

The Stained Glass Windows

The modern North Wall Window (No. 5) installed in 1990 is the work of Sep Waugh, a York-based artist. All the other windows are the work of Heaton, Butler and Bayne, stained glass artists, 1862 – 1953. Most of these windows were produced during the period 1905 and 1931. The colours are mellow reds, greens and blues which tend to be dark in shade rather than bright, as was the fashion in the stained glass world during this period. The overall studio standard at this time was set by Richard Caton Bayne, the son of Robert Turnill Bayne.

The firm came into existence when Clement Heaton, a glass painter, entered into partnership with James Butler, a lead glazier in 1855, initially sharing premises with the newly established London glass-designing firm of Clayton & Bell, for whom they provided technical expertise. In 1862, they were joined by Robert Turnill Bayne, a Pre-Raphaelite artist, the firm then becoming known as Heaton Butler and Bayne.

They were based at 14 Garrick Street, London, WC2 until as recently as 1941. The company moved to Fulham and then Glen Arden, Gerrards Cross, Bucks. but ceased trading in 1953 after nearly 100 years on the death of Basil Richard Bayne, the grandson of Robert Turnill Bayne.

Heaton's pioneering researches into medieval techniques enabled the firm to produce glass in an exceptionally wide range of colours. Heaton died in 1882, Butler in 1913 and Robert Turnill Bayne in 1915.

The firm produced stained glass for numerous churches throughout the United Kingdom and the British Empire, as well as the United States of America. Westminster Abbey includes a Heaton, Butler & Bayne window.

Techniques of stained glass window construction were described by the monk Theophilus who wrote for craftsmen about 1100 AD. His methods have changed very little over 900 years.