

St. Paul's Church, Spennymoor

Diocese of Durham
Archdeaconry of Sunderland
Deanery of Auckland

Quinquennial Inspection Report
July 2022

Priest in charge: Rev. Matthew Paul Tarling



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Date of Inspection	June 2022 Fair Weather

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A Brief Description of the Building:	
A1	<p>Background and General</p> <p>The Church occupies a prominent position at the centre of an open Churchyard adjacent to the A6074 (which is the main east/west road through the town) on rising ground towards the western end of Spennymoor. There is terraced housing on three sides of the site with the modern Church Hall adjacent but occupying a separate site on the north side.</p>
A2	<p>General Description of Church</p> <p>The building consists of a nave with a double pitched roof, with a parallel north aisle (also with double pitched roof), a chancel with "L" shaped vestry, a south porch and square west tower with a modern pointed copper clade spire and a later flat roofed extension now used as a kitchen / utility room. The walls are a combination of random rubble and coursed, roughly squared sandstone with Welsh blue slate roof covering.</p> <p>There are squared, dressed quoins to the vestry and eastern gate. The varieties in stonework appear to reflect the rebuilding / extension construction dates. The original Church was consecrated in 1858, in 1880 the north aisle was added, and in 1890 the tower. In 1953 there was a disastrous fire which required extensive rebuilding and re-consecration, and re-opening was achieved in 1956.</p>
A3	There is no Conservation Area relating to the Church.
A4	There are no Tree Preservation Orders on the Churchyard.
A5	There are no ancient monuments attached to the Church.

B Scope of Report:	
B1	This report, the second undertaken on this Church by the writer, is based on findings of a number of visits, delayed from 2020 due to the Covid pandemic, and finalised in June 2022. The weather was generally good with a dry summer. Viewing was made from ground level and with the aid of binoculars. No ladder inspection was made externally or into the roof void internally or belfry.
B2	A photographic record was made internally and externally of representative views.
B3	There were no roof voids or ceillures which required opening up.
B4	The ground floor boarded flooring was not opened up or access panels found.
B5	The Churchyard is still open and maintained by the Local Authority. The inspection was to the immediate vicinity of the Church.
B6	There is a foul drainage installation from the WC in the vestry and this is assumed to connect into the local authority sewer in the road, but no manholes were inspected or access points opened up.
B7	Thanks are acknowledged for help on the inspection day from the Churchwardens.
B8	See Appendix 'A' in this report for a full description of limitations of the inspection.

1.0	<p>Works Carried Out Since Previous Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2017 – leak in Vestry repaired • February 2017 – floor cleaning and polishing • May 2017 – provision of 2 no. new water extinguishers • October 2017 – boiler cabinet maintenance • March 2018 – organ maintenance • April 2018 – gutter cleaning and repairs • September 2018 – new light fitting • October 2018 – gutter cleaning and repairs • December 2018 – organ maintenance • November 2019 – porch repair • November 2019 – new electrical fitting to Vestry • December 2019 – organ maintenance • October 2020 – roof repair • March 2021 – audio-visual installation/platform • April 2021 – floor repair • June 2021 – provision of 2 no. new CO₂ extinguishers • November 2021 – relaying of wood block flooring in Nave • December 2021 – electrical inspection • February 2022 – replacement of faulty bulkhead fitting • February 2022 – roof slate replacements (20 no.) • March 2022 – PAT testing and repair/reinstallation of induction loop system • March 2022 – boiler repair and service
2.0	<p>General Condition of Church: The building is generally in a reasonable state of repair and continues to be reasonably well maintained. The external stonework, in particular to the tracery of the tower lancets, requires attention and the repair of the mortar pointing to much of the roof abutments is now a priority.</p>
EXTERNAL INSPECTION	
3.0	<p>General Structure:</p> <p>All walls are load bearing and appear to be generally sound except for a slight settlement crack (see Appendix B, P1) which follows the joint link under the centre of the east window; and internally there is a slight shrinkage / movement crack to the plaster under the east north aisle window which follows the thrust line of the chancel arch. These do not appear to have worsened since the last inspection.</p>
4.0	<p>External Wall Surfaces:</p> <p>These consist of both coursed and squared random rubble which is generally sound except as listed below. The stonework to window openings, copings etc. is dressed and is generally sound. The tower was re-pointed in 1990 and the dressed stonework to the entrance porch repaired in 1999.</p>
4.1	<p>North Elevations:</p> <p>Vestries: Generally sound. Some good matching re-pointing was carried out around 10 years ago. A few sections of coping above flat roof sections are delaminating and a small section of pointing is open to the wall head. The joints to the upper parapet coping are open in places.</p> <p>North Aisle: Generally sound except for slightly open joints to the bases of left-middle and right-hand buttresses. Open joints at plinth stone course also occur elsewhere.</p> <p>Former Choir Vestry: Sound.</p> <p>Tower: Sound.</p>

