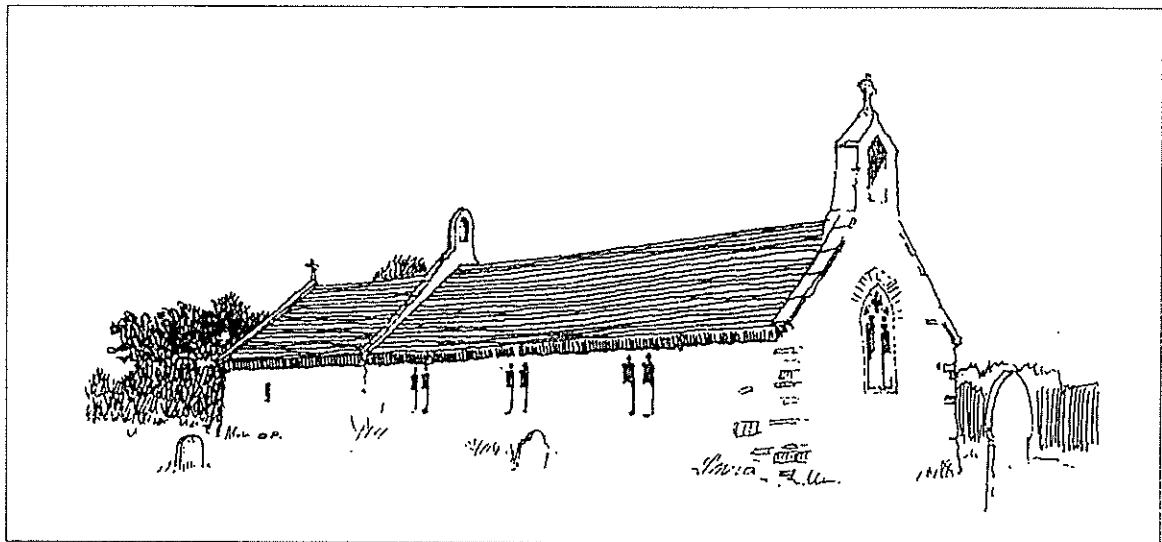


**CADW WELSH HISTORIC
CHURCHES PROJECT**

01/05/98

**PRESELI PEMBROKESHIRE CHURCHES, 1997-8
(DAT 48)**

PART 1: AMBLESTON - EGLWYSWRW



Reports prepared for CADW
by Neil Ludlow
ACA
April 1998



ARCHAEOLOG
CAMBRIA
ARCHAEOLOGY

**ST MARY,
AMBLESTON,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 1285

RB No.

NGR SN 0011 2579

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 70% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; west tower lower storey; all medieval. West tower belfry, 1779. Boiler-house, north of nave and tower, 1906.

Construction is of limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; the boiler-house roof is an asbestos lean-to. Medieval chancel arch and ?re-used lancet. Medieval west tower with vault, blocked window and spiral stair turret, openings 1779. Tower belfry with openings and parapet, 1779. All other openings are 19th century.

Roofs and floors: 1906. Finishes: 1833?-later 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - excellent. External earthwork platform around 90% of church, primary debris?; shallow external concrete drain around 80% of church; No evidence for floor level changes; floors not suspended floors, without underfloor void?; external heating chamber against 5% of church; no internal crypt/vault evident; no evidence for former components beyond church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair-good. 70% medieval core fabric; medieval chancel arch and ?re-used lancet; medieval west tower lower storey with vault, stair turret and blocked window, tower belfry, parapet and openings of 1779.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, 13th-14th century.

Phase 2 - West tower, earlier 16th century.

Phase 3 - West tower belfry rebuilt 1779.

Phase 4 - Restored 1833, low impact?

Phase 5 - Restored later 19th century, low-medium impact; no new components.

Phase 6 - Restored 1906 century, low-medium impact; boiler-house built.

DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Ambleston, is a 3-celled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 70% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 2-bayed nave, a 2-storey west tower which includes the entry, and a below ground boiler-house south of the nave west bay and west tower.

Construction is mainly of medium-large limestone rubble, unsquared and uncoursed, with crude medieval quoins. Poor 1906 ribbon pointing but good re-pointing of the later 20th century in areas; earlier (1833?) pointing is visible in areas. The interior is rendered/plastered, from 1906. Roofs are slated gables, the nave always roofed at a higher level, while the boiler-house has a low asbestos lean-to roof; the west tower roof was not seen, but it formerly had a low spire which was still present in 1925.

