are the estimates as given in the Commissioners' reports. It must be a fact well known to all persons connected with buildings, that the actual outlay generally far exceeds the estimate. In the present case this remark does not apply, and the conclusion which I drew from the estimates, viz. the comparative economy of buildings of English architecture, still holds good. As a matter of fact, I am happy to be enabled to give amounts nearer to the actual sums which the Churches will cost. St John's is something above 10,000l; Balls-Pond about 9,500l; and Cloudesley-square a little above 11,000l. To these amounts are to be added the value of the sites, the enclosures, and the bells, which may [p. 128] raise the whole charge to somewhere between 35 and 40,000l.

The sum of 50l., little more than nominal consideration for the site of Balls-Pond Church, was paid to the Marquis of Northampton. The expence of inclosing this ground was about 100l.

The excellent accommodation afforded to the members of the Establishment in this parish, is a gratifying fact. The population is 30,000. Before the erection of the new Churches, there was only Church room for one in twelve; there is now accommodation for one in four. The district of St John's contains 5000 persons; Ball's Pond the like number; Cloudesley-square 9,000; the parish Church and Chapel at Lower Holloway, 11,000.

The incumbent of St John's is the Rev William Marshall, MA late senior Curate of the parish. The incumbent of St Paul's is the Rev John Sandys, MA Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge.

The consecration of Trinity Church being fixed for 19 March next, I will then add the description of the remaining Church. E.J.C.

Gentleman's Magazine, February 1829, pp. 127–8

New Churches: No. XXII. Trinity Church, Islington. Architect, Barry.

The second subject in our engraving of the Islington Churches is a north-west view of the new Church in Cloudesley Square, Liverpool Road.

The style of architecture is the same as that of the two other Churches already described; but the design is pleasingly varied, the architect having taken as his model the chapel of a collegiate establishment, in preference to the usual parochial arrangement. In common with the others, this Church is built with brick, with stone dressings.

The plan consists of a nave, with side aisles, which fall short of the former at each extremity; in this respect the plan resembles the other designs; but the chancel is more ample in the present instance, and two lateral porches are added to the north and south sides.

The western elevation, in consequence of the absence of the steeple, is graced with a large window; which is made in breadth into five divisions by mullions, and divided horizontally by a transom stone; the upper range of lights thus formed have pointed heads, inclosing five sweeps, but the lower tier are finished square, the soffites enriched with half a quatrefoil; the head of the arch is occupied by smaller corresponding division, and is bounded by a weather cornice. Below the window is a handsome Pointed doorway, the weather cornice resting on busts. In the gable, just above the point of the window, is a small square panel inclosing the quatrefoil and pierced for a light to the loft over the ceiling. On the point of the gable is a cross flory. The octagonal towers of the angles of the design contain staircases; they rise plain to the spring of the gable, being broken into heights by horizontal mouldings. The two stories which are clear of the main building, are panelled with upright arched division, with cinquefoil heads, each alternate face pierced to admit light to the interior; an embattled cornice, surmounted by an octangular ogee-formed cupola, crocketed and crowned by a finial, finishes the elevation; the plain surfaces between the angles of the cupola, are enriched with roses, mitres, and crowns, in relief, alternating with each other. In one of these towers hangs the bell. The ensemble of this front is very imposing, the proportions are very fine, and the detail throughout in good keeping. The ends of the aisles have small Pointed windows.

The flanks are uniform. The aisle is made into five divisions by buttresses, the elevation finished by a parapet above a cornice. The central division is occupied by a porch, the design of which, viewed independently of the main building, is good; but in the present situation it cannot be regarded otherwise than a blemish; a porch in the middle of the aisle being entirely out of character, such structures being always situated near one of the ends, generally the western. The entrance to the porch is by a handsome Pointed arch, bounded by a weather cornice, resting on corbels sculptured with angles holding shields. The elevation is finished with a gable, on the point of which is a fleur-de-lis, and at the angles are buttresses ending in pinnacles. The object of the porches is to obtain entrances in front of two streets which enter the square, opposite to the flanks of the church, but as lateral entrances are seldom made in churches, and when used prove a constant source of interruption to the congregation, we cannot help expressing our wish that they had been either omitted, or moved nearer to the western extremity of the aisle. The other divisions of the aisle have simple but elegantly formed windows, divided into two lights by a single mullion. The head of the arches is occupied by upright division, and bounded by a weather cornice, resting on corbel busts, sculptured in a far better style than those we had occasion to notice in our last survey of Mr Barry's designs. A clerestory rises above the aisle,

having five divisions made by slender buttresses, ending in crocketed pinnacles; each division has a low arched window of two lights, exactly similar to those in the two former Churches. The elevation is finished with a cornice surmounted by a parapet.

The eastern elevation pleased us less than any portion of the building; in its outline it assimilates with the western, but the omission of the large towers at the angles greatly injures the design; the buttresses which supply their place are capped by small cupulas, in order to make them assimilate in some degree with the western front; but they make a poor apology for [p. 406] the absence of the noble towers of that elevation. The architect appears to have been sensible of this, by his altering the pinnacles of the original design into the present cupolas, but they only serve to make a stronger contrast with the other elevation; and it is the more to be regretted as this front is seen from the high road, and being more exposed than the other, ought to have been not only on the score of taste, but in compliance with ancient usage, equal at least in its general form to the western elevation.

The large window in the centre of this front is equal in dimensions and the number of its division with the western, but the ornamental portions are more numerous; the difference, however, is so trifling, that it would occupy too much time to particularize them. Above the point is a panel as before, and the gable and cross finish the whole, as in the other front. There is no entrance beneath the window; the extremities of the aisles have Pointed windows of one light.

The roof is covered with slates; and the ground in which the church is situated is inclosed with an iron railing.

The Interior

more resembles the other Churches than the outside; it has still some varieties which do away with any unpleasing impressions, arising from a sameness of design. On each side of the nave are five arches, which detail are the same as those particularized in our description of St John's Church. The ceiling is of a similar design to that of St Paul's Church. The chancel which is separated from the Church by a bold Pointed arch, is groined in a simple style, in imitation of stone; the bosses are collections of foliage chastely executed. The galleries for the congregation, organ and schools, are arranged similarly to the other Churches; the front of the former one is panelled with upright divisions.

We have here to notice the mode of lighting the principal galleries. The division of a window into two portions by the gallery of a Church has always an awkward appearance internally, and the introduction of two ranges of windows being out of all character, a difficulty arises not easily overcome. In Chelsea Church, the portion of the aisles beneath the galleries derive no light from the windows, which only open above the galleries; in consequence the lower parts are deficient in this essential quality. **In the present the window is only made to give light to the space beneath the gallery**, and the upper part derives a cross light from the windows of the clerestory. This is peculiar to the present Church; but as far as we are able to judge from a casual inspection, the experiment appears to have succeeded.

The altar is remarkable for the magnitude as well as the propriety of its decorations, - a merit which Mr Barry's works possess in an eminent degree. The screen is oak, and masks the vestry, which occupies a part of the chancel. The screen is in breadth made by buttresses into upright panels, having arched heads, and crowned with a cornice, above which the buttresses terminate in pinnacles, except the central one, which, being immediately over the altar, most appropriately finishes with a cross, the design of which is similar to those on the external gables; two panels have low arched doors, above midway of their height, communicating with the vestry. The five panels immediately above the altar are entirely gilt and inscribed with the Decalogue, Creed, and Pater Noster; the character is black letter, the capitals red, in the style of ancient MSS; and to us is appeared even more excellent than Ball's Pond. The east window is filled with painted glass of an antique character and design, in perfect accordance with the building. The lower tier of compartments have the Royal arms in the centre light, encircled with the garter, and surmounted by the regal crown; the lateral compartments are filled with a mosaic pattern of fretwork, inclosed in a light blue border, enriched with white crockets; in these compartments are respectively the red and white rose, and the thistle, in roundels. The central compartment of the upper tier of lights is occupied with a portrait of a gentleman in the costume of the 16th century, kneeling, and surmounted by a semi-hexagonal canopy, similar to that above Wolsey's statue at Christ Church; the dress is a purple gown lined with green, and turned up with yellow; the hair auburn, hanging in long curled locks on each side of the head. Beneath is the following inscription:

— DIOCESE OF —
LONDON
“RICHARD CLOUDYSLEY,

“A parishioner of Islington, of pious memory, gave to this parish by will dated the 13th of January, 1517, a certain parcel of [p. 407] ground, called Stony Field, comprising about 16 acres, upon part of which this Church was built, by the assistance of his Majesty's Commissioners for building Churches, and dedicated to the service of Almighty God on the 19th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1829.

To perpetuate the memory of so great a Benefactor to the Parish, the feoffees of the said estate have caused this window to be thus embellished.”

In the compartments on each side are the letter R. C. The glazing of the other compartments are in the style of the lower ones, the minute divisions in the head of the arch are filled with elegant and appropriate ornaments; in the centre re four compartments, the arched heads of which intersect; in the two lower the Greek characters Λ Ω ; in the upper, angels with censers; the other lights have an elegant sprig of foliage. The window and the inscriptions, as well as those at Ball's Pond, and the arms at Upper Holloway, were executed by Mr Willement, the author of *Regal Heraldry*. All these subjects are in the most superior style, and in exact keeping with the building, a merit which modern stained glass seldom or ever possesses. It was fortunate for Mr Barry that an artist existed possessed of sufficient antiquarian knowledge to execute such decoration in a correct style. The works of Gibbons are great embellishments to the buildings of Wren, and in an equal degree would the decoration of Mr Willement add a grace to any buildings in the

Pointed style. As the ecclesiastical authorities persist in retaining the inscriptions at the altar,* how absurd do Roman characters appear in a design in the Pointed style; and the introduction of figures in nondescript costume on stained glass, are an injury rather than an ornament in such a structure.

The pulpit, and what is intended for a reading desk, are situated in the nave at a short distance from the piers of the chancel arch: in conformity with the directions of the Commissioners, they are copies of each other, propriety being sacrificed to the whim of some pertinacious admirer of uniformity. The design of the two is similar to Ball's Pond, and consequently inferior to the beautiful pulpits of Upper Holloway.

The font, which stand in a pew near the west entrance, as well as the organ case, are similar in design to those in the other Churches. The organ is deemed by judges a fine instrument; it was built by Russell.

On the front of the western gallery is a copy in Roman characters of the inscription under Richard Cloudesley's effigy, and another recording the consecration of the Church, and the name of the architect.**

The east window, as the inscription records, was glazed at the expence of the trustees of a parish estate called "the Fourteen Acres, or Stone Field," ... for the purpose of commemorating the donor of the land, which a few years since was valued at 22,800l and that before the numerous building now upon it had been erected. This considerable property was preserved from the general wreck of charitable endowments, in the reign of Henry VIII and from the rapacity of the guardians of his youthful successor, in all probability, by its then inconsiderable value, being only let at 7l per annum. The donor, Richard Cloudysley, by his will dated 13 Jan 1517, 9 Hen. VIII devised and bequeathed this and other property to various charitable uses, and others which at the Reformation were deemed superstitious; the latter consisted in directions for numerous masses to be said for the repose of his soul, and the foundation of a fraternity in Islington Church, called by the Commissioners for dissolving Colleges and Chantries, the "brotherhedd of Jesus." How long the testator survived the date of his will, is not recorded; thirty years afterwards, the fraternity was visited by these Commissioners, but by some means it eluded the insatiate grasp of the successive plunders of church property. Almost before the numerous masses which the testator deemed necessary to the repose of his soul were sung, [p. 408] Reformation abolished them, and the testator and his bequest sunk into oblivion, and remained so until his name was bestowed on the adjoining terrace, and subsequently on the square in which the Church is situated. The trustees have displayed just feelings and good taste in raising the present commemorative tribute to the memory of so great a benefactor to the parish. ...

The first stone was laid on the 15th of July 1826; and the Church was consecrated by the present Bishop of London, on the 19th of March 1829. On the latter occasion, the Vicar (the Rev Daniel Wilson) preached a sermon from Hebrews, ch. x. ver. 19–25, on the dignity of the worship of God, under the New Testament, from the way of approach opened for it by our Saviour, from the spirit and manner in which the worship is to be conducted, and from the public profession

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of the faith of Christ, which is chiefly sustains and supports. The Church was numerously attended, and afterwards about seventy persons sat down to a cold collation, provided by the Vicar, at his residence in Barnsbury Park.

The Minister of this Church is the Rev Hunter Francis Fell, MA of Pembroke College, Oxford, and Perpetual Curate of Goring near Reading.

The number of the persons the church will accommodate is 2009.

The communion plate for the three Churches (each service valued at 100l) was presented by the Vicar. ...

E.J.C.

* The splendid screen at the new Church in Chelsea has no inscriptions [presumably St Luke's]

** If the Commissioners were to insist on such inscriptions in all the new Churches, they would make a rule of more utility than many of their regulations. It is singular that only one Church in London records the name of Sir Christopher Wren as the architect.

Gentleman's Magazine, May 1829, pp. 404-408

The enclosed draft conveyance of the site for the chapel at Islington appears to have been left here by mistake instead of being transmitted to you. I send it that you may give ... any directions – it is ... abstract on which Ker gave his opinion

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter to George Jenner from Bourchier, 6 August 1829

Statement of disbursements from the sum of £12,000 voted by the parish of Saint Mary Islington towards the erection of three additional churches			
Expenses	£	S	d
of laying the first stone of St John's Holloway and for Aquatinted views of Church	145	8	
of clearing the site of St Paul's Balls Pond	100		
Of 2,000 aquatinted views of St Paul's and Trinity Churches	30		
Of stamps &c for Bonds on borrowing £400	34		
Of forming the sewer around the site of Trinity Church Cloudesley Square: 159 19s			
Deduct amount received of the Comms of Sewers in part: £62.80	97	11	
...			

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Paid to Mr Russell on account of his contract £1,399 for three organs	350		
Mr Brookman for the Furniture of St John's and St Paul's	353	9	
Mr Brookman for the Furniture of Trinity Church	164		
Expences of Gravel &c for the Site of Trinity Church	29	17	2
Paid consecration fees of Trinity Church	47	16	2
The Law Costs of conveying the Site of Trinity Church	46	16	4
Do for printing and preparing Plans of Trinity Church	12	8	
Expenses incident to the consecration of Trinity Church	30	11	5
Mr Barry his Account for extra Works at the three Churches	644	3	4
ILHC, St Mary Vestry Minutes, 25 March 1830, pp. 140-1			

Statement of the commission of HM customs and excise:

Cloudesley Square Timber £331 14

Cloudesley Square Bricks £218 15 1

Cloudesley Square Glass £25 16 6

Cloudesley Square Slates. £20 5

CERC, Commissioners' Board Minutes, 9 February 1830

Burials in the Vaults under any part of the

Parish Church except Chancel £2 (x parish & vicar) 5s (clerk & sexton)

Burials in a grave in Old or New

Burial Ground 2s 6d (parish & vicar) 1s (clerk, sexton)

Burials if the Grave do not exceed

six feet in depth 3s (each to sexton & grave digger)

Burials for each additional foot

beyond six feet and not exceeding

ten feet 1s (to gravedigger)

Burials for each additional foot

beyond 10 feet in depth 2s (to gravedigger)

burials in Private or Family Vaults £1 1s (parish & vicar) 5s (clerk, sexton)

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Burials after 7pm, 1 Oct-31 Mar or

9pm, 1 Apr-30 Sept additional 4s (vicar) 2s (clerk, sexton), 1s digger

[plus extras for tolling great bell, passing bell and knell]

Vaults. Private or family Vaults

in Burial Ground Double 8ft 10in

by 7ft 4in £10 10s (parish, vicar) £1 10s (digger)

Vaults single 8ft 10in by 5ft £5 5s (parish, vicar) 17s (digger)

Tomb stones or monuments

in the Church Yard if horizontal £2 (parish & vicar) 5s (sexton)

Head & foot stones if vertical £1 (parish & vicar) 2s 6d (sexton)

tablet within the church £5 (parish & vicar) 10s sexton

Memorandum. To non parishioners the charge for Burial Fees (except in Private or Family Vaults), Tomb Stones, Head and Foot Stones and Tablets is double.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Table of Fees to be taken at the Parish Church and the Old and New Burial Grounds attached thereto, settled and agreed upon at a Vestry held on the 25 March 1830

Valuable Leasehold Estates, Cloudesley-square, Islington. By Mr. D.S. BAKER, at Garraway's, on WEDNESDAY. June 10, at Twelve, in Two Lots, unless previously Private Contract, VERY eligible Leasehold Property, held for upwards of 80 years, at low ground-rent, comprising two respectable Residences, most desirably situate Nos. 17 and 19, on the west side Cloudesley-square, erected in the most substantial manner, with uniform elevations, and the interior is fitted with great neatness; they each contain several bed-chambers, dining and drawing-rooms, convenient kitchens and cellaring, fore courts enclosed neat iron pallsadoes, and behind are good walled gardens; the New River water is laid on; the houses are in excellent order, and fit for the immediate reception of genteel families. To be viewed, and Particulars had on the Premises; Garraway's; of Messrs. Jones and Bland, Solicitors, No. 84, Great Mary-le-bone-street; and of Mr. D. S. Baker, No.39, High-street, Islington.

Morning Advertiser, 2 June 1830, p. 4

At the first meeting of the Select Vestry for Trinity District

Present the Rev H T Fell Minister of Trinity Church in the Chair

[wardens' names]

That by an Order of HM in Council dated 7 April 1830 and published in the London Gazette of the 14 Sept following, the Parish of St Mary Islington had been divided into four Ecclesiastical

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Districts under the 21 section of the 58th George the 3rd, for the purpose of affording accommodation for attending Divine Service to the persons residing in the said Districts respectively, and for enabling the spiritual persons serving the Churches to perform all Ecclesiastical duties within the Districts attached to such Churches respectively, and for the due Preservation and Improvement of the oral habits of the persons residing therein;

...

That the Select Vestry for this District was appointed by HM Commissioners by an Instrument under their Common Seal bearing date the 8th day of February 1831 of which the following is a copy.

Whereas we HM Commissioners for Building New Churches, have by reason of the extent of the Population and the great want of Church accommodation in the Parish of Saint Mary Islington in the County of Middlesex and Diocese of London deemed it expedient to cause to be erected a New Church in Cloudesley Square called Holy Trinity Church in that Parish. And whereas we HM's said Commissioners being of opinion that for the better carrying into effect the object which we had in view in causing such Church to be erected deemed it expedient that a District should be assigned to the same and caused a Representation in respect thereto to be made to HM in Council who has been graciously pleased by his Order in Council dated the seventh day of April 1830 to direct such district to be assigned thereto.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 17 March 1831

That William Simms be appointed Churchwarden on the Part of this District.

That the duties of Beadle and Sexton to this District be executed by one person, and that such person be sworn in as constable and be required to give a joint bond himself and two responsible persons in the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds for the faithful discharge of the duties.

The duties of the Beadle and Sexton [include]

To open the vaults, attend funerals and see that nothing appertaining to his office be wanting for the purposes of decent and solemn interment.

to collect the church rate mortuary money and pew rents when required

To ring the bell with punctuality at the following periods

Sunday mornings, from 8 til ¼ past. [more here]...

To take to the Clergyman's house the wine left on the sacrament days immediately after the service according to the directions of the Rubrick

that the Beadle and Sexton's salary be £52 10s pa exclusive of the fees to which he will be entitled as Sexton

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that the salary of Pew Opener be £8 8 6 pa

That the salary of Organist be £40 pa

That Miss Dowling be appointed organist

That William Tarry be appointed Beadle & Sexton

[Mrs Lawrence, Bird, Street, Herbert, Lindsey, be appointed as pew openers of the middle, north and south aisle and north and south gallery, respectively]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 5 April 1831

that in order to make an assessment they found that it was absolutely necessary that a Plan of the District shewing every description of property should be made and accordingly they employed Mr Voysey to make one.

That the Vestry Clerk and Mr Voysey have prepared an assessment, according to the best of their judgement ... that such assessment amounts to the sum of £2904

that included in such assessment is a vast number of poor persons from whom it will be impossible to obtain their quota.

that the assessment of such persons appear to amount to the sum of £4844

which being deducted from the actual assessment will leave an efficient assessment of £24,201

and in order to raise the amount of the estimate the rate must be calculated upon the latter sum

The following is a copy of the churchwardens' estimate referred to in the foregoing report

Trinity District

The estimate of Messrs Buckler and Simms churchwardens of the sum necessary to be raised for and towards the repairs of the district church, and for the care and management of the concerns of the said Church for the year commencing Easter 1831 and ending Easter 1832

Organist one year	40
Beadle	52 10
Pew openers x 8	42
organ blower	3
vestry clerk (not fixed)	
Insurance £10,000	22 15
gas	10
wine	10
coals	20

tuning organ 8 8
Beadles clothing 7 18
sundries such as

Bricklayer

carpenter

matting } 50

plumber & glazier

printing & stationery

smith's work

Vestry & other books Messrs Middleton as Per Bill 5 5

Estimate of the expence of laying on the

New River Water and making an

alteration in the Porch at the front Door 40

Water rate [no figure]

Surveyor For making Plan of District and assisting in preparing assessment [no figures given]

The following items were added at the suggestion of the Vestry

Stoves for warming church

For sinking a well of Spring Water instead

of laying on the New River Water, extra 30

Resolved that the Churchwardens Report and Estimate be approved

Resolved that a Rate of five pence in the pound upon the foregoing assessment be made upon the District. The Rate was made and signed accordingly

The Vestry clerk reported that William Tarry the Beadle had proposed the following persons as his sureties. Thomas Chaplin, Greenhill Rent Smithfield Bars and the Bank of England, Printer

Stephen Hambrook, Providence Row Islington Terrace Carpenter

Thomas Tarry, Lower Terrace, Barnet, Gentleman

...

resolved that the following table of fees be submitted to HM Comms for Building New Churches ... [inc]

Burials in the Vaults incumbent Clerk Sexton

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	£4	5s	5s
Ditto in private or family vaults including Register			
	£2 2s	5s	5s
Ditto after 7pm from 1 Oct to 31 March or 9 pm from 1 April to 30 Sept additional			
	4s	2s	2s
tablets within church			
	£5		10s

Memo: To non-Parishioners the charge for Burials fees (except in private or family vaults) & Tablets is Double

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 6 June 1831

In pursuance of a resolution by the Select Vestry of the District of Holy Trinity in this Parish I beg to send you enclosed Table of Fees for marriage and burials in that District, which I will thank you to submit to HM Commissioners

LMA, [ref] Letter from Robt Oldershaw, District Vestry Clerk, 14 June 1831

having discovered that I was in error when in my letter of the 27th ulto I informed your lordships that the District Vestries of St John & St Paul in this Parish intended to adopt the same Table of Fees as the one I had the honor to submit to your lordships on the part of Trinity District ...

Your lordships will observe that the amount of fees proposed to be taken at Trinity Church for funerals, agrees with the table of fees at the parish church and that the difference consists in the appropriation thereof.

it perhaps will be satisfactory to your Lordships to know, the reason which induced the Vestry of Trinity District to propose a table of fees, varying in the above respects, from the table of fees at the church. It is this, that being advised that your Lordships had only the power under the 59th Geo 3rd c134 Sec 11 to make and fix a table of fees to be received by the "Spiritual person or clerk or sexton" they thought it would be improper to ask of your Lordships to sanction any fee which was not to be apportioned to either of those persons; but in order that the amount of the fees for Burials should be general throughout the parish, they hit upon the other plan by which such object could be accomplished legally, than that which would sanction the Minister for receiving the whole of the £4 and £2 2 as the case might be.

LMA, [ref] Letter from Robt Oldershaw, District Vestry Clerk, to HM Comms, 5 July 1831

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Riots at Coventry ... it was said, that at Grantham last night, there were some fires caused by incendiaries. Though the intended meeting in White Conduit Fields did not take place yesterday, a considerable number of vagabonds assembled in the neighbourhood. Near Cloudesley-Square, they began demolishing a row of skeleton houses, but the police soon drove them off. They, however, assembled again in another place, and pelted every equestrian who made his appearance; they were again dispersed and nothing more took place. At night, a riotous assembly took place on Islington Green; three youths of 16 were taken into custody. – In various parts of the Metropolis, preparations were made for the worst.

Berrow's Worcester Journal, 10 November 1831, p. 3

[illegality of church rate]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 23 December 1831

resolved that:

Miss Dowling be appointed organist

That Willm Tarry be appointed Beadle & Sexton at a salary of £25 pa his duty as rate collector having ceased.

the rev. chairman laid before the Vestry an Act of Parliament which had received the Royal Assent entitled An Act to Equalize the Ecclesiastical Burthens of the Parish of St Mary Islington for altering the application of the Rents & Profits of the Stone Fields Estate &c ...

express ... their gratitude to all those Gentlemen who have so nobly and so disinterestedly come forward to extricate the whole Parish from its Ecclesiastical Burdens ... and persevering friends to whom the Parish is principally indebted for the speedy and happy termination of their embarrassment ...

that the Church be in future insured for £6000

the following bills were presented for payment

Mr Hardiman £17 1 4 [**John Hardiman the plumber?**]

Oldershaw £55 4 7

Suter [or Souter or Sowter] & Voysey £46 8 6

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 1832

having for a considerable time exercised the greatest forbearance towards the Beadle & Sexton they are at length compelled to represent that the duties of the situation are executed in a manner utterly at variance with the good order cleanliness, & propriety to essential to the office and the

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credit of the parish ... received a communication from the Minister complaining of the conduct of the said individual ... “that it is impracticable either for the Minister or churchwardens to perform their duties in Trinity Church with any personal comfort” [no notice given to minister of arrival of the mourners and funeral kept waiting] ... direct disobedience to our orders, want of cleanliness [so Parry is told he’s unfit to continue in office]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 12 Feb 1833

resolved that William Colson be appointed Beadle and Sexton

Mr Simms had removed out of the district [along with several others in preceding years; seems quite a high turnover but maybe normal in outer parishes?]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 9 April 1833

Trinity Church. The church of the Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, Islington, is a handsome Gothic edifice, erected from designs by the ingenious architect Mr Barry. The front is ornamental by two octagonal towers, surmounted by crocketed pinnacles, which divide the large Gothic window and entrance of the nave from the windows of the side aisles. The interior is fitted up in a style corresponding with the beauty of the exterior.

Charles Frederick Partington, Ed., *National history and views of London and its environs*, London, 1834, p. 179

Ground Rents for Sale. Cloudesley Square

Morning Chronicle, 28 January 1835, p. 1

at a vestry meeting summoned to receive a report from the churchwardens relative the absence of the Beadle & Sexton and to adopt such measures thereon as may be deemed necessary ... Colson had absented himself from duty since Sunday the 16 August and from enquiries had reason to believe he had deserted his wife & family and left the country, in consequence of which they had suspended him from his office ... resolved that in future the person filling the office of Beadle & Sexton be required to find security for the amount of £100

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 21 October 1835

[p. 345] a turning to the left leads into Cloudesley Square, which, with the adjacent streets, covers the estate bequeathed to the parish under the will of Richard Cloudesley. The inner area of the square is nearly engrossed by the new Church dedicated to the Holy Trinity being the third built in this parish by the parliamentary commissioners. It was erected at a cost of £11,535 and

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contains 2009 sittings of which 858 are free. It differs principally from the other churches in the substitution of turrets and minarets at the angles at the west end for the usual accompaniment of a tower. In the general design, and the details, it reflects all the credit upon the architect, Mr Barry, which the structures erected by that gentleman so commonly deserve. The Minister is the Rev Hunter Francis Fell, M.A.

