

'Holy Cross 1752-58 by David Hiorne.

The only 18th century town church in Northamptonshire, and a remarkably monumental building for a small town. Of ironstone. Broad west front with giant pilasters at the angles, and the angles of the centre bay. The porch here was added in 1951. Tripartite lunette window over. The aisle fronts have doorways with Gibbs surrounds and arched windows over and end in a balustrade. The tower stands on the centre bay, four square with its rusticated lower stage and its bell stage articulated by widely spaced pairs of pilasters. Small octagonal clock stage and obelisk spire. Along the south side all is giant pilasters, arched windows, and a top balustrade. On the north side no pilasters. The chancel projects and has a Venetian window.

Congregational Chapel – Sheaf Street.

Structurally of 1722 but much altered – internally completely.

Methodist Church, New Street 1824. Broad three bay front with arched upper windows and a pedimental gable.

Moot Hall, Market Place. 1769. Ironstone, three bays, two and a half storeys, the ground floor windows arched. Pedimental gable right across; cupola. The adjoining house is of 1806 and contains the main entrance, with a porch.

Former Grammar School, New Street.

Until, recently a R.C. Church. Built in 1600. The front has been altered, but the side with its two four-light windows in two storeys is original. The windows still have arched lights. Attached on the left is a late c17 house.

National School (Abbey Buildings) of ironstone, immediately north west of the church and part of the market place. Gothic. Built in 1826, with additions of 1870.

Hospital, including the former workhouse. Red brick, of c1838, still classical and with a central pediment. At the side a simple brick Gothic Chapel, with a small apse.

Police Station and Court House, New Street. The former a non descript brick block which replaced the old police station of 1860. The latter with some late c17 allusions: an ironstone wall along the street, strongly projecting eaves, a hipped roof and a cupola.

The **Market Place and the Church** are in a convincing and entirely urban relation to one another. In the Market Place the Gothic Memorial Cross of 1908. At the west end of the Market Place New Street branches off to the left. Apart from the former Grammar School it has nice minor Georgian houses, the nicest No5 and No 9 with a Late Georgian doorway.

The **High Street,** the major street of Daventry,

runs straight west. In it quite a number of worthwhile houses of ironstone, especially No 17, with a Gibb's surround to its doorway, then No 27, Late c17, with a porch and low broad windows on three storeys; No 29, a three storeyed higher and plainer house of seven bays, no doubt Georgian. No 39, Early Victorian with Ionic columns framing its doorway; No 59, statelier than the others. Seven bays, two storeys with quoins and a three-bay pedimented centre with quoins. Doorway, not in the centre, with Gibbs surround. Facing the end of the High Street, No 2, an early Victorian Tudor fantasy, castellated and extending in a rambling fashion along Tavern Lane. In Sheaf Street Nos 47-49, an eight bay frontage of chequered brick with the archway which leads to the Congregational Chapel. At the end of Sheaf Street, the Wheatsheaf Hotel, whitewashed, long, with irregular fenestration, but held together by the fine large Ionic lettering.

Finally in **Brook Street, the Saracen's Head,** dated 1769, with a good courtyard of that date, including Venetian windows and a Venetian doorway.

Street lighting – remodelled in the late 1950s – it is done by standards with vertical lighting units or by brackets attached to houses, also with vertical lighting units – a most gratifying contrast to the usual disturbing or messy arrangements'. (**Pevsner, 1961**)