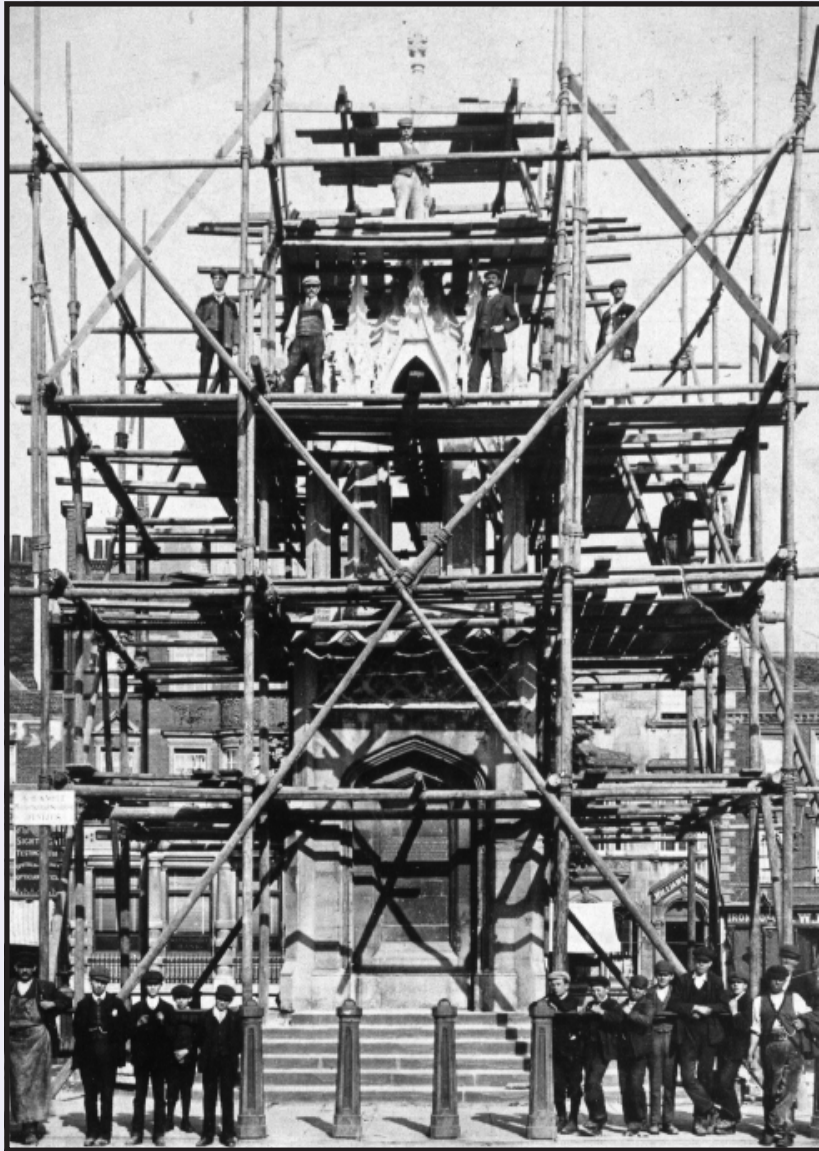


Restoring the Market Cross

The fabric of the Cross has needed attention on several occasions. The stone suffers from erosion and metal support rods built into the pinnacles corrode and further damage the stonework. During repairs and restoration carried out in 2001 the original iron rods were replaced with stainless steel. Further work carried out just before Christmas 2006 replaced the old paving around the Cross with new stone.

The famous moral tale of Ruth Pierce and her dramatic demise in 1753 is told on a metal plaque fixed to the east face of the Cross. The earlier stone tablet telling her story, now much worn is normally in the care of the museum, is currently on display in the foyer of the Corn Exchange.



Repairs to the Cross in the 1880's carried out by the Devizes firm of G.H. Knott. Up to a dozen men were engaged in the work



Repairs were carried out in 2001 by conservation specialists, Minerva



Market Place after a light fall of snow, c1890