The Stone-field Estate or “Fourteen Acres” given to our parish by Mr Cloudesley for the pious uses before enumerated, contains, according to a survey hanging in the vestry room, 16A 2R 17P. ... [p. 346] the estate continues vested in feofees for the use of the parish, and is now covered with buildings, by persons to whom the ground has been let under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament, passed in 1811, entitled “An Act to enable the trustees of certain lands, called the Stone-fields, situate in the parish of St Mary Islington in the county of Middlesex to grant building leases thereof for a term not exceeding 99 years. The name of the donor of the property is preserved, not only in the Square just described, but in Cloudesley Terrace, a handsome row of houses fronting the Liverpool Road. [most of this, except the church which wasn’t yet built, comes from *The History, Topography, and Antiquities of the Parish of St. Mary Islington*, 1811, above] Thomas Cromwell, with engravings by J. & H. S. Storer, *Walks Through Islington*, London, 1835

Statistics of Islington. Islington, though formerly described as “a pleasant country town”, separated from the city by numerous fields and meadows, is now only in name separated from London. The parish is three miles one furlong in length, two miles one furlong in breadth, and ten miles and a half in circumference: and the parish church is about two miles and a half from the boundary of the city. ... Islington has continued rapidly to increase in its population, especially since the commencement of the present century. Marshal, in his “Topographical and Statistical details of the Metropolis,” gives the following as the population:

In 1801: 10,212

In 1811: 15,065

In 1821: 22,417

In 1831: 37,316

The amount of parochial assessments, in the years ending 1776, 1,323l; 1814, 11,794l: and expended for maintaining the poor in the year ending 1829, 14,338l. From these items some tolerable idea may be formed of the increase of the parish of Islington; the population of which cannot now be so low as 40,000 souls. ...

Perhaps the following observations of an intelligent resident, give us correct a representation as could well be given in the same space.

“Islington, I think, is one of the best cultivated (p. 27) spots in the British part of our Master’s vineyard”.

The Christian's Penny Magazine, 23 January 1836, pp. 26-7

Evangelicalism generally: and more especially as it exists in the parish of St. Mary, Islington. By a Member of the Established Church, London, 1839

[BL: in use by a member of staff]

1828. St Paul's Church Islington.

An altar window. Presented by the parishioners.

Trinity Church Islington.

A large altar window, containing the kneeling figure of Richard Cloudesley, a great benefactor to this parish, and his arms. The royal arms within the order of the garter, and various sacred emblems on a ground of ornamental quarries. the cost of this window was partly defrayed by a donation from the trustees of the Cloudesley estate, and partly by private subscription.

St John's Church Holloway.

In the altar window a large compartment of the royal arms within the order of the garter and surmounted by the crown.

William Willement, *A concise account of the principal works in stained glass that have been executed by Thomas Willement*, London, 1840, pp. 20-21

May I request the favour of your laying before HM Comms the matter of Trinity District Parish church in reference to the assignment of the Pew-rents. The amount of Pew rents according to the scale is £585 6s out of this sum £500 pa is assigned to the Minister at £40 pa to the Clerk minus his fees, which have never yet amounted to £10 pa.

But in consequence of the losses, which will occur in the continual changes of the inhabitants & several of the pews being rated as capable of containing 6 seats when they only admit 5, the surplus of monies arising from the pew rents when the whole have been let averages from fifteen to twenty pounds per annum only. It was originally intended that the surplus should accumulate for the Building of a parsonage house. But as this small sum is not sufficient to effect this object for very many years to come as the nature of the Trinity Parish is such, that no difficulty is likely to arise from the want of a parsonage house; and I am, as incumbent of the Parish, paying a considerable house-rent for a moderate sized dwelling, I do humbly pray HM Comms to grant to myself & my successors an assignment of the total amount of pew-rents with the charge of £40 to the clerk, minus fees as already fixed. I also humbly petition for the appropriation to myself of the small annual sums, which have already accrued – about fifteen pounds pa since the year 1833. ... My present house is rented at £60 pa - £445 having been also paid for the lease of 63 years in 1830 & the salary for my curate is £100 pa.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Revd Fell to George Self, 31 March 1841

Chapel of Ease money borrowed. Motion made that this Vestry deem it expedient the propriety of paying off the £12000 borrowed on the three District Churches and the sum of £500 to be paid out of the Rate for that purposes from Lady Day last to Michaelmas next. That the Trustees be requested to pay off from time to time a sum of not less than £500, of the monies borrowed for building the three new churches, whenever the balance in hand, on account of the Chapel of Ease and New Church Rates, will permit such to be done without increasing the usual Rate of one Penny for the Half Year. Motion and Amendment Withdrawn.

ILHC, St Mary Islington Vestry Minutes, 18 April 1843

CLERKENWELL. Richard Leage, an elderly man attired in a suit of black, was placed at the bar, charged with the following theft in Trinity Church, Cloudesley-square, Islington. Mr. C. Stoddart, the solicitor, attended for the accused. Mr. Callis, one of the churchwardens, said that latterly a great number of petty thefts had been committed in Trinity Church, several of the parishioners and attendants at worship there having lost their bibles and prayer-books from the pews, and that in consequence of the numerous complaints of robberies, the churchwardens had found it necessary to keep a strict watch on persons as they left the church after each service. On Sunday afternoon the congregation had separated on the termination of the morning service, all but the prisoner, who seemed to linger, and at last was seen to enter one of the pews in the centre aisle, and take up a cambric handkerchief, which he put into his pocket, and walked off with. Witness was in the gallery at the time, and saw the prisoner do this; but he was observed also by one of the pew openers, who followed him, as did witness, and when they overtook him in the street the prisoner at first denied that he had anything about him which was not his own, and then, after some hesitation, produced the pocket-handkerchief, acknowledging that he had taken it out of one of the pews, but said he intended to have given it to the pew opener for restoration to the owner. The prisoner pleaded hard for forgiveness, but witness, in justice, and as a matter of protection to the public, felt himself bound to give the prisoner into custody.

Mr. George Lovejoy and Maria Street, the pew opener, confirmed this testimony in its material parts. Mrs. Street said that scarcely a day had passed on which divine service was performed without numerous robberies of books being committed, and the utmost vigilance of the attendants was insufficient to prevent or detect the thief or thieves. She had remarked the somewhat singular appearance and demeanour of the prisoner during the service, and she kept her eye upon him; and, as he was leaving the church, she saw him dart into the pew and take up something, which was afterwards found to be a lady's cambric handkerchief. Mr. Stoddart addressed the magistrate most feelingly for the prisoner against a summary conviction, urging that, from the advanced age of the prisoner, and his severe bodily infirmity, he must have been labouring under a temporary aberration of mind when he committed the act with which he was charged. He (Mr. Stoddart) submitted that it was highly improbable that a person in the

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prisoner's circumstances in life should commit himself knowingly. Mr. Combe inquired what were the prisoner's circumstances. Mr. Stoddart said he understood they were respectable, the prisoner being entitled to a small annuity for life. He submitted that the justice of the case would be fully answered by the prisoner being held to bail to appear and answer any charge that might be brought against him on a future day ... they desired to have an opportunity of inquiring into the character of the prisoner before they should consent to forego proceeding against him. The prisoner was bound over in his own recognizances to appear on Tuesday next, to answer any charge that may be preferred against him by the churchwardens.

Morning Post, 20 July 1842, p. 7

When Trinity Ch. was first opened, there were 2 services on Sunday – morning and afternoon. this was shortly afterwards changed to morning and evening. Before this alteration was made (and before gas was introduced) sermons were occasionally preached in the evening in the Irish language.

This Ch had at first a pulpit and desk of nearly equal height, placed on each side of the central passage.

a wood cut view of this Ch. once appeared in the *Christian's Penny Magazine*, 4d.

Sep 14 1842 [i.e. dated by hand in 1842 and initialled with what looks like H.S. or H.G.]

ILHC, Y J852 TRI (2), cuttings

[p. 126] the Stonefield estate is situated on the west side of the Liverpool Road, and contains, **according to a plan made by James Ellis, in 1769**, 16A 3R 22P, and according to a schedule annexed to the act of parliament of 1811, 16A 3R 31 ½P. **The land has been let in parcels, on building leases, for 81 years, commencing 25 March 1824**, to John Emmett, Dorset Goepel, Philip Langhorn, David Sage, and Richard Chapman, and is now covered with buildings and streets, among which are Cloudesley Square, Cloudesley Terrace, Stonefield Street, &c.

[p. 324] St Paul's Church, which as regards both its general features and details, is worthy of the established reputation of its architect, Charles Barry, esq.*, stands at the angle formed by the union of Hopping Lane with the Lower Road and is one of the three built under the arrangements with the parish of Islington in 1825. the first stone was laid on the 15 September 1826 ... the site was given by the marquis of Northampton, for the sum of 50l, little more than a nominal consideration and the cost of enclosing the ground was about 100l.

The design is so nearly similar to that of St John's that much of the descriptive portion of the building is anticipated.

* The architect originally chosen was Mr Basevi [Bassevi], but that gentleman's plans being disproved, the commissioners directed Mr Barry to repeat his designs for the church of St John.

at the instance of the parish, he was afterwards allowed slightly to vary them, and improved upon the design.

...

[p. 334] The District Parish of Holy Trinity ... is bounded on the north by Albany Road and Park Lane; on the south, by Copenhagen Street and Sermon Lane; on the west, by the road from King's Cross to Holloway; and on the east, by the Liverpool Road [there is also a minutely detailed description of the parish boundary]; and contains, according to the enumeration made on 7 June 1841, 1110 inhabited houses; 18 uninhabited houses; and 86 building. The number of male persons was found to be 3011, and of female, 4311; making a total of 7322 inhabitants, including 234 in the parish workhouse, which is situated in the district. This statement [p. 335] does not include the population of the dependent chapelry of All Saints, which will be separately stated under its own lead.

Two thirds of the surface of the district are covered with streets and buildings, which border chiefly on the Liverpool Road, and occupy the eastern part of the district. The erections have sprung up almost entirely within the present century the greater spur to building in the neighbourhood having been given by the letting of the Stonefield estate on building leases in the year 1824: which led to the formation of Cloudesley Square, Cloudesley Terrace and the adjoining streets. The paucity and situation in this part of the parish of Islington, at the commencement of the present century, are curiously shown in a print of the Reed Moat-field, - drawn and published 1 December 1796, by J. P. Malcolm of Somers Town. The view is taken looking east; and the nearest buildings delineated are, the parish church, the workhouse, and a single row of houses in the Liverpool (then the Back) Road. ... [in BM; on file]

[p. 336]. Trinity Church. The first stone of this structure, which was truly characterised by the bishop of Calcutta (the then vicar), in his sermon on the Sunday succeeding the consecration, as a "noble, magnificent, yet simple, church," was laid on the 15 July 1826 and the building was consecrated by the Bishop of London on 19 March 1829. it was erected at a cost of 11,535l, defrayed partly by the parliamentary commissioners, and partly by the parish and contains 2009 sittings, of which 858 are free. ... The architect of this church is Charles Barry, esq.*, and the style is the same as that of the two other churches erected at the same period – St John's and St Paul's; but the design is pleasingly varied, the architect having taken his model the chapel of a collegiate establishment, in preference to the usual parochial arrangements. The church is built of brick, with stone dressings. "The plan consists of a nave, side aisles, which fall short of the former at each extremity; in this respect the plan resembles the other designs, but the chancel is more ample in the present instance, and two lateral porches are added to the north and south sides. The western elevation in consequence of the absence of the steeple, is graced with a large window, which is made in breadth into five divisions by mullions, and divided horizontally by a transom stone. the upper of range of lights thus formed have pointed heads, inclosing five sweeps; but the lower tier are finished square, the soffites enriched with half a quatrefoil; the head of the arch is occupied by smaller corresponding divisions and is bounded by a weather

cornice. Below the window is a handsome pointed doorway, the weather cornice resting on busts. In the gable, just above the point of the window, is a small square panel, inclosing a quatrefoil, and pierced for a light to the loft over the ceiling. On the point of the gable is a cross flory. The octagon towers at the angles of the design contain staircases; they rise plain to the spring of the gable, being broken into heights by horizontal mouldings. The two stories, which are clear of the main building, are panelled with upright arched divisions, with cinquefoil heads, each alternative face pierced to admit light to the interior; an embattled cornice, surmounted by an octangular ogee-formed cupola, crocketed and crowned by a finial [p. 337] finishes the elevation; the plain surface between the angles of the cupola are enriched with roses, mitres, and crowns, in relief, alternating with each other. in one of these towers hangs the bell. the ensemble of this front is very imposing the proportions are very fine, and the detail throughout in good keeping. The ends of the aisles have small pointed windows. The flanks are uniform. The aisle is made into five divisions, by buttresses; the elevation finished by a parapet above a cornice. The central division is occupied by a porch, the design of which, viewed independently of the main building, is good; but in the present situation, it cannot be regarded otherwise than as a blemish; a porch in the middle of the aisle being entirely out of character, such structures being always situated near one of the ends, generally the western. the entrance to the porch is by a handsome pointed arch, bounded by a weather-cornice, resting on corbels sculpted with angels holding shields. The elevation is finished with a gable, on the point of which is a fleur de lis, and at the angles are buttresses ending in pinnacles. the other divisions of the aisle have simple but elegantly-formed win- [p. 338] dows, divided into two lights by a single mullion. The head of the arch is occupied by upright divisions, and bounded by a weather-cornice, resting on corbel busts, sculptured n a far better style than those we had occasion to notice in our last survey of Mr Barry's designs. a clerestory rises above the aisle, having five divisions made by slender buttresses, ending in crocketed pinnacles; each division has a low arched window of two lights, exactly similar to those in the two former churches. The elevation is finished with a cornice surmounted by a parapet.

* Mr Savage was originally the chosen architect, but as the tenders sent in did not agree that gentleman's estimates, another was appointed.

The eastern elevation in its outline assimilated with the western, but the omission of the large towers at the angles greatly injures the design. The buttresses which supply their place are capped by small cupolas, in order to make them assimilate, in some degree, with the western front; but they make but a poor apology for the absence of noble towers of that elevation. The architect appears to have been sensible of this, by his altering the pinnacles of the original design into the present cupolas; but they only service to make a stronger contrast with the other elevation; and it is the more to be regretted, as this front is seen from the high road; and being more exposed than the other, ought to have been, not only on the score of taste, but in compliance with ancient usage, equal at least, in its general form, to the western elevation. ... The roof is covered with slates; and the ground in which the church is situated is inclosed with an iron railing.

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The interior more resembles other churches than the outside; it has still some varieties, which do away with any unpleasing impressions arising from a sameness of design. on each side of the nave are five arches; which, in detail, are the same as those particularized in our description of St John's church. The ceiling is of a similar design to that of St Paul's Church. the chancel, which is separated from the church by a bold pointed arch, is groined in a simple style, in imitation of stone; the bosses are collections of foliage, chastely executed. The galleries for the congregation, organ, and schools, are arranged similarly to other churches; the front of the former one is panelled, with upright divisions.

We have here to notice the mode of lighting the principal galleries. the division of a window into two portions by the gallery of a church, has always an awkward appearance internally; and the introduction of two ranges of windows being out of all character, a difficulty arises not easily overcome. ... the window is made to give light to the space beneath the gallery, and the upper part derives a cross- [p. 339] from the windows in the clerestory. This is peculiar to the present church; but as far as we are able to judge from a causal inspection, the experiment appears to have succeeded.

The altar is remarkable for the magnitude as well as propriety of its decorations – a merit which Mr Barry's works possess in an eminent degree. The screen is oak, and masks the vestry, which occupies a part of the chancel. the screen is, in breadth, made by buttresses into upright panels, having arched heads, and crowned with a cornice; above which the buttresses terminate in pinnacles, except the central one, which, being immediately over the altar, most appropriately finishes with a cross, the design of which is similar to those on the external gables. two panels have low arched doors, about midway of their height, communicating with the vestry. The five panels above the altar are entirely gilt, and inscribed with the Decalogue, Creed and Pater Noster; the character is black letter, the capitals red, in the style of ancient MS; and to us it appeared even more excellent than Ball's Pond. The east window is filled with painted glass, of antique character and design, in perfect accordance with the building. The lower tier of compartments have the royal arms in the centre light, encircled with the garter, and surmounted by the regal crown; the lateral compartments are filled with a mosaic pattern of fretwork, inclosed in a light-blue border, enriched with white crockets; in these compartments are respectively the red and white rose, and the thistle, in roundels. the central compartment of the upper tier of lights is occupied with a portrait of a gentleman in the costume of the sixteenth century, kneeling, and surmounted by a semi-hexagonal canopy, similar to that above Wolsey's statue at Christ Church; the dress is a purple gown, lined with green, and turned up with yellow; the hair auburn, hanging in long curled locks, on each side of the head [followed by the inscription; a little more here on the Willement window but see above in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1829]. It was fortunate for Mr Barry that an artist existed possessed of sufficient antiquarian knowledge to execute such decorations in a correct style. ... [p. 340] As the ecclesiastical authorities persist in retaining the inscriptions at the altar, how absurd do Roman characters appear in a design in the pointed style! and the introduction of figures in nondescript costume on stained glass, are an injury rather than ornament in such a structure.

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The pulpit and reading desk are situated in the nave, in front of the altar. The font, which stands in a pew near the west entrance, as well as the organ case, are similar in design to those in the other churches. The organ is deemed by judges a fine instrument: it was built by Russell.

On the front of the western gallery is a copy, in Roman characters, of the inscription under Richard Cloudesley's effigy; and another recording the consecration of the church, and the name of the architect". [not sure why these paragraphs are in inverted commas]

[p. 343]:

The number of BAPTISMS and BURIALS performed at Trinity Church, in each year, from the formation of the District to the present time, is as follows :—

Year.	Baptisms.	Burials.	Year.	Baptisms.	Burials.
1830	23	8	1836	88	7
1831	72	9	1837	134	13
1832	181	6	1838	99	8
1833	78	16	1839	92	11
1834	123	13	1840	62	11
1835	100	10	1841 ($\frac{3}{4}$ ths)	43	4

Total . . Baptisms 1095 . . Burials 116.

National and Infant Schools. At a preliminary meeting of gentlemen, held at the house of the vicar of Islington, December 4 1829, it was deemed desirable to form a school, upon the infantile system, for the Trinity district, and a provision committee was appointed to carry the design into effect; and at a public meeting held at Trinity Church on the 28th, the charity was fully established. Rooms adjoining Oldfield's dairy were at first engaged, as a temporary accommodation; but these proving inconvenient, and the committee being encouraged by an offer of a loan of 800l, by W. Allen, the treasurer, the erection of a suitable school, with master's house, was commenced in 1830, on a piece of ground in Stonefield Street, having a frontage of 60 feet and a depth of 1-8 feet and of which the feoffees of the Stonefield estate ranted a lease of eighty-one years, at a rent of 15l a year. the building was erected agreeably with the plans, under the superintendence of George Legg, esq., architect, who gratuitously lent his assistance in aid of the undertaking; and was opened on 16 December 1830. it is a neat edifice in pointed style.

[p. 344] At a special meeting held 9 January 1839, the committee of the Infant School resolved to establish a National school and in the ensuing December a building was commenced for this purpose, at the back of the original school and completed in March 1840.

British Schools. The South Islington and Pentonville British Schools erected in 1841 and situated in Denmark Terrace ... [p. 345] The architect employed was Mr J. Clark.

[p. 359] **St Peter's Church** was consecrated on 14 July 1835, was erected under the auspices of the vicar of Islington, at an expense of 3407l 2s 7d raised by subscription towards which the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Building of Churches contributed 700l, the vicar himself 200l and the bishop of Calcutta, 100l; the site was given by Mr Cubitt.

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[p. 360] St Peter's Church, which was erected after designs by Charles Barry, esq., architect of the New Houses of Parliament, is a neat quadrangular edifice of brick, in the early English style, situated on the south side of River Lane.

Samuel Lewis, *History and Topography of the Parish of Islington*, Islington Green, 1842

[Printed] Notice is hereby given that the above church will be re-opened on Sunday next, Oct. 6. Divine service to commence at Eleven o'clock in the morning and at half-past six in the evening.

ILHC, [by hand, "1844 probably" in] Y J852 TRI (2), clippings

That ~~William~~ Thomas Baker be Beadle and Sexton

the churchwardens reported that there was a balance of £71 17 2 due on account of the expenses incurred in repairing the church

that the minister and churchwardens be requested to make application to the Church Building Commission to authorise an increase of the pew rents to form a fund to defray the expenses of repairs

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 14 April 1846

The district of the Holy Trinity, Islington, contains 30,611 inhabitants; it has two churches, accommodating together 2,900 persons. it is considered to be one of the poorest districts of Islington, with the exception of that part of it near the Caledonian-road, where better houses are now building, or have lately been finished.

'INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING the ENLARGEMENT, BUILDING, and REPAIRING of CHURCHES and CHAPELS', *The Morning Chronicle*, 18 February 1852, p. 5

Consecration of St Andrew's Church, Islington.

Morning Post, 17 January 1854, p. 6

Probably, neither of our metropolitan suburbs exhibits more gratifying evidence of public improvement than the locality, but a few years since, known as "the Caledonian Fields" and "Barnsbury Fields," now the district parish for the Holy Trinity, Islington. Scarcely more than a dozen years since the site was little better than a new waste, dotted with cottages and huts, as stunted in their proportions as the majority of their inmates were in moral character. The "Fields" were notorious as the scene of brutalising sports, and the habits of the population were generally of that low cast which is common upon the borders of an overgrown city. As if to scare such evil doers, the Model Prison rose in terrible extent. A more direct clearance, however,

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followed; the cottages and huts were swept away, and houses for the respectable classes were built upon the sites of wretched rurality. These improvements necessitated provision for the spiritual welfare of the newcomers; and accordingly a new church has been built here, which was consecrated on Monday last. ... Hard by is the new City Cattle-market, now in course of erection.

Consecration of St Andrew's Church, Islington, *Illustrated London News*, 21 January 1854, p. 57

An Act to amend the laws concerning the burial of the dead in the metropolis ... it is hereby ordered that burials be discontinued in the undermentioned places as follows:

Wholly forthwith in the vaults under All Saints Church, Holy Trinity Church and St John's Church Upper Holloway in the parish of St Mary Islington

Wholly forthwith in St Pancras Old Church and in the vaults under St Pancras New Church

At the Court of Buckingham Palace, **21 May 1855**, LMA, P83/TRI/090

My own churches were Trinity, Cloudesley Square, and St. Thomas's, Hemingford Road. Trinity was an "1830 church," which sufficiently describes its style; that is to say, it was a large church with great galleries, seating over two thousand people. In its early days it was quite full, and though the numbers fell off afterwards, they would have crowded an ordinary modern church. The Vicar of Trinity in the 'fifties and 'sixties was the Rev. William Vincent. He was an Oxford man who in his 'Varsity days had fought and beaten bargees on the river; but his fine physique covered, when I knew him, a singularly simple and gentle character. He was not a great preacher; indeed, it was rather the habit of Islington men, when they wished to depreciate a sermon, to say: "It was almost as poor as Vincent's."

His simplicity may be illustrated by an amusing sentence which I well remember in a sermon to young men. He warned them against reading "pernicious publications," "such as the London Journal, the Family Herald, Reynolds' Miscellany, and Punch"! There was not much that was seriously "pernicious" in the first three; they were the sensational servant-girl literature of the period. But Punch! The dear man surely could never have seen that embodiment of British common-sense!

But, though Vincent was not great in preaching, he was great in prayer. Did any man ever equal his restrained and reverent fervour? He had a regular Saturday night Prayer-Meeting long before the Revival of 1860. After I had attended it a few weeks, he asked me to take one of the prayers. I said I never could do such a thing. "Mr. Stock," he rejoined, "that's pride." I fondly thought it was humility. But he was right; and I have always been thankful that he insisted on my finding my voice in extempore prayer. Moreover, if he was not an eloquent preacher, he was an earnest one. And he was, I believe, the very first London clergyman to preach in the open air. I could

conduct any reader now to the place a dead wall at the bottom of a poor street. Years after, I myself spoke from the same spot.

Mr. Vincent had a singular capacity for attracting men to him and letting them work in their own way. His Sunday-school was very efficient, and was superintended successively by two of the ablest teachers I ever knew, Henry W. Green, Secretary of the Infant Orphan Asylum, and W. T. Paton, well known in after years for his noble work at the Polytechnic as Mr. Quintin Hogg's second in command, and of whom I shall say more by-and-by. There was also a Sunday-school for boys of the "upper classes," which drew many from Highbury and Canonbury, where there were good houses and residents of some position. Such an agency is not uncommon now, but this was the first of its kind. There was also a large and flourishing Youth's Institute, founded by one of the curates, Arthur Sweatman, afterwards Bishop of Toronto. The educational machinery of this Institute was admirable, and I believe I am correct in stating that Mr. Quintin Hogg derived from it his idea of a great institution of the kind, which issued in his purchase of the old Polytechnic and in the wonderful developments of technical education all over the land inspired by his enterprise. Trinity, Islington, therefore both started schemes and supplied men.

Eugene Stock, *My Recollections*, London, 1909, pp. 66-9

About the same time [1855], or a little before, a few clergymen in London began to preach in the open-air, to the dismay of the more conservative.*

*It is believed that the first clergyman to preach in the open-air systematically was the Rev. William Vincent, Incumbent of Holy Trinity, Islington. His station was a dead wall at the bottom of Pulteney Street, in what is now St Thomas's Parish.

Eugene Stock, *The History of the Church Missionary Society*, Vol. II, 4000th, 1899 edn, p. 26

Sir. I believe any subject connected with the parish of Islington finds a ready place in your columns, more particularly of the same is regarded by a number of parishioners as a positive nuisance, and one to be corrected. You must understand that there are two bells bearing the name of "Ben;" one is the fine-toned "Big Ben of Westminster," the other as above, being a bell hung in the turret of the Holy Trinity Church in Cloudesley Square, which is altogether as unmusical and jarring to the ear as "Big Ben of Westminster" is pleasing. The nuisance if that this bell is tolled for half an hour on Sunday mornings and the same length of time in the evenings, during which time any persons residing in the square, or immediate thereto, are compelled to shut all doors and windows to keep out as much as possible the horrible "Dong! dong! dong!" of this very noisy bell, which, by the way, is toiled by a very energetic person, who evidently prides himself in keeping pace with time, for I believe sometimes he "dongs" out 60 "dongs in a minute. Should any persons passing through the square at the time this bell is being tolled meet a friend, they cannot converse until they get a respectable distance away, for they could not hear themselves speak. [recommends it tolls only eight times a minute and that would

be fine and then residents of the Square] would not attend with a deaf ear to the service. I attach my name and address, being only on a visit here, although I am your constant reader.

