

# ORGAN LEGACIES

The powerful sound of St. John's organ and the story of its evolution in the church's current HumberSide home over the last century is closely linked with the parish's previous home, as well as with several other churches

For most of St. John's history, the organ was central to church services. While the organ is used less frequently today, it is a special treat to the ears when it is played



THE SECOND CHURCH  
Opened Sunday, 26th January, 1890, by the Right Rev. Arthur Sweatman,  
Bishop of Toronto.

Much of the mechanism of St. John's organ can be traced to the pipe organ built by the Lye Organ Company of Toronto and installed in St. John's 2nd church and then moved to HumberSide in 1923.

Moving the organ was overseen by C. Frank Legge, a member of the parish, who also managed its subsequent maintenance and modifications

The most substantive rebuilt of St. John's pipe organ was undertaken in 1947, using the old pipes and case work, but with new working parts.



In 1950, the organ console was moved from the right to the left side at the back wall of the Chancel

In 1953, a set of Trumpet pipes were added, then 16-foot Trombone pipes

Between 1960 and 1980 several other components added



PERCY WICKER MACDONALD

Percy Wicker MacDonald served as organist from 1923 to 1963

In 1995-96, further renewal of the organ began with the hiring of James Bailey as Music Director, who worked with organ-builder, Alan Jackson

In 2000, an anonymous donation funded the replacement of the organ console, which was installed in a prominent position, closer to the nave altar