4.2	<p>South Elevations:</p> <p>Tower: Sound except for eroded and cracked tracery to head of lower tower lancet (see Appendix B, P2). There remain two pieces of debris that appear to have fallen from the underside of the stone belfry louvres and been caught by the bird mesh.</p> <p>Nave: Generally sound with some small areas of lean pointing under the first window to the right of the porch and to the left side of the right-hand buttress. There are also areas of over-pointing present where the masonry has become eroded. A few sections of the string course are delaminating particularly to their lower edge under the windows. The stone to south elevation has eroded substantially more than the latter north elevation. Easternmost buttress, upper level shows signs of salts liberated by moisture ingress.</p> <p>Porch: This was repaired in 1999 and is sound. The apex cross is missing and the apex plinth stone is cracked (see Appendix B, P3).</p> <p>Chancel: Sound except for a few individual eroded stones, particularly close to ground level (see Appendix B, P4).</p>
4.3	<p>East Elevations:</p> <p>Tower: Sound. A small temporary patch of 'Flashband' has been fixed to the lower end of the upper lead abutment flashing, still in place.</p> <p>Porch: Extensive over-pointing; otherwise sound.</p> <p>East Gable: Extensive over-pointing to lower levels which is now beginning to stand proud, with some erosion of individual stones to the upper level.</p> <p>Chancel Gable: Generally sound.</p> <p>North Aisle Gable: Sound.</p> <p>Vestries: Sound except for some lean joints near to ground level at the east gable.</p>
4.4	<p>West Elevations:</p> <p>Choir Vestry: Sound.</p> <p>North Aisle Gable: Sound.</p> <p>Tower: Sound except for damage to the stone tracery and glazing of the lower lancet window, and also more extensive glass damage to upper lancet window (see Appendix B, P5).</p> <p>Nave: Concern on integrity of valley lining and discharge over hopper head to downpipe over kitchen roof.</p> <p>Porch: Sound.</p>
5.0	<p>Roof Coverings:</p> <p>These consist, on all pitched roofs, of regular coursed blue Welsh slate, which is generally sound except for minor damage. The flat roofs are either asphalt (to the clergy vestries) or single ply polymer (to the choir vestry). The spire is covered in copper sheet and, although slightly distorted, appears generally sound and weather tight. The valley gutter should be inspected with the Quinquennial Inspector in attendance.</p>

5.1	<p>North Elevation:</p> <p>Chancel: Sound except for one broken/slipped slate adjacent to the end of the upper parapet. The mortar haunching to the east gable is cracked and loose (see Appendix B, P6).</p> <p>Nave: Generally sound except for some minor damage to the lower courses adjacent to the valley gutter.</p> <p>North Aisle: There are around 15 cracked or displaced slates to the north aisle. The cement haunching to the east abutment is missing or loose.</p> <p>Tower: There is a missing slate at the lower end of the east gable of the tower adjacent to the abutment flashing.</p> <p>Flat Roofs (high level): Mastic asphalt generally sound with slight build-up of debris adjacent to fall pipe. The top edge of the up-stand is open on the east side.</p> <p>Flat Roofs (low level): Asphalt with mineral felt edging appears sound.</p>
5.2	<p>South Elevation:</p> <p>North Aisle: Generally sound except for damaged slate adjacent to east gable, a large temporary repair below the access hatch, a few cracked slates adjacent to the west gable and some minor damage to the bottom course. The cement haunching to the east abutment is cracked, missing or loose.</p> <p>Nave: Generally sound except for a few slightly chipped slates.</p> <p>Chancel: Generally sound except for a few chipped slates. One small area at ridge level and a few individual slates have been replaced in a different type of slate which appears to either have a high iron content or be a different material as they have turned to a 'rust' colour.</p>
5.3	<p>East Elevation:</p> <p>Porch: Sound.</p>
5.4	<p>West Elevation:</p> <p>Porch: Sound.</p> <p>West Extension: Consists of single ply polymer possibly laid over an insulation layer, new in 2006 and appears sound.</p>
6.0	<p>Rainwater Disposal System:</p> <p>Consists of deep cast iron eaves gutters and cast iron downpipes to main church with later uPVC to tower, all generally sound except for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Most ground gullies are still choked with vegetation, which is no change since last inspection (see Appendix B, P7/P8/P9) b) Vegetable growth at easternmost end of the nave gutter, south side, may have contributed to salts in the buttress below c) Grating is missing to east end of north aisle and east side of Vestry (see Appendix B, P10) <p>It is imperative that all gutters, valleys etc. are cleaned twice yearly.</p>

