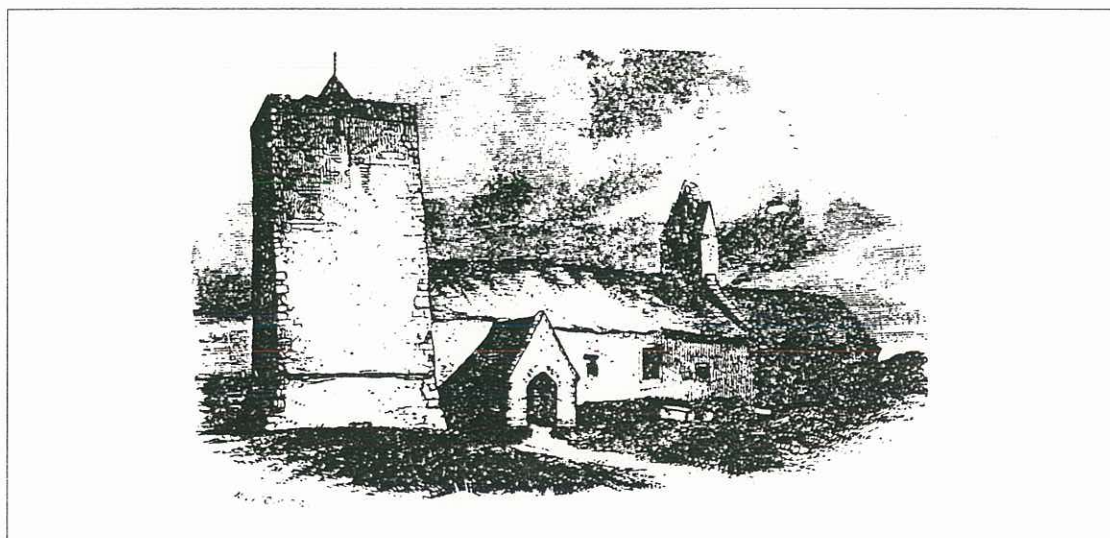


THE WELSH HISTORIC
CHURCHES PROJECT



CEREDIGION CHURCHES, 1996-7
(DAT 48)

PART 2: DIHEWYD - LLANBADARN TREFEGLWYS



Llanrhystud, Ceredigion

Reports prepared for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments
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A R C H A E O L E G
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THE WELSH HISTORIC CHURCHES PROJECT

**CEREDIGION CHURCHES, 1996-7
(DAT 48)**

PART 2: DIHEWYD - LLANBADARN TREFEGLWYS

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**ST VITALIS,
DIHEWYD,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5660

RB No. 3686

NGR SN 4835 5624

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as?, medieval church.

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, 4 bays; west porch; 1820s. Vestry (south), 1 bay, later 19th century. Local rubble construction. Slate gable roof, vestry with a slate lean-to roof. Openings mainly from the 1820s, neo-gothic but without dressings; windows with timber frames. Western single bellcote, rebuilt later 19th century?.

Roofs and floors, 1820s. Finishes: later 19th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. No physical evidence for earlier church; shallow external drain around 100% of church, superficial; no underfloor void?; few external memorials lie significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-C19 core fabric.

Group value - medium-high. C19 rural landmark church; large churchyard with associated masonry school buildings.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, west porch, 1820s.

Phase 2 - Vestry, later 19th century.

DESCRIPTION

St Vitalis, Dihewyd, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in the 1820s, on the same site, and in the same location, as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 4-bayed chancel/nave, without structural division, a west porch and a single-bayed vestry south of the east bay. Construction is in local rubble throughout, squared and coursed in the vestry; plastered within. The openings are neo-gothic and simple, from the 1820s, without dressings and with timber 'Y'-tracery; plain in the vestry and later. There is a simple, gabled single bellcote at the west end, possibly rebuilt in the later 19th century. The vestry has a plain, square chimney, later 19th century. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof.

The form of the original church is not known. Its bell was recast in 1776, when the roof was repaired; the porch was rebuilt in the following year (Evans, 1917, 292). In 1793 2 bays of 'the little church' were taken down and rebuilt (*ibid.*). The church was reroofed in 1803 (*ibid.*).

The church had been rebuilt within 'the last 5 years' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833) when it was 'a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel'; the west porch is contemporary. The vestry appears to date from the later 19th century and is of coursed rubble; the west porch may have been refaced at the same time.

There is no physical evidence for the pre-19th century church. A shallow external drain surrounds the church but lies on a raised 'plinth'. There may be no underfloor void. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the south wall.

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Churchyard formerly circular; Celtic dedication?.

St Vitalis, Dihewyd, was not a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The benefice appears to have always belonged to St Davids Cathedral, as a prebend of the collegiate church of Llanddewi Brefi (Lewis, 1833), but was later transferred to that at Brecon, and rated in the kings' books at £6 13s 4d (*ibid.*).

Dihewyd had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Bishop of St Davids, consolidated with that of Llanerch Aeron, was endowed with £800 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Vitalis, Dihewyd, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llanerch Aeron, Ciliau Aeron and Mydroilyn (Benefice 801) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Glyn Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication may refer to a Celtic St Gwyddalus, rather than the Latin St Vitalis of Ravenna (Various, 1994, 391).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Parish of Dihewyd, Tithe Map, 1845.

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

Hook Mason, 1994, Quinquennial Report, Dihewyd.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/146, Faculty - Memorial window, 1927.

Printed Accounts

Evans, G. E., 1917, 'Cardiganshire: Its Plate, Records and Registers', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol XVII, Sixth Series.

Lewis, S., 1833, *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales*.

Various, 1994, 'The Church in Ceredigion in the Early Middle Ages', in Davies, J. L., and Kirby, D. P. (eds.), *Cardiganshire County History Vol. I*.

**ST MICHAEL,
EGLWYS-FACH,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17365

RB No. 3430

NGR SN 6857 9552

Listed Building no. 18242

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% pre-19th century core fabric. On site of, but not in same location as, 17th century church (PRN 5430).

A 3-cell church, small sized. Aligned NNE-SSW. Consists of nave, 3 bays; 'west' porch, c.1840. Chancel, 1 bay, apsidal, polygonal; boilerhouse (west of nave); 1914. Construction is in local slate rubble; plastered within. Slate gable roofs, chancel with a slate hipped roof. Openings are from c.1840 and 1914, neo-gothic, without dressings and with timber frames; external buttressing from c.1840 and 1914. Gabled single bellcote at SSW end, c.1840.

Roofs and floors: c.1840 and 1914. Finishes: all 1914?

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Possible physical evidence of earlier church; external platform beneath 50% of church, natural, secondarily enhanced?; deep, wide external cutting around 50% of church; suspended floors over heating flues in 75% of church; external memorials lie significantly close to 60% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre 19th century core fabric.

Group value - medium-high. Good, early C19 'estate-style' church; landmark siting in central village location; possible physical evidence for earlier church; large churchyard with good memorials; lych-gate.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave and west porch, c.1840.

Phase 2 - Chancel and boilerhouse, 1914.

DESCRIPTION

St Michael, Eglwys-fach, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was founded in c.1623, but was entirely (re)built in c.1840 on the same site, but not in the same location as its predecessor, retaining nothing from the earlier fabric (PRN 5430).

The present church is not aligned east-west, but rather NNE-SSW with the 'east end' to the NNE. It consists of a single-bayed apsidal, polygonal chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 'west' porch at the SSW end, and a low, single-bayed transeptal boilerhouse west of the nave SSW bay. The church is tall, construction is in local slate rubble and in the 'estate church' style. External finishes were being stripped 7/9/98 but all may have been rendered as the nave 'west' wall, from 1914?; the interior is plastered. The nave openings are neo-gothic and from c.1840, without dressings; the tall, 4-centred windows have timber 'Y'-tracery from the 20th century. The 4 corners have external angle buttresses. The contemporary 'west' porch is similarly buttressed. A gabled, single bellcote lies over the SSW end of the nave, also from c.1840. The chancel is from 1914 and in the same style as the nave, with single-, 2- and 3-light windows, with buttresses at all external angles. The boilerhouse is contemporary and is entered from the churchyard through a simple, square doorway in its west wall; the boiler has gone. Roofs are slated gables, hipped over the chancel.

The first church was established at Eglwys-fach in c.1623; the inscription 'HEC EC'C ERE'C PER IOHE LLOYD AN'O DI'N 1623' apparently lay over its south chancel window (Evans, 1917, 297). The 17th century church building survived until the earlier 19th century; in 1833 it was 'about to be taken down and rebuilt' (Lewis, 1833) and the work was complete by c.1840 (Evans, op. Cit.).

