

Haconby, Stainfield and St Andrew's Church Lincolnshire



A Short and Selective History

1086 – 2018

Edition 1 – November 2018

Foreword

This booklet is a collection of selected snippets of historical and other information relating to the Parish of Haconby and Stainfield and its church, St Andrew's, in South Kesteven District in southern Lincolnshire. The old alternative spelling 'Haconby' is now mainly used by the church and its Parochial Church Council.

The principal source for most of this information is a booklet called 'Morton and Haconby Lincolnshire – A Short History' published in 1994. I am most grateful to Mrs Annie Ewer for the loan of this booklet, which sparked my interest in this aspect of local history in the first place.

To the extracts from the booklet I have added additional referenced sources from the Internet and explanatory notes. In particular, I acknowledge with thanks:

- The description of the church by English Heritage
- The article on the church by 'Peterborough Churchcrawler'
- The article on the history of Haconby by Annie Ewer
- The article on the history of Stainfield by Chris Holtom
- The note on the history of Haconby by Kelly's Directory of Lincolnshire

Richard Dixon-Warren

Haconby

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Introduction

‘Lincs to the Past’¹ records:

“...The settlement of Haconby is first documented in the Domesday Book², where it is referred to as Hacunesbi or Haconesbi. It belonged to the Bishop of Lincoln, Oger the Breton, Robert of Stafford and Heppo the Arblaster and included parts of the nearby settlements of Stainfield and Morton. Ownership of the land was disputed in some cases. Haconby itself (with Stainfield) had a minimum population of 10 sokemen, 21 villeins, 7 bordars, a priest and Gulfer, Robert's man. There was also a mill and a church...

The name Haconby derives from the Old Danish 'by' for village or farmstead and the Old Danish personal name Hakon...”

Morton and Haconby Lincolnshire – A Short History

In 1945, a booklet called ‘Morton and Haconby A Short History’ was compiled to give an account of the churches in Morton and Haconby in Lincolnshire. In 1994, J Paul Taggart (Vicar 1945-1952) and HS Taggart (late Rector of E Stoke, Wareham, Dorset) published this booklet to give the parishioners ‘some facts relating to the villages to which they belong and to the Churches in which they worship’.

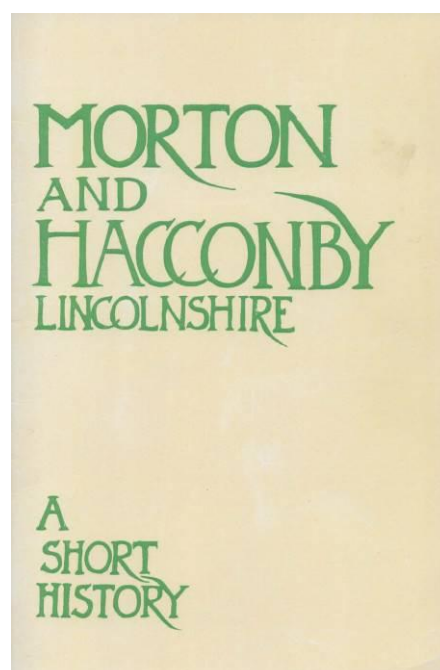
The 2005 postscript to the booklet notes that the two parishes were united in 1995 with the neighbouring parishes of Dunsby, Kirkby Underwood and Rippingale to form the Ringstone in Aveland Group of Parishes.

Our Villages in Ancient Times

The village name of Haconby is probably derived from the old Norse word Hakon. The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book.

‘Parish church. Late C12, early C13, c.1300, C15, restored C19.’³ ‘There was a church and a priest mentioned here at the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, with these being in the possession of Heppo The Crossbowman. Nothing of that early structure remains, with the earliest parts of the present structure dating back to the early 13th century.’⁴ See Annexes A and B.

The Church of St Andrew is a beautiful structure, consisting of nave with clerestory, N. and S. aisles, chancel, S porch, tower and spire containing four bells. The tower belongs to the 14th century and the spire is rather later. The windows belong chiefly to the 15th century. The stained glass window in the E. end of the Chancel was erected to the memory of James and Emma Measures in 1937, according to the design of Mr A.K. Nicholson.



¹ <https://www.lincstothepast.com/Settlement-of-Haconby/245551.record?pt=S>

² <http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/>: “...The Domesday Book was commissioned in December 1085 by William the Conqueror, who invaded England in 1066. The first draft was completed in August 1086 and contained records for 13,418 settlements in the English counties south of the rivers Ribble and Tees ...”

³ <http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/en-194325-church-of-st-andrew-haconby-lincolnshire#.VxO-i7gUVYc>. Source: English Heritage. Listed building text is © Crown Copyright. Reproduced under licence.

⁴ <http://www.robschurches.moonfruit.com/haconby/4549071470>: Haconby – Peterborough Churchcrawler

The Chancel is latter 15th century and was almost pulled down in the early 20th century as ‘being unnecessary’. The pulpit is, in great part, the old medieval one, the sides having tracery painted instead of being carved. The font is Norman.

