



**Useful resources and links
for church building projects and research.**

Contents:

Church Building Research Resources	3
Church Maintenance Resources	7
Environment	8
Project Development Resources	9
Grant Funding	10
Friends Groups	11
Buildings for Mission including Community Engagement	12

Church Buildings Research Resources

This reading list and list of internet resources covers just about all the resources you need to consider to undertake research about your local parish church, and there is also a section specific to Lincolnshire. Book references are arranged by author, publication date, title and publisher. The latest editions (where known) have been included, but earlier editions of some of the volumes below may still be available.

Lincolnshire Internet resources

Lincolnshire Archives <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/history-heritage/lincolnshire-archives/2>

Not strictly an internet resource but the Records Office in Lincoln hold a wide variety of research material which you can go and view. Their staff are very helpful and can be contacted through the link above.

Lincolnshire Heritage Explorer - <https://heritage-explorer.lincolnshire.gov.uk/> A website linked in with the Historic Environment Record and records all archaeological sites and historic buildings in the county. This dataset covers the Lincolnshire and not North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire and Lincoln City areas. These can be found through the links below:

<https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/historic-environment-record/>

<https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/heritage-and-conservation/>

<https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/visitors/archaeology-heritage-1/5>

The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology - <http://www.slha.org.uk/index.php> A very active local society with a variety of publications some of which are available to look at on their website. They have a useful search function which picks up all of their publications and pictures of the subject that you search for.

Lincs to the Past – <https://www.lincstothepast.com/> This useful website contains a wealth of information and records on everything Lincolnshire – people, places, documents, archaeology and much more.

The Lincolnshire Records Society - <http://www.lincoln-record-society.org.uk/> The society have a vast amount of very useful local history and some church related research. Search their website and publications list for full details.

General Internet Resources

The British Sundial Society - <https://sundialsoc.org.uk/> A specialist society that looks at scratch dials and sundial on churches and other buildings.

The Church Monuments Society - <https://churchmonumentsociety.org/> A society devoted to church monuments of all ages.

The Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture - <http://www.ascorpus.ac.uk/> An incredibly useful resource listing Anglo-Saxon sculpture across the country. Corpus Volume V covers Lincolnshire.

The Corpus of Romanesque Sculpture in Britain and Ireland - <https://www.crsbi.ac.uk/> A similar resource to the above but focussing on post-Conquest sculpture. Has a searchable database including much Lincolnshire material.

Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi: Medieval Stained Glass in Great Britain - <https://www.cvma.ac.uk/> A searchable corpus of medieval stained glass across the country including detailed photographs and a searchable database

The Ecclesiological Society - <http://ecclsoc.org/> General focus on Georgian and Victorian churches but also have useful publications and information on medieval ones too.

The Georgian Group - <https://georgiangroup.org.uk/> A group that is interested in all things Georgian including churches.

Heritage Gateway - <https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/> A website of national coverage that is searchable by county. Also see Historic Environment Records below.

Historic England listed buildings database - <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/> A searchable database of listed buildings where you can download the listing description of your church.

The Monumental Brass Society - <https://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/> This society covers monumental brasses of all ages.

Open Domesday – this is Domesday Book in digital format with a searchable database and a map. It has a wealth of information about all the settlements recorded in the survey and also lists churches. <http://opendomesday.org/>

The Society for Church Archaeology - <https://www.churcharchaeology.org/> Looks at all sorts of church archaeology both in the UK and abroad.

The Victorian Society - <https://www.victoriansociety.org.uk/site> A society that champions all things Victorian including churches.

Architectural Dictionaries and more general works

- Bradley, S. (2018) *Churches an Architectural Guide (Pevsner Architectural Guides: Introductions)*. Yale University Press.
- Byrne, M. (2021) *The Treasures of English Churches: Witnesses to the History of a Nation*. Shire Publications.
- Canon, J. (2014) *Medieval Church Architecture*. Shire Publications.
- Curl, J.S. and Wilson, S. (2016) *Oxford Dictionary of Architecture*. Oxford University Press.
- Hayman, R. (2007) *A concise guide to the Parish Church*. History Press Ltd.
- Rice, M. ((2013) *Rice's Church Primer*. Bloomsbury Publishing.
- Taylor, R. (2003) *How to read a church: A guide to images, symbols and meanings in Churches and Cathedrals*. Rider Books.