An external platform is visible to the north and south of the church, with slight scarp slopes running parallel to the side walls; primary? debris from 1833/1906 restorations?. A shallow, concrete-lined external drain, from 1906, runs all around the church except for the west and south walls of the west tower. There is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are not suspended and do not now feature an underfloor void. The boiler-house is below-ground, but no internal crypt/vault is evident. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls.

The present church appears to be fundamentally medieval and its core plan is unchanged; however, little work of medieval character has survived and, with the possible exception of the chancel arch and a re-used lancet surround, no medieval openings have survived in the body of the church. It is therefore not possible to date the fabric any more closely than to assign a 13th or 14th century date to the nave and chancel. The lower storey of the west tower is from the earlier 16th century, but the belfry stage was entirely rebuilt in 1779 (RCAHM, 1925, 3).

The chancel east wall is medieval but the entire gable was rebuilt in the later 19th century. The east window is of 3 cusped lights beneath a 4-centred arch, in oolite and from the later 19th century. A similar, but 2-light window occupies the west bay north wall, while in the opposite (south) wall an opening of the later 19th century has a cusped single lancet, possibly re-used from the 15th century. The chancel arch is plain and 2-centred and is possibly medieval beneath the plaster. The softwood roof is from 1906 and has scissors-braced rafters. The woodblock floor is also from 1906.

The nave is similar. The side walls each have 2 windows with 2-centred rear arches possibly from 1833; the oolite triple lancets are cusped and lie beneath a 2-centred outer arch, all from the later 19th century. The west doorway into the tower has been rebuilt as a simple square opening, in 1833?. The nave roof is softwood, comprising collar-rafter trusses with queen posts, arch braced from the wall corbels and all from 1906. The floors are woodblock as in the chancel, and again from 1906.

The tower is of 2 storeys. The lower storey fabric is limestone and conglomerate rubble, squared and coursed and probably from the early 16th century; it has the basal batter and plain string-course typical of the region. A square spiral stair turret projects from the east half of the north wall, entered from the interior through a 4-centred doorway of early 16th century date and lit by simple slit lights; the external face has been extensively repaired/refaced in the late 20th century. The ground floor is entered through a west doorway with a tall, segmental rear arch which also housed the medieval west window, blocked in 1779; the lower, 2-centred door head was rebuilt in 1779 interrupting the blocking. The ground floor is vaulted with a 2-centred barrel-vault, early 16th century, pierced for 5 bellropes. The floor is tiled directly on the substrate, later 19th century?/1906?. The belfry stage was entirely rebuilt in 1779 of smaller, more crudely coursed limestone rubble and was entirely rebuilt in 1779 with single-light, square, segmental-headed openings in the south, west and east walls. The crenellated parapet lies on a simple, overhanging offset. The tower formerly had a low spire which was still present in 1925 (RCAHM, 1925, 3).

The boiler-house was built against the south walls of the nave west bay and the tower in 1906 (NLW, SD/F/24). It features a below-ground heating chamber but the brick walls rise above ground level and are

roughcast externally, of 1906. Six external steps lead down to a simple square doorway in the west wall. The low lean-to roof is now asbestos-sheeted, while the floor is of concrete. The flue from the former boiler leads up through the tower south wall.

The church was restored in 1833 (RCAHM, 1925, 3), but the extent of the work is unknown. It may have been slight, but possibly includes the nave west door and window embrasures; the present window surrounds were inserted prior to the 1906 restoration, but stylistically do not appear to be this early and probably date from the later 19th century, along with the rebuilt east gable top. In 1898 the church, after these restorations, was described as 'a poor structure architecturally' (Anon., 1898, 281).

The church was restored again in 1906 (NLW, SD/F/24) to the specifications of the architect Hugh J. Protheroe Thomas, of Haverfordwest. The restoration was of low-medium impact, not the total rebuild suggested by the RCAHM (RCAHM, 1925, 3). All the existing openings were retained, new fabric being limited to the wall heads which were 'made good'. The roofs and seats were removed. The interior was entirely stripped of its existing plaster, and replastered. The chancel and nave were re-roofed in softwood, with wall corbels in the nave and weather tabling. The woodblock floors were laid on concrete. The church was re-seated in oak, and an oak pulpit was fitted, and also the altar table. The north-west corner of the nave was screened off as a vestry with the present oak and glass screen. The boiler-house was built. Further work includes the extensive repointing of the church in the later 20th century, and the refitting of the chancel in the 1960s with new east window glazing, an oak reredos, altar rail, credence, and plain stalls, all of which are dated from the 1960s.