The Church was despoiled 1562-66, when much of its rich plate, furniture, fittings, cloths altars and images were broken, ripped or burned. This followed the passing of the Acts of Supremacy and Uniformity which made Queen Elizabeth I Head of the Church in the first few years of her reign and returned the nation to Protestantism as it had been under King Edward VI.

The Church was very occasionally damaged by natural events. It was struck by lightning on 7 July 1877. The damage was repaired at a cost of £ 120. In 1899, the Church was restored. Following the Lincolnshire earthquake of 27 February 2008⁵ (5.2 on the Richter scale, epicentre 2.5 miles north of Market Rasen), the tip of the spire had to be replaced.

Parish Officers

The parish was originally a purely ecclesiastical division, the chief officers of which were the Priest, and the Churchwardens as representatives of the parishioners who elected them.

The chief duty of the churchwardens was upkeep of the church and provision of all that was required for the services of the church – they had no civil duties to perform. They were and still are sworn in annually during the Archdeacon’s annual Visitation.

In the middle of the 16th century, when the state took on Relief of the Poor from the Church, Churchwardens were employed as Relieving Officers. Other duties followed – care of maimed soldiers, relief of vagrants, provision and repair of hedges, destruction of vermin and (until the late 19th century) levying and collection of the compulsory Church Rate. They were assisted and, over time, relieved of these duties by Constables, Surveyors of Highways, Sidesmen, Overseers of the Poor, Dike Grave Officers, Overseers of the Stone Gathering, Fen & Field Searchers, and Free Borough Officers.

In addition to these mostly unpaid officers of the Parish was a paid staff under the principal officers, Incumbent⁶ and Vestry. These included the Parish Clerk (an office half-way between Curate and Sexton), the Sexton, Bellringers, Organist and Organ Blower.

Registers

In 1538, Thomas Cromwell (King Henry VIII’s Vicar-General) issued injunctions requiring registers to be kept in every parish of weddings, christenings and burials. These injunctions remain in force, essentially unchanged, to this day.

The registers contain frequent references to Briefs, which were requests for various objects, chiefly damages and sufferings in general, caused by fires and floods. Between 1715 and 1745, for example, there are 128 such appeals, and the responses reflect the greatest credit on the parishioners of that time. In one case:

“June 13, 1715. Collected the sum of five pounds sixteen shillings halfpenny by a voluntary contribution towards the relief of the poor suffering by fire in Spalding”.

⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008_Market_Rasen_earthquake

⁶ The general name given to the minister of a benefice, charged with the care of souls in a parish. He/she may be entitled vicar or rector, or...curate...: <https://www.churchofenglandglossary.co.uk/dictionary/definition/incumbent>

Terriers⁷ and Faculties⁸

A short reference to a terrier relating to Hacconby and Stainfield in 1833 was found in a book (alas, now lost), which included a plan of the townships of Hacconby and Stainfield, along with a list of owners and occupiers of premises numbered on the plan. The total area of the Parish including drains etc was given as 2,600 acres and the population of the two townships in 1831 as 381. The book also included reference to a terrier of Hacconby Glebe⁹, with the list of lands and rights belonging to the Vicarage, and a full description of the Church and Churchyard, and of the Parish in general. Its contents are recorded as including:

- Hacconby award of enclosure 1776
- Commissioners and Surveyors' Oaths relating to the award
- Transcribers Certificate
- Summary of Lands in the Parish of Hacconby
- Terrier of Hacconby Glebe
- Population of Hacconby and Stainfield in 1831
- Summary and classification of the inhabitants in 1831
- Copy of the Workhouse Contract 1833
- Inventory of furniture etc. belonging to the Hacconby Workhouse
- Copy of agreement of all allotments of Town Land 1833
- Description of Hacconby Church
- Ancient Inscription in the School room
- Epitaphs in the Churchyard at Hacconby

Vicarage and Tithe

The residence of the Vicar of Hacconby in days gone by seems to have been humble indeed. From a terrier of 1709:

“A TERRAR or PARTICULAR of the Vicarage house and Glebe lands as above of all other Tythes and customary duties and rates belonging due and payable to the Vicar of Hacconby in the Deanery of Aveland and in the county and diocese of Lincoln. The Vicarage house id footed with stone about three foote high and built of stud and mud walles, a thatched roofe, containing a Kitchen, Parlour, Buttery, Dairy, two chambers the one boarded the other a mudd floore, a Barne containing two bayes with stud and mud walles, a thatched roofe. The homestall contains about halfe an acre abuttes on the common highway North, Impropiator South, Mrs Fynne West. Fenced all about with dead fenses...”.

