Charles Buckeridge and His Family

By Andrew Saint

I am most grateful to Peter Howell, Paul Joyce, and Anthony Quincy for particular help in the writing of this article, and to many others for assistance over particular problems.

Abbreviations are as follows:

GR Card index of Victorian churches compiled by H. S. Goodhart Rendel, at the R.I.B.A.
ICBS Files of the Incorporated Church Building Society.
707 Jackson’s Oxford Journal.
MS. Top. Oxon, MS. Oxf. dio. papers, etc. Bodleian Library manuscripts, mostly Parish Boxes and Papers of the Oxford Diocesan Church Building Society.
VCH Oxon. Victoria County History of Oxfordshire.

In 1912 Maurice B. Adams, who was for many years editor of the Building News, published a list of the hundred foremost architects of the 19th century, with a brief commentary upon each. Of the men whom he selected, few have been so completely forgotten as Charles Buckeridge (1832–73); why therefore did the shrewd and experienced Adams choose him? Really outstanding architecture is perhaps not to be expected from a hundred men within a century. This short study attempts simply to justify Adams’s inclusion of Buckeridge, the sole representative of the many architects who practised in Oxford for any length of time during the Victorian period. I have appended a brief account of the little that is known of his son, Charles Edgar Buckeridge (1864–98). Together, their careers present a tale of strenuous but in many ways unlucky devotion on the part of one Victorian family to that resuscitated ideal—art in the service of religion.

Of the personal life and the background of Charles Buckeridge we know virtually nothing. His father, Charles Elliott Buckeridge (1797–1835) came from Windsor; he was in the East India Service, but died (at Honfleur, for some reason), only a year or two after Charles’s birth. This may explain why his son did not follow him to St. John’s College, Oxford. Instead, he was articled to an architect while still quite young; where, we cannot say. In 1854, when he was admitted to a studentship at the Royal Academy school of architecture, he was certainly living in London and working in the office of George Gilbert Scott, and in the following year he was elected to membership of the Ecclesiastical Society. At that time, the Gothic Revival was at its most ebullient stage; at last really fine and original buildings were being designed, after twenty years of apprenticeship in the school of medieval church architecture. No ecclesiastical practice in the country was busier than Gilbert Scott’s. Only George Edmund Street’s office had, at this period, a higher proportion of brilliant pupils, and Buckeridge, if he began with Scott, may have borne in mind Street’s

2 Alumni Oxonienses 1715–1886. Peter Howell points out to me that of thirteen Buckeridges in this volume, eleven were at St. John’s, and that this must suggest descent from the John Buckeridge who was President of St. John’s in 1605, Bishop of Rochester in 1611, and Tutor of Laud (see DNB).
3 Ecclesiologist (1855), 119. He was living at 118 College Street, Camden.
days in the office. The most interesting of Buckeridge’s contemporaries under Scott were W. H. Crossland, C. Hodgson Fowler, the two Scott sons G. G. and J. O. Scott, John Clayton, John Burlison, and above all G. F. Bodley. In later years, many of these friends were to support and encourage his son’s career. But the architect with whom Buckeridge formed the closest possible links was outside Scott’s office. This was John Loughborough Pearson, who had recently come south from Yorkshire, and in the 1850s was still experimenting with his own version of the fashionable French ‘early second-pointed style’; the series of sober vaulted churches of his maturity began only with St. Peter’s Vauxhall of 1860. A thorough grounding, therefore, in the office of the most popular architect of the day, and contact with some of the most intelligent younger men, augured well for Charles Buckeridge’s career. Scott’s vast practice meant that he was already allowing much latitude to his most trusted pupils, and it is readily clear that Buckeridge was one of these.

Early in 1856, Street moved with Philip Webb and all his office staff from Oxford, where his post as Diocesan Architect had enabled him to lay the foundations of a great and prosperous career, and established himself in London. This gave Buckeridge his cue, no doubt loudly prompted by friends and contacts. Later that year, he is found at Oxford with an office at 86 High Street, receiving his own commissions at the age of 23; the first known is a school at Didcot. Far-flung jobs immediately followed—a church at Pitlochry, a parsonage project in Breconshire at Llandyfaelog Fach. And, in November 1856, he was already reading a paper on The Universal Applicability of Gothic Architecture as a prominent member of the Oxford Architectural Society, which under Street’s guidance had emerged as a strong pressure group for advanced architectural ideas. With the rabidity of youth and the 1850s, Buckeridge lamented the state of street architecture, advocated the use of secular Gothic, and even proposed to ‘make every article of furniture breathe the same Gothic spirit’. We are, in fact, very close to Pugin, as we are reminded by the image that closes the paper, of Gothic secular buildings clustering round the peaceful church. Equally Puginian in tone but more powerfully expressed is Buckeridge’s plea for elevations that follow naturally from plans. ‘It is quite a mistaken notion’ he says, ‘to design the exterior first, and then to try to coax the plan to suit it.’ And it is in planning, if anywhere, that Buckeridge’s originality is to be looked for, as we shall see.

Buckeridge’s later contributions to the society included a paper of 1858, of no special interest, on modern stained glass technique, and an explanation of Scott’s restoration of St. Mary the Virgin, in 1861. Scott doubtless found it convenient to have his young and needy pupil established in Oxford, for Buckeridge not only superintended this restoration and that of University College Chapel, but also looked after the important construction of Exeter College.
Chapel; from what we know of Scott’s procedure, he will have been allowed a
good deal of discretionary power in the details of these designs. Soon, there is
no doubt that Scott was passing on whole commissions to him, as he did with
W. H. Crossland in Yorkshire. The most interesting cases are the extension of
St. Michael’s Yorktown, and Lydia Sellon’s convent at Ascot. Scott may have
had reasons other than pressure of business for giving up the work at Ascot,
where it is possible that he himself designed none of what was built; for being a
broad churchman, he was unwilling to take on jobs which might alienate anti­
ritualists. Buckeridge, on the other hand, was a pronounced Tractarian, gaining
his four most important commissions from the revived orders. Ascot Priory was
the first, and there followed at Oxford two such jobs, Holy Trinity Convent
(pl. xxvi) and St. John’s Hospital, Cowley (pl. xxvii). In addition, he was
asked to design the remote monastic buildings for the revived order started high
in the Welsh hills near Llanthony by Father Ignatius. Buckeridge’s willingness
to be involved with so notorious a figure suggests that his enthusiasm for the
monastic ideal far surpassed that of most contemporary High Church architects.

