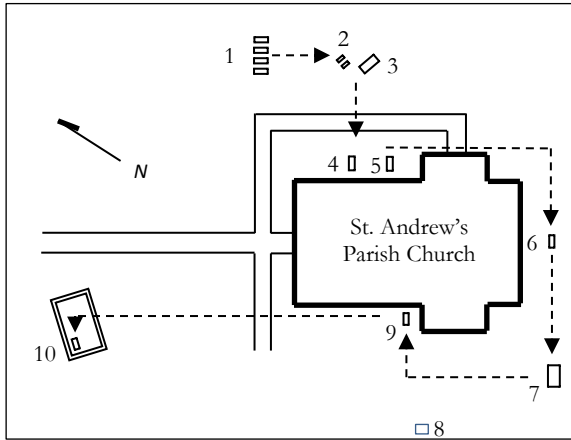


## Walking Tour of the Historic Graveyard



For a church as old as Old St. Andrew's, few colonial grave markers remain. For many periods in its history, the church lay dormant, and its isolated location made it easy prey for vandals and grave robbers. We cherish the stones that remain.

In the 1950s, the first planned design of the cemetery and grounds was instituted under the direction of noted landscape architect, Loutrel W. Briggs. Briggs designed more than 100 private residential gardens in Charleston and the Lowcountry. A New York native, he opened a seasonal office here in 1929.

- FULLERS.** Graves of six descendants of **William Fuller** (settled 1678) are located here. They are **BENJAMIN (d. 1832)**, his wife **SARAH (d. 1850)**, and their two infant children **JANE (d. 1811)** and **JOHN (d. 1817)**; and **BENJAMIN, JR. (d. 1873)** and his wife **ANN (d. 1831)**.
- ELIZABETH NAIRN (1657–1721)** was the wife of **Thomas Nairn**, Judge Vice Admiralty of the province. As Indian trade agent, Nairn was brutally tortured and burned by the Yamassees on April 15, 1715, igniting a devastating war that threatened the existence of the Carolina colony. Their only son, **THOMAS NAIRN JR. (1697–1718)** is buried adjacent to his mother. These graves are the fourth and fifth oldest in Anglican churchyards in South Carolina.
- CHARLOTTA BULL DRAYTON (1720–1743)** was the daughter of William (Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina) and Mary Bull. She married John Drayton, lived at Drayton Hall, and had two sons. She died less than a week after giving birth to their second son, Charles.
- MAGWOODS.** Three members of this Irish family are buried here: **SIMON (d. 1836)**, his wife **MARY ELIZABETH (d. 1833)**, and son **JAMES (d. 1824)**. Simon, whose epitaph reads, "He died after a life of eminent usefulness," owned the plantation where a slave chapel was later built. This chapel was the site of today's St. Andrew's Mission Church on Ashley River Road, located just south of the parish church.

- JOSEPH F. BEE (1800–1850)** operated the ferry just north of the parish church that came to be known as Bee's Ferry. It was situated just east of the intersection of Bees Ferry and Ashley River Roads.
- JOHN ERNEST GILCHRIST (1935–1981)** was born and raised in Charleston. He was a graduate of The Citadel and attended seminary at the University of the South in Sewanee. Reverend Gilchrist served Old St. Andrew's as its 16th rector from 1970 until his death.
- BRICK VAULT** was used either as a family tomb or more likely as a receiving vault to hold bodies prior to burial. Interior temperature remains at a constant 55°. It dates from the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries and is extremely fragile.
- JOSEPH (1703-1768)** and **ELIZABETH (1726-1796) WILLIAMS** are buried in the low tomb just to the left of the entrance facing Ashley River Road near the parking area.
- MARY ELLIOTT (1729–1760)** and her husband Benjamin were married by the Rev. William Guy (the parish's third rector) on February 22, 1749. Benjamin represented St. Andrew's Parish in the provincial assembly. Legend has it that Benjamin was so distraught by Mary's death that he buried her close to the wall of the church so he could see her gravestone from his pew.
- EDWARD WILLIAM CLEMENT (1842–1863)** is the only known Confederate soldier buried in the St. Andrew's graveyard. In 1838 his family acquired Millbrook plantation. Known as "Tib," he lost his life in a skirmish on George Washington Seabrook's plantation on Seabrook Island.