J. Sayer, Cobden villa, Bristol.

‘Noisy “Ben” of Trinity’, *Islington Gazette*, 10 January 1857, p. 3

Z enquires why the above bell is picked out, when there are so many bells in London. I am not the “Quiet Man”, but I believe I was the first who addressed you on this subject, so I will give an answer. In the first place, Cloudesley Square is small, and Trinity Church is large ... giving accommodation to 2,000 people. Now the bell is too heavy and loud for the situation of the church, it being so closed in with houses on all sides. Were Trinity Church situated a mile or so from any habitation, then the bell would have space to vibrate in without that harsh and noisy sound it now possesses for want of space. There is not a bell of the weight of noisy Ben in any church in the parish of Islington, save the parish church, the tenor of the bell of which peal weighs 16 cwt. Then again where a bell is in a belfry, and can be swung over, the sound is so much more musical than when the bell is stationary, and the clapper only is put in motion. I think you will agree with me that in no part of London or its suburbs is so large a church placed in so small a square; also that it is impossible for a church to be nearer its congregation; and, consequently, less occasion for so much noise to call it to worship. It is not the bell that induces people to go to church, but the preacher; and surely every housekeeper in these days possesses a clock, and would inform him of the hour whenever he required to know it ...

I am willing to subscribe 21 shillings towards buying a lighter bell, as your Cambridge correspondent suggests, or the same amount for the erection of a clock in the turret, to strike on Noisy Ben, so that he might not be out of employ, after so many years of active service.

Joseph Sayer, Cobden Villa, Bristol

‘Trinity Church Bell’, *Islington Gazette*, 7 February 1857, p. 2

Saint Pancras Cemetery, Finchley (n.p. near p. 112)

The Parochial Cemetery of St Pancras was the first established under the Metropolis Burial Acts. It is situated in a most commanding and beautiful position at Finchley, having a frontage of many hundred yards on the eastern side of the main Barnet Road. ...

The Cemetery of St Pancras at Finchley was consecrated by the Bishop of London on 25 July 1854, and since that period there has been 5,000 paid and about 2,000 poor interments in the Cemetery. the amount of land originally purchased by the St Pancras Burial Board consisted of 87½ acres at the rate of £200 per acres, and the purchase money paid to the Rev E. Cooper, the previous freeholder, was £17,690 16s 10d. Of the 87½ acres before mentioned, the Burial Board of St Pancras sold 30 acres to the Burial Board of St Mary, Islington, at the rate of £300 per acre producing £9,000. Fifty acres were then appropriated for the purposes of a cemetery, 30 of

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which have been consecrated, and the remainder devoted to non-conformist interments. the residue of 7½ acres is reserved for building purposes, if deemed advisable, being in the main road

St Mary Islington, Cemetery, at Finchley, for burials in consecrated and unconsecrated ground.

The Islington Cemetery consists of 30 acres, and is part of the same land originally purchased by the St Pancras Burial Board, and adjoins that of St Pancras, the soil being in most respects of a similar character. it is very neatly laid out and the planting is exceedingly ornamental.

The cost of erecting chapels, making two main roads, and erecting Board Room as per agreement with St Pancras.

Pancras Burial Board, £4,351, 10s; total cost of Cemetery, £24,101 10s. Resident Superintendent, Mr Riley.

Table of Fees for the internment of a parishioner [consecrated and unconsecrated look to be the same charge; vaults and brick graves extra]

	Burial Board Charges		
1st class adult	£1	4s	6d
1 st class children under 12		16s	6d
2 nd class adult		17s	
2 nd class children		11s	
3 rd class adult		7s	
3 rd class children		4s	

Charles Greene, Clerk to the Board of St Pancras, *The Burial Acts: A complete of compilation of the Acts of Parliament which have passed the legislature from 1852 to 1857*, London 1857

In many cases the clergymen, thus miserably “remunerated” for their arduous and irksome duties, have not even a house provided for them. This is the case with the incumbent of ... in Holy Trinity, Islington, with 10,500 [souls]

Poor Benefices in the Diocese of London, *Nottinghamshire Guardian*, 22 July 1858, p. 5

... feoffes appointed by the parish have been in possession since the year 1564 until the year 1811, when they were empowered buy a Local Act to grant Leases and dispose of all the rents (after payment of £2 13 4 to the New River Company, who purchased of the Parliamentary Trustees) in keeping in repair the Parish Church, and expenses attending the office of churchwarden, and after such payments in building and keeping in repair the Chapel of Ease, and by another Local and Personal Act the proceeds being under £1,000, have been applied in

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defraying the necessary expenses of carry on divine worship, and the annual repairs of the chapel of Ease; St John's, Upper Holloway; St Paul's, Ball's Pond; and Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square; in equal proportions, a mode of distribution that however much in accordance with the notation of "deeds of charity" does not seem to have been satisfactory to the inhabitants, and the mode in which this "Charity land" will have to be applied, is I am informed, under the consideration of the Commissioners for Charities, it has been proposed that the proceeds of this estate, which upon a strict survey has been found to contain 16a 2r 27 p of land, should be appropriated to the repayment of the 12,000l borrowed by the parish for the purpose of erecting the three district churches to which I have just now alluded.

Thomas Edlyne Tomlins, *A Perambulation of Islington*, London, 1858, pp. 190-1

A very crowded soiree was held on Thursday 21 instant at Bakers' Rooms, Upper Street. The object, as stated in the circulars, was to secure the cooperation of the congregations of the Parish Church, Holy Trinity, St Peter's and St Phillip's in the efforts now making for the welfare of the working classes ... The Vicar then mentioned several ways in which their sympathy with the working classes might find practical manifestation: baths, savings-banks, early closing, &c. He particularly dwelt on the value of special religious services, of which such excellent examples had been furnished in Islington Church. He had found out one thing in connexion with the working classes that had startled him a little, viz., that while irreligion was one of the causes that kept people away from church, it was by no means the most general cause. The most general cause was the inconvenience and discomfort which strangers, especially of their order, had in obtaining sittings. They didn't choose to come to be stared at in the middle aisle. He should like an Islington Exeter Hall, and believed one might be erected for £2,000 or £3,000 which would answer every purpose. After eulogising Lord Shaftesbury, who first set the example of actual contact with the working classes, for their good, the Vicar resumed his seat amidst much applause.

'Social Science Congress in Islington', *Islington Gazette*, 30 October 1858, p. 2

Consecration of St Thomas's Church, Islington ... This church, which is constructed to accommodate 950 parishioners, was erected for a district taken out of the precinct of Holy Trinity, which was previously formed under the Islington Church Home Mission

London Evening Standard, 13 July 1860, p. 5

His success (for such it assuredly was at the date of its execution) with the Brighton church led to his engagement to design a group of churches proposed to be executed by the Church Commissioners, under a strong stimulus from the late Daniel Wilson, in the parish of Islington. The three carried out by Barry were, respectively, St John's, Holloway, perpendicular, with a tower, to hold 1,782 persons, at a cost of £11,809; Balls Pond, a very similar building, to hold

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1,793 persons, at a cost of £10,947; and Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, a larger but corresponding structure, to hold 2,009 persons, at a cost of £11,535. Of this last a curious little aqua-tint engraving, an early work of the afterwards well-known architectural draughtsman, is extant, “published by G. Hawkins, near the Grove, Hackney, on the 1 May, 1826” at which date the church would appear to have been recently completed. At a subsequent date Barry built another church in the Islington district, the funds for which were provided by the Commissioners of QAB, that of St Peter’s, River-lane, Islington.

Matthew Digby Wyatt, *On the Architectural Career of the late Sir Charles Barry*, London, 1860, p. 4

But the chief point of importance which engaged and interested [the Rev Daniel Wilson] during this and the following year, was the completion and consecration of his three new churches. Mr. Barry, now the distinguished Sir Charles Barry, had been appointed sole architect, and under his skilful management all had progressed satisfactorily. St. John’s Church, Holloway, was the first completed. It had one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two sittings, of which seven hundred and fifty were free. The site had been given by the Corporation for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Clergymen, to whom it belonged. The total cost of the church was £11,890. The first stone was laid with much ceremony on May 4th, 1826. The Archbishop of Canterbury was present, with the Bishops of London and St. Asaph, the Lord Mayor, and a large body of clergy. A long procession wound its way from the parish church, where divine service had been celebrated, to Holloway, accompanied by a great display of banners and masonic emblems; and when the business of the day was ended, more than a hundred of the parishioners sat down at Canonbury Tavern to a dinner, over which the vicar presided. This church was consecrated by Dr. Howley, Bishop of London, on July 2d, 1828. The church at Balls’ Pond followed. It was dedicated to St. Paul, and constructed for one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three sittings, of which eight hundred and seventeen were free. The site was obtained from the Marquis of Northampton, at a nominal price, and the whole cost was £10,947. The first stone was laid September 5th, 1826, and the church was consecrated by Dr. Howley, on October 28d, 1828. Trinity Church was the largest of the three, and was built on land belonging to the parish. It had two thousand and nine sittings, of which eight hundred and fifty-eight were free. The whole cost was £11,535. The first stone was laid July 15th, 1826, and the consecration took place March 19th, 1829. And thus the great design was accomplished which the vicar had so much at heart, and which had cost him so much care and thought. For an expenditure of £12,000, the parish was enriched by three large and noble churches, which had in reality cost more than £35,000. So strictly was the original pledge kept, and so carefully were the funds husbanded, that, on the completion of the whole design, a balance of £100 was returned to the parish. A complete set of communion plate, of the value of one hundred guineas, was presented by the vicar to each church in succession, on the day of consecration. Most anxious were his efforts to appoint suitable and efficient ministers. His thoughts ran first amongst old friends, well known, and proved by the experience of many years, and to them were the offers made. But there was some delicacy in the position – necessarily at first subordinate, and there was a certainty of great labor

being required, so that the call was not strongly pressed ; first thoughts gave place to second, and the incumbents finally appointed were the Rev. W. Marshall, Rev. John Sandys (who happily retains his post), and the Rev. H. F. Fell. The income was derived from pew-rents, and, like all Islington churches, which form pleasing exceptions to a too common rule, proved remunerative. The churches were soon filled, and the spiritual wants of Islington for the time supplied. How the precedent thus set has been followed, and men have felt their spirits stirred by the example; how the churches in the parish have increased and multiplied; how the machinery of schools, lecture-rooms, and associations of all kinds have gathered round them ; how legal districts have been assigned; how the patronage has been most disinterestedly vested in trustees, – all these points belong rather to the ecclesiastical history of Islington than to this biography. As for the vicar, his “three churches in Islington” were in his heart, and often on his lips, to his dying day; nor was he ever forgetful how much the successful result was due to the generous help of his parishioners, and the liberality of Her Majesty’s Commissioners.

Josiah Bateman, *The Life of Daniel Wilson, D.D., Bishop of Calcutta and Metropolitan of India*, London, 1860

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CLOUDESLEY SQUARE.

The Rev W. Vincent, who has just completed the tenth year of his Incumbency, preached a sermon suitable to the occasion on Sunday morning last ...

We transcribe the opening portion:- “Exactly ten years have passed away since, on Sunday morning, April 6th, 1851, I preached my first sermon in this pulpit. They have indeed been eventful years, in the history of Europe, in the history of England, in the history the world, in the history of this congregation, and in the history of own life. What changes have taken place in Islington during those ten years. How many valuable Institutions have been called into existence, to promote by God’s blessing the welfare of all, but especially of the poorer and most destitute of its inhabitants. And if great changes have taken place in the parish generally, great also have been the changes in our own district and congregation. Where, in the original district parish of Holy Trinity there then stood only this church and that of All Saints, there are now four churches. What noble schools and buildings have been built in the districts All Saints and St. Michael’s. And how many supplementary Institutions have we in our own district, which have all sprung up during the last ten years, Milton Yard Ragged School, our Industrial School, our Monthly Bible Classes for ladies, servants and children, our Sunday Bible Classes for young gentlemen and young ladies, our Dorcas Society, our Saturday Prayer Meeting, Youths’ Institute, and our Penny Bank. But greater than all these are the changes which have taken place our own congregation. The congregation now before me is almost a new congregation. Probably at least nine-tenths of those present when I preached first sermon in this church, ten years ago, are now gone. Some are in other lands; some in other parts of England; some in other districts of Islington. Others, many others, are now in eternity.

Islington Gazette, 13 April 1861, p. 2

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Sir – my attention, as well as that of others, has been drawn (for the last few Sundays) to the singing at Trinity Church. Could not the organist do something to mend this? I think a little more taste should be shown in the selection of the chants, &c., as most of them are too high. I am sure there is not another church in the parish where the singing is so bad. ... A Member of the Congregation [and two other similar letters on this day, one of which complains about the organist’s competence too]

Islington Gazette, 14 September 1861, p. 3

Sir. Having inserted in your valuable paper of Saturday last three letters reflecting upon the management of the singing at Holy Trinity church, perhaps you will permit me to raise a more general complaint against the singing in this neighbourhood, and apropos to offer one or two remarks upon what seems to me to be a growing evil. ... Now, Sir, while I solemnly deprecate any approach to Puseyism in our churches, I do think that, at least in the vicinity of Barnsbury and Caledonian Road, we are rapidly hastening to the other dangerous extreme. [complains about school children leading the singing] [letter followed by another on the same theme from ‘One of the Tortured’]

Islington Gazette, 21 September 1861, p. 2

[four more letters which variously blame the thin congregation and the organ which needs repair, and another which is in support of the church]

Islington Gazette, 28 September 1861, p. 2

A Fancy Sale and Bazaar ... will be held at Myddleton Hall, Islington ... in aid of the New Building of the Girls’ School in the District of Holy Trinity, Islington

Islington Gazette, 12 October 1861, p. 1

Holy Trinity Population	Men	Women	Total
1861	5,741	7,742	13,483
Holy Trinity houses	inhabited	Uninhabited	building
1861	1,882	35	--

Thomas Coull, *The History and Traditions of Islington*, London, 1864, pp. 47-8

Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square. The organ of this Church, which has been repaired and thorough cleaned by Mr Edgeland, of Upper Gower Street, was re-opened on Sunday last, and the great improvement effected gave considerable satisfaction.

Islington Gazette, 7 December 1861, p. 2

The pulpit, reading desk, and Communion table of Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley-square, have been recovered with crimson velvet; an unknown member of the congregation being the donor of a handsome sum of money for that purpose.

Islington Gazette, 18 October 1862, p. 3

Islington. **In good order, and used by inhabitants:**

Arlington Square, Arundel Square, Canonbury Square, **Cloudesley Square**, Gibson Square, Lonsdale Square, Milner Square, Tibberton Square, Thornhill Square, Wilton Square.

Neglected:

Colebrook Row, Duncan Square: New River Company will give these up to the Board as the inhabitants will not keep them in order.

Montague Place, New River Terrace: Ditto.

Report by the Superintending Architect, on the Public Gardens' Protection Act, 1863, Ordered to be printed, 16 December 1863, p. 12

ANTI-RITUALISM IN ISLINGTON. Wednesday evening last a meeting, convened by the churchwardens, took place in the school-room connected with Trinity Church, for the purpose considering the propriety of presenting petition to the Bishop of the Diocese (London) and the Houses of Parliament, praying that steps might be taken to check the introduction Popish ceremonies, vestments, &c., into the services of the United Church of England and Ireland. The meeting was entirely got up laymen, and the crowded attendance, as well the enthusiastic spirit exhibited throughout the meeting, showed the great interest taken in the movement. The speakers, including the two churchwardens, were all influential laymen of Trinity parish, with the exception of the Rev. Edward Ellis, the clerical secretary to the Islington Protestant Institute, who, being resident in the parish, especially requested to attend in order to explain the Popish ceremonies, &c., complained of.

Islington Gazette, 13 February 1866, p. 3

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

The Bishop of London and the trustees of the church having given their approval, official notice has been sent to the seat holders at Holy Trinity Church that the charges for the various sittings will be increased.

Islington Gazette, 23 March 1866, p. 3

Sir, without giving any opinion on the advisability or necessity of the alterations proposed in the prices of the various seats at [Holy Trinity], I ask, in reference to the circular which has been sent to the seat holders, whether there has been any meeting of the congregation to whom such an important change has been submitted

Islington Gazette, 27 March 1866, p. 3

[complaints about the singing in 1866]

Life of Sir Charles Barry. In the Gothic style, however, Barry felt himself still weak: it was to him a new study. “His first essays were not very successful, though certainly not below the average of the time. He used to think and speak of them afterwards with a humorous kind of indignation. He carefully destroyed every drawing relating to them, and would have still more gladly destroyed the originals”. There is now much to be said in truth for the three district churches he built in Islington, which have been severely criticised. His filial biographer, indeed, expresses a doubt whether his mind was “such as to enter very deeply into the principles of church architecture or at any rate into the particular development which it has received.”

Rev. Alfred Barry, *The Life and Works of Sir Charles Barry, RA, FRS*, London, 1867.

Illustrated London News, 10 April 1866, p. 391

The New Incumbent of Holy Trinity Church ... made vacant by the appointment of the Rev C. R. Alford to the Bishopric of Victoria, has been offered by the trustees to the Rev John Rooker

Islington Gazette, 22 January 1867, p. 2

A meeting of seatholders of Holy Trinity Church was held on Tuesday evening in the school rooms, Cloudesley street, to take consideration the best mode of raising a sum of **£2,000 to defray the cost of repairs and improvements to the church**. The Rev J. Rooker, the incumbent occupied the chair.

The chairman stated that in consequence of the very defective state of the building, **an architect had been applied to, who had furnished a specification of necessary repairs to the**

amount of **£1,200** and improvements to the amount of **£800**. a committee had been formed and this committee had issued an appeal to the seatholders for subscriptions to defray the cost of the work. one-third of seatholders had responded to the appeal and up to the present time £430 had been received. as the repairs were urgently needed, it was proposed that an appeal should be made to the old seatholders and to the general public as the church had been the means of doing good to many. Mr Faithful, churchwarden, having read the list of subscriptions ... thought they might commence at once with the necessary repairs and leave the improvements till afterwards.

Mr Paton, churchwarden, thought, with many of the seat holders, that they were scarcely in a position to commence the work yet. ...

Mr Evans strongly objects to the work being commenced without a larger sum of money in hand ...

Mr Faithful again urged that the work should be commenced at once, as the summer was going, and it could not be done in the winter. he had full confidence in the result of the appeal, and he thought it was just that all should join in raising the money, as **for twenty five years no repairs had been done to the church** [c.1842] ... Mr Paton said it would be useless to apply to the trustees of the Cloudesley estate for a contribution as they would not grant it. [their existing grant has all been spent on divine service]

Islington Gazette, 12 July 1867, p. 2

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH. Sir, —A most disgraceful fact has just been communicated to the people of Islington. The Church of the Holy Trinity, Cloudesley-square, is in difficulty. Habitual neglect of the repairs of the building has plunged the present seatholders into the uncomfortable position of having to raise large sum for its substantial restoration. For twenty-five years, we are told, the building has been left to itself. Our first impression is, surely this must be poor congregation, which, being scarcely able to meet its current expenses, has been compelled to neglect that which they otherwise would most cheerfully have done. Had such been the case nothing should have been said, because necessity has no law. But how different the fact. Holy Trinity is an endowed church. More than £220 per annum receives from the “Stonefield Estate”. It may here be proper to state that at the time of the passing of the Act of Parliament relating to that property there were but four churches, —St. Mary, St. John, St. Paul, and Holy Trinity; the proceeds were therefore divided between them. Nearly forty years have elapsed since that period, and upwards £8,000 have been received by each of the above named churches, and yet, strange say, that which of all other things should have been attended to has been most shamefully neglected. The Stonefield Estate Act has been always viewed by large number of sensible persons as a monstrous job. I know that one of the best and most influential of the inhabitants of Islington remonstrated with the first incumbent of Trinity Church for not laying aside an annual sum for the purpose of building a parsonage, and keeping the building in thorough repair. But in vain was the remonstrance for this minister was not satisfied by receiving the amount of

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pew rents, but actually took the fees that rightfully belonged to the clerk. I am informed that St. Paul's, Ball's Pond, another endowed church, is in a similar, though perhaps not quite serious, position.

Is it not too bad for those endowed churches to make an appeal for a repairing fund, when there cannot be doubt that the endowment was intended for that purpose. Other churches in this parish, without endowment, find the means keep their buildings in repair and meet their ordinary expenses. The enemies of endowments may chuckle when they see such gross carelessness and avarice produced by that principle. There is one thing the parishioners of Islington should now do, and that is, agitate for repeal of the Act, and divide the income the estate equally among all the churches of this populous parish. I am, &c., JUSTITIA.

Islington Gazette, 16 July 1867, p. 3

The subject of ritualism is sure to attract a good deal of attention during the coming recess ... Mr Wilson was the first witness to be examined by the Commission. ... Mr Wilson was examined at some length as the points of ritual difference raised by the late Bishop of London in some of his charges; but it did not appear that there was any particular object in view in these questionings. One thing however was gratifying enough; it was shown that the proposed alterations produced much muttered discontent; that in one case (Holy Trinity) a church was nearly emptied one Sunday, because there seemed some prospect of alterations being made in conformity with the Bishop's wishes; and that on general resistance or at least demur, the Bishop was worsted and the novelties he had wished to introduce were never practically introduced.

Islington Gazette, 6 Sept 1867, p. 2

Meanwhile the church-building movement continued, and in that movement [Barry] found much occupation. In 1826 he was employed by the Rev. Daniel Wilson, Rector of Islington (afterwards Bishop of Calcutta) to erect three churches in Islington – at Holloway, Ball's Pond, and Cloudesley Square. These were churches of considerable scale, and no small expense;* but in them, as in so many other churches of the time, little was effected compared with what could now be done for the same sum. In 1829 he built a chapel and schools at Saffron Hill, London.

It was at this time of his professional career that he was much employed in the building of churches. the consequence is that, although his churches were fully up to the mark of their period, they cannot take their place among his important works, or be considered to form any important step in architectural progress.

*They cost 11,890l, 10,947l and 11,535l respectively, sums which many a church architect would consider liberal now.

Rev. Alfred Barry, *The Life and Works of Sir Charles Barry, RA, FRS*, London, 1867, p. 77

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With regard to the leading members of his own profession, of Mr Nash, the Wyatts, and Sir R. Smirke, he knew little or nothing; of Sir John Soane he had some slight knowledge, and from him on one occasion (that of the Islington Churches) I believe he received some recommendation; of his contemporaries he knew best Mr Cockerell and Mr Tite, and afterwards (partly through Mr Wolfe) Messrs Donaldson, Angell and Poynter

Rev. Alfred Barry, *The Life and Works of Sir Charles Barry, RA, FRS*, London, 1867, p. 65

A bazaar in aid of the repair fund of Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, is to be held at Myddleton Hall in May next.

Islington Square, 4 February 1868, p. 3

The Rev. Daniel Moore [sic – Moore is incumbent of Holy Trinity Paddington], incumbent of Holy Trinity, Islington, spoke of the difficulties he had experienced in securing site for new church in his parish, and recommended that sites should be procured before districts became too populous. He had found that when it was known that that a church was in contemplation the value of the land rose with wonderful rapidity. With regard to working people attending Divine service, he said it was impossible for them to come to his church, except in the afternoons, unless they came half an hour before the service the morning and fought a battle with crinolines and fine dresses. In the afternoon, too, working men liked to stay at home with their families, and he should be sorry to see any restriction upon the Sunday rest which the Church allowed.

Morning Advertiser, 12 February 1868, p. 6

That seeing the new system of Lighting the Church entails considerable extra labour, the churchwardens be empowered to present a gratuity of five pounds to Charles [Worth]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 14 April 1868

Holy Trinity Repair Fund. Liabilities to the amount of £800 still have to be discharged, and the Committee now appeal to their friends and especially to the parishioners of Holy Trinity for co-operations in their present endeavour to pay off the debt. ... received by Mrs Rooker, 10 Barnsbury Square.

Islington Gazette, 17 April 1868, p. 1

The following heights above the mean sea level have been supplied by the Records of the OS ...
West Entrance of Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, Islington 136.202

Henry Trimen and William T. Thiselton-Dyer, *Flora of Islington*, London, 1869, p. xix

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

A conversation ensued as to the amount for which the Church was insured against the fire (£6000) being insufficient & it was resolved to leave the matter in the Mr Faithfull's hands & increase the amount say from £2000 [to] £3000

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 20 March 1869

Mr Faithfull reported that he had increased the insurance of the church from £6000 to £9000. [& appearing on the following page with a date at the end:]

Easter 1871

In the autumn of 1867 the Church was thoroughly repaired both as to the Exterior & Interior, the latter Re-lighted, the Organ & Staves repaired, the Chancel re-modelled, a new Vestry & Offices built, the Floors covered with new matting, Carpets &c throughout at a cost of £1775; the whole sum being collected by 31 December 1870 [all by subscription – a list with addresses appears; mostly small amounts from local donors but £186 after sermons, £287 from church rates?] and £506 16 7 raised from Bazaars held at Myddleton Hall & School Rooms]

Messrs Dove Bros	1250		
Messrs Hedgeland, Repairs to Organ	55	17	6
Messrs Strode, for Relighting Church	175	12	2
Mr West, for Writing & Decorations	60		
Mr Christian, Architects Commission	70	14	
Mr Jeakes & Co, repairs to Stoves	35	9	4
Matting	40	9	4
Carpeting, Rugs &c	15		
Expenses at Myddleton Hall	23	15	1
Interest on Loan by Bankers &c	38	6	9
Printing	7	18	
Misc	12	1	6
Balance at National Provl. Bank		1	9
	1775	5	5
EASTER 1871			

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 19 April 1870

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

The churchwardens stated the amount of the Church Repair Fund – placed on Deposit Note at the National Provincial Bank of England Upper Street in the joint names of the Vicar and Churchwardens was £41 5 0

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 15 April 1873

Holy Trinity Cloudesley Square

Parish formed:	1830
Area in acres:	95
Houses inhabited:	1,370
Houses uninhabited:	51
Houses building:	--
Persons:	9,595
Males:	4,144
Females:	5,451

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Metropolitan Borough of Islington, 1873, p. 10

The Rev. John Rooker, vicar of Holy Trinity, Islington, has been appointed to the position of director of the Missionaries Children's Home, void by the death of the Rev. Isaac Durrant. Mr Rooker formerly held the office.

'Church News', *London Evening Standard*, 7 November 1873, p. 3

Islington – Holy Trinity. A new font given 1874; first used at Whitsuntide

ILHC, Y J852 TRI (2), cuttings [scraps of paper apparently written at or near the time]

April 9 1875 the church repair fund was repaid the sum of £55 5 10

Mr C. M. Luccock having resigned his office as Vicar's churchwarden [after seven years' service], the Rev Chairman appointed Mr H. C. Dove of 31 Milner Square his Churchwarden until Easter 1877 [Henry C. Dove, builder, is at 34 Milner Square in 1881]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Tuesday 18 April 1876

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

This living of Christ Church, Spitalfields, which is in the gift of Mr. T. F. Buxton, has been offered to, and, after careful consideration of the claims of his present post, by the Rev. R. C. Billing, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Islington.

