

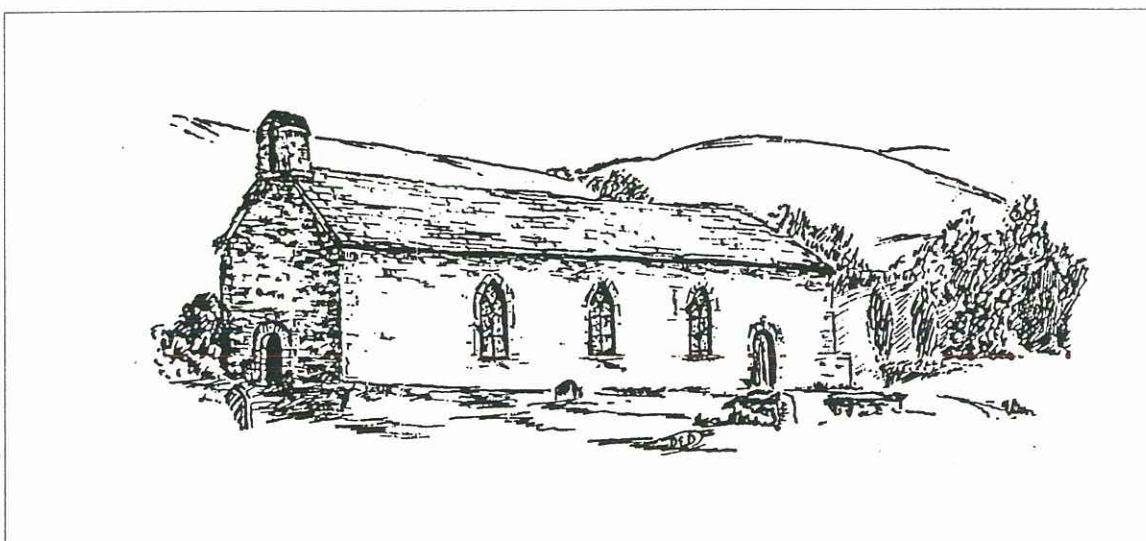
THE WELSH HISTORIC
CHURCHES PROJECT



01/09/98

CEREDIGION CHURCHES, 1996-7
(DAT 48)

PART 3: LLANDDEINIOL - LLANFIHANGEL YSTRAD



Nantcwnlle, Ceredigion

Reports prepared for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments
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**THE WELSH HISTORIC
CHURCHES PROJECT**

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

PART 3: LLANDDEINIOL - LLANFIHANGEL YSTRAD

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**ST DEINIOL,
LLANDDEINIOL,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 4834

RB No. 3541

NGR SN 5605 7214

Listed Building no. 17315

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 12419).

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of nave, 3 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; 1835. Chancel, semicircular, apsidal, 1 bay over crypt; 1883. Construction is in local Silurian rubble throughout. Slate gable and half-hipped roofs; tower roof not seen. Openings are mainly from 1883, neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings; some external buttressing and string-course, 1883. West tower with crenellated parapet and belfry openings, 1883.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1883.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. no external cutting or drain; below-ground crypt beneath 20% of church; floors suspended over a deep void in 70% of church; external memorials significantly close to 50% of church.

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

Group value - medium. Hilltop landmark church with early C19 tower; lych-gate.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, west tower, 1883.

Phase 2 - Chancel, 1883.

DESCRIPTION

St Deiniol, Llanddeiniol, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in 1835 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric (Dyfed PRN 12419).

The present church consists of a single-bayed, semicircular apsidal chancel, a 3-bayed nave, and a 3-storeyed west tower and porch. Construction is in local Silurian rubble throughout; external pointing is mainly from 1883, and the interior is plastered. Openings are from 1883 and neogothic, with yellow oolite dressings, the windows comprising cusped single and double lancets; the tower belfry lies on an offset and retains a single lancet in each of its 4 faces, and a crenellated parapet, from 1835. There is limited external buttressing, and a string-course at the east end, all 1883. The chancel is raised over a crypt entered from the yard through a plain doorway at the east end. The nave has a slated gable roof while the slated chancel roof is a half-hip; the tower roof was not seen.

The medieval church survived until 1835, and in 1810 was described as 'a small ancient building', comprising a single cell divided into nave and chancel by a double timber screen 'like that at Llangetho'. The screen still bore paintwork, and featured depressed 2-centred arches with a gallery over, which carried heraldic devices (Crossley and Ridgeway, 1946, 51). The chancel was in disrepair in 1766, as was the 'stone bench in the church' (Evans, 1918, 134). The thatched roof was replaced with 'tiles' in 1785 (ibid.). A new window was inserted in the north wall in 1806, and the church was reseated and the pulpit replaced (ibid.).

The church appears to have been entirely rebuilt in 1835 (ibid.), in the 'Estate Chapel' style. The new church is shown in drawings of 1881 (SD/F/294) and consisted of the present nave and west tower, but had a small, square, single-bayed chancel. The building was tall and very similar in style to the surviving church, of c.1840, at Eglwys-fach, Cer, and may have been designed by the same architect. The nave was lit by 3 tall, 'Y'-tracery windows in the north and south walls, and the chancel floor appears to have been raised over a crypt.

It was restored in 1883 with significant alterations, to the designs of the architects Middleton & Son of Westminster and Cheltenham (ibid.). The nave and tower were retained, but all their openings, except in the tower belfry, were rebuilt. The chancel was demolished and replaced with the present apse, over a crypt rebuilt 'for biers'. The church was reroofed and refloored.

The font has an octagonal bowl and a cylindrical stem, 13th - 14th century?.

There is neither an external cutting nor a drain. Floors are suspended over a deep void in the nave, and a deep crypt lies beneath the chancel. External memorials lie significantly close to the north and east walls.

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; churchyard originally subcircular?.

St Deiniol, Llanddeiniol, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. It was a possession of St Davids as a prebend of the collegiate church at Llanddewi Brefi, rated in the king's books at £4 (Lewis, 1833). The patronage later fell into private hands.

In 1833 the living, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Price family of Knighton, was endowed with £1000 royal bounty (ibid.).

In 1998 St Deiniol, Llanddeiniol, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llanychaearn (Benefice no. 689) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8). The church was more commonly known as 'Carrog Church' until the present century.

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**ST DAVID,
LLANDDEWI ABERARTH,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17367

RB No. 3051

NGR SN 4766 6329

Listed Building no. 17846

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 20% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; 1860-62. West tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Limestone and shale rubble construction. South walls with 20th century roughcast externally; internal walls with render/plaster except in tower. Slate gable roofs; tower with a flat roof. Medieval openings in tower; remainder of openings from 1860-62 including chancel arch.

Roofs: 1931. Floors: 1883. Finishes: 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. No external drain or cutting around the church; suspended floors over below-ground void in 80% of church; external memorials close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 20% medieval core fabric; medieval openings in tower.

Group value - high. Landmark coastal hilltop church with medieval tower; 3 ECMs; possible prehistoric enclosure; associated early C19 schoolhouse.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - West tower, later C14?

Phase 2 - Chancel and nave, 1860-62.

Phase 3 - Restored 1883, low impact.

Phase 4 - Restored 1931, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St David, Llanddewi Aberarth, is a 3-celled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 20% medieval core fabric, confined to the west tower.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel roofed as one with the 3-bayed nave, and a 3-storey west tower. Construction is in limestone and shale rubble throughout. The external pointing is generally good and is later 20th century, the south walls lying beneath 20th century roughcast; the interior is plastered except in the west tower. Roofs are slated gables; the west tower has a flat roof.

The chancel east wall preserves its 1860-62 roof-line below an upstand possibly from 1931. The east window is a simple 2-centred opening without a surround, from 1860-62. There are no windows in the chancel side walls but there is a plain doorway in the south wall from 1860-62. The plain 2-centred chancel arch is also from 1860-62. The softwood roof is from 1931; all rafters have collars, arch-braced from wall corbels, and king- and princess-posts. The boarded floor is probably from 1883; there may be an underfloor void.

The nave east bay is the same width as the chancel, the 2 west bays being wider. There is a window in both side walls in all three bays, all like the east window and from 1860-62. The west wall exhibits a datestone from the 1860-62 rebuild. The roof continues that in the chancel. The passages and floors are boarded and suspended.

The medieval west tower is not typical of the region, having no external batter or a projecting stair turret; it may be early - later 14th century?. It comprises 3 storeys. The barrel-vaulted ground floor contains the west door to the church which has a segmental medieval head; the entry into the nave is a simple square opening rebuilt in 1860-62. The spiral stair is entered from the nave through a simple, square ?medieval doorway and ascends the north wall as a squinch. The flagged floor may be from 1860-62. The second storey is blind. The third storey features a simple slit light in the north wall and a simple square opening in the south wall; the crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table.

There is neither an external drain nor cutting around the church. The nave (and chancel?) floor is suspended over an underfloor void which may be below ground level, lowered in 1860-62?. External memorials lie close to all walls.

Structural development

The west tower may be late 14th century. The remainder of the church is from 1860-62 but may follow the plan of the earlier structure; there is no evidence for any further former components.

The church was referred to as 'a very ancient structure' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833); it appears to have more-or-less followed the plan of the present building (NLW, Llanddewi Aberarth, Tithe Map, 1843). The pre-1860 walls of the main body of the church were apparently well over 1m thick (Rhys, 1896, 113-8). The (single) bell, and the roof, were 'out of repaire' in 1679 (Evans, 1918, 138).

The church was rebuilt in 1860-62 (Downey, 1984, 85), when all walls except those of the tower appear to have been demolished and rebuilt (Rhys, 1896, 113-8); the work was undertaken by David Williams of Llanon (Cadw, 1996, 17). It was restored in 1883 (Cadw, 1996, 17) when the present floors may have been laid. A new roof was installed in 1931 to the design of W. Ellery Anderson of Cheltenham (Cadw, 1996, 17), and the windows were reglazed.