The limestone font has a square bowl, cylindrical stem and square base, of the 12th-13th century. It had apparently been sold by public auction during the restoration of 1833 (RCAHM, 1925, 3), but in 1904 it was found at the nearby Wallis Farm, the bowl being used as a pig trough and the stem as a cheese press; it was returned to the church (Anon., 1904, 153-4).

The church was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Ambleston, was a parish church in the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Rhos. The benefice was a vicarage. As 'Almenolfeston', it was granted, between 1147 and 1176, to the Knights Hospitaller of Slebech Commandery, by Wizo the Fleming of Wiston, his son Walter and grandson, another Walter (Rees, 1897, 98, 104). There were 2 dependent chapelries formerly within the parish, at Rinaston and Woodstock (Green, 1911, 230).

There is no valuation for Ambleston in the 'Taxatio' of 1291, but the 'Church of Amelastone' returned £8 annually to Slebech in 1338 (Anon., 1898, 281). It was assessed at 79s 4d in 1536, in tenths 7s 11½d (Green, 1911, 230).

At the dissolution, Slebech Commandery and all its appurtenances, including Ambleston, fell to King Henry VIII. The patronage remained in royal hands, but in 1729 the tithes etc of the parish were sequestered by the Bishop of St Davids on the death of the incumbent (Green, 1911, 232). As a discharged vicarage of the Archdeaconry of St Davids its value was, in 1786, £7 (£30) annually, rated in the king's books at £3 19s 4½d (Green, 1911, 230). By 1833 the living was endowed with £600 royal bounty and £200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Ambleston, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Spittal, Trefgarn and St Dogwells (Benefice 819) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Roose (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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HPR/49 - Ambleston:-

HPR/49/3 - Correspondence re: stained glass east window, 1964-5.

HPR/49/4 - Correspondence re: new teak double doors, 1963.

HPR/49/6 - Faculty, new teak double doors, 1963.

HPR/49/7 - Faculty, stained glass east window, 1965.

HPR/49/9 - Notes on church history, n.d.

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**ST MARY,
BLETHERSTON,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 1401

RB No.

NGR SN 0703 2120

Grade B listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 75% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave (without structural division), 3 bays; south aisle, 3 bays; all medieval. South porch, 1887.

Construction is in limestone rubble throughout. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs. No chancel arch. Medieval arcade, 3 bays, c.1500. 2 medieval doorways, c.1500, one of them blocked. 3 medieval windows, 2 of them reused/rebuilt, with mullions, 16th century. Medieval bellcote, on bold corbels, c.1500. Medieval recess, Easter sepulchre? Medieval buttress. Medieval corbel, plain. Remainder of openings (windows), and half-timbered porch, 1887.

Roofs and floors, 1887. Finishes, 18th century?; 1887-c.1990.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep external cutting around 50% of church, 25% primary, 25% secondary, footings exposed; no external cutting/drain elsewhere; no evidence of floor level changes; underfloor void; possible crypt/vault below 10% of church; no evidence of former components beyond church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 75% medieval core fabric; medieval arcade; 3 medieval windows; 2 medieval doors; medieval bellcote; medieval recess, buttress and corbel.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, 14th-15th century.

Phase 2 - South aisle, c1500

Phase 3 - Restored 1887; medium impact; south porch built

DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Bletherston, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 75% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel/nave, a 3-bayed south aisle of the same length and width, and a south porch. Construction is in medium-large limestone rubble throughout, unsquared and uncoursed, with crude medieval quoins. Some pre-1887 external pointing survives; the 1887 pointing is of poor-fair quality; some poor repointing c.1990. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs throughout.

The northern cell - the chancel/nave - is the earlier of the two components; the fabric is probably earlier than the openings and may be 14th-15th century. The 3-light east window is 16th century in a square oolite surround, while the west wall features a large, gabled bellcote carried on boldly projecting corbels, with a single, crude 2-centred opening, all of c.1500. The blocked west door below with its semicircular-headed limestone ashlar surround is similarly c.1500. The north wall has a broad, shallow raking buttress, of one build with the wall, and internally the east bay exhibits a wide, segmental recess that may represent an Easter sepulchre or tomb recess. High on the same wall is a crude medieval corbel for the former roof truss. There is no chancel arch; both chancel/nave and south aisle always having been roofed continuously at similar levels.

