



Oaksey

Oaksey Church

The Church of Oaksey consists of a nave, side aisles, and a chancel, with low square tower. The nave and chancel are separated by a massive semi-circular arch; but between the nave and aisles are obtusely pointed arches resting on round pillars; the tops of the windows were ornamented with painted glass, of which a few fragments only remain. Several of the pews display figures carved in relief. On one of them is a man's head, with the tongue protruding from the mouth; and on another a shield with an ancient inscription, of which a fac simile engraving was published in the Gentleman's Magazine of March 1806.

“On the great bell here is this inscription: Jesus Nazareus Rex Judaeorum miserere nobis. Between each word is a crowned head. Henry (I think) the Fourth is in a hood, which fashion was used by this king.”

Aubrey mentions an eminence surrounded by a moat, about half a mile north of the church, which was called Norwood Castle, and was a “place of defence, no question, for the Duke of Lancaster.”

Perhaps it was the site of the embattled manor-house of Humphry de Bohun, previously referred to; though, as there are also traces of a fortified building in another spot adjoining the churchyard, Bohun's fortress may, with more probability, be supposed to have been placed there.

**Extract from
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