In the seventeen short years of his career, Buckeridge amassed a very busy
practice, predominantly in church restoration, which was regularly noticed in
the Ecclesiologist and the other organs of the church-building movement. The
Ecclesiologist was feared for its ferocious criticism, but in Buckeridge it recognized
a home-grown pupil, and treated his designs with due respect. Thus, in 1862:
‘Mr. Buckeridge has designed a good Pointed dwelling house for Museum Terrace,
Oxford. It is well planned, and has a decidedly town character. The style is
severe Early-Pointed, and we notice as the only blemish a rather too church-like
effect in the entrance porch.’ And, in 1863: ‘Almshouses, schoolroom, and reading
room, Little Tew, Oxfordshire. This is a pleasing group by Mr. Buckeridge, in
a simple but decided Pointed style. The whole is most unpretending. We
should have thought that raising the schoolroom gable above that of the adjacent
cottages would have given variety of outline with great advantage. The pile
collectively will be a great ornament to the village. The materials are red and
black brick, with tiles for the roof and wooden frames for the windows.’

These criticisms allow the inference that Buckeridge was up to date and
extremely competent in style, but not particularly imaginative. In fact, much
of his work is severe and somewhat rigid, and distinctly ‘too church-like’ in
secular buildings, which often display remarkably ecclesiastical motifs. Buckeridge
rarely diverged from the First and Second Pointed in which Scott had
brought him up before the end of his career, and few of his jobs were big enough
affairs to exploit these styles to their best advantage. The unexecuted designs
do, however, suggest a distinct striving after originality, especially in planning.

At Ascot, Buckeridge’s chapel (which unusually displayed Norman forms) was
to have two separate small chapels, accessible from the main conventual wings,

7 Ecclesiologist (1862), 182; (1863), 66. As usual, these criticisms embody a good deal of garbling
and sheer misstatement of fact. The Museum Terrace house scarcely has a porch at all, and at Little
Tew the school gable is well above that of the almshouses, which are of grey and blue brick. Or were
these comments made on designs, sedulously altered by their author in the face of criticism?
arranged, with much ingenuity, at the points of the intersection of the chapel and transepts, so as to be placed on the level of the upper story, and over the aisles of the chapel; each chapel having an eastern window under a separate gable.\(^8\) The plan for St. John’s Hospital (\textit{pl. xxvii}) used a similar feature, and allowed for an interesting integration of chapel and quadrangle;\(^9\) while the large mission church Buckeridge designed for Egutpoora, Bombay, was praised for ‘conspicuous merit and originality’ in adapting Gothic to a tropical climate. Without doubt, his most astonishing piece of planning was his first design for Holy Trinity Convent; in accordance with a medieval Trinitarian device, a central chapel of trefoiled plan was to rise up in the middle above flanking conventual buildings, which were to describe short arcs, and meet at three circular points of intersection (\textit{pl. xxvi}). Here, Buckeridge could not solve the insuperable problems of awkward angles and loss of space, so a simpler and less expensive design was built. The result is still impressive in its sober and scholarly manner; Butterfield, no enthusiast, considered it ‘the best designed building in Oxford after my college’ [Keble].\(^{10}\)

It is not easy to assess Buckeridge’s church work. Most of the work that came to him was restoration, and in this, by later standards (and also the best contemporary ones) he was too ruthless. Street as Diocesan Architect had good cause to complain about his drastic proposals for Chaldington and Brightwell Priors. At St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford, Buckeridge was indifferent to the fate of Nicholas Stone’s porch, though Scott insisted on its retention; Buckeridge’s attitude was ‘it is not a feature to be restored, neither is it one to be destroyed.’\(^{11}\) And certainly there was much ill feeling in later years about his wholesale rebuilding at Wolvercote. His restorations are however always excellent in the matter of sensitivity to materials and traditions, and in a number of Welsh churches where there was little money to spend and really no worthwhile work subsequent to the Reformation, he has made the result simple and attractive. The occasional touch of individuality enhances this kind of work. The vestry at Aberyscir, for instance, employs the simple but tough tracery patterns advocated by Street, and immediately gladdens the heart. Similar blunt and bold Streetian forms appear in Buckeridge’s most original town house, 9 Norham Gardens, for that sea-captain turned historian, Professor Montagu Burrows; the stern plate tracery at the back, and the round ‘garderobe’ projection at the side mark this as the most uncompromisingly Gothic house in the whole of North Oxford.

The new churches fall mostly into the boom period at the end of his career, when he repeated Scott’s mistake of taking on far too much work, and therefore tend to be dull and without individuality, reflecting lack of attention. Two of the 1860s, however, are outstanding; these are the lovely ironstone churches in the neighbouring villages of Avon Dassett and Radway, where Buckeridge

\(^{8}\) \textit{Ecclesiologist} (1864), 49.
\(^{9}\) The interconnection between upper storey wards and chapel cannot be seen on the ground plan, but is noted in \textit{Building News}, 24 (1873), 672.
\(^{10}\) A comment preserved by A. W. M. Mowbray, in manuscript notes on the parish of St. Philip and St. James’s, Oxford, kept at the vicarage.
\(^{11}\) \textit{Proc. OAS}, 26.11.1862, 175.
employs local materials with exquisite feeling. At Avon Dassett (pl. xxviii, a, b), he allows himself an arcade of Transitional Character within an Early English style, and sets off the texture of the stone in the interior with a simple blue-grey Butterfieldian reredos; at Radway, he frankly borrows ideas from Street’s St. Philip and St. James, Oxford, for the roof and the low, heavy capitals of the nave piers, and integrates them perfectly into the local context.

