

Church of St John the
Evangelist

II

Anglican parish church. 1869-78, by Frederick Wallen. Coursed Kentish Rag with Bath stone dressings; slate roofs. Cruciform plan with aisled nave, porches to west end of nave and apsidal east and west ends. Early Decorated style. Polygonal apse to east end has plate-tracery lancets with quatrefoils and foliate jamb shafts, and series of pointed-arched clerestorey lights with stiff-leaf capitals to engaged shafts. Plate tracery windows and trefoiled lancets to north vestry and south east chapel, the former having a Caernarvon-arched doorway and the latter tracery in the form of a Celtic cross to its east window. Transepts each have 2-light plate-tracery windows and to north and south gables, with 3-light plate-tracery window above series of 5 trefoiled lancets linked by hood moulds with stiff-leaf capitals above pointed-arched doorway with stiff-leaf jamb shafts. crossing has unfinished square tower surmounted by louvred flèche. Eight-bay nave has 2-light plate-tracery windows to clerestorey, above lean-to aisles with 2 and 3-light plate-tracery windows with foliate stops to hood moulds and gabled porches each with canopied statue niche above pointed-arched doorway with foliate capitals to jamb shafts. Semi-circular apse to west end with similar clerestorey windows as those to eastern apse. Interior: stiff-leaf capitals to credence shelf; encaustic tile floor to chancel; boarded ceilings to nave and chancel have pointed-arched trusses with cusping to soffits forming large trefoil beneath each truss; openwork spandrels to aisle roofs. Early English moulded capitals to chancel arches and to arcades of 4-bay nave; stiff-leaf capitals to crossing arcades; carved tympanums with angels over doorways to W end of nave. Fittings: carved stone reredos of 1874 by Gibbs and Moore, with foliate Decorated capitals to trefoiled and crocketed canopies, framing later C19 mosaics; organ of 1883 by William Hill and Son; late C19 pews etc, brass eagle lectern and reset (not original) pulpit; C13-style font, with bowl set on pedestal with engaged shafts.