The new church was erected some 50m to the west of the earlier site (Anon., 1914 (ii), 13) but within the area of the original churchyard, which was not extended. It is shown on the tithe map of 1845 (NLW, Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn, Ysgubor-y-coed township, Tithe Map, 1845) in much its present form but without the chancel and store, comprising just the nave and 'west' porch.

The chancel and boilerhouse were added in 1914 (NLW, SD/F/154). It was proposed that a 'small window' be inserted in the nave, to light the internal vestry area, in 1923 (NLW, SD/F/155) but the work appears not to have been undertaken.

No fittings survive from the church of c.1840; the interior was reseated in 1909 (SD/F/153).

The font was retained from the 17th century church and has a small, deep circular bowl on a chamfered square stem, all 17th century (Anon, 1914 (i), 13).

A low earthwork in the eastern half of the churchyard, cut by many memorials, may represent the location of the 17th century church. The western half of the church lies upon a pronounced external platform which is, in part at least, a natural rock terrace; it is cut by a deep, wide external cutting along the nave west wall and around the boilerhouse. Floors are suspended over heating flues. External memorials lie significantly close to the east and NNE walls of the church.

The church was undergoing thorough renovation in September 1998, which will include reslating, refinishing and the replacement of some internal timber.

It was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There was no pre-conquest religious use of the site.

St Michael, Eglwys-fach, appears not to have been the site of a medieval religious establishment; it is not shown by either Rees, 1932, or Blaeu, 1648. However, it had been founded by the early 17th century (Lewis, 1833), probably in c.1623 (Anon., 1914 (ii), 36) and its absence from the Blaeu map probably results from his copying the Speed map of c.1610. It was never a parish church having been, through most of its history, a chapel-of-ease to Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn parish, serving the hamlet of Ysgubor-y-coed (Lewis, 1833).

In 1833 the living was a perpetual curacy in the patronage of Mrs Jane Davies, endowed with £800 royal bounty (ibid.).

In 1998 St Michael, Eglwys-fach, was a chapelry. The living was a vicarage, held with Borth and Llangynfelyn (Benefice no. 674) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church was formerly also known as Llanfihangel Capel Edwin (Anon., 1814, 36).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Sheet II.5.

NLW, Parish of Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn, Ysgubor-y-coed township, Tithe Map, 1845.

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

Hook Mason, 1994, Quinquennial Report, Eglwys-fach.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/153, Faculty - Replacement of benches with pews, 1909.

NLW, SD/F/154, Faculty - New chancel and heating apparatus, 1914.

NLW, SD/F/155, Faculty - Small window in vestry, 1923.

Printed Accounts

Anon., 1914 (i), 'Cardiganshire Fonts', Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society Vol. I.

Anon., 1914 (ii), 'Dedications of Cardiganshire Churches', Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society Vol. I.

Evans, G. E., 1917, 'Cardiganshire: Its Plate, Records and Registers', Archaeol. Cambrensis Vol. XVII, Sixth Series.

Lewis, S., 1833, A Topographical Dictionary of Wales.

Various, 1994, 'The Church in Ceredigion in the Early Middle Ages', in Davies, J. L., and Kirby, D. P. (eds.), Cardiganshire County History Vol. I.

EGLWYS NEWYDD CHURCH, CEREDIGION

Dyfed PRN 5491

RB No. 3115

NGR SN 7685 7364

Listed Building no. 9867

Grade B listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% pre-19th century core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, 17th century church.

A multicell church, small-medium sized. Aligned NNE-SSW. Consists of nave, 2 bays; 'north' transept, 1 bay; 'south' transept, 1 bay; 'west' tower, 3 storeys; all 1803. Chancel, 2 bays, apsidal; vestry, ('north'), 1 bay; 1888. Construction is in local slate rubble; plastered within. Slate gable roofs, chancel with a slate hipped roof, vestry with a flat roof, tower roof not seen. All openings are from 1888, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings; limited external buttressing. West tower with crenellated parapet, rebuilt 1888?.

Roofs: 1803. Floors: 1888. Finishes: 1992-4.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, slab-lined drain around 100% of church; floors are suspended over heating flues in 100% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre 19th century core fabric.

Group value - medium-high. Good, early C19 estate church; attractive estate setting.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, transepts and west tower, 1803.

Phase 2 - Chancel and vestry, 1888.

DESCRIPTION

Eglwys Newydd Church is a multicelled church, of small-medium size. It was founded in 1603, but was entirely (re)built in 1803 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church is not aligned east-west, but rather NNE-SSW with the 'west end' to the NNE. It consists of a 2-bayed apsidal, polygonal chancel, a 2-bayed nave, single-bayed 'north' and 'south' transepts, a three-storeyed 'west' tower, and a single-bayed vestry 'north' of the chancel 'west' bay. Construction is in local slate rubble and in the 'estate church' style; the exterior was repointed and the interior replastered in 1992-4. Openings are neo-gothic and from 1888, with grey oolite dressings; windows are 2- and 3-light with simple tracery. There is limited external buttressing, from 1803. The west tower has a crenellated parapet, possibly (re)built in 1888. The roofs are slated gables, the chancel has a hipped-roof, the vestry has a flat roof and the tower roof was not seen.

The church was first founded in 1603, but nothing remains of the original structure (Lewis, 1833). It was rebuilt in 1803 as an 'elegant cruciform structure' (ibid.) which form the bulk of the present structure. The chancel was small and square-ended, the floors were flagged and the windows were timber-framed.

The church was extended and restored in 1888 to the designs of the architect A. Ritchie of Chester (NLW, SD/F/157), when the small square chancel was replaced with the present polygonal apse, the vestry was added, the church was refenestrated and refloored, and the roof was repaired. The west gallery was removed. A heating chamber for a 'Porrit's' stove was excavated within the nave.

Superficial restoration was undertaken in the 1930s following a major fire (Hook Mason, 1994, 4) and renovations were carried out in 1992-4 (ibid.).

The font is from 1792 (Anon, 1915, 29) is octagonal and in late Perpendicular style.

A deep, slab-lined drain surrounds the church. Floors are suspended over heating flues and there is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There was no pre-conquest religious use of the site.

Eglwys Newydd Church was not the site of a medieval religious establishment (Rees, 1932). It was founded as a private chapel by the Herberts, of the nearby mansion at Hafod, in 1620 (Lewis, 1833), but was a chapelry of the established church, for Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn parish, by 1803.

In 1833 the living was a perpetual curacy in the patronage of Thomas Johnes, Esq., of Hafod, endowed with £1000 royal bounty and £1200 parliamentary grant (ibid.).

In 1998 Eglwys Newydd Church was a chapelry. The living was a vicarage, held with Ysbyty Cynfyn and Llantrisant (Benefice no. 828) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

- Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.
- NLW, Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn Uchaf township, Tithe Map, 1841.
- NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Sheet XII.13.
- Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

- Hook Mason, 1994, Quinquennial Report, Eglwys Newydd.
- St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.
- NLW, SD/F/156, Faculty - Removal of corpse, 1879.
- NLW, SD/F/157, Faculty - Restoration of church, 1887.

Printed Accounts

- Anon., 1915, 'Cardiganshire Fonts', Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society Vol. II.
- Evans, G. E., 1917, 'Cardiganshire: Its Plate, Records and Registers', Archaeol. Cambrensis Vol. XVII, Sixth Series.
- Lewis, S., 1833, A Topographical Dictionary of Wales.
- Various, 1994, 'The Church in Ceredigion in the Early Middle Ages', in Davies, J. L., and Kirby, D. P. (eds.), Cardiganshire County History Vol. I.

**ST PEDROG,
Y FERWIG,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17358

RB No. 2961

NGR SN 1834 4957

Listed Building no. 9907

Grade B listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church (PRN 5304).

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; south porch; vestry (north), 1 bay; all later 19th century. (Former west tower, medieval.) Construction is in slate rubble. Neo-gothic. Slate gable roofs; vestry with a slate lean-to roof. All openings from the later 19th century. West wall, 1968-70.

Roofs and floors, later 19th century.. Finishes, later 19th century and 1968-70.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Deep, wide external cutting around 40% of church, primary?, secondarily deepened; no external drain; suspended floors?; former component beyond 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-C19 core fabric.

Group value - low.

Phasing:

(Phase I - Former west tower, medieval.)

Phase 2 - Chancel, nave, south porch, vestry- later C19.