To these examples should be added two excellent additions, again to neighbouring churches; the brick chancel and apse at Hawley, profusely ornamented with leaf carving by the vicar’s wife, encaustic tiling, black and red brickwork, and Clayton and Bell glass, with which one may compare the aisles that Buckeridge added to Woodyer’s nave at Yorktown, Camberley, with elegant carving (possibly by the same hand) in the spandrils of the arcade.

The most vivid and unusual side to Buckeridge’s career was his extensive practice in Wales. The established church faced enormous difficulties when it applied its new-found energy to the restoration of Welsh churches. Nonconformity in the mass of the people, absenteeism and ignorance among the clergy, filth and decay throughout the churches—these conditions were the rule, not the exception. A typical example was Aberyscir. In appealing for funds for Buckeridge’s restoration, the Rector could endorse the comments made on the church by Brecon’s historian, Theophilus Jones, in 1809: ‘It is a miserable little building in which the floor within is of Earth ... I cannot help lamenting that those who from laudable motives, no doubt, have visited our prisons did not take the trouble to look over and report, with accuracy, the state of our country churches, most of which are less comfortable than the worst rooms or apartments in a gaol—the dungeons and cells excepted’. Inroads were made on these problems far later in Wales than in England, and then chiefly through the efforts of scattered individuals. One such was the Reverend Gilbert C. F. Harries, to whom Buckeridge owed a great part of his Welsh employment. Rector first of Llandyfaelog Fach and then of Gelligaer, and Rural Dean of much of Breconshire, Harries encouraged schemes far beyond his official limits. Explaining why he was taking responsibility for the rebuilding of the isolated church at Capel-Nantddu, he tells the Secretary of the Incorporated Church Building Society that the incumbent has been suspended, and others are devoid of energy; ‘The church is a disgrace to us,’ he writes, ‘and I never pass it on the road from hence to Merthyr without feeling the greatest shame at seeing it.’ Harries was certainly the prime mover at Trallwng (where he prevented the church’s demolition), at Merthyr Cynog, at Pont Lottyn, Fochriw and Gelligaer, and was involved at Eglwysilan, at Whitchurch, and no doubt elsewhere. This collaboration of Harries and Buckeridge was almost certainly entirely altruistic on both sides; to the architect it would mean hard work and constant exhausting journeys from Oxford with very inadequate reward. At Nantddu, where the whole rebuilding was estimated at £482 10s, Buckeridge was asked why the walls were only two feet thick. He replied, ‘These things would have been put in by me in the first
instance but when as in this case an extra £50 would render the whole thing an impossibility, which the Rural Dean assures me it would, it was useless to attempt it. 14 Then Harries moved to the huge Glamorganshire mining parish of Gelligaer, which consisted of several scattered communities. Here he speedily got Buckeridge to erect one church, restore the old one, and put up several mission rooms and schools, not all identified. At Pont Lottyn, wrote Harries, the population was composed almost entirely of colliers and miners, who had had to make do with a stable loft for services. In Buckeridge's new church there, and at the restored parish church in Gelligaer, Harries constructed baptistries in order to assuage the scruples of those who demanded total immersion, telling the ICBS: 'As the Rubric says in the office of Baptism of Adults, "and then shall dip him in the water, or pour water upon him", I am resolved no person shall be a Baptist here, because the Church will not fulfil the requirements of the Rubric, if it should be demanded of her.' 15 The prettiest work that Buckeridge did here was the addition to Gelligaer Rectory: here and in his other works in the parish, to save money and use available materials to best advantage, he adopted a traditional practice which, following Butterfield, Scott and Street, he had used in the Thames Valley, where good wailing stone is unavailable. This involved using red brick for dressings and quoins instead of Bath stone, thus setting off the simple flint rubble of the walls. Examples of this technique near Oxford can be seen in his rectories at Benson and South Stoke, and in the interesting school at Brightwell and Sotwell. In Wales, this was not a common practice, so he used local pressed bricks to serve his purpose.

In 1862, Buckeridge, who had married at about the time of his arrival in Oxford, and had an increasing family, moved his office to 39b St. Giles, and set up home at Langdale House, Park Town. As staunch High Churchman, he and his office staff patronized St. Philip and St. James. They sang together in the choir, they collectively gave one of the capitals in the nave, and they were even consulted by Street over some of the minor details of the design. 16 But by 1869, Buckeridge's work had expanded to the point where he could only move forward by settling in London. He therefore set himself up at 20 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, though he kept a small office at 2 St. Aldate's, Oxford, until 1872. Work flowed in, and at about this time the first signs of restlessness with domestic Gothic made themselves manifest in his architecture, as with so many other good architects. One building which reveals this is the parsonage he built at Brackley in 1868, which despite a certain coarseness shows very early study of the kind of half-timbered and tall-chimneyed forms that were to dominate domestic architecture for the next fifty years. Another is the very pretty school of 1871 in Oxford, at the corner of Cowley Road and Princes Street; here stone dressings have disappeared, the treatment of the brickwork is exceptionally up to date and effective, and the building expresses that feeling of Gothic without Gothic detail that characterizes the best contemporary secular work. But it must be readily

14 Ibid.
15 ICBS file 6025.
16 Mowbray, see n. 20.
admitted that most of Buckeridge’s last works are not of this quality; he lacked
time, and would have done well to spare himself.

