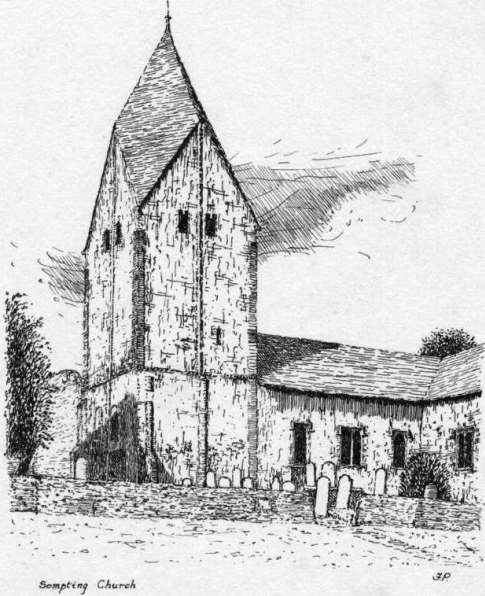


Church of St. Mary, Sompting, W.Sussex.

All pictures viewed clockwise from top left (blue border).

This page -

1. Ink sketch of the church from the south, by F.Parsons, 1966.
2. South face of tower.
3. West face of tower.
4. Stringcourse, west face tower.
5. SW corner of tower with stringcourse above.



Sompting Church

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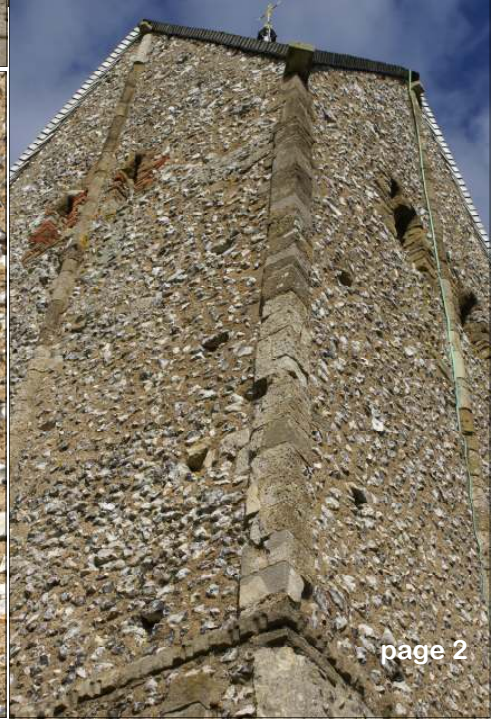


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Sompting Church.

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- 6. Detail (at stringcourse) of junction of stages at centre of south face tower.
- 7. Tower from the NE.
- 8. SW corner above stringcourse.
- 9. Two arched openings upper stage, S face tower.
- 10. The distinctive stringcourse (and see photo 3 & 6).



Sompting Church.

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11. Tower archway from nave.

12. Archway, S capital.

13. Archway, N capital.

14. Saxon window N wall tower (viewed internally).

15. Blocked Saxon window S wall nave (cut by insertion of later window).

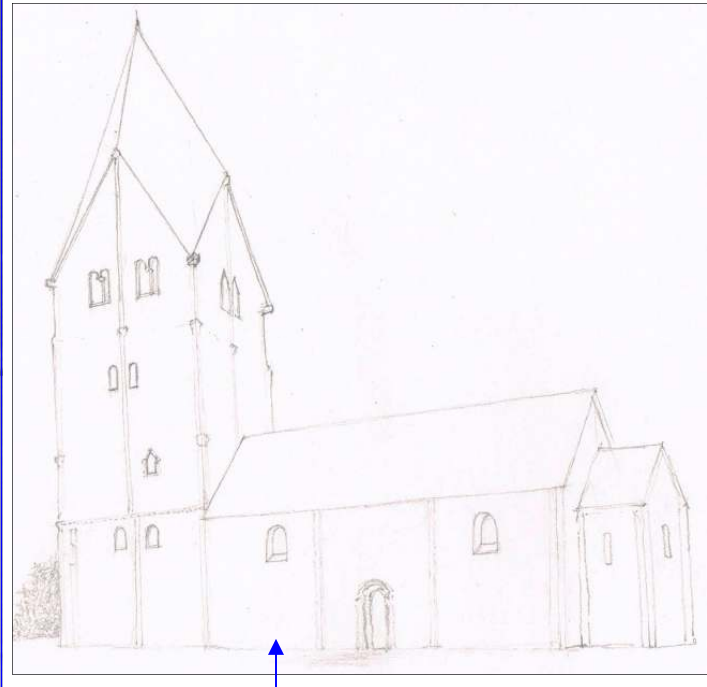
16. Detail of picture 13, showing contrasting stone, possible use of Roman worked stone (right).



Sompting Church.

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17. Remains of arch of blocked pre-conquest window in south wall of nave and no more than a few yards from where the tower abuts the nave. This would seem to have come to light within the last decade.
18. Pencil sketch (made by F.Parsons in 1970), an impression of how the church may have looked in the first quarter of the eleventh century. The blocked nave window may be seen, it is the left hand of the two in the south nave wall and is above the blue arrow.
19. The head of this blocked window seen from outside (adjoining the inglorious drain pipe). This window was not noted by H.Taylor since in his time it was not visible. I would say that, due to the rough presentation of the stonework of the head, especially when compared to the blocked window in the north wall of the ground floor of the tower, that the tower is logically the later addition to the church, and was probably built over the west wall of the nave, as was usual practice. See H.Taylor's *Anglo-Saxon Architecture*, Vol II pages 558 to 562 for an in depth description of the tower.



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