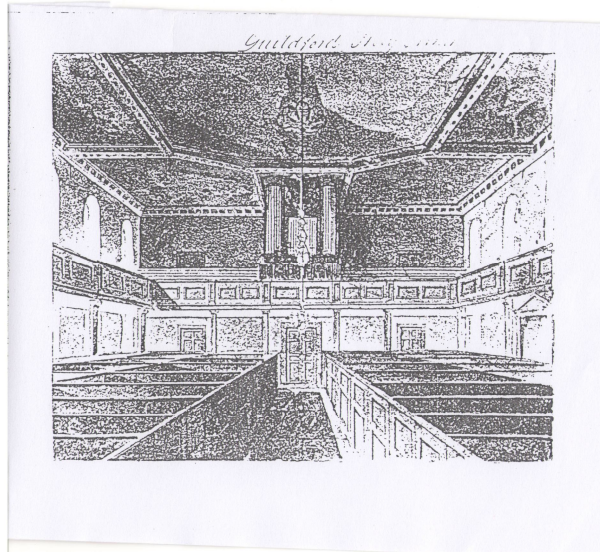


Holy Trinity Church: The Organ: a brief history and specification



The church of 1763 had galleries on three sides. Around 1780 John Byfield installed a classical organ in the West Gallery as shown in this engraving of 1823. It is likely this organ was typical of organs of the period with no pedals. There is some evidence to suggest that a small amount of pipework (including the Swell Stopped Diapason) remains in use in the present organ.



The organ was rebuilt, enlarged and moved a number of times during the Victorian era. In this photograph, taken after the 1867 reordering, it is shown below in the NE corner of the



The present site of the organ, in the south transept of the chancel, was chosen in 1901 after the rebuilding and extension of the apse from 1895. The inauguration took place on the occasion of the funeral of Queen Victoria when the Dead March from the Oratorio 'Saul' by Handel was played. The organ had been rebuilt by Frederick Rothwell – a notable builder of many church organs of that period.

After several minor modifications, the next major reconstruction occurred in 1962 when Rushworth and Dreaper electrified the organ. Further modernization and overhaul was carried out in 1974 and again in 1986. Towards the end of the twentieth century, after many years of intensive use, it became clear that thorough refurbishment was needed once again. The work was entrusted to Nicholson & Co. (Worcester) Ltd. In addition to renewing the action and lowering the organ's rather sharp pitch, small tonal changes have been made that acknowledge the church's classical ambience and will allow the an appropriate performance of a greater variety of music. The organ was rededicated on 11 January 1998. Since then it has been praised for its versatility as a solo instrument and for accompaniment and has been played by many renowned organists including Dr. Francis Jackson, David Briggs, James O'Donnell and Dame Gillian Weir.

Specification of the restored organ (1997)

(ref: www.npor.org.uk, index=N13723, A00929, D06608)

* indicates new pipework or accessory

indicates existing pipework revoiced

Pedal Organ

Open Diapason	16ft
Bourdon	16ft
Violone	16ft
Violoncello	8ft
*# <i>Bass flute</i>	8ft
# <i>Flute</i>	4ft
Trombone	16ft

Great to Pedal

Swell to Pedal

Choir to Pedal

Great Organ

Double Diapason	16ft
Open Diapason No. 1	8ft
Open Diapason No. 2	8ft
* <i>Stopped Diapason</i>	8ft
Principal	4ft
Harmonic Flute	4ft
Fifteenth	2ft
* <i>Sesquialtera (12,17)</i>	II
#* <i>Mixture (15, 19, 22, 26)</i>	III-IV
Trumpet	8ft
Clarion	4ft

*Tremulant (slow)

Swell to Great

*Choir to Great

Great and pedal pistons coupled

Choir Organ (enclosed)

Gamba	8ft
Lieblich Gedact	8ft
# <i>Vox Angelica</i>	8ft
Suabe flute	4ft
Piccolo	2ft
Clarinet	8ft

*Great reeds on Choir

Swell to Choir

Swell Organ (enclosed)

Open Diapason	8ft
Stopped Diapason	8ft
Gamba	8ft
Voix Celeste <i>tenor c</i>	8ft
Principal	4ft
* <i>Open Flute</i>	4ft
Fifteenth	2ft
* <i>Mixture (22, 26, 29)</i>	III
Oboe	8ft
Contra Fagotto	16ft
* <i>Trumpet</i>	8ft
Clarion	4ft

Tremulant

Octave

*Sub octave

*Full compliment of pistons and accessories including 5 general pistons and 8 channels.

*Pitch A = 440

*CCTV between console and nave