



shington Minster: This Minster was built by "Canute the Great" in A.D 1020, in memory of those slain in the battle of Assandun.

You are now standing on the site of the camp of Edmund Ironside - the great Anglo-Saxon patriot. Two Miles to the East, across the valley, you can see where Canute's camp was at Canewdon. This valley was the scene of much of the battle.

Stand in the churchyard at the East-end of the church and you will be able to picture the long-ago scene. On your left, you will see the tidal River Crouch where Canute had his ships.

The Restoration of 1950-51

In the year 1949, the church was nearly a ruin. If we had known half its terrible state, we should not have dared use it.

What has been done.

The E.N. & W. walls have been underpinned at a depth of 6ft. with ferro-concrete rafts & solid masonry. The N.E. & W. buttresses & parts of these walls rebuilt. The entire Nave, and parts of the Chancel roofs have been renewed in seasoned English timber (oak) (over 4 tons). The interior - re-plastered, based on an ancient formula so as to preserve the old character of the walls. The lath & plaster ceiling put in, in the late 18th century has been removed so that the fine "King Post" roof may be seen.

The flag is the "Dannebrog" - the Danish flag - presented to the Church by Prince Georg of Denmark; and the Viking ship - a replica of the invasion ship of Canute - was given by the Danish Travel Association.

Some interesting points to notice.

The "Stigand" window. This is the oldest window in the church, though the glass is modern. Stigand was Canute's Chaplain & became the first Rector of Ashington Minster. Later he became Archbishop of Canterbury, and it was he who crowned William the Conqueror.

The East Window. Very rich Modern glass. Note; Canute; in lower left-hand panel.

Remains Of Chancel Arch.

You will see a stone pillar on the N. side of the screen. This is all that remains of the arch which probably fell early in 1700 & carried away part of the S. wall (by the pulpit) hence the ugly window, and the horrid red brick outside.

The Royal Arms.

Stuart period, dated on the back 1685 with churchwardens names.

Canute Silver Penny. Discovered in the churchyard while a grave was being dug. This is only a cast. For safety, the original has been deposited in the Brittlewell Museum.

Holy Water Stoup.

A unique ? 15th Century lead stoup, discovered many years ago in the churchyard in two parts.

I think you will agree that the mouldering ruin has been changed into a beautiful house of God; and it has been done without losing its antiquity.

C.A. Evelyn-White.
Rector.

Please replace so others may use it.