7.0	External Windows and Doors:
7.1	<p>Windows: Generally sound except for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 3 no. panes are broken to the clock room floor on the west side (see Appendix B, P11) b) 2 no. panes are broken to the lower west tower lancet window c) 2 no. panes are broken to the lower south tower lancet window
7.2	<p>Doors: Generally sound.</p>
8.0	<p>External Metalwork, Woodwork and Paintwork:</p> <p>Metal window guards to the south consist of galvanised mesh, generally sound but galvanising is wearing off in places and the metal is becoming rusty, particularly at the fixing points on the south side. External doors are varnished or painted. Vestry doors varnishing should be re-coated.</p> <p>The 'new' east window has polycarbonate over-glazing, which is the preferred solution for glass protection.</p>
9.0	<p>Tower, Spire, Bells and Frames:</p> <p>I could not see evidence of anti-perching devices to ledges but netting is installed over the louvres to deter pigeons.</p>
9.1	<p>Clock: The tower houses a public weight operated clock (by W. Potts and Sons, Leeds 1898, reconditioned in 1951) with good access via a spiral stone stair which has adequate lighting. The clock is hand wound and consideration might be given to installing a self-winding mechanism should people being available to hand wind become an issue.</p>
9.2	<p>Bells: There are two fixed bells which are struck by hammers, both linked to the clock and one of which is also rung by the church. There is a set of eight tubular bells but these are now unused.</p>
9.3	<p>Belfry: The internal side of the belfry louvres are fully lined with polythene sheeting and chicken wire. Access ladders to the upper levels are not fixed and the tower ladder is missing a rung. The nature of the ladder (unfixed and missing a rung) and the loose boards which cover the opening could present a significant safety hazard, especially to a lone worker. I would suggest that a hinged trap door arrangement and a fixed ladder be installed. Consideration should also be given to obtaining specialist advice on the potential feasibility of restoring to use the tubular bells (which are an uncommon feature).</p> <p>In the event, the spire space was not inspected due to the inadequate, damaged state of the access ladder (see Appendix B, P12).</p>
9.4	<p>Spire: The spire timber roof structure appears sound. The north west stone corbel is slightly eroded. Access to the spire is by a loose ladder and potentially more difficult than the belfry. I would suggest that a permanent ladder may not be feasible but, again, specialist advice be taken on periodic maintenance of the bell ringing mechanisms.</p> <p>(These remarks date from the previous inspection – see item 9.3).</p>

INTERNAL INSPECTION	
10.0	Roof Structure: The roofs are all under boarded therefore the structures are not visible but they appear to be sound as no movement or unevenness was noted.
11.0	Internal Partitions: There are none, except to the former choir vestry, which has a small length of plasterboard stud which is sound, most walls being load bearing.
12.0	Internal Ceilings:
12.1	Church: Plain painted timber boarding which is sound except for slight surface damage adjacent to tower abutment above the organ pipework, where there is occasional water ingress. There is a damp stain in northwest corner of the aisle (see Appendix B, P13).
12.2	Chancel: Ceiling is decorated and in good condition (see Appendix B, P14).
12.3	Clergy Vestry: Newly re-plastered.
12.4	Former Choir Vestry (kitchen): Painted plaster onto concrete deck, generally sound with slight surface flaking.
12.5	Transept: Redecorated since last inspection.
13.0	Internal Walls: Smooth, plastered throughout. Re-plastering to dado level to north aisle of north wall; and clergy vestry, transept and north aisle to east wall at high level – painting in good condition. Any future re-painting should consist of matt emulsion only, which will allow the structure to ‘breathe’ rather than entrap structure borne moisture.
14.0	Internal Doors: Oak limed and sound.
15.0	Internal Decoration: This was renewed prior to 1995 and is generally sound. The Choir Vestry was redecorated as part of the refurbishment scheme in September 2006.
16.0	Floors and Balconies:
16.1	Church: Concrete paving and hardwood block appears sound except for some surface damage between aisle and transept. Extensive investigation and remedial work to loose/uplifted hardwood herringbone flooring undertaken in 2021 – floor now reinstated. Softwood boarding to choir stalls was renewed prior to 1995.
16.2	Clergy Vestry: Woodblock with carpet covering to part – surface treatment required.
16.3	Choir Vestry: Vinyl sheet, presumably over original woodblock flooring, appears sound.

