

DEANERY OF CHRISTIANITY

LINCOLN

CHURCH

EXTENSION

SOCIETY



PROGRESS REPORT

1956

## FOREWORD

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Bishop's House,  
Eastgate,  
Lincoln.

*8th May, 1956.*

The Lincoln Church Extension Society started at a meeting in the Old Palace on the 18th November, 1953. The Archdeacon of Lincoln was elected as Chairman and Canon Oswald Jones, Secretary.

The estimated cost for Church immediate extension was £50,000 and up to the present approximately £15,000 has been raised in gifts and promises. This has been a very great help towards meeting the problem on the Ermine Estate, Lincoln. A very fine dual-purpose Church Hall, dedicated to St. John, has been erected. The estate lies in the parish of St. Nicholas which now has a full staff of clergy and the new Church building is already proving itself.

We have received grants from the Church Commissioners already totalling £14,250, so we now have £29,250, leaving a sum still to be raised of £20,750.

This year it is hoped to build the dual-purpose Hall on the Hartsholme Estate. The need at Swallowbeck is for a curate's house, a new Church, and help towards the stipend of the curate. A Rectory is shortly to be built at Boultham—a very long felt want—and a new Church Hall is needed in this parish.

I wish to express my gratitude to all who have generously contributed to the Society's funds, as well as to all who are working so hard in the interest of the Church in the City of Lincoln. The task is formidable, but, under God, it can and must be done. I feel sure we can count upon growing support greatly encouraged by what has already been achieved.

MAURICE LINCOLN:

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH HALL.

### ERMINE ESTATE

The Reverend W. T. Armstrong, M.A., Vicar of St. Nicholas with St. John, Lincoln, writes: "When I arrived in this parish in late October, 1953, there were already more than 500 families on the Ermine Estate, but there was no community meeting place of any kind. Now there are over 2000 families—and *St. John's Church Hall*.

"By Christmas, 1954, the first Architectural drawings of St. John the Baptist dual purpose Church and Church Hall were made; the foundation stone was laid by the Bishop of Lincoln on June 24th, 1955, and the completed building was opened and consecrated on 20th January, 1956.

"During the period which I have sketched above the Bishop launched the Lincoln Church Extension Society, and it reached the point where it could guarantee sufficient support to the young community on the Estate to give us the courage to draw our plans. The speed with which these were translated into the present fine building is largely attributable to the confidence we felt in having enough Church Extension Society money behind us to get on and get established. We were able to build a Curate's house as well with reasonable prospects of being able to pay him, and the running expenses of the Hall and repay the Building Society's loan.

"We are well aware that in these early days we are enjoying a lion's share of the Extension Society's limited resources and that, as other projects in the Deanery develop we shall receive less and less. This is a weighty undertaking for a community of approximately three-quarters newly-weds, and one quarter old age pensioners. Without the help of responsibly far-sighted citizens in every walk of life from the rest of Lincoln, we should still be hesitating to start. As it is we had to exercise considerable faith and still have, because some £650 must be found every year for the next 25 years to pay back the loan. We shall need much help from the Extension Society, perhaps for the whole of that period.

"That St. John's fulfils a vital need we have no doubt. After only four months in use, and since a priest-in-charge arrived at Easter this year, it is necessary to hold six services on a Sunday, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to book the Hall on weekday evenings, because the Christian family has it in such constant use, and there are also afternoon sessions and services.

"We find that our design of St. John's with its entrance hall, main hall, stage and dressing rooms beyond, with the *side* sanctuary works very well. The main concrete ribs in 15 ft. spans are a restricting factor, and if money had allowed we should certainly have made the Sanctuary and Vestry a little larger, but on the whole we are delighted with the building."

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, ERMINE ESTATE

*“The Living Church”*



*The Parish Communion*

*“The Growing Church”*

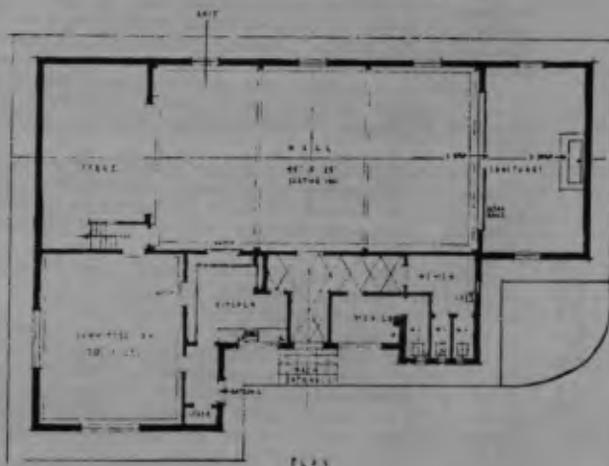


*The Sacrament of Baptism*

*(by courtesy of The Editor, Lincolnshire Echo)*

# "The Next Step"

## HARTSHOLME ESTATE



SKETCH PLAN OF DUAL PURPOSE CHURCH & HALL  
FOR HARTSHOLME ESTATE

Since October, 1954, a number of people at Hartsholme and Swanpool have been active in their endeavour to organise local support for the proposal to build a new Church Hall on the reserved site in Ashby Avenue.

To begin with leaflets were distributed to every house on both estates inviting all interested people to a public meeting and as a result a committee was formed which has met periodically to promote activities for obtaining financial support and the help of voluntary workers. An appeal was made by letter to every household for donations to a "Gift Week" and £32 was contributed; Residents were also asked to become regular contributors to the Fund and 45 weekly subscribers added another £79 by December, 1955, and are still continuing their contributions. In this connection the voluntary work of the collectors is most valuable.