The softwood pews stalls and pulpit are probably from the 1883 restoration. In the south-west corner of the nave is an oak-panelled vestry screen from 1965. The altar table is from 1968 (Downey, 1984, 89), the reredos and panelling from 1949 (ibid.).

The oolite font is from 1888 (Downey, 1984, 88).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

During the 1860-62 rebuild 6 ECMs were uncovered, apparently lying within the fabric of the medieval walls. Two display knotwork decoration, one of them also having a Latin inscription, possibly of 9th century date. A hogback stone from the 10th - 11th century was also present (Rhys, 1896, 113-8; Various, 1994, 419). and the three now lie inside the west tower. The other three have since been lost (Downey, 1984, 82).

Documentary sources for the medieval church have the separate PRN 5666.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site -
Celtic dedication; 6 ECMs; promontory fort site?

St David, Llanddewi Aberarth, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. The benefice was a prebend of St Davids Cathedral (Lewis, 1833). In 1291, as 'Aberaith', the church was valued at £4 (Downey, 1984, 82).

In 1833 the living was a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Prebendary, rated in the king's books at £10, endowed with £800 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St David, Llanddewi Aberarth, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Henfynyw and Aberaeron (Benefice 574) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Glyn Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST DAVID,
LLANDDEWI BREFI,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5135

RB No. 2596

NGR SN 6637 5531

Listed Building no. 9920

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 30% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large sized, formerly cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; central tower, 2 storeys over a crossing; medieval. Nave, 3 bays; 1833-4. West porch; 1874. Boilerhouse (north of porch), earlier 20th century. Former north and south transepts, and south aisle. Local rubble construction. Internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower with a slated pyramidal roof. Medieval vault, parapet and openings in tower, including crossing arches; blocked medieval openings in chancel?; remainder of openings from 1874 and 1885-6, neo-gothic, in yellow oolite and grey sandstone.

Roofs and floors: 1874 and 1885-6. Finishes: c.1913.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Possible bronze age barrow beneath 100% of church; external cutting around 60% of church; former components beyond 40% of church; raised floor in 30% of church; suspended floors over underfloor void in 40% of church; below-ground floor in 5% of church; external memorial significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 30% medieval core fabric; medieval vault, parapet and openings in tower including crossing arches; blocked medieval openings in chancel?.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; central village location; 6 ECMs; circular churchyard; historic tradition; bronze age barrow beneath church?.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, crossing (and former nave, and north and south transepts), 13th - 14th century.

Phase 2 - Central tower, 15th century.

(Phase 3 - Former south aisle, c.1500?).

(Phase 4 - Transepts removed c.1800).

Phase 5- South aisle removed, chancel partly rebuilt, and nave entirely rebuilt, 1833-4.

Phase 6- Nave rebuilt 1874.

Phase 7 - Chancel restored 1885-6, low impact.

Phase 8 - Boilerhouse, earlier 20th century, c.1913?.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St David, Llanddewi Brefi, is a multicelled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 30% medieval core fabric, largely within the central tower.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-storeyed central tower lying at the crossing with former north and south transepts, a 3-bayed nave, a west porch and a below-ground boilerhouse north of the porch; a south aisle was formerly present. Construction is in Llanddewi Brefi rubble throughout; dressings are in yellow oolite and grey sandstone. The external pointing is from c.1913; the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the tower has a slated pyramidal roof.

The chancel is inclined to the south. Its side walls retain some medieval masonry but were largely rebuilt in 1833-4; the lower half of the east wall is from 1833-4, while the upper half is a rebuild from 1885-6. The triple lancet east window is uncusped, from 1885-6, while in the south wall is a similar single-lancet, and a double-lancet, from the same date. The sill and jamb of a blocked ?medieval window are visible in the north wall, and, to the west, the outline of a possible blocked door. The softwood chancel roof is from 1885 and is without trusses, all rafters having collars, arch-braced from wall corbels, queen-posts and a crown-plate. The tiled floor is from 1885, when it was raised.

The crossing is represented by the central tower ground floor. It communicates with the chancel and nave through plain, 2-centred arches, from the 13th-14th century. The side walls have similar, but blocked arches to the former north and south transepts, blocked c.1800; the corework of the former transept west walls can be seen externally, the stumps of their east walls having been converted into buttresses in 1874. The north transept arch blocking is pierced by a 2-centred window opening with a 2-light timber frame, all from 1833-4, while the southern blocking has a similar inserted door. Medieval roof creasing can be seen externally above the east, north and south arches. The crossing has a semicircular barrel vault with 6 bellrope ports, from the 15th century when the tower was built, and a flagged floor from 1874, re-using earlier flags?.

The tower rises above the crossing and contains 2 more storeys reached via a square stair turret at the north-east corner; the turret is lit by simple slit-lights and entered through a doorway from the 15th century; internally there are 2 levels of corbelling for a rood-loft and stair. The second storey is lit by simple loops, from the 15th century, and has decorative banded masonry including some herringbone-work while in the south wall is an area of blocking beneath a segmental head, a former doorway?. The third storey features 2-light openings, largely rebuilt in the 19th century, in all four walls; the crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table and occupies a higher level over the stair turret.

The nave was rebuilt in 1833-4 and again in 1885-6. There is an external basal offset, and a string-course at a higher level, from 1874; the scars of buttresses from 1833-4 can be seen at the west ends of the north and south walls. There are 3 windows in each side wall, single- and double-lancets like those in the chancel, from 1874; the 2 similar single lancets in the west wall, the moulded west door and the central rose window, are

also from 1874. The softwood roof is like that in the chancel, from 1874. The passages are flagged as the crossing, over a void, with suspended woodblock flooring, all 1874.

The west porch is from 1874 and has an external offset like the nave. It is entered through a contemporary doorway, with a moulded surround, in its south wall. There are 2 lancets, as those in the rest of the church, in the west wall, from 1874. The softwood gabled roof is without trusses, all rafters having arch-braced collars and a crown-plate, matchboarded above, all from 1874. The tiled floor is from 1874 and laid directly on the substrate. A below-ground boilerhouse, with rubble walls, a flat concrete roof at ground level and entered through a plain doorway from a flight of steps along its north wall, was built against the porch north wall in the earlier 20th century, in c.1913?

The church stands upon a possible bronze age barrow. There is an external cutting along the north wall of the chancel, and the north and south walls of the nave. Former components lay beyond the present church. The chancel floor was raised in 1885-6. The nave floor is suspended over an underfloor void. The boilerhouse is below ground level. An external family memorial lies significantly close to the chancel south wall.

Structural development

The crossing, with its 4 arches, is 13th-14th century as may be the chancel. The central tower was raised over the crossing, which was vaulted accordingly, during the 15th century. The chancel was largely rebuilt in 1833-4 when the nave was entirely rebuilt; nave and chancel were again substantially rebuilt in 1874 and 1885-6 respectively. The west porch is from 1874. The boilerhouse is early 20th century, perhaps from 1913.

The medieval church was cruciform, with both north and south transepts, which with the addition of the tower was probably in conscious imitation of the monastic church at Llanbadarn Fawr, Cer. (Cf. Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, Cer.). The present nave may follow the same general plan as the medieval component, which however had a south aisle (Anon., 1931, 388; Lewis, 1967, 6). In 1552 there were 5 bells in the tower (Lewis, 1967, 6), when the church was described as 'rude' (Anon, 1911, 18).

The north transept collapsed between 1785 and 1805 (Lewis, 1967, 6), and the south transept fell before 1814, by which time the chancel was also in ruins (Anon., 1911,19); the transept arches were blocked.

The medieval nave and south aisle were entirely demolished in 1832, being rebuilt in 'in the most wretched style' (Glynne, 1897, 306), and the chancel was partly rebuilt. This work has been dated variously to 1833-4, when it is said to have cost £285 (Lewis, 1967, 6) or, less convincingly, to 1848 (Anon., 1931, 388; Various, 1994, 412). The new work was in the non-conformist tradition employed at several Ceredigion rebuilds of the earlier 19th century (Anon., 1859, 303-4), was of poor quality, and in disrepair by 1861 (Anon., 1861, 310-11).

The nave was again largely rebuilt in 1874 for £1100, to the designs of the architect R. J. Withers (Lewis, 1967, 6). The chancel was used as a Sunday School until 1885 (Anon., 1878, 353), when it was partly rebuilt, similarly under Withers (NLW, SD/F/301). It was refenestrated, the 3 new windows being inserted in the old openings which were altered accordingly. The floor level was raised. It was reroofed, refloored, reseated and replastered. Stylistically, the work is similar to that in the nave.

The church was restored in c.1913. The work was largely superficial, confined to finishes and fittings, but the boilerhouse may date from this period. The church was reseated later in the 20th century.

The octagonal oolite font is from 1874 or 1886; an octagonal font bowl from the 14th century lies loose within the chancel, while the crude rectangular bowl from a medieval stoup also lay loose within the church (Anon., 1915, 102).

The arcaded oolite reredos is from 1886 (Lewis, 1967, 6). The softwood stalls, the vestry screen and wainscot in the crossing, the pews and the oak pulpit are from the mid-late 20th century.

There is now only one bell, dated 1874 (Lewis, 1967, 6).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

Five ECMs, four cross-decorated stones and one Latin-inscribed stone, stand within the church where they have been moved from the churchyard (Various, 1994, 412-15). A further inscribed stone has been built into the church fabric.

Documentary sources for the medieval church have the separate PRN 12427.

SITE HISTORY

There is very good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site -
Celtic dedication; 6 ECMs; circular churchyard; historic tradition; bronze age barrow beneath church?

St David, Llanddewi Brefi, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The church was (re)established in the 12th century and is mentioned in the contemporary 'Poem to Dewi' by Gwynfardd Brycheiniog. It was in a possession of the Bishop of St Davids and was reorganised as a collegiate church, comprising a Precentor and 12 prebendaries, by Bishop Bek in 1287 (Lewis, 1967, 6).

The patronage had found its way into private possession by 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, was endowed with £800 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833); the patrons were the Earl of Lisburne and R. Price Esq.

