

# DOWNLOAD PDF BEESLEYS ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO ST. MICHAELS CHURCH, CHARLESTON, SO.

## Chapter 1 : St. Michael's Episcopal Church (Charleston, South Carolina) - Wikipedia

*Beesley's Illustrated Guide to St. Michael's Church, Charleston, So. Ca [Beesley Charles Norbury, Charles so Co] on blog.quintoapp.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. This book an EXACT reproduction of the original book published before*

See other formats w! THE Memorial Tablet shown in the accompanying picture tells its own story. After the earthquake of August 31st, 1886, many of the churches of Charleston erected "Earthquake Memorial Tablets. Marshall, this Tablet was made to embrace, as succinctly as possible, a history of the building which had passed through so many vicissitudes. It is built of brick, imported from England, stuccoed on the outside. The Church and steeple have been painted many times, but the climate causes it to scale rapidly. The dimensions of the building are: Length, including portico, feet; width, 60 feet; height of steeple, feet, 3 inches. Sunk during earthquake, August 31st, 1886, 8 inches. Present height, feet, 7 inches. Now softened by the "pale moonlight. With thy bright forehead to the sky. Fierce fires in rolling volumes came. On thy lonely height The faithful watchman walks his round. While rest and safety rule the night. And stillness as of Holy Ground. All sleep but thee" thy tuneful bells Hymn to the night wind in its roar. Or float upon the Atlantic swells That soften summer on our shore. Soother of sickness Oft thy chime A gentle voice to darkness lends. And Speaks a language deep, sublime. The ambitious to the strife of mind. Thy Sabbath summons not in vain Calls the mixed city to their God; Each gravely seeks his chosen fane And treads the aisles his sires have trod. And nobly do thy psalms flow, When patriots shout the annual strain That echoes from far Mexico, To where St. Lawrence holds his reign. And hospitable joys retrace. And tender are the thoughts that rise. When, sea-bound from thy level shore. The tear of parting dims our eyes. Till we can view thy point no more. And when returning to our land. The summer exile nears his home. How beats his heart and waves his hand. I close my lay. My look, like thine, shall be to heaven. THIS IS a view of the Church taken immediately after the great cyclone, which swept this city and vicinity, August 25th, 1886, doing great damage, and leaving many wrecks in its path. The large cypress ball surmounting the steeple was thrown down, making a dent in the pavement where it struck, which is still visible. The ball lies under the window nearest the porch in the picture, and may be seen by the aid of a magnifying glass. The wreckage of the storm is also visible in the street, and on the roof are evidences of its force in tearing off great numbers of the slates. The other building seen in the picture is the City Hall. It was thought that it would be almost impossible to restore the Church, which had just been repaired after the terrible cyclone of August 25th, 1886. In this connection it may be mentioned that eight days after the earthquake, during which time the familiar sound of the chimes had not been heard, the old sexton climbed to the clock room and set the clock going. One who had not gone through the terrible experiences of that time cannot know the inspiration and encouragement that the people felt when the chimes again pealed forth in familiar chorus. From the picture it will be seen that the spire is separate from the church. While the repairs made necessary by the earthquake were in progress, an old coffin was unearthed from beneath the south stairway. On the lid of the coffin were the initials J. This date precedes by several years that of the erection of the first church on this site, but from the presence of this coffin it is inferred that the site was used at that time for a burial ground. Nothing whatever is known as to who "J. The organ has been taken down and at the left in the foreground the old reading desk is seen. By the sinking of the tower, the doors entering on the north and south aisles were so thrown out of place that it was impossible to open them, and a close inspection will reveal the seriousness of the damage they suffered. The fissures in the aisle and the yawning holes in the ceiling are also visible. The arms of the chandelier have been removed, and the body of it covered to protect it from injury while the repairs proceeded. In the foreground the tiling is seen broken and shattered, as though a ploughshare had been run through the aisle. Through these fissures in the aisle water gushed forth, mingled with sand, at the time of the earthquake. Towards the front door in the vestibule are seen the evidences of destruction wrought by the sinking of the spire. The debris in the aisle at the right was thrown from the west