Phase 3 - West tower demolished 1968 and west wall rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

St Pedrog, Y Ferwig, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was largely rebuilt in the later 19th century retaining only a west tower from the earlier fabric; this was itself demolished in 1968 (Bartosch, 1991, 1).

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a south porch and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel east bay. Construction is in slate rubble, plastered within. All dressings are in yellow oolite and from the later 19th century; the openings are neo-gothic comprising cusped 2- (or more) light windows with curvilinear tracery. The blind west wall was rebuilt in concrete blockwork 1968-70 and has a simple bracket bell-hanging. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof. The floors may be suspended except in the chancel and porch.

The earlier church was described as a 'small, ancient edifice' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833). It comprised a nave and chancel, a porch (north or south?) and a west tower which was demolished as recently as 1968 (Bartosch, 1991, 1) leaving no physical evidence for its presence. Both the chancel arch and the arch from the nave into the tower were pointed, the chancel arch being 'large'. Over the porch was the date-stone from 1627; this may have been the date of the porch itself, or may mark a restoration of the church. Minor repairs were undertaken in 1929 (NLW, SD/F/668).

The font in the church of 1833 was 'ancient' and 'elaborately ornamented' (Lewis, 1833).

There is a deep, wide external cutting along the north wall, primary?, deepened in the later 19th century when the upcast was thrown to the north to form an earthwork 'bank'. A west tower was formerly present but lacks physical evidence. There is no external drain. The floors may be suspended.

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is possible evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication?.

St Pedrog, Y Ferwig, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It was a possession of Cardigan Priory.

At the dissolution, the advowson fell to the crown with whom it remained in 1833 when, as a discharged vicarage, the living was rated in the king's books at £10 13s 4d and endowed with £200 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Pedrog, Y Ferwig, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Cardigan and Mwnt (Benefice no. 510) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

It has been suggested that the 'Pedrog' of the dedication is a corruption of St Peter the Apostle, a very popular cult in Wales (Various, 1994, 394-5).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

Bartosch, P. M., 1992, Quinquennial Report, Y Ferwig.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/668, Faculty - Placing new organ in church and repairing church, 1929.

Printed Accounts

Lewis, S., 1833, A Topographical Dictionary of Wales.

Salter, M., 1994, The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales.

Various, 1994, 'The Church in Ceredigion in the Early Middle Ages', in Davies, J. L., and Kirby, D. P. (eds.), Cardiganshire County History Vol. I.

**ST GARTHELI,
GARTHELI,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17118

RB No. 3618

NGR SN 5859 5674

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church?.

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 1 bay; nave, 3 bays; south porch; vestry (north), 1 bay; all 1873-5. Store, west of vestry, later 20th century. Construction is in mudstone rubble. Neo-gothic. Slate gable roofs; vestry and store with slate lean-to roofs. All openings are from 1873-5; western single bellcote, 1873-5.

Roofs and floors, 1873-5. Finishes, 1873-5.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good. Deep, wide external cutting around 40% of church; suspended floors over heating ducts in 60% of church; no external memorials significantly close to the church.

.Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-1873 core fabric.

Group value - low.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, south porch, vestry, 1873-5.

Phase 2 - Store, later C20.

DESCRIPTION

St Gartheli, Gartheli, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in 1873-5 (NLW, SD/F/172) in the same location, and on the foundations as its predecessor (PRN 12410) but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a single-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a south porch and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel; there is also a breezeblock store west of the vestry; construction is otherwise in local mudstone rubble. A pronounced offset runs all around the exterior. All dressings are in grey oolite and from 1873-5; the openings are neo-gothic, the lights all being simple lancets, normally single but with a triple-lancet east window. There is a gabled single bellcote at the west end. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry and store have slated lean-to roofs. The floors are suspended except in the porch and store.

The present church occupies the same location as a building 'lately rebuilt' in 1808 (Evans, 1917, 299); however, it is not known whether this church in turn occupied the same location as its predecessor, which, by the end of the 18th century, was so ruinous that marriage services were conducted in the churchyard (ibid.). A plan and elevation drawings of the c.1808 church accompany the Faculty application for its demolition and rebuilding in 1873 (NLW, SD/F/172). It was a small, single cell, with just two square lights, both in the south wall; there was a west door and single western bellcote. It was demolished in 1873-5, when the present church was built re-using some of the earlier masonry (ibid.); the store which was added in the later 20th century.

There is a deep, wide external cutting along the north wall - primary?. The floors are suspended over heating ducts. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is no firm evidence for any pre-conquest religious use of the site.

St Gartheli, Gartheli, was not a parish church during the medieval period but a chapelry of Llanddewi Brefi parish (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. Gartheli was an episcopal grange of St Davids.

Still a chapelry in 1833, the living was a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Perpetual Curate of Llanddewi Brefi (Lewis, 1833), endowed with £1000 royal bounty; the earliest burial is from 1874.

In 1998 St Gartheli, Gartheli, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llangeitho, Blaenpennal and Betws Leucu (Benefice no. 697) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Lampeter and Ultra-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The 'St Gartheli' dedication is probably spurious, having been derived from the place-name rather than vice-versa.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Gartheli township (Llanddewi Brefi parish), Tithe Map, 1845.

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

Clive-Powell, R., 1995, Quinquennial Report, Gartheli.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/172, Faculty - Taking down and rebuilding church, 1873.

Printed Accounts

Evans, G. E., 1917, 'Cardiganshire: Its Plate, Records and Registers', Archaeol. Cambrensis Vol. XVII, Sixth Series.

Lewis, S., 1833, A Topographical Dictionary of Wales.

Salter, M., 1994, The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales.

**ST DAVID,
HENFYNYW,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5911

RB No. 3052

NGR SN 4476 6120

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church.

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; earlier 19th century?. Vestry (transeptal, south of chancel), 1 bay; 1861. WC (west of vestry), early-mid 20th century. Construction is in squared local rubble throughout. Slate gable roofs; WC with slate lean-to roof. All openings, except in the WC, are from 1861 and neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings. Western bell-turret, with spire, 1861.

Roofs and floors: 1861. Finishes: 1991.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. No external cutting or drain; suspended floors in 60% of church; below-ground drainage beneath 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre 19th century core fabric.

Group value - low-medium. C19 hilltop church; large churchyard; episcopal associations.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, (earlier) 19th century.

Phase 2 - Restored 1861, high impact; vestry built.

Phase 3 - WC block, early-mid 20th century.

DESCRIPTION

St David, Henfynyw, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in the (earlier?) 19th century on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed transeptal vestry south of the chancel west bay, and a WC block between the vestry and the nave south wall. Construction is in squared local rubble throughout; external pointing from 1991, plastered within. Openings, except in the WC, are from 1861 and neogothic, with yellow oolite dressings; the church is entered through a doorway in the nave north wall. There is a western bell-turret with 4 openings and a low oolite spire, from 1861, and reached by a doorway in the west end of the nave. The roofs are slated gables; the WC block has a slated lean-to roof.

The church was described in 1833 as 'a neat plain edifice, consisting only of a nave and chancel' (Lewis, 1833). The present church displays no pre-19th century fabric and appears to have been rebuilt during the 19th century, possibly after 1833. It was restored in 1861 (Anon., 1897, 166). The restoration appears to have amounted to a partial rebuild, and although the pre-1861 church is shown as possessing the present plan and dimensions on the tithe map of 1846 (NLW, Henfynyw, 1846), and had a north doorway like the present structure (Westwood, 1880, 299), it is apparent that it was at least refaced and that all openings were rebuilt; the church was reroofed and refloored, while the vestry and bell-turret are probably also additions of this date. The WC block was added in the early-mid 20th century. The church was renovated in 1991 (Hook Mason, 1994, 3) when it received new finishes.

The limestone font, from c.1200, has a square, deeply chamfered bowl with a band of incised rosette mouldings, almost identical to that at Betws Bledrws, Cer., and similar to that at Llansantffraed, Cer. (Anon., 1914, 15).

There is a single bell dated 1866 (Hook Mason, 1994, 8).

There is neither an external cutting nor a drain. Floors are suspended in the nave and vestry. There is below-ground drainage beneath, and adjacent to the WC. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Built into the east gable is a fragment of an ECM, a Latin inscribed stone from the 6th - 7th century (Various, 1994, 412); it was moved to its present position from a location over the north doorway in the restoration of 1861 (Rhys, 1896, 110-112; Various, 1994, 412).

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Celtic dedication; large churchyard; traditional episcopal site.