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

There is a strong historic tradition relating the site of Llanddewi Brefi church to the preaching of St David.

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**ST TYFRIOG,
LLANDYFRIOG,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 16017

RB No.3595

NGR SN 3328 4112

Listed Building no. 10739

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

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

A 3-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; south-west tower and porch, 2 storeys; vestry (north), 1 bay; all new built in 1888; tower upper storey, later 20th century.

Construction is in shale rubble throughout. Neo-gothic. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof and tower with conical ?lead sheeting roof. All openings are from 1888 except tower upper storey openings which are later 20th century.

Roofs and floors, 1888 - later 20th century. Finishes, 1888 - later 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Church newly built in 1888, on same location as pre-19th century church; on platform derived from demolition of pre-19th century church; no external drain or cutting; floor levels raised; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church; external memorials close to 30% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre 1888 core fabric.

Group value - medium. C19 rural landmark church; large churchyard with good memorials.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, vestry and tower ground floor - all 1888.

Phase 2 - Tower upper storey, later 20th century.

DESCRIPTION

St Tyfriog, Llandyfriog, is a 3-celled church, of small-medium size. It was entirely (re)built in 1888 to the designs of Messrs Middleton, Prothero and Phillott. (NLW, SD/F/275). The church was built in the same location, and on the foundations 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 2-storey tower south of the nave west bay, incorporating a porch, and a single-bayed lean-to vestry north of the chancel. Construction is in shale rubble throughout. The external pointing is from the later 20th century. There is limited external buttressing. All dressings are in oolite and from 1888; the 2-centred openings are neo-Gothic and the multiple-lancet windows are generally cusped but untracied. The south-west tower was formerly of 3 storeys but was lowered to its present height later in the 20th century and the new belfry stage given plain lancets. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slate lean-to roof and the tower has a conical lead sheeting roof. The floors are suspended except in the tower.

The earlier church evidently followed much the same plan as its successor but lacked the tower and vestry components (NLW, SD/F/275). It was described by Lewis in 1833 as 'an ancient edifice, not distinguished by any architectural features of importance' (Lewis, 1833). It was demolished in 1888 and the ground made up from its spoil prior to the construction of the present church; this can still be seen as a platform along the north walls and the south wall of the chancel. There is no external drain or cutting around the church. There is an underfloor void beneath the suspended floors, but no vault or crypt is evident. Some memorials lie close to the south wall of the church.

The church was described in 1860 as consisting 'merely of chancel and nave' (Glynne, 1898, 355) and to have been 'mostly, if not entirely rebuilt'. The chancel arch was 'modern', as were all the windows and internal fittings. A single bellcote lay on the nave west wall.

An application to demolish the church and rebuild it, to the specifications of Middleton & Co. of Cheltenham, was made in 1882, and the Faculty was duly granted on 14 February 1883. However, the work was not carried out, and it was not until 1888 that the church was restored, to new plans submitted by Middleton, Prothero & Phillott of Cheltenham.

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.

St Tyfriog, Llandyfriog, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The benefice was a prebend of St Davids Cathedral (Lewis, 1833)

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage with the rectory of Llanfair Trelygon annexed, in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, in the patronage of the Bishop of St Davids; it was rated in the king's books at £8 and endowed with £600 royal bounty (ibid.).

In 1998 St Tyfriog, Llandyfriog, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Newcastle Emlyn Holy Trinity, Troed-yr-Aur and Brongwyn (Benefice 834) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Emlyn (St Davids, 1997-8).

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Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Sheet XLV.3.

NLW, Parish of Llandyfriog, Tithe Map, 1844.

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

Church in Wales Records

Clive-Powell, R., 1991, Quinquennial Report, Llandyfriog.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/274, Faculty - Rebuilding church, 1883 (not undertaken).

NLW, SD/F/275, Faculty - Restoration of church, 1888.

NLW, SD/F/276, Faculty - Removal of cottages, 1893.

NLW, SD/F/277, Faculty - Memorial tablet, 1912.

NLW, SD/F/278, Faculty - Memorial tablet, 1918.

NLW, SD/F/279, Faculty - 2 memorial tablets, 1920.

NLW, SD/F/280, Faculty - Memorial tablet, 1921.

NLW, SD/F/281, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1925.

NLW, SD/F/282, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1926.

NLW, SD/F/283, Faculty - Memorial tablet, 1926.

NLW, SD/F/284, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1927.

Printed Accounts

Evans, G. E., 1918, 'Cardiganshire: Its Plate, Records and Registers', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. XVIII.

Glynne, S. R., 1898, 'Notes on the Older Churches in the Four Welsh Dioceses', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. XV, Fifth Series.

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

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

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**ST TYGWYDD,
LLANDYGWYDD,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 20773

RB No. 3758

NGR SN 2426 4379

Listed Building no. 17955

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On general site of, but not in same location as, medieval church (PRN 5225).

A (formerly) multicell church, medium-sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; south porch above boilerhouse, vestry (north), 1 bay, continuously roofed with organ chamber (north), 1 bay, all new built in 1856-9. Storehouse (west of organ chamber), 20th century. Former tower, south of nave, 1856-9. Construction is in squared slate rubble throughout. Slate gable roofs; vestry/organ chamber and storehouse with slate lean-to roofs. All openings are 1856-9, neo-gothic, in yellow oolite.

Roofs and floors: 1856-9. Finishes: 1859 - 1997.

Condition - fair-good.; recently re-opened.

Archaeological potential - good. Not in location of earlier church; no physical evidence for earlier church; deep external cutting around 25% of church; no external drain; below-ground boilerhouse beneath 5% of church; floors are raised, and suspended over void with heating ducts; external memorials significantly close to 40% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre 1856-9 core fabric.

Group value - medium-high. C19 village church; large churchyard with good monuments; associated C19 school buildings.

Phasing:
All 1856-9.

DESCRIPTION

St Tygwydd, Llandygwydd, is a (formerly) multicell church of medium size. It was new built in 1856-9, c.100m to the east of its predecessor (PRN 5225). Nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a south porch above a boilerhouse, a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel east bay roofed continuously with a single-bayed organ chamber north of the chancel west bay, and a storehouse west of the organ chamber. There was formerly a transeptal south tower south of the nave east bay. Construction is in squared slate rubble throughout. All dressings are in yellow oolite and from 1856-9; windows are simple lancets, neo-gothic. A moulded square chimney emerges from the chancel/vestry wall, 1856-9. There is no bellcote. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry/organ chamber, and the storehouse, have slated lean-to roofs.

The earlier church was itself a rebuild of c.1800 (Lewis, 1833). It is shown on the tithe map of 1841 (NLW, Llandygwydd, Tithe Map, 1841) as lying within a churchyard that was smaller than at present, comprising only the western half of the present yard; the church lay c.100m west of the present building (but not beneath the present church hall as suggested by Clive-Powell, 1995). The tithe map appears to depict a 2-celled building with a wide nave and short chancel, which was described as 'hideous' in 1856 (Anon., 1856, 72); there is now no physical evidence for the building.

The present church was built in 1856-9 (Anon., 1856, 72; Anon., 1859, 346: incorrectly dated to 1885 by Clive-Powell, 1995), to the designs of the architect R. J. Withers of London; to facilitate its construction the churchyard was extended to the east, doubling its area, the new church being constructed within the extension c.100m east of the old church. The church formerly exhibited a transeptal south tower, with a tall slated spire.

The church was renovated c.1920 under the architect W. D. Caroe (Anon., 1922, 101), including the removal of the spire from the former tower and its replacement with a crow-stepped crenellated parapet copied from Llanarth and Llanwnnen churches. The storehouse is 20th century.

The former south tower was demolished in the mid 1970s and the communicating arch was blocked with masonry including a lancet window. The entire church was in poor condition by the beginning of the 1990s having become, in places, unsafe, and as a result was closed in 1995. It was renovated in 1997 and reopened.

The large font has a moulded octagonal bowl, a plain octagonal stem and a moulded square base, all in Perpendicular style and from c.1500, cf. Cardigan St Mary (Evans, 1915, 19)

A medieval bell hung in the tower in 1918, inscribed 'SANCTE PETRE ORA PRO NOBIS' it was dated to the later 165th century (Evans, 1918, 141-2).

There is no physical evidence in the churchyard for the earlier church. There is a deep external cutting into the churchyard bank around the north-west sides of the church, widened in 1996. There is no external drain. A below-ground boilerhouse lies beneath the south porch. The suspended floors are raised over a void, with heating ducts. External memorials lie significantly close to the north and east walls, and the chancel south wall.

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.

St Tygwydd, Llandygwydd, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It was in the patronage of the Bishops of St Davids as a prebend of the collegiate church at Abergwili, Carm. (Lewis, 1833). At the dissolution, the benefice was transferred from Abergwili to the collegiate church at Brecon.

In 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Bishop of St Davids, was rated in the king's books at £10 12s 8½d, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Tygwydd, Llandygwydd, was a parish church. It reopened in 1997 after having been temporarily closed. The living was a vicarage, held with Cenarth, Cilrhedyn, Llangoedmor and Llechryd (Benefice no. 807) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Emlyn (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., 1995, Quinquennial Report, Llandygwydd.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/285, Faculty - Memorial tablet, 1912.

NLW, SD/F/286, Faculty - 2 memorial tablets, 1917.

NLW, SD/F/287, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1929.

Printed Accounts

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Anon., 1859, 'Cardigan Meeting', Archaeol. Cambrensis Vol. V, Third Series.

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

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**ST TYSILIO,
LLANDYSILIOGOGO,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5291

RB No. 3162

NGR SN 3634 5749

Listed Building no. 9804

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 40% medieval core fabric.

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; medieval. Former south aisle (and skew passage?). Limestone rubble construction. External render, 1825-6, little repointing; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs. All openings from 1825-6, and 1890, neo-gothic, without dressings. Western single bellcote, 1890.