The strain of overwork suddenly told, and a promising career collapsed. The *Oxford Chronicle* reported on 6 September 1873 in its obituary: ‘September
1st, of heart disease, after a few days’ illness, Charles Buckeridge, Esq., architect,
of Oxford and London, aged 40; and on the following day, at Broadstairs, of
inflammation of the lungs, also after a few days’ illness, the Rev. Alfred Buckeridge,
b.a., Rector of St. James’s Exeter, aged 50, eldest brother of the above.’ Exhaus-
tion in the face of the enormous pressures of work is a common phenomenon
in the careers of mid-Victorian church architects, and was to overtake greater
men than Buckeridge.17

Many jobs were left incomplete, and they immediately passed to Buckeridge’s
friend Pearson. At the time, Matthew Holding, later to make quite a name for
himself at Northampton, was Buckeridge’s chief assistant, and he, together with
Pearson, carried out the dead man’s intentions as nearly as possible. Their
fidelity extended to works not even begun. At St. John’s Hospital, Pearson’s
radical modification of Buckeridge’s design was probably due only to lack of
money; at Holy Trinity Convent, he carried out the original scheme for the
chapel without substantial alteration as late as 1891–4. Pearson also took over
Llanthony, but possibly with less enthusiasm. The building activities of Ignatius’
undisciplined and remote followers would have been difficult to supervise; the
monks have left long ago now, the chapel vault has collapsed, and the ruins have
by accident acquired the authentic medieval air.

Besides Holding, Buckeridge had a number of pupils, none of them especially
interesting. Among those worth mentioning is Alfred William Mardon
Mowbray (1850–1915), a prolific but not very talented Oxford architect who
was responsible for two Oxford churches, St. Michael’s Summertown and the
conspicuous St. Mary and St. John, Cowley Road; and Arnold H. Hoole, who
designed the fine tower and spire at St. Michael’s Yorktown, seems also to have
been a friend or pupil.

Although Charles Buckeridge’s family continued his religious and artistic
interests, they were dogged by early death. His daughter Marian Emma
(1865–97) was god-daughter of Mother Marian Hughes, the foundress of Holy
Trinity Convent, Oxford, where her father was long remembered with esteem,
and where she became a nun. Equally short-lived was his son Charles Edgar
Buckeridge (1864–98). He trained from youth with the firm of ecclesiastical
decorators Burlison and Grylls, and rose to be a highly esteemed painter in this
field. As early as 1882 he exhibited a view of Hampton Court, but all his sub-
sequently known work was religious. His speciality was the very painstaking
recreation of the school of Van Eyck in reredoses and mural decoration, in which
work he won himself short-lived celebrity. Hodgson Fowler, Arthur Blomfield,
J. O. Scott, Pearson and Sedding all employed him, but his most important patron
was G. F. Bodley, who, for instance, entrusted to him the completion of the scheme

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17 Burges and Street died well before their time. In 1873 died another talented Scott pupil, Robert
Edgar, and it is tempting to relate his name to that of Charles Edgar Buckeridge, the architect’s son.
of decoration at St. Martin’s Scarborough, begun by Burne-Jones and the Morris firm in the 1860s. At Holy Trinity Convent he painted the front of the main altar (now at Malvern) and two of the side panels. His masterpiece is probably the broad and splendid reredos of 1892–3 for Norman Shaw’s powerful church at Richard’s Castle, Shropshire (pl. xxix). Of this, the architect was able to say, ‘Candidly—I have never seen such a piece of good work of this kind’. Shaw’s surviving letters show C. E. Buckeridge to have been a talented but rather pathetic figure, nervous and without self-sufficiency and ‘bounce’, short of cash, diligent, but in no way on top of his circumstances. ‘Poor little man,’ writes Shaw to his client, ‘. . . he is not rich—has quite enough to do to keep things together, but the great Bodley is good to him and gives him work.’ A similar picture suggests itself in some measure for his father, who certainly left very little money at his death. But with Charles Edgar Buckeridge the trouble was partly external. It broke in November 1894, when an unhappy marriage collapsed, his wife destroyed one of his largest paintings and fled, and Buckeridge was left to redeem the debts. From these troubles he seems never to have recovered.\footnote{\textsuperscript{15}}

Fortunately, one member of the family escaped this hereditary bad luck or bad health, and achieved some longevity. This was John Hingeston Buckeridge (1857–1934), who must have been Charles’s eldest son, and was therefore precipitated into Pearson’s office at the time of his father’s death, when he was only 16. He is entirely forgotten in England, for he emigrated to Australia and only ever reached the pages of the British architectural press when in 1892 he alarmed his rivals by unethically issuing a circular of advertisement.\footnote{\textsuperscript{16}} There is an excellent summary of his career up to 1907 in the \textit{Encyclopedia of New South Wales} ;\footnote{\textsuperscript{17}} since this source is not easily available here, and the account is succinct, it will be as well to conclude by reprinting it:

\textit{‘Mr. John Hingeston Buckeridge, F.I.A., J.P., born September 7, 1857, at 86 High Street, Oxford, England, is the grandson of the late Charles Elliott Buckeridge, an officer in the service of the Hon. East India Company, and son of the late Charles Buckeridge, Ecclesiastical Architect of Oxford and London. Members of his family have been distinguished both in the church and army, and our subject is a direct descendant of the main line. He was educated at Magdalen College School, and was for five years (1874–9) a pupil in the office of the late John Loughborough Pearson, R.A., the celebrated English ecclesiastical architect. Studying at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, for a term of seven years, he was also a student of the Architectural Association, London; during which he took an extended tour through France, Germany, Belgium and Holland. He worked first as a draughtsman in the architectural department of the London School Board, and was afterwards chief assistant for six years to the late Mr. Ernest Turner, F.R.I.B.A., London, who had one of the most important general practices in England; succeeding this by a brief period of private practice in London. During this time, he carried out important works at Lambeth Palace (the official residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury), the Westminster Schools, the...’}

\textsuperscript{15} Most of the information concerning C. E. Buckeridge in this paragraph derives from papers about All Saints’ Church, Richards Castle, belonging to Lord Inchiquin, to whom I am grateful for permission to use them.\footnote{\textsuperscript{18}}

\textsuperscript{16} \textit{The Architect}, 42 (1892), 328.