⁷ 'Terrier': A register of the lands belonging to a landowner, originally including a list of tenants, their holdings, and the rents paid, later consisting of a description of the acreage and boundaries of the property:

<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/terrier>

⁸ Faculty jurisdiction is the process that allows the Church of England to care for alterations to its buildings outside the secular Listed Building system. If a parish wishes to make alterations to the church, discussions must take place with the appropriate archdeacon...: www.churchofenglandglossary.co.uk/dictionary/definition/faculty

⁹ ...Glebe is land owned in order to provide income to pay parochial clergy. Once part of a parish priest's ancient freehold, and passed on from vicar to vicar, glebe income provided the means to live... From 1978 all Diocesan Boards of Finance took over management of glebe land to ensure equal parochial stipends...:

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/support-services/glebe-land/>. A glebe terrier is a term specific to the Church of England. It is a document, usually a written survey or inventory, which gives details of glebe, lands and property in the parish owned by the Church of England and held by a clergyman as part of the endowment of his benefice, and which provided the means by which the incumbent (rector, vicar or perpetual curate) could support himself and his church...: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glebe_terrier.

Haconby tithe from the same 1709 reference:

“The tyth of hay is taken by measure in the grasse when it is mowed except in the Townmeadow which is taken in the cock. Hemp and fflax is tythed when it is tied up in. lambes are taken on Easter Monday in tenns or in proportion to the value for a lesser number. Wooll by the tenth fleece or pound. Pigs by the tenth pigg and in proportion for a lesser number, and Geese in like manner and also pigeons. Ffruite of all sorts is taken in kind by measure. Eggs on good ffriday two for each henn and three for a cock in a yard. Bees pay by the tenth swarme or pound weight of honey...”

Bells

Most of the bells first used in Western Christendom seem to have been hand bells. When bells were first suspended in Church Towers and steeples, they were of comparatively small size but increased in size considerably over the years – ‘Great Tom’ at Lincoln, cast in 1834, weighs 5¾ tons.

At Haconby there are four bells of moderate size in the steeple and a Sanctus bell, all of which were mentioned in the Terrier of 1709. This enables 24 changes to be rung on a peal (4 x 3 x 2 x 1). The Sanctus bells was at some time removed from its place and its tongue torn out. In 1994, it lay in the Church. The inscriptions on the other bells are as follows:

1. ‘Feare God and keep his Lave, 1597’ (Law / Love)
2. ‘God save our Quene, 1596’ (Queen Elizabeth I of England)
3. ‘God save his Church, 1596’
4. ‘INESVS’ (Jesus) (1530)

The maker’s plate (Henry Oldfield) appears after the date. These bells were cast and hung within eight years of the defeat of the Spanish Armada, possibly as an offering for a ‘wonderful deliverance’.

Day Schools

When there was no public provision for children’s education, the Church gathered them together for that purpose within the consecrated walls of the Parish Church. In the 19th century, the North Aisles of both Morton and Haconby Churches were referred to by contemporary writers as ‘The School Room’.

A school was erected at Haconby in 1867 at a cost of £ 200, defrayed by Lord Aveland. In 1891 it was thoroughly repaired, refloored with wood blocks, and a new porch added, the materials being given by the Earl of Ancaster. Haconby School was first a Church School but lost this status because it was unable to maintain the required standard.

Haconby School continued to educate the village’s children until 31 August 1981¹⁰. The Parish Council was notified on 2 June 1972 of the Education Authority’s proposal to close the school and resolved to object to this proposal. In August 1980, it agreed to support a village Action Group that had formed to resist the proposal (principally on the grounds of danger to children walking to school in Morton) but to no avail. The school was closed on 31 August 1981. The Council’s proposal that the building be donated to the village for use as a hall was similarly dismissed and the building was subsequently sold on the open market as a residence.

¹⁰ Notes from the Minute Book of Haconby Parish Council 2 June 1972 to 5 August 1981.

Patrons and Vicars (or Rectors)

Patrons¹¹. The Crown alternated with local noblemen (and one noblewoman) and Monasteries as Patrons of Hacconby Parish Church before the Bishop of Lincoln assumed this role. After the Norman Conquest Monasteries were established in all part of the country and were flourishing when Parish Churches were erected. There were no less than 60 Religious Houses in Lincolnshire. The two orders with which Morton and Hacconby were particularly connected were the Austin Canons and the Gilbertines.

The Gilbertines had a House at Sempringham and the Prior and Convent of Sempringham was Patron of the living of Hacconby from 1349 to 1543. The grant of the Church at Hacconby, valued at 24 Marks yearly on 9 November 1349 was for the clothing of the Nuns of Sempringham. This followed King Edward III granting 'licence for the gift of land' following the Black Death in England in 1348-49. Half the Nation 'perished in its terrible havoc' and the economic effects were dire, so 'the Religious sought more lands to relieve their distress'.

After the Dissolution of the Monasteries under King Henry VIII, the Crown became the Patron of Hacconby until 1576, when Queen Elizabeth I handed this over to the Bishop of Lincoln.