East London Observer, 2 February 1878, p. 6

Rev. C. Julius, to the Vicarage of Holy Trinity, Islington

‘Church News’, *London Evening Standard*, 2 April 1878, p. 3

Islington – a large district on the extreme north side of London. Soil, London clay. Houses here are very cheap, and in the northernmost portion of the district including the new streets and crescents about Barnsbury and Canonbury Parks, are often roomily and comfortably-built, and of a fair size. About Holloway and the northern portion they are commonly of a rather old-fashioned type, and often small. As it was in Tom Pinch’s time, Islington is still a quiet neighbourhood as to its back settlements. But High-street and Upper-street have grown to be amongst the noisiest and least agreeable thoroughfares in London. NEAREST *Railway Stat.*, King’s-cross; for northern part, Barnsbury and Highbury; *Omnibus Routes*, Pentonville-road, Caledonian-road, Liverpool-road, City-road, Upper-street, and Essex-rd.

Charles Dickens Jr, *Dickens’s Dictionary of London*, 1879

Holy Trinity Jubilee ... Holy Trinity district extended [in 1829] from Sermon Lane northwards to the present Offord Road and from the Liverpool Road eastwards to the Great Northern Railway. The population of this large area did not then exceed 6,000 souls. It is now probably not far short of 60,000. At the beginning of the century there were few houses in the district, except the old workhouse and one row in Liverpool Road; and it was not till 1824 that the Stonefield estate was let on buildings leases and Cloudesley Square, Cloudesley Street, Stonefield Street &c were built. Richmond Crescent, Thornhill Square &c are barely five and twenty years old and the densely populated district beyond the Caledonian Road is still more recent. The first incumbent of Holy Trinity was the Rev H F Fell, who held the living from 1829 to 1851, at which time the district was more aristocratic than it is now, and the church was crowded at the Sunday services. the infants’ school was built in 1830, and the boys’ school in 1840. Mr Fell was succeeded by the Rev W. Vincent, to whom Islington owes so much, and who is so well and affectionately remembered. Mr Vincent laboured very earnestly in the district, both in the promotion of education and of moral and spiritual advancement. under his auspices the girls’ school was built; the Young Gentlemen’s Bible Classes the Youths’ Institute, Milton’s yard Mission, the Islington Reformatory (now Industrial Home) in Copenhagen Street and the Islington and North London Shoebblack Brigade were started.... On Mr Vincent’s retirement in 1864 the Rev Cannon Bateman was appointed to Holy Trinity but three or four months later he

resigned and was succeeded by the Rev F. R. Kite who fair promise of a most successful incumbency was doomed to speedy disappointment by his decease.

Islington Gazette, 19 March 1879, p. 2

In 1828 three churches were completed in the parish of Islington from the designs of Sir Charles Barry, who had received the commission for their erection from the Rev. Daniel Wilson (Vicar), afterwards Bishop of Calcutta.

Although large sums were spent on them, they have certainly failed to produce a satisfactory result, nor do they evince the slightest appearance of having been copied from the ancient examples.

The fact was, Barry had not studied or did not care to study the ancient types of Ecclesiastical architecture open to his inspection in our noble cathedrals and parish churches.

For his apparent apathy the following extract from the “Life of Sir Charles Barry” may account:-

“He himself felt strongly that the forms of mediaeval art, beautiful as they are, do not always adapt themselves thoroughly to the needs of a service essentially one of “Common Prayer”.

“Deep chancels, high rood-screen, and (in a less degree) pillared aisles seemed to him to belong to the worship and institutions of the past rather than the present. Time-honoured as they were he would in some degree have put them aside, and accepting Gothic as the style for church building, he would have preferred those forms of it which secured uninterrupted space and gave a perfect sense of unity in a congregation, even at the cost of sacrificing features beautiful in themselves, and perhaps of interfering with the “dim religious light” of impressiveness and solemnity”.

These three churches, viz., S. Paul’s, Balls Pond, S. John at Holloway, and Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, passed at the time of their erection, for very satisfactory specimens of modern Gothic; but it may be questioned whether in later days a smile did not pass over Barry’s face when he recollected these early specimens of his genius.

Perhaps of the three above-mentioned churches the Balls Pond one is the most creditable. It is a large structure of which brick with dressings of stone, and consists of a nave, aisles, and tower at the east end, the lowest stage of which forms a groined porch.

The interior of this structure has two rows of rather lean perpendicular pillars, supporting, for the style, rather acutely pointed arches, behind which are the galleries.

The tower opens into the church by an arch with very passable mouldings, through which is seen a small three-light window with stained glass, representing the Arms of England, by Willement.

The pier arches support a clerestory consisting of two foliated lights within a flat frame, filled with tinted glass. The roof is of wood, flat, and of unobjectionable character. Below the arch

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

opening into the tower is a Perpendicular reredos, with canopies, finials and pinnacles, by no means contemptible for the period of its erection.

In 1880 the interior Ball Pond Church underwent reseating and considerable improvements, and at the present speaking presents a very decent appearance. But it may be here remarked that the Gothic churches erected at this period do not lend themselves to internal decoration in so facile a manner as the Grecian structures.

T. Francis Bumpus, *London Churches: Ancient and Modern*, London, c.1883, pp. 45-46

The Rev. William E. Haigh, curate to the Hon. and Rev. E. Carr Glyn, vicar of St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, has been appointed to the vicarage of Holy Trinity, Islington, vacant by the promotion of the Rev. Churchill Julius, to the archdeaconry of Ballarat.

Morning Post, 22 March 1884, p. 5

Kyrle Society. Musical Branch. Five performances have been given, "Elijah", in Tolmer Square Congregational Chapel; the "Messiah" in Trinity Chapel. Poplar, and in St John's, Waterloo Bridge Road; "St Paul", in St Saviour's Poplar, and in Holy Trinity, Islington.

Charity Organisation Review, 3:30 June 1887, p. 257

34. ALFRED PHILLIPS (40), Feloniously breaking and entering the Church of the Holy Trinity, Islington, and stealing 2 yards of sateen, the property of Rev. William Edward Haigh.

MR. SIMMONDS Prosecuted, and MR. GEOGHEGAN Defended. REV. WILLIAM EDWARD HAIGH. I am vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, Islington; I reside at 24, Milner Square—on the night of 3rd March I was called up about half-past twelve, and went to the police-station—I found the prisoner detained there—I knew him—he had lodged in the house where the old beadle lived, who had been pensioned off, and he had done deputy work for him, but with not any real consent of ours—I was shown this piece of red sateen—it belongs to me—it was kept in one of the drawers in the Albert desk, in the vestry—the prisoner has ceased to act as deputy to the beadle for a year—we had no sateen of this colour in use then—after seeing the prisoner at the station I went to the church—I found the south door had been broken open with violence—we had been in the habit of keeping the moneys collected in the church until recently in one of the drawers of the Albert desk—the prisoner must have known that the money was kept there—we ceased to do so eight weeks before this offence—the prisoner was charged with this offence in my presence—he made no answer. ...

Prisoner's statement before the Magistrate. These tools found on me had been given to me by the under beadle, and the lamp and candles were used in the vaults. The door was open. The piece

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of red stuff I had when the vestry was cleaned out, and a lot of old books Mrs. Haigh said I could have it to do as I liked with.

Not guilty.

Alfred Phillips, Theft: from an unspecified place, 8 April 1889, Old Bailey Papers (OBP) online, t18890408-334

Year Ending Easter 1890.

p. 1. The report shows that we have started a Working Men's Club, which already has some 80 members – also a branch of the Girls' Friendly Society which promises well, having some 180 associates and members. We have also tried some social and intellectual meetings which were very well attended ... Haigh.

p. 7 Churchwardens' Account: Expenditure [edited]

Gardener £4 9

Repairs (Gas, locks etc) £7 2 3

Dove Bros £2

Holy Trinity Cloudesley Square Parochial Report and Statement of Accounts, 1890, LMA P83/MRY1/128

The churchwardens presented the Church accounts of which the following is a summary: Easter 1891-1892

Out: Repairs and Cleaning: £62 7 1

In: Cash from Cloudesley Estate: £230 3 2

[different clerk or warden's hand and a new way of minuting:]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1892

The churchwardens presented this account shewing a balance due to themselves of £7 1 1½:

Out: Garden expenses: £5 5

Repairs: £117 17 11

In: Cash from Stonefields Trustees: £218 14 8

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1893

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Mr. James Nunn, deputy clerk at Islington Cemetery, we regret to announce, died at his residence, East Finchley, on Friday, in his 83rd year. He was school-master for 35 years at Holy Trinity, Islington, and, for sometime, parish clerk. On his resignation of his post school-master, which was marked by token of good will from his scholars, he was appointed deputy-clerk at Islington cemetery, and held the appointment until two years ago.

Hendon & Finchley Times, 24 November 1893, p. 6

Out:	Garden	£5
	Tuning organ	£3
	Repair	£13 11 3
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£208 16

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1894

I understand that in connection with the proposed assignment of a district to this chapel some apprehension presses upon the Bishop and the Commissioners that it might give rise to litigation with the Vestry in Islington in regard to the Burial Ground and with the senior churchwarden of the Parish Church in regard to the administration of that portion of the Stonefield Estate Income appropriated to this Chapel for repairs to fabric and expenses of Divine Service ... [the chapel of ease, St Mary Magdalene Holloway; there follows a list of stones and graves which are to be retained in it, presumably when it was opened to the public as a garden]

Extract from letter from Mr Peirson to the EC, Correspondence re Stonefield Estate income and making chapel of ease into district parish church, 1894, LMA, P83/MRY1/0121

Dear Mr Kirk, I beg to make special appeal to the Fund for £300 to make up £700 so as to secure a probably grant of another £700 from the Commissioners for a Vicarage in the spring. ... I cannot yet secure a freehold – it will be very difficult to do so and as this is a good and suitable house it may be worth waiting a few more years in the hope of our being granted a site close to the church by the Charity Commissioners when they draw up a new scheme for the management of the Stonefield Estate on which the Church stands.

If the Fund would grant us this help we should have £1400 in the hands of the Commissioners ready when required and fielding £40 pa for a Parsonage meanwhile.

I beg to think that as this church is so peculiarly situated – the vicar having no secured income whatever – this is a way in which the Fund might generously aid the Parish.

LMA, DL/A/K/09/10/087, Letter from William Haigh, 24 Milner Square, 3 December 1894, in Parish Case Files, 1894-1908

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Out:	Exps Ch garden 1 yr	£5
	Repairs	£30 1 9
	Annual cleaning	£3 8
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£202 15 9

The vicar reported that that the donation to the vicarage fund amounted to upwards of £700 and that the EC has made a grant of £700

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1895

We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in consideration of a benefaction consisting of seven hundred pounds sterling which has been paid to us in favour of the vicarage of Holy Trinity Islington do hereby in pursuance of the Act of the twenty ninth and thirtieth years of HM ... grant and appropriate out of our common fund to the said vicarage of Holy Trinity Islington ... towards defraying the cost of providing a parsonage or house of residence for the said vicarage, according to plans and a specification approved or to be approved by us, such capital sum or the balance thereof unapplied to such purpose, to remain the meantime in our hands at interest after the rate of two pounds and ten shillings per centum per annum and such interest to be paid to the incumbent for the time being of the said vicarage.

London Gazette, 17 May 1895, p. 2879

Out:	Exps Ch garden	£5
	Repairs	£22 15 8
	Annual cleaning	£4 4
	Repairs to organ	£28
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£215

The vicar reported that in addition to the £700 raised for the Vicarage Fund, £700 has been raised since which with grants from EC & other sources will make £2800 by next May

The vicar expressed his desire to see the Church repaired but no resolution was taken on the subject.

The Churchwarden (Mr Ansell) then read **a letter from Messrs Dove Brothers respecting the stone dressing and ornament of the exterior of the church and urging the necessity of repair to some parts, at once, at the same time naming an approximate idea of the probably, namely £500.**

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

A very animated conversation ensued and some suggestion were made as to patent artificial cements and silicates ultimately it was left the Churchwardens to enter into consideration of the matter with Messrs Dove and report.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1896

Churches and Chapels with Vaults under them that have been used for Interments, but with no graveyards attached. [including]

Holy Trinity, Islington

Holmes, Isabella M., *The London Burial Grounds. Notes on their history from the earliest times to the present day ... Illustrated*, London, T. F. Unwin, 1896, p. 329

Out:	For care of garden	£5
	Repairs	£31 5 10
	Annual cleaning	£3 13 6
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£100 [i.e. only part of]

The vicar announced the death of Mr Dove, the meeting, through the Vicar, express their sympathy [lots of ink splodges here] with the family.

Churchwarden Ansell reported that nothing decidedly had been done about stone work repairs for which funds were wanted.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1897

Islington Holy Trinity. I am directed by the EC to inform you that on the recommendation of the Bishop of London they have voted a grant of £50 out of the City Parochial Charities Fund towards the cost of repairs to the fabric of the church ... to be payable upon the receipt at this office of a certificate from the Bishop that the works of repair at a cost of not less than £114 have been executed ... within twelve months.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, to the Revd Haigh, 13 January 1898

I certify that repairs to the amount of £113 have been completed in the church to my satisfaction

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, note signed by or for the Bishop, 1 March 1898

Out:	care of garden	£5
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Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

	Repairs	£18 3 8
	Annual cleaning	£3 13
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£286 15 1

Mr Ansell and Mr John reported as to the receipts and expenditure under the special repair fund namely:

£131 18 3	Received
£117 7 5	Paid

Resolved that the whole matter be referred to the church council

some consideration took place as to the mechanical blowers of the organ but no resolution was arrived at

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1898

Proposed by Mr Wilson that £2 be paid to Messrs Holdich & Ingram for extra tuning and that the sum of £4 be paid them for tuning during ensuing year

Out:	Repairs	£14 5 6
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£210

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1899

The Church of Holy Trinity, Islington, was never ritualistic, but in the Rev. W. K. Haigh's time there was musical service there, which seems now to have been given up. Mr. Haigh, who is now vicar of St. Paul's. Clifton, has, according local newspaper, addressed strong protest to the. Rev. W. H. Barlow, vicar of Islington, as representing the trustees, declaring that he would never have devoted 15 years of his life to the parish had he thought the trustees would show so little respect for his services as appoint a man who would undo his work. The worshippers cannot help themselves, course. As the law at present stands, the incumbent of a church for the time being can do, within very wide limits, exactly as he chooses.

The Globe, 28 October 1899, p. 6

Out:	Repairs	£97 13
	Altering drains	£25 18 6
In:	Stonefields Trustees	£230

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1900

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Considering the class of buildings with which Barry's name is now chiefly connected – mansions, clubs, and the Houses of Parliament – it seems rather curious that his professional career commenced mainly with church-building. He gained the commission for St. Peter's, Brighton, in a competition in 1823, and regarded this as being, up to then, "the proudest day of his existence," and the entrance, as he promised his wife, "to a brilliant career." The brilliant career undoubtedly followed, but not in church-building; though this success in a competition which was rather strongly contested may, no doubt, have aided in bringing him into notice. It is not generally known, probably, that the melancholy regions of Islington and Holloway boast of three churches built from Barry's designs in 1826-7, viz-. St. John's, Holloway (at the west side of Holloway-road), St. Paul's, Balls Pond (at the junction of Ball's Pond and Essex-roads), and Holy Trinity, Cloudesley-square, Islington. The first-named I have not seen; the other two are plain brick Gothic-revival churches in the rather late Gothic style then in vogue, with stone dressings and window tracery; unless one knew their authorship they would certainly not attract notice now; but there is a certain dignity and sense of proportion in the Cloudesley-square church (the larger of the two) which, when we know the work to be Barry's, we can recognise as characteristic of him. The three churches were built as a commission from the Rev. D. Wilson, then Rector of Islington, and whose name was afterwards widely known as Bishop of Calcutta. From 'The Architectural Genius of Sir Charles Barry by the Editor', *The Builder*, 5 January 1901, pp. 3-6

City Parochial Charities. Church Repairs. Grant Recommended

Holy Trinity Islington. Requirements

Restoration of Roof, Windows & Railings	£509
Exterior Stone Work	£480
Cleansing & Scaffolding (interior)	£440
Repairing Vaults & Furnace	£55 10
Remedying Ventilation	£50
Renewal of Fittings for Lighting	£266
Repair to Organ	£100
Fees of Architect, clerk &c	<u>£242 10</u>
	£2153

They are also going to spend £847 on removing galleries, renewing pews, stencilling &c. but these items have not [been] allowed: they bring the sum up to £3000

Grant recommended £500. Approved by the Bishop, 4 July

Application City Parochial Charities, July 1901, CERC, ECE/7/1/18112

Correspondence [reproduced] between Islington Town Clerk and Churchwarden Dove:

Islington Town Hall, 2 November 1901

Dear Churchwarden Dove,

I forward a letter received this morning with reference to the Parish Church which possibly will astonish you as much as it does me.

On behalf of the Council, I venture to ask the churchwardens to take steps for the preservation of the entablature containing the lists of benefactors to the poor of the parish, to which I referred in my address containing the lists of benefactors to the poor of the parish, to which I referred in my address to the Attorney-General. This entablature, I am informed, is now removed from the place it once occupied, and stored almost out of sight. I feel sure that the churchwardens will agree with me that it is of importance that it should be preserved.

I am, yours faithfully,

Wm. F. Dewey, Town Clerk.

56 Crouch Hill, 3 December 1901

Dear Mr Town Clerk,

On my return home last night I found your favour with enclosure, the latter as you suggest did somewhat surprise me, but not more so than the implied suggestion that I might be such a vandal as to allow anything to be destroyed of any antiquarian interest in connection with the Parish Church. I only regret that this new found zeal on the part of the council has not been displayed towards many of my predecessors who appeared not to have concerned themselves in the least for many valuable things in connection with the Church.

Even in my own time, the contemptuous disregard to my appeal to protect the ancient registers of the Parish hardly squares with the present *professed* solicitude.

Faithfully yours,

Fredk. L. Dove

Metropolitan Borough of Islington, *Proceedings of Richard Cloudesley's Charity, otherwise known as the Stonefields Estate*, July 1902, p. 104

The Restoration of Holy Trinity: £2,900 wanted

Report by Mr H. H. Tasker, FSI, Architect

It is about 33 years since any material improvements were undertaken. At that time the chancel was remodelled, new Vestry offices built, the interior re-lighted, and other necessary

repairs carried out. No structural reparations of any magnitude to the fabric have been executed since the erection of the Church, about 70 years ago.

Mr Tasker, who has recently restored the Churches of St Mark's Myddleton Square, and All Saints, Caledonian Road, states that the ceilings and walls have been greatly damaged owing to the unsound state of the roof, and in a short time the roof will become unsafe. The rain will decay the plastering and woodwork, and this means that a portion of the plastering may fall at any time without warning. The stone work in places has seriously decayed, and parts are in a dangerous condition. In 1896 a report was submitted at the Easter Vestry with reference to its unsatisfactory state and estimating that a sum of £500 would have to be expended to put it in order. Since then the damage has increased, and to properly restore it a sum of £563 will be necessary. Should the funds not permit of this expenditure, the Architect advised that the dangerous parts of the stone work would be removed, and temporary repairs executed, for which an estimate of £83 has been obtained.

detailed epitome of the Architects' Report [edited]:-

EXTERIOR WORKS

1. The roof needs to be thoroughly overhauled, a portion restored and the whole made sound and watertight, the brickwork and masonry cleaned down, repaired, pointed &c; the windows protected with galvanized wire guards, the railings enclosing churchyard repaired and painted, as also all the woodwork &c., at a cost of £509.
2. It is very desirable that the pinnacles, finials, coping and other stonework should be repaired and restored, while the other work is in hand. This would involve a further outlay of £480.

INTERIOR WORKS

3. It is proposed to remove all the existing uncomfortable straight-backed box pews, to take down the North and South Galleries, which the Church was never designed to have erected, and from the large majority of the seats of which it is impossible to see the officiating clergyman; to alter and enlarge the West Gallery, in order to increase the seating accommodation, and for the purpose of improving the general acoustics it is proposed to slightly raise the east end of the church. the cost of this would be about £298.
4. The estimate for supplying the new modern pews in Orham wood so as to provide accommodation throughout the entire building for about 1,200 persons, amounts to £512 10s.
5. The whole of the interior including ceilings, walls, and woodwork, needs thoroughly cleansing and painting, and the stone pillars require to be rubbed down, so as to restore the original colour of stonework. this would mean an expense of about £440, without any stencilling or such like decorative painting, but including scaffolding and repairs to windows.
6. The additional expense of a moderate amount of stencilling would be about £55, which the Architect strongly recommends, to as to relieve the very plain appearance of the large unrelieved superficial area of wall space.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

7. It is proposed to put the vaults into decent order, and to do necessary repairs to the furnace and provide guards for iron bars to vaults at a cost of £55 10s.
8. A Sum of £50 is estimated as being necessary to remedy the very defective ventilation, which, it is expected, will be improved by the removal of the side galleries.
9. The church is at present lighted for the most part by two large sunlights suspended from the roof, which not only inadequately light [circled] the building, but also involves [circled] a considerable and wasteful consumption of gas; and it is estimated that to do what is necessary to the gas-pipes and fittings, supplying new where required, a sum of £116 10s would be needed.

An alternative estimate has been supplied for installing the electric light throughout the building at an additional cost of £150. This is desirable from a hygienic point of view, materially to the comfort of the congregation, and would also be economical in the way of preserving the decorations.

The total estimated cost of the whole work, if the stonework is restored and the electric light installed, including fees, amounts to £2,900 [+ £100 added by hand].

LMA, DL/A/K/09/10/087, printed specification/fund-raising pamphlet, March 1901, in Parish Case Files, 1894-1908

Out:	Repairs	£32 19 8
	Altering drains	£25 18 6
In:	Stonefields Trust	£250
	arrears from Stonefield Trust	£49 7 6

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1901

A special meeting was held on the above date at 8pm in the Vestry Room of the Church

- 1) considering certain alterations and improvements in the above church as set forth in the Architects' plans and specifications and which include the restoration of the fabric, the removal of the side galleries, the repewing of the remainder of the church, raising the East End and chancel, the adequate lighting of the building etc, etc
- 2) authorising the presentation by the vicar and churchwardens a petition to the Chancellor of the Diocese for a Faculty authorising such alteration being carried out.

May 11 1901.

The organist reported that it would be most desirable to have the Organ repaired and improved and stating that he had obtained an estimate with a view thereto amounting to £272 – He strongly recommended that, at any rate, £100 should be expended on the instrument.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

The plans prepared by the Architect shewing the building as it will be after the alterations & improvements are carried out were laid before the meetings: and after these had been carefully examined, together with the items of the specifications, it was proposed by Mr Stiff and seconded by Mr Grocott

That this meeting in Vestry approves of the carrying out of the proposed alterations, improvements etc as indicated, which include:-

The removal of the present box pews, taking down the N&S Galleries, altering and enlarging the W Gallery and supplying modern open pews throughout the church. Raising the E End of the Church – Viz, the Choir by seven inches and also the Chancel by seven inches, so that there will be one step to the Holy Table instead of two as at present, removing the retable (which at present rests on the Communion Table) and the two vases thereon.

Slightly lowering the pulpit and moving from the centre of the Nave the Lectern to the North side and the Font to the South side as shown on the plan, & Installing electric light throughout the building.

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman stated that the Estimated cost of the above including repairs to roof and external stonework and cleaning and painting of the interior would be about £3000 of which about £1000 was in hand or promised mostly for outsiders and that it was hoped to raise locally another £1000 and to obtain grants from Societies which might also amount to £1000; that though the removal of the galleries involves a decrease of accommodation, the new sittings throughout the building would all be valuable and the church would be much better lighted, as was apparent from the Plans.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 16 May 1901

It being considered desirable to make certain Alterations and improvements in the Church ... it was resolved that the Alterations shew in the Plans annexed hereto and there produced should be carried out a Copy of which Resolution is also hereto annexed that the proposed alterations as shewn by the said Plans are as follows, viz to remove the present high box pews, to take down the North and South Galleries, to alter and enlarge the West Gallery and to supply modern open pews throughout the church. To raise the East End of the Church as follows the Choir seven inches and also the Chancel seven inches so that there will be one step to the holy Table in place of two as at present and to remove the retable (which at present rests on the holy table) and the two vases thereon. To slightly lower the pulpit and to move from the centre of the nave the lectern to the North side and the font to the south side as shewn on plan and to install the Electric Light throughout the Building. That the estimated cost of these alterations including repairs to roof and external stonework and the thorough cleansing and painting of the interior will be about £3000 of which about £1000 is always in hand or promised and the remainder will be raised by voluntary contributions aided it is hoped by Grants from the EC, the Bishop of

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London's Fund and the Incorporated Society for repairing Churches. That the proposed alterations will decrease the amount of accommodation by about two hundred sittings so that there would be about 1100 seats instead of about 1300 (vide letter of explanation) Your petitioners hereby humbly pray that you will be pleased to decree a License or Faculty
LMA, DL/A/C/02/047/006, Holy Trinity Citation, 1 June 1901, Holy Trinity Faculty bundle

A sight line drawn on the plans would shew the force of the above argument [that the vicar's voice cannot be heard in many of the old-fashioned high box pews]. Whereas, if the improvements are carried out the whole of the sittings will be valuable, especially those under the existing side galleries, which latter also materially obstruct the light, as will be seen from the plan.

It will be observed that **the space in front of the West Window, the former site of organ (which was moved years ago)** is being utilized for sittings.

LMA, DL/A/C/02/047/006, Letter from Harvey Farmier on Holy Trinity Restoration Fund paper to the Bishop's Registry, 3 June 1901, in Holy Trinity Faculty bundle

The Vicar and Mr Stiff, the people's warden, gave evidence in support of the application, and stated that the alterations would greatly improve the accommodation in the church and, it was hoped, attract larger congregations. the population of the parish was from 13,000 to 15,000, composed of the lower and middle classes. A number of the present seats were in places where people could neither see nor hear satisfactorily. The alterations would take three months to complete, and it was hoped to make provision for services for the parishioners elsewhere while they were going on. ... The petition was accordingly granted.

'Consistory Court of London', *The Times*, 28 June 1901

A petition by the Rev Thomas Lancaster, BA, the vicar, and the churchwardens of the parish of Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, Islington, for a faculty to sanction certain alterations in the parish church. it was stated that on the 16th ult a meeting of the vestry ... unanimously passed approving of the proposed alterations. These included the removal of the present high-backed pews, the taking down of the north and south galleries, and the alteration and enlargement of the west gallery, the substitution of modern open pews throughout the church, the raising (by seven inches) of the east end of the church with the choir and chancel, so as to provide one step for the holy table; an alteration in the positions of the font and lectern, the lowering of the pulpit, and the installation of electric light. these works would cost about £3,000, of which £1,000 was already in hand. and the parish hoped to collect the remainder in due course. the alterations would reduce the nominal seating accommodation from 1,300 seats to 1,100; but at present many of the seats were in positions whence it was impossible to see or hear the officiating

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minister. the church was built about 80 years ago. ... the population of the parish was from 13,000 to 15,000, composed of the lower and middle classes. ... The alterations would take two or three months to complete ... the Chancellor of the Court ... was quite satisfied that such an improvement would result and he should grant the faculty, leaving it to the vicar and churchwardens to decide whether the work should be done all at once, involving the temporary closing of the church, or in sections spread over some years.

