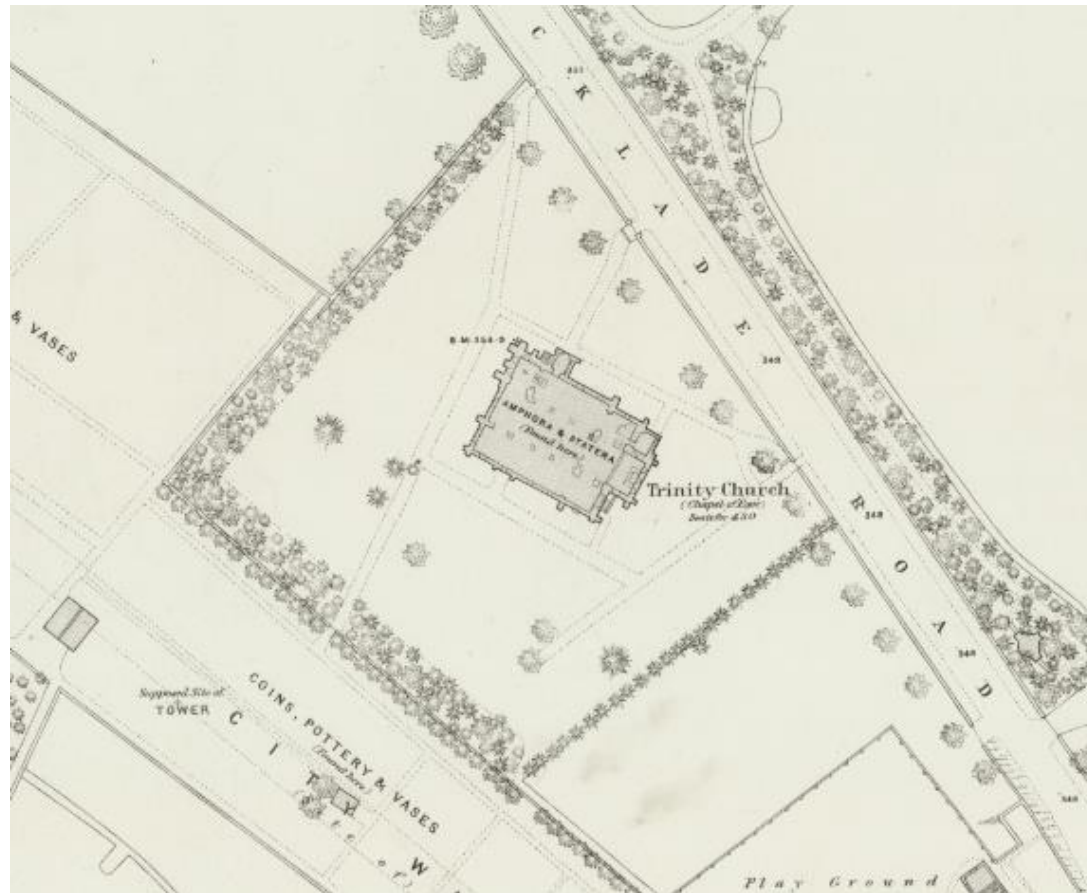


Holy Trinity Church.
32 Watermoor Road, Cirencester. GL7 1JR

Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, was designed and built by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1851. In 1841 the population of Cirencester was only about 6000, and the Parish Church was only able to minister to "880 persons which could be accommodated in enclosed pews, 188 in open benches in the passages and 450 school children in the distant gallery". The then Vicar of Cirencester the Rev. (later Canon) William Powell, found a solution to this inadequate accommodation for worship. He was a devotee of the Oxford Movement known in those days as the Tractarian Movement and along with Sir George Gilbert Scott planned the Church along the Neo Gothic Style so popular in those days. It was his intention to make it possible for at least half the local population, rather than just under a third, to be able to worship by the addition of a new church, erected as a Chapel-of-Ease. This would be located on the wooded piece of land opposite to Watermoor House in "the suburb of Watermoor. In those days the borough boundary was drawn at the Mill crossroads on Lewis Lane and so, one can see that the Church was first built on the outskirts of the town where, in 1851, there were very few houses at the time.



When this scheme was suggested, Henry George the 4th Earl Bathurst came forward with an offer of the site of an acre and a half, which Canon Powell had in mind. The grant of this land to the Church was given with the glad consent of Mr. Joseph Randolph Mullings, who was the lessee of the land and the owner of Watermoor House. One condition applied and that was that there should be no burials in the churchyard, this was most likely because of the high water table. It is of note also that, unlike most Churches that are were built with East/West orientation, the Holy Trinity Watermoor was built with North/South orientation. The Church, which was designed and supervised in its construction by Sir George Gilbert Scott, was built by Mr. Bridges, a local builder of that time.

At Holy Trinity Church there is an area dedicated as a Memorial Garden This is recorded by Alan Jones a local member of the congregation. The location of plots in the garden along with the names of those that the plots are dedicated to have been given a 'W' prefix and the source is one held by Alan from original church records.

As far as I am aware that is complete a list of those buried or their ashes laid in the garden as I can find. I am sure there are still gaps but I have endeavoured to reconcile all the entries and also resolve any duplicate and mis-represented entries as far as I can.

I am quite willing to amend the records or plan if there are any points that I might of missed.

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To access the complete database of graveyards in Cirencester the QR code will enable you to view all the records as best as can be reconciled as of early 2024. <https://www.sitechsurveying.co.uk/graveyards/index.html>