The Architect's plans for the Church Hall were examined and accepted by the Parish Committee, and have now been approved by the Lincoln Church Extension Society. Various financial proposals have been considered jointly by the Parish Committee and the Society and a final decision is expected by the end of the month. We can reasonably expect that building operations will commence this summer and be completed by the end of the year, for one of our most pressing problems at the moment is how to deal with over 100 Sunday School children in temporary accommodation which is neither suitable or adequate.

In all our local efforts we are greatly encouraged to know that we have the generous support of the older parishes in the City through the work of the Church Extension Society.

R. A. HILL,  
Hon. Sec. Parish Committee.

## "Looking forward"

### SWALLOWBECK

We are engaged in Church Extension in this area against a background of a considerable increase in population, which in the foreseeable future will be in the 7500 mark. This figure relates to that part of the City which is in the Parish of Skellingthorpe. Skellingthorpe itself is also growing, and is becoming more and more a "dormitory" for the City. The ultimate parish population may well be over 10,000. The Parish is engaged in the dual task of improving Church amenities for those *outside* the City boundaries, and at the same time preparing the way for a better organised Church community at the Swallowbeck end.

As part of the Extension Scheme a house for the Curate (to be ordained at Trinity, 1956) has been purchased near to the Swallowbeck Church, and towards this the Lincoln Church Extension Society has promised an advance of £400, a further £1,000 being made available under the Diocesan Church Extension Scheme.

With the Curate's help the Vicar and his people hope to prepare thoroughly for the actual building of the new St. George's Church. For this three sites are under consideration, and a choice is expected to be made soon for a sum not involving more than £2,000. The Parochial Church Council has asked for details of recently built churches, and a number of these have been visited and examined with a view to crystallising ideas as to the nature and architecture of the new church. It is reckoned that this may cost up to £20,000. The present temporary church would be used as a Hall, though this together with the existing large hut, is even now too small for the needs of the Sunday School (of which there are three in the Parish).

Towards the cost of the church a grant of £2,000 has been promised by the Diocesan Church Extension Committee, which will also double (up to a limit of £1,500) any monies raised locally. But these grants are conditional on the Foundation Stone being laid by the end of 1958.

The Parish is alive to its opportunities and consequent responsibilities. It has raised £500 to be invested in the Curate's house, and it has planned as far as it possibly can in respect of the spiritual and material needs of the area. It is heavily committed in respect of payment for and upkeep of the Curate's house, as well as in respect of the Curate's stipend and urgent needs at the Parish Church.

R. T. LITTLE,

*Vicar of Skellingthorpe*

### S. GILES

The only Hall which S. Giles has is a wooden hut on the Wragby Road. This was the original "dual-purpose" building, bought second-hand, and erected at the end of the first World War. It has, of course, deteriorated since that date and it cannot last indefinitely. It is situated on one edge of the parish, on the wrong side of a busy road. The site on which it stands is much more valuable than the building itself, but there is in the deeds a curious clause limiting the re-sale.

There is ample room by the Church for a new Hall which would then be in the very centre of the Parish. As the Church is on the official list of Buildings of Historical and Architectural interest, a Hall will have to be erected in conformity with the Church, thus adding considerably to the cost. Preliminary sketch plans of a Hall have been drawn and the Ministry of Town and Country planning has indicated that it is the sort of building they would approve. As there is a shortage of Halls in this large area, it should not be difficult to obtain a number of lettings. The building of the Vicarage emptied the Building Fund but each year as much as possible is saved for this purpose.

V. I. DALBY,

*Vicar of S. Giles*

LINCOLN CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY

Income and Expenditure Account for the period from 29th October, 1954, to 31st December, 1955.

EXPENDITURE	£	s	d	£	s	d	INCOME	£	s	d	
Administration:							Donations and Collections		426	19	10
Printing, Postages and other Expenses	23	17	5				Subscriptions, including Income Tax recoverable on covenanted subscriptions (£935 12s. 5d.)	2227	7	7	
Stamps on Covenants	25	8	6				Bank Interest	26	14	3	
Accountancy Charges	5	5	0								
				54	10	11					
Excess of Income over Expenditure for the period				2626	10	9					
				£2681	1	8					
								£2681	1	8	

NOTE: The Society was formed on 18th November, 1953, but no income was received or expenditure incurred until a public meeting was held on 29th October, 1954.

BALANCE SHEET 31st December, 1955.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Accumulated Income	2626	10	9	Income Tax recoverable on covenanted subscriptions	94	2	9
Creditor	5	5	0	Cash in the hands of the Lincoln Diocesan Trust and Board of Finance	272	19	7
				Balances with National Provincial Bank Limited:			
				On Deposit Account	2226	14	3
				On Current Account	37	19	2
					2264	13	5
	£2631	15	9	L. A. BAKER, <i>Treasurer</i>	2631	15	9
				K. HEALEY, <i>Chairman</i>			

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LINCOLN CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY.

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account with the books and papers produced to us by the Hon. Treasurer. In our opinion and according to the explanations given to us, these accounts fairly represent the transactions shown in the books for the period from 29th October, 1954, to 31st December, 1955, and the state of affairs as shown at the latter date.

J. S. STREETS & Co., *Chartered Accountants.* LINCOLN, 29th February, 1956.

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|---|---|
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