Roofs and floors: 1890. Finishes: external render, 1825-6; internal finishes 1890.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Former component beyond 30% of church, location represented by wide, deep external cutting; medium-depth external cuttings around 25% of church; churchyard truncated around 30% of church exposing footings; low external earthwork around 20% of church, debris?; suspended floor over an underfloor void in 60% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 40% pre-19th century core fabric.

Group value - medium. Medieval church with coastal location; churchyard with large enclosure bank; ?early stones in yard and church; sundial.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, C13-14?

(Phase 2 - Former south aisle, c.1500?).

Phase 3 - Partly rebuilt 1825-6, south aisle removed.

Phase 4 - Restored 1890, low-impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Tysilio, Llandysiliogogo, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 40% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel and a 3-bayed nave. A south aisle (and skew passage?) was formerly present. Construction is in limestone rubble. Openings are neo-gothic, from 1825-6 and 1890 but lack dressings. There are the extensive remains of external render from 1825-6, with very little repointing; the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables.

The chancel was largely rebuilt in 1825-6. The east window is a plain, 2-centred single-light opening, originally from 1825-6 but entirely rebuilt, in similar style, in 1890; it contains a timber-framed, 3-light window with cusped tracery, 1890. The south wall features a similar single light from 1890, with a cusped timber frame. The plain 2-centred chancel arch was rebuilt in 1825-6, its southern stop interrupting a curved chamfer in the internal angle, where the former south aisle - or its skew passage - joined the south walls. The softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1890. The floor is quarry-tiled, from 1890.

The nave south wall was entirely rebuilt in 1825-6 when the south aisle/transept was removed, but the north and west walls are substantially medieval, the former being battered externally. There are 3 windows in the south wall, and 2 in the north wall; all are like the east window but 2-light, the openings in the south wall being from 1825-6 but altered in 1890. The west door is a plain, 2-centred arch from 1825-6. The simple, gabled single bellcote over the west end was rebuilt in 1890. The softwood nave roof is from 1890 and comprises arch-braced, king-post trusses, with matchboarding. The passages are quarry-tiled as the chancel, with suspended board flooring, all from 1890.

A south aisle was formerly present. A 2.5m wide, deep external cutting runs along the nave south wall; primary, possibly to facilitate the construction of the former south aisle and denoting its width. Secondary, medium-depth external cuttings lie along the chancel south wall and the south-west corner of the nave. The churchyard has been secondarily truncated along the nave north wall exposing its footings. A low, irregular earthwork along the chancel north wall may represent building debris. The floor is suspended over an underfloor void in the nave. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The chancel and nave are fundamentally medieval, but have been largely rebuilt. A south aisle was formerly present, which may have included a skew passage into the chancel. Lewis, 1833, described the church as having possessed a south aisle, apparently copying from Meyrick's account of 1805. A masonry rood-screen had been present, and an 'ancient piscina' lay next to the west door, prior to 1825 (*ibid.*).

The church was largely rebuilt in 1825-6 by local builders Elias Davies and Henry Parry (Cadw, 1996, 1). The south aisle, the rood-screen and the stoup were removed, the nave south wall being entirely rebuilt and the chancel being largely rebuilt. The 1825-6 church is shown in the drawings that accompanied the faculty application for the 1890 restoration (NLW, SD/F/260). The general arrangements were as today but the north wall, and chancel side walls, were blind; the present east window, and nave south wall windows, which had been inserted in 1825-6, are shown but with 'Y'-tracery timber frames. The bellcote was similar to the present structure. The interior was ceiled, and the floor was flagged. The exterior was given its present render finish.

The church was restored in 1890 to the designs of the architect David Davies of Penrhiwllan, Llandysul (*ibid.*). The north wall and chancel south wall were fenestrated with the present windows. The east window was entirely rebuilt, and all windows received their present cusped timber frames. The bellcote was rebuilt. The church was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated. There appear to have been no further major alterations.

The softwood pews and vestry screen are from the 1890 restoration. The oak panelled reredos is dated 1938. The pulpit is from 1946, and the 1890 altar rail was replaced in 1946 leaving empty sockets in the side walls.

The original font was installed at Cenarth Church, Carms., in 1872, and is one of the group of Ceredigion fonts with moulded masks (Anon., 1914, 23). The present font is in limestone and has an octagonal bowl, stem and base of pre-19th century date (Cadw, 1996, 1).

A large stone was discovered beneath the then pulpit in 1890 (Evans, 1918, 143); it may have been brought in from a nearby megalithic site (Various, 1994, 399).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

Churchyard formerly circular with large enclosure bank; Celtic dedication; ?early stones in yard and church.

St Tysilio, Llandysiliogogo, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It appears to have been, from an early period, a possession of the Bishops of St Davids. By the 17th century at least a chapelry had been established within the parish at Capel Cynon.

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage, with that of Llangrannog annexed, in the patronage of the Bishop and rated in the king's books at £3 18s 1½d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Tysilio, Llandysiliogogo, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llangrannog and Penbryn (Benefice 830) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Glyn Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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NLW, Parish of Llandysiliogogo, Tithe Map, 1843.

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

Church in Wales Records

Hook Mason, 1993, Quinquennial Report, Llandysiliogogo.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/270, Faculty - Restoration of church, 1889.

Printed Accounts

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

Cadw, 1996, Buildings of Special Architectural Interest (Ceredigion).

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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Thomas, E., 1930, 'Llandysiliogogo - the Parish Church and District', Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society Vol. VII.

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**ST TYSUL,
LLANDYSUL,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5643

RB No. 2608

NGR SN 4187 4072

Listed Building no. 10574

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, symmetrically aisled, large. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; north aisle, 3 bays; south aisle, 3 bays; west tower, 4 storeys; medieval. Organ chamber (south of chancel), 1 bay, 1847. Blowerhouse (east of organ chamber), 1924. Boilerhouse (north of tower), early 20th century. Local rubble construction; external render from 1847, internal walls without render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; aisles, organ chamber and blowerhouse with slate lean-to roofs and boilerhouse (and tower?) tower with a flat roof. Medieval vault and openings in tower; medieval rood-loft stair, squint, blocked window, some aisle window openings and chancel recess; remainder of openings from 1847 and 1873-4, neogothic, with yellow oolite surrounds.

Roofs and floors: 1873-4. Finishes: 1847 and 1873-4.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Shallow external drain around 15% of church; burial vaults beneath 15% of church?; floor levels lowered in 90% of church; suspended floors over underfloor void in 75% of church; below-ground floors in 20% of church; deep external drainage beyond 5% of church; external memorials and burial vaults lie significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good-very good. 80% medieval core fabric; medieval vault and tower openings, rood-loft stair, squint, blocked window and recess.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower; central town location; large churchyard with good memorials; urban amenity value; lych-gate; associated masonry buildings; early site; ECM.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C12-13?

Phase 2 - Chancel, aisles, C14.

Phase 3 - West tower, early C16.

Phase 4 - Restored 1847, high impact; organ chamber built, chancel partly rebuilt.

Phase 5 - Restored 1873-4, low impact.

Phase 6 - Boilerhouse, early 20th century (1914?).

Phase 7 - Blowerhouse, 1924.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Tysul, Llandysul, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 80% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, 3-bayed north and south aisles, a 4-storeyed west tower, a single-bayed organ chamber south of the chancel west bay, with a blowerhouse to its east, and a below-ground boilerhouse between the west tower and the north aisle. Construction is in local rubble throughout. Openings, except in the tower and some aisle windows, are neo-gothic, mainly from 1847 and 1873-4, with yellow oolite dressings. The exterior retains areas of 1847 render finish, repointed in 1873-4, while the interior was stripped of its finishes in 1873-4. Roofs are slated gables; the aisles, organ chamber and blowerhouse have slated lean-to roofs while the boilerhouse has a flat roof; the west tower roof was not seen.

The chancel was partly rebuilt in 1847 with a plain, low offset; the side wall tops were heightened (or rebuilt) in 1873-4. The 3-light, cusped east window, with its tracery and moulded surrounds, was inserted in 1873-4 and there is a similar, 2-light window in the north wall. An external recess to the west, with a semicircular head, medieval?, is not visible internally and not an opening. The west bay south wall was entirely removed in 1914 to communicate with the organ chamber. The tall, plain, 2-centred chancel arch is 14th century and contemporary with the aisles; a semi-spiral rood-loft stair leads from the north aisle into the northern respond, and there is a plain, square squint to the chancel from the south aisle. The softwood roof is from 1873-4, with collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall corbels, matchboarded above. The polychrome-tiled floor is from 1873-4, over burial vaults?.

The nave is an open space communicating with the aisles via 3 bayed arcades of massive arches, like the chancel arch, on plain square piers, from the 14th century. It is roofed in softwood, with crown-post trusses; the rafters are arch-braced and matchboarded above, all 1873-4. The passages are polychrome tiled, with suspended board floors from 1873-4.

The north aisle is lit by a window in the east wall and 2 windows in the north wall, occupying openings that are probably medieval but now housing 2-light windows, with 'Y'-tracery, from 1847 and contemporary with the external render. The doorway in the west bay north wall is probably medieval in origin but was rebuilt with a moulded surround in 1873-4. The west wall exhibits an internal offset. The softwood lean-to roof is from 1873-4 and lies beneath nave eaves level; the principals are arch-braced from wall corbels. Floored as the nave.

The south aisle is similar but its east window has, since 1847, been an open void into the organ chamber. A doorway opposite the north aisle door lay in the west bay south wall until blocked in 1873-4 and replaced with a 2-light window like those in the chancel. There are two further areas of blocking in the south wall; the central window interrupts the blocking of an earlier, undateable window while at the west end, a 4-centred, panelled surround with an incised floral motif is visible externally, from the 16th -17th century (not any earlier, as suggested by Evans et al., Hughes et al.).