The south aisle was added c.1500 - the 3-bay arcade is of plain 2-centred arches with deep chamfers carried on octagonal piers without capitals or bases, stylistically of this date. The south door with its plain, 2-centred limestone ashlar surrounds is contemporary. The 2-light east and west windows are 16th century as in the north cell, but have been reused/built, the west window in particularly being largely 1887 work.

A deep earth-cut cutting runs around the western half of the church, exposing footings in some areas, particularly the chancel/nave west wall and thus post-dating its construction; the south aisle footings are not exposed and the cutting may therefore be contemporary with it. There is no cutting or drain around the eastern half of the church. Memorials suggest a possible below-ground crypt/vault beneath the chancel/nave east bay. The flooring is suspended throughout. In the absence of pier bases there is no evidence for any internal level changes.

Two sash windows were introduced into the north wall in the late 18th-early 19th century; the south wall may have displayed similar windows but these had gone by 1887 (NLW, SD/F/40). At a similar period limestone-flagged floors were laid (*ibid.*); otherwise, building work of this period appears to have been low-impact, or absent. The church was not described by Samuel Lewis in 1833 (Lewis, 1833). The upper half of the south wall was rebuilt, with the two 3-light windows in square oolite surrounds similar to the existing 16th century windows, during the later 19th century but prior to 1887 (NLW, SD/F/40); the east gables were rebuilt above eaves level probably at the same time.

The church was restored in 1887 (*ibid.*), to the specifications of the architect E. H. Lingen Barker, of London, Hereford and Swansea. Writing after the event he described the south aisle as having been 'rebuilt' (Evans, 1917, 7) but it is apparent that the work was of medium impact only, rebuilding being confined to the south-west corner of the aisle (NLW, SD/F/40). The two present north wall windows, of 3 and 4 lights similar to the existing windows, were inserted, and the aisle east and west windows rebuilt. The floors were removed, and suspended board floors with tiled passages inserted; some of the old flags were reused in the aisle east bay. The church received entirely new softwood roofs, the chancel/nave east bay receiving a 'wagon-roof' ceiling, the remainder with scissors-braced common rafters on wall-corbels; there are, however, no upstands or weather tabling. The interior was replastered but the extent of removal of the old is unknown. The half-timbered south porch was built new, with an oak superstructure and collar-rafter roof, its tiled floor laid directly on the substrate. Most fittings are from this restoration, and include the pews and stalls, the altar table, altar rail, and pulpit. The font was moved and restored (see below).

There has been little subsequent work on the church, although areas of the external stonework were repointed in cement, poorly, c.1990.

The font is medieval, with a heptagonal limestone bowl and square base, probably 13th-14th century. The stem was renewed in oolite in 1887.

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is no firm evidence for any pre-conquest religious use of the site, and no church is shown at Bletherston by Rees in his map of 14th century Wales (Rees, 1932).

Bletherston Church was originally a chapelry which seems at a very early date to have been annexed to Llawhaden Church (Green, 1911, 244), later becoming the parish church of Bletherston. By the mid 17th century the living was a consolidated vicarage with Llawhaden (Anon, 1898, 272) as it was in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

It has been suggested that the original dedication was to St Keyne the Virgin (RCAHM, 1925, 19).

In 1998 St Mary, Bletherston, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llawhaden and Llanycefn (Benefice 671) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Daugleddau (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First Edition, Sheet XXIII.8, 1889.

NLW, Parish of Bletherston, Tithe Map, 1839.

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Jones, w., 1993, Quinquennial Report, Bletherston.

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NLW, SD/F/40, Faculty - Restoration of church, 1887.

Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest

HPR/111 - Bletherston

HDX/1361/4, 5 & 6, Notes on Register entries, c.1759-98.

Printed Accounts

A. Gordon Partnership, 1993, *Redundant Religious Buildings in West Wales*.

Anon., 1898, 'Haverfordwest Meeting', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. XV, Fifth Series.

Crossley, F. H., and Ridgway, M. H., 1957, 'Screens, Lofts and Stalls situated in Wales and Monmouthshire: Part 8', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. CVI.

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**ST DAVID,
BRAWDY,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 2818

RB No.

NGR SM 8580 2404

Grade IIA listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; south aisle, 3 bays; south porch; all medieval.