St David, Henfynyw, was not a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron, in the possession of the Precentor and Chapter of St Davids Cathedral (Lewis, 1833).

Henfynyw was a parish by 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Precentor and Chapter who received the tithes and paid the minister's stipend, was endowed with £800 royal bounty and £1000 parliamentary grant (ibid.).

In 1998 St David, Henfynyw, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Aberaeron and Llanddewi Aberarth (Benefice no. 574) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Glyn Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

Henfynyw ('old Menevia') is the putative site of an early foundation of the Bishops of St Davids.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Sheet XVIII.16.

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Church in Wales Records

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Printed Accounts

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**ST DAVID,
HENLLAN,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5282

RB No. 3584

NGR SN 3540 4019

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church.

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of nave, 4 bays, earlier 19th century (1826?) but partly rebuilt/refaced in 1881. South porch, mid 19th century. Chancel, 2 bays; vestry (north of chancel), 1 bay; 1881. Tin sheds either side of vestry, mid-late 20th century. Construction is in slate rubble. Slate gable roofs; vestry with a slate lean-to roof. Nave north wall windows, neo-gothic, with timber frames, earlier 19th century. All other openings are from 1881, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings. Western gabled, single bellcote, 1881.

Roofs and floors: 1881. Finishes: some early 19th century external render; 1881 pointing and internal plaster.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. No physical evidence for earlier church; no external cutting or drain; suspended floors over a void 70% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-19th century core fabric.

Group value - medium. Early site; circular churchyard.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, earlier C19 (1826?).

Phase 2 - South porch, mid C19.

Phase 3 - Chancel and vestry, 1881.

Phase 4 - Tin sheds against vestry, mid-late 20th century.

DESCRIPTION

St David, Henllan, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was rebuilt in the earlier 19th century (in 1826?) on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric. The south porch is from the mid 19th century, and the chancel and vestry were added in 1881.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a south porch, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay flanked by 2 lean-to tin sheds from the mid-late 20th century. Construction is in local slate rubble throughout. The nave north wall retains its earlier 19th century external render, the remainder has pointing from 1881; plastered within. The nave north wall displays 2 neo-gothic, single light windows from the earlier 19th century, with timber frames. The remainder of the openings were built, or rebuilt, in 1881 and are neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings; the windows are mainly cusped single lancets but the east and west windows have 3 lights with Geometric tracery. There is limited external buttressing, from 1881. The west end carries a simple, gabled, shouldered bellcote rebuilt in 1881. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof and the lean-to sheds are tin-sheeted throughout. Floors are suspended in the nave and vestry.

The form of the pre-19th century church is not known. It was entirely (re)built in the earlier 19th century, possibly in 1826 (Clive-Powell, 1996, 1). As rebuilt, the church comprised just the present nave, and was described by Lewis, 1833, as 'a very small edifice, not characterised by any remarkable architectural feature'.

The south porch was added after 1844 (NLW, Henllan, Tithe Map, 1844). Drawings accompanying the faculty submission for the 1881 alteration (NLW, SD/F/98) show the church as it then existed. It comprised a 4-bayed chancel/nave (the present nave), with 2 windows in the north wall and 3 in the south wall; all were simple neo-gothic single lights with timber 'Y'-tracery. There was no east window (?). The present south porch and south door are shown, and a north door into the chancel. A simple, gabled single bellcote lay over the west end.

The chancel and vestry were added in 1881 (ibid.), to the designs of the architects Middleton & Sons, of Westminster and Cheltenham. The extent of the work was much greater than the faculty suggests and amounted to a partial rebuild. The old east wall was taken down and a chancel arch erected in its place. A window was substituted for the former north door, in a rebuilt area of walling, and the south wall windows and doors were partly rebuilt. The bellcote was rebuilt. The nave south and west walls were entirely refaced, and the west window was inserted. The church was reroofed, refloored, reseated and replastered.

The only major subsequent alteration has been the erection of the lean-to tin sheds either side of the vestry, in the mid-late 20th century.

The font has a square bowl with plain mouldings, from the earlier 13th century?, set on a 19th century base (Clive-Powell, 1992, 2).

There is no physical evidence for the earlier church. Neither an external cutting nor drain is present. Floors are suspended over a void in the nave and vestry. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-

Circular churchyard; Celtic dedication; place-name; contemporary sources; long tradition.

St David, Henllan, was not a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It appears to have been a possession of the Bishops of St Davids from an early date.

Henllan was a parish by 1833 the living was a discharged rectory annexed to that of Bangor Teifi, in the patronage of the Bishop (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St David, Henllan, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Bangor Teifi, Llanfair Orllwyn and Llangynllo (Benefice 693) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Emlyn (St Davids, 1997-8).

There is the suggestion that the original dedication may not have been to St David (Various, 1994, 390)

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First Edition, Sheet XLV.4

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Church in Wales Records

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Printed Accounts

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**ST PETER,
LAMPETER,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17273

RB No. 2585

NGR SN 5755 4835

Listed Building no. 10430

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, but not in same location as, medieval church (PRN 4769).

A multicell church, large. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; south aisle, 3 bays; south tower, 4 storeys; vestry (north), 1 bay; all new built in 1868-70. Vestry extension and cellar, c.1900. WC, later 20th century. Construction is in mudstone rubble throughout. Neo-gothic. Slate gable roofs; aisle and vestry have slated lean-to roofs; the vestry extension is flat-roofed; the tower has a slated pyramidal roof. All openings, and external buttressing, are from 1868-70 and c.1900.

Roofs and floors, 1868-70 and c.1900. Finishes, 1868-70 and c.1900.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. No physical evidence for earlier church(es); deep, wide external revetted cutting around 30% of church; suspended floors, and heating ducts, in 60% of church; boilerhouse beneath 10% of church; memorials significantly close to 30% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-1868 core fabric.

Group value - high. C19 urban landmark church with tower; large attractive churchyard with good memorials.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, south aisle, south tower, choir vestry, all 1868-70.

Phase 2 - Vestry extension, c.1900.

Phase 3 - WC, later C20

DESCRIPTION

St Peter, Lampeter, is a multicell church, of large size. It was new built in 1868-70 to the designs of the architect R. J. Withers of London (NLW, SD/F/210) on the same site, but just to the north of its predecessor (PRN 4769), the churchyard being extended to make way for the new church. Nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 3-bayed south aisle, a 4 storeyed tower (and porch) south of the nave west bay and a single-bayed choir vestry north of the chancel west bay; the vestry was extended east, with a boilerhouse below, c.1900 and a WC was erected west of the vestry in the later 20th century. Construction is in local Silurian mudstone rubble throughout. All dressings are in oolite and from 1868-70; the 2-centred openings are neo-gothic (Early English), comprising simple single lancets and cusped 2-light windows with simple tracery. The church is buttressed throughout. The vestry contains an organ-chamber. The tower parapet is uncrenellated. The main roofs are slated gables while the south aisle and vestry have slated lean-to roofs, the vestry extension is flat-roofed and the tower has a slated pyramidal roof. The floors are suspended except in the porch.

The earlier church is said to have been 'Norman' (Anon., 1878(ii), 334). It was described in 1810 as consisting of a nave, chancel and a full-length south aisle with an arcade of pointed arches (Crossley and Ridgeway, 1946, 49). A porch had been taken down. The medieval rood-screen had apparently survived, the remains of the loft being noted in 1818, and a 'circular niche' (piscina?) was present in the chancel. The church was entirely demolished in 1823 for rebuilding (ibid.).

However, the church described by Lewis in 1833 is clearly the one seen by Meyrick et al. (Lewis, 1833) and his account varies little from Meyrick's; he mentions, however, a square tower (possibly unreliably). It appears that Lewis was relying on earlier descriptions and had not seen the church.

In 1861 the rebuilt church was described as 'a public eyesore that demands total demolition' (Anon., 1861, 312). It may have occupied the same location as its predecessor, and is shown on the tithe map of 1843 lying immediately south of the present structure (NLW, Lampeter, 1843); in plan it appears to have been double-aisled with a west porch or tower. The churchyard at this time was circular, comprising just the southern half of the present yard. It was extended to the north to make way for the present church in 1868 (NLW, SD/F/210).

No physical evidence for the earlier church(es) was observed 30/8/96, but Clive-Powell claims that foundations are visible 'east' of the present building (Clive-Powell, 1996, 1). A deep, wide external revetted cutting along the north side of the church; there is no external drain or cutting around the remainder of the church. Floors are suspended over heating ducts. There is a below-ground boilerhouse beneath the vestry extension. Some memorials lie significantly close to the church.

