

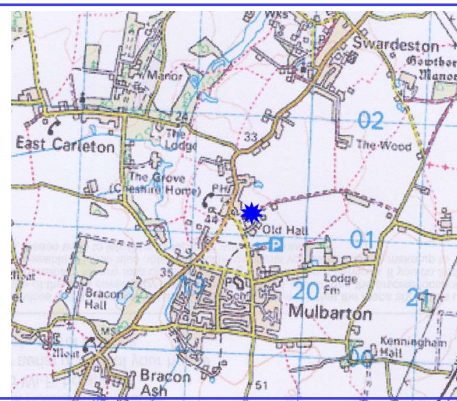
St Mary Magdalen, Mulbarton, Norfolk - www.norfolkstainedglass.co.uk



Address: St Mary Magdalen, Mulbarton, Norfolk NR14 8JS

Visiting: The church is normally locked for up to date contact see websites below:

www.norwich.anglican.org
www.achurchnearyou.com



General Information

A church is mentioned on this site in the Domesday book. The current building is of later date with the west tower and nave being rebuilt by Sir William de Hoo at the end of the 14th century with the Perpendicular chancel being subsequently added. The south porch and north aisle date from a 1875 restoration.

It is an interesting quirk that until the late 18th century Mulbarton had mostly plain glass yet now it contains superb medieval windows. Thus the East window contains delightful 15th century figures of Adam & Eve and "Powers" (from the orders of Angels). It is likely that these figures were made by the same craftsman who made the Passion of Christ panels in St Peter Mancroft (Norwich). Additionally the south chancel contains an assortment of old glass including panels dating from around 1530 which were originally made for the Abbey of Steinfeld in the Eifel region of Germany.

East Window



The three main panels in the east window where originally part of an Old Testament series in the south aisle of Martham church. In 1815 they were brought to Mulbarton by the new rector Revd. Richard Spurgeon, who came here

from Martham, in 1812. Other windows from the series can still be viewed in their original setting

Two of the panels represent part of the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden and "Adam Delving." The style of painting the heads of Adam with their grave expressive features can be recognized in other Norfolk glass, in particular two of the panels in St Peter Mancroft's (Norwich) east window which show the Passion of Christ. The third panel represents Powers, one of the nine orders of angels. He wears a crown and armour. In one hand he holds a birch rod and in the other a golden chain to which a demon is attached. He is called Potestates.

It is also possible that the other glass in the window came from the Rev'd Spurgeon's collection as he was known as being an enthusiastic collector!

South Chancel 1



This window by Heaton Butler and Bayne pictures Jesus bringing Lazarus back to life and quotes "He that was dead came forth" (John 11:44). It was made in memory of Caorline

Elizabeth Lucas, who died 19th December 1876. The window was installed soon thereafter, probably around the same time as the west tower window.

South Chancel 2



The window contains a collection of 15th and 16th century glass much of it in a 19th century setting.

The two angels in the top of the main lights are 15th century.

They are playing stringed musical instruments and are typical of the angels of the "Norwich school"

Looking at the next figures down those to the left are a combination of parts of an earlier panel of St Anne teaching the Virgin Mary to read and a 15th century

prophet or patriarch; whilst on the right is pictured a King, holding a sceptre and a model church. This is possibly King Solomon, from a genealogy of Christ.

The figures at the bottom are probably the most interesting. They were imported to Norwich in 1802 -3 by John Christopher Hampp a German immigrant living in the city from the Abbey of Steinfeld which is found in the Eifel region of Germany. They can be dated to around 1530 and picture a kneeling nun and monk. Other panels from the Abbey were sold around the world. They include thirty eight panels that were bought by Lord Brownlow for Ashridge Park, Herts, which can now be found in London's Victoria & Albert museum. Locally a large collection can be found at Blickling Hall.

South Aisle

The window contains two Flemish or German enamel painted panels, probably dating from the 17th century.

North Aisle West

This 1907 made by A K Nicholson pictures St Anne and St Dorcas in the main lights with scenes from their lives below. It has been designed in the Arts & Craft mode

West Tower

This window was installed around 1867 at the same time as the South Chancel Window 1. It has many similarities to this window and is believed to be by Heaton Butler and Bayne. It depicts the Virgin Mary carrying a lily which represents her purity.



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Visit: www.norwichchurches.co.uk