Rectors and Vicars. The Rector is the Priest who has the charge and cure of a Parish, who has the whole right to the ecclesiastical dues therein. The Vicar receives a certain proportion of the emoluments of the living, generally consisting of a part of the Glebe Land of the parsonage and the 'small tithes' of the Parish.

Rectors, Vicars and Patrons of the Parish Church of Hacconby

Rectors

Master John of Hoylande	1220
Hugh Runel	1230
Henry (son of Henry Hanvill)	1244
Nicholas of Stamford	1271
Hugh de'alto Monte	
Simon de Stine Keys	1298
Robert of Falkingham	1322
Master William Pontrell	1323 (died)
Augustine de Haghham	1353
Thomas of Donyngton	1367
Thomas de Brune	1367
John Tylney	1386
John Ingram	1390

Patrons

The Bishop
Henry de Hanvill
Henry Hanvill
King Edward I
King Edward I
Thomas de Hanvill
Maud de Hanvill
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
King Edward III
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham

On 24 December 1392, the Church of Hacconby was appropriated to the Prior and Convent of Sempringham and a Vicarage was ordained.

¹¹ Every parish has its patron, who may be an individual, a corporate body, the bishop, the archbishop, the Crown. Many originated as the giver of the church itself, their reward being the right to present the incumbent of the parish to the bishop for ordination. These days, their most important remaining duty is the presentation of the individual selected to be the new incumbent of a parish when a vacancy occurs... see Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986: <https://www.churchofenglandglossary.co.uk/dictionary/definition/patron>

Vicars

John Moy of Hacconby	1392
Robert Terry of Ripplingale	1404
William Perrotson	1414
Thomas Sharp	1416
John Cobuldyke	1430
Robert Drury	
John Ledys	1443
William Browne	
Brother John Louden ¹²	1461
John Warner	1467
Thomas Cliff	1501
John Barrowe	1533
John Batty	1543
Richard Nicholson	1547
Christopher Pratt	1563
John White	1576
Thomas Gamon	1577
John Spencer	1614
Lorkin Lively	1615
John Audley MA	1630
Humphrey Booth BA	1661
James Brookes	1674
William Hotchkin MA	1678
Benjamin Place BA	1698
Richard Tonge BA	1709

Patrons

Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
Prior and Convent of Sempringham
King Henry VIII
King Edward VI
Queen Elizabeth I
Queen Elizabeth I
The Bishop of Lincoln
The Bishop of Lincoln
The Bishop of Lincoln
Samuel Custe of Hacconby ¹³
The Bishop of Lincoln
The Bishop of Lincoln
The Bishop of Lincoln
The Bishop of Lincoln
The Bishop of Lincoln

The Vicarages of Morton and Hacconby were united 7 July 1732 – no change to the Patron (although it lapsed briefly to the Archbishop of Canterbury sometime in the early 21st Century)

John Meyrick	1738		
Thomas Key	1758		
John Hewthwaite MA	1766		
Francis Tong MA	1768		
Samuel Edmund Hopkinson	1795		
Thomas Colbeck Hopkinson	1795		
William Stockdale MA	1862		
Nisbet Colquhoun Marris MA	1901		
John Herbert Boldero	1914		
Justin Paul Taggart	1945		
Edric George Close	1952		
Edward Cyril Blake	1968		
Michael Edgar Adie ¹⁴	1976		
Frederick Charles Young	1984-1993		
Gerald Arthur Curtis	1995-2003) Benefice
Graham Parry Williams	2003-2010) Priest-in-Charge) of the
Dr Lynda Pugh	2012-2017) Priest-in-Charge) Ringstone in
Neil Geoffrey Osborne Bullen	2018) Rector) Aveland Group

¹² Monk of Sempringham

¹³ 'This turn by reason of a grant made to him by the Bishop of Lincoln'

¹⁴ Consecrated Bishop of Guildford 1983.

Photograph Gallery



Annex A

Church of St Andrew, Haconby

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<http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/en-194325-church-of-st-andrew-haconby-lincolnshire#.VxO-i7gUVYc>

Church of St. Andrew, Haconby

Description: Church of St. Andrew

Grade: I

Date Listed: 30 October 1968

English Heritage Building ID: 194325

OS Grid Reference: TF1067225262

OS Grid Coordinates: 510672, 325262

Latitude/Longitude: 52.8136, -0.3594

Location: Church Street, Haconby, Lincolnshire PE10 0UT

Locality: Haconby

Local Authority: South Kesteven District Council

County: Lincolnshire

Country: England

Postcode: PE10 0UT

Listing Text

HACONBY CHURCH LANE

TF 12 NW (south side)

7/111 Church of 30.10.68 St. Andrew G.V. I

Parish church. Late C12, early C13, c.1300, C15, restored C19.

Coursed ironstone rubble, limestone ashlar, some render. Plain tile roofs with some decorative red ridge tiles and stone coped gables with cross finials. West tower and spire, nave with north and south aisles and south porch, chancel with north chapel.