\textsuperscript{17} I am most grateful for this reference to Miss Jean Dyce, of the Mitchell Library, Sydney, who also supplied the date of J. H. Buckeridge’s death.
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Canons' residence, Westminster, and the Woking Hospital. In 1886, owing to a domestic bereavement, he decided to "seek fresh fields and pastures new"; and upon the recommendation of the then Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Benson) and Mr. Pearson, he came out to the late Bishop of Brisbane (Dr. Webber), to take charge of the ecclesiastical work of that diocese—which at that time also included the present diocese of Rockhampton, and to carry out the building of an Anglican cathedral at Brisbane. This latter work was, unfortunately, however, abandoned. Mr. Buckeridge was appointed diocesan architect, the office being created for him. This position he held till 1902, and Southern Queensland is dotted with wooden churches to the number of about sixty, designed and carried out by him, besides numerous rectories and schools. The Quetta Memorial Church, Thursday Island, and St. Luke's Church, Toowoomba, and the Collins Memorial Church, Mundoolun, may also be mentioned as having been erected under his experienced superintendence during this time; while large churches still to be built were designed by him for Bundaberg and Roma; besides the cathedral at Samarai, British New Guinea, where, with one exception, the whole of the mission buildings (schools, dwellings, &c.), are his work. In 1892, Mr. Buckeridge removed to Sydney—retaining a branch in Brisbane. The most important ecclesiastical works entrusted to him in the State of New South Wales are the remodelling of the interior of St. James's Church, King Street, and the preparation of designs for Newcastle cathedral. The latter, when carried out, will probably be the finest example of brick Gothic work in the southern hemisphere. Mr. Buckeridge has not, however, confined his attention to church work; the Gresham Hotel, Brisbane, the grandstand at the Queensland Turf Club's race-ground, and the Lady Bowen Hospital, besides a large number of important business premises and private dwellings, both in Queensland and New South Wales, bear witness to his varied abilities. He is a fellow of the Institute of Architects (New South Wales), and was one of a small body of architects who founded the Queensland Institute. Mr. Buckeridge has twice married, his first wife dying in London in 1886. In 1890 he married Ada Emily, only daughter of the late Edwin Stanley, of Gympie, Queensland, by whom he has a family of six sons and three daughters.

Architectural works by Charles Buckeridge, by county

England

Berkshire

Ascot Priory. Conventional buildings for Lydia Sellon. Scott was the original architect commissioned in 1861, but Buckeridge had complete responsibility by 1863. Of this period is the W. wing (hospital and kitchen) and the N. wing. Buckeridge's unusually planned chapel was not built, though the two nave bays incorporated in Butterfield's chapel of 1885 may be his. Ecclesiologist (1864), 49; P. F. Anson, The Call of the Cloister; T. J. Williams, Priscilla Lydia Sellon.


Didcot. New school, 1856. Buckeridge's first known work. Ecclesiologist (1856), 458, which mentions 'wooden beams and roughcast'. Apparently demolished.

Little Wittenham. Church almost entirely rebuilt, 1862–3. The reredos is typical and good. Church Builder (1863), 184; Ecclesiologist (1864), 245.


South Hinksey. Church restored, 1860. MS. Top. Berks. c. 14, fol. 408b; Builder, 18 (1860), 740.

Buckinghamshire

Ibstone. Church restored, 1870.
Mursley. Church restoration, planned in 1864 and carried out in 1865-9. MS. Oxf. dioc. papers, c. 1584/1 (with plans of chancel); MS. Top. Bucks., c. 7, fol. 32ff.; Ecclesiologist (1864), 54.

Devon

Torquay. Competition designs for a new church, shown at the Architectural Exhibition, 1861. Civil Engineer and Architect's Journal (1861), 161. The competition was won by Arthur Blomfield.

Dorset


Essex

Horsley Cross, near Manningtree. ‘Chapel School’ of St. John, 1862–3. Ecclesiologist (1863), 66. Red and black brick, apsidal with belfry. ‘This property is being converted into a residence of character’ (February, 1973).

Hampshire


Lincolnshire

Grasby. Church mostly rebuilt, 1869. GR.

London


Northamptonshire

Brackley. New parsonage, 1868. This is the very interesting half-timbered house near the parish church, now a school house. Builder, 26 (1868), 460. Restoration of the chapel of St. John and St. James, 1869. Here, the surviving ironwork should be noted. Builder, 27 (1869), 1013.
Little Houghton. Church virtually rebuilt, with new N. aisle. 1873. GR.
Radstone. Church restoration.
Wellingborough. New church of All Saints, Midland Road, 1866–8. An accident during construction delayed the work, which cost rather over £3000. Scott had a superintending brief here. Builder, 24 (1866), 874; 25 (1867), 417. Enlarged in 1890.

Nottinghamshire

South Scarle. Restoration of nave of church, planned in 1865 and carried out in 1870–1. ICBS file 6413.
Benson. Church restoration, 1861–2. John Plowman of Oxford had restored the church in 1841, and in 1855 Street removed the side galleries and reseated the aisles and nave. In 1861–2, Buckeridge rebuilt the N. aisle and chancel. MS. Top. Oxon. d. 93, fol. 74ff. Then in 1869–70 he built a new vicarage, a little to the east. MS. Oxf. dioc. papers, c. 974, with drawings.

