



Welcome to August's **Faith in Maintenance** email bulletin.

Every month we try to provide you with some useful ideas to make sure that your place of worship stays in tiptop condition. You can also view an illustrated version of this bulletin [online](#).

This month our subject is **researching your place of worship online**. If you have a topic that you would like us to cover let us know by emailing the team at info@spabfim.org.uk.

Things to think about...

The ongoing process of digitising historical records and other archive documents means that the quantity and breadth of online information relating to the places where we live is increasing rapidly. If you would like to find out more about your place of worship and its context there is a wealth of data to be explored. To get you started we've listed a few of our favourite online resources.

Things to do...

The [Heritage Gateway](#) gives you online access to a variety of historic environment resources allowing you to search local records alongside national records. You can currently search more than 1.5 million records through the Heritage Gateway including local and national historic environment records; listed building descriptions; archaeological excavation details; contemporary and historic photographs. Records can be easily searched for using place names.

The [National Monuments Record \(NMR\)](#) is the public archive of *English Heritage*. The NMR holds more than ten million historic photographs, architectural and archaeological reports, plans and other items related to the historic environment and is open to the public. You may visit in person or request information by letter, telephone, fax or email. A free [enquiry service](#) is available to answer simple questions.

[British History Online](#) is the digital library containing some of the core printed primary and secondary sources for the medieval and modern history of the British Isles. Created by the *Institute of Historical Research* and the *History of Parliament Trust*, the website aims to support academic and personal users around the world in their learning, teaching and research. The 'Ecclesiastical and Religious History' section contains a variety of sources relating

to churches, religious houses and other religious groups.

Looking at Buildings is an educational resource created by the *Pevsner Architectural Guides*. It contains lots of accessible information to help you understand historic buildings, styles of architecture and methods of construction. You can also search for particular architects or use the interactive timeline.

Church Plans On-line is a useful resource for finding information about Anglican parish churches. The website hosts the digital archive of *The Incorporated Church Building Society* and includes over fifteen thousand files relating to grant applications made to the society between 1818 and 1982. Individual files may include application forms, correspondence, plans, building specifications, engravings or artists' impressions, certificates of satisfactory completion, parochial subscription lists, parish magazines and photographs.

Finally, **Old-Maps** is a comprehensive historical map archive service comprising site centred historical maps covering England, Wales and Scotland. It provides a step by step picture of land use changes that have occurred from the mid-19th century onwards.

Need more help?

If you have any questions about maintenance or repair issues contact our **Technical Helpline** for advice and guidance. This service is normally available on **Fridays** between **9.30am and 3.30pm** on **0207 456 0916**. Alternatively you can mail your questions to advice@spabfim.org.uk. Copies of the SPAB's range of Technical Pamphlets and Information Sheets are available to purchase from our **online bookshop**.

Sara Crofts Faith in Maintenance Project Director

Stave off decay by daily care ~ William Morris 1877

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