



Clayton, Sussex

Clægtun

Church of St John the Baptist

Grid refTQ 298 139

Church fabric
Wall paintings

Date

Nave, chancel, chancel arch, N & W parts of chancel – period C

Taylor

Walls rendered on exterior. Flint wall showing in nave E gable and parts of N wall.

Nave

Mostly original except for windows. Exterior N doorway has jambs of upright-and-flat, no impost; arch-head of shaped, regular, segmented stones; almost voussoirs, with wedge-shaped “key stone” slightly to right of centre.

Quoins visible on NE, NW and SW angles; large cut stones, no particular arrangement

Chancel

Western two thirds of N and S walls original.

Anglo-Saxon chancel arch about 6' wide. Square base blocks are modern. Jambs square-cut with ½ round soffit roll. Arch-head of regularly shaped segmented stones, with one smaller, wedge-shaped stone in centre of arch-head. Imposts fairly thin, square-cut slabs, straight chamfered on lower edge. Both E and W faces have large, three-quarter-round moulding, same in section as soffit roll, up jambs and around arch-head, passing through main imposts

Wall paintings

Have been claimed for dates before and after Conquest – now usually regarded as work of “Lewes School” flourished c. AD 1080. Other good examples at HARDHAM, Sussex.

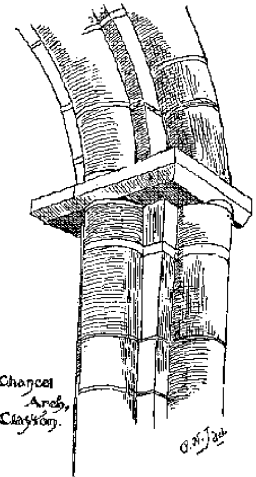
Taylor

As early as about 1080

Talbot Rice.



Clayton, Sussex



Above: *St John the Baptist, Clayton, view from the north*
Right: *A detail drawing of the impost block and mouldings from the Victoria County History*
Below: *St John the Baptist interior, looking east*