Bladon. Church remodelled, 1861–2. Ecclesiologist (1862), 183. The work disappeared when A. W. Blomfield rebuilt the church in 1891.

Bletchingdon. Church restoration, planned in 1869, but apparently not carried out till after Buckeridge’s death, in 1878. MS. Top. Oxon. c. 103, with which cf. the entry in VCH Oxon, vi.

Britwell Salome. Church rebuilt, 1865–7. The work involved demolishing Brightwell Prior’s church and re-using some of its material, to which Street objected. MS. Top. Oxon. c. 103.

Chadlington. Church restoration, modified from original proposals at Street’s insistence. First scheme 1868–9, revised scheme carried out 1870. MS. Top. Oxon. c. 103.

Charlbury. Church restoration of 1873–4, for the Duke of Marlborough. The chancel was much rebuilt and a new reredos, subsequently removed, was installed. Oxford Diocesan Calendar (1875), 164.

Clifton Hampden. Some fittings, including a new reredos, made by Clayton and Bell, 1873. Much work here by Scott.


Emmington. Restoration of church (possibly chancel only), designed by Buckeridge and superintended after his death by J. L. Pearson, 1873–4. Builder, 32 (1874), 548.

Kidlington. New school for boys, girls and infants, probably c. 1871. Oxfordshire County Record Office T/S Plans 33, with drawings.

Little Tew. Almshouses, school and reading room, 1862. Polychrome brick; picturesque and economical. Ecclesiologist (1863), 66. See Plate xxxiv, c. In 1868–9, the Vicar commissioned Buckeridge to add a N. aisle and very fine tower to Street’s church, because ‘Mr. Street is too busy to attend to me’. MS. Top. Oxon. c. 104, fol. 998ff. Finally, at about the same time, he made excellent additions to Street’s vicarage, now ‘The Grange’. Further additions were made in 1880 by E. G. Bruton. Building News, 40 (1881), 452.

Lower Heyford. Church restoration, and addition of a large wing to the Rectory, 1867–8. V.C.H., Oxon., vi; MS. Oxf. dioc. papers, c. 1852, with drawings of rectory.

Merton. Church restoration. Nave and chancel were repaired in 1865–6, and the rest of the work was carried out in 1872. MS. Top Oxon., c. 104, fol. 4ff.; MS. Oxf. dioc. papers, c. 2205, fol. 13.


Cowley St. John’s Boys’ School. Brick school at the corner of Princes Street and Cowley Road, 1871. Builder, 29 (1871), 830 and 913.

Exeter College Chapel. Buckeridge was clerk of works to Scott for this design, 1857–9. Builder, 17 (1859), 711.

Holy Trinity Convent (St. Antony’s College), Woodstock Road. New convent for Marian Hughes. First design with Trinitarian plan, 1865 (PL. xxvi), revised E-shaped design built 1866–8. The chapel was built in 1891–4, with slight revisions by J. L. Pearson. Buckeridge made unexecuted designs for an


Merton College. Restoration of antechapel, then St. John’s Church, 1869. *JOJ*, 16.10.1869.


10 Parks Road. House at the corner with Museum Road, for Professor Monier Williams, 1862. *Ecclesiologist* (1862), 182; *Oxford University Herald*, 24.10.1863.


Radcliffe Infirmary. Fever ward, against the N. wall of the original Infirmary area, 1869-71. Scott was consulting architect. *JOJ*, 16.10.1869. *Builder*, 29 (1871), 830. Related drawings (undated) by Buckeridge are preserved among Acland’s papers, MS. Top. Oxon. a. 7 fols. 3-4.

St. Cross. In 1858 Buckeridge designed a small schoolroom, presumably that attached to the cemetery lodge to the south of the churchyard. *Proc. OAS*, 12.6.1858, 40. In 1862-3 he erected a parsonage nearby, now demolished. MS. Top. Oxon. c. 104 fol. 166ff.; *Ecclesiologist* (1863), 249.


St. John’s College. Alterations to the chapel, 1872. The work cost £348 5s. Copy of Bursar’s letter of 29.3.1873 to Buckeridge in College Muniments, complaining of the expensiveness and waste of time taken over the alterations.

St. John’s Hospital (National Hospital for Incurables), Cowley. This project, including conventual buildings round a quadrangle with an engaged chapel on one side, was begun in 1873. The chapel was also to serve as the district church of St. Mary, eventually built separately. After Buckeridge’s death, work continued under J. L. Pearson on a much reduced scale, in 1873-5, 1882-3, and 1888-91, the quadrangular plan being abandoned. A small separate chapel was built in 1903 by J. N. Comper, who also added a wing. *Building News*, 24 (1873), 672; *Oxford Chronicle*, 11.10.1873; 16.10.1875; 11.10.1879; 14.10.1882; 13.10.1883; 13.10.1888; 11.10.1890; 17.10.1891.

St. Mary the Virgin. Buckeridge was clerk of works for Scott’s restoration of the tower in 1856-7 and of the fabric in 1861-2. In he latter case, he had much responsibility for the exterior. Thomas Case, *St. Mary’s Cloisters*, 76; *Builder*,
CHARLES BUCKERIDGE AND HIS FAMILY

19 (1861), 485; 20 (1862), 812; JOJ, 19.10.1861. See also Buckeridge's lecture on the restoration in Proc. OAHS, 26.11.1862, 173-7.
St. Paul's School, Juxon Street, Boys' school, 1872; now demolished. JOJ, 11.10.1873.
St. Thomas's Church. Churchyard cross outside S. door. No date is given, and it seems no longer in situ. Proc. OAHS (1897), 129-30.
University College. Buckeridge was clerk of works to Scott's restoration of the chapel, and presumably also to his new library, 1861. Builder, 19 (1861), 753.
South Stoke. Rectory rebuilt, 1868-9. MS. Oxf. dioc. papers, c. 2026, with drawings. No longer the Rectory.
Steeple Aston. Some new church fittings.
Wolvercote. Church virtually rebuilt, 1859-60. Buckeridge's work here was evidently rather ruthless. MS. Top. Oxon., c. 104, fol. 514ff.; Builder, 18 (1860), 368.