17.0	Glazing and Ventilation:
17.1	Glazing consists mainly of clear leaded or stained glass, generally sound except for some breakages to tower. All windows either overglazed or guarded except to tower and southwest corner of nave.
17.2	There are some hopper ventilators, which are not used, but otherwise the building appears to be adequately ventilated, except possibly the vestries. The clergy vestry contains the gas boiler and has a re-plastered ceiling and low level re-plastering.
18.0	Fixtures and Fittings:
18.1	Furniture and Fittings: Except for choir pews, seating is of linked wooden chairs with oak frontal. There is a pedestal oak pulpit and modern oak sanctuary furniture, all in good order.
18.2	Organ: The organ is a modern pipe instrument by the Vincent Organ Company of Sunderland, installed in 1968. There is a remote console with the pipes located at the west end in the lower part of the tower. It is regularly serviced and understood to be in good condition.
18.3	Monuments: There are a number of brass and timber wall memorials.
19.0	Heating Installation:
19.1	The system consists of a gas fired (Ideal Standard) 58.7kW output, low pressure, wet system serving radiators and fan convectors added in 1993 when the hot water pipework was also renewed.
19.2	Boiler ventilation is provided by high and low level grilles in the vestry external doors. Gas inspection reports should confirm the adequacy of these measures.
19.3	The boiler is serviced annually by Graham Johnson.
20.0	Electrical and Lighting Installation:
20.1	The system consists of a 240V, 2 phase supply with distribution by MICC cable, circuits protected by miniature circuit breakers. There is no earth leakage protection. Otherwise the installation is understood to be satisfactory.
20.2	Artificial lighting is either low wattage fluorescent lamps or tungsten halogen floodlights which are all operational except for 2 sets of pendants on the south side of the nave.
20.3	Lightning Conductor: The installation consists of 3 flat copper down tapes (an additional one was fitted when the tower was re-pointed in 1990) and satisfies the requirements of BS6651:1985. Testing was due in 2010 and certification should be attached to the Log Book (due).
21.0	Fire Precautions:
21.1	There are 7 no. water, 3 no. CO ₂ and 1 no. ABC powder extinguishers situated throughout the building, all in a useable condition and tested regularly (due).
21.2	There is also a fire blanket located in the kitchen area.
22.0	Security:
22.1	The clergy vestry door is secured by a dead lock, the former choir vestry is bolted and locked, and the main entrance has a security lock.

22.2	A previous inspection records that the building has been broken into through various windows previously. It is evident that there is a significant pedestrian desire line from the entrance gateway at the south, traversing the grassed Churchyard to the east of the chancel. The absence of perimeter fencing and gates make this route attractive but I would suggest that it would not be in the Church's interest for this to be established as a legal right of way (by use and dedication?). Signage might be a partial answer to this.
23.0	Sanitary Facilities:
23.1	Facilities consist of 1 no. wash hand basin in the clergy vestry and 1 no. accessible standard WC in the choir vestry.
23.2	The former choir vestry has been upgraded during the previous Quinquennial period to provide a small kitchen and utility area.
24.0	Disabled Provision and Access
24.1	Access: There is level access to the main entrance which is wide enough for wheelchair use. The congregational area is level throughout, including to the new kitchen and toilet.
24.2	Toilet Facilities: There is 1 no. accessible standard WC adjacent to the new kitchen (former Choir Vestry).
24.3	Hearing: The sound reinforcement installation has an induction (hearing) loop facility.
24.4	Sight: The natural lighting levels are probably adequate but may be closer to the minimum level when artificial light is required.
25.0	Bats:
25.1	There were no reports of bats in the Church or Churchyard.

