



St. Matthew's church was designed by Mallinson & Healey in 1849.

The brief was to introduce new community facilities while retaining a sense of the internal volume.

The design solution is a single storey glass square ('the Cube') in the west end of the nave, set on the diagonal to lead the eye to the sanctuary, still allowing the west window to remain in view from the church. Kitchen, wc's and storage areas are located in the two remaining corners against the west wall.



Access to the building is through the original doors in the North wall, now with a lobby area to allow separate access to the Cube as well as to the church. This, together with the use of glass for the two visible sides of the Cube, enables both spaces to be in use independently of one another or as one space. Doors lead directly to the centre aisle, to retain the processional axis.

With a ceiling height of 3 metres, the carved column capitals are fully visible and seem to hold up the new plaster ceiling with its recessed low energy lighting. In reality a lightweight steel cruciform structure is incorporated. New floors throughout the church and the meeting space are of oiled wooden boards.

Photographs taken by Roger Quayle ABIPP

St Matthew's Church, Bankfoot, Bradford Listed Grade II 'The Cube'