Father Willis built a three-manual organ of 32 stops in 1883. It stood on the quire screen, where its appearance became subject to criticism ("a poor exhibition of woodwork and paint", as one observer described it). The whole organ was contained within the case, except for the longest pipes of the Pedal Open Diapason and Violone; these were placed respectively in the south nave triforium and behind the north choir stalls, where they remain. The Pedal Ophicleide was added by the Willis firm in 1906.

In 1953, Hill Norman & Beard rebuilt the organ within a new, much smaller case designed by the Cathedral Architect Alban Caroë. Inevitably, the layout became very cramped. The original action (tracker with pneumatic lever) was replaced by pneumatic action, with a new console, and most of the Pedal stops were relocated south of the choir stalls.

Numerous changes were made to the organ over the next forty years: these included the installation of electro-pneumatic action and remodelling of the Choir Organ by Rushworth & Dreaper in 1980. Chief among the changes made by Percy Daniel & Co was the addition of twelve 32ft Open Wood pipes from St Marylebone Parish Church, which were installed in the south transept in 1988. Fortunately for posterity, 31 Father Willis stops (including some which were providentially stored at the Deanery) survived these alterations to provide the inspiration for a new organ.

As an essential first step, the Caroë case has been redesigned in collaboration with Caroë and Partners, the Cathedral architects. The west elevation is entirely new, and the east elevation together with the side panelling has been increased in height. The new carved pipe shades are by Lyndale Woodcarving.

The main part of the organ (including the new Tuba and most of the Pedal Organ) is contained within the enlarged case on the screen; the new West Choir Organ is in a “chair” case projecting towards the nave. The new console, like its predecessors, is on the south side of the screen. The East Choir Organ replaces the former Pedal section on the south side of the choir stalls, together with the new Contra Trombone rank.

Dr Roy Massey was the consultant for the project, with the then Cathedral Organist, Geraint Bowen.
ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL

PEDAL ORGAN
# 1. Double Open Wood (from 2) 32
2. Open Wood 16
# 3. Open Diapason 16
4. Violone (bass from 21) 16
5. Bourdon 16
*6. Principal 8
7. Bass Flute 8
*8. Fifteenth 4
*9. Contra Trombone 32
10. Ophicleide 16
*11. Trombone (from 9) 16

I West Choir to Pedal  II Great to Pedal
III Swell to Pedal  IV East Choir to Pedal

SWELL ORGAN
33. Lieblich Bourdon 16
34. Open Diapason 8
35. Lieblich Gedackt 8
36. Salicional 8
37. Vox Angelica (tenor c) 8
38. Gemshorn 4
39. Flageolet 2
*40. Mixture 17.19.22 III
*41. Contra Fagotto 16
42. Cornopean 8
43. Hautboy 8
*44. Clarion 4

X  Tremulant  XI Octave
VI Swell to West Choir

WEST CHOIR ORGAN
*12. Lieblich Gedackt 8
*13. Viole d'Amour (bass from 12) 8
*14. Lieblhich Flute 4
*15. Principal 4
*16. Nazard 2\(\frac{2}{3}\)
*17. Open Flute 2
*18. Tierece 1\(\frac{3}{5}\)
*19. Mixture 15.19.22 III
*20. Cremona 8

V Tremulant  VI Swell to West Choir

GREAT ORGAN
21. Double Diapason 16
22. Open Diapason No. 1 8
23. Open Diapason No. 2 8
24. Claribel Flute 8
25. Principal 4
*26. Flute Harmonique 4
27. Twelfth 2\(\frac{2}{3}\)
28. Fifteenth 2
29. Sesquialtera 17.19.22 III
*30. Mixture 19.22.26.29 IV
31. Tromba 8
32. Clarion 4

VII Reeds on East Choir
VIII West Choir to Great IX Swell to Great
X East Choir to Great

EAST CHOIR ORGAN  Enclosed
*45. Contra Gamba (1-12 stopped wood) 16
46. Claribel Flute 8
47. Gamba 8
48. Dulciana 8
49. Voix Céleste (tenor c) 8
*50. Principal 4
51. Flute Harmonique 4
52. Piccolo 2
53. Corno di Bassetto 8

XVI Tremulant

Unenclosed
*54. Tuba 8

XVII Octave  XVIII Sub Octave
XIX Unison Off  XX Swell to East Choir

ACCESSORIES
Eight general pistons and general cancel
Two pistons to the couplers
Eight foot pistons to the Pedal Organ
Eight pistons to the West Choir Organ
Eight pistons to the Great Organ
Eight pistons to the Swell Organ (duplicated by foot pistons)
Eight pistons to the East Choir Organ
Reversible pistons : I - IV, VI, VIII - X, XV, XX
Reversible foot pistons : II, IX
Combination couplers : Great and Pedal pistons
Generals on Swell foot pistons
Manuals I and IV exchange
The pistons are adjustable, with 256 general and
eight divisional memories.
Sequencer, acting on the general pistons
The manual compass is 61 notes, the pedal is 30 notes
* New stops. # 1988, from St Marylebone Parish Church
All other stops are by Willis

HARRISON & HARRISON
2000