One of the bells has the inscription 'E. E., 1721', the initials of Evan Evans, bellfounder, of Chepstow (Raven, 1878, 266).

The old font was not retained from the medieval church; it had a square bowl elaborately moulded with the symbols of the four evangelists, on a cylindrical stem, all of early 13th century date (Evans, 1913, 21). A sundial dated 1812 was also not retained (Anon., 1915, 100-101).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Churchyard formerly circular.

St Peter, Lampeter, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It has been suggested that, rather than being a pre-conquest establishment, the church was founded in the 13th century - Giraldus Cambrensis, writing in 1188, refers to the town just as 'Pons Stephani' (Anon., 1878(ii), 294). In 1291 the church, as 'Ecclesia de Lampede', was assessed at £5 (ibid.). A chapelry dedicated to St Thomas possibly also stood within the medieval town (Anon., 1878(i), 334).

The advowson was granted to the Bishops of St Davids in 1284 (Soulsby, 1983, 157), in whose patronage it still was in 1833 when the living, a discharged vicarage in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, was rated in the king's books at £6 13s 4d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Peter, Lampeter, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Silian (Benefice no. 822) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Lampeter and Ultra-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication is undoubtedly to St Peter the Apostle (Various, 1994, 394).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First Edition, Sheet XXXIV.13.

NLW, Parish of Lampeter, Tithe Map, 1843.

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

Clive-Powell, R., 1996, Quinquennial Report, Lampeter.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/210, Faculty - Pulling down and rebuilding church, 1868.

NLW, SD/F/211, Faculty - Removal of cottages, 1878 (not granted).

NLW, SD/F/212, Faculty - Removal of body, 1907.

NLW, SD/F/213, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1922.

NLW, SD/F/214, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1925.

Printed Accounts

Anon., 1861, 'Correspondence', *Archaeol. Cambrensis* Vol. VII, Third Series.

Anon., 1878(i), 'Lampeter Meeting', *Archaeol. Cambrensis* Vol. IX, Fourth Series.

Anon., 1878(ii), 'Records relating to Lampeter and Cardiganshire', *Archaeol. Cambrensis* Vol. IX, Fourth Series.

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Anon., 1915(ii), 'Rood-beam at Llanina', *Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society* Vol. II.

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Edmunds, W., 1861, 'Old Families in Lampeter and Neighbourhood', *Archaeol. Cambrensis* Vol. VII, Third Series.

Evans, G. E., 1913, 'Cardiganshire Fonts', *Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society* Vol. I.

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Soulsby, I., 1983, *The Towns of Medieval Wales*.

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**ST AFAN,
LLANAFAN-Y-TRAWSCOED,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5179

RB No. 3103

NGR SN 6847 7215

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and on foundations of, medieval church.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of chancel, 1 bay; nave, 3 bays; south transept, 1 bay; south porch; vestry (north), 1 bay; all c.1860. Boilerhouse (between south transept and chancel), late 19th century. Construction is in shale rubble. Slate gable roofs; boilerhouse with slate lean-to roof. Openings mainly from c.1860, neo-gothic and in yellow oolite; external buttressing on vestry, c.1860; western double bellcote, c.1860.

Roofs and floors: c.1860. Finishes: 1925

Condition - good..

Archaeological potential - very good. No external cutting or drain; burial vault (former) beneath 20% of church; suspended over heating ducts in 50% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre c.1860 core fabric.

Group value - low-medium. Valley floor location; large walled churchyard.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, south transept, south porch and vestry - c.1860.

Phase 2 - Boilerhouse, late 19th century.

DESCRIPTION

St Afan, Llanafan-y-Trawscoed, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It was entirely (re)built c.1860 on the same site, and on the foundations of its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric. The boilerhouse was added in the late 19th century.

The present church consists of a single-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed south transept, a south porch, a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel east bay, and a boilerhouse between the transept east wall and the chancel. Construction is in local shale rubble; the boilerhouse is rendered externally and may be of brick. All dressings are in yellow oolite and from c.1860; the windows are simple double lancets. The vestry is buttressed externally. There is a simple, gabled double bellcote at the west end. There is some yellow brick in the boilerhouse from the late 19th century, and a simple square chimney. The roofs are slated gables; the boilerhouse has a slated lean-to roof. The floors are suspended except in the porch.

The medieval church was described by Lewis, 1833, as 'an ancient structure'. It possessed the same general plan form as the present church, comprising chancel, nave and south transept, but there was no south porch (NLW, Llanafan-y-Trawscoed, Tithe Map, 1845). Beneath the transept was a family vault (Crossley and Ridgway, 1946, 50). Part of the medieval rood screen survived, 'exhibiting an elegant specimen of carved work', but was lost when the church was rebuilt.

The church was entirely rebuilt, but on the old foundations, in c.1860 (ibid.). The boilerhouse is from the late 19th century. There was a fairly major restoration in 1925 (Hook Mason, 1994, 4) when presumably the church was at least refinished.

The font is 19th century. The font present in 1833 was octagonal, and medieval.

There is neither an external cutting nor a drain. Floors are suspended over heating ducts in the nave and vestry. There is a (former) burial vault beneath the south transept. A few external memorials lie significantly close to all walls.

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication.

St Afan, Llanafan-y-Trawscoed, was not a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn parish in the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron.

Llanafan-y-Trawscoed had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Chichester family, the impropriators of the tithes, was endowed with £600 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Afan, Llanafan-y-Trawscoed, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, Llanwnnw and Ysbyty Ystwyth (Benefice no. 827) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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- NLW, Parish of Llanafan-y-Trawscoed, Tithe Map, 1845.
- Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Church in Wales Records

- Hook Mason, 1994, Quinquennial Report, Llanafan-y-Trawscoed.
- St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.
- NLW, SD/F/229, Faculty - Memorial tablet, 1919.
- NLW, SD/F/230, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1922.
- NLW, SD/F/231, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1924.

Printed Accounts

- Anon., 1914, 'The Old Bible at Llanafan', Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society Vol. I.
- Crossley, F. H., and Ridgway, M. H., 1946, 'Screens, Lofts and Stalls situated in Wales and Monmouthshire: Part 8', Archaeol. Cambrensis, Vol. XCVIII.
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**ST DAVID,
LLANARTH,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 12396

RB No. 3694

NGR SN 4231 5772

Listed Building no. 9768

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 50% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 5 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Vestry (north), 1 bay; 1871. Limestone rubble construction. Internal walls with restricted render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry with a slate lean-to, tower with a slate pyramidal roof. Medieval openings in tower; blocked openings in nave and chancel, medieval and 19th century; remainder of openings from 1871 including chancel arch.

Roofs and floors, 1871. Finishes, 1871 and later 20th century.

Condition - fair-good. Some cracks in tower (Hook Mason, 1995, 5); little vegetation.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Yard truncated around 50% of church; very deep, narrow drain around 40% of church; floor levels raised; suspended floors with void in 60% of church, with underground heating chamber; boilerhouse below 10% of church; external memorials close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 50% medieval core fabric; medieval openings in tower.

Group value - high. Hilltop landmark village church with medieval tower; ECM; large churchyard.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, C13-14?

(?Phase 2 - Former north chapel, later medieval?)

Phase 3 - West tower, late 15th century.

Phase 4 - Restored 1871, medium-high impact; vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St David, Llanarth, is a 3-celled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 50% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a long, 5-bayed nave, a 3-storey west tower and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel, from 1871. Construction is in limestone rubble throughout. The external pointing is generally good and is later 20th century; internal plaster is confined to the west tower ground floor and a low dado elsewhere. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof while the west tower roof is pyramidal, and also slated.

The chancel east window is of 3 lancets, from 1871. A recess in the north wall now has a cusped head from 1871 but may originally have been an Easter sepulchre (Bevan, 1926, 65). The blocked arcade into a former north chapel, its head now gone, can be seen internally, pierced by a door into the present vestry from 1871. A blocked south door, with a low head, may be medieval, its head is interrupted by a 2-light window from 1871. The moulded chancel arch is also from 1871. The softwood roof is from 1871; all rafters have queen-posts. The glazed-tile floor is also from 1871.

There are 5 single-light windows in the nave north wall, and the five windows in the south wall are both single- and 2-light; all are from 1871. The south wall windows partly interrupt earlier blocked windows (which were 'modern' in 1859 - see below). The roof is similar to that in the chancel and from 1871. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors; there is a chamber for a former Porritt's heating apparatus.