The medieval west tower is from the early 16th century, comprises 4 storeys and is typical of the region, being battered externally up to a plain string-course. A square stair turret, entered through a moulded, 4-centred doorway from the early 16th century, projects from the eastern half of the north wall and is lit by simple slit-lights. The barrel-vaulted ground floor communicates with the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch from the early 16th century, and features the main west door to the church which has a moulded 2-centred surround, also from the early 16th century. Above the west door is a 3-light window with uncusped Perpendicular tracery, from the early 16th century but rebuilt in 1847 as recorded in an inscription. The south wall displays a line of sockets on both faces, the internal line possibly associated with a former west gallery staircase and from the later 18th century. The floor is quarry-tiled, from 1873-4. The second storey is lit by a single cusped lancet in the north wall, from the early 16th century but partly rebuilt in the 19th century; an amorphous area of blocking in the west wall appears to represent the site of a former window. The third storey is lit by an uncusped single light in the north wall, from the early 16th century with later louvres. The belfry stage has 2-light openings in all 4 faces, with cusped, 4-centred heads from the early 16th century and later louvres. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, with human head mouldings at the four corners, all from the early 16th century; the crenellations have been restored/rebuilt.

The organ chamber was originally built in 1847, probably as a vestry, and a contemporary 2-light window with 'Y' tracery lies in its east wall. The south door and window, like the chancel windows, were inserted in 1873-4. The softwood lean-to roof is also from 1873-4 while the suspended board floor was inserted when it was converted into an organ chamber in 1914.

A blowerhouse for the organ was erected to the east of the organ chamber in 1924; it has a simple, square door in its east wall and a lean-to roof to the chancel south wall. Its floor is below churchyard level.

The boilerhouse was excavated between the west tower north wall and the north aisle west wall in the early-mid 20th century. The walls rise a little above ground level and there is a simple square window on the north wall. A stairwell lies between the south wall and the tower north wall leading to a simple square doorway. The plain, square boiler chimney lies in the angle between tower and aisle

A shallow external drain runs along the north aisle north wall. Burial vaults may lie beneath the chancel floor. Floor levels were lowered in 1873-4; the floors are suspended over an underfloor void. The boilerhouse is below-ground, with adjacent deep drainage. The blowerhouse floor lies below ground level. External memorials and burial vaults lie significantly close to all walls.

Structural development

The core of the nave walling may be pre-14th century; the form of the aisle piers suggests that they were cut out of existing walls. Stylistically the piers and chancel arch, and thus the aisles and chancel, are 14th century; the symmetrical, lean-to aisles are unique in the county and in South-west Wales are only paralleled at Steynton, Pembs.. The west tower is from the early 16th century. The chancel was partly rebuilt in 1847 when the organ chamber was constructed, originally as a vestry. The boilerhouse was added in the early-mid 20th century, in 1914?. The blowerhouse is from 1924. There is no physical evidence for any former component beyond the present building.

The church and tower was whitewashed in 1758 (Evans, 1951, 131), the window shutters were repaired and the south side repointed. The church was thatched until 1763 when the roofs were 'tiled' (Evans, 1951, 132), and the floors appear to have been of earth as late as 1787 when they were 'made even' with earth (ibid.). The church was reseated at the same time.

Some 'alteration' was undertaken in 1829-31 by Rees Davies of Trewindsor, Llandysul (Cadw, 1996, 6). The west tower was 'renew'd' in 1847, commemorated in an inscription over the west door; this work was superficial (limited to the restoration of openings?) but it appears that the chancel was partly rebuilt at around the same period. The present organ chamber was constructed, probably as a vestry, and is shown in a painting

of 1859 hanging in the church. The present aisle windows belong to a refenestration that accompanied either this work or the 1829-31 restoration, and the external render is contemporary.

These windows were described as 'of ugly modern Gothic design' in 1855 (Glynne, 1898, 352) when the rebuilt chancel retained a 'plain stone shelf', now gone, in its east wall and the east window was described as 'Perpendicular', possibly original and retained/re-used?. The aisle roofs were an unbroken downwards continuation of the nave roof slopes (NLW, SD/F/288).

The church was restored in 1873-4 to the designs of the architects Middleton and Goodman, of Cheltenham (NLW, SD/F/288). The church was reroofed and reseated. The chancel windows were inserted, the north aisle door was rebuilt, the south aisle door was blocked and replaced with a window, and there was some further refenestration. A number of 1847 windows were retained but their drip-moulds were removed. New roofs were constructed. The church was refloored at a lower level, and reseated. The internal finishes were stripped.

The west tower was repointed in 1870 and further repaired in 1894 (Hughes et al., 1978, 7); the restoration/rebuild of the parapet may belong to the latter date.

The organ was installed in 1899 (Hughes et al., 1978, 9) but in 1914 was moved into the 1847 vestry which was altered accordingly (NLW, SD/F/289). A faculty to build a heating chamber under the organ chamber was granted in 1914 (ibid.) but this was not undertaken; the present boilerhouse north of the tower appears to be somewhat later. The blower house for the organ was added in 1924 (Hughes et al., 1978, 9).

The softwood pews and tower vestry screen, and the oolite pulpit are from 1873-4. (NLW, SD/F/288). The oak stalls and reredos are probably earlier 20th century, as may be the present vestry screen in the north aisle..

The limestone font has an unusual 4-lobed bowl, a cylindrical stem and a square base; it may be 17th century.

The tower contains 4 bells hung in 1777, cast by Thomas Rudhall of Gloucester (Hughes et al., 1978,85).

An ECM - 'The Velvor Stone' - now lies in the tower, having been moved from the churchyard (Various, 1994, 412).

A moulded crucifix (Anon., 1913, 20), dated to the 11th - 12th centuries (Various, 1994, 415) and built into the tower until recently, is re-used with smaller cross-incised stones in the north aisle altar table.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Tysul, Llandysul, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The living was both a rectory and a vicarage. The vicarage was granted to the resident canons of St Davids Cathedral by Bishop Anselm le Gras, 1231-45 (Hughes et al., 1978, 5) but the patronage was always disputed by Talley Abbey (Evans, 1959, 182-3). By the 14th century the rectory was a possession of the collegiate church of Llanddewi Brefi (Hughes et al., 1978, 5). The church was assessed at £20 in 1291, and in 1536 the rectory had an annual revenue of £15 16s 11d and the vicarage a revenue of £10 annually (ibid.). There were 6 chapels-of-ease within the parish (ibid.).

The rectory fell to the crown at the dissolution, the patronage, in 1547, being granted to Sir James Oucherlong, and ultimately passing, in 1680, to the Master and Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford (ibid.). The

patronage of the vicarage remained with the Bishop. In 1833 the rectory was rated in the king's books at £12 16s 8d, and was still in the patronage of Jesus College (Lewis, 1833). The vicarage was discharged, endowed with £2000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop (*ibid.*).

In 1998 St Tysul, Llandysul, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage (Benefice no. 106) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Emlyn (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST NON,
LLANERCH AERON,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17364

RB No. 3685

NGR SN 4773 6035

Listed Building no. 9764

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Late 18th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and possibly in same location as, medieval church (PRN 5667).

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, 3 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; all 1798. Local rubble construction. Neo-gothic, 'estate' style. Slate gable roof, west tower with dome. All openings are from 1798.

Roofs: 1895 and 1960. Floors: 1895?. Finishes: 1895.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. No physical evidence for earlier church; no external cutting or drain; suspended floors?; external memorials significantly close to 40% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 100% pre-C19 core fabric.

Group value - medium-high. Good, C18 estate church; attractive estate setting; churchyard with good memorials.

Phasing:
All 1798.

DESCRIPTION

St Non, Llanerch Aeron, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in 1798, possibly to the designs of the architect John Nash (Cadw, 1996, 83) on the same site, and possibly in the same location as its predecessor (PRN 5667) but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel/nave without structural division and a 3-storey west tower including a porch. Construction is in local rubble throughout. Dressed stone is confined to the simple west tower string-courses and pinnacles. The 2-centred openings are neo-gothic, in the 'estate church' style and from 1798; they are simple, with timber Y-tracery; the west tower displays 4 simple belfry openings and a cross-loop, while the west wall has 2 blind trefoil openings, all 1798 (Anon., 1915). There is a second door in the south wall, 1798. The roof is a slated gable; the tower has a 'cupola' dome which was replaced in 1960, copying the original 1798 dome (Cadw, 1996, 83). The floors may be suspended.

Nothing is known of the pre-1798 church; it occupied the same site and possibly the same location as the present church. The present church is much as illustrated by Meyrick in 1810 (Anon., 1915), but the chancel/nave crenellations, and the external stucco finish, have gone, removed during a restoration in 1895 to the designs of the local architect David Davies of Penrhiwllan (Cadw, 1996, 83) when the chancel/nave roof, the Y-tracery, and possibly the floors, were renewed. An earlier restoration had occurred in 1878 under the architect F. Fowler, of Brecon (ibid.). Both restorations were low-impact.

There is no physical evidence for the pre-1798 church. There is neither an external cutting nor a drain around the present church. The floors may be suspended over a void. External memorials lie significantly close to the south and east walls.

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.

St Non, Llanerch Aeron, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The benefice was a rectory belonging to St Davids Cathedral as a prebend of the collegiate church at Llanddewi Brefi (Lewis, 1833)

At the dissolution, the advowson fell to the crown but found its way into private patronage. In 1833 the living, a perpetual curacy with that of Dihewyd consolidated, was in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and Colonel Lewis, rated in the king's books at £3 1s 0½d (ibid.).

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

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**ST MARY,
LLANFAIR CLYDOGAU,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5146

RB No. 2597

NGR SN 6244 5124

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 30% medieval core fabric.

A 2 cell church, small. Consists of a chancel/nave, 5 bays, lower half medieval. Upper half; west porch; vestry (north); 1886-8. Local rubble construction. Internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry with a slate lean-to roof. All openings 1886-8, neo-Perpendicular, yellow oolite dressings; include windows and doors, western double bellcote.

Roofs and floors: 1886-8. Finishes: 1886-8 and 20th century.