Period specific and more detailed works

- Badham, S. (2014) *Medieval Church and Churchyard Monuments*. Shire Publications.
- Badham, S. and Stuchfield, M. (2009) *Monumental Brasses*. Shire Publications.
- Binski, P. (2014) *Gothic Wonder: Art, Artifice and the Decorated Style 1290-1350*. Yale University Press.
- Bowdler, R. (2019) *Churchyards*. Amberley Publishing.
- Byrne, M. (2020) *Church Fonts*. Shire Publications.
- Champion, M. (2015) *Medieval Graffiti: The Lost Voices of England's Churches*. Ebury Press.
- Coldstream. N. (1999) *The Decorated Style, Architecture and Ornament 1240-1360*. British Museum Press.
- Coldstream. N. (2002) *Medieval Architecture*. Oxford University Press.
- Cooper, T. and Brown, S. (2011) *Pews, Benches and Chairs*. The Ecclesiological Society. (This is available as a free pdf from the Ecclesiological Society website - see above).
- Cowen, P. (2008) *English Stained Glass*. Thames and Hudson.
- Draper, P. (2006). *The Formation of English Gothic: Architecture and Identity*. Yale University Press
- Fernie, E. (1983) *The Architecture of the Anglo-Saxons*. Batsford
- Fernie, E. (2002) *The Architecture of Norman England*. Oxford University Press.
- Harvey, J. (1978) *The Perpendicular Style 1330-1485*. B. T. Batsford
- Hayman, R. (2014) *Church Misericords and Bench Ends*. Shire Publications.

Hayman, R. (2018) *Rood Screens*. Shire Publications.

Hislop, M. (2000) *Medieval Masons*. Shire Publications.

Huitson, T. (2014) *Stairway to Heaven: The Functions of Medieval Upper Spaces*. Oxbow Books.

McNeill, T. (2006) *Faith, Pride and Works: Medieval Church Building*. Tempus.

Morris, R. (1989) *Churches in the Landscape*. Dent. (Re-issue 2000).

Orme, N. (2021) *Going to Church in Medieval England*. Yale University Press

Rodwell, W. (2012) *The Archaeology of Churches*. Amberley Publishing.

Roffey, S. (2008) *Chantry Chapels and Medieval Strategies for the Afterlife*. Tempus Publishing.

Rosewell, R. (2011) *Medieval Wall Paintings*. The Boydell Press.

Rosewell, R. (2013) *Stained Glass*. Shire Publications

Whiting, R. (2014) *The Reformation of the English Parish Church*. Cambridge University Press.

Woodcock, A. (2011) *Gargoyles and Grotesques*. Shire Publications.

Lincolnshire specific resources

Ambler, R. W. (2000) *Churches, Chapels and Parish Communities of Lincolnshire 1660-1900*. Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology.

Hill, F. (1990) *Medieval Lincoln*. Paul Watkins Publications.

Ketteringham, J. R. (2009) *Lincolnshire Bells and Bellfounders*. Published by the author.

Owen, D. M. (1990) *Church and Society in Medieval Lincolnshire (History of Lincolnshire Volume V)*. Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology.

Pevsner, N and Antram, N. (2002) *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*. Yale University Press. (There are numerous earlier editions of this too).

Start, D. and Stoker, D. (Eds) (2011) *The Making of Grantham the Medieval Town*. Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

Stocker, D and Everson, P. (2006) *Summoning St Michael: Early Romanesque Towers in Lincolnshire*. Oxbow Books

August 2021

Church Maintenance Resources

Online Resources

Historic England Guidance <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/places-of-worship/maintenance/>

This provides a good overview with links to further guidance.

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB). A range of resources and guidance – see below but the website has more.

<https://www.spab.org.uk/sites/default/files/SPAB-FiM-maintenance-calendar.pdf>

https://www.spab.org.uk/advice/search-our-knowledgebase?keywords=&category_type=154

They also ran maintenance projects and training. This is the link to the toolkits and other resources.

<https://www.spab.org.uk/campaigning/maintenance-co-operatives-project/mcp-fim-resources>

Books

Halsall, J. (2015) *Caring for your Church Building*. Kevin Mayhew Publishing Ltd.

Walter, N. and Mottram, A. (2015) *Buildings for Mission: A complete guide to care, conservation and development of churches*. Canterbury Press.

Crofts, S. (2013) *The Good Maintenance Guide: A practical handbook to help volunteers care and preserve our historic places of worship*. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. This book is now out of print but worthwhile if you can find a copy.

Behrens, J. (2014) *Practical Church Management*. Gracewing Publications. This is now a little dated and in need of an update but is still a useful book covering a wide-range of church related topics

Environment

Caring for God's Acre. <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>

Energy Footprint Tool. <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change/about-our-environment/energy-footprint-tool#na>

National resources about **Net Zero carbon church** including webinars.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/net-zero-carbon-church>

Database of **renewable energy church installations**.

<https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/renewables>

Eco Church. <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

Project Development Resources

Churchcare – ChurchCare is the Church of England's national resource, adding value from the centre to support over 16,000 parish churches. ChurchCare supports all those in parishes, dioceses and cathedrals caring for their buildings today and for the enjoyment of future generations. It is the comprehensive source of information for everyone managing a church building. There is a section on grant funding including Church Building Council grants.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare>

Parish Resources - This site is provided by the Church of England's National Stewardship & Resources team and offers over 400 pages of resources (web & pdf) to support all aspects of stewardship, administration and management in the local church, as well as links to other sites and pages of interest. There is a section on grant funding.