The west tower is from the late 15th century and comprises 3 storeys. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north-east corner, entered through a 15th century doorway and lit by simple square slits of similar date. There is a very pronounced external batter up to a string-course at first floor level. The plain 2-centred arch into the nave is 15th century, but the west door was rebuilt with a moulded surround in 1871; there is a cusped, 2-light window above from the 15th century. The barrel-vault is 15th century; the ground floor interior is plastered and is floored as the nave passages. A blocked, segmental-headed opening formerly led from the first floor into the nave roof space; simple square slits pierce the other 3 walls. The belfry stage has a 2-light, cusped opening in each wall, all apparently 15th century but partly rebuilt? The crenellated parapet lies on a corbel table and features crow-stepped merlons, of 15th century date.

The vestry lies north of the chancel and was added in 1871. It has cusped 2-light windows in the east and west walls, and a lean-to roof. Five steps lead down the north wall to a doorway into the boilerhouse below.

Much yard build-up was removed from against the north wall in 1871, and a very deep, narrow drain was excavated here. It is wider around the vestry, with a flagged covering. There is no cutting or drain around the remainder of the church. Floor levels appear to have been raised throughout. The flooring is suspended in the nave and vestry. There is a boilerhouse below the vestry and an underground heating chamber in the nave; no evidence for any further below-ground crypt/vault. External memorials lie close to the east wall.

Structural development

The chancel and nave are medieval, but cannot be closely dated; they may have been substantially rebuilt in the earlier 19th century. The tower is late 15th century. There was a north chapel on the site of the present vestry, medieval?.

In 1810 the remains of a carved rood screen could be seen within the church (Crossley and Ridgeway, 1946, 50).

The church was described in 1859 as of 'higher pretension than most of its neighbours, yet very rude' (Glynne, 1898, 351). A 'shallow chapel' lay north of the chancel; in the plan of the existing church that accompanied the Faculty of 1871 (NLW, SD/F/233) this is shown as a narrow cell with a wide arch into the

chancel and seating; it was termed the 'Cross Chapel' in 1773 (Bevan, 1926, 64). The chancel arch was full-width, without stops, and 'plain'. The north wall had two windows, a square-headed light in the chancel (not shown on the Faculty plan) and a trefoil-headed lancet in the nave. The single-light east window, and the four similar windows in the nave south wall, had been 'modernised' and appear to have had timber frames. There was a doorway in the chancel south wall. The tower arch and west door were plain and pointed, and the stepped crenellations were already present. The interior was described as 'dreary and dark'; the roof was of 'plain open timbers', apparently comprising 13 principal rafters (Crossley and Ridgeway, 1946, 50).

Much churchyard build-up had occurred along the north side, and its removal was one of the priorities of the restoration of 1871 (NLW, SD/F/233) carried out to the specification of R. J. Withers, Architect, of London at an estimated cost of £1109. The restoration was medium-high impact. The church was entirely refenestrated (except the tower), reroofed and refloored; floors were raised and a Porritt's heating apparatus installed in the nave. The west door was rebuilt, and the chancel south door was blocked. The north chapel was removed and a new vestry built.

The softwood altar table is 20th century, but the plastered masonry reredos is from 1871 (NLW, SD/F/233) as is the masonry pulpit. The softwood stalls and pews are 19th century, from 1871?. The organ at the west end of the nave is by P. Conacher & Co., Huddersfield, and is from the late 19th-early 20th century. A galvanised screen lies in the west tower arch, from the late 20th century.

The oolite font is from 1871 and has an octagonal bowl, stem and base (Evans, 1913, 19). The original font lies in the tower ground floor; it has a square bowl with sides sloping sharply inwards, without a stem and on a low base comprising four moulded lions, and is of 12th century date. Similar fonts are, or were present at Llanina and Hefynyw.

The three bells in the tower belfry, recast by Parry of Bristol in 1776 and rehung in 1778 (Bevan, 1926, 66).

There is an incised cross in the tower ground floor, which also displays an ogam script (Anon, 1863, 263).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication; ECM.

St David, Llanarth, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The benefice was a vicarage belonging to St Davids Cathedral. Bishop Thomas Bek granted the church of Llanarth and the chapel of Llanina, as 'Ecclesiam de Lannarch cum capella de Lannyna' to his Collegiate Church at Llanddewi Brefi in 1290 (Anon, 1863, 264). In the 'Taxatio' of 1291 it was valued, as 'Lanerarath' at £6 13s 4d. (Bevan, 1926, 64). In 1399 the church was referred to as a prebend of Llanddewi Brefi (ibid.)

In 1833 the living was a vicarage with the perpetual curacy of Llanina annexed, in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, and was rated in the king's books at £4 18s 1½d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St David, Llanarth, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Capel Cynon, Talgarreg and Gwenlli St Mark (Benefice 802) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Glyn Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church was originally dedicated, or at least jointly dedicated, to Meilig (various).

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**ST PADARN,
LLANBADARN FAWR,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 4847

RB No. 3642

NGR SN 5991 8101

Listed Building no. 9832

Grade B listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; central tower, 2 storeys over a crossing; nave, 4 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay; medieval. South porch, 1887, on site of earlier porch. Vestry (north, transeptal), 1 bay, 1884. Choir vestry (north), 1 bay; storehouse (north of north transept); c.1900. Local rubble construction. Some remains of late 18th - early 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower with slate octagonal roof; choir vestry and storehouse with slate lean-to roofs. Medieval south door, chancel doorways, many windows, crossing arches, rood-loft stair, tomb-recesses, stoups and some tower openings; windows are mainly early English single lancets with yellow oolite dressings, some rebuilt in 1868-85.
(Medieval roof timbers above ceilings.)

Roofs: Medieval and 1868-85. Floors: 1868-85. Finishes: 18th - later 20th century.

Condition - good..

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, wide revetted around 50% of church, primary, secondarily extended; levels unchanged; suspended floors in 60% of church; below-ground floor in 10% of church; burial vaults beneath 20%-30% of church; external memorials significantly close to 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - excellent. 90% medieval core fabric; medieval south door, chancel doorways, many windows, crossing arches, rood-loft stair, tomb-recesses, stoups and some tower openings.

Group value - high. Pre-conquest monastic site; 2 ECMs; large medieval landmark church.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, transepts and crossing, early C13.

Phase 2 - Central tower (and former south porch?), mid C15.

Phase 3 - Chancel east bays, later C15.

Phase 4 - Restored 1868-85, medium-high impact; vestry and south porch built.

Phase 5 - Choir vestry, storehouse, c.1900.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, is a multicelled, cruciform church, of large size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, single-bayed north and south transepts, a central tower comprising 2 storeys over a crossing, a south porch, a single-bayed transeptal vestry, over a boilerhouse, north of the chancel central bay, a single-bayed choir vestry north of the chancel west bay, and a storehouse north of the north transept. Construction is in local rubble throughout, with medieval yellow oolite quoining; the moulded south door, chancel doorways, many windows, chiefly early English single lancets with yellow oolite dressings, the crossing arches, rood-loft stair, tomb-recesses, stoups and some tower openings are medieval; some windows were rebuilt in 1868-85. There are the remains of pre-1868 pointing and external render, but the pointing is mainly from 1868-85, with some 20th century repointing; the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the tower has a slated octagonal roof while the choir vestry and storehouse have slated lean-to roofs.

The 5-light, 2-centred chancel east window, with Perpendicular tracery in red Forest of Dean stone, is fundamentally late 15th century but was much rebuilt in 1884 (Anon., n.d.). Similar, 3-light windows in the east bay north and south walls have been similarly restored, and there is a simple square piscina recess in the south wall, medieval. A doorway with a depressed semicircular-headed surround in the north wall of the central bay now leads into the vestry but appears to be late 15th century and may represent a medieval priest's door. In the opposite, south wall a simple, 2-centred doorway is from the early 13th century. The west bay north wall houses an internal stair from the late 15th century, in an externally thickened area, reached through a doorway with a 4-centred surround and emerging higher up through a depressed, 2-centred doorway; former rood-loft stair. In the south wall is a plain, single lancet with an oolite surround, all from the early 13th century; an external plain buttress in the angle with the south transept is also medieval. The chancel has a softwood ceiling carved as hammer-beamed 'fan-vaulting', on wall-corbels, from 1884; a medieval wagon-roof may be concealed (Hook Mason, 1996, 1). The floor is polychrome-tiled, 1884.

