

Description of the Chapel at Mayfield – the Chairman’s “gaff”

Attached to the right is the chapel in identical style and building materials. 4 bay nave with extended bay chancel with triple lancets. Coping with cross-shaped saddlestone to east and gabled bell cote to west. Transepts with rose windows. 1 storey link to school with arched doorcase.

North west elevation has similar arrangement of 7 bays to centre and 2 projecting wings of 2 bays. 3rd floor windows to centre part are cambered casements. 2nd floor windows are cambered 6 pane sashes with cast iron rosettes and continuous hood moulding between 1st floor has paired iron lancets with decorative panes and ground floor has paired Caernarvon arched windows. 2 storey central porch feature with hipped roof and round-headed arch.

Wings are gabled with 4th floor sash, 3rd floor triple sash, 2 cambered sashes to 1st and 2nd floors and triple windows to ground floor. Interior has chapel with fairly intact original decoration. Elaborate wooden reredoes with altar panel depicting St Francis Xavier, brass monstrance and 4 gabled niches with statues of saints.

To the left is a statue of Christ and to the right a statue of the Virgin and Child. Painted east wall with Annunciation to left and Coronation of the Virgin to right and series of roundels depicting saints.

Rose window has stained glass depicting angels, 2 bearing the legend ECCE PANIS ANGELDRUM. Painted design to chancel roof with 'M' symbols. It is thought that the original stencilled wall decoration may remain underneath the C20 painted flecked decoration.

Original organ with elaborate Gothic case. Link passage to school has arched braces with rosettes. Refectory is of 5 bays with stone corbels. 2nd floor Dormitory is of 7 bay and has chamfered beams with rib and fillet and rose motif. The laundry on this floor has built in cupboards. The 3rd floor has arched braces with trefoil decoration and is thought to have been originally built as an indoor play area. 2 staircases with cast iron chamfered supports and handrail. This was built as one of a pair with the Girls' orphanage of the same date, later known as St Joseph's College and the Convent of the Holy Child Jesus at Mayfield

Take a firm like Jones & Willis, who were one of the biggest, based in Birmingham. If you look at their catalogues, they were selling absolutely everything that you would need: altar frontals, candles, umbrella stands, all the furniture and fittings, the lectern and the seating and so forth - even complete prefabricated church buildings that could be shipped out to the colonies. They all issued catalogues, these firms, and you could either simply pick something straight out of the catalogue or you could ask them to do something specifically for your church. And they would have their own designers working for them. Alternatively, the architect who was working on your church could design the fittings and a company such as Jones & Willis might then make them up. Equally, they might be made-up by smaller specialist joiners ..JONES & WILLIS, fl.1851-after 1906

Church furnishers of Birmingham; originally Newton, Jones & Willis. They produced eighty illustrated catalogues supplying everything needed for the church, as well as interior decoration and medieval-style metalwork. They showed at the international exhibitions in London in 1851 and 1862, Vienna in 1873 and Paris in 1878. G. E. Street's embroideries and Burges's lectern for St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork were made by the company and in 1876 E.W. Godwin sent them designs. In the early twentieth century they took over the Birmingham Guild of Handicraft