West tower of c.1300 with ironstone and limestone banding.

Plinth, moulded string course and 4 stage angle buttresses with stair turret in south-west corner with 4 slit stair lights. Small pointed west window with Y tracery and lower, barely pointed lights, hood mould and head label stops. East side with doorway giving access to nave roof with flat head, chamfered surround and plank door.

Recessed bell stage with bell openings on all 4 sides, each with a pointed head and 2 cusped, pointed lights divided by a single shaft with rich foliate capital, quatrefoil above and hood mould with head label stops. Moulded eaves above with numerous corbel heads. C15 parapet above with frieze of circles inscribed with diamonds.

Recessed octagonal spire with 4 polygonal pinnacles at its base, with gabled sides and finials. 3 tiers of ornate lucarnes on alternating sides, each with crocketed gable, 2 cusped pointed lights and quatrefoil. Spire topped by finial with weathervane.

Late C15 north aisle with plinth, moulded string course and regularly placed 2 stage buttresses with upper gabled set offs.

West end of north aisle with window with shallow pointed head, 3 cusped, pointed lights and hood mould.

North side with doorway to west with flattened triangular head, continuous moulded surround, hood mould and plank door. 2 windows to east, both with shallow pointed heads, 3 cusped, pointed lights and hood mould.

C15 clerestory above with 3 windows each with flattened triangular heads and 2 cusped, pointed lights. Moulded eaves and battlements above.

Late C15 north chapel with plinth, moulded string courses and regularly positioned 2 stage buttresses with upper, gabled setoffs.

Easternmost buttress contains plain empty niche.

Basket arch to west with bowtell moulded surround and divided into 3 by 2 thick moulded mullions rising from ground level.

2 narrow cusped, pointed lights flanked by single cusped pointed lights, while below, between the mullions in a pointed doorway with a continuous moulded surround and plank door.

2 windows to east with basket heads, bowtell moulded surrounds and 4 cusped, pointed lights.

East front of north chapel with 3 stage buttresses with upper gabled setoffs, flanking window with basket head and 3 pointed, cusped lights.

Moulded eaves and parapet run continuously for the full length of north aisle and chapel.

East front of chancel with moulded string course running under pointed late C14 window restored in C19, with 4 cusped, ogee headed lights, panel tracery and hood mould. Cusped oculus above and 2 stage diagonal buttress to south.

South side of chancel with ironstone and limestone banding, plinth and 2 two stage buttresses.

Window to east with basket head, 3 cusped, pointed lights and hood mould.

Mid C12 blocked doorway to west with semi-circular head and chamfered surround.

Long C17 rectangular window to west with smaller rectangular window above.

C15 south aisle with plinth and moulded string courses.

East end with window with shallow pointed head, 3 cusped, pointed heads and hood mould.

South side with 2 stage buttresses with upper gabled setoffs alternating with 2 windows with shallow pointed heads, 3 cusped pointed lights, hood mould and label stops.

C15 gabled porch to west with plinth and moulded string course, large battlements with cross finial.

West and east walls with single pierced quatrefoils and 2 fragmentary finials on each interior window sill.

Pointed south doorway with moulded head, semi-circular jambs with moulded capitals and polygonal abaci.

Porch interior flanked by stone benches. C15 interior doorway with flattened triangular head, continuous moulded surround, rectangular hood mould with frieze of quatrefoil in spandrels below and large label stops containing shields.

West end of south aisle with shallow pointed head, 3 cusped, ogee headed lights, hood mould with label stops. Moulded eaves and parapet run full length of aisle.

C15 clerestory with 3 windows with flattened triangular heads and 2 cusped pointed lights.

Interior tower arch of c.1300 with quadruple chamfered head with 2 outer orders dying into rectangular jambs, 2 inner orders having continuous chamfers running down jambs, hood mould. South-west corner of tower with doorway with rectangular head, chamfered surround and plank door.

Early C13 three bay north and south arcades with polygonal responds, round piers on polygonal plinths and moulded capitals; double chamfered pointed heads, hood moulds and heads in spandrels. South aisle with early C15 piscina with ogee shaped head, continuous rolled surround and freestanding, crudely carved bowl with slender roll mouldings at each corner. East wall of south aisle with fragmentary corbel. C15 roof over nave with tie beams resting on ashlar, castellated corbels; aisle roofs heavily restored in C19 and C20. Pointed C13 chancel arch with double chamfered head, polygonal responds with polygonal moulded capitals and abaci running into string course on either side.

Four centred C15 tomb recess in north wall of chancel giving access to north chapel; with soffit decorated with blind panel tracery; hood mould and shield label stops. Doorway to left with pointed head and rectangular hood mould with foliage and shields in spandrel below, plank door. Aumbry in north wall with square, roll moulded surround and double plank doors. South wall of chancel with piscina with ogee shaped head and continuous chamfered surround. Blocked doorway to west with brass plaque inserted, monument to Samuel Hopkinson, died 1841, and his wife Elizabeth, with ornate pair of canopies with black, red and blue detailing designed by Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin, and made by Hardman and Illiffe. North chapel with stone benches running round north and east walls. Mullions of windows are carried down below level of windows to benches with blind traceried panels in between.