The crossing communicates with the chancel, nave and transepts via large, plain 2-centred arches, from the early 13th century. It has softwood ceiling framed as imitation rib-vaulting, with a central rosette, from 1878. The passages have mosaic tesserae, with woodblock flooring, which may be later than 1878. The central tower rises 2 more storeys above the crossing, to which it was added in the 15th; the upper storeys are reached from a spiral stair in the thickness of the north-east crossing responds which has a 4-centred surround of demonstrable 15th century date. The second stage is lit by single slit-lights, in square surrounds, in the east, north and south faces; there are many external sockets, putlog-holes?. The belfry stage has cusped, 2-light openings in all 4 faces of 15th century character but largely rebuilt in 1878. The shallow corbel table and crenellated parapet are also 15th century but have been much restored.

The upper half of the nave south wall was rebuilt in 1868-9 in squared and coursed rubble. The nave is lit by 3 windows in each of the side walls, and in the west wall; all are early 13th century single lancets like the chancel south wall window but those in the south wall were rebuilt along with the fabric in 1868-9, and those in the west wall have rebuilt rear-arches. The south door has an elaborate 2-centred surround of attached shafts with acanthus-moulded capitals, all from the second quarter of the 13th century. The softwood, matchboarded 'wagon-roof' ceiling, from 1868-9, may conceal a medieval wagon-roof (Hook Mason, 1996, 1). The passage flooring is concealed; the suspended board floors are from 1868-9.

The transepts are lit by similar windows to those in the nave side walls, the end walls featuring 2 each; the east wall of the north transept is pierced by a 2-light, cusped neo-Perpendicular window in a square surround from 1878 but with a segmental outer arch that may be earlier. The end wall of each transept features medieval tomb-recesses with plain 2-centred heads, 2 in the north transept and 3 in the south transept; all are empty. In the north transept north wall, and south transept east walls are plain, square medieval piscina

recesses. The transepts are ceiled as the nave, from 1878 but concealing at least some medieval roof timbers. The north transept is carpeted, the south transept has a tiled floor from 1988 (Hook Mason, 1996, 1).

The south porch was entirely rebuilt in 1868-9 and features a large, moulded 2-centred doorway and internal masonry benching on the side walls. The softwood, 'wagon-roof' ceiling is contemporary as is the quarry-tiled floor.

The vestry is from 1884. The east wall features a re-used 13th century window like those in the nave. The softwood gabled roof is from 1884. A boilerhouse, also from 1884, lies beneath the vestry and still functions (oil-fired); the flue set into the outside face of the vestry north wall was rebuilt in the late 20th century with a brick chimney.

The choir vestry is a lean-to building against the chancel north wall, between the vestry and the north transept. It had been added by 1908 and is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Second Edition. It is entered from the vestry and a simple lintelled doorway in the east wall leads into the churchyard. The external walls are low, mainly forming a revetment of the surrounding cutting; the southern half of the building rises above the slated lean-to roof as a glazed clerestory.

The low, lean-to storehouse built against the north transept north wall and within the surrounding cutting is probably contemporary with the choir vestry and is also shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Second Edition. The zinc sheeted walls carry a slated lean-to roof.

A deep, wide revetted cutting runs around the east wall and the northern half of the church, primary, but secondarily extended around the vestries. There is no evidence for changes in floor level. The flooring lies over a void in the nave, crossing and transepts. There is a below-ground boilerhouse beneath the vestry. There are burial vaults beneath chancel, and transepts? External memorials lie significantly close to the chancel and north transept.

Structural development

The chancel, nave, transepts and crossing can be dated by their original, Early English openings (almost Transitional) to the early 13th century. The south door was inserted during the second quarter of the 13th century. The chancel east bays were rebuilt in the late 15th century, possibly including the extension of the chancel eastwards by one bay. The south porch is from 1868-9 but replacing an earlier one of unknown date (NLW, SD/F/236); the vestries and storehouse are also 19th century.

The central tower has always been thought to be contemporary with the crossing. However none of its openings, including the doorway into the spiral stair, are any earlier in character than the 15th century and the belfry openings are typical of those seen in demonstrably late medieval towers throughout South-west Wales. At Llanddewi Brefi, Cer., built in conscious imitation of Llanbadarn Fawr, the tower can be similarly seen to be an addition to the crossing. Recent analysis of Strata Florida Abbey, Cer. (Robinson and Platt, 1992, 24-5), which may have in turn provided the model for Llanbadarn Fawr, has demonstrated that there, too, the tower was a later addition to the crossing. However, it may be that an earlier tower was present at Llanbadarn Fawr, but had collapsed or was demolished prior to the 15th century.

The nave was known as 'Capel Hir', the north transept as 'Capel Clarach' and the south transept as 'Capel Aberystwyth', following the division of the parish into townships (Evans, 1917, 413).

'Light and elegant' carved oak screens lay in the chancel and north transept arches, from the early 16th century, and were still present in 1810 (Crossley and Ridgway, 1946, 50); they were of 'elaborate workmanship' and still bore paintwork. A similar screen, bearing heraldic devices, lay around a stall on the south side of the chancel (ibid.). The internal plaster featured many wall paintings and painted texts (Evans, 1917, 411), removed during the restoration of 1868-85.

A west gallery was present before 1816 and was renewed in that year (Evans, 1917, 412); a new pulpit was installed 2 years later. The tower openings were altered in 1823 (*ibid.*). The church was whitewashed inside and out during this period (*ibid.*).

The church was in a poor condition by the mid-19th century by which time the exterior had lost its whitewash. Several efforts were attempted to encourage public interest in its restoration, and preservation. A proposed restoration was abandoned in 1849 (Anon., 1849, 326-7) under opposition from the then incumbent who, in 1860, proposed removing and selling the medieval roof timbers (Anon., 1860). A second proposed restoration of 1861, entrusted to George Gilbert Scott (Anon., 1861, 281), was also abandoned, as was a similar proposal of 1862 which had been entrusted to the architect Butterfield (Anon., 1862, 238).

Some restoration work had begun by 1864 (Anon., 1864, 335) but it was not until 1868 that the main body of the work commenced, to the designs of the architect J. P. Seddon (Anon., n.d.). The work was undertaken in three sections. The nave and porch were completed by 1869. The transepts, crossing in tower were commenced in 1878 (NLW, SD/F/236), and the chancel was restored in 1884 when the vestry was added. Superficial work continued until after 1885.

The restorations were medium-high impact. The vestry was built, the south porch rebuilt and the nave south wall partly rebuilt. Refenestration was chiefly confined to the tower, other openings being, in the main, merely restored. However the internal plaster, with its wall-paintings, was stripped and the walls replastered. The present ceilings were introduced but concealing at least some medieval roof-timbers; the tower received an entirely new octagonal roof. The church was refloored.

The interior has been replastered, or at least recoloured, since 1931 (Anon., 1931, 402). The church was extensively renovated in 1964-72, and the tower was renovated in 1993; this work is commemorated by plaques.

The tower clock is from 1859 (Anon., n.d.). The softwood pews, and possibly the oolite and Portland Stone pulpit, are from 1868-9. The free-standing softwood stalls are from 1878. The cast iron downpipes are dated 1882. The elaborate oolite and marble reredos may be from 1884. The pipe organ is dated 1885.

The north transept was converted into a chapel in the 1960s, with contemporary fittings. The south transept was fitted out as a museum in 1988 (Hook Mason, 1996, 1).

The massive limestone font has an octagonal bowl, with a moulded arcade, stem and base, all from the 13th century (Anon., 1914 (i), 25).

A circular stoup bowl, with 4 moulded lugs, lies loose in the church (Anon., 1915 (ii), 102-3).

The tower contains 8 bells, 6 of which were cast by Abel Rudhall of Gloucester in 1749 (Raven, 1878, 266-7). The other 2 were added in 1885 (Anon., n.d.).

2 ECMs, both pillar-crosses, now lie in the south transept. One (Dyfed PRN 3994) has knotwork decoration from the 10th - 11th century (Various, 1994, 419); the other (Dyfed PRN 3995) is simpler and may be earlier (Various, 1994, 419). Both formerly stood in the yard, and were moved into the church in 1916 (Anon., n.d.).

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

St Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, is the site of a pre-conquest monastic foundation, and the large parish of Llanbadarn Fawr may be coterminous with the original grant of land to the brethren. By tradition, it was held to be an episcopal centre during the earlier pre-conquest period, and was looted by the Danes at the end of the 10th century (Anon., 1931, 402).

