

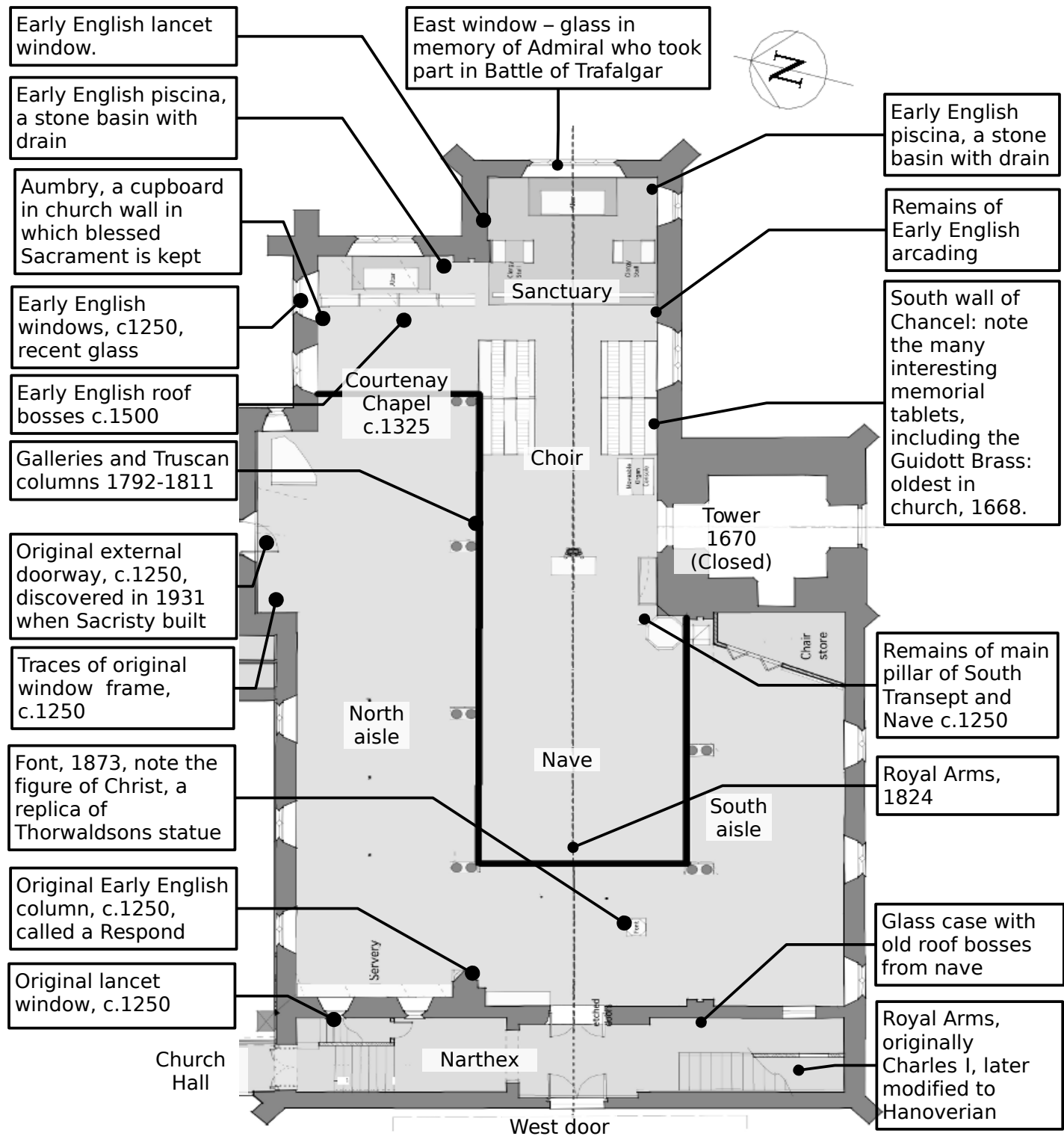
**WE WELCOME** you and offer these brief notes on the history of our Parish Church dedicated to Saint Thomas the Apostle.

There has been a church on this site for more than 800 years. During this time the building has suffered frequent and extensive damage. Continual reconstructions and additions present to us not only a memory of the past but a witness of an everliving faith.

### A few historical facts

**The present West Door** was designed and made locally and erected in 1950.

**The Narthex** was added in 1811 extending the length of the church and enclosing the former west wall. Near the servery is an early English column attached to the west wall, which formerly supported the last vault of the north arcade. The date of the column is about 1250, and it is the oldest piece of the existing fabric.



**The Bosses** in a case on the Narthex staircase used to adorn the roof until 1911, when the roof was renewed.

**The Baptismal Font** was installed in 1873, and the cover was presented in 1924. The figure of Christ is a miniature reproduction of the great statue by the sculptor Thorwaldson on the Norwegian coast.

**The Courtenay Chapel** dates from about 1325, and was formerly the Mortuary Chapel. It was restored between 1927 and 1931. The east window was installed in 1936, and the north window was dedicated in 1948.

**The Sanctuary.** On either side of the altar are fragments of the arcades in the Early English style of the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

**The Choir Stalls** were renewed in 1949. Notice the carved poppy heads. The date of the oldest brass memorial tablet is 1668.

**The Pulpit** was made in 1911 replacing a three decker pulpit. It was installed in its present place in 1950.

**The Galleries.** The north gallery, built in 1792, replaced a smaller one, and the south gallery was added in 1811.

Extensive restorations were undertaken in 1864, 1911 and 1931, and 2011.

***You are welcome to take this leaflet away with you.***

### **Sunday Services**

8.00am	Early Communion
9.15am	Choral Communion
11.00am	Life & Soul Informal Service

# Guide to St Thomas Church Lymington