Condition - good. Floor in poor condition with loose tiling.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Surrounding ground level lowered, exposing footings in 10% of church; shallow drainage channels in concrete path around 60% of church; former component beyond 10% of church, without physical evidence; floors suspended over void in 90% of church; burial vault beneath 20% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 40% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor-fair. 30% medieval core fabric.

Group value - medium. Medieval church; large circular churchyard.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, C13-14?

(Phase 2 - Former west porch and vestry, 1829?).

(Phase 3 - Restored c.1850s, low-impact?).

Phase 4 - Restored 1886-8, high-impact; chancel/nave largely rebuilt, west porch rebuilt, present vestry added.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Mary, Llanfair Clydogau, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 30% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 5-bayed chancel/nave, without structural division, a west porch and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay. Construction is in local Llanddewi Breffni rubble throughout; dressings are in yellow oolite and from 1886-8; the openings are neo-Perpendicular. Pointing is mainly from 1886-8 but there has been some 20th century repointing; the interior was replastered in the 20th century except in the porch. Roofs are slated gables throughout; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof.

The lower half of the chancel nave walls are medieval, and battered externally to the east and west; the upper half of all walls was entirely rebuilt in 1886-8. The east wall has an external string-course at window sill level which, like the 2-centred, three-light, traceried window, is from 1886-8. Similar, 2-light windows occupy the south wall of the eastern 2 bays; the 3 remaining south wall windows are 3-light, with 4-centred heads and the tracery includes transoms, all 1886-8. To the east of the north wall is a similar, 4-light window in a square surround, without tracery or a transom, 1886-8. The west door has a segmental oolite surround and was rebuilt in 1886-8. Above it is a rose window in a square surround, and a flat-topped, double bellcote with moulded 2-centred openings on an offset base, all in oolite and from 1886-8. The softwood roof is continuous and comprises collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall-plates, matchboarded above, from 1886-8. Passages are quarry-tiled, with woodblock flooring over a void, also 1886-8; there is a burial vault beneath the eastern bays (Evans, 1918, 152-3).

The west porch was entirely rebuilt in 1886-8. There are uncusped, 4-centred lancets in the north and south walls, and the 2-centred doorway lies within a square surround, all from 1886-8. The gabled roof has softwood rafters, 1886-8; floored as the passages, directly on the substrate.

The present vestry was added in 1886-8. It is entered from the chancel via an open 2-centred arch to the east, and to the west through a segmental-headed door, both from 1886-8. It is lit by a window like that in the nave north wall but 2-light, and entered from the churchyard through a square-headed door in the west wall, both 1886-8. There is a fireplace in the north-east corner, again from 1886-8 but blocked and now without a chimney. The softwood lean-to roof continues the chancel/nave roof northern slope. Floored as the passages.

The surrounding churchyard ground level was lowered in 1886, exposing footings at the west end. There are shallow drainage channels within a concrete path north and south of the chancel/nave. A former vestry lay north of the central part of the church, now without physical evidence. Floors are suspended over an underfloor void except in the porch. There is a burial vault beneath the eastern bays. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the east and south walls.

Structural development

The lower half of the chancel/nave walling is medieval, but cannot be closely dated. The upper half was rebuilt, and the present west porch and vestry were added, in 1886-8.

The church roof was still thatched roof in 1783 (Evans, 1918, 153), when a (timber?) rood-screen was apparently still present. The church retained many medieval features into the later 19th century, including 'traces of 15th century work' (Anon., 1861, 310; Willis-Bund, 1888, 317).

The church was restored 3 times during the 19th century. A stone incised '1829' low down in the west wall suggests that some rebuilding had been undertaken. The church was described by Lewis, 1833, as 'a small and very ancient structure' but 'not possessing any architectural details of importance'. It is shown as a single

rectangular cell, with a west porch and a structure (vestry?) against the north wall, on the tithe map of 1844 (NLW, Llanfair Clydogau, 1844); these may have been added in 1829.

A second restoration had recently occurred in 1861 (Anon., 1861, 312), when the church was described as having been 'done up', rather than fully restored, 'in the cheapest and ugliest manner that any building could experience... in the 'Meeting House' style, with bad windows...'. All earlier architectural features had evidently been removed. The renovated church comprised a chancel/nave, in essence as at present, and a west porch that was subsequently entirely rebuilt (NLW, SD/F/320).

The third restoration practically amounted to a rebuild. The work was undertaken in 1886-8 to the designs of Middleton, Prothero & Phillott, Architects, of Westminster, Cheltenham and Newport (ibid.). The upper half of the chancel/nave walls were taken down and rebuilt, the west porch was taken down and rebuilt, and the vestry was added. The church was refenestrated, reroofed and refloored. The interior was re-seated and replastered.

The hardwood stalls, altar rail, softwood pews, vestry screen and pulpit are all from 1886-8.

The font has a large circular bowl moulded with representations of the 4 evangelists (with affinities with eg. Pencarreg and Cenarth, Carms.), from c.1200. It stands upon a brick base from c.1913 (Anon., 1913, 11).

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site -
Large circular churchyard; pre-conquest Latin dedication?.

St Mary, Llanfair Clydogau, was not a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron.

Llanfair Clydogau had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, with that of Llangybi consolidated, was endowed with £800 royal bounty and in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and Lord Carrington (Lewis, 1833).

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

The cult of St Mary has pre-conquest origins within Ceredigion (Various, 1994, 393).

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**ST MARY,
LLANFAIR ORLLWYN,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5281

RB No. 3585

NGR SN 3674 4100

Listed Building no. 9879

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; some medieval core fabric?.

A 3-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of nave, 3 bays, 1808 or c.1820 but retaining some medieval core fabric?. Chancel, 2 bays, 1808 or c.1820. Vestry (north of chancel), 1887. Construction is in shale rubble throughout. Slate gable roofs; vestry with a slate lean-to roof. All openings, except in the vestry, are from 1808 or c.1820, neo-gothic, but without dressings; vestry openings similar, 1887. Western square, domed bell-turret, on internal buttress, 1808 or c.1820.

Roofs, floors and finishes, 1887.

Condition - fair. Internal plaster damp and cracked in places; some fittings decayed; some external ivy.

Archaeological potential - very good. Deep, wide excavation around 50% of church, corresponding earthwork platform beneath 50% of church, all primary; shallow external concrete drain around 30% of church; suspended floors over underfloor void.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor-fair. Some pre-1808 core fabric?.

Group value - medium-high. Early C19 landmark church; hilltop location; large churchyard.

Phasing:

(Phase 1 - Nave, some medieval core fabric?)

Phase 2 - Chancel, rebuilt nave, 1808 or c.1820.

Phase 3 - Restored 1887, medium-high impact; vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Llanfair Orllwyn, is a 2-celled church, of small-medium size. It was rebuilt in either 1808 or c.1820 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, possibly retaining some of the earlier core fabric. A vestry was added in 1887.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay. Construction is in local Ordovician shale rubble (Clive-Powell, 1996, 1), external pointing is from 1887; plastered within. All openings, except in the vestry, are from 1808 or c.1820 and neo-gothic in 'estate chapel' style: the windows are single-light openings with 'Y'-tracery timber frames inserted in 1887. There is no dressed stone. The plain chancel arch is 4-centred. The vestry openings are similar, from 1887. There is an elaborate bell-turret at the west end, supported on a broad internal buttress; it is square, rendered externally, with a 'Caernarfon'-headed opening in each face and a low plain dome, all 1808 or c.1820. The west door is plain, with a blind external recess above, 1808 or c.1820. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof. Floors are suspended.

The nave may retain some core fabric from the pre-19th century church, but the church was largely rebuilt, and entirely refaced, in either 1808 or c.1820; it was 'not fitted out until 1842 by Rees Davies of Llandysul' (Cadw, 1996, 33). The church was restored in 1887 (ibid.) when it received the present roofs, floors and window-frames, and the vestry was built. The interior was re-seated and replastered. There appears to have been no further major alteration.

The unusual font has a square bowl, chamfered throughout, with moulded bosses and incised decoration on each face; it lies on a cylindrical stem and an octagonal base, all from the 14th century.

The east half of the church lies within a very deep, wide excavation into the hillside, the western half lying in a corresponding earthwork platform which extends beyond the west end as a 'D'-shape; the features are primary. A very shallow external concrete drain runs along the nave side walls. Floors are suspended over a void in the nave and vestry. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

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; pre-conquest Latin dedication.

St Mary, Llanfair Orllwyn, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It appears to have been a possession of the Bishops of St Davids from an early date.

In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory, in the patronage of the Bishop, rated in the king's books at £4 13s 4d and endowed with £600 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

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

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**ST MICHAEL,
LLANFIHANGEL GENAU'R-GLYN,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5190

RB No. 2168

NGR SN 6232 8690

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

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

A 3-celled church, medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; south porch; vestry (south of chancel; over boilerhouse), 1 bay; all 1884-5. Organ chamber (north of chancel); 1929. Construction is in shale rubble. Slate gable roofs. Openings mainly from 1884-5, neo-gothic and in yellow oolite; some external buttressing, 1884-5; western double bellcote, 1884-5.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1884-1929

Condition - fair-good. Subsidence below vestry, cracks and roof displacement

Archaeological potential - good. No physical evidence of earlier church, except deep, wide earth cutting around 50% of church; former components beyond 30% of church; suspended floors over heating ducts in 50% of church; below-ground floor in 10% of church; external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre 1884 core fabric.

Group value - high. C19 rural landmark church; hillslope location overlooking village, large terraced, wooded churchyard with early memorials; lych-gate; adjacent motte-&-bailey.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, south porch and vestry/boilerhouse - 1884-5.

Phase 2 - Organ chamber, 1929.

DESCRIPTION

St Michael, Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn, is fundamentally a 3-celled church, of medium size. It was entirely (re)built in 1884-5 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric. The organ chamber was added in 1929.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a south porch, a transeptal single-bayed organ chamber north of the chancel west bay, and a transeptal single-bayed vestry, over a boilerhouse, south of the chancel west bay. Construction is in local shale rubble. All dressings are in yellow oolite and from 1884-5, and 1929 in the organ chamber; the 2- and 3-light windows have very simple plate tracery. There is limited external buttressing. A simple, gabled single bellcote lies over the west end. The boilerhouse beneath the vestry is partly below-ground and has a simple square chimney. The roofs are slated gables throughout. The floors are suspended except in the porch.