Doorway flanked by mullions running down from window above.

South wall of chapel with piscina with ogee shaped head and continuous moulded surround. C18 altar rail with turned balusters and moulded handrail; 2 central sections removed from in front of high altar to a similar position in north chapel.

Late C14 chest with rich traceried front including simple foliate motifs and eagles entwined, and 2 flanking bands carved with winged dragons; panelled lid with locks and studded iron bands intact. C15 panelled chest with studded iron bands and various locks. C14 polygonal pulpit with painted panels removed for restoration, and polygonal wooden spreading base. Late C12 drum font with round C20 plinth, round pedestal with small shafts at each corner and square plan. C19 lectern and choir stalls. C20 chairs. Monument in north wall of tower of ashlar set on corbels to John Audeley, died 1648, with rhyming acrostic.

Listing NGR: TF1067225262

This text is a legacy record and has not been updated since the building was originally listed. Details of the building may have changed in the intervening time. You should not rely on this listing as an accurate description of the building.

Source: English Heritage

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Annex B

Edited extract: © Copyright <http://www.robschurches.moonfruit.com/haconby/4549071470>

Haconby – Peterborough Churchcrawler

Haconby is a village three miles north of Bourne, not too far off the busy A15. There are two places of worship in the village with a tiny Baptist church a little way away from the Anglican church. This Baptist church was built in 1867 and it was designed to seat 100 people. However, the builders got the dimensions wrong and made it too narrow. It was not possible to seat the 100 people required so two balconies were installed to increase the seating. The building is so narrow that someone in the balcony can actually shake hands with a person in the opposite balcony! The Baptist chapel here is the smallest gallery seated chapel in the whole country.

I visited Haconby in March 2010 and it was good to see that the scaffolding had been taken down. On my previous visit here, the whole of the tower was scaffolded, and the church grounds had been closed after St Andrew had been damaged in the Lincolnshire earthquake of February 2008.

The scaffolding was down, the church grounds were open, and had been given a very good make over and the whole place looked quite beautiful. The sun was shining and the light quality was exquisite! It was a delight to be here.

There was a church and a priest mentioned here at the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, with these being in the possession of Heppo The Crossbowman. Nothing of that early structure remains, with the earliest parts of the present structure dating back to the early 13th century. The heavily buttressed 14th century tower is very distinctive, with alternate differing colours of ironstone and limestone banding. The pinnacled spire dates from a little later. A corbel string separates the tower from the spire and this features several heads, one of which, on the south side, is that of a dog. Perhaps, like at Fotheringhay in Northants, this might be a memorial to a beloved pet belonging to a stonemason all those hundreds of years ago. The south porch and nave are both battlemented. The church here was struck by lightning in July 1877, with damage costing £120 to repair, with repair to the tip of the spire visible today.

Four bells hang here with three of these being cast by Henry Oldfield II in 1596. These are inscribed as follows...."Feare God and Keape His Lave 1596", "God Save Our Quene 1596" and "God Save His Church 1596" The word "Lave" on the first bell should read Love! The fourth bell is even older, being cast as far back as 1530 by Mellours of Nottingham. This bell is inscribed with the word "INESVS", which is a strange spelling of the name Jesus. On my visit I was able to see inside the church, although it is usually kept locked. I noticed a bell standing at the west end of the interior. This was plain in design and I have no information on who cast it.

The font here is plain, and very ancient, dating back to the 12th century. The base that it stands on is modern, dating from the 20th century. The pulpit dates back to the 14th century. I was interested to see several instances of people carving their initials, or sometimes their full name in to the interior church walls. This is similar to that seen at neighbouring Morton where initials were carved under the south windows of the nave. At Haconby, RB was here in 1718, as was Rich Tomlinson (undated). Just to prove that graffiti is not just a modern-day occurrence, these all appear to date from the 18th century.

A large stained glass window in the chancel was in memory of James and Emma Measures, this being donated by their children. This includes a scene showing Jesus Christ carrying a lamb, with a quote from Psalm 23 underneath. This lovely piece of work is quite modern, dating from 1937.

The church grounds here are quiet and peaceful. The church is tucked away at the south eastern edge of the village and there is very little traffic here.

Haconby Fen is just off to the east (and having got lost there once I can confirm that there is nothing there!! A little over to the south west stands the imposing tower of St John The Baptist at neighbouring Morton. As was mentioned earlier, the church grounds here were closed for a while the church was being repaired following the Lincolnshire earthquake. It was good to see the scaffolding down and the grounds once again open.