‘Consistory Court Of London’, *The Times*, 29 June 1901, p. 19

HOLY TRINITY. ISLINGTON. The Wellington Chapel of St. Paul’s Cathedral, Dr. T. H. Tristram. K.G, Chancellor the Diocese, held special sitting of Consistory Court of London yesterday for the purpose hearing an application from the Rev Thomas Lancaster, the vicar, and the churchwardens of Holy Trinity, Islington, for faculty authorising the carrying out important alterations to the church. The Rev. T. Lancaster said that at present the church was seated throughout with high-backed pews, and these not only obstructed the light but were not regarded to comfort. It was proposed to remove the whole of these and replace them with modern seats. It was also proposed to install the electric light and carry out other works at a cost of £3,000, of which £1,000 was in hand. The congregations now were not so good as they might be and if the proposed alterations were sanctioned the attendance would no doubt be better. The church was built about seventy or eighty years ago.

Morning Post, 29 June 1901, p. 5

Antiquated but Comfortable. There is still a church in London with the old-fashioned high-box pews in which our forefathers were accustomed, on occasion, to snatch forty winks during sermon time free from observation. At Holy Trinity, Islington, it is proposed to abandon these comfortable retreats in favour the new type. Some worshippers no doubt will mourn the change.

St James’s Gazette, 3 July 1901, p. 16

that out of the share of the City Parochial Charities Fund which is available for the diocese of London a grant of £500 be made towards the repair of the Church of Holy Trinity ... on receipt of a certificate ... that the works of repair at a cost of not less than £2000 have been executed [by hand in margin:] out of estimated cost £100 is for the organ

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, EC Comms, Minute of the Estates Committee, 11 July 1901

Holy Trinity Church, Islington. In response to a petition made by the vicar and church-wardens of Holy Trinity Parish Church, in Cloudesley-square, to the Consistory Court of London Dr. Tristram, K.C., Chancellor of the Diocese, has agreed to issue a faculty for effecting some

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

extensive improvements and alterations of the interior of the church. It is proposed to remove the high-backed pews ; to take down the north and south galleries, enlarge the west gallery, and substitute open pews throughout ; to raise (by 7 in.) the east end with the choir and chancel, so as to make one step for the Communion-table; to install electric light, with certain other minor changes, at an estimated cost of 3,000/., towards which sum 1,000/. is already provided. The church was built in 1826-7, after Sir Charles Barry's designs, of brick with stone dressings and tracery in the rather Late Gothic style that was prevalent at the time.

'General Building News', *The Builder*, 20 July 1901, pp. 62-3

Expenditure:

Improvements: £2 10 6

Repairs £4 11 6

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1902

Holy Trinity Barnsbury

Vicar Rev T Lancaster

Population 15,000

Needs Repairs to stonework, roof, painting, pipes, [illeg word], gutters
[DSC02311]

Character Poor and friendless

Part recommended £500

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Application for additional grant from Fulham Palace to 3 July 1902

- 1) Proposed grant ... towards the repair of the fabric of church
- 2) Extension of time for complying condition of previous grant

£500 towards the cost of repairing the fabric of the church of Holy Trinity ... extended to Jul 1902

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, EC Minute of Estates Committee, 10 July 1902

on the recommendation of the Bishop of London they have voted a further grant of £500 out of the City Parochial Fund towards the cost of repairs to the fabric of the church

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, EC Minute of Estates Committee, 15 July 1902

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thank you ... [for the grant of £500] towards the required £3000 we had collected a little more than £2000 (including the £500 granted by the EC in July 1901), and was feeling the difficulty of raising the remaining £1000 as the parish is so poor. This further grant is therefore urgent and it is not easy to find words to express our heartfelt gratitude

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Holy Trinity Vicarage 45 Thornhill Road, 16 July 1902

I hereby certify that the sum of £2,000 has been expended in materials & labor performed in restoring the fabric of the above Church.

R. Philip Day, ARIBA, 8 Bloomsbury Square

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Certificate signed by Philip Day to the ECE, 21 July 1902

I have forwarded to the Bishop W. Philip Day's certificate as to the Restoration work of Holy Trinity Church.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Holy Trinity Vicarage, 45 Thornhill Road, 1 August 1902

From Chapel Street by Liverpool Street to Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square. Again a large church fully appointed, and just a few people scattered about among the seats. In Upper Street I entered Unity Church, a large and handsome building belonging to the Unitarians, with hardly any people in it. Also in Upper Street is St. Mary's, a fine old-fashioned building, well arranged for a large congregation, but again a mere handful of people.

Charles Booth, *The Life and Labour of the People in London*, third series: Religious Influences; 1, London North of the Thames: the outer ring, 1902, p. 246

Improvements to organ:	£92
Repairs:	£4 2 6
Improvements:	£13 18 3
Donation to restoration fund:	£50
Offertories for rest. fund	£34 4 8

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1903

Holy Trinity Church Restoration Account balance sheet

Receipts:

The EC £1000

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The Kingston Trust	£100
Bishop of London's Fund	£30
Churchwardens' Fund	£50
The Church Repair Fund	£66 13 9
Subscriptions	£1644 12 6
[and other sources]	<u>£185 10 6</u>
	£3185 10 6

Expenditure:

Messrs Hawtree and Son [the stonemasons?]	£2721 11
Messrs A E Pettet & Co	10 10 6
Mr H W Lee	10
Mr W Straker	2 17 1
Mr H H Tasker [architect and sometime local district surveyor, 43 Penton St]	105
Messrs Hanbury, Whitting & Co [solicitors]	5 5
Messrs Drake & Gorham [electrics]	144 12 11
Messrs H Bishop	4 5 6
Mr R P Day ('Architect' added by hand)	149 11 9
Mr J Piggot	3 5
Materials for working party	3 14 7

these accounts were audited ... 28 July 1904 shewing a balance in favour of the Fund of £24 16s 6d

Holy Trinity Account Balance, 1904, CERC, BARNES 14 3/1/3 and also LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1904

The Churchwardens presented their accounts which showed a deficiency of £158 9 10.

A discussion followed respecting the heavy expense of drainage in the churchyard which was explained by Mr Randall that the inspector examined the drains condemned them all round the Churchyard, other expenses had occurred in connection with the hot water pipes, and a deficit on Major Memorial Window, causing the deficiency.

The following is an Abstract of the Church a/c expenditure

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Mr Major's Memorial Window	£73
Architect's fee	£2 2
Ct. Subscription	£65
[the payment for the work?]	

Lawn mower	£1 18 6
Garden roller	£2 9 6
Garden tools	11 6
Repairs to windows	[£??] 18
Sexton's gown	£1 4 9
Repairing & writing notice boards	£7 17
New notice boards	£2 2
Varnishing Church Doors	£1 7
Sanctuary drains round Church as plans	£91 17
Hot water pipes & repairs	£25 5 3
Lead water pipes from main East to West door	£4 10
Gas pipes fittings & repairs	£4 9 4
LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1905	

Mr Stiff presented the churchwardens' a/c for the past year. The account showed receipts amounting to £253 12 7 & a total expenditure of £424 11 5, thus leaving a deficit of £170 18 10.

The vicar stated that upwards of £150 of this deficit presented the amount of **the alarming overdraft reported at the meeting last year (1905), due mainly to the new drainage which had to be undertaken**. This year something had to be done to retrieve the position and he thought there would have been no increase in the deficit had it not been for the fact that repairs had been necessary owing to the recent failure of the electric light. The firm who had carried out the repairs – Messrs Drake & Gorham – had acted very generously in the matter of sending in an account representing much less than the cost of the work.

Mr Marden said a good deal of new tubing & wires had to be put in, & also run up the side of the church. He thought the work had been well done.

Some discussion followed [letter of thanks to be sent to electricians] ...

referring to the deficit of £68 [for printing?], the Vicar said that, notwithstanding the increased congregations, the offertories for the past year were £50 less than in the previous year. ... he

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

alluded to our great need of a really good Mission Hall, and said that the Bishop of Islington had kindly promised to help in any effort put forth, so that he hoped some time in the future a site might be secured and the matter taken in hand.

as was known to the congregation, there had been in the past no endowment for the living, but last year the EC had granted an endowment of £100 per year. He thought it would also be a matter of interest to those present and the congregation generally to learn that a Vicarage had recently been purchased out of funds held for that purpose by the EC.

Churchwarden's Account: Easter 1905 – Easter 1906

Expenditure:

Repairing Electric Light	£17
Repairs	£10 17 6
Burglary insurance [first time]	£1

[still receiving £250 from the Cloudesley Trustees]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1906, 17 April

Vicar	Rev T Lancaster
Population	nearly 12,000
Character	Working-men and poor
Need	Sudden demand for new drains
Estimate	£91 17 4

Circumstances These repairs had to be done at once: The inspector would not wait until the Commissioners should meet in October so the Churchwardens had to borrow ...

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Memo from Fulham Palace, October 1906

P83/TRI/092, Plan of drainage system of church (LMA: 'pre-1913'), [c.1906? see undated unsigned plan on file]

Proposed grant out of CPF towards redrainage of Church: £70

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE Minute of Estate Committee, 25 October 1906

On Monday evening the harvest festival was continued, the preacher being the Rev. R. Percy Long, B.A., curate of Holy Trinity, Islington, and son of the late Mr. Churchwarden Long, of Hoxton. A large congregation was present to welcome Mr. Long and to show appreciation of

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one who had been brought up in their midst, and who until recently was teacher in St. John's Sunday School and an open air speaker. The collections on Sunday and Monday, supplemented by gift, amounted to over £31, and will be applied to augment the Additional Curate Fund of St. John's.

Hackney and Kingsland Gazette, 19 October 1906, p. 4

Churchwardens' Account ... showed a deficit of £79 10 7. Mr Marden pointed out that the amount owing to the Bank a year ago was £170 18 10. The adverse balance had thus been reduced by £91 8 3. This reduction had been brought about by a grant from the EC on account of the drainage work carried out a year or two ago and by a decreased expenditure. [other expenditure including printing also reduced]

Several speakers expressed the regret felt by all that Mr Stiff, owing to his removal from London, was no longer able to stand as People's Warden ...

Thanks expressed to the auditors, Messrs Howard and Beesley.

expenditure:

Repairs: £7 13 8

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1907, 2 April

With the exception of St Luke's, Chelsea, St Philip's, Stepney, and three churches erected in Islington* during the vicariate of the Rev. Daniel Wilson, afterwards Bishop of Calcutta, the London churches built in Gothic under the auspices of the Commissioners were, taken as a whole, very sorry affairs indeed.

* St Paul's, Balls Pond, Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, and St John's, Upper Holloway, all very similar in design and plan, Perpendicular in style and, despite their faults and strange commissioners' ritualisms, wonderfully advanced works for their period. Ten years later Sir Charles Barry built another church in East Islington – St Peter's – in "Early English," but it shows a decided regression both in style and arrangements from his three Perpendicular churches in the same parish.

T. Francis Bumpus, *London Churches: Ancient and Modern*, London, 1881, later edn, c.1908, pp. 123-4

Churchwardens' Accounts and Mission Schools Accounts:

[the heavy debts of both have been brought down to just under £40]

A discussion took place on the work of the Mission Hall, and some speakers said they thought there was a tendency for the Church and Mission Hall to be regarded as separate works. There

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was some division between the two and the Hall was not, in the degree it should be, a nursery of the Church. It was generally agreed that everything possible should be done to unite all the work done in the Parish. [the Vicar] hoped that, in the near future, a star would be made in the erection of a new Mission Hall.

expenditure:

Repairs: £10 4 6

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1908, Tuesday 21 April

LONDON DIOCESAN CHURCH LADS' BRIGADE Holy Trinity (Islington) Company. A sale in aid of the funds of the above company will be held at the Mission-hall, Richmond-road, N., on Thursday, September 10th, at six p.m. Subscriptions or parcels of articles for the sale will be gratefully received Captain B. Pain, 13, Barnsbury-terrace, who will be glad to collect the same at donor's convenience on receipt of postcard.

Islington Gazette, 27 August 1908, p. 2

proposed grant out of St Philip Regent Street Fund towards provision of Parish Hall for Holy Trinity: £500

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE Minute of Estate Committee, 12 November 1908

Mr Alfred Fowell Buxton LCC, on Saturday afternoon laid the foundations of a new parish hall for Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, Islington, towards the cost of which £2,500 has already been given or promised and £1,850 is still required.

'Ecclesiastical Intelligence', *The Times*, 18 January 1909, p. 5

J. S. Alder, Arct., 1 Arundel Street Strand.

Accommodation:	Main Hall, 370; and class room, 60	430
	3 class rooms, 80 each; 1 class room, 30	<u>270</u>
		700

The hall is to be used for Mission Services, Sunday School purposes, Meetings and Classes, as well as social work. As the Parochial Schools and present Hall – which is quite inadequate for the needs of the parish – are shortly coming to an end, and this will be the only building apart from the Church in this poor and populous parish of some 14,000 available for religious purposes, the absolute necessity of the work will be readily seen. Towards the total cost (including purchase of

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site, erection and furnishing of building), £2,500 has already been received or promised and £1,850 is still required.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Proposed New Hall for the Parish of Holy Trinity, Islington, n.d. printed page stamped by ECE 25 February 1909

I certify that two thirds of the Contract work in the erection of Holy Trinity Church Hall, Islington N has been executed to my satisfaction by the Builders Dove Bros. J. S. Alder, Architect

LMA, DL/A/K/09/10/087, Correspondence, 6 May 1909, in Parish Case Files, 1894-1908

J. S. Alder, Architect, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand

I certify that Holy Trinity Church Hall Islington has been erected & completed in accordance with the Drawings & specifications prepared by me to me satisfaction by Messrs Dove Bros of Studd Street Islington.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Certificate, 26 July 1909

Correspondence between Dove Brothers and J. S. Alder relating to Holy Trinity Church Hall, Islington, London 28-29 December 1910

Dove Brothers Papers, 2 pages, manuscript & typescript [not seen]

RIBA Archive, DB/Add/1/4

Mr Lancaster pointed out that the coming year would be one of peculiar responsibility as the benefice would probably be vacant for a time. ... Mr Howard said he thought all parochial accounts should be audited before the Rev Lancaster left the parish [Beesley is now a sidesman] ... the Rev A. J. Brown had consented to remain until a new appointment should be made, and the Rev R. P. London would go with him (the vicar) to Weymouth).

expenditure:

Repairs: £14 3 2

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1910, 29 March

a short discussion followed in reference to the new heating apparatus to be installed in the Church. It was agreed that a Committee be formed to act in this matter

[Stephen Rees-Jones is now vicar]

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expenditure:

Repairs: £4 19 0

Repairs to harmonium: £1 5

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1911, 18 April

Vicar Rev Stephen C. Rees-Jones

Population Nearly 12,000

Character Clerks, artisans, & poor

Need Renewal of heating-apparatus

Estimate £200

Circumstances They have raised about £80 which is as much as they can do

Grant recommended £120

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Memo on Church Repairs from The Chapter House, St Paul's Cathedral, received by ECE 1 Jun 1911

Work executed New installation of heating apparatus

cost of same £193

Contractors E. Beesley, water engineers &c of 376 Caledonian Road N

date of letter

promising grant June 1911 promising £130 on condition that £200 was spent

Archdeacon: "The above work has now been completed and the new system is giving great satisfaction".

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE Church Repairs, stamped by ECE 21 February 1912

Mr Marden ... drew attention to the alteration in form of the accounts. it was felt desirable to separate the various accounts such as the Poor Relief Account, Parish Hall Account and Sunday School Account in order that the expenditure under each head could be accurately gauged.

Mr Pain raised the question of the Verger's [first time term used] salary.

During the year it was found necessary to incur heavy expenditure in thoroughly overhauling the heating system of the Church. The work had been satisfactorily completed & thanks to the liberality of the EC in making a substantial grant towards the cost, the sum required had been nearly raised.

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Heating Apparatus account:

Heating Contract: £173 10
Furnace Rooms work £6 5

Churchwardens' account:

Repairs: £3 9 3

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1912, 9 April

Vicar Rev Rees-Jones

Population 15,000, mostly poor, and the poverty of the neighbourhood is increasing year by year

necessary repairs roof to be made water-tight, all ironwork and woodwork and exterior to be painted, including the railings. Brick-work to be repointed and perished stonework to be replaced.

The whole of the interior to be washed down & cleaned, defective plastering to be repaired, the whole colour-washed and blank spaces to be broken up with simple stencilled designs.

New choir vestry. At present the choir [illeg short word] behind a curtain in **the organ chamber**, where there is not room to move & from which every whisper or movement is heard in the church.

estimate cost of above **£733 0 0**

nothing on the scale of the above has been attempted for – probably – 30 or 40 years, and it is now necessary to face the serious condition of the building plainly. it is the only place of worship (except a Jewish synagogue) in the parish, and it is not a credit to the church. £10,000 has been raised & spent on the parish in the last decade on parish building and the time has now come when the character of the parish has so changed that they cannot themselves raise all that is necessary.

I recommend a grant of £500

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE Church Repairs, stamped by ECE 13 June 1912

Before sending a donation to the enclosed may I say that the late Vicar raised a considerable sum & a grant from the Commissioners only a short time ago – and on the parish [board] was a notice “completed & restored” giving a recent date with pictures of the church. I know how careful the Commission is - & I don't see how it should be necessary to have a Fund now if the Church was thoroughly restored within the last 10 years or 12 years!

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[internal note added to this by ECE:] The works were not surveyed by the Commrs' architects & consequently I have no first hand information on the subject, I assume however that as the roof and exterior stonework were thoroughly repaired in 1902 the work now contemplated on these items represented only a small fraction of the cost now to be incurred [and points out it wasn't a commissioners' grant but from other special funds – and in a formal reply to Haigh, stresses also that the new works include the Vestry]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter to the ECE from Canon William Haigh, stamped by ECE 7 December 1912

Grants voted out of the City of London Parochial Charities Fund:

Islington Holy Trinity: £500 Church repairs

Sixty-fifth report from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, London: HMSO, 1912-13, p. 81

The accounts were very favourable, taking everything into consideration, especially having regard to the expenses incurred by the lighting of the church. [falling out of Pain, a warden, with the vicar over where offertories should be taken]

The vicar reported that the renovation fund was progressing slowly. the work would be commenced shortly. plans for the new choir vestry were also produced.

Churchwardens' Accounts

Light improvements: £20 8 9

General repairs: £3 3 6

Tuning and repairing organ £10

Grant to heating apparatus fund: £24 7 6

[£250 from Cloudesley Trustees]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1913, 25 March

Plan and elevation of proposed choir vestry, J. Douglass Mathews & Son, FFRIBA, Architects, Dowgate Hill [on file]

LMA, P83/TRI/095, Proposed Choir Vestry, Holy Trinity, May 1913

A resolution was proposed by Mr Wilson that a new choir vestry be erected at the north east corner of the church as shown on the plan. This was second by Mr Scott and carried.

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It was proposed by Mr Sapsford that a new organ screen more in keeping with the present furniture of the church be erected in place of the present one and arranged in position shown on the plan. this was seconded and carried.

It was proposed by Mr Pain and seconded by Mr Page that a prayer desk be placed on the north side of the choir. carried.

That the communion table be raised on one step to improve the acoustics was proposed and carried.

That the interior of the church be cleaned and decorated (colour scheme only) was proposed and carried.

The vicar promised to forward these resolutions to the Archdeacon in order that a faculty could be obtained to allow the work to proceed.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Special Vestry Meeting held at the Parish Hall, 14 May 1913

Faculty to erect new choir vestry, to replace organ screen, to put a prayer desk on north side of choir, to raise communion table one step and to clean and decorate interior of church [on the front of the packet, which contains no drawings, is written 'transfer of organ screen' rather than removal]

LMA, P83/TRI/096, Faculty papers, 1913

Photograph on front cover: After restoration – 1913

p. 2 Holy Trinity parish, population in 1911 13,000

map of the parish indicating new parish hall and vicarage at 45 Thornhill Road

p. 3 address from vicar dated 13 October 1913

p. 4 gifts to the church [inc]:

Plan of church in 1841 presented by Mr Turk

electric light fittings &c (New choir vestry) presented by Mr E. Beesley

p. 6 Holy Trinity Church Wardens' Account, Easter 1912 to Easter 1913 [inc]:

Light improvements	20 8 9
General repairs	3 3 6
Grant to Heating apparatus fund	24 10 1

signed Edward Beesley; T. Woolett, auditors

p. 7 [before and after photos (1902 and 1912/13)]

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Holy Trinity Cloudesley Square, Annual Report, 1912-13 (stamped by ECE 28 Jan 1914)

[asking for extension of the 12 months window for the works on which £500 was granted] owing to bad weather the Builders found it impossible to commence the work as soon as hoped ... our present position is this. The renovation of the exterior of the church has been completed the interior work is well in hand and the contractors are due to leave early in July. The new Choir Vestry has been begun & will be completed towards the end of July. [window extended to December 1913 in subsequent ECE minute of estate committee dated 19 June 1913]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Vicar at Holy Trinity Vicarage to ECE, 17 June 1913

The works ... have been completed to our satisfaction. The general repairs and the New Choir Vestry were carried out by Messrs Dove Bros Builders, Cloudesley Place (£300), and the interior decoration and repairs were undertaken by Messrs Campbell Smith & Co., Decorators, 25 Newman Street, W (£200).

You will be pleased to know that while the work of repair was being carried out we had abundant evidence that it was both urgent and necessary.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Vicar at Holy Trinity Vicarage to ECE, 25 September 1913

Accounts were presented by Mr Marsden. in doing so he said that he was glad that the church renovation, long badly needed, had at last been carried out and without any accident. [Mr M then steps down] ... The vicar made a statement as the condition of the Church Renovation Fund. the amount still required was £397. He hoped that it might be possible for a further grant to be made by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners & had had every confidence that the debt would be cleared off in eighteen months. £100 of the balance on the churchwardens' fund should be applied to this Fund.

The vicar brought to the notice of the vestry the Diocese Finance Scheme. It was a most equitable way of raising funds needed by the whole diocese. The parish was assessed at £33 which was £9 more than we had given during the previous year to funds now included in this scheme. It was proposed to give £3 from the Freewill Offerings and he trusted the parish would be able to raise the whole amount.

Churchwardens' Account

Repairs and lighting improvements:	£26 16 5
New mats and repairs	£2 13
extension ladder	£3 8 1

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1914

City Parochial Fund: Grant of £250 for Restoration of the Church

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE, Minute of the Estates Committee, 2 July 1914

Incumbent	S. C. Rees-Jones
Character of parish	mainly poor & respectable; one part very poor & indifferent; an average of 4 families [to each?] house & overcrowding on the increase.
proposed works	extension of Renovation scheme of 1912. New stone to replace large section of clerestory windows. the decoration of chancel carried out in paint in place of distemper – a larger choir vestry than originally proposed. The work has been completed.
balance to raise	£399
other sources of help	no other source of help but self-help and persistent appeals to outside friends [i.e. in addition to church fund grants]
Architects' report?	Messrs Douglass Matthews & son certified payment in a letter dated 26 September 1913
cost	£1120 actual cost
amount raised	£721
special circs	nearly £10,000 has been raised in 12 years to carry out building & repairing schemes in the parish. The people have never had a rest & are feeling the strain, the Commissioners are actual landlords in the parish & sympathy for the tenants means sympathy for us.
recommendation	Mr Rees-Jones has worked by hard to collect the £721 subscribed and £400 would be a real help.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE, Application to the City Parochial Charities Fund, 17 April 1914

Holy Trinity Cloudesley Square. Renovation Scheme 1912; supplementary repairs 1913

Supplementary repairs

When the original scheme was put in hand, & when it became possible to examine the fabric in detail, it was discovered that parts of the fabric were in a much worse condition than had been anticipated, & owing to the accumulation of dust could not be seen except at close quarters. As an instance, the stonework of the clerestory windows was found to be badly split & in some

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

instances large pieces of stone were so loose that they threatened to fall into the nave of the church. These pieces might have been cemented back again into their places but it seemed easier & better (although more costly) to insert new stone sills &c.

Chancel Decoration

It was originally intended to decorate the chancel with Distemper purely on the ground of economy. It was shortsighted & further consideration of the matter led us to carry out the scheme of decoration with oil paint rather than distemper. The result has shown that our second thoughts were right.

Choir Vestry

i. upon opening up the ground no plan for the footings of the vestry could be found. Fifteen feet down the ground was waterlogged. The Architect insisted upon carrying the Vestry on steel cantilevers let into the walls of the church & resting upon solid concrete piers.

ii. The vestry will now last as long as the church.

iii. The making of two doorways from the vestry into the church interfere with the heating system & the organ blowing & demanded certain alterations.

As guardians of the church we have had no cause to [neglect?] the extra outlay. The necessities of the work demanded it. parochially we are raising £10 per month to meet the deficit & this means a great effort for the people. We should be deeply grateful if the commissioners could make a second grant to meet the extra outlay.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE, undated itemised repairs made by Rees-Jones, stamped by ECE
3 July 1914

... called in order that the application might be made for a faculty carry out certain alterations at the Church.

- 1) That the present organ be dismantled and a new three-manual organ be erected in the same place on the north side of the choir. But with detached console on the south side of the choir.
- 2) To set back the present choir stalls a distance of 15 inches on either side to wider the approach to the chancel
- 3) To remove the seats on south of choir so that the console of organ may be placed in position
- 4) To dismantle the present cast iron communion rails and replace with a brass rail.

The vicar agreed to forward the Resolution to the chancellor immediately so that the work might be put in hand as soon as possible.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Special Vestry at the Parish Hall 11 March 1915 at 8.30pm

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The vicar pointed out that the debt on the church renovation fund had been cleared off in twelve months. the happy conclusion being considerably advanced by a second grant from the EC. ...

Pew rents had been abolished at the end of 1914. These had been steadily decreasing for many years till they had almost reached vanishing point. he had been negotiating with the ecclesiastical commissioners for three years, and had eventually received a small grant conditional on abandoning the Pew Rents. He hoped that although the church was now Free, yet the congregation would continue to use the seats which they were accustomed, for he liked to see people sitting in the same places Sunday by Sunday

In spite of difficult times it has been decided to install a new organ in the church. The old organ had been doing continuing service in one church or another for some 150 years. It had suffered at least two removals and the whole action was worn out, and much of the [something] work showed signs of stress.

A grant of £40 from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust towards the new organ would elapse unless the work were well hand within the next few months. A handsome promise of £50 had been made by a friend and with more than half the cost already covered the contract for the new organ had been signed.

The beautiful brass communion rails were the gift of St Barnabas Church Kensington after being the Church some twelve months they had been erected and added considerably to the beauty of the East End of the church. ... the vicar referred to the closing of the Cloudesley School which had taken place at Christmas 1914 [more here on school; but no accounts included].