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wall of the Church. As will be seen, there is a step now leading to the inner door, which was on a level with the floor of the vestibule, until the earthquake caused it to settle as stated. The door seen in the picture was put in after the earthquake, replacing an older door, which was badly shattered at that time. The dimensions of the interior are seventy feet by fifty-one. The height of the ceiling is thirty-one feet. The pews are of red cedar, and are in number ninety-seven on the ground floor. There are in the galleries thirty pews additional. The aisle is tiled with red and bluish English tiles, duplicates of the original, which were destroyed at the time of the earthquake. All the aisles are tiled alike. The pulpit, and reading desk, the litany desk a memorial, and the chancel, all appear in this picture. All the woodwork of the columns and galleries is of cypress and cedar, as is also the decorative work in the ceiling. The hinges of the pew doors are of wrought iron and the pattern is known as the "H" hinge, because it forms that letter when opened. It shows the steps leading up to the pulpit, and the sounding board as it appears from that direction. Around the walls are seen several Memorial Tablets. The chandelier and organ which are also shown separately may also be seen. The large square pew is opposite the pulpit steps, on the north side of the central aisle. The chairs are the same that were placed in the Chancel when the Church was built. The Altar replaces the original Communion Table, and is a memorial. The Credence Table is also a memorial. The Chancel Rail is of wrought iron, probably imported from England at the time of the building of the Church, and shows the beautiful handiwork of the artists in iron at that period. THE original Chancel Window was closed up in 1 for fear lest the Church might take fire from certain buildings near to it, which were afterwards removed. The Window remained closed until February 14th, , St. A piece of this shell, which also broke the tiling under the pulpit, cut the wood at its base, is still in possession of the sexton. The window now in the Vestry Room filled the gap made by this shell. It was placed in the Chancel in 1, when the Church was repaired. In 1 the present window was put in. "Michael Conquering Satan," now in the gallery of the Louvre, Paris. Its sublime poetic character, its depth and contrast of coloring, its dramatic action so startlingly sudden, entitle it to the honor. Michael has his foot on Satan; with both hands he raises his lance to strike him, while flames shoot up from crevices in the earth to cast a lurid and mysterious glow over the rugged landscape. The original is 6 feet, 10 inches high, and 3 feet, 5 inches wide; it was painted on wood in, and in transferred to canvas. The original is a painting in a Lutheran Church at Molde, Norway, by the artist. It is entitled "Easter Morning," and represents the scene in the Garden of Joseph of Arimathea, at the moment when the three Marys entered the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and were told by the angel, "He is not here, for He is risen, as He said. It represents the adoration by angels, as seen in the two lower panels, while above two other angels are awaiting the coming of the faithful, in order to bestow upon them the "Crown of Life. It filled the gap disclosed by the shell elsewhere referred to, and remained in place until, when the present window was put in. It was then removed to the window at the eastern end of the north aisle, where it remained until, when it gave place to the Memorial Window now occupying that space. It is now in the Vestry Room of the Church. The Pulpit is the original one. Perhaps the most striking feature in connection with this is the massive sounding board, supported by two Corinthian columns. Some years later this was set back by the person who took it, presumably, and was restored to its old place. The original Reading Desk was replaced in, by the one now in use; it was cypress, stained; on each side a hand extended, holding a candlestick. The original sedile was a very plain bench, which was replaced by the present one in. The ceiling of the sounding board is mahogany, inlaid with oak in two colors; the whole forming a star. In it was occupied by General Robert E. In the Marquis of Lome and his wife the Princess Louise, sat in it. It is said, that in it the Marquis de Lafayette, and "numerous other celebrities have, from time to time, been seated.

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