

## Milton All Saints Mausoleum

The Mausoleum is situated half a mile outside West Markham. It was built in 1831-2, designed by Sir Robert Smirke and commissioned by the 4th Duke of Newcastle as a tomb for the Duchess who died in 1822 giving birth to twins. Ten members of the Newcastle family are buried there.

The redundant Churches Trust took over the building in 1972 after it had suffered considerable vandalism to many of the monuments. Pevsner described the building as 'a clever combination of church and mausoleum'.

In the early hours of 3 December 1943 a returning Lancaster bomber crashed near the Mausoleum, killing six of the crew.



## Welcome to All Saint's Church West Markham



All Saints' is a grade I listed church, which stands in the hamlet of West Markham (also known as Markham Clinton). The church also serves Milton, and Bevercotes.

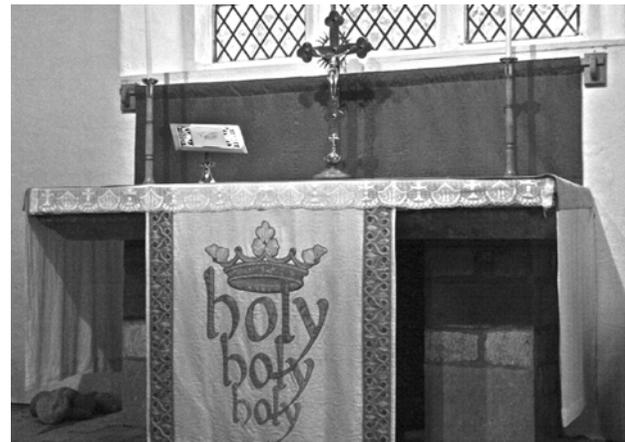
There is no accurate date for the founding of the church, but there is evidence of Saxon origins. The village is mentioned in Domesday Book, though there is no record of a church or priest at that time. It is recorded that power over the church and the right to money from it changed hands several times between the mid-12<sup>th</sup> and mid-16<sup>th</sup> century: Eleanor of Aquitaine, Queen of Henry II, gave money from the church to a

chapel she founded at Tickhill. Earl of Mortain (later King John) then gave the church to the Archbishop and Chapter at Rouwen until 1286, when it reverted to Tickhill. In 1474 it passed to Lenton Priory and in 1503 Henry VII gave it to Westminster Abbey. In 1552 it was passed to the Earl of Shrewsbury and then to his successors, the Dukes of Newcastle.

By the late 16<sup>th</sup> century the church was in a poor state – the windows were damaged, the lead covering the bells was rolled up with the wind and the fence was broken. By 1620 the church was described as 'very ruinous' and there were ongoing problems with the state of

the chancel. In 1638 two farmers of the parsonage repaired parts of the chancel. In the 1680s the churchwardens reported the absence of a poor man's box, locks on the chest, a book of Homilies and that the chancel floor was unpaved and part of the church wall had fallen down. By 1718 some but not all of these items had been supplied.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Duke of Newcastle, at his own expense, built a replacement church, known as the Mausoleum and this became the parish church. All Saints fell again into disrepair, but was not knocked down as originally planned. Part of the sanctuary wall fell down and was rebuilt in brick. It was impossible for the local community to maintain two churches and in 1949 All Saints re-emerged as the parish church and has since been restored to its present state.



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The information in this leaflet is taken from comprehensive historical research, which may be found in full at <http://southwellchurches.history.nottingham.ac.uk>  
Particular thanks to Jean Gilbert for research on this entry



### 1 The south door

This is considered to be one of the oldest doors in the diocese. The porch was added in the 17th century. The door originally had carving on the outside and there may have been more extensive iron design on the door. At least part of the door dates to the 12th century.



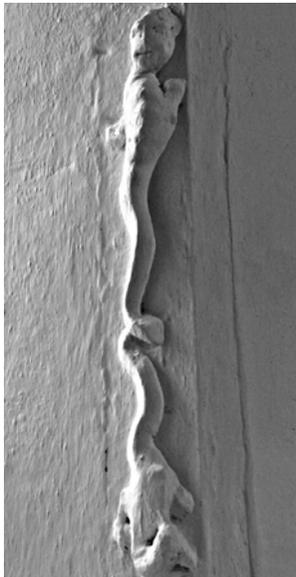
### 2 Saxon herringbone stonework

The exposed brickwork on the south wall is of Saxon origin.



### 3 Carvings

There are three carved bosses set in the nave roof. One is of a Green Man. They were set in their current position when many of the roof timbers were replaced in 1939. By one of the south windows there are carving of a salamander and a vine. These are thought to date from the 13th century.



### 4 Pillar alms box

This is believed to be Jacobean and of the same age as the chancel rail it stands next to, and the altar rail. It is undated, but is probably the one recorded as being installed in 1719. The nearby pulpit is Elizabethan.



### 8 The old benches

In 1584 a group of men were playing football in the churchyard on a Sunday. The game ended in a fight and one man was killed. Nine men were prosecuted and sentenced to make penance and undergo corporal punishment. One of them, a landowner, commuted his penalty to a fine and the money was used to 'provide a seat in which parishioners might receive the sacrament secretly.' These benches are now located near the font.

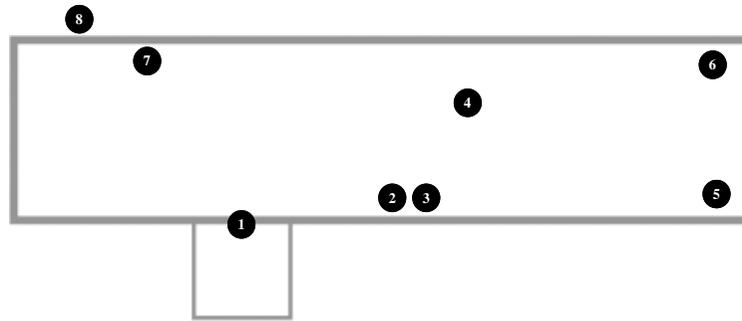


### 7 Font

The unusual tub font is Norman and has been dated at no later than the last quarter of the 11th century. The carvings are of saints – look for the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus and St Anne (mother of Mary) holding a book. The lead lining was replaced in 1933.

### 5 Piscina

The piscina in the south wall of the chancel was revealed in the restoration work in the 1930's and is probably 14th century. It was used for washing the communion vessels



### 6 Stone figure

By the altar is a stone effigy of a clerk of holy orders dating from around 1100.