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Vestry 1915

praying for a faculty to issue authorizing you to remove the present Organ from the North side of the Choir in the Church of the said Parish and to erect a new Three Manual Organ in the same place but with detached console on the south side of the Choir – to set back the present Choir Stalls a distance of fifteen inches on either side of the Choir to widen the approach to the Chancel – to remove two Seats on the south side of the Choir so that the Console of the Organ may be placed in position – to dismantle the present iron communion rails and replace them with a brass rail according to the plan filed in the registry and alleging that the vestry of the said Parish have approved of the same – [petition granted] 12 April 1915

LMA, P83/TRI/097, Faculty re New Organ, Communion Rails, Setting Back Choir Stalls, 12 April 1915

Parish

Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Incumbent	Rees-Jones
character of parish	entirely residential, no works, no factories, large number of general labourers, lodging house keepers, artisans and clerks. the parish has in it 7 county council schools, & a military depot.
proposed works	a. recasting & rehanging bell. mechanical ringing (not commenced) b. installing new altar rails – completed c. re-adjusting choir stalls – completed d. reorganisation of electric lighting – not commenced e. repairs to boiler & heating system – not commenced
architects' report?	c. Report re Bell from Messrs John Warner & Son, Spitalfields. “Bell dangerous, must be re-cast & re-hung. mechanical ringing recommended owing to awkward position of bell” d. Report re lighting system from Messrs Jacob White, Islington. owing to considerable alteration & addition the plant is overloaded and the wiring confused.
estimate	£320 [£200 granted]
special circs	we have had no church bell for over 2 months. this & other repairs to the Boiler &c are urgent before the winter sets in.
CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, City parochial Fund application for grant, 22 September 1915	

Proposed Alterations

Re-casting Church Bell

The present bell was placed in the NW Turret of the Church in 1830 and must have been fixed before the turret was completed. It is impossible to dismantle the bell without either taking the roof off the turret or breaking up the bell. the latter alternative is the only one that we can consider. The bell is unsafe, being merely held up by a small pin. We are compelled to dismantle the bell immediately in order to prevent any possibility of damage to the fabric of the Church by its sudden collapse. The bell weighs 8cwt.

There is no proper bell tower, and in the suggested new position it can only be rung by climbing up to the roof of the church. Under the circumstances the services of a bell ringer would place a heavier permanent tax upon our current expenses than is represented by the capital needed to install mechanical ringing. After the initial cost (£100) the running expenses are practically nil, requiring less current than an 8c.p. lamp.

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Messrs Jacob White & Co, electrical engineers £200

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Rees-Jones to EC, 3 July 1916

To-day we are storing 30 Tons of Coal for our poorer people. They pay as they can and their coal is sure [photo of delivery drays outside church on Cloudesley window front – but coal could be stored in parish room rather than the crypt]

Many months ago the Crypt was thrown open to provide shelter in case of Air Raids. Recently 1,700 people have taken shelter and have allayed their anxiety in the safety of the Church. [This is accompanied by a photograph which appears to show men digging a hole to create an external access point from the church garden on the SW side, to make ‘way for the aged and infirm’.

Our men play the game. “Women and Children first.” We are taking steps to provide “cover” for 2,000 or more.

During the recent Air Raids, 200 tiny babies slept on the floor of the Crypt night after night. Strong men groaned at the pathos of it.

LMA, DL/A/K/09/10/087, undated WWI pamphlet, ‘*Doing Our Bit!*’, n.p., in Parish Case Files, 1894-1908

‘Found in Crypt. W. R. William’ [written on first page].

Holy Trinity Church Cloudesley Square Civilian Night Patrol Voluntary.

Duties of the Patrol.

The 3rd patrol must see that all lights are switched off, the Crypt door & church gate locked, Guide lamps extinguished & keys left at 9 Cloudesley Sq (Patrol Leader Randall) Drop the keys through the letter box.

Patrol Leader, Randall. 9 Cloudesley Sq

Deputy Patrol Leader. F. Turner. 21 Cloudesley Sq

Wednesday Oct 31 1917

11.15 Raid commences.

1900 people in Crypt. All patrol marshals on duty.

2.45 All clear given

Sunday Nov 4

A. Randall Patrol leader

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Report 9.40 call up for [illeg word] 30 men outside all wanted to come down stopped them reported to them there duties from outside. The outlook did not look very pleasant. Please put on the notice board meeting once a week Saturday night 8pm.

Wednesday Nov 14

Shooting stars Plenty of Meat carts running. p.s. Very hot. sun. woke up by the Neighbouring Cats.

[in another hand] It was a dark & stormy night no I don't mean stormy the moon was shining beautifully on the Old Crypt door.

Tuesday Nov 27

1.30 Two PC Sargents visited crypt were shown rounds with thanks.

Thursday Nov 29

Lamp went wrong by the stairs. Change lamp with one over boiler.

Sunday Dec 2

Patrol leader A Randall. *Please do not touch the furnace.* By order of the Vicar.

Saturday Dec 8

This Book is not to be interfered with. Patrol Leader A. Randall.

Patrol Report Book, 1914-1918, LMA P83/TRI/156

It is proposed to transfer the War Shrine, early in the New Year, from its present War-time and temporary position in Thornhill Gardens to Holy Trinity

The vicar gave the following report concerning various funds.

The New Organ Fund: £125 had been collected during the year & this left a balance of £33 to raise.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Vestry 1918, 2 April

The following resolution were passed in reference to a Petition for Faculty to erect a War Memorial in church to the men from the church & parish who had fallen in the Great War. The scheme suggested was to include a new East Window Chancel Screen, Memorial Chapel & a colonnade of marble bearing the names of the men. This scheme was found to be impracticable owing to the general indifference of the people & a modified scheme was drawn up, the items of which are covered by the following Resolution.

- 1) that a War Memorial Window be placed in the South wall of the Church at the eastern end. Carried

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- 2) That a second memorial window be placed in the next light. This window ... in memory of the members of the Barnsbury Club who fell in the Great War. Carried
- 3) That the present stained glass window to the memory of Lawrence Major, be transferred to the third light on the south wall in order that the memorial windows may form a complete scheme. carried.
- 4) That the six pews at present in the south east corner of the church be removed and the space thus formed be furnished to utilize as a morning chapel.
- 5) That the tablets situated on the SE wall and three on the south wall between the suggested memorial windows be transferred to another part of the church. the tablets having no [illeg word] rights to their present position, as they were placed in their present position during the Restoration of the church in 1902. carried.
- 6) That a colonnade of marble panels be placed on the south wall between the war memorial windows to carry the names of men from the parish who have fallen in the Great War. Carried.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Vestry 1919

Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square, where it will be erected in permanent remembrance of the debt of gratitude we owe to the Lads of Barnsbury who so nobly did their duty in the Great War.

LMA, P83/TRI/099, File relating to procession which transferred War Shrine from Thornhill Gardens to Holy Trinity Church, October 1919–February 1920

Torchlights in Barnsbury. War Shrine carried Shoulder High. ... Last night's ceremonial marked the removal of the tribute from Thornhill Gardens to its final resting place in Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley Square. ... Music was supplied, in addition to the ladies' band, by the Newport Market Training School, and the Leysian Mission, City Road. At dusk the procession left Cloudesley Square. Some hundreds of lighted torches were carried, likewise a large number of illuminated lanterns, making the scene of routes a very picturesque and imposing one. [the route is given]

2 Feb 1920, unreferenced press clipping in ILHC, Y J852 TRI (2), clippings

... desirable to execute certain works or make certain alterations ... meeting in Vestry convened on 22 April 1919 ... resolved that the works or alterations shewn in the designs annexed hereto [not]:

to erect in the space so vacated by the Lawrence Major window a memorial those of this parish and congregation who have given their lives in the Great War ... to remove the plain glass from the window on the south wall of the church and numbered 2 on the design and to replace the same with stained glass a memorial to the boys of the Barnsbury Club who have given their lives

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in the Great War ... to remove two stone tablets on the south east wall and one stone and one brass tablet on the south wall between the suggested war memorial windows which tablets it is proposed to position as shewn in design marked B filed in the Registry – to remove three rows of pews at present in the south east corner of the church and to utilize the space thus formed as a chapel which will be furnished with a Holy Table which shall be movable and made of wood and shall stand (if desired upon a platform projecting at least eighteen inches beyond the said Holy Table at the north and south ends thereof) also to fix a re-table on ledge at the back such Holy Table upon which re-table a cross and two candlesticks will be placed. – To furnish such chapel with a prayer desk and credence table – that the estimated cost of these works or alterations will be about £368 of which about £260 is already in hand or promised ... that the proposed works or alterations will decrease the amount of accommodation by about 16 sittings – There are 1,200 sittings in the church of which 400 are never used and never likely to be used

LMA, P83/TRI/100/1-2, Holy Trinity Cloudesley Square, Faculty re removal of tablets, removal of pews, furnishing of Morning Chapel, War Memorial Windows, War Memorial Tablets, 15 January 1920

LMA, DL/A/C/02/066/019, Holy Trinity faculty papers, War memorial windows, 1920

P83/TRI/102, Plan of church showing proposed alterations to heating system, c.1920 [LMA estimate: undated, unsigned plan on file]

the following grant of £200 from the St Mary Woolnoth Fund towards the renewal of the heating apparatus

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, ECE, Report of the Estates Committee, 29 January 1920 (adopted 5 February 1920)

Yesterday we starved [sic] in Church and a few weeks of the same treatment will empty the Church quicker than an epidemic. The heating system has hopelessly collapsed, after many patchings and considerable expense. The present condition calls for immediate and drastic action. My inspection a few weeks ago revealed that the Boiler was useless as sufficient water was pouring into the firebox to prevent any fire being obtained in it at all. Three sections of the boiler have cracked and cannot be mended. Further the main pipes in the Church running in a trench along the middle aisle leak to such an extent that the water flows out of the system quicker than it can be fed into the boiler. We have spent a little fortune on the leaks in this trench. My examination of the Crypt showed considerable damage to the walls and foundations owing to the percolation of water and a dozen coffins were waterlogged. In the case of two

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which I moved, the bottom fell out and most of the others must be in a like condition. Now the system lies derelict.

I have called in Messrs Benham & Sons of Wigmore Street to report and their estimate for putting the heating into efficient condition is £520 for the bare work and not including any making good of parts of the fabric disturbed by their work. To us this cost is prohibitive, and even to put 50% of the work [is impossible] ...

I would point out that the Church is large, having a seating capacity of well over 1000 and is more than 50 feet high from floor to roof. There is a wide expanse of large windows and the whole conditions call for a large area of heating surface and a large Boiler to cope with it.

A condition that starves the living and rots the dead is not one that is conducive to carrying on the live work which is the normal practice of this parish.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Stephen Rees-Jones to the EC, 9 February 1920

It is at any rate up to me to keep the church alive and active and aggressive in its energies for the moral uplift of the men, women and children who swarm here at the rate of four families to the house. ... this crowded corner of London

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, 'If the Salt have lost its Savour!', Pamphlet from Rees-Jones, stamped 10 February 1920

the alterations to the heating apparatus have now been completed as far as was specified in the first part of the contract with Benham and Sons. Owing to the impossibility of procuring sections for the new Boiler, it is only partly assembled and must be completed later.

I am glad to say that the service we are getting for the new system is better than any we have had for ten years and more.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Rees-Jones to the EC, 25 March 1920

Dedication of the War Memorial Window and Tablet of Remembrance by the Lord Bishop of Stepney on Sunday December 5 1920

LMA, P83/TRI/098/7, pamphlet in file containing notices relating to War Memorial Fund and drawings of War Memorial windows [the file also contains the designs for the South Aisle windows, by H. W. Lonsdale, 1919], 5 December 1920

The vicar gave details as to the cost and fund for the heating of the church, caused by the breakdown of the Old Heating System, & stated that the EC has made a grant of £200 towards this expenditure, but still another £20 would be required to complete the work in hand and in

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giving particulars of the system adopted and being put in stated that in his opinion this should last be in sound working order for at least another 15 years.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Vestry 1920, 6 April

Easter Vestry 1921

Mr Godwin ... enquired why the charge in connection with the reinstallation of the Heating System was not shown. Mr Bublens enquired as to what Capital Charge there were outstanding which were not shown. the chairman in reply generally stated the a/cs with regard to the war memorial and the heating system both capital charges being closed were not shewn and after giving details as to necessary expenditure stated that the liabilities at present stood as follows:-

Messrs Dove Bros	£200
Bank	£150
Loans	£300

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Vestry 1921

The Chairman referred to the General Statement of Accounts which shewed the total receipts and liabilities and gave details as to items of repairs [not minuted] and other charges on the church, he stated that the Archdeacon has done his utmost to obtain financial assistance for the church but had failed to do so. The Nett total debt was at present £561 10 ...

The chairman stated the amount still standing to the debit of the Chapel Fund was the sum of £149. There were many who valued this Chapel more than he could say and he suggested that a box should be placed at the entrance to it for the receipt of offerings

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1922

[auditor] suggested one thing needed further attention. The Chapel fund was apparently merged in to the church expenses fund. It would be better that the two should be kept separate

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter 1923 Vestry

There came forth designs for three Perpendicular Gothic churches in the parish of Islington* by one who was soon to prove the most influential member of his profession, in respect to his authority, not simply of the profession itself, but over the public at large. Sir Charles Barry was that one. He undoubtedly powerfully aided the Gothic movement, which had not yet put out its full strength by the erection of these churches, for he was too practical to acclimatize Grecian, and proved how much of dignity there was in the old architecture of England, even as practiced in what we should now term days of infancy and darkness.

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* St Paul's, Balls Pond, Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, and St John's, Holloway, all finished 1828 and displaying a dignity of outline deficient in the later and more correct works of other architects.

T. Francis Bumpus, *Ancient London Churches*, London, 1923, p. 26

Churchwardens' account, up to Dec 1923 [these have reappeared in the minutes]

Repairs	£7 3 6
London Diocesan Fund	£20 13 4

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Easter Vestry 1924

Character of parish	Chiefly artisan, lodging houses, average of 4 families to a house
Proposed works	New sectional Ideal Heating boiler. Addition of 1 double column radiator the work has not been put in hand yet.
Architects' report?	Report from Messrs John Grundy Heating Engineers. the old boiler is past repair
Cost	£115
Special circumstances	We were called upon a few months ago to install a one pipe heater at the parish hall at a cost of £123. We are further called upon to meet an extra annual rent of £50 on our schools. Both these hit us badly.
Recommendation	£115

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Application to the CPF, 19 November 1924

On December 5 last the Comms very kindly voted me a grant of £100 from the City Charities Fund towards the cost of improvements in the Heating System of the church.

I am glad to say that the work has been completed and is giving entire satisfaction. In fact it has been many a long year since the Church has been so nicely warmed.

I enclose the a/c from Grundy and shall be glad if you will make the grant payable direct to them.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Rees-Jones to the EC, 11 March 1925

Churchwardens' accounts:

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Repairs and lamps £7 17 8

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Vestry Meeting 1925, 20 February

Stone copings. Go over coping generally to nave and aisles, carry out minor replacements and repairs and point up all loose and open joints, also carry out similar repairs to copings to boundary walls.

Railings. Overhaul and repair the iron railings around church, put new rail heads and bars where missing and No. 11 halvings where broken away. Take down and rehang west gates with new stops and leave in order, cut away for and form gate on S. side, with lock and keys complete.

Prepare and paint 2 coats all external iron and wood where previous painted to doors, railings, notice boards, RW Pipes etc., and rewrite notice boards as at present. £225 labour and materials.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Dove Bros estimate re Holy Trinity, 5 June 1925

Character of parish

industrial – poor

Proposed works

repairs to roof & fabric of building

repairs & painting of railings

painting outside woodwork & ironwork

no part of the work is commenced. The last overhaul was in 1912.

Architects report?

Dove Bros have examined the church & reported

Cost

£225 [£200 granted]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Application to CPF, 10 June 1925

[asks for help to buy £2000 freehold of the former church hall and later board school site: DSC02370. this is where he has been running his club for working boys and girls, the Whitelaw Reid Club]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Rees-Jones to the EC, 1 October 1925

[Dove Bros works completed]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Rees-Jones to the EC, 14 December 1925

LMA, DL/A/C/02/072/015, Holy Trinity faculty papers, Memorial window – Gates, 1926

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LMA, P83/TRI/103, Faculty to place stained glass in window at east end of north wall in memory of Maria Gates, Superintendent of girls' Sunday School, 4 December 1926

The vicar emphasised the fact that the parish ought to be proud of the church. There was some criticism about the expenditure but his policy throughout had been to keep the fabric of the church, & all parochial buildings in through repair & to carry out the repairs as they were needed. He pointed out that the alternative policy to this, & one which had been favoured at some churches in the district, was a policy of design, where a small damage was allowed to go unattended until the necessity arose for a great Renovation scheme costing thousands of pounds.

The vicar suggested that in order to leave the church from being worried by the Bank from time to time, a guarantee loan fund should be started and raised to £100.

Churchwardens' account to December 1926

Repairs £4 17 5

[The Rev Mohan now installed]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Vestry Meeting 1926

New Zealand's first Archbishop Born in 1847, and, therefore, rather older than Dr. Davidson, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Julius, New Zealand's ex-Primate and first archbishop, after studying at King's College, went to Worcester College, Oxford. Ordained in the diocese of Norwich, he was appointed curate of St. Giles, Norwich, and two years later was transferred to a curacy in Somerset, subsequently becoming vicar of Shapwick, near Glastonbury. Despite his interest in the work and his devotion to it, he had always a longing for the wider field of London. Although he never asked to be sent there, he one day received an invitation to Holy Trinity, Islington, a jolly slummy place near the Angel, as he has been heard to describe it. After five years he was able to realise another ambition for overseas work and accepted an invitation to become Archdeacon of Ballarat, which was then still actively engaged in gold mining. While there he was appointed Bishop of Christ Church, New Zealand, which was then a city of 16,000 people, and now contains 120,000. On the death of the Primate, Bishop Nevill, in 1920, Dr. Julius became acting Primate and as he did not summon the General Synod for three years he retained that title until 1923 when he was made Primate and First Archbishop.

The Sphere, 22 January 1927, p. 144

I received Dove's estimate ... & you will see that he has put the figure up for scraping the pillars* to £203. this is the result of a test which he made on one of the pillars in the hope of

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finding the paint easy to remove & perhaps lessening the cost unfortunately the fact proved that the opposite was the case & consequently the estimate is increased.

* The pillars are very fine & must be preserved [ECE]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, letter from Holy Trinity Vicarage, 26 September 1927

Incumbent	T. G. Mohan
Character	Grade IV of Diocesan system of grading
Proposed works	Renovation of Interiors of Church (not commenced)
Architect's report?	No
Estimate	£500 plus £203 for scraping the beautiful pillars of Sir Chas. Barry (which you recommended me <u>not</u> to have repainted). Total £703
Special circs	A debt of about £350 which has been running for about 7 years left by the last incumbent as he found it impossible to raise the money in the parish.
Recommendation	£300. Once a fairly well to do parish: now one of the poorest.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Application to City Parochial Fund, 26 September 1927

Miss Worley, churchwarden – [first woman?]

Churchwardens' accounts up to December 1927

Messrs Dove Bros	£100
Organ tuning and repairs	£11 0 6
Petty repairs and expenses	£2 10
Church furniture	£3 13 1

...

Messrs Dove Bros a/c [not clear if for church or church hall but I think the church itself]

Cash	£200 balance brought forward	£327 13 3
Balance carried forward	£233 6 7 various repairs	£5 13 4
	£333 6 7	£333 6 7

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, meeting 1928, 20 April

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[p. 3] One Hundred Years. A century ago Islington (now the premier Borough of the Diocese, with a population of over 300,000) was enjoying the experience of the select suburbs of to-day, i.e. “filling up”. There were only two churches in Islington, St Mary’s and the Chapel of Ease (St Mary Magdalene), to meet the increasing need for three new churches were built – Holy Trinity, St John’s, Upper Holloway, and St Paul’s Balls Pond.

The three churches have a very august and distinguished relation in the Houses of Parliament, all being children of the same father Sir Charles Barry. Holy Trinity was modelled on King’s College, Cambridge, and was described by Bishop Daniel Wilson as a “Noble magnificent, yet simple, church.” The foundation stone was laid on 15 July 1826 and the building was consecrated on March 19 1829. It cost £11,535, and provided seating accommodation for 2,000 persons (now reduced to about 1,000 by the removal of the galleries). The rapidity with which the District Parish of Holy Trinity has grown may best be measured from the following figures: In 1829 the population was 3,000; in 1841 it had increased to 7,322, and in 1910 to 50,000, comprising the present parishes of St Andrew’s, St Michael’s, St Thomas, and All Saints. The Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity was inhabited by 13,000 people in 1910.

The first vicar of Holy Trinity was the Rev Hunter Francis Fell, whose twenty-two years were not without their anxieties, even in those “good old days.” In 1831 the legality of a Church rate was called in question by the Lord Chief Justice, and in order to restore peace the Vicar himself offered to bear the charges connected with Divine Worship. Two years later the Beadle is reported to possess, among many other failings, “a haughty and unpleasant demeanour,” and is discharged by the Vestry. His successor is apparently no better, for two years later he is reported to have absented himself from his duty, his wife, his children and his country! He too is discharged. Three years later (1838), the organist is advised to adopt such measures for her personal improvement as will in future produce greater satisfaction”. On 1842 she is “still unsatisfactory,” and in 1843 the Wardens report that they “have entirely failed to convince her”; she has replied by blaming the congregation and suggesting that “they should be provided with music books that they might sing accurately.” The diary of troubles closes with the discharge of a pew opener in 1846 for “borrowing money and stealing hassocks”.

Mr Fell resigned in 1851, after twenty-two years of “Zealous and affectionate service,” and was succeeded by the Rev William Vincent. It is recorded by the late Dr Eugene Stock (who was closely connected with Holy Trinity), that Mr Vincent was a notoriously bad preacher;

[p. 9] How many of those who knew the interior of our Church in 1829 would recognise it today? There has been much renovation and alteration. The church was closed in 1844 to be “thoroughly cleaned,” and on the occasion of re-opening the Vicar received a long and eloquent letter from a Puseyite suggesting that an opportune moment had arrived in which to set an example to the Evangelic Churches of Islington by conducting the Services according to the Prayer Book! ...

In 1867, at a cost of £2000, the Chancel was remodelled, a new Vestry built, the interior relighted, and the organ repaired. The Jubilee Celebrations in 1879 were marked by the

purchase of new choir stalls, a prayer desk and lectern. In 1902 a great renovation scheme was undertaken by Lancaster at a cost of about £3000. In addition to outside repairs costing £1000, the north and south galleries were removed, the floor of the chancel was raised, the Church was re-seated and redecorated, and the electric light installed. In 1912, at a cost of nearly £1000 Mr Rees-Jones repaired the exterior, decorated the interior, and built a Choir Vestry. Finally, the interior of the Church was again redecorated last year (1928) at a cost of about £500.

The Organ of Holy Trinity Church ... has an obscure history; it came from a City church [?], and some of the pipes are over 100 years old. It was moved in 1844 “to a more advantageous position.” It was again moved in 1885 (presumably from the west gallery to the chancel), and improved at a cost of £180. In 1895 it was cleaned and new stops added. In 1915 it was rebuilt and enlarged and modernised by the introduction of an electric blower and electro-pneumatic action. Mr Rees-Jones carried out this work at a cost of nearly £1,000 and the Church now possesses what is probably the largest organ in any Islington church.

To Mr Rees-Jones we are also indebted for erecting the beautiful brass Communion rails, the gift of St Barnabas Church, Kensington (a church by a happy coincidence, also designed by Barry on much the same style as Holy Trinity, and from whence we welcome our present Bishop of Stepney). The present iron pulpit was given in 1889 by a churchwarden, Mr Edmund Walker. We leave it to Mr Rees-Jones to tell of the War Memorials. The Side Chapel screen was a gift in memory of Mr Walker and his son who was killed in the Great War.

[p. 6] The magnificent Parish Hall in Dowry Street is a monument to the labour of Mr Lancaster. The ground was purchased in 1908 for £1,000. On January 16 1909, the foundation stone was laid by Mr Alfred Fowell Buxton, and an address given by the Bishop of Islington. The Hall was completed at a cost of £4,223 and dedicated on July 24 1909 by the Bishop of London. ...

Holy Trinity possessed no Vicarage for the greater part of her 100 years. Canon Haigh began in 1893 a Vicarage Fund ... and in 1906 the present Vicarage in Thornhill Road was purchased.

No account Holy Trinity would be complete without mention of Cloudesley School and its remarkably headmaster, Mr Lawrence Major. The schools were first opened privately in 1831 as a district Infant School, by William Allen. In 1839 they were taken over by the Vicar of Holy Trinity (Mr Fell), and opened as Holy Trinity District Infant School. In 1862 the present building to accommodate boys and girls were added. Under Mr Major's amazing and able leadership and during Canon Haigh's incumbency, the Schools reached an exceedingly high standard of perfection; the Honours Boards ... are an eloquent tribute to the long list of brilliant successes attained by the scholars. The Schools were closed in 1898. Two windows were erected in the Church in 1904 to the memory of Lawrence major. One was the gift of the congregation and the other of his old scholars. ...

The Church in the Great War

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

What memories come up as we think of the Great War. There was no more patriotic parish in the country than Holy Trinity. Something like two battalions of men volunteered for active service. ... It was during 1915 that every Sunday morning the Church was filled with 800 men of the RGA Heavy Brigade. ... Within a year they had crossed over to the Front.

[p. 7] Who can remember, too, how when the air raids began to disturb us the people began to drift towards the Church to feel safe in its protection. **In the end we opened the Crypt and sand-bagged it and drove a trench into it so that the 2,000 people who sought its shelter could travel down in safety and with speed.** The Crypt Patrol kept watch night by night, and people slept all the sounder knowing that they were standing by.

No story of what the Church was doing during those years would be complete without some mention of the Peace Procession when Dowrey Street was barricaded at each end and a thousand children had a delightful tea at the tables that stretched from one end of the street to the other. ...

The story of those days is wrapped in the Memorials in Church. The Chapel was a hallowed spot to us and there we prayed day after day. It is flanked by the Window of Sacrifice, and on the other side the Window of Sacrifice, and on the other side the Window of the Resurrection, while between stands the War Shrine with the names of the lads we knew who never came home, and there, too, are some of the cards we sent out to the lads during the war. The beautiful screen seems to add a note of thanksgiving to the group of memorials. We thank God upon every remembrance of them. S. C. Rees-Jones.

Special Anniversary edition of *Holy Trinity Parish Magazine*, March 1929, LMA, P83/MRY1/129

Expenditure, both with regard to the church & parish hall was lower than for the previous year. this was partly accounted for by the fact that the 1927 a/cs included one or two items which rightly belonged to 1926. It has been possible to pay off the long outstanding debt to Messrs Dove Bros also pay for repairs to the drains & vault. Repairs to the furnace flue of the heating apparatus in the church were being carried out, but it was not anticipated the sum involved would be large.

