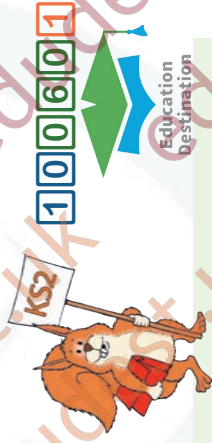




THE CHURCH TRAIL: CHURCH OF ST PETER



WELL



The origins of the church

The church of St Peter dates from about 1100, so it does not appear in Domesday Book.

The only part we can see of that first church is the north wall. This is because what we see today is almost all the work on an enlargement that took place in 1440.

Thus St Peter's has a consistency of style and symmetry of shape which is unusual for so old a church. Also for a rural Fifteenth Century church, St Peter's is unusually large; this tells us it must have served a very large community as well as Northcourt House just behind the trees opposite.

The enlargements were paid for by the Leigh family who were enlarging their own home, Northcourt, at the same time.

Notable features

The feature of St Peter's which is most noticeable is at the back of the church. It can be seen from the air and from the road. It is a large, low, rectangular building which is now a museum. It was built in 1534 and is one of the few buildings of the sixteenth century which have survived. It was built to store the main walls of the church which had been damaged by the English and it arrived at the church in 1541.

Outside St Peter's has a number of small, low, rectangular buildings which are now a museum. They were built to store the main walls of the church which had been damaged by the English and it arrived at the church in 1541.

Inside In St Peter's there are some very unusual features. One end of the church is unusual. It is a large, low, rectangular building which is now a museum. It was built in 1534 and is one of the few buildings of the sixteenth century which have survived. It was built to store the main walls of the church which had been damaged by the English and it arrived at the church in 1541.

The Victorian period and after

Unusually for a church of this size, St Peter's was not enlarged in the Nineteenth Century. However, there were some changes to the internal decoration. The most significant of which is above the north door. Murals were common before the Reformation but they were rare and precious. Christopher was a very important figure in the church and his name was carved on the north door.

The carved heads of the Seven Wise Men were added to the south door in 1900. In 1900 St Peter's was painted by Ofeigur Jonsson in 1834 and had been in the church of Thirteenth Century. It was a memorial to her son, but the Icelandic government asked for it to be removed and it was removed in 1974 and its return became the subject of a BBC television programme.

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Tick when you see the features at Church of St Peter, Shorwell!

100601

Outside



Blocked-up door



Steps up to bell-tower

Inside



Decorated Pew End



Candle Chandelier

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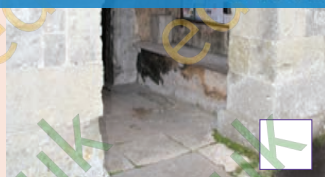
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Gothic Window



Romanesque Arch

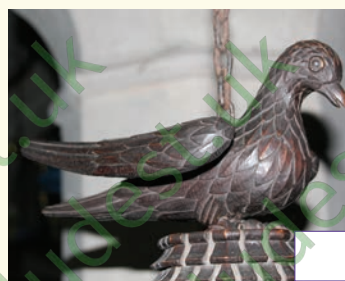


Blocked door for
Medieval cannon



Carved Stone Face

Medieval Mural



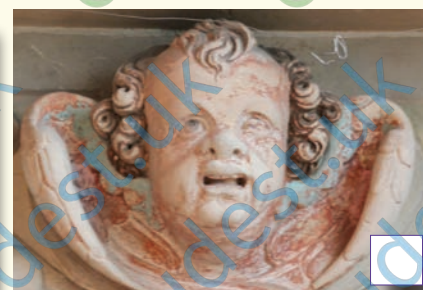
Carved Wooden Bird



Piscina



Stone Skull



Painted Cherub



Door with grill to keep
animals out



Sermon Timer