Shropshire
Stoke upon Tern. Buckeridge made designs for rebuilding the church in 1872, carried out in 1874-5. It is coarse. Pevsner, Shropshire, 297.

Surrey
Yorktown, Camberley. Buckeridge added the aisles to St. Michael's Yorktown in 1864-5, and may have been responsible for the chancel of 1858, which was added to Woodyer's nave of 1859-61, according to abridged designs of Scott's. ICBS files 5535 and 6255; Church Builder (1865), 181. The nearby church school was designed by Buckeridge in 1870. Builder, 28 (1870), 994.

Warwickshire
Avon Dassett. Church entirely rebuilt, 1868-9. Builder, 27 (1869), 380. All the fittings appear to be Buckeridge's, and this is perhaps his most elegant single work, built on an attractive but difficult hill site. See Plate xxviii, A, B.
Harbury. Church virtually rebuilt, 1871-3. ICBS file 7314.
Newbold Pacey. In 1870, Buckeridge made a design for this church which was shown at the Architectural Exhibition for that year (Catalogue entry). It may well be connected with the design built by Pearson in 1881-2.
Radway. Church entirely rebuilt, 1865-7. ICBS file 6409. Another excellent building. The schools and rectory adjacent could well be Buckeridge's.

Yorkshire, West Riding
Moss. New church, designed by Buckeridge and carried out after his death by Pearson, 1873-5. A simple design in lancet style, with good tower and steeple. AQ.

ScOTLAND
Brecon

Aberystwyth. Church restored with new bellcote, 1860–1. A little later the N. vestry was added. ICBS file 5604; *Builder*, 19 (1861), 469.


Cantref. Church virtually rebuilt, except for tower, 1867. ICBS file 6560.

Capel-y-Ffin. Llanthony Monastery, buildings for FatherIgnatius, 1870, etc. Quadrangular plan round a ‘garth’, with detached church on N. side. The conventual buildings were begun in 1870 with the W. side of the cloister, the church in 1872 with three bays of the chancel (all that was ever built, completed in 1882). After Buckeridge died, Pearson took on the work. The three bays of the church are now in ruins, following the fall of the vaulting; the monastery is whitewashed. The general plan and details of the chapel are taken from Llanthony Abbey, further down the Ewyas valley. *Builder*, 30 (1872), 710; *EcclesiasticalArt Review* (1876), 148; P. F. Anson, *The Call of the Cloister*; Arthur Calder-Marshall, *The Enthusiast*, esp. 197–8.

Llanafan Fechan. Church rebuilt, 1866. *Builder*, 26 (1868), 800, which refers also to the erection of a school.


Llanfihangel Brynpabuan. Church virtually rebuilt, very simply, 1867–8. ICBS file 6688; *Builder*, 26 (1868), 800.

Llangenni. Church restoration, 1862–3. ICBS file 5853; *Church Builder* (1864), 81.

Llanlleonfel. Buckeridge produced plans for rebuilding this ruinous church in 1859, but money was insufficient. ICBS file 5460. The church was rebuilt by R. J. Withers, 1874.

Llanwrtyd. Small-scale church restoration, 1861–2. ICBS file 5713; *Church Builder* (1863), 37.

Llyswen. Church rebuilt, 1862–3. The restoration work became more extensive when the old roof fell in during repairs to it. ICBS file 5730; *Church Builder* (1864), 37.

Merthyr Cynog. Church restoration, 1860–1. ICBS file 5402; *Builder*, 19 (1861), 469 and 515.

Nantdu. Rebuilding of the small district church, 1862–3. ICBS file 5780; *Ecclesiologist* (1863), 65; *Church Builder* (1864), 77. It is now in poor condition.

Trallwng. Church restoration, 1860–1, with new porch. ICBS file 5541; *Builder*, 18 (1860), 436. This church’s survival is owed to Buckeridge and Harries.

Glamorgan

Caerphilly. Designs for complete rebuilding of St. Martin’s Church, 1873, carried out by J. L. Pearson from 1879. A large, competent town church, originally with a W. bellcote and possibly only a S. aisle. The nave was lengthened and a W. tower added by G. E. Halliday, 1904. ICBS file 7647.

Eglwysilan. Designs for rebuilding the church, 1871, carried out in 1873–5, with Matthew Holding and W. P. James involved after Buckeridge’s death. ICBS file 7233.

Fochoi. New school with master’s house, originally also to act as mission church, 1863. *Builder*, 21 (1863), 337 and 643. Originally an attractive composition, with dressings and ornamental courses in brick setting off the stone, but now in a very bad state.
Gelligaer. Additions to the Rectory (no longer used as such), 1863. Very good, with pretty use of brick. *Ecclesiologist* (1865), 67. Restoration of the church, with baptistery, new chancel arch and nave roof, 1867–8. *Builder*, 25 (1867), 85, which gives an account of the improvements in this parish. The old parish of Gelligaer included Fochriw, Rhymney and Pont Lottyn; between 1863 and 1867, a new church, three chapel schools, and one schoolroom were erected, and presumably all were by Buckeridge. One such, not identified, is the brick ‘chapel-school and school-house’ of *Ecclesiologist* (1864), 245, for which compare a mission church by Buckeridge dedicated in November 1865, according to *Church Builder* (1865), 133.

