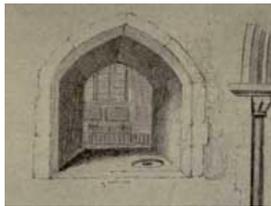
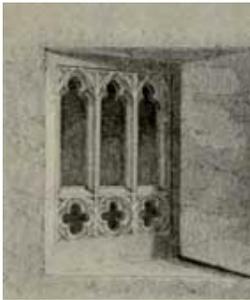


Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary

Squint



Top: Kent, Devonshire. *Middle,* Crawley, Hampshire. *Bottom:* Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire. *The Chancel of English Churches*, Francis Bond, 1916.

Squints were openings in the walls of the chancel or sanctuary of a church. No one knows their real purpose. Various suggestions include private viewing areas for privileged people, but there were no pews at the time, so sequestration might not have been necessary. Another suggestion is that it was used for “counting the house” as in a member of the cast checking the size of the audience by peeking through the curtains.

Julian of Norwich, (c. 1342-c. 1416) an anchoress famous for her writings¹, is said to have lived in a hut that was built against the outside wall of the church. A window in the hut opened into the church enabling her “to be present” at all services.

¹ Revelations of Divine Love.