

– APPENDIX 5 –

Spire & tower designs at parish churches by EW Pugin, *Pugin & Murray, and Pugin & Ashlin*

- I. Spires:** The design of 31 of the 82 realised parish churches feature a spire of some kind, 10 of which were built to the original design. Of those churches at which only the base of the supporting tower was built originally, 5 (Cobh [A(Ia)-3], Crosshaven [A(IIIa)-66], Dadizele [A(IIIa)-8], Monkstown (Co Dublin) [A(IIIa)-34], Monkstown (Co Cork) [A(IIIa)-69] had spires added later to the design of other architects.
- In 6 cases, the form of the originally projected spire is not known (Crosshaven [A(IIIa)-66], Dewsbury [A(IIIa)-58], Fleetwood [A(IIIa)-50], Greengate [A(IIIa)-73], Monkstown (Co Dublin) [A(IIIa)-34] & Rock Ferry [A(IIIa)-77]).
 - In 3 cases (Belmont [A(IIa)-2], Donnybrook [A(IIIa)-28] & Warrington [A(IIIa)-76]) where the original projected spire was not built, the tower was later heightened and terminated with an embattled parapet to the design of other architects.
 - In 5 cases it is not known what form of completion was originally intended: spire or embattled parapet (Crook [A(IIIa)-1], Peckham [A(IIIa)-16], Kensington [A(IIIa)-47], Glenfinnan [A(IIIa)-70], Brierley Hill [A(IIIa)-72]).
 - In both UK and Ireland, approximately 30% of the projected spires were realised (31% and 29%, respectively).
 - In 1 case, a chisel-spired tower was added to a secular domestic building (Scarbrick Hall [G(Ie)-6]).

The spire designs fall into 3 main types (broach, angle-turreted and chisel); one type intermediate between broach and angle-turreted (here called ‘semi-broach’); 4 assorted varieties.

An unboldened entry signifies that the spire was either never built, or not built as originally designed:

a) Broach spires [10 projected, 5 realised]:



Fig. 143
Wrexham
[A(IIIa)-5]

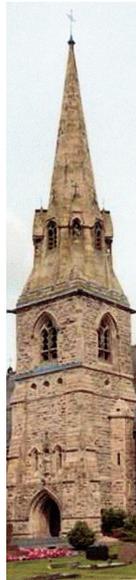


Fig. 144
Gt Harwood
[A(IIIa)-10]

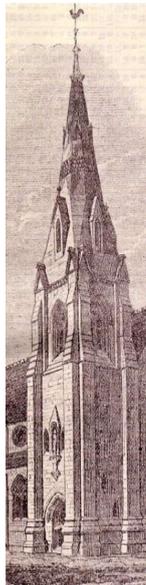


Fig. 145
Rusholme
[A(IIIa)-19]

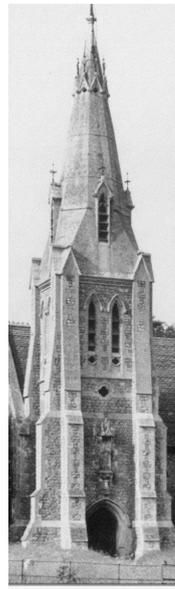


Fig. 146
Kingsdown
[F(Ia)-2]

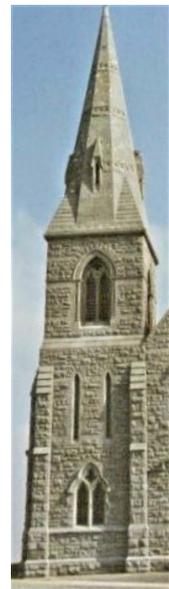


Fig. 147
Arles
[A(IIIa)-49]

Inventory: [A(IIa)-2], [A(IIIa)-5], [A(IIIa)-10], [A(IIIa)-13, 19], [A(IIIa)-26], [A(IIIa)-28],
[A(IIIa)-49], [A(IIIa)-69], [F(Ia)-2].

Comment: The unrealised spire at Rusholme is shown to illustrate its similarity with that at Kingsdown, built 5 years later.

b) Semi-broach spires [3 projected, 2 realised]:



Fig. 148
Kilanerin
[A(IIIa)-46]



Fig. 149
Listowel
[A(IIIe)-8]

Inventory: [A(IIIa)-46, 63], [A(IIIe)-8]

Comment: The detached broaches in the form of a triangular-based pyramids (tetrahedra) – see ‘Bell-cotes & Spires’ in the section of the book devoted to *Catholic Places of Worship* are clearly visible at Kilanerin and Listowel. A similar spire was projected for Longton [A(IIIa)-63] but was never built.

c) Angle-turreted/pinnacled spires [9 projected, 3 realised]:



Fig. 150
Stretford (*MA Boland*)
[A(IIIa)-24]



Fig. 151
Tralee
[A(IIIa)-55]



Fig. 152
Stourbridge
[A(IIIa)-29]

Inventory: [A(Ia)-3], [A(IIIa)-17], [A(IIIa)-24, 29, 54], [A(IIIa)-55, 59, 65, 76].

Comment: All these spires are basically the same as those illustrated. The unrealised spire at Tralee is shown to illustrate the superiority of its design in respect of the balance between the height of the spire and that of the supporting tower.

d) Franco-Flemish chisel spires [2 projected, 1 realised]:



Fig. 153
Dublin
[A(IIIa)-23]



Fig. 154
Scarisbrick Hall
[G(Ie)-6]

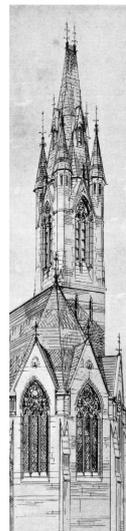


Fig. 155
Stafford (1st design)
[A(IIIb)-11]

Inventory: [A(IIIa)-23].

Comment: There were 3 projected spires of this kind, which were never realised because they belonged to church designs [A(IIIb)-4, 11, 14] that were themselves never realised. Included, for comparison, is a chisel spire designed for a secular building (Scarisbrick Hall [G(Ie)-6])

e) Miscellaneous spire designs [4, 0 realised]:



Fig. 156
Birkenhead
[A(IIIa)-18]

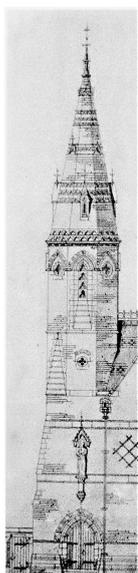


Fig. 157
Stafford (2nd design)
[A(IIIa)-21]

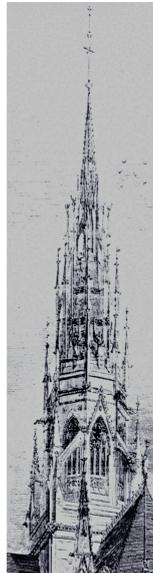


Fig. 158
Dadizele (1st design)
[A(IIIb)-2]

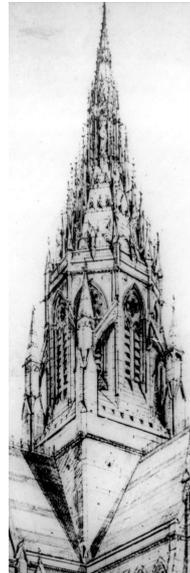


Fig. 158
Dadizele (2nd design)
[A(IIIb)-2]

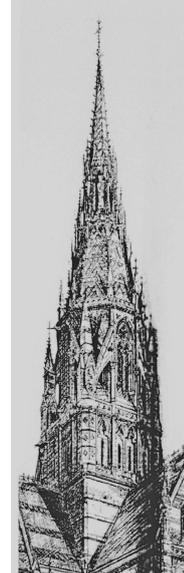


Fig. 159
Dadizele (3rd design)
[A(IIIb)-29]

Inventory: [A(IIIa)-18, 21], [A(IIIb)-2, 29].

Commentary: At Stratford, the octagonal spire rises from the uppermost stage of the tower which has itself been octagonalised by chamfering, with a broach (in horizontal hatching) at the NW angle. At Dadizele, angle-finials each support 2 flying-buttresses to the angles of the spire; the 2 designs here differ only in that an additional (square) stage has been introduced above the level of the roof ridge. At Birkenhead, angles-finials again feature, but without buttresses.

II. Towers: 5 of the realised parish churches were designed to have towers (all in the UK), 3 of which were built, 2 with a spirelet [A(IIIa)-56], [A(IIIa)-74]:

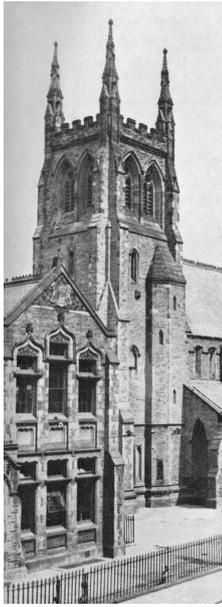


Fig. 160
Blackpool
[A(IIIa)-6]



Fig. 161
Preston
[A(IIIa)-51]

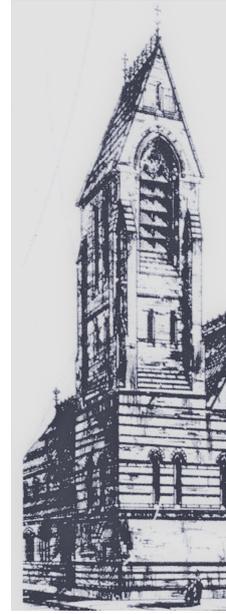


Fig. 162
Wolverhampton
[A(IIIa)-53]



Fig. 163
Bootle
[A(IIIa)-56]



Fig. 164a
Tower Hill
[A(IIIa)-74]



Fig. 164b

Inventory: [A(IIIa)-6], [A(IIIa)-51], [A(IIIa)-53], [A(IIIa)-56], [A(IIIa)-74]

Comment: Being essentially disjoint from the church itself, the building of the Preston church was not contingent on the tower being built, and it was never commenced. This was not the case at Wolverhampton (and numerous other locations) where the 1st stage of the tower was an *integral part of the structure of the church*, and thus had to be built, even if it was never completed, as was the case here; this happened, for lack of funds, also in the case of many other churches where the tower was to have been surmounted by a spire – the uncompleted tower being capped usually with a low-pitch pyramidal roof. The 2 realised slender octagonal towers surmounted by a spirelet suffer from the same lack of attenuation that characterises the angle-turreted spires as can be appreciated by comparing the projected elevation with that realised – cf Figs.164.