Llandoche (Llandough), nr. Cowbridge. Restoration of church of St. Dochdwy, at a cost of £862, 1869. ICBS file 5907.

Pont Lottyn. New church of St. Tyfaelog, 1862–3. Stone and pressed brick, apsidal with bellcote, better in than out. ICBS file 6025, with much interesting material; *Builder*, 21 (1863), 337 and 831; *Church Builder* (1864), 77.


**Monmouthshire**


Llanthony. See Capel-y-Ffin, Brecon.

Llanvetherine. Church restoration, 1870.

Pontnewynydd. Plans for rebuilding church by Buckeridge were half carried out in 1873–4; then after a lawsuit with the builders, the church was completed, except for the top half of the tower, by Pearson in 1876–9. ICBS file 7533; *Monmouthshire Merlin*, 26.9.1873.

**Pembrokeshire**

Pembroke. Restoration of St. Mary’s Church, started in 1873, and completed by Pearson in 1879. *Church Builder* (1879), 187.

St. Bride’s. Church restoration, 1869.

Whitchurch. Church restoration, planned by Buckeridge in 1870, and carried out by him 1872–3, finished by Holding and Pearson, 1873–4. ICBS file 7459.

**MISSION CHURCHES**

Egutpoora, Bombay. Large cruciform church design, very possibly carried out, 1864. *Ecclesiologist* (1864), 51.


**PAINTINGS AND OTHER WORKS BY CHARLES EDGAR BUCKERIDGE**

This necessarily very incomplete list is compiled primarily from a catalogue made up by Buckeridge himself, given in a letter to Mrs. Johnston Foster of Richards Castle. 25.2.1891. I have retained his own phraseology with a few additions. Beneath this list, I append the few works known from other sources.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architect</th>
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<td>Hodgson Fowler, F.S.A.</td>
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<td>G. F. Bodley, A.R.A.</td>
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**The Triptych at Bromfield Church, Salop**

Honley Church, Yorks W.R., pulpit

Barnard Castle, Durham, reredos

Goldborough, Yorks W.R., reredos

St. Mary’s Church, Nottingham, reredos (1885)

Burton-on-Trent : large painting in memory of Lord Burton’s father
St. Martin's, Scarborough, Yorks. N.R., reredos
Three paintings in crypt, St. Barnabas, Pimlico
Bovey Tracey, Devon, doors in screen
Milstead, near Sittingbourne, Kent, work
Netley, nr. Southampton, Hampshire, work
'Lenten altar cloth (partial), Holy Trinity, Chelsea'
St. John's Clerkenwell. Large painting (altar)
Halifax Parish Church. Reredos (for Burlison and Grylls). This is in a side chapel.
Croydon Parish Church. Work for Burlison and Grylls
(including stencilling and roof colour)
St. Mary's Church, Portsea, reredos
(North) Mundham, nr. Chichester, triptych
Old St. Pancras Church, London, triptych. Illustrated in J. Wright, The Modern Altar (New York), 1908, 111, which attributes painting and gilding to Messrs. Buckeridge and Floyce, and wrongly gives the date as 1897.
'Holy Trinity, Guildford. Ape and altar.'
Plaistow (St. Mary). 'Frame only.'
Truro Cathedral. Altar panels for Clayton and Bell.
Durham Castle reredos (carved)
'Kennington. Triptych for Convent, Wyndham Road, for the Sister Jane.'
'The Convent at St. Giles Oxford (Holy Trinity Convent), for the Rev. Mother.'
This entry probably refers to the altar front, painted originally for the temporary chapel. Later, Buckeridge added three of the panel paintings round the apse of the chapel; the others are by Ethel King Martin. For details see Andrew Saint and Michael Kaser, St. Antony's College (1973).
The Wolferton Triptych, Lynn,' indirectly for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Sir Arthur Blomfield was architect.
'Two-light memorial window, Grahamstown Cathedral, and lancet memorial window, Alice Church, Cape Colony, for the Bishop of Grahamstown.'
Decoration of the Garrison Church, Shoeburyness, Essex, for Revd. Malin, Chaplain to the Forces.

Apart from these works, C. E. Buckeridge is known to have executed the following paintings:

'Large mural painting ' in St. Thomas's Convent Chapel (Osney House), Oxford, 1891. No doubt destroyed when the chapel was demolished. Letter of Buckeridge to Mrs. Foster of Richards Castle, 22.6.1891.
Decorative work to roof, etc., St. Mary Magdalene, Enfield, perhaps for Butterfield, 1897. Paul Thompson, William Butterfield, 460 n.
All Saints' Church, Richards Castle, Shropshire. Reredos with folding panels, and surrounding wall stencilling, 1892–3. The frame and general design are Norman Shaw's (pl. xxix). The cartoon was shown at the Royal Academy, 1892.
Salisbury Cathedral, new reredos to Lady Chapel, designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield. Illustrated in Gleeson White, Salisbury Cathedral (1911), 65.

Ph.: St. Antony's College

OXONIENSIA, VOL. XXXVIII (1973)
Charles Buckeridge's Design for St. John's Hospital and St. Mary's Church, Cowley, 1873, from the Building News.

A. Exterior of Chapel.

B. East end of Chapel, and Quadrangle.

Phh. : Barry Woodcock
A. Exterior.

B. Interior.

C. Almshouses, Little Tew, Oxfordshire, by Charles Buckridge, 1862.
The schoolroom is further to the right.

Phb.: A.S.
Reredos by Charles Edgar Buckeridge, 1892–9, in All Saints Church, Richards Castle, Shropshire.

Ph.: Lord Inchiquin