The cost of renovation work to the interior of the church had been completely paid for. He would take the opportunity to suggest that a deposit a/c of say £50 should be opened to meet depreciation & renovation charges, also to pay the LDF the full quota of ambition

... the [outstanding] item of [was paid to] £233 to Messrs Dove Bros ... due care had been taken in regard to necessary repairs to the church, drains, flue &c., and the cost of the latter would not appear until 1929 a/cs were presented. During the coming summer some expense would of necessity be incurred by repairs to the church hot water pipes & boiler. ...

He considered that deep gratitude was due to God for this blessing in enabling them to carry out of the work of renovation and clear all other expenses whereby the church was able to celebrate its centenary with a balance with a balance of £133 on the right side. ...

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Special minute

The centenary of this church was celebrated during the month of March 1929. A service of reparation was held in church on the evening of March 20 on the following day, Sunday, the Rev Rees Jones, Rector of Henley on Thames and formerly vicar of this church paid a return visit and preached at both morning and evening services. The arrangements provided for the return visits of two other former vicars on the two succeeding Sundays – the Rev Thomas Lancaster, Rector of St Mary's Weymouth on the 10th and Canon W. E. Haigh (retired) on the 17th but unfortunately Canon Haigh was prevented at the last moment. ... by an illness which nearly proved fatal. [and a reunion in the parish hall of former congregation etc; on the actual centenary mayor of Islington Council led the lesson which was attended by members of the borough council]

expenditure up to Dec 1928

Messrs Dove Bros	£233 6 7
Petty repairs and expenses	£5 8 2
Church furniture and fittings	£4 5 3

Renovation:

Messrs Campbell, Smith & Co £484 4 6 [presumably decorations]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Annual Parochial Church meeting, 8 March 1929

'Ecclesiastical Edifices Built, Enlarged, Restored or Altered, by Dove Brothers Limited, Islington', ca. 1930 [not seen]

35 pages, printed, Dove Bros papers

Includes locality, edifice, nature of works executed, name of architect

RIBA Archive, V&A, DB/Add/1, 1930

expenditure on the church itself has been rather less than last year, apart from the cost of renovation which had been carried out during the previous year.

Holy Trinity Church Accounts up to December 1929

Dove Bros for flues & drains	£35 13 3
J. Grundy Ltd, heating apparatus	£13 15
Church furniture & fittings	£18 15 2
Petty repairs & expenses	£4 12 7

Renovation:

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Campbell Smith & Co. £484 4 6

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Parochial Church meeting, 21 February 1930

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1931

Lopping trees £10

Wiring railings £14

[the church still receives £250 pa from the Cloudesley Trustees]

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and miscellaneous papers, 1931-1959

LMA, DL/A/C/02/077/016, Holy Trinity faculty papers, Tablet – Reid, 1931

LMA, DL/A/C/02/078/015, Holy Trinity faculty papers, Tablet – Cooper, 1932

Lopping the trees and wiring of the railings of the churchyard had amounted to £24, these being the only items calling for special comment. [The pasted-in accounts have now stopped; these are however in files at LMA for the 1930s. The minutes between 1932 and 1940 contain no information on the fabric, only personnel and mission work etc]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined vestry meeting and adjourned meeting of parochial electors, 7 March 1932

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1933

Organ tuning and repairs £99

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and miscellaneous papers, 1931-1959

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1934

Repairing Roof £7 3 6

Painting chancel wall £7 15 0

Repairing stained glass windows £49 10

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and miscellaneous papers, 1931-1959

Two plans (n.d., unsigned) for panelling and a plan of the side-chapel at present date of 28 February 1935, signed by C. T. Hopwood on 1 March 1935.

LMA, P83/TRI/107, Ground Plan of Side Chapel and Two Plans of Panelling for Walls by C. T. Hopwood, 1 March 1935

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1935

Repairs to fabric £47 0 7

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1936

Repairs to fabric £55 10 2

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices [must be earlier], and misc papers, 1931-1959

the stonework of the turrets and pinnacles of our church has become unsafe and we have been advised that repairs are urgent. A contract has therefore been placed with the ?Lowestone Restoration Co for £195 for the necessary repairs and work has commenced. [needs a loan of £100]

About £50 a year is expended on the maintenance of the fabric and it has been made a point of honour by the Parochial Council to pay the quote of obligation but when these charges have been met there is no balance to lay against extraordinary expenses.

The Cloudesley Trustees from whom the church receives an annual grant are unable to do more and in the circumstances we should be grateful if you make a grant ... [additional letter confirming works completed 18 Sept 1937]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Darlington to ECE, 7 July 1937

[note that birds' eye views dated 1936 in the HE Archive indicate works to the left-hand pinnacle have already been carried out]

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Incumbent	S. Darlington
Character	Poor. Industrial. Tenement Houses
Proposed works	Erection & removal of steel scaffolding. Removing of cement treatment from surfaces of roof stonework, turrets and towers of the Church, also pinnacles and copings. To cut away old stone and reinstate all with reconstructed stone mastic, reinforced with non-corrosive metal dowels. To put all stonework on these in perfect condition
Architects' report?	No
Estimated cost	£200
CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Application to City Parochial Fund, 19 July 1937	

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1937

Repairs to fabric £200

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1938

Repairs to fabric £29 1

Petty repairs and expenses £7 16 9 [the usual sort of amount]

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1939

Repairs to fabric £110 10 3

Petty repairs and expenses £25 6 8

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

I beg to approach you through the archdeacon with regard to the outstanding balance of £90 being part of a grant made by the Commissioners to the parish of Holy Trinity in 1927 towards the expenses of Church renovation. Those renovations were undertaken with one exception – namely that of the heating apparatus.

Since I came to the parish I have tried my best to keep a leaky boiler working; not knowing of the grant which the Commissioners had made. ... it is obvious that a new boiler will have to be installed without delay [so asks for the outstanding balance]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Darlington to ECE, 30 November 1939

Your letter gave us authority to proceed with the work of purchase & installation of new heating apparatus under specific conditions.

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from Darlington to ECE, 2 February 1940

The defect in the church heating has now been discovered and remedied

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 8 April 1942

State of Buildings. The chairman reported that the parish hall was in fairly good condition but the church has caused some expense. In connection with the removal of dangerous plaster leaves, costing £23 (of which £19 was for scaffolding) this amount had now been refunded by the War Damage Authorities, but after other expenses has been incurred through damage by children since the removal for war purposes of the iron railings and no claim could be made for these.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 29 April 1943

Fabric, Goods and ornaments of the church. The vicar reported that the damage done since the removal of the church railings had been less during the year. The inside and roof of the church were fairly sound. The inventory and terrier of goods and buildings was in order. The council and people were reminded that money would be needed for spending on the church after the war.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 13 April 1944

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

It was pointed out that damage was still being done by children and it seemed impossible to prevent it. It was essential that the railings be restored as soon as possible.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 7 March 1945

And now Barry. In 1820 this this gifted young man – he was only twenty-five – returned from his travels. He had seen Italy, Greece, Asia Minor, Palestine, Syria and Egypt. He came back to London and started with industry, humility and hope to build a career. The first job he got was for two Commissioners' churches in the Manchester area, the first begun in 1822. Next year he won the competition for St Peter's, Brighton, and in 1825 or 1826 he was commissioned by the Rector of Islington to build three churches in that parish – one at Holloway, one at Ball's Pond and one in Cloudesley Square. It is not clear why Barry, with his accumulated knowledge of Greek, Roman and Italian work, should have elected to dive at once into the one thing he had not studied at all – Gothic. Presumably his employers had decided leanings that way, or we might have had some London churches as delightful as the Italian Brunswick Chapel at Brighton. Anyway, Barry's London churches are all Gothic. Sir Gilbert Scott in his *Recollections* (1879) calls them “really respectable and well-intentioned”, and that, from a Gothic Revivalist's point of view, is as much as can be said; while from a broader angle there is certainly nothing to add. They show as little genuine experience of Gothic as St Luke's, Chelsea, and if they have slightly greater copybook accuracy than Inwood's dreadful church at Somers Town or Nash's thin steeple at Haggerston, it makes them less, not more, interesting than these. Barry did not think much of them either: he referred to them in later life with half-humorous contempt, made a point of destroying the drawings, and, says his biographer, would have still more gladly destroyed the originals”. Each church cost around £11,000, less than the Waterloo churches, but expensive compared with many of the skinflint products of the succeeding decades. They are in brown brick with stone dressings and there is nothing about them which suggests that they are, in fact, the products of an architect of exceptional powers ... Many would have agreed with Soane's view that the architecture of the Commissioners' churches was “indicative rather of buildings designed more for utility, than dedicated to the purposes of devotion”. ...

Where nobody is much interested in the function of a building it is hard for its architect to be so; and even if churches like Marylebone and St Pancras required and stimulated a certain style and glamour, the same could not be said of churches handed out by the state to sparse, anonymous suburbia. Here there was not even the stimulus of a rich, educated and critical congregation. Parliament asked simply for “fit and proper accommodation for the largest number of persons at the least expense,” and the requirement was fulfilled.

Sir John Summerson, *Georgian London*, London, 1945, 2003 edition, pp. 264-5

Incumbent

Rev W. S. McQuinn

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Character	Artisan; large houses of older type let off into flats and rooms; an area developing into “slum” conditions
proposed works	Not commenced. Proposed to put railings round the church in place of the railings compulsorily removed in 19[year crumbled away but presumably late 1939 or 1940]. Extensive & wilful damage has been and is being done to the outside fabric of church; drains filled in constantly repeated cleanings; water pipes for rain waterclearance are smashed; windows – stained & glass – are broken; parents unable to control their children; police helpless; railings essential to save the church from further extensive damage.
Architects’ report?	Diocesan surveyor is aware of need and Diocesan authorities are applying for the necessary license.
cost	£170 to 180 [£120 to be awarded]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Application to the CPF, 25 February 1946

The Church restoration fund stood at £202 14 3. ... Mr Godwin [said] that the £100 for the restoration fund has in pre-war years been used for extra much-needed parochial staff.

Church fabric

The need for railings was still present and to have netting and gates would cost between £170 and £180. The vicar was happy to state that owing to grants promised from various sources, there was the possibility of getting the whole amount.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 17 April 1946

in respect of the grant towards the restoration of RAILINGS round the Church of the Holy Trinity ... the work has now been completed ... [more like a fence, see below]

CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Letter from McQuinn to ECE, 14 December 1946

Arising from the Minutes. The vicar reported that the cost of purchase and erection of the wire netting round the church yard £191 towards this a grant of £110 has been received from the City Parochial Charities. The balance had been met for the time being from the Bank Deposit a/c but should ultimately be recoverable in whole or in part from the [illeg word: looks like good or cost] which had requisitioned the railings. The vicar acknowledged with thanks the great assistance of Mr J Woollett in obtaining the material and forwarding the work of erection. ... The Vicar ...

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

reported also that the erection of a fence round the churchyard and repairs to the hall windows had stopped further damage by boys.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 24 March 1947

Recommended repairs – clean out all gulleys and rainwater heads [ticked]

Urgent repairs:

repair rainwater rainwater pipes

repair pointing to brick and stonework

renew missing capping stones to buttress pinnacles

reduce level of soil against walls (“voluntary labour?”)

overhaul external doors

repair plaster to porches

renew defective wire guards

paint external wood and ironwork and plaster to porches

repair hole in boundary fence

clean out areas to boiler house and crypt (“voluntary labour?”)

Interior:

cut out sections of dado affected by dry rot; treat adjacent surfaces with fungicide and repair dado

overhaul internal doors

repair glazing

obtain heating engineer’s report on heating system

redecorate

approx. cost of war damage repairs under A & B: £1,250

approx. cost of maintenance under A & B: £750

The figure for war damage repairs is almost entirely attributable to glazing, only a small proportion of this work will require a license.

Less urgent repairs:

limewash boiler house

renew boundary fence

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Detailed report [select entries:]

the flat roof over the minister's vestry was repaired some ago after an outbreak of dry rot, and the lead replaced with asphalte

The capping stones to a number of buttress pinnacles are missing and may have been dislodged by blast

One of the buttresses to the north porch is out of plumb, but does not appear to be unstable, and the stone surround to one of the south porch windows is fractured

there does not appear to be any damp course, and the general level of the soil against the walls should be lowed, particularly as there has been an outbreak of dry rot in the timber dado of the south aisle

Boundaries. the Church is built on an island site. the original boundaries consisted of wrought iron railings surmounting a dwarf brick wall with a stone coping. Apart from one or two fractured or missing coping stones, the dwarf wall is in fairly sound condition, but the railings were taken for scrap during the war, and have since been replaced by a wide fence with metal standards. Neither the fence nor the standards are galvanised

The boiler house is very dark and would be considerably improved if limewashed. **The crypt contains a number of old coffins but is otherwise not used.**

Interior:

the ceilings throughout are plastered. That in the minister's vestry has recently been repaired after dry rot in the roof timbers. Elsewhere the plaster appears to be dry, but still bears the marks of previous water penetration. ... there has been damp penetration through the wall of the south west turret, and much of the plaster has fallen.

The stained glass and leaded lights have been fairly extensively damaged by blast

Fittings:

The fittings and pews are undistinguished, but adequate for their purpose and well cared for except in the disused gallery. There is a nicely carved oak screen to the south aisle chapel.

[report also on the meeting room/church hall]

LMA, DL/A/K/01/15/007, Holy Trinity, periodic survey, Sept 1950-November 1951

LMA, DL/A/C/02/097/021, faculty papers, Holy Trinity, Memorial tablet – Gallwell, 1951

It was proposed and seconded that the PCC authorise the sum of £5 to be added this year to the amount for the Miss Johnson Memorial Window, also that this matter be reviewed at the next AGM ... The PCC had spent a considerable amount of money of the fabric of the church buildings during the year and was well spent. Church heating is a matter of great concern.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 24 March 1952

Fabric. The report on Church Fabric has already been made by the Vicar's Warden, but it may not be inappropriate for me to make one or two remarks. The complete re-wiring of the Electric Circuits of the church are nearing completion. Specifications have been sent to builders for the complete renovation and re-decoration of the Church, including a Heating Engineer's advice on increasing and improving the Heating of the Church. The Diocese has undertaken to give very substantial financial assistance for all this, but we shall have to find a considerable sum of money too.

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959, The Vicar's Report, April 1952-March 1953

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1952

Dilapidations Charge £36 13 6

Repairs – S. J. Boulton £114 16

Architects' Fee £20 1 5

Faculty £2 12 6

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

Vicar's report. The complete rewiring of the electrical circuits of the church was nearing completion. Specification for the renovation and redecorating of the church, including the heating, were out to builders. [from around now there is an annual report on the fabric but it's not minuted]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 23 March 1953

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1953

Dilapidations Charge £36 13 6

Repairs – S. J. Boulton £25 19 2

– Wesson & Co £59 0 0

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

[redcoration account £40 10 0]

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1954

[Redecoration account £54]

Repairs – S. J. Boulton £25 19 2 [see above; check if carried over]

 – Wesson & Co £59 0 0 [ditto]

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

LMA, DL/A/C/02/100/024, faculty papers, Holy Trinity, Oak pulpit, 1954

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, section 30

I am directed by the minister of housing and local government to inform you that the building known as Church of the Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square has been included in the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest in that area, compiled by the Minister of Housing on 20 September 1954

LMA, P83 TRI/112

A notice has been served on the Church Commissioners that the church of Holy Trinity ... has been included in a list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest ... by virtue of the provisions of this Act the effect of the inclusion of the church in such a list is that if the building ceases to be used for ecclesiastical purposes, it will be an offence to demolish it or to alter or extend it in such a way as seriously to affect its character, without first giving two months' written notice to the local planning authority.

It should be particularly observed that the above-mentioned restriction on demolition, alteration or extension of the church is not effective so long as the building is being used for ecclesiastical purposes.

[The amended 2005 list entry was subject to a Minor Amendment on 10/01/2020]

LMA, P83 TRI/112, Letter from the Church Commissioners to the Rev Bridgland

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Survey of Churches in the Borough of Islington, War damage: “mostly glazing over £1000”

Completed by Rev. C. Bridgland (Vicar), 2 February 1955

ILHC, Y J852 TRI (2), clippings file

There is no religious revival among the artisans of England, said the Rev C. J. Brigland, Vicar of Holy Trinity Islington, at a garden meeting and sale in All Saints’ Vicarage garden on Wednesday. ... There is, he said, no poverty in Islington or similar artisan parishes. ... Nearly every home in Islington has a television set. “In one home I visited there were a rickety table, one chair, one or two boxes to sit on and a television set.” ... “I repeat – there is no poverty. And no thrift. Their way of life is: earn to-day, spend tomorrow.”

Eastbourne Herald, 20 August 1955, p. 7

LMA, DL/A/C/02/102/023, Faculty papers, Holy Trinity, Islington, Memorial plaque - Bartlett, 1956

Church cleaning is still a voluntary matter ... church finance continues in my opinion to be satisfactory. I believe the standard of sacrificial giving at Holy Trinity is higher than average ... for six months the vicarage has been undergoing major reconstruction

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 19 March 1956

Holy Trinity Accounts, 1957

Repairs – Walls, etc £43 9 2

Chancel floodlights £18 10

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar’s annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

herewith find estimate as requested.

Note from J. Tickner, Builder and decorator, to Mr Plesse, 107 Roman Way, N7, 21 February 1957

[correspondence at the back of] LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

I am instructed to inform you that the Council accepted your estimate of £34 in respect of the work to be carried out at [Holy Trinity] ... and ask you to put this work in hand

Letter to J. Tickner, Esq., 56 Thornhill Rd, from Secretary, 107 Roman Way, N7, 23 March 1957

[correspondence at the back of] LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes

Mr Williams reported that the church fabric was very good apart from the surrounding wall which was however being repaired.

The Church Hall – estimates had been requested from three builders but no replies had been received.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 8 April 1957

Further to Mr Fewes call upon you, enclosed please find detailed specification for repairs at [Holy Trinity] and we shall be glad if you will submit an estimate showing the cost of each individual item.

Letter to S J Boulton & Son, Colebrooke Row, from the Secretary, 107 Roman Way, N7, 11 May 1957

[correspondence at the back of] LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes

Mr W. Williams [The Vicar's Warden] stated that Repairs to the church was [sic] required, the Church Wall had been repaired, perhaps not to the Council [sic] satisfaction it was also stated that the East Wall (Chancel) were [sic] out of repair, we trust we will be able to do this work in the near future. He also thanked the women behind the men in doing their work in decorating the Church Hall.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 19 March 1958

the Vicar's warden stated that the living had been offered to a number of men, some visited the church but all had refused the living for some reason or another

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 16 March 1959

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

Rubbish dumped in Church grounds. Reporting on the church fabric at the annual meeting of Holy Trinity, Mr W. Williams (Vicar's Warden) said that some people apparently regarded the church grounds as a dumping place for rubbish.

He also urged that particular attention should be given to the state of the south west wall of the church over the gallery, where dampness seemed to be seeping through.

Islington Gazette, 26 March 1959, in ILHC, Y J852 TRI (2), clippings file

Trinity News, April 1959

East Wall Redecoration Fund ... target 20s per day ...

Church Fabric:

East Wall. We have £107 18s to date. unless we get £150, work cannot be started – to be left for twelve months

SW Wall. Very damp. Architect attending church. The cost will be high

Church Porch. Suggest colour unsuitable for doors. Darker colour would be more practical in London grime.

Stairs. Very messy and dirty. Builders have left debris.

Gallery. Very dirty.

In the church we have 4 organs and one piano. 1 organ plays the others are useless. Suggest 1 should be removed.

LMA, P83/TRI/131, Containing Vicar's annual reports, annual balance sheets, draft minutes of Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, plan of church showing pews and their prices, and misc papers, 1931-1959

With regards to the East Wall renovation, the Colour Scheme had not been received. But the Surveyor on examining the South Wall had found that dampness had penetrated its way through to the wall over the Gallery, among the work necessary was the replacement of some slates to the roof. ... with regard to the choir stalls, their condition left a lot to be desired, being very untidy, he suggested that the Choir do some spring cleaning. It was his intention also to ask the PCC for their consent to obtaining a new notice board outside the church. Mr Williams reported that in spite of the number of panes reglazed earlier in the year he had counted another 13 broken windows in the Church Hall, only 2 of which had been officially reported. ... The Vicar stated that his report was brief, nothing in writing, but ... he spoke of stepping out in faith, trusting in God, the material resources which we need.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

With regards to our financial needs, he thought that our own practical giving should be given first consideration. He said he [thought] there would have to be a big decision made in its future so he did not intend discussing it at the moment.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 4 April 1960

Agreement with Parish, 30 May 1960

Name and address of contractor: Messrs Campbell, Smith & Co Ltd, 25 Newman Street, W1

Cost estimate £125 10 (£161 in hand)

[includes drawings for the reredos and panels – patterned red and orange]

The Archdeacon has now granted his certificate in respect of the proposed work in your Church. ... I would point out that although the certificate has issued it is usual to deal with such an application by Faculty as with the formation of a Reredos it constitutes an alteration and is the question of taste (Lockyer to Archdeacon, 10 June)

In pursuance of section 6 of the faculty jurisdiction measure 1938 [archdeacon authorises:]

Obliterate all the existing painted ornament on North South and East Walls of Chancel below string course approx 11 ft high from Floor, prepare and paint to an approved tint. Line panel out section under East Window to form painted Reredos and hand paint diaper pattern in enclosed panels all as indicated on the drawing deposited in the Registry of the Episcopal Court. Line out and prepare panels for the writing of the Ten Commandment on each side of the Lord's table. Designed to be part of the newly destined decorative treatment in the centre of East Wall below window.

LMA, DL/A/C/02/106/022, Archdeacon's Certificate Holy Trinity, 10 June 1960

1960. East Wall. Bottom Half Re-decorated, ten commandments written by Mr Williams. Other work by Messrs Cambells.

Holy Trinity Logbook, 1957-1966, LMA, P83/TRI/155

The Vicar said that he hoped the PCC would see its way clear to have sound Reinforcement Equipment installed in the Church. ... Mr Williams the Vicar's Warden in reading his report said that as he looked around the Church he thought it had been a good year. The East Wall had been redecorated, there was a new notice board, and the Architect's report was quite good really. The Vicar had stolen some of his thunder by announcing the gift of Prayer Books

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 20 March 1961

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

proposed grant [of £100] out of city parochial fund toward the cost of repairs to the church roof
CERC, ECE/7/1/18112, Church Commissioner for England, Minute of the Administrative
Committee, 21 September 1960

LMA, DL/A/C/02/107/026, Faculty papers, Holy Trinity, Islington: Cloudesley Square,
Islington, Sound re-enforcement equipment, 1961

The PCC at their last meeting had agreed to the transfer of the amount of £20 19 7 shown under
the East Wall Fund to the Repairs Fund. ... there was a shrinkage of numbers in both people
and children. ... Sound reinforcement had been installed ...

Vicar's Warden's Report. In making his report the Vicar's Warden spoke about the Church
Fabric, He suggested that the green fabric on the doors of the Church be replaced by hardboard
suitably polished. he said that the Vicar's and Choir Vestries badly needed re-decorating. The
Choir Stalls at time were most untidy many of the books and music sheets could be put away.
With regard to the Church grounds they were being looked after, and kept tidy. The parking of
lorries outside the Church presented a problem. ...Mr Williams proposed and Miss Easter
seconded that a letter be sent to the Borough Council drawing their attention to the parking of
the heavy lorries outside the Church and Church Hall.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council
meeting and vestry meeting, 9 April 1962

AGM 1963 [report] the church grounds, so vastly improved in appearance (thanks largely to
Miss Sexby & where volunteers are needed for mowing & hoeing; [Rosina Sexby was a member
of the PCC and a ruri-decanal representative for some years]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council
meeting and vestry meeting, 1 April 1963

One by one, many of the working class quarters of London have been invaded by the middle
classes – upper and lower. Shabby, modest mews and cottages – two rooms up and two down –
have been taken over, when their leases have expired, and have become elegant, expensive
residences. Larger Victorian houses, downgraded in an earlier or recent period – which were
used as lodging houses or were otherwise in multiple occupation – have been upgraded once
again. Nowadays, many of these houses are being sub-divided into costly flats or “houselets” (in
terms of the new real estate snob jargon). The current social status and value of such dwellings
are frequently in inverse relation to their size, and in any case enormously inflated by comparison

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

with previous levels in their neighbourhoods. once this process of “gentrification” starts in a district, it goes on rapidly until all or most of the original working class occupiers are displaced, and the whole social character of the [p. xix] is changed. There is very little left of the poorer enclaves of Hampstead or Chelsea: in those boroughs the upper-middle class take-over was consolidated some time ago. the invasion has since spread to Islington, Paddington, North Kensington – even to the shady parts of Notting Hill – to Battersea, and to several other districts, north and south of the river. (The East End has so far been exempt.) [the intro is dated June 1963]

Ruth Glass, ‘Introduction: Aspects of Change’, in Centre for Urban Studies, Ed., *London: Aspects of Change*, London, 1964, pp. xviii-xix

1963. Right hand tower struck by lightning.

Vestry flooded out

West End.

Wall in Gallery damaged by fire, origin caused by flues not being swept regularly

Holy Trinity Logbook, 1957-1966, LMA, P83/TRI/155

The Vicar’s warden spoke about the fabric of the church. He again reminded those present at the meeting of his remarks about the South Wall of the Church in the minutes of the Annual Meeting of 1963. He reported that the Vicar’s vestry had been flooded. The main step in the church needed repairing. New frontals were required on the Pulpit and Lectern. Mr Williams said he did not intend to report on the Church Hall, as he was [sure] everyone knew about the proposed renovations and redecorations.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 19 March 1964

1964. Guest Service. May 24. Special Speaker. Mr Brian Booth. Vice-Captain Australian Cricket Team.

Guest Service. Sept 13. Special Speakers. Mr Leslie Thompson. Celebrated Trumpeter in Louis Armstrong’s Band.

Holy Trinity Logbook, 1957-1966, LMA, P83/TRI/155

It has not been possible to make a detailed examination of floor joists, wall plates, roofing timbers, undersides of floorboards or other timbers in the premises

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The church is large but well kept with cultivated gardens. Generally the fabric is in good condition and recommended repairs are not extensive. Stonework has however continued to deteriorate.

Immediate repairs: leaking radiator valves

Urgent:

reduce soil level against church walls

boundary repairs

Detailed report [highly edited here:]

The West Entrance is the only one in use.

The pinnacles to the North and South porches are damaged by their appearance [&] could be improved by reducing them to a uniform height

The open areas, affording ventilation to the crypt, continue to deteriorate. They should be kept clear of rubbish

The dwarf brick and boundary wall has deteriorated

The gardens are well kept and add considerably to the attraction of the site. Accumulation of earth against external walls should be discouraged and the present mounds should be removed. the trees on the south side have been badly lopped

Internal:

plastered ceilings are in fair condition.

the stained areas remain but there is no evidence of present trouble from roof leaks.