Regular readers of this website will probably know of my interest in deaths head stones, gravestones with symbols carved on them depicting the mortality of Man. These symbols were used at a time when most of the population were illiterate, in the same way that wall paintings explained Bible stories to those who could not read. Death head symbolism phased out as more of the population could read and the symbols were replaced with text, intended to convey the same message, that Man is Mortal and will one day pass away. An inscription on the grave of one Charlotte Dring, who passed away in 1837, aged 27 years, can be seen here, and reads as follows...."From off my bed of pain and grief, the LORD has set me free; so don't lament but in due time, prepare to follow me". Hope that has cheered everyone up!

One slate grave here is a fabulous piece of work. Sadly, it has seen better days and is not in sight, now leaning up against another gravestone. This is intricately carved in slate, with two fabulous winged angels at top right and left. Given that it is slate, the carving here is as crisp as it would have been when it was carved in 1737.

The church here is normally kept locked to visitors. I was having a pub lunch and a man approached me who had heard that I was photographing churches in the area. He was very kind to open up for me and this was appreciated very much. A lovely place to visit and well worth a look if you are in the area.

Annex C

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/HaconbyandStainfield/section.asp?catId=15383>

HACONBY

(Submitted by A Ewer)

The name is Scandinavian meaning Haakon's Place or village, and over the years has changed its spelling from Hacunesbi and many other variations.

There was life in the village before humans inhabited the earth, viz remains of animal 70 million years old found on the Fen edge.

The Romans knew Haconby so established a Saltern on the far N.E. corner of the fen. Little evidence has been discovered of their having lived here, however they did cut Car Dyke which was navigable, although some local historians may dispute that. When the dyke was dredged in the 18th century a body was found in the dyke and a large Roman anchor in its bed.

The Scandinavians did however settle here, some evidence of their story has been found at the Fen edge and to the West. Their main inhabitation is believed to have been West along the road to Haconby top towards the A 15.

St Andrew's Church installed its first priest in 1220 so, in all probability, stands on the site of a previous Church mentioned in the Domesday Book. Rumours exist that a small priory was built near to the Church and was lost in C14. So little excavation has been carried out in Haconby that it is difficult to be quite certain.

It is known in 1307 the King kept one Gerfalcon in the village and interestingly, a C18 map shows the second smallest plot of land as belonging to Royalty. Was this perhaps the Falconer's territory?

The oldest building in the village is Heggie's cottage, built in the 16th century and restored in very recent years. This is believed to have been the priest's house and certainly there is a track by its southern side which leads directly to the Main door of the Church, which was still in use in the 18th Century.

In 1605, while Guy Fawkes plotted to blow up Parliament, some previous resident of Haconby set about the entirely more peaceful pursuit of building himself a home and this home, much altered exists today as "Ferndale Farm", Chapel Street.

The "Hare and Hounds" Public House¹⁵, built in 1617, and subsequently enlarged, still stands, its original name having been "The Red Lion", and later "The Sportsman" which was at one time run by the Sensicle family.

Then came Haconby Hall built C1630 at the time of the Civil War¹⁶ by General Finne, one of Cromwell's men, an ancestor of the present owner. One suspects that he also built the Manor

¹⁵ <http://www.pub-explorer.com/lincs/pub/hareandhoundshaconby.htm>

¹⁶ <https://www.britpolitics.co.uk/the-english-civil-war>

House in Church Street. The Manor house still exists, again much altered; it was once a moated site.

Until the School was built in Main Street in 1866 by Lord Ancaster, children were educated in the Church and proof of their presence is to be found in the stonework at the Chantry Chapel where pupils have engraved their names in the wall. The School served the village until the 1970s when despite protests and demonstrations on the part of the parents, the School was closed. It still exists as a private dwelling.

Across the fields to the North stood an Ale House "The Recruiting Sergeant", and two or four cottages adjoined. A Mrs Edi Bradshaw lived in one of the cottages, her Grandfather ran the Pub; the sign has never been found.

Haconby also had a quarry sited to the N.E. of School Field.

The Baptist Chapel, in Chapel Street, is the smallest in England. It was built in 1867 especially for the congregation by one Mr Wm Brown in the grounds of his own home, Haconby House.

Whether its size was an error in the measurements given to the builder, or whether the builder misread them is a matter for conjecture. The problem was overcome by building a balcony to the E and W, it is almost possible, but not quite, to join hands from one balcony to another.

Haconby never had a railway station but did have a halt, where goods were picked up and set down. This fell to Dr Beeching's axe¹⁷ in the great winding down of the railways which began in the 1960s.

The Chestnut tree on the green was planted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee¹⁸.

At the end of the C19 Haconby boasted a Tailor, a wheelwright, a grocer, draper, a post office, a butcher, baker and jeweller. The population in 1909 was 322, 1999 there were 311 registered electors.

In the 19th century, Haconby was still regarded as a closed village, where most of the families worked on the land owned by the large land owners such as the Earl of Ancaster, Thomas Lawrence of Haconby Hall, William Lawrence of Dunsby and Thomas Brown. If the workers were able to establish a long association with Haconby or their worthiness, they were allocated one of 22 acres of land, known as the allotments in the area of the A15 at Haconby Top, which they rented from Lord Ancaster, upon which they were allowed to grow crops. Haconby and Stainfield Parish Council still own most of these allotments.

