

THE MONUMENTS IN THE MINSTER

By Richard Beaumont, June 1992

People have always wanted to be buried near some place that they thought holy. It seems that so in the past burials were often inside churches. Nowadays they are illegal for health reasons – the last burial in the nave was in 1848. Naturally monuments followed.

They can be interesting as works of art, or as reminders of famous people.

In Quire.

Bishop George Ridding :Plinth and Reading Desk designed by W D Caroe. Statue by W F Pomeroy.

William Talbot (next to Katyn memorial) buried 'under the sign of THAU'- not really Latin or Greek; the meaning is obscure but presumably the Almighty sign.

Bishop Heywood; Brass plate near vestry door in elegant Latin composed by Canon Field.

In Transepts.

Bishop Barry; composed by Canon Bayes.

Archbishop Sandys; Died in 1588 (as the Armada sailed up the Channel). Lived in Southwell for last ten years of his life, although still Archbishop of York. Buried in churchyard. Memorial, not tomb

Bishop Hoskyns; on swiveling base; by W Reynolds-Stevens.

Benjamin Cooper; high up on wall in North Transept.

Brass tablets; especially those to the Leek family, which goes back to the C16th, when they were a distinguished family. Francis Leek, though a Royalist, was made Master of Grammar School under the Commonwealth. After the Restoration he was made a canon and helped restore the Minster, together with William Mornpesson.

War memorials.

Parish War Memorial designed by Caroe. Further names added after 2nd World War

Katyn Memorial designed by Ronald Sims.

Glass.

Windows are often memorials but they have been dealt with by John Beaumont (Factsheets 10 and 27),

Nave Floor.

All inscriptions on nave -floor which are still legible were recorded by Mr R. Beaumont in 1950, together with everything associated with each names: some 200 names indexed, many of these now worn away. Minster Yard monuments done later.

Charity Boards

In S Transept. Local charities not usually recorded; found here as at that time it was simply a parish church.

? end of Fact Sheet

INSCRIPTIONS IN MINSTER

Inscription on Eagle Lectern in Quire "Orate pro ana Radulphi Savage et pro anabus Omn Fedelium Def imctor urn" Pray for the soul of Ralph Savage and for the souls of all the faithful departed

Plaque on the North Wall of the Airmen's Chapel William Talbot - Canon late C15th - "Hic iacet Willms Talbot miser et indignus Sacerdos expectans resurrectionem mortuorum s ' b signum thau" Here lies William Talbot wretched and unworthy priest awaiting the resurrection of the dead under the sign of the tau.

Ref. Vulgate Ezekiel 3:4 "Transi per median civitatem in media Jerusalem: et signa tau super frontes visorem gementium, et dolentium super cunctis abominationibus, quae fiunt in medio ejus" Go through the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and make (tau) cross upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and lament over all the abominations which are done on the midst thereof. See Ingham, Norfolk .

Tomb of Sir Roger de Blois 360. Slab with hand in relief holding tau staff

North Porch Slab 1536. Inscription "Spiritus archipotens, subhumati flaminis imo <TAU> Dum vivit facinus ussit et alta <TAU> Numine confiteare fleas: tum culmina cell (Tau) E mundo latus redda rogamus ai". O all powerful spirit, the crime of the priest buried here verily blazed up to the uttermost while he lived. Mayest thou confess to the Deity, mayest thou weep. Then we pray, mayest thou restore to him the summits of heaven, having taken him out of the world. On the lower half of the stone is a heart surrounded by a further Latin inscription of which the following is a translation: Vile things in my heart and flesh. I am very low. The tomb was reused for the burial in 1742 of the Revd Mr Philips.