

## TURKDEAN

ALL SAINTS. Originally a Norman church with nave and chancel. A small embattled Perp tower was later built inside the W end of the nave, and most of the Norman features which survive are to be found in the W walls, for in the C14 or C15 the nave N wall was rebuilt from the Norman N doorway E, and a Perp S aisle added. Chancel probably C13, altered in the C15 and C19. The Norman features at the W end include typical flat buttresses, portions of the corbel-tables, half the chevron-enriched N doorway, with billeted hoodmould, and even less of the S doorway. Various other carved stones of Norman origin are built into the W walls, e.g, a diapered slab, and a probable dedication cross in relief. In the chancel S wall is the reset upper portion of a small Norman doorway, with a roll moulding on cushion capitals, diapered tympanum, and abaci and hoodmould with saltire crossed; renewed lancet either side. Perp N porch its arched entrance hoodmould with headstops wearing contemporary head-dress, similar to those on the inner rectangular label, which also has quatrefoils in its spandrels. Nave and aisle windows are also Perp; to the NE a large blocked window, perhaps to light the rood. Late C14 S arcade of three bays with octagonal piers and double-hollow chamfered arches. Within the tower, chamfered arches to E, N and S. Plain C19 Neo-Norman chancel arch. There were restorations in 1857-9 and in 1897 by *C. LI. R Tudor* of Kensington; his are the attractive roofs, that of the S aisle resting on some original but defaced corbels.

FONT. Octagonal; reputedly a C19 replica of the Perp one, which was damaged. - PULPIT. C15. Stone and quite solid. Part-octagonal, paneled and transomed, on a moulded base. Severely scraped in the C19.—SCREEN. 1949 by *Peter Falconer*. Very nice. Of oak, painted white with vivid colour decoration, and with a painted rood. – WALL PAINTINGS. Large C14 figure set against a starry background in a spandrel of the arcade; the figure carries a staff, but seems not to be St Christopher, since there is no Christ Child. Further W, a fragment of C17 text; above the chancel arch very fragmentary royal arms perhaps also C17. –STAINED GLASS. Good E window possibly c.1859 by *Thomas Willement*. – N chancel window 1886 by Hardman. – Excellent window in the S aisle of 1937 by *Henry and Edward Payne*.

RECTORY FARM, S of the church, has a C14 or C15 undercroft which shows the maximum use of ribbing. Sixteen ribs branch out in all directions from a cylindrical pier, the tree effect emphasized by the plain, trunk-like character of the latter, its moulded capital and those of the responds suggesting an earlier date; possibly the vault was renewed. Otherwise the house has C17 features: mullioned windows, gables, and a moulded stone chimneypiece in the drawing room.

To the SW of the church, the GLEBE HOUSE, formerly the rectory 1847 by *Thomas Bridges* of Cirencester. Gables and two-light Tudor-arched mullioned windows. To the NW, the simple former NATIONAL SCHOOL of 1873.

The village has several C17 cottages and barns. The best is MANOR FARM, a little N of the church; its doorway has a Tudor arch with moulded impostes and chamfered quoins.

TURKDEAN MANOR, at the N end of the village, has a doorcase dated 1588. This may refer to the handsome garden front, of two and a half storeys with three gables and mullioned windows. The paneled drawing room has a stone Tudor-arched chimney-piece. Courtyard with C17 – C18 outbuildings. The house was extensively restored and enlarged for the engineer W.A. Rixon in 1905.

LOWER DEAN, ¼m. SW, is a hamlet set under a steep bank of splendid beech trees forming an avenue over the road. LOWER DEAN HOUSE was a separate manor held by Llanthony Priory. The older part of the house dates from c.1500. It has gables and Tudor windows with four-centred-arched lights. A slightly later wing contains a good room with a four-light mullioned and transomed window. Its fine Renaissance fireplace has coupled columns on pedestals and an overmantel with stepped mouldings. The tall GREY HOUSE, to its ESE, dated 1816, was much altered and enlarged in 1937 by *Bertram S. Hume*, of *Hume & Erith*, who in 1932 also significantly expanded the C17 – C18 WILLOWBROOK (formerly ELMBROOK) almost opposite.

LEYGORE MANOR, ¾m. SE. Large Cotswold-style house built c. 1922 on to the nucleus of an older house.

A large ROMAN BUILDING facing S, 1m. NNW, either a major villa or a ritual complex, was partially excavated in 1997. Double-courtyard plan, with a third range extending uphill to the E. Finds suggested a C3 – C4 date.

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