Monastic status continued into the post-conquest period, when Llanbadarn Fawr became, in addition, a parish church. It was reconstituted as a cell of the Benedictines of St Peter's Abbey, Gloucester, in a grant by Gilbert de Clare in 1116-7 (*ibid.*) but in 1188 apparently had a lay abbot of its own.

The church was appropriated by Henry III in 1246 (Lewis, 1938, 18), remaining in crown hands until 1360 when it was granted to the Cistercian Abbey of Vale Royal in Cheshire. It was valued at £66 13s 4d in 1291 (Anon., n.d.).

The advowson later passed to the Bishop of St Davids. The tithes passed into lay hands. In 1833 the living, a discharged vicarage in the patronage of the Bishops of St Davids, was rated in the king's books at £20, endowed with £450 private benefaction (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage (Benefice no. 98) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST PADARN,
LLANBADARN ODWYN,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5161

RB No. 2598

NGR SN 6343 6048

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 70% medieval core fabric.

A 2 cell church, small. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; medieval. Local rubble construction, internally lined with thermalite blocks from 1962-5. Slate gable roofs. Chancel arch(?), west door, western single bellcote, medieval. Windows, earlier 19th century.

Roofs and floors, c.1900. Finishes, 19th - later 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Earthwork platform around 100% of church, primary, or debris?; concrete path in slight cutting around 100% of church, exposing footings in areas; suspended floor over underfloor void in 60% of church; external memorials significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 70% medieval core fabric; medieval chancel arch?, west door, bellcote.

Group value - high. Rural landmark church; subcircular churchyard; churchyard cross-base?; associated enclosure?; adjacent Roman road.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, C13-14?

(Phase 2 - Windows, earlier 19th century).

Phase 3 - Restored c.1900, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Padarn, Llanbadarn Odwyn, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 70% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel and a 3-bayed nave. Construction is in local rubble; the interior is lined with thermalite blocks from 1962-5. The external pointing is 19th century but largely concealed beneath cement repointing from 1952-65. Roofs are slated gables.

The chancel is inclined to the north. The east window is a large, 2-centred opening from the earlier 19th century; the rear arch may be earlier; the timber framed, cusped 'Y'-tracery was replaced in 1952. The 2-centred chancel arch may be essentially medieval but has been rebuilt with plain, chamfered imposts, early 19th century?. The softwood roof has slender king-post trusses from c.1900, plasterboarded above in 1952. The quarry-tiled floor is from c.1900.

The nave is lit by 3 windows in the south wall, like the chancel east window and also earlier 19th century but with simple external imposts and with an uncusped, transomed frame from 1952. There plain, segmental-headed west door is medieval. The flat-topped single bellcote is plain, with a square opening, medieval but much-rebuilt in 1952; a fillet on the north and south faces may represent creasing for a formerly higher roof line. The present roof is like that in the chancel and similarly from c.1900. The passages are quarry-tiled, with suspended board flooring, also c.1900.

A regular earthwork platform surrounds the entire church, possibly primary, but perhaps representing building debris; it is particularly pronounced to the south-west of the church. The immediate surroundings were cut into when a concrete path was laid around the church, exposing footings in areas, particularly at the east and west ends. The flooring is suspended above an underfloor void. There is no evidence for any below-ground crypt/vault. External memorials lie significantly close to the east wall.

Structural development

The chancel and nave are medieval, but cannot be closely dated. The window openings are earlier 19th century.

Lewis, 1833, described the church in its present form, ie. comprising just a nave and a chancel, and it is shown as such on the tithe map of 1849 (NLW, Llanbadarn Odwyn, 1849). In 1678 the chancel was 'out of repair' (Evans, 1917, 420).

The church was restored in c.1900 when it was reroofed, refloored and reseated. The roof and windows were repaired in 1952, and in 1962-5 the interior was lined with Thermalite blocks (Clive-Powell, 1993, 1).

The oak, turned altar rail may be earlier 19th century. The plain softwood reader's desk, pews, pulpit and vestry screen are from c.1900.

The octagonal font is from c.1900.

The church was not listed in 1998.

The churchyard is possibly associated with a large outer enclosure (Various, 1994, 404) and the Roman 'Sarn Helen' lies 800m to the east.

SITE HISTORY

There is good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site -
Celtic dedication; subcircular churchyard; associated enclosure?; adjacent Roman road.

St Padarn, Llanbadarn Odwyn, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. It was in the patronage of the Bishop of St Davids as a prebend of the collegiate church at Llanddewi Brefi, rated in the king's books at £6 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1833 when the living was a perpetual curacy of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, endowed with £600 royal bounty and in the patronage of the incumbent (*ibid.*).

In 1998 St Padarn, Llanbadarn Odwyn, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Llanddewi Brefi, Cellan, Llanfair Clydogau and Llangybi (Benefice no. 820) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Lampeter and Ultra-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

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Church in Wales Records

Clive-Powell, R., 1993, Quinquennial Report, Llanbadarn Odwyn.

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Evans, G. E., 1917, 'Cardiganshire: Its Plate, Records and Registers', *Archaeol. Cambrensis* Vol. XVII, Sixth Series.

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Various, 1994, 'The Church in Ceredigion in the Early Middle Ages', in Davies, J. L., and Kirby, D. P. (eds.), *Cardiganshire County History* Vol. I.

**ST PADARN,
LLANBADARN TREFEGLWYS,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17122

RB No. 3533

NGR SN 5084 6320

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church (PRN 12410).

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, without structural division, 3 east bays; earlier 19th century?. Chancel/nave west bay; south porch; vestry (north), 1 bay; 1905. Construction is in rubble and brick. Neo-gothic. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof. All openings are from 1905; western single bellcote, 1905.

Roofs and floors, 1905. Finishes, 1905 (re-rendered later C20?).

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Pronounced earthwork platform beneath 100% of church; no external cutting or drain; burial vault beneath 20% of church; suspended floors over heating ducts; external memorials significantly close to 75% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-C19 core fabric.

Group value - high. Rural landmark church; large circular churchyard; associated masonry buildings; lych-gate; associated cropmark enclosure.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave - earlier C19?

Phase 2 - Restored 1905, high impact; nave west bay, south porch and vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

St Padarn, Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It was probably rebuilt in the earlier 19th century, in the same location as its predecessor (PRN 12410) and was extended and restored in 1905 under the architect E. V. Collier of Carmarthen.

The present church consists of a 4-bayed chancel/nave without structural division, a south porch and a single-bayed vestry north of the east bay. Construction is in rubble, possibly with some brick (Hook Mason, 1992, 1), externally roughcast throughout. All dressings are in grey oolite and from 1905; the openings are neo-gothic comprising simple single lancets and cusped 2- and 3-light windows with simple tracery. There is a simple, gabled single bellcote at the west end. The vestry has a blocked fireplace; the chimney has gone. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof. The floors are suspended except in the porch.

A churchwarden's presentment of 1679 mentions a porch, the door of which - and the pulpit - were 'out of repair' (Evans, 1917, 420). The church is shown on the tithe map of 1839 (NLW, Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, 1839) as a large cruciform structure in the centre of the churchyard, ie. not in the same location as the present church; the map, however, may be both inaccurate and conventionalised. Prior to the 1905 restoration the church was a single-celled structure without structural divisions and apparently without a porch - it is likely that it had been rebuilt, or even built new, in the earlier 19th century (NLW, SD/F/246). It was one bay shorter than the present structure but had a western bellcote; the windows were timber-framed and the exterior was rough-cast as today. The west bay was added in the restoration of 1905 (ibid.) which was high-impact. The vestry and south porch were built and the south door inserted; the church was also refenestrated, reroofed and refloored. The exterior was roughcast to match the existing finish.

The church occupies a pronounced earthwork platform or 'boss' which may be (partly?) natural. There is neither an external cutting nor a drain. There is an internal burial vault. The floors are suspended over heating ducts. Some memorials lie significantly close to the west, south and east walls.

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication; large circular churchyard; associated cropmark enclosure.

St Padarn, Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. It was a prebend of the episcopal collegiate church of Llanddewi Brefi, rated in the king's books at £12 (Lewis, 1833). By the 17th century at least the chapelry of Cilcennin was annexed to the parish (Evans, 1917, 420).

It was still in the patronage of the Bishops of St Davids in 1833 when the living, a discharged vicarage with that of Cilcennin annexed, was rated in the king's books at £6, endowed with a third of the tithes and £1200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Padarn, Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llansantffraed and Llanrhystud (Benefice no. 688) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Glyn Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Parish of Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, Tithe Map, 1839.

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