CURTAILAGE	
26.0	Churchyard
26.1	The churchyard is now closed and the gravestones have been repositioned around the boundary wall and along the north side of the building.
26.2	The Local Authority is responsible for maintenance of the grounds, including landscape planting.
26.3	There is an open boundary on the south and east sides and previous discussions with the Town Council regarding possible boundary enclosure and other improvements have been abandoned (see 22.2).
27.0	Log Book
27.1	Continue to maintain Log Book.
28.0	Previous Reports
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report dated December 2009 by John A. G. Niven 2. Report dated January 2015 by Hugh Massey

	Ref	Price (£)
URGENT WORKS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION - Category 1		
None		
WORK RECOMMENDED TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING NEXT 12 MONTHS - Category 2		
Lightning conductor to be tested in accordance with the requirements of BS6651. Any defects to be repaired or replaced or reported to the Architect and a copy of the Test Certificate to be placed with the Log Book.	20.3	175.00
Electrical installation to be tested by competent electrical engineer, and a resistance and earth continuity test obtained on all circuits (as prescribed in the IEE Regulations for Electrical Installations). The engineer's test report and certificate should be kept with the Log Book.	20.1	175.00
Heating Installation – provide carbon monoxide alarm within the first clergy area and provide gas safety certification.	19.0	300.00
Check fire extinguishers annually.	21.1	175.00
Clear vegetation etc. from drainage gullies at ground level.	6.0	120.00
Replace gratings to two gullies at east end/point up surround to ensure flow to drainage	6.0	200.00
Clear debris from valley gutter between the nave and aisle roofs.	6.0	240.00
External Stonework – cracked and eroded tracery to head of lower lancet to south side of tower, and damaged tracery to lower lancet to west side of tower.	4.2 / 4.4	1200.00
Seal gap to top edge of asphalt up stand to east side of upper vestry roof.	5.1	240.00
Replace temporary repairs to slates on south face of north aisle with new slate.	5.2	240.00
Repair damaged slate work adjacent to valley gutter.	5.0	120.00
Replace cement haunching with a “flexible” pointing compound to abutments to east gable, chancel gable, and east/west abutments to north aisle where these are loose, cracked or missing.	5.1 / 5.2	175.00
Re-fix or replace loose or missing slates to north face of north aisle and to north side of chancel adjacent to end of upper parapet.	4.2	120.00
Repair broken sections of glazing on west and south sides of tower.	7.1	175.00
Replace missing rung to access ladder to tower and provide secure fixing for both access ladders; make trap door operable.	9.3	300.00
Check undersides of all stone louvres and remove any loose stone. Remove loose pieces of stone caught behind bird netting.	9.0	175.00
WORK RECOMMENDED TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING NEXT 5 YEARS - Category 3		
Re-point / repair small area of open joints to north elevation of vestry.	4.1	175.00
Re-point / repair small areas of lean pointing to south side of tower above roof junction and to nave under first window to east of porch, and left side of right-hand buttress.	4.2	240.00

Re-point / repair area of lean joints near ground level to east gable.	4.3	600.00
Re-point / repair Areas of lean joints near ground level to 2 no. buttresses on north side.	4.1	240.00
Re-point / repair open joints to upper parapet coping to transept.	4.1	240.00
WORK TO BE CONSIDERED BEYOND 5 YEARS - Category 4		
Repair by removal and repointing areas of over-pointing to south side of nave, porch and east gable.	4.2	3500.00
Repair, replace or redress laminated sections of string course on south side of nave.	4.2	950.00
Replace sections of stone coping to clergy vestry parapets which are laminating.	4.1	1750.00
Repair / replace cracked apex stone to porch gable and replace missing apex stone cross.	4.2	1200.00
If convenient, have weight driven clock regularly hand wound; consider having mechanism converted to an automatic electrical system.	9.1	N/A
ITEMS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION		
If necessary, investigate possible cause of occasional water ingress to abutment with tower. Consideration may have to be given to stripping out this section and re-slating after replacing / renewing lead soakers and cover flashings with adequate sections of lead.	12.1	£250.00

NOTE

Churchwardens should be aware of their responsibility under the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 which includes guidance to routine maintenance and inspection of Church property.

'A Guide to Church Inspection and Repair' published by the Council for the Care of Churches can be obtained from SPCK bookshops.

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APPENDIX

A. General:

This report is not a specification for the execution of works and must not be used as such. It is a general report only as required by the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955.