The form of the medieval church is not known; it may or may not have survived, in part, the rebuild of the later 18th century (see below). It has been suggested (Anon., 1878, 335) that it may have been aisled, separated from the nave by an arcade(s) of oak; a 'massive pillar of oak of good Perpendicular work, with part of the spandrel of an arch', said to have come from the church, stood in a farmyard in the 19th century (ibid.).

The church was largely rebuilt in the later 18th century (Anon., 1878, 335) in a semi-Classical manner of good quality. As rebuilt, it was a large, symmetrical cruciform church, comprising chancel, nave and transepts; there were no interior arches, all components being open to one another. How much of the fabric was pre-18th century is now difficult to assess, but the 2-light east window had a square surround that one contemporary source termed 'Elizabethan' (Glynne, 1897, 305). While there was a pronounced external offset on the east wall, and a possible blocked ?Romanesque window in the south wall. A plan and elevations of the church are contained within the faculty bundle for the 1884 rebuild (NLW, SD/F/330) and show a Classical south door with a semicircular head, similar windows with 16-pane timber 'Y'-tracery in the nave south wall and transepts, and simple segmental windows with brick heads, probably earlier 19th century, in the west wall and chancel south wall. There was a segmental-headed door in the west wall, also probably earlier 19th century, reached via a double staircase and leading to a gallery. An elaborate, timber, Classical domed cupola rose over the crossing. The floor was flagged. The roofs had flat ceilings from the 19th century (Glynne, 1897, 305).

The church was entirely demolished, and the present church built, in 1884-5 to the designs of the architect A. Ritchie of Chester (NLW, SD/F/330). The organ chamber was added in 1929 (NLW, SD/F/331).

There is no physical evidence for the pre-1884 church, though its extent was greater than that of the present church; the deep, wide earth cutting around the north and west walls, however, is mainly pre-1884. Floors are suspended over heating ducts in the nave and organ chamber. The boilerhouse is partly below-ground. 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 - pre-conquest Latin dedication?.

St Michael, Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn, was not a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), but as 'Llanfihangel Castell Gwallter' was a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. It appears to have always been in the patronage of the Bishops of St Davids.

Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a discharged vicarage in the patronage of the Bishop, was rated in the king's books at £12 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Michael, Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Llangorwen (Benefice no. 824) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8).

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

Hook Mason, 1996, Quinquennial Report, Llanfihangel Genau'r-glyn.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/330, Faculty - Taking down and rebuilding church, 1884.

NLW, SD/F/331, Faculty - New organ chamber, 1929.

Printed Accounts

Anon., 1878, 'Lampeter Meeting', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol X, Fourth Series.

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 MICHAEL,
LLANFIHANGEL LLEDROD,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 20473

RB No. 3134

NGR SN 6460 7019

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (PRN 12434).

A single-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, 3 bays, ?new built in the early 19th century. Porch/vestry (west of nave), 1 bay, 1883. Construction is in coursed local rubble throughout. Neo-gothic. Porch/vestry divided into 2 elements by internal wall. Slate gable roofs; porch/vestry with a slate, hipped lean-to roof. All openings are from 1883; western single bellcote, 1883.

Roofs, floors and finishes, 1883.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. External earth cutting, medium-deep, around 75% of church; underground heating chamber in 5% of church; floors suspended above heating ducts in 75% of church.

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

Group value - low-medium. Central village church.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, early 19th century.

Phase 2 - Restored 1883, high impact; porch/vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

St Michael, Llanfihangel Lledrod, is a single-celled church, of small size. It was apparently (re)built in the early 19th century on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor (PRN 12434), probably retaining nothing from the earlier fabric. It was heavily restored in 1883.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel/nave without structural division, and a single-bayed extension at the west end, divided into a vestry and porch. Construction is in coursed local rubble throughout. All dressings are in yellow oolite and from 1883; the openings are neo-gothic with 2-centred surrounds, the 1- and 2-light windows being uncusped, with simple tracery. The porch and vestry are divided by an internal wall, the former element being entered through west and north doors. There is a single gabled bellcote at the west end, 1883. The chancel/nave roof is a slated gable; the porch/vestry has a slated, hipped lean-to roof at a slightly lower level.

The earlier church was described by Lewis, 1833, as 'a small plain building, consisting only of a nave'; it had 'recently received an addition of 280 sittings'. It is shown as a plain rectangular structure on the tithe map of 1844 (NLW, Llanfihangel Lledrod, 1844) and was presumably unchanged in 1883 when it was illustrated for the faculty application for its restoration (NLW, SD/F/465). The drawings show a single cell corresponding to the present chancel/nave, of apparent early 19th century construction, with an east window, 1 window in the north wall and 2 in the south, all 2-centred, single-light, neo-gothic and with timber 'Y'-tracery. There was a north door with a similar opening, and a gabled western single bellcote. Inside was a west gallery.

The church was in a very 'indifferent state of repair' in 1878 (Anon., 1878, 350) and was restored in 1883 to the designs of the architect A. Ritchie, of Chester (NLW, SD/F/465). The vestry/porch was added at the west end. Much of the church may have been rebuilt or at least refaced. The earlier windows and door were blocked and the present ones inserted, and the buttresses added. The bellcote was rebuilt. The church was reroofed, and refloored with an underground heating chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove; the interior was reseated.

The font is from 1883. The original font now lies loose in the north porch, and has a square bowl and cylindrical stem of 12th-13th century date, but in 1914 its component parts formed a decorative feature of the archway over the churchyard entrance (Evans, 1914, 9).

There is one bell (Hook-Mason, 1993, 6), cast by Evans of Chepstow in 1751 (Anon., 1878, 350).

There is an external earth cutting, from before 1883 (NLW, SD/F/465), along the eastern half of the north south wall; it becomes medium-depth along the east wall, and deeper along the south wall. There is an underground heating chamber, and floors are suspended above heating ducts except in the porch.

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Michael, Llanfihangel Lledrod, was a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. The patronage is unknown.

In 1833 the living was a perpetual curacy in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, endowed with £10 per annum, £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty and £900 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833); it was in the patronage of the incumbent.

In 1998 St Michael, Llanfihangel Lledrod, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llanilar, Rhostie and Llangwryfon (Benefice no. 614) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Llanbadarn Fawr (St Davids, 1997-8).

The cult of St Michael has pre-conquest origins within Ceredigion; however, the Lledrod dedication may be later (Various, 1994, 393).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Sheet XVI.14.

NLW, Parish of Llanfihangel Lledrod, Tithe Map, 1844.

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Church in Wales Records

Hook-Mason, 1993, Quinquennial Report, Llanfihangel Lledrod.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/465, Faculty - Restoration of church, 1883.

Printed Accounts

Anon., 1878, 'Lampeter Meeting', Archaeol. Cambrensis Vol. IX, Fourth Series.

Evans, G. E., 1914, 'Cardiganshire Fonts', Transactions of the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society Vol. I.

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 MICHAEL,
LLANFIHANGEL-Y-CREUDDYN,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 5176

RB No. 3106

NGR SN 6650 7605

Listed Building no. 9850

Grade B listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; central tower, 3 storeys over a crossing; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay; medieval. South porch, 1871, on site of earlier porch. Vestry (north), 1 bay, 1905. Boilerhouse (west of porch, below ground), early 20th century, 1933?. Local rubble construction. Internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower with slate octagonal roof and boilerhouse with flat concrete roof. Crossing arches, tower openings and main roofs, medieval; openings mainly from 1871 and include windows and doors, neo-gothic, red Forest of Dean stone dressings.

Roofs: mainly c.1500, oak, with 'wagon-roof' ceilings. Floors: mainly 1871. Finishes: 1933 and 1989.

Condition - good. Internal plaster fair.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Deep, slab-lined cutting around 90% of church, primary, secondarily deepened exposing footings in 20% of church; external platform beyond 20% of church?; no evidence for floor level changes; suspended floors, over heating ducts, in 80% of church; below-ground floors in 20% of church; external memorials lie significantly close to 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% medieval core fabric. Medieval crossing arches and central tower openings, and main roofs.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; central village location.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, transepts and crossing (and south porch?), C14.

Phase 2 - Central tower, 15th century.

Phase 3 - Restored 1871, medium-high impact, south porch rebuilt.

Phase 4 - Vestry, 1905.

Phase 5 - Boilerhouse, earlier 20th century (1933?).

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Michael, Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, is a multicelled, cruciform church, of large size. It retains approximately 80% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, single-bayed north and south transepts, a central tower comprising 3 storeys over a crossing, a single-bayed transeptal vestry north of the chancel west bay, a south porch, and a below-ground boilerhouse west of the porch. Construction is in local rubble throughout; internal arches and the tower openings are medieval, but windows and doors are mainly from 1871 and neogothic, with red Forest of Dean sandstone dressings. Pointing is from 1933 and 1989; the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the tower has a slated octagonal roof while the boilerhouse has a flat concrete roof. Floors lie above a void in the crossing, nave, transepts and vestry.

The chancel walls have a low, external offset, medieval. The segmental-headed east window has 3 plain lights, 1871. The north wall has a cusped, single lancet, from 1871 in imitation of a medieval original; the south wall is pierced by a similar double-lancet window, all from 1871 and recently reset. The vestry door opening in the west bay north wall is medieval, but had been blocked and was reopened - and rebuilt - in 1905 (NLW, SD/F/336). The chancel has an oak 'wagon-roof' ceiling with plaster panels, from c.1500 with contemporary timbers above. The floor is polychrome-tiled, 1871.