<https://www.parishresources.org.uk/>

Crossing the Threshold – With numerous case studies, top tips and end-of-chapter checklists, as well as advice from experts in their fields, and with input and expertise from a range of national church organisations, this practical document draws upon the lessons learned from recent church projects of all denominations across the UK.

<https://www.hereford.anglican.org/parish-support/community-partnership/crossing-the-threshold-toolkit/>

Church Urban Fund – The website is a useful resource for information on various forms of community outreach and has a search tool for the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

<https://cuf.org.uk/>

Index of Multiple Deprivation – A useful tool to discover more information about specific needs in your parish.

http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod_index.html

Germinate: Arthur Rank Centre – The website has links to many resources especially relating to rural communities.

<https://arthurrankcentre.org.uk/>

Explore Churches - a great church tourism resource run by The National Churches Trust. You can add your church for free.

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore>

Grant Funding

The Voluntary Centre Services and Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service – a source of information about funding and volunteering: <https://lincolnshirevolunteering.org.uk/find-funding/> . Sign up for a regular funding newsletter here: <http://eepurl.com/hWu2Vn>

Lincolnshire Funding Portal – a searchable database for grants, trusts and other funds.
<http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/lincolnshire/>

Charitable Grants for Churches leaflet

<https://www.parishresources.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Charitable-Grants-for-Churches-Jul-2020.pdf>

Charity Excellence Framework – a huge resource including a searchable database. Free to join.
<https://www.charityexcellence.co.uk/>

National Lottery Heritage Fund website

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/>

National Lottery Community Fund website

[Home | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)

National Churches Trust website

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/>

Lincolnshire Churches Trust website

<http://www.lincolnshirechurchestrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>

Benefact Trust website

<https://benefacttrust.co.uk/which-grant-is-for-me/>

Marshall's Charity website

<http://www.marshalls.org.uk/churches.html>

Listed Places of Worship V.A.T reclamation

<http://www.lpwscheme.org.uk/>

Friends Groups

National Churches Trust – website and toolkit.

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/involving-people/setting-friends-group>

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/sites/default/files/A%20Friends%20Group%20for%20Your%20Church%20FINAL%202014.pdf>

Parish Resources

<https://www.parishresources.org.uk/friends-schemes/>

Churchcare

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/advice-and-guidance-church-buildings/sharing-your-building-and-finding>

Diocese of London

<https://www.london.anglican.org/kb-category/friends-groups/>

Diocese of Exeter / Growing the Rural Church

<https://www.growingtheruralchurch.org/setting-up-a-friends-group/>

Buildings for Mission including Community Engagement

If you are wanting to use your building for more than services and want to reach your wider community, here are some resources that can inspire:

The Future of Church Buildings Report

This National Churches Trust report brings together a series of essays from a broad range of people to reflect on the future of church buildings and the contribution they make to communities, the economy and the heritage of the UK.

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/sites/default/files/28-10-21%20FINAL%20HIGH%20RES%20FoC%20report.pdf>

House of Good Report

This National Churches Trust report quantifies the economic and social value of all church buildings to the UK. Not just the bricks and mortar but the welfare and wellbeing they create in our communities.

[The House of Good - the value of churches to the UK economy \(nationalchurchestrust.org\)](https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/the-house-of-good-the-value-of-churches-to-the-uk-economy)

Taylor Review Pilot Evaluation

There are various links to useful resources put together as part of the Taylor Review, including how to think about the use of the building more widely.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/places-of-worship/churches-sustainability-review/>

Empowering Design Practices

This project produced really useable resources including community engagement with design and changes to places of worship.

<https://www.empoweringdesign.net/edp-resources.html>

Examples from Exeter Diocese 'Growing the Rural church' project

<https://www.growingtheruralchurch.org/>

Examples of Community Engagement ideas from The Methodist Church

[llp-community-engagement-leaflet-1217.pdf \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/llp-community-engagement-leaflet-1217.pdf)

Simple Guide to Community Engagement from The Diocese of Oxford

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Community-Engagement-A-Simple-Guide.pdf>

Two important reports from the Church of England with many relevant thoughts:

- a) Released for Mission – a key Church of England report from 2015

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/GS%20Misc%201092%20Released%20for%20Mission%20-%20growing%20the%20rural%20church.pdf>

b) From Evidence to Action

<http://www.fromevidencetoaction.org.uk>

There are many resources on this site, include worksheets, Bible studies, Case Studies, and even sermons, and a link back to the original research – ‘From Anecdote to Evidence’

Presence – A workbook to help promote and sustain an effective Christian presence in villages

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/downloads/pubs-presence-230310.pdf>

Church in Action: A National Survey of Church-Based Social Action:

<https://cuf.org.uk/uploads/resources/Church-In-Action-Report.pdf>

The report from 2020/21 is a survey of churches’ community responses to the pandemic

Assets not Burdens: Using church property to accelerate mission:

<http://www.theology-centre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/CTC-Research-6-Assets-not-Burdens-Feb2017.pdf>