The Architect has indicated in it such maintenance items, if any, which may safely be carried out without professional supervision.

Conservation and repair of Churches is a highly specialised subject if work is to be carried out both aesthetically and technically in the best manner, without being wasteful in expenditure. It is, therefore, essential that every care is taken to ensure that no harm is done to the fabric or fittings and when the Parochial Church Council is ready to proceed it should instruct the Architect accordingly, when he will prepare specifications and schedules and arrange for the work to be carried out by an approved Contractor under his direction.

Costs on much of the work or repairing Churches cannot be accurately estimated because the full extent of damage is only revealed as work proceeds, but when the Architect has been instructed to prepare specifications he can obtain either firm prices or considered approximate estimates, whichever may be appropriate.

The Architect will be glad to help the Parochial Church Council complete an appeal application to a charitable body if necessary, or to assist in applying for the essential Faculty or Archdeacon's Certificate.

B. Scope of Report:

The Report is based on the findings of an Inspection made from the ground and from other easily accessible points, or from ladders provided by the Parochial Church Council, to comply with the Diocesan Scheme under the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955.

It is emphasised that the inspection has been purely visual and that no enclosed spaces or inaccessible parts, such as boarded floors, roof spaces, or hidden timbers at wall heads have been opened up for inspection. Any part which may require further investigation is referred to in the appropriate section of this Report.

C. Cleaning of Gutters etc.:

The Parochial Church Council is strongly advised to enter into an annual contract with a local builder for cleaning out the gutters and downpipes twice a year.

D. Pointing and Masonry:

Wherever pointing is recommended it is absolutely essentially that the procedure in item (a) of this appendix be adhered to as without proper supervision much harm can be done to the fabric by incorrect use of materials and techniques.

E. Heating Installation:

Subject to any comments to the contrary in Section 19.0 of this Report, the remarks in this Report are based only upon a superficial examination of the general condition of the heating installation, particularly in relation to fire hazards and sightliness. The installation and maintenance of any oil fired equipment should be in accordance with current editions of the British Standards Code of Practice CD 3002 and British Standards BS799.

NB: A proper examination and test should be made of the heating apparatus by a qualified engineer each summer, prior to the start of the heating season and the report of such examination should be kept in the Church Log Book. The Parochial Church Council is strongly advised to consider arranging a regular inspection contract.

Wherever practicable, subject to finances, it is recommended that the installation be run at a low setting throughout the week, as distinct from being 'ON' during services only, as constant warmth has a beneficial effect on the fabric, fittings and decorations.

F. Electrical Installation:

Any electrical installation should be tested every quinquennium and immediately if not done within the last five years (except as may be otherwise recommended in this Report) by a competent electrical engineer or by the Supply Authority and an insulation resistance and earth continuity test should be obtained on all circuits. The engineer's test report should be kept with the Church Log Book.

Where no recent report or certificate of inspection from a competent electrical engineer (one who is on the Roll of Approved Contractors issued by the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting) is available, the comments in this Report are based upon a visual inspection made without instruments of the main switchboard and of sections of wiring selected at random. Electrical installation for lighting and heating, and other electrical circuits, should be installed and maintained in accordance with the current editions of the Institution of Electrical Engineers Rules and the more specific recommendations of the Council for the Care of Churches, contained in the publication "The Lighting of Churches".

G. Lightning Conductors:

As a defective conductor may attract lightning, the lightning conductor should be tested every quinquennium in accordance with the British Standard Code of Practice (current edition) by a competent electrical engineer and the record of the test results, conditions and recommendations should be kept with the Church Log Book.

Conductors on lofty spires and other not readily accessible positions should be closely examined every ten years, particularly the contact between the tape and the vane rod or finial. If the conductor tape is without a test clamp, one should be provided above ground level.

