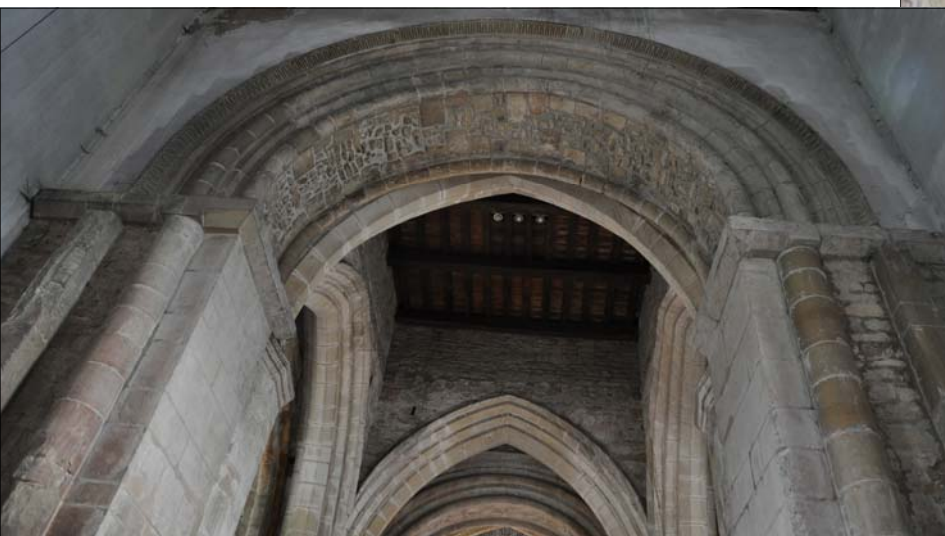


St. Mary Minster, Stow-in-Lindsey, Lincs.

Clockwise from top right.

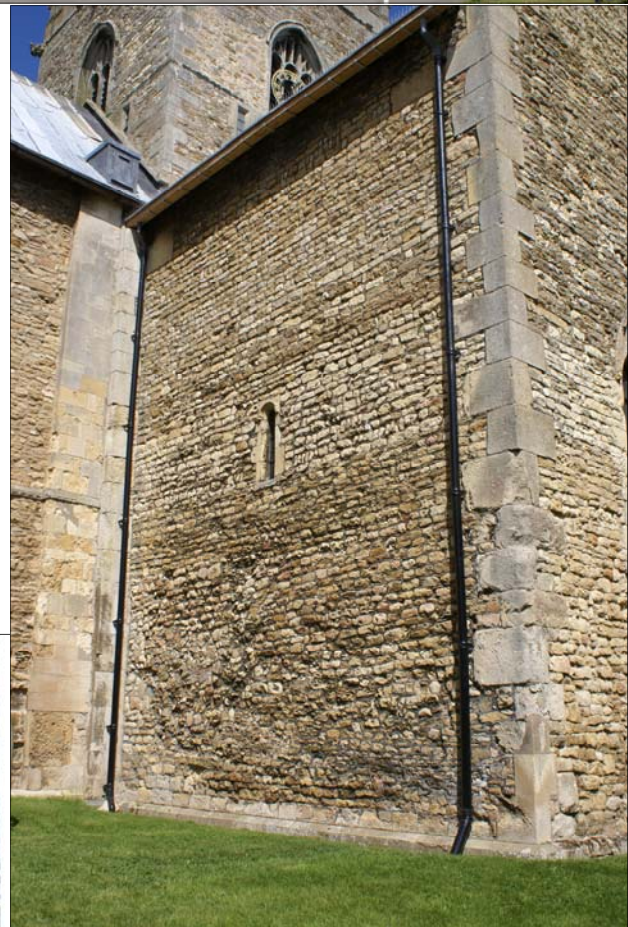
1. Chancel arch, from the east.
2. The Saxon window in south wall of S. transept, note the 'palmette' decoration to the hood, this is repeated on the nave archway to the crossing, and on the side facing the nave (see pic 4).
3. Nave archway, north pier viewed from nave, these unrestored pilasters showing evidence of fire. Note bulbous stops (corbels).
4. Looking up at crossing from within the nave (with later medieval pointed arches built within the Saxon crossing). During the 19th century restoration, Pearson found lead under the later flooring, which had poured down from the roof and which was from the time of the burning of the minster (perhaps by the Danes).



St. Mary Minster. Clockwise from top right.

5. South aspect of church, showing Norman nave (left) and the Saxon south transept and the 15th cent tower, the supporting piers for which are inserted within the Saxon piers.
6. The west wall of sth transept. Note the lower 10 weathered quoin stones and represent the "first" build, whereas those above are in far better condition and date to the rebuild after the burning of the building. This later build is attributed to Bishop Eadnoth II, 1034-1050. It should be noted that these 'upper' stones were *not* restored in Mr. Pearson's restoration of c.1850.
7. Saxon doorway in W wall of nth transept, viewed from interior, note typical non-radius stones in head.
8. The NE quoin, nth transept. Note again the older lower quoins and how they are cut back to receive plaster to butt up against that 'edge'.
9. The crossing from the nave.
10. Detail of W part of archway to south transept, viewed from inside the transept. The various orders (above the imposts) belonging to all four crossing arches represent a later rebuild, the piers and pilasters below the imposts are from an earlier build. Presumably the damaged crossing and the burning belong to the same moment in time which occasioned the rebuild here (by Eadnoth?), as also the transepts above a certain level.

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St. Mary Minster.

Clockwise from top right.

11. The nave archway (southern impost), viewed from the nave and showing the delicate 'palmette' decoration, and which can also be found to the head of the Saxon window in the south wall of S. transept.
12. NE corner of tower, quoins seen rising and built in 'cut back' style: note its plinth. Note also the Norman chancel with smaller fine ashlar, and accompanying plinth, all abutting the earlier work and running out to the left of picture.
13. The SE corner of the tower seen rising to the eaves with 'cut back' quoins reaching to within 6 stones of eave level, indicative of the tower being destroyed above that height in the fire.

The four crossing arches measure approx 35ftx14ft. It may be noted that there is no indication on the quoins of the Sth transept of 'cutting back'. Atkinson reported, in the mid 19th cent. restoration that there were traces of walls outside the nave as if there were aisles, but Taylor rightly points out that they may be earlier traces of porticus. It is likely they belong to an earlier stone church; the foundation of the diocese of Lindsey by King Egfrid dates to 674.



Pages updated 08/10 with some new pictures. Text revised.