The crossing communicates with the chancel, nave and transepts via large, plain 2-centred arches with simple imposts, medieval, 14th century?. It now has a flat, concrete roof, 20th century. The passages are quarry-tiled above heating ducts, with suspended board floors, from 1871 and 1905. The central tower rises 3 more storeys above the crossing, to which it was added in the 15th century; the upper storeys are reached from a spiral stair in the thickness of the north-east crossing responds with a narrow, square-headed medieval doorway. The second and third stages have simple single slit-lights in all 4 faces, while the belfry stage has a large, segmental-headed opening in each face, with louvres, 15th century but possibly restored in 1871 (before 1898) rebuilt. The shallow corbel table and crenellated parapet were rebuilt in 1898, when the slated octagonal roof was added.

The nave walls lack the external offset seen in the chancel. Both north and south walls lean out markedly. There are 2 windows in each of the side walls, each of 2 square-headed lights beneath a lintel; the west window is similar but with a segmental opening. All are from 1871 as is the 2-centred south door. Roofed as the chancel but without the plaster panels, revealing the collar rafter trusses and purlins from c.1500; the matchboarding above may be later. Floored as the crossing.

The transepts are lit by windows like those in the nave side walls and from 1871, in their end walls; that in the south transept was inserted through the 1841 blocking of a ?medieval doorway. A timber sundial - date? - is mounted on the south transept exterior. Both transepts have roofs from c.1500, as in the nave including the lack of panelling. Both are floored as the nave and crossing.

A south porch was present by 1847 at least (NLW, Parish of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, Tithe Map, 1847), but was entirely rebuilt in 1871 with its 2-centred doorway. The softwood roof, from 1871, has 'wagon-roof' framing in imitation of the medieval roofs and without panelling. The floor is quarry-tiled, from 1871.

The vestry, including all openings, is from 1905. There is a doorway from the yard in the east wall and a cusped, 2 light window with simple geometric tracery in the north wall, all dressings are in yellow oolite. The blocked fireplace at the south-east corner has a square, shouldered chimney-stack also from 1905. The softwood gabled roof is from 1905 and without trusses, all rafters being collared; the woodblock floor is also from 1905.

The boilerhouse is earlier 20th century, possibly from 1933. It is entirely below-ground, separated from the south porch by a stairwell along the latter's west wall. The walls are of brick, while the concrete roof lies at churchyard ground level. The flue occupies an ashlar buttress at the south end of the nave west wall, stepped back to an octagonal yellow oolite stack.

A deep, slab-lined cutting surrounds the entire church except the nave west wall and south porch; it was (re)excavated in 1871 (1905 around vestry) exposing the nave north wall footings. There may be a platform adjacent to the south-eastern part of the church. There is no evidence for changes in floor level. The flooring lies over a void (and flues) in the nave, crossing, transepts and vestry. The vestry floor is below churchyard level. The boilerhouse is below ground. External memorials lie significantly close to the east wall, and the nave north and south walls.

Structural development

The church is almost entirely medieval. Local tradition has it that the bulk of the fabric, including the chancel, nave and transepts, was built in 1268. The crossing may be this early, or more probably 14th century, and built in conscious imitation of the monastic church at Llanbadarn Fawr (cf. Llanddewi Brefi). The nave and chancel may not be contemporary; the nave walls lack the external offset seen in the chancel. The tower was added in the 15th century. The roofs are from c.1500. The south porch was entirely rebuilt, on the site of an earlier porch, in 1871. The vestry was added in 1905 and the boilerhouse may date from 1933.

The 'lower loft' in the tower was boarded in 1831 (Evans, 1918, 332) and in 1841 the door in the south wall of the south transept was blocked, and the transept gallery was taken down with the intention of re-erecting it in the north transept (ibid.). It had been intended to 'take down and rebuild' the north transept in 1846 (Evans, 1918, 333), which had come to be known as the 'Canghell dywyll' (dark chancel); the work was happily never undertaken. The south transept was equally dark, the windows then being small and/or few.

The church was the subject of a lengthy description in the mid 19th century (Glynne, 1897, 305-6). The east window, and chancel south windows were 'Perpendicular', 16th century?, and there was a single cusped light in its north wall; the chancel had recently been 'improved'. The transept windows were all square-headed, presumably 18th - 19th century. The south porch was described as 'rude'. The interior had been stripped of whitewash.

The restoration of 1871 (Evans, 1915, 79; Salter, 1994, 22) was apparently undertaken without a Faculty (NLW, SD/F/336). Nevertheless, the church was entirely refenestrated, the south door and south porch were rebuilt, the interior was refloored, doubtless reseated and probably at this time received its plaster finish. The church is shown much in its present form in a sketch dated 1889 (Evans, 1915, 79), disproving the claim that the tower was reduced in height by 1.8m in 1898 (ibid.; Hook Mason, 1992, 2); however, its parapet may have been slightly lowered, and the octagonal roof was constructed.

The vestry was added in 1905, when the church was again reseated (NLW, SD/F/336).

The church was renovated in 1933, when the boilerhouse may have been constructed, and again in 1989 (Hook Mason, 1992, 2).

The softwood stalls, pews and pulpit may all be from 1905. The massive, carved oak reredos is from 1919 (NLW, SD/F/337).

The oolite font has an octagonal bowl on a cluster of 4 shafts, 19th - 20th century; a small octagonal bowl lying loose may be from the medieval font.

The bell dates from 1686 (Evans, 1918, 332).

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site -
Pre-conquest Latin dedication?

St Michael, Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, as 'Llanfihangel Kilvireth', was not a parish church during the medieval period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Ultra-Aeron. It appears to have been a possession of the Bishops of St Davids.

Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn had become a parish by 1833 when the living was a discharged vicarage in the patronage of the Bishop, rated in the king's books at £8 and endowed with £200 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

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

An alternative name for the parish, and occurring on the 1751 chalice, is Llanfihangel Gelyndrod (Evans, 1918, 332).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

Blaeu, J., 1648, Map of Cardiganshire.

NLW, Parish of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, Tithe Map, 1847.

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

Church in Wales Records

Hook-Mason, 1992, Quinquennial Report, Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/336, Faculty - New vestry room, 1905.

NLW, SD/F/337, Faculty - Reredos, 1919.

Printed Accounts

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**ST MICHAEL,
LLANFIHANGEL YSTRAD,
CEREDIGION**

Dyfed PRN 17370

RB No. 3628

NGR SN 5245 5622

Listed Building no. 17430

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 4777).

A multicell church, large. Consists of chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; vestry, 1 bay; store-room, 1 bay; north aisle, 4 bays; all 1877. South porch, 1928. Construction is in local rubble throughout. Slate gable roofs, continuous over vestry and store-room. Openings are mainly from 1877, neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings; external buttressing, 1877. Gabled single bellcote over porch, 1928.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1877; 1928 in porch.

Condition - good. Roof timbers fair.

Archaeological potential - good. no external cutting or drain; floors suspended over a void in 90% of church; external memorials significantly close to 30% of church.

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

Group value - medium. Landmark C19 church in valley floor location; large churchyard with good memorials.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, vestry, store-room, north aisle, 1877.

Phase 2 - South porch, 1928.

DESCRIPTION

St Michael, Llanfihangel Ystrad, is a multicelled church, of large size. It was entirely (re)built in 1877 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric (Dyfed PRN 4777).

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel centre bay, a single-bayed store-room north of the chancel west bay, 4 4-bayed north aisle, and a south porch. Construction is in local rubble throughout; external pointing is mainly from 1877, and the interior is plastered. Openings are mainly from 1877 and neogothic, with yellow oolite dressings, the windows comprising simple double lancets and multi-light windows with Geometric tracery. The exterior is buttressed throughout, from 1877. The south porch is from 1928 and its southern gable carries a gabled single bellcote offset from a square base. The roofs are slated gables throughout, the vestry and store-room being roofed as one.

The medieval church survived until 1877, and in 1810 was described 'an ancient building' consisting of a nave and north aisle separated by an arcade of four 2-centred arches on 'five square pillars' (Crossley and Ridgway, 1946, 52). A carved timber rood-screen bore the inscription 'MILET . C.W. 1672. I.E. ME. FECIT.' (Evans, 1918, 336). Samuel Lewis, writing in 1833, mentions in addition a south aisle (Lewis, 1833) but this may merely represent a misreading of Meyrick's 1810 description; the tithe map of 1843 (NLW, Llanfihangel Ystrad, 1843) is not helpful.

No south aisle, nor the screen, are mentioned in a description of 1847 (Glynne, 1898, 353). The north aisle arcade is described as 'very rude', there was no defined chancel and no porch, and an 'open' bellcote lay at the west end. The whole was 'glaring with whitewash'.

The church was entirely rebuilt in 1877-8, to the designs of the architect John Middleton of Cheltenham; there is no evidence that any medieval masonry was retained, as suggested in Cadw, 1996, 1.

The porch, with its bellcote, was added in 1928 to the designs of the architect C. W. Mercer (NLW, SD/F/338). Prior to this, a 'temporary' timber bellcote was situated in the churchyard (Evans, 1918, 337).

The font has a square scalloped bowl and a cylindrical stem, from the 12th century (Anon., 1914, 11).

There is one bell, cast by William Evans of Chepstow in 1738 (Evans, 1918, 338).

There is neither an external cutting nor a drain. Floors are suspended except in the porch. External memorials lie significantly close to the south wall.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Pre-conquest Latin dedication?.

St Michael, Llanfihangel Ystrad, was not a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Sub-Aeron. It was a possession of St Davids as a prebend of the collegiate church at Llanddewi Brefi, rated in the king's books at £7 14 4½d (Lewis, 1833).

Llanfihangel Ystrad had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a discharged vicarage in the patronage of the Bishop as an impropriation, was rated in the king's books at £4 18s 1½d and endowed with £400 parliamentary grant (ibid.).

In 1998 St Michael, Llanfihangel Ystrad, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Cilcennin, Trefilan and Nantcwnlle (Benefice no. 698) 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, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Sheet XXXIII.7.

NLW, Parish of Llanfihangel Ystrad, Tithe Map, 1843.

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