Construction is of limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs throughout. Medieval chancel arch, with rood-loft corbels. Medieval south aisle arches. Medieval windows in chancel, nave and aisle. Medieval south door and blocked north door. Medieval western single bellcote and sanctus bellcote. South porch with medieval vault and doorway. Medieval stoup in nave. Medieval buttresses on south aisle. Medieval roof corbels in nave and aisle. Blocked later windows in chancel and nave?. Other windows are from 1884.

(Three loose ECMs.)

Roofs: 1879?. Floors: 1884 and 20th century. Finishes: 18th-20th centuries. Wall-painting apparently present, medieval?

Condition - good. South aisle south wall leans.

Archaeological potential - very good. Shallow-deep external cutting around 100% of church, some footings exposed; floors raised in 20% of church, lowered in 5% of church; suspended floors with underfloor void; no internal crypt/vault evident; no evidence for former components beyond church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 90% medieval core fabric; medieval arches, windows and doors; 2 medieval bellcotes; medieval porch with vault; medieval stoup, buttresses and corbels, blocked windows? later?.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, early 13th century.

Phase 2 - Chancel and south aisle west bays, 14th century.

Phase 3 - South porch, 14th-15th century.

Phase 4 - South aisle east bay, c.1500.

Phase 5 - Restored 1879?, low impact; no new components.

Phase 6 - Restored 1884, medium impact; no new components.

DESCRIPTION

St David, Brawdy, is a 4-celled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 4-bayed nave, a 3-bayed south aisle, and a south porch. Construction is in medium-large limestone rubble, unsquared and uncoursed with some medieval quoins; fair 1901 pointing over restricted areas of surviving 18th century render; the interior is rendered/plastered, from 1901?. Roofs are all slated gables, the nave probably always roofed at a higher level.

A shallow-deep external tile-lined cutting, from 1884, runs around the entire church exposing footings in areas. The chancel floor has been raised but the porch floor has been lowered. The floors are suspended with an underfloor void. No internal crypt/vault is evident. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls.

The present church

The present church is medieval and its plan, and much of the detail, has survived more-or-less unchanged. The nave is quoined and from the early 13th century, judging by the splayed south wall slit light; it was formerly entered through both north and south doorways. The chancel and south aisle west bays have similar 2-centred arches and both are probably from the 14th century; the chancel is inclined markedly to the north. The 4-centred arch into the south aisle east bay suggests that it was added c.1500; the possibility exists (see Salter, 1984, 48) that the south aisle central bay started off as a transept and was extended to the west at the same time, but some structural evidence of its east wall would be expected on the nave south wall but there is none. However, the vaulted south porch might be expected to pre-date the aisle, which butts against it, but is itself probably no older than the 14th-15th century when such porches were current.

The chancel east wall is medieval with a large, amorphous boulder beneath the north-east corner. The east window comprises 3 cusped lights with pierced spandrels in a depressed semicircular surround and drip-mould, all in oolite and from 1884. The east bay north wall is pierced by a cusped lancet in a square surround from the 15th century, unblocked in 1884. To the west, an irregular area of facework is visible externally at mid-height, possibly representing a window already robbed and blocked by 1884. The west bay communicates with the south aisle through a depressed, plain and crudely 4-centred arch from c.1500. A medieval corbel above the arch may have been associated with the former rood-loft. The plain, 2-centred chancel arch may be 14th century; three corbels either side of the arch, to the west, supported the former rood-loft, and there is a slight offset lower down on the south side. Above the arch, the wall carries externally a sanctus bellcote of crude construction, with an irregular 2-centred opening the head of which forms a 'gable', probably 14th century.

The oak chancel 'wagon-roof' ceiling may be from 1879, and has plaster panels. Both the tiled floor in the east bay, and the flagged passage and woodblock floor in the west bay are from 1884; the flags are re-used from an earlier phase, and the woodblock is laid on concrete.

