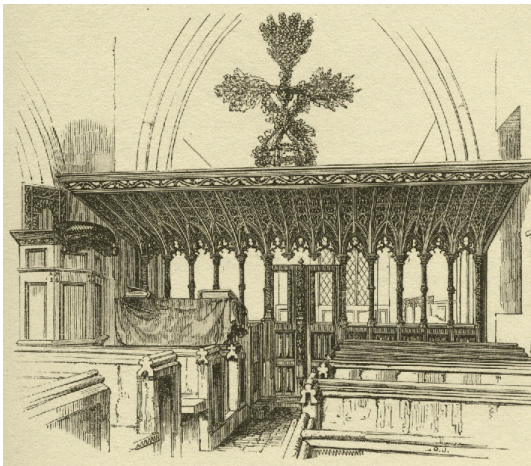


Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary

Roodscreen



An elaborate Roodloft and Roodscreen,
Charlton-on-Otmoor, Oxfordshire,
ca. 1490.

The Roodscreen or Chancel Screen separates the chancel from the sanctuary. All forms of it were banned during the early part of Queen Elizabeth's reign, but many survived. Their origin is unknown, but may represent the ancient idea of separating a sacred area from the profane. The icon screens in Eastern churches also serve much the same purpose.

Roodscreens at one time displayed a crucifixion scene on the rood beam, while others supported a gallery or roodloft.