### THREE OTHER RECTORS ARE BURIED IN THE CHURCHYARD, BUT THE LOCATION IS UNKNOWN.

Based on information that Reverend Gilchrist obtained in London from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the first rector, **ALEXANDER WOOD (d. 1710)**, and the third, **WILLIAM GUY (d. 1750)**, were buried on the grounds.

**CHRISTOPHER ERNST SCHWAB (d. 1773)** served only nineteen months before he died of "country fever" (malaria). The colonial parish register indicated that Reverend Schwab was buried "near the side of the Church in the Yard Opposite to the Communion Table."

### GRAVESTONES ACROSS THE POND

Here you will find descendants of the **CHARLES COTESWORTH PINCKNEY** family, the graves of Russian prince **SERGEI POUTIATINE** and his American-born wife, **SHIRLEY**, Rear Admiral **WILLIAM SHERBROOKE POPHAM JR.**, and Brigadier General **J. LAWRENCE GANTT**.

## Welcome to Saint Andrew's Parish Church Charleston, South Carolina

*Established and Built 1706*



*Lithograph by Alfred H. Hutton*

*Welcoming All  
Worshipping Christ  
Witnessing God's Love*

**Please join us on Sunday:**

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (spoken)**
- 9:00 a.m. Family Service**
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (choir)**

*Visit us at:  
[www.oldstandrews.org](http://www.oldstandrews.org)*

Built in 1706 this simple, elegant church is the oldest surviving structure used for worship south of Virginia. It is South Carolina's only remaining colonial cruciform church.

St. Andrew's Parish Church (commonly known as Old St. Andrew's) was one of ten Anglican churches in South Carolina established in 1706 by the Church Act. It was built to serve the Anglican planters along the Ashley River, a thriving tidal waterway that connected them to the city of Charles Town and to each other.

Visitors to this national treasure see a beautifully restored building, but the church hides a past that has left it for dead many times.

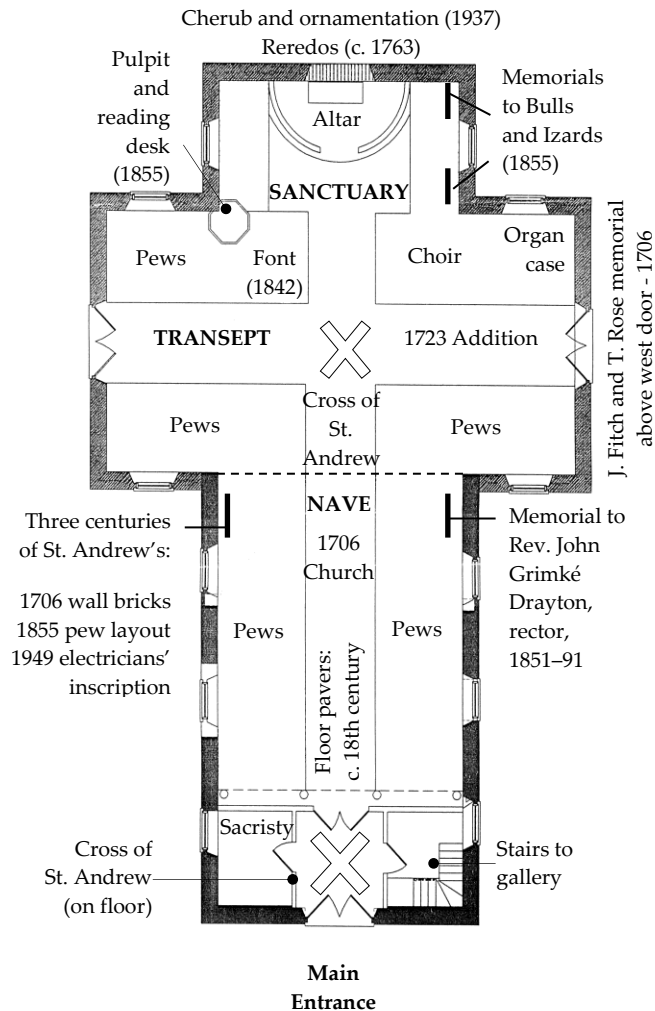
Rice, indigo, and slaves brought prosperity to the lands along the Ashley, where some of the wealthiest plantations in colonial Carolina were located. The church was expanded to the shape of a cross in 1723 to accommodate a growing population. It burned in the 1760s and was quickly rebuilt within its existing walls. But the parish declined before the Revolution and into the antebellum era. Ministering to the slaves, at the church and three plantation chapels, became the focus of the clergy. For forty years Rev. John Grimké Drayton, the renowned horticulturalist at Magnolia-on-the-Ashley just north of the church, was rector.