The nave is similar in construction. The north wall is pierced by 3 windows, all of 2 cusped lights in square oolite surrounds, inserted in 1884 into widened existing openings. Between the eastern two, an area of blocking with a vertical joint is visible externally, representing a window already robbed and blocked when the wall was rendered in the 18th century. The east bay communicates with the south aisle through a plain, 2-centred arch like the chancel arch and probably of similar 14th century date. A corbel at springer level is also associated with the former rood-loft, while a second at the wall-head appears medieval and may have supported a tie-beam/roof truss. To the west of the arch, the south wall is pierced by a widely splayed slit light with an irregular rounded head, early 13th century; it now looks out into the south aisle west bay. The south doorway lies to the west and has a 2-centred surround of possible 14th century date. Above the door the external wall face features a small square recess, probably for a lamp, while a small, 2-centred internal stoup recess lies east of the door; both may be 13th-14th century. There is an internal corbel at the wall-head as in the east bay. The north wall opposite displays a blocked north doorway. Its 2-centred head is low and may be

13th century; the blocking does not lie beneath the 18th century render but it had been blocked by 1884. The west bay south wall curves in, internally, towards the top, but this does not appear to be reflected externally. The west wall carries a medieval single bellcote with curved shoulders, a crude gable and a triangular-headed opening, possibly 14th century; a bell is present (see below). The 19th century window below lies beneath the relieving arch for an earlier, medieval?, window; it now has 2 cusped lights with a quatrefoil-pierced spandrel in a 2-centred oolite surround, with infill, from 1884.

The nave is also ceiled, but with oak planks, again possibly from 1879. The passages are both flagged as in the chancel and tiled, all from 1884; the former suspended floors have been infilled with concrete.

The southern corners of the south aisle both feature a plain, raking buttress, apparently coeval with the wall (but see below). The east window is a cusped single lancet from 1884, but in the south wall are 2 windows with 2 lights in square surrounds, with mortar infill, of 16th century date (partly rebuilt in 1887). This face of the nave south wall has corbels at the wall-head, forming a continuous table in the western 2 bays, for the medieval wall-plate/sole-plates. The joint between the east and western 2 bays is visible externally in the south wall; the western bays have a slight external batter and the wall leans out slightly. The west wall has a small, plain square opening high in the gable, which cannot be dated. The aisle is roofed like the nave, from 1879?, and floored continuously with the nave.

The south porch walls exhibit a low, irregular external offset. The doorway is a plain 2-centred arch. The gabled roof lies over a 2-centred barrel-vault, of 14th-15th century date. The porch is floored with limestone flags re-used in 1884.

Developmental history

Vestry minutes from the early 19th century record the usual small sums spent on routine maintenance of the fabric (Pembs. R. O., HPR/16/19). However, in 1847 'to be performed by contract' included a new roof of softwood, slated, with cave boards (ie. ceiled); the work cost £35 including 12s for 'building new corner for church', a rebuild of one of the south aisle buttresses?.

The specifications accompanying the Faculty submission of 1884 (NLW, SD/F/48) describe the existing church as having a flagged floor with suspended timbers while the porch had a pitched stone floor. The windows had timber (sash?) window-frames (ibid.), representing at least the three nave north wall windows (see below) and in 1854 a new window frame and 500 slates had been purchased (Pembs. R. O., HPR/16/19).

According to the RCAHM, the church was 'thoroughly restored' in 1879 (RCAHM, 1925, 27). There appears to be no structural record of this restoration as described, but no new roofing was undertaken during the 1884 restoration (NLW, SD/F/48); the present roofs, and tabling, may then represent the 1879 work.

A quantifiable restoration was undertaken in 1884 to the specifications (NLW, SD/F/48) of the architect E. H. Lingen Barker, of London, Hereford and Tenby, at an estimated cost of £379. The restoration was of medium impact. The fittings and all floors were removed, the porch floor was lowered and chancel floor was raised. The existing window openings in the nave and east walls were widened and new windows inserted; the medieval chancel north window was unblocked. The existing internal plaster was retained, but 'made good', and a chamfered plaster fillet was proposed for the internal vestry wall, now gone. The church was refloored, the chancel, nave and south aisle receiving suspended board floors, now gone; the 1887 seats may also have gone. The present pulpit, altar table and rail were installed, while the south aisle east bay was partitioned off with the present softwood screens to form a vestry.

Further renovations were apparently undertaken in 1901 (RCAHM, 1925, 27), but again there is no physical evidence for this work. The church does not appear to have been repointed in 1887, so this may have been undertaken with some replastering in 1901?.

A 'new stove', coal-fired, was fitted in 1920 but it appears to have been free-standing (Green, 1911, 250-51). At the same time, the roof was repaired and the interior 'coloured'; 'mason's work' costing £9 12s 6d may refer to repointing.