Editor's note: see also <http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/12483> and, of course, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haconby>

¹⁷ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-21938349>

¹⁸ Or to commemorate the coronation of King George V on 22 June 1911, according to a letter written by the Clerk of the Parish Council on 24 May 1955 to Post Office Telephones about damage to the tree caused by wires from a telephone pole erected on the village green.

Annex D

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/HacconbyandStainfield/section.asp?docId=62616>

An article submitted by Chris Holtom

The present village lies near the site of an earlier Iron Age settlement.

The Romans appear to have maintained a "way station" on the Roman Road to Ancaster to the west of the village. A Roman burial was found when the gas main was laid in the 1990s and the site is now registered with the Lincoln Museum. Roman and medieval pottery sherds from early to 4th century are found in the village and over a large area mainly to the west of the village. A fine bronze bowl (now in the Nottingham museum) was found in 1975 which is dated to the late Roman period¹⁹.

Stukely reports, referring to Stainfield that "here has been a considerable town, probably Roman, which by some antiquarians has been supposed to be Causennis, or as Richard of Cirencester calls it, Corricennis" In the 18th century a chalybeate spa was recorded in land belonging to Spa Farm and another spring nearby had properties that "acted as an astringent and was good for the eyes". A water bottling company once existed at Stainfield House and there are large brick water tanks still there with a complex arrangement of pipes to collect the spring water.

In the mid 19th century the village had up to 36 houses and a population exceeding 200. Several of these houses used to be in the field to the south west of the cross roads according to a map of 1790, but they were probably made of wood, leaving little evidence now. Lord Aveland built a school for 80 children in the village in 1866 and the average attendance shortly after that date was 47.

The village has been called many names such as Steinwhett, Steinfleit, Stenwhyett, Stenflett - these are just a few. The likely meaning is "stony field" and the origin of the name may perhaps derive from the roman foundations which were constantly hit by ploughs over the years.

Chris Holtom

(Editor's note: see also

<https://web.archive.org/web/20090227061134/http://homepages.which.net/~rex/bourne/stainfield.htm>)

¹⁹ <http://roman-britain.co.uk/britannia/brit1992.htm>

Annex E

<http://forebears.co.uk/england/lincolnshire/haconby>

Haconby – Historical Description – Kelly's Directory of Lincolnshire (1896)

HACONBY is a parish, township and village, 1 ½ miles north from Morton station on the Bourne and Sleaford branch of the Great Northern railway, 4 miles north from Bourne and 6 south from Folkingham, in the South Kesteven division of the county, parts of Kesteven, Aveland hundred, Bourne petty sessional division, union and county court district, rural deanery of Aveland No. 2, and archdeaconry and diocese of Lincoln.

The church of St. Andrew is an ancient building of stone, in the Early English and Perpendicular styles, consisting of chancel, north chapel, nave of three bays, aisles, south porch and a tower with spire containing 4 bells: at the east end of the south aisle there is an altar bracket and a piscina and two slabs with crosses of the 13th century: there is also a piscina in the chancel, and on the pavement a slab commemorating an ecclesiastic, of which the inscription, when perfect, ran:—"Iste fuit Rector de Brunn vocitatus:" there are two mediaeval oak chests, one of which has very excellent traceried panelling: the chapel, which is Perpendicular, has stone seats on the north and east sides and a piscina, and there is a fine brass to the late Rev. Samuel Hopkinson, vicar, and his wife, designed by Mr. A. W. Pugin: in the south wall of the chantry is a freestone tablet with a rhyming acrostic to John Audley, 1648, and at its north-east angle, in the churchyard, a rich canopy which once covered an effigy: the tower of ashlar and rubble is of the 14th century: there are 200 sittings.

The register dates from the year 1703. The living is a vicarage, annexed to that of Morton, joint gross yearly value from 219 acres of glebe £350, in the gift of the Bishop of Lincoln, and held since 1862 by the Rev. Walter Stockdale MA. of Trinity College, Cambridge, who resides at Morton.

There is a Baptist chapel and Primitive Methodist chapel, erected by W. Brown esq. in 1867.

Sir Richard Brownlow left to this parish two yearly rent-charities—one of £3, for educating six children, and one of £1, for the poor, who have also the interest of £55 left by different donors.

The principal landowners are the Earl of Ancaster P.C. who is lord of the manor, Thomas Lawrance esq. of Haconby Hall, and William Brown esq.

The soil is loam and sandy peat; subsoil, higher parts rock, lower parts silt. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats, beans and peas. The area is 3,220 acres; rateable value, £3,319; the population of the entire parish in 1891 was 368.

National School, built in 1866, by Lord Aveland, for 80 children; average attendance, 50.