Gallery:

there has recently been trouble in the south wall of the gallery caused by a defect in the boiler flue. The walls were lath and plaster on battens, and a large areas of laths and battens were charred and had fallen. ... the remaining plaster on this side of the wall of the gallery was taken down, and the whole re-plastered on metal lath and battens.

The gallery is no longer used.

[report on church hall]

LMA, DL/A/K/01/15/008, Holy Trinity, periodic survey, May 1964

Holy Trinity Islington, F.S. 15 July 1826; cons 19 March 1829

An odd but strangely likeable church. Mainly 15thc but with some curious solecisms. Virtually a long hall with porches at the west and a communion recess at the east. ... only the west gallery remains, the side ones were removed in 1898. The arcades of stone, high clustered piers carrying

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flat pointed arches, above is a clerestory of couplets with traversed heads. The organ has been placed at the east end on the north, the centre of the case appears original. ... the font is modern, probably of 1898.

26 October 1964, CERC, BARNES 3 5/2/3

Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 7 April 1965

The Vicar's report, AGM, April 1965

We still have to admit that the Church of Jesus Christ our Lord, as far as it concerns Islington in general and Holy Trinity in particular makes little impact on the pagan public, amongst whom there seems less and less respect for human life, chastity and property and where vice and violence seem if anything to be on the increase.

Vicar's report and fabric repair. The Vicar's report on the Church ... is attached in the minutes [but it is not now]. He commented verbally on the Church Fabric in the absence of the warden. he spoke about the wiring of the church and two tests by the LEB had shown that the wiring was completely unfit and part of the wiring would have to be renewed. the vicar stated that the Surveyor and Messrs Buckingham were going to carry out an inspection of the wiring. The Vicar informed the meeting that the Archdeacon's Annual Visitation Service was going to be held in our Church and the vicar said that the Porches especially the west Porches needed redecorating. The Men's Meeting had agreed to carry out the work to save the cost of nearly £200

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 1965

The Vicar also spoke [of] the amalgamation of churches within the Deanery All Saints and St James Pentonville and St Stephens Canonbury coming under the control of the vicar of St Mary's Upper St. He advised the Wardens and Secretary to study the rules and regulations regarding the retirement of incumbents. He said that there was a spiritual sloth within the Church of England ... The vicar spoke about the rewiring of the Church, the Church Hall repair scheme and the Church Grounds. All these things presented problems but could be overcome by prayer and hard work. The Archdeacon promised to help by the granting of substantial grant not only for the rewiring of the Church but also for the Church Hall ...

Mr Williams in rendering his report spoke about the window frames outside the Church Hall. The sanitation was poor and the hall itself badly needed redecorating. He said that 2 years ago he spoke about the frontals on the pulpit and lectern needed replacing [sic]. Keeping the church grounds in order was not a vicar's work rather it was work that needed the energies of the young people.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 30 March 1966

[p. 88] St Paul's, Balls Pond Road: George Basevi made plans for this church which were not approved, and the Commissioners told Barry to make the church a replica of St John's. He and the parish protested and as a compromise the tower was put at the east end. The foundation stone was laid on 15 September 1826, and the consecration was on 23 October 1828.

Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square: Sir Charles Barry had studied abroad, and had never paid much attention to Gothic. When he was asked to design churches in the Gothic style, he had to begin to study it, "and he threw himself into the new study with characteristic diligence and perseverance. His first essays were not very successful, though certainly not below the average of the time; he used to think and speak of them afterwards with a humorous kind of indignation ...

In 1517 Richard Cloudesley left to the parish a parcel of land called Stone Field, and this was used as the site for the church. James Savage made plans, but the Commissioners rejected them, and Charles Barry's were adopted instead. The foundation stone was laid on 15 July 1826 and the consecration was on 19 March 1829. The cost was £11,900; the Commissioners granted £9,231. It is Perpendicular in style, of brick, with an aisled nave, turrets at the four corners, and a small sanctuary and north vestry. It was restored by Ewan Christian, who did the usual things: the organ was removed and choir stalls were inserted. A faculty was given on 24 July 1900 to re-seat, raise the east end, and take down the north and south galleries. Another 5 June 1915 for new choir vestry, new organ screen, etc. The church is not as bad as Sir Charles, in his later days, liked to think: it is straightforward Commissioners' Perpendicular. But the alterations have not improved it much. The best thing in the interior is the glass in the east window, by Willement, 1828, with a kneeling figure of Richard Cloudesley.

Basil Clarke, *Parish Churches of London*, London: Batsford, 1966, pp. 88-9

Deputy Warden's report ... one of the sad things about Mr Williams leaving last October us that after sitting through and taking part in numerous discussions regarding the renovations and repairs to the Church Hall he would not be present when the work starts. My Lockyer spoke about the damp patches in the roof and on the walls in the Church. He thanked the Yunguns [sic] for their work of decoration in the Church Hall and also expressed his thanks to those who cleaned the brass and carried out the numerous chores of keeping the church clean.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and vestry meeting, 15 March 1967

Vicar's report. Our exports were greater than our imports in the past year, members of the congregation had left the district as a result of rehousing, moving to places beyond the town and new churches. There is a possibility of four other couples leaving us in the coming year, young people, and we are already short of workers in the church, particularly youthful leaders. The work of door to door visitors becomes more and more frustrating as only 1 in 5 of houses

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visited is the doorbell answered, and many of these houses have more than one family residing there, an instance was given of a conversion which had made two houses into one, at which there were 48 doorbells for different tenants. ... he thanked the group who were working in the Church Hall and had reset the blocks in the floor of the lower hall, were now giving attention to the folding doors, other jobs planned to follow,

Assistance would be needed on Saturdays 20 and 27 April in lopping the trees in the church grounds. ... the poor condition of part of the inside and the outside of the Church Hall and 40 damaged slates plus a gutter which needs replacing on the church roof. ...

Mr Lockyer asked whether it was necessary to give the repair work in the Church and Hall to Mr Philips on all occasions. Could not other estimates be obtained. Mr P. Grant agreed with this and said that Mr Philips contracted out a lot of the work he obtained. The replied that other firms had been contacted from time to time but Mr Philips had always been cheaper. Mr D. Jewkes asked whether a list of approved firms could be obtained from the Church Authorities.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and the Church, 3 April 1968

Attention was drawn to the necessity for maintenance of the church grounds, the inclement weather which we had in 1968 had allowed the grass in particular to become over-grown and unsightly. An effort must be made during the coming months to see that the church had a less derelict look in this respect. ... a minimum of £15 a week is needed to run the church, our income at present is £12 a week. At the end of last year the Church showed a deficit of £53. ... the gift day collection will be used towards the cost of replacing the fence around the Church site, which in its present condition adds to the derelict aspect. ... the faulty fuel gauge on the oil tank in the church was alluded to in order to bring to notice the need for prayer, a prayer gauge used at this time would give a very low reading. ... concerning the replacing of the fence around the church, a firm named Surafencing had made a tender to put up a plastic covered wire fence similar to the one in use, on concrete posts, with three strands of barbed wire round the top, at a cost of £372. The London Diocesan Fund proposed that a nailed fence be bought, this would cost £1100, or leave unfenced. The PCC doubted the wisdom of leaving an open site, because of the possibility of damage. The recent damage in the Church Hall being a pointer. But the cost of railing is far beyond the financial resources of our church at this time.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and the Church, 26 March 1969

Warden urges protest to Bishop of Stepney over church closure.

North London Press, 6 February 1970, in ILHC, Y J852 TRI (2), clippings file

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[pasted in sheets:] Chairman's Report, Holy Trinity AGM, 18 March 1970

My Ministry. It has struck me this year that some people now refuse my literature and too there are more RCs moving into the Parish. ...

The future: None of us last year at this time wanted or expected the interregnum to last a year but we are nearer something now than we were even at Christmas. I have no desire to make excuses or even give reasons here why I has taken so long to reach this stage but Friday is a very important day for the life of Holy Trinity. At the meeting we had in January as a congregation to think of reasons why the church should not become redundant we made a list. The P.C.C. took this list away with them on their Quiet Day and it is substantially these things that will be mentioned in full to the two representatives of the Pastoral Measures Committee. They both come from the other side of London so that local involvements do not colour the meeting. As I said in the magazine this month God has a plan in this matter, pray much that His will shall be done, if it is His plan and purpose that the building in Cloudesley Square is to close for public worship, then it must close, but in the foreknowledge of God there is still a use for the building then it must stay open; let us now fight against God

[the main minutes:] An exaltation from the Communion Service was read by the Vicar's Warden, after he had explained that it was the Warden's prerogative to do so in the absence of a vicar, exhorting members to attend communion. ... Mr Fewkes thanked Mr Farrant, for his work for the church during the interregnum on behalf of the congregation.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Minutes of the Annual General Combined Meeting of the PCC and the Church, 18 March 1970

It is very kind of you to remember my interest in seeing the reproduction of an engraving of Holy Trinity in 1831. I am particularly glad to see it as it shows how very important the church is from an architectural point of view, in the composition of the Square.

Miss Scott, Sir John Betjeman, Canon Clarke and I all very much enjoyed our meeting with you and your colleagues, and our visit to the church: I have sent the prints to Sir John and Canon Clarke and thank you

CERC, CARE/R 23/1024, Letter to A. C. Lockyer, 45a Thornhill Road from deputy secretary, 23 April 1970

It is now almost a year since you very kindly lent me the enclosed reproduction of an engraving showing the church in its position of the square: I am sorry that I have kept it for so long.

I have now, at long last, had the charming water-colour (which you and your fellow churchwarden also kindly allowed me to take away) returned to me by the NMR. I enclose a print taken from the water-colour which you may like to keep.

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Perhaps you could let me know when it would be a convenient time to return [it] – I would prefer not to send it through the post.

CERC, CARE/R 23/1024, Letter from Peter A T Burman, Deputy Secretary to A C Lockyer, Thornhill Road, 22 March 1971

[inserted:] AGM, 31 March 1971

I have left the subject of Holy Trinity being without a permanent Ordained Minister until last. We are now in our third year and I, like so many others, find it extremely difficult to understand why it takes so long for the powers to be to come to a decision. I believe we have made our point, but whether we shall remain open remains to be seen. A. C. Lockyer

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and the Church, 31 March 1971

[p. 3] Holy Trinity. One of the most rewarding churches architecturally in the Islington Deanery. The corner turrets, placed King's College chapel-wise, can be seen from many parts of Islington and the whole building was designed in scale with the surrounding square.

The church is fairly characteristic example of a good Commissioners' Perpendicular, simple but not mean. The body of the building is of stock brick and the window tracery, string courses and turrets are of Bath stone. The west façade is the most telling, facing towards Cloudesley Road, and the plan of the church consists of a broad nave with aisles, north and south porches, a shallow rectangular sanctuary and vestries between the angles formed by the aisles and the sanctuary.

The interior is tall and spacious with arcades of five bays and a clerestory above. The nave piers have convincing Perpendicular mouldings so that one could almost imagine them to be in a late 15th or early 16th century East Anglian church. The sanctuary arch is more flattened than the arches of the arcade, in imitation of early Tudor style. At the west is the entrance porch with an uncommonly deep west gallery extending over it and the westernmost bay of the nave. Originally the organ (by Timothy Russell, rebuilt as a three-manual by Speechley) stood in the west gallery and the design of its case front, with Tudor Gothic octagonal corner turrets like the church itself, suggests that Barry may have been responsible for it. The organ now stands at the east end of the north aisle; the corresponding corner on the south side is furnished as a chapel. **A charming water colour preserved in the vestry** [now lost but see NMR copy] shows the north and south galleries, box pews, a centrally placed three-decker pulpit, an arcaded and crocketed reredos and "Free Seats" in the central aisle: these were removed in 1901 and the organ case therefore takes on added importance as almost the only remaining piece of contemporaneous furnishing. Otherwise the outstanding feature of the church is the east window by Willement (1828) which has the kneeling figure of Richard Cloudesley (who gave a field which became the site of the church to the parish of Islington in 1517) in the centre light and the Royal Arms below. There

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are one or two later stained glass windows but these are of no special interest. The eastern bay of the nave was furnished as a chancel by Ewan Christian, with pulpit and choir stalls of a conventional Gothic kind; the brass lectern is a good specimen of a less commonly found Victorian variety. Some quite early electric light-fittings and two pleasing memorials (one Tudor Gothic the other Classical) on either side of the sanctuary aisle make up the complement of more notable furnishing and fittings. The sanctuary wallpaper has gold crowns in a pattern [p. 4] of Bodley-esque diapering.

The Council considered very carefully the evidence of a visiting sub-Committee and came to the following conclusions.

[p. 5] Holy Trinity. The Council considered that the most controversial of the tentative proposals before it for churches in the Islington Deanery. It is understood that that there is strong local opposition to a declaration of redundancy, which would not doubt be supported by local and national amenity bodies. The church is not only a good building by itself but deliberately designed as an integral part of the surrounding square and, whereas it is conceivable that an alternative use might be found which would preserve the exterior intact, the Council felt that it should continue to exist as a church if parochial support would justify this. It is a finely proportioned interior, and the Willement glass in the east window is a distinguished visual asset to the building. The Council considers that (with the exception of the very fine 18th century steeple of the latter) Holy Trinity is of much greater architectural value than St Mary, Islington, and would be very reluctant indeed to concur in a proposal that Holy Trinity should be declared redundant.

CERC, CARE/R 23/1024, Council for the Care of Churches, Islington Churches referred under Pastoral Measure, 1968, April 1971

[Organ still in place]

North London Press, 14 May 1971, p. 31

Organ removed (at unknown date) from Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, Islington to Church of St Nicholas and attached walls, Church Street W4: Perpendicular-style arch with engaged shafts to organ chamber, which has fine organ case by Timothy Russell, 1826

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1189405>

Islington. Holy Trinity. Built 1826. By Barry. No Tower. Eeles & Walters* note the church with date 1831 but give no date on bell or bells. Probably one of c.1826. No bell here listed for preservation.

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* MS in Soc Antiq Library [H. B. Walters and F. C. Eeles, *unpublished MS on Church Bells in Middlesex in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries*: [not seen, as we know the original bell was by Thomas Mears, presumably of the Whitechapel foundry]

CERC, CARE/R 23/1024, Redundant Churches, notes on card, 5 September 1971

[inserted] AGM of the Church, 22 March 1972

In October last year we were granted the services of a Curate in Charge, the Revd Andrew Daunton-Fear ...

commenting on the fabric of the Church and Church Hall, we have managed to replace about 90% of the church fence and it is hoped that we will be able to finish the remainder in the very near future. ... I am sure all of us would like to see the interior of the church redecorated, but that, as you will realize must await the final decision of the Church Commissioners regarding the future of the church.

For the first time since 1968 we have the pleasure of having a Minister with us ... A. C. Lockyer
LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Combined Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and the Church, 22 March 1972

Church Grounds. It is hoped to do some work in the Church grounds on Saturday 14 April. There is the fence to finish, trees to lop and rose trees to prune.

Trinity News, April 1972, LMA, P83/TRI/134/24

Annual General Meeting of the Church, 11 April 1973

Another year has passed, the fourth in fact since our last Vicar left in February 1960.

With regard to the material side, we have endeavoured to keep the fabric of the Church and Hall in a fair state of repair, but because of the circumstances under which we worship and labour the redecoration of the church interior must await the decision of the Church Commissioners, nevertheless remedial repairs have of course had to be carried out.

Accounts for the year ending 31 December 1973

Repairs in 1972: £25.37

Repairs in 1973: £44.83

[loose at the front of Annual General Combined meeting, 11 April 1973]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, 1973

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[The Treasurer] expressed the hope that the rewiring of the fence around the church grounds would be completed shortly, the necessary materials are in hand.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Minutes of the Annual General Combined Meeting of the PCC and Church, 11 April 1973

irrespective of the decision regarding the future of the church, I feel that it would be improper to allow the various ceilings and walls to fall into a state of disrepair, I hope therefore, that the PCC will give this matter serious and due consideration as soon as possible.

With regard to the church itself, I have already mentioned the care of the grounds including the lopping of the trees, but in respect of the inside, there is not much we can do at this moment of time, but should the decision be to keep the church open, I think that we should be aware of the fact that we may be asked to help very considerably financially in the redecorating etc

Accounts for the year ending 31 Dec 1974

Repairs: £53.45

Cleaning: £33.81

Heating repairs £29.76

[still £250 from the Cloudesley Trustees]

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, AMG, 3 April 1974

Turning now to the fabric of the church and the church hall again another has passed during which we have only been able to carry out remedial repairs – the replacement of two drain pipes one at the church and the other for the hall has cost over £100. The décor in the church and the hall leaves much to be desired – we shall seriously have to consider both during the coming year.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, AGM, 9 April 1975 [filed with 1968 minutes]

There would be a service at 8pm on 12 April in which the Rev R G Clarke would be licensed by the Bishop of Stepney as Priest in Charge of Holy Trinity.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Minutes of the AGM combined meeting of the PCC, 31 March 1976

The treasurer reported that he had received a letter from the Cloudesley Charities, saying that we would not be receiving any payment this year in respect of the summer quarter, owing to the great expense of maintaining and renovating the Cloudesley Estate

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LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Minutes of the AG combined meeting of the PCC and Church, 31 March 1976 [hand written and loose at the front of the Vestry Minutes]

What of the fabric of our two buildings? One of the tasks which the new Parochial Church Council face is the redecoration of the two buildings, and their upkeep. ... Come the summer, there is also the church grounds to keep in order. Within the next two or three weeks the trees should be lopped otherwise they will get out of hand. Lockyer.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Vicar's Warden report for the AGM 31 March 1976

[The Warden] said that newcomers to the church often commented on the contrast of the unkemp[t] grounds outside and the inside of the church, which was always clean and polished.

R.G. Clarke – annual report, 31 March 1977

I want now to mention the second part of the Area Pastoral Committee's suggestion, i.e. the redundancy of Holy Trinity Church Building. I have not officially given any view on this question but have waited and watched, thought and prayed over the situation. Now I want to give you my considered opinion on it, and that is that we should NOT fight the powers that be in the building's closure. The reasons I say this – and have the peace of God within that enables me to say this to you – is as follows:

- a) none of us wants to see the Church building just crumbling away about our ears. Yet it has begun to do so with some mouldings from the ceiling dropping into the pews. If the building stays open because we object to its closure ... then we shall not be allowed to do more than just temporary repairs. Eventually we shall have to abandon a dangerous building.
- b) It is conservatively estimated that it will take £70,000 to put Holy Trinity to rights. ... "is it morally correct to spend such a sum on such a building?" I find myself answering ... "No" ... for I remain totally unconvinced of the essential need of the building. A desire to keep it as at present ... stems from purely sentimental sources.

LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Vicar's Warden report for the AGM 31 March 1977

Church Warden's report. Mr Wells reported on the condition of the church and the church hall. So far as the church is concerned, the fabric is deteriorating, and not much can be done to prevent this. During the recent gales a pinnacle had fallen & damaged a tile on the south side. It had been temporarily repaired and would be properly repaired in due course. He was grateful to all who helped in cleaning the church & keeping the grounds tidy.

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LMA, P83 TRI/134, Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes, Minutes of the AGM combined meeting of the PCC, 6 April 1978

At the Court at Buckingham Palace

Union of benefices. 1) the benefice of Saint Andrew, Barnsbury and the benefice of Holy Trinity, Islington in the diocese of London shall be united to create a new benefice which shall be named the Benefice of Saint Andrew with Holy Trinity, Barnsbury.

2) The parish of Saint Andrew, Barnsbury and the parish of Holy Trinity, Islington shall also be united to create a new parish named The Parish of Saint Andrew and Holy Trinity Barnsbury.

The parish church of the parish of Saint Andrew, Barnsbury shall be the parish church of the new parish

The parish church of the parish of Holy Trinity Islington shall be declared redundant in this scheme

The parsonage house of the benefice of Holy Trinity, Islington shall be the place of residence of the incumbent of the new benefice

The patronage of the new benefice shall be vested in the trustees of a trust (commonly known as “The Islington Churches Trust”) established pursuant to a deed dated 15 March 1831

20 December 1978, CERC, CARE/R 23/1024

[p. 20] Islington. Fashionable since the 1960s when Georgian houses were going for a song, Islington today is a mixture of natives and newcomers, of restored, elegant squares and unsightly slums. Its canalside area, puppet theatre and markets, even the run-down Angel, contribute to its unique charm.

If the profusion of restaurants, taxis and passing references in the Press were the hallmark of fashion, then Islington became fashionable in the late 1960s. Whether that is to its credit or benefit is a matter for disagreement among those who live there. Mary Cosh, architectural historian and former secretary of the Islington Society, takes a dim view of the whole process. “That ‘fashionable’ tag made Islington almost a dirty word for a time. Fleet Street think they discovered Islington. They didn’t; all they did was exploit it.”

Miss Cosh, who lives in an 1830s house facing Gibson Square, moved to Islington in 1959. She came, she says, simply because it was the only district where she could a house she wanted at a price she could afford. She had never heard of the place until Duncan Grant asked her to come and model for him there in the 50s.

In the past 19 years she has become hooked on her adopted village, both for its architecture and its atmosphere. But, she says, many of the newcomers who followed the “gentrification” wave of

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the 60s have not coalesced with the other Islingtonians. “When I first came there was a very strong community feeling. I don’t feel there is now”.

Islington means different things to different people. At one extreme it is the London Borough of Islington which stretches from Highgate Cemetery to the borders of the City of London; at the other it is that tight little shopping centre round the Angel. For the purposes of this article my definition is an arbitrary and in some sense a personal one. I include Barnsbury, where my mother grew up and where her father owned and ran a small back-garden factory – and where, in [p. 30] Barry’s Holy Trinity, Cloudesley Square, my parents married; Pentonville, whose Chapel Market fascinated and delighted me as a child; and St Peter’s Ward, west of Upper Street, in who now truncated Union Square my father’s family lived before moving to the then more fashionable heights of Muswell Hill. ...

This “middle Islington”, as I shall call it, was certainly not fashionable when I first came to know it as a boy. Second world War bombs and lack of maintenance, as well as some barrack-like blocks of LCC flats, had reinforced a steady social decline which began when the great noisome and polluted corridor of railways was cut through to the west of Pentonville in the 1830s and ‘40s to reach Euston and King’s Cross. It was not so much that the railways made the distant prospect from the heights of Barnsbury less pleasing, as that they put into the heads of the Victorian lower-middle classes the notion of an easily accessible place in the country. They left Islington and became commuters. Even so, until the turn of the century, Islington kept some of its cachet; shops in Upper Street still lived off the “Carriage trade” and only the opening of the Metropolitan Line to Bayswater seems to have tipped the scale so that the up-and-coming Mr Whiteley established his new emporium there instead of Upper Street. ...

It was really only in the 1820s that the great march of bricks and mortar hit the fields of Islington and Barnsbury. The Cloudesley and Gibson estates were among the first to be developed and set the pattern of spacious squares and orderly terraces which the district’s devotees today find so appealing. Islington’s squares are indeed its chief architectural glory; Gibson and Milner, Lonsdale, Barnsbury, Cloudesley and Thornhill, Malvern Terrace (a square in all but name); and to the east of Upper Street, Arlington and Unions Squares and Duncan Terrace / Colebrook Row. They are different in shape and character, and indeed scarcely one of them is actually a square. ...

Islington has come a long way since the early 1960s when the borough’s policy was to clear large areas of substandard housing and rebuild on new lines, all at odds with the urbane Victorian street pattern as well as unsympathetic materials. Now the council is spending £20 million a year on repairing and converting old houses. Whereas in 1973-4 it completed only 41 homes by rehabilitation as against 1,395 by new building, in 1976-77 the figures were 1,379 for “Rehab” as against 1,261 for “new build”. For the year ending March 31, 1978, the figures are likely to be about 1,300 for each; but these borough-wide figures disguise the fact that in Islington proper rehabilitation and conservation are now the norm.

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

What brought about that change of policy? Partly it is to be attributed to the influence of new Islingtonians – middle-class immigrants from other parts of London – drawn by attractive houses at prices they could afford. not a few worked their way into position of influence and power on the council and, in particular, in the ruling Labour group. Mrs Margaret Watson, chairman of the housing committee, is one of these. She came from Kennington in 1968, and her concern about growing sub-Rachman “winkling” and its effect [p. 31] on less well of and less articulate tenants led her to stand for the council. Since then, with the collapse of the property boom, Islington has been buying up Victorian houses at bargain prices and modernizing and converting them. When council tenants are getting flats in the beautifully restored terraces of Scott, New River and other 19th-century estates, somewhere the stigma that once attached to “conservation”, because it was synonymous with “gentrification”, simply dissolves. Mrs Watson talks enthusiastically of mixed communities in which council-occupiers exist side by side in the same street and are indistinguishable from one another. She talks scathingly of the anti-middle-class, Islington-for-the-Islingtonians propaganda which made some headway a year or two back. “We did a survey and found that only about 2 per cent of heads of house-holds were actually born here”, she says. She would probably agree with Mary Cosh’s dictum. “Some people see everything in class terms. But Islington’s divisions are not class ones, but those of haves and have-nots”. ...

The council’s rejection of [Gibberd’s mixed-development proposal for Duncan Street] has led the borough architect, Alfred Head, an Islington native and a prime mover of the council’s policies of conservation and rehabilitation, to draw up sketch schemes for a much more attractive rebuilding of the area ...

Tony Aldous, ‘London’s Villages: 16’, *Illustrated London News*, 1 April 1978, pp. 29-32

This scheme is made by the Church Commissioners in pursuance of the Pastoral Measure 1968. The former parish church of the former parish of Holy Trinity, Islington ... the redundant building and the land annexed or belonging thereto shall be appropriated to use for worship, services and other religious activities in accordance with the rites and customs of the Celestial Church of Christ and for purposes ancillary thereto. ... the contents of the redundant building, excluding the plate used for the purpose of Holy Communion, tombstones, monuments and memorials, shall be disposed of as the Bishop shall direct.

18 September 1980, CERC, CARE/R 23/1024

Renovations. In 1867 the chancel was remodelled and a new vestry built at the cost of £2,000. In 1879 the church was restored under the direction of Ewan Christian, during which time new choir stalls, prayer desk and lectern were purchased. In 1902, the Rev Thomas Lancaster (Vicar 1899-1910) was responsible for renovating the church and removing the north and south galleries at a cost of about £3,000. His successor, the Rev S. C. Rees-Jones (Vicar 1910-26)

Holy Trinity: Site acquisition, works and repairs, c.1811–1980

repaired the exterior of the church, decorated the interior and built the choir vestry in 1912 at the cost of nearly £1,000. The interior was further redecorated (at a cost of about £500) in 1928, and in 1954 A. Llewellyn Smith restored the building.

The organ, a very fine instrument, came from one of the churches in the City of London, and the brass communion rails were previously in St Barnabas's Church, Kensington. At one time there was a pulpit and reading desk of nearly equal height, placed on each side of the central passage.

P. J. Murray, *Islington Churches: Their Architecture and History, an Account of all the Churches in the Rural Deanery of Islington*, undated typescript held at Islington Local History Library, n.p.

‘... new railings, specially chosen to be in keeping with its historic character’

Focus, June 1985, in ILHC, clippings file, YJ852TRI