The oak stalls do not fit the 1884 woodblock floor - were they derived from another church?; the modern pulpit was brought from Haverfordwest St Mary (Anon., n.d.). The suspended floors in the nave and south aisle have been infilled with concrete, and they are now seated with free-standing softwood pews in nave and south aisle, all post-1901?. The roof finishes have been replaced in the late 20th century (Jones, 1994, 1).

The oolite font has a square scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem and square base, all of 12th-13th century date.

A wall-painting apparently exists somewhere within the church (Anon, n.d.); it was not seen when visited 8/10/97.

The bell dates from 1639 (ibid.).

There is an oak altar table loose in the church dated 1630.

Three ECMs lie loose in the nave and south porch (RCAHM, 1925, 28-29 et al.), two with Ogam inscriptions, from the nearby Cas Wilia Farm (Dyfed PRNs 2764 and 2766) and the third with a Latin inscription (Dyfed PRN 2738), from Rickeston farm. They were moved to the church in 1897 (Anon., 1898, 186-7).

The church was Grade IIA listed in 1998.

The south aisle is traditionally known as the Rice Chapel.

SITE HISTORY

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

St David, Brawdy, was a parish church in the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pebidiog. The benefice was a vicarage and a prebend of St Davids Cathedral (Green, 1911, 249) and although no holder of the prebend appears to be known, it was vacant in 1259 when it was appropriated to the support of the Bishop's table (ibid.). Brawdy is not mentioned in the 'Taxatio' of 1291, but in 1536 it was assessed at an annual value of 78s 8d, in tenths 7s 10½ (ibid.).

The church at Hayscastle was a chapelry of the parish until the early 17th century; the two benefices remained united under the same incumbent until the 10th century. In 1579 the Bishop of St Davids, Richard Davies, granted 'the prebend of Brodye and the chapel of Hayscastle (except the vicar's portion of the same parsonage or prebend)' to Peregrine Davies, Richard Davies and Richard Parry, of Abergwili and Llanddarog, Carm., for life, for the yearly rent of £22 (ibid.). In 1622 Dorothy Owen of Orielson obtained a lease of the prebendal tithes of Brawdy and Hayscastle, the vicar's portion excepted, for the life of her daughter (ibid.).

The discharged vicarage of 'Brodey alias Brawdey alias Brawdy and Hayscastle Chapel' were valued together at £26 annually in 1786 and rated in the king's books at £3 18s 9d (ibid.). The two livings constituted a prebend attached to the deaconal stall and were in the patronage of the Bishop, as Dean (Lewis, 1833), and by 1833 were endowed with £200 royal bounty and £1400 parliamentary grant (ibid.).

In 1998 St David, Brawdy, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Whitchurch, Solva, St Elvis and Llandeloy (Benefice 652) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Dewisland and Fishguard (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST DAVID,
BRIDELL,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 5318

RB No.

NGR SN 1766 4206

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (no separate Dyfed PRN).

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; north porch; vestry (north), 1 bay; all (re)built in 1886-7.

Construction is in squared slate rubble. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof. All openings are from 1886-7, including chancel arch. Western double bellcote, 1886-7. Western buttress, moulded, rebuilt 1886-7. Vestry chimney, 1886-7.

Roofs and floors, 1886-7. Finishes, 1886-20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Church entirely rebuilt 1886-7, in same location as earlier church above its foundations, which, with replicated detail, constitute the only physical evidence for earlier church; surrounding yard truncated around 50% of church; no external cutting or drain around church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident, but former heating chamber present?; no evidence of former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 30% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-1886 core fabric; plan and some details replicated from earlier church.

Phasing:
All 1886-7.

DESCRIPTION

St David, Bridell, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was (re)built in 1886-7 (Evans, 1917, 7; NLW, SD/F/55), on the foundations of the earlier church and following its plan, but with additional components. None of the earlier fabric was retained.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a north porch and a lean-to vestry of 1 bay, against the north wall of the chancel west bay.

Construction is in Cilgerran slate rubble throughout, roughly squared, with squared quoins. The external ribbon-pointing is 20th century. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. All dressings are in yellow sandstone; the detail is all from 1886-7 and neo-Perpendicular. It includes the chancel arch, the windows, with square surrounds and 4-centred lights, and the 4-centred north and vestry doors. The nave west wall carries an elaborate buttress with an offset, a concave talus and string course at the base, and a coped summit; it was rebuilt in 1886-7 but was an exact copy of the earlier buttress (NLW, SD/F/55). The west gable features a gabled and coped bellcote with 2 semicircular-headed openings, of 1886-7 but again an exact copy from the earlier church (NLW, SD/F/55). The vestry exhibits a plain chimney-stack. The roofs are slated gables while the vestry has a slate lean-to roof, all 1886-7. The floors are suspended except in the porch, and from 1886-7.

