

HAYES. Sources

21 foot long medieval staircase employing slit logs as treads. During restoration of the tower in 1969/70 it was thought that some of the wooden beams were nearly 1,000 years old, the tower itself being 15th century. The tower is topped with a 13 foot high conical spirelet weighing about 25 cwt. *Ringing world* 20th March 1970.

A beacon tower, a square tower and above the louvres is a small oblong opening in each wall enabling the lookout to observe when the beacons are lit. [Source?](#)

Six bells 14 cwt in 1800. *Bell founding from the Armada to the Great War*

Bells: six – one 1793, three 1798, two recast 1890. LMAS *Transactions* Vol 18 Part 2 (1955) entry 95.

“George Burr Tower Captain for 20 years. Bells repaired 1912” Brass tablet.

The tower is of three storeys, but looks bare and unadorned, being devoid of buttresses. It contains a peal of six bells. Edward Walford *Village London* 1883/4.

The back 4 (tenor 14-0-0) by Thomas Mears in 1795, two trebles added by Warners in 1901. These old six bells were rung for the last time on Sunday March 23rd 1969. *Ringing world* April 11th 1969 p. 280 (R K Russ). Details corrected in subsequent letter:

Treble and second recast (not added) by Warner in 1890 (not 1901). 3rd, 4th and tenor cast by T Mears I in 1798 and 5th in 1793 *Ringing world* April 25th 1969 p. 325 (Christopher Dalton). [Copies of both in suspension file.](#)

[Cover article including weights and inscriptions of new bells] *Ringing world* March 20th 1970. [Copy in suspension file.](#)

The tower. It was built at the same time as the north aisle (15th century) and is similarly finished with a modern embattled parapet. The west door and window are much restored. For the agile there are points of interest in its interior. The staircase between the first floor gallery and the clock chamber is of solid oak baulks of the 17th century. The second floor has a pointed doorway in the east wall, through which may be seen the underneath of the outer church roof and the horizontal flooring which is above the interior roof of the nave. The second floor has a window in the west wall and the bell chamber has windows in the east wall.

Much work seems to have been done in the upper part of the tower at the end of the eighteenth century, since four of the bells date from 1798 and the other two from 1793. All were recast in 1890. [VP note: Dates of the bells in LMAS *Transactions* differ: check with Whitechapel?] T F Shirley *The parish church of St Mary the Virgin, Hayes: a short guide and history.* 1967

1	-	4-2-0	All Whitechapel Bell Foundry 1970
2	-	4-3-0	
3	30"	5-1-10	
4	31 ½"	5-3-20	
5	33 ¼"	6-3-24	
6	34 ¼"	8-3-5	
7	38"	11-3-10	
8	-	17-1-5	<i>Draft schedule of bells in the Archdeaconry of Northolt</i> June 1987

Measurements by Tom Payne June 1987:

1	27"	5	34"
2	27 ½"	6	36"
3	30"	7	39 ½"
4	31 ½"	8	45"

Cast iron, high sided H frame 1970. Diameters show correctly in *Schedule of bells*

The old peal of this tower recast 8th January 1970

1	5-2-22	1880
2	6-1-23	1880
3	6-3-12	1793
4	7-3-3	1793
5	9-0-26	1798
6	14-0-7	[typed as 17909]

THESE WOODEN BELLS ONE SIXTH THEIR ORIGINAL SIZE WERE TURNED BY CHARLES AND CLIVE HAMMOND FROM THE ANCIENT BEAMS REMOVED FROM THE TOWER DURING THE RESTORATION 1969-1970. In Hayes tower. **Note discrepancy of dates with other sources, esp. Christopher Dalton.**

1 JOHN GODDING M.A. RECTOR 1890
2 EDWARD SHACKLE, MARK B MORTON CHURCHWARDENS 1890
6 EDWARD KNIBB ROBERT HEEL CHURCHWARDENS 1798
H B Walters *Manuscript*.

VP: "My notes S of A 1987 – 16 + 1987 – 16" and "From *Church bells* 21/11/1890 within manuscript" **although that article only describes the reopening of the bells on 9/10/1890 (copy in suspension file)**

All slips transcribed. PN 2021