



# *Holy Cross Church*

*Hankerton*

## **Holy Cross Church in 1805**

The church has a North aisle divided from the nave by pointed arches on round pillars. The North aisle door is stopped up, and there is only one window; a high pointed door in the North side of the tower stopped. The North-west and South-west buttresses of the tower have niches, and a lion and dog, and a modern shield on the West face. The South porch door is curiously carved. There are no burials on the North side of the church-yard.

Epitaph to William Webb of Crudwell; died 1743, aged 51.

In the chancel four round arches, pillars and capitals.

The East end of the chancel has the centre and side square windows stopt:

On Mr Erle's seat, Gules, in a border engrailed A. three escalops Au single; and impaling three swords, two point downward, and one in the middle reversed A. hilted Or, and Gules.

Rawlinson; a chevron dancetty between four billets Or. The swords quartering the escalops with a shield of pretence, paly of four, Or and Azure; in chief Azure a griffin gradant Or.

Erle with shield of pretence, impaling the swords with a chief indented Gules, a pile and chevron Or, counterchanged.

Benefactions, 1775, collected together 52/. 59/. 3s. 6d. old South Sea annuities. Gyles Earle, esq. James Gyles, vicar, and three other parishioners, trustees for the benefit of the poor.

Lady Winchelsea 20s. per annum to the second poor of Hankerton and Clotby, for books, and the residue on schooling poor children.

Inscription to Gyles Earle, of Estcourt, died Aug. 20, 1758, aged 80.

He married, 1, Elizabeth, daughter to Sir William Rawlinson, knt. and had Eleanor and William Rawlinson, who died 1777, aged 72, and was buried near his sister in the vault of his grandfather, Sir William, at Hendon, Middlesex. He married Susan, daughter of William White, of Somerford, Wilts; and had four children, Gyles, Eleanor, Elizabeth, and Susan, buried at Hendon. Erected by his widow 1771.

Sir William Rawlinson was Serjeant at Law, and one of the Commissioners of the Great Seal; died 1705: and has a monument in Hendon Church. Lysons, III. S. Lady R. Died at Ealing. Ibid. II. 30.

The font is octagon, adorned with roses.

The pulpit-cloth blue and gold, and on it M W 1661, and a gerbe.

The screen of the chancel supports the singing gallery.

The patronage is doubtful, whether in the Earl of Suffolk or the Rector of Crudwell, who presented himself to it, 17...

### **Topographical Tour in Wiltshire 1805**