St John the Evangelist, Guernsey Grove

Closed
Church of England
46 Guernsey Grove, SE21 9DE

St John the Evangelist exterior and architect's drawing

St John the Evangelist interior

Historical summary
In the early 1900s, a church was set up in a small wooden shack in Croxted Road to serve the newly built Peabody Estate in Rosendale Road. It was originally built as St

John the Evangelist (C. of E.), a daughter church of Holy Trinity Church in Trinity Rise. The congregation increased, so a larger but temporary iron church ('tin chapel') was built in Guernsey Grove in 1905, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners having voted £350 to buy the site. Another £350 was raised by local subscriptions

In June 1911, the foundation stone to the present building was laid by the Revd H Woffindin, vicar of Holy Trinity, Tulse Hill. The architect was Leonard Martin (1869-1935), of the Treadwell and Martin partnership though the church was not finished to the original plans. There is a three light Perpendicular Gothic window. The floor of the nave was above street level with a church hall underneath. The original 'tin chapel' was transferred to Abersoch in North Wales. The church contains a memorial plaque on which are written the names of 86 men from Holy Trinity and St John's who lost their lives in the 1914-18 war.

The church closed in 1962 and in 1975 was bought by the New Testament Church of God.

Sources: London Archives. Southwark Local Studies