H. Maintenance between Inspections:

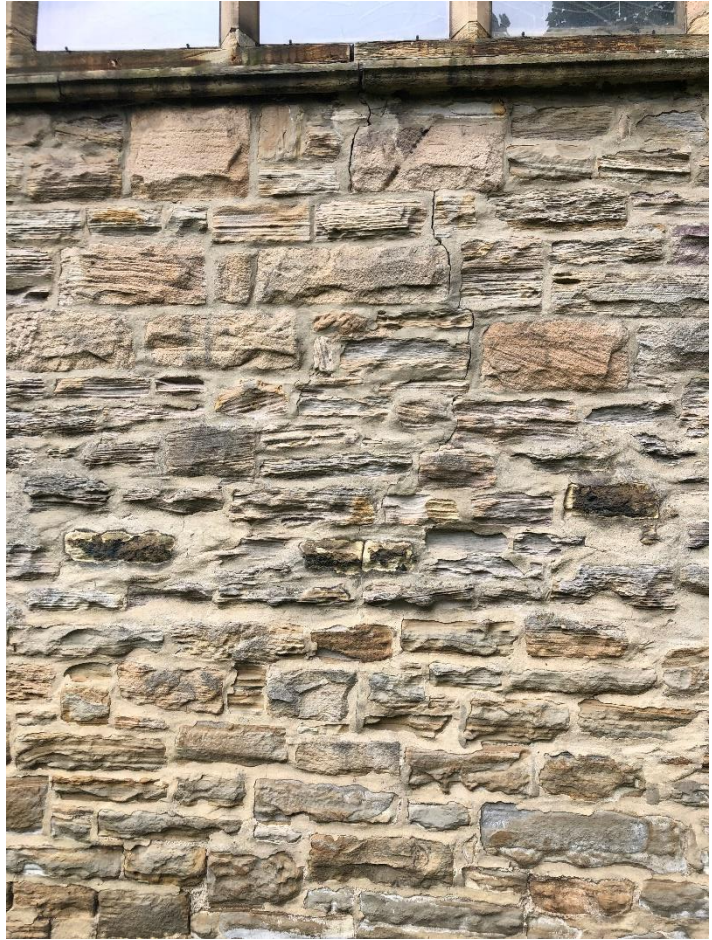
Although the Measure requires the Church to be inspected by an Architect every five years it should be realised that serious trouble may develop between surveys if minor defects such as displaced slates and leaking pipes are left unattended.

J. Fire Insurance:

The Parochial Church Council is advised that the fire insurance cover should be periodically reviewed to keep pace with the rising cost of repairs.

At least one fire extinguisher should be kept in an easily accessible position in the Church, together with an additional extinguisher of the foam or CO₂ type where heating apparatus is oil fired.

APPENDIX B: Photographic Survey:



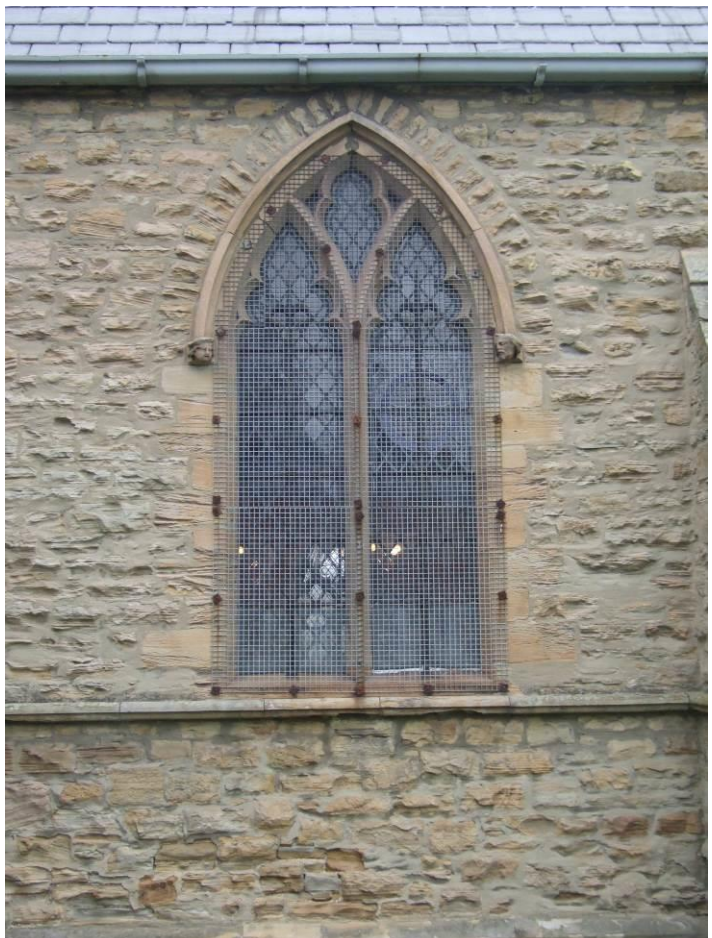
P1 (IMG 7703):
Settlement crack under east window



