

## Eyam, Derbyshire

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Church of St Lawrence

Cross-shaft in churchyard

Font

Possibly Church fabric

Grid ref ..... SK 21? 76?

### Cross

"The most magnificent feature of the Church is undoubtedly the Celtic [*recte* Saxon] Cross, known far and wide as one of the finest examples of its kind, and now scheduled as an ancient monument by the Office of Works. It was probably a wayside preaching cross, and may have stood west of the village, where there is still an eminence known as Cross Low. It probably dates from the C8, and is carved in the hard local gritstone, perhaps owing its excellent state of preservation to this. ...The shaft is unfortunately not fully complete. On the arms of the Cross are figured angels, some apparently blowing instruments, and on the west side of the shaft is a seated figure and above it the Virgin and Child. There is a carved cornucopia on the back of the shaft, and there are elaborate interlacing designs on the remaining sides. A replica of this cross, apparently with the missing portion supplied, formed the War Memorial for the First War and Blundells School, Devon."

*Ernest M. Turner, M.A., B.Litt., Rector,  
Church Guide*

The date and style of this cross is definitely Anglo-Saxon.

*MD, June 1975*

### Font in Rector's Vestry

Apparently discovered at Brookfield House, Hathersage, but thought to be from Eyam church.

The church dates from c. 1150, and has a Norman font, so if the font from Brookfield really does belong to the church, then this would suggest a

Saxon date, although Fisher's warning: "Many fonts reputed without evidence to be Pre-Conquest. Often difficult to discriminate between Anglo-Saxon and Norman examples owing to general plainness" makes one inclined to caution.



*MD*

### Church

"The central portion of the nave may possibly be of Saxon foundation ..."

*E. Turner, Church Guide*