The Faculty submission (NLW, SD/F/55) termed the rebuild a restoration; it includes plans and specifications, by the architects Middleton, Prothero and Phillott, of Westminster, Cheltenham and Newport, for a fairly low-impact restoration mainly comprising the refenestration, reflooring and reroofing of the church, and the construction of the vestry and north porch. The chancel arch, existing north doorway and the western buttress were to be retained. In fact, the structural evidence demonstrates that the church was entirely rebuilt; all masonry is visibly 19th century. Significantly, there are also noticeable minor discrepancies. The windows were to be exact copies of the existing windows, but were not; no flue or chimney is mentioned in the specifications; the proposed external drain was not excavated. However, it has been seen above that much of the old detail was replicated in the new church.

There is no physical evidence for the earlier church. The Faculty submission (*ibid.*) proposed that the yard around the western half of the church be truncated to form a terrace, which was done. No drain or cutting is present. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. There is an underfloor void beneath the suspended floors. A possible former heating chamber is present, but no further vault or crypt is evident. There is no evidence to suggest the former presence of components beyond the present church walls. Some memorials are significantly close to the south wall of the church.

The pre-1886 church was fundamentally medieval, according to contemporary descriptions. Samuel Lewis, writing in 1833, eulogised thus 'the church...is an ancient structure, beautifully situated and embosomed among trees.' (Lewis, 1833). According to an account of 1860 it was 'not older than the 15th century, and probably replaced an earlier building' (Jones, 1860, 317), an interpretation repeated in 1872 when it was, however, regarded as 'not a very ancient building, its architectural features being 15th century' (Brash, 1872, 249).

However, the Faculty submission for the rebuilding is accompanied by a plan and elevation drawing (NLW, SD/F/55) that appear to contradict the above statements. The church, which in 1886 comprised just the chancel and nave, was lit by windows which were all 2-centred openings, without dressings, and standard for the earlier 19th century; the nave had 2 in its south wall, both with timber-framed 9-pane glazing, while the third window, in the chancel east wall, featured Y-tracery in timber, similarly early 19th century in style. There is no suggestion of blocked openings, but they may have been omitted. The gabled bellcote and western buttress are depicted as those in the present church (and indeed the plan suggests that the latter at least was retained, see above); however, the buttress is a structure unique in the region, the mouldings a strange amalgam of Gothic and Classical influences, strongly suggesting that it may not be a medieval feature at all. The entrance was to the north as at present. Seating comprised 11 box pews in the nave.

The font has a plain square bowl, a circular stem and square base, and can be dated to the 12th-early 13th centuries (RCAHM, 1925, 31).

An ECM stands in the yard immediately to the south of the church (Dyfed PRN 1174). It bears an Ogam inscription and an incised cross.

The present church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

St David, Bridell, occupies a high-certainty site, and probably the location, of a pre-conquest religious site. Celtic dedication; ECM, in situ (Dyfed PRN 1174); cist cemetery.

St David, Bridell was a parish church during the post-conquest period, in the gift of the Welsh community, of the medieval Deanery of Emlyn (Rees, 1932). The living was and is a rectory, the patrons still being the freeholders of the parish (Green, 1911, 252). As 'Brydell', the church had an annual value of £9 in 1536, tenths for the king 18s (ibid.).

In 1786 'Bredellorth alias Bridell alias Bridell' was a discharged rectory with a clear yearly value of £32, rated in the king's books at £9 (ibid.) - an assessment pertaining in 1833 - of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St David, Bridell, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Cilgerran and Llantwyd (Benefice 644) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

(A cist cemetery occupies the field immediately west of the church (Anon., 1872, 358). It was disturbed during ploughing in the 1850s.)

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**ST MARY,
BURTON,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 3023 3203

RB No.

NGR SM 9854 0564

(No Listed Building information available)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

An 8-cell church, large. Consists of chancel, 3 bays; nave, 3 bays; south chapel, 3 bays; organ chamber (north of chancel), 1 bay; north aisle (incorporates former north transept), 3 bays; south transept, 1 bay; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; all medieval. Former boilerhouse, 1