P2 (IMG 7699):
Cracked tracery head, lower
Tower lancet window



P3 (IMG 458):
Porch, with missing apex cross



P4 (IMG 487):
Chancel window, with eroded
stones near ground level



P5 (IMG 7674):
Tower, with damaged tracery
to lancet window and extensive glass
damage to upper lancet window



P6 (IMG 476):
Chancel, north elevation



P7 (IMG 7684):
Ground gully choked with
vegetation/litter



P8 (IMG 7709):
Ground gully choked with vegetation

P9 (IMG 7696):
Ground gully choked with vegetation



P10 (IMG 7698):
Damaged surrounds to gully,
to be repointed





P11 (IMG 7607):
Tower clock room, west elevation,
showing 3 no. broken panes



P12 (IMG 7612):
Damaged/unsafe spire access ladder



P13 (IMG 7603):
Damp stain, northwest corner of aisle



P14 (IMG 498):
Chancel ceiling

APPENDIX C: Listing Document

Church of St Paul, Spennymoor

Description: Church of St Paul

Grade: II

Date Listed: 30 March 1951

English Heritage Building ID: 112276

OS Grid Reference: NZ2530433480

OS Grid Coordinates: 425304, 533480

Latitude/Longitude: 54.6957, -1.6089

Location: 2 Belle Vue Street, Spennymoor, Durham DL16 7LW

Locality: [Spennymoor](#)

County: [Durham](#)

Country: [England](#)

Postcode: DL16 7LW

Listing Text

NZ 23 SE SPENNYMOOR WHITWORTH TERRACE
(North side)

6/74 Church of St. Paul
GV II

Parish church. 1856-8 by J.A. Cory; tower said to have been designed 1876-1880 by C.H. Fowler and built without spire 1890-1899. Plans were submitted in 1881 (Plan 178) by John Henry for tower and steeple, and in 1898 (Plan 319) by Fowler for unnamed work; these plans cannot be found. Plaque in north aisle records 1878 enlargement. Repaired and restored 1954 by S. Dykes Bower after fire which destroyed interior. Coursed sandstone rubble with plinth and ashlar dressings; Welsh slate roof with stone gable copings. Nave with west tower and south porch, north aisle and north-west choir vestry; chancel with north vestry. Strap hinges with fleur-de-lys finials on boarded door in triple-chamfered surround with 2-centred-arch; side buttresses support stone-coped gable; restored sundial in gable peak. Blocked quatrefoils in porch returns. 3-bay nave has cusped tracery in 2-light windows, on sill string interrupted by buttresses with offsets; lancets in 2-bay chancel, paired in west bay, all with drip moulds. Large 3-light east window has similar tracery and sill strings; buttresses, angle at corner. North aisle similar to nave, and with large 3-light west window under gable. Flat-roofed north-west vestry has stone-mullioned 3-light windows and Tudor-arched north door. Tower has 3 offsets and angle buttresses with corresponding offsets; single west light in high first stage on first offset; smaller lights in second stage; paired belfry openings with louvres, under corbel table and coped parapet. New swept pyramidal copper spire. Steeply-pitched roofs, with overlapping gable copings and stone cross finials; aisle roof slightly lower than nave.

Interior: painted plaster with ashlar dressings; keeled ribbed boarded roof, with chancel roof painted. Arcade of 3 wide double-chamfered 2-centred arches and one narrow arch on octagonal piers; double-hollow-chamfered chancel arch on shafted corbels. Elliptical-headed organ arch on north. 1954 door to north vestry and window above. 2 tower piers with quoins support shafts to possible arch now obscured by re-sited organ. Rerearches. Tower oratory. Chancel roof richly painted. Glass: fragments of original in light over vestry door; south chancel windows post-1954 by Goddard and Gibbs (initials in galleon) with A.E.B. Octagonal stone pedestal font, with high-quality swept cover, beside door. Monuments include plaque to Rosa Charlotte Duncomb Shafto, died 1899, 'a liberal donor ... a zealous promoter of every good work'. South African War memorial plaque by H. Eagle and Co., Newcastle, to those who 'cheerfully responded', listing regiments.

Source: Sedgfield District Council, Spennymoor Urban District register of submitted plans, 1876-1900.

Grants from Incorporated Church Building Society received 1856, 1879 and 1955.

Listing NGR: NZ2530433480

Source: *English Heritage*

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