The church was one of the few buildings along the Ashley that Union troops did not burn to the ground during the Civil War. It became a polling place and did not reopen until 1876, eleven years after the war ended. The Great Earthquake of 1886 caused significant damage. After Reverend Drayton died in 1891, St. Andrew's became dormant.

In 1948 Episcopalians moving to the West Ashley suburbs reopened the dilapidated church, even though it was far away from the new residential developments. Dogged perseverance brought slow but continual improvements. A parish house was built, then expanded twice in quick succession. Hurricane Hugo caused major damage to the graveyard. In 2004-5 the church undertook the most extensive restoration in its history. Now in its 314th year, St. Andrew's has survived, and indeed is thriving, against all odds.

Thank you for visiting our historic church. We welcome you to join us in worship at this holy place.

Rev. Marshall Huey  
19th Rector, St. Andrew's Parish Church



2020 rev.

## TIMELINE

- 1706** Church Act establishes a parish and Anglican church along the Ashley River. Church built. Nineteenth-century memorial above the west door commemorates building supervisors Jonathan Fitch and Thomas Rose.
- 1717** Northern part of the parish becomes St. George's, Dorchester, Parish (later Dorchester County).
- 1723** Church expands into its cruciform shape.
- 1728** Chapel built on James Island.
- 1762** Church damaged by fire, but soon repaired and restored.
- 1780** Battle of St. Andrew's Church.
- 1793, 1800** Charles Fraser paints first known images of the church.
- 1831** James Island chapel becomes its own church, St. James.
- 1845-50** Three chapels erected to serve the enslaved on parish plantations (Magwood; Magnolia; Middleton/Barker).
- 1855** Col. William Izard Bull supervises a major restoration.
- 1865** Church one of only two buildings west of the Ashley not burned by Union troops; becomes a polling place.
- 1876** Church reopens for the first time since the end of the Civil War. Phosphate mining surrounds the church.
- 1886** Great Earthquake severely damages the church.
- 1891** Rev. John Grimké Drayton dies; longest-serving rector in the church's history. St. Andrew's becomes dormant.
- 1916** Last two vestrymen, unable to maintain the church, turn over its care to the Diocese of South Carolina. Occasional services held for the next thirty years.
- 1948** Church reopens on Easter Day. Restoration work begins.
- 1955** Parish status regained within the diocese.
- 1973** Church placed on National Register of Historic Places.
- 1989** Hurricane Hugo damages the churchyard, graves, and trees.
- 2004-5** Church undergoes extensive restoration. Archeological study reveals significant discoveries.
- 2006** Church celebrates its 300th anniversary.
- 2013-17** Parish leaves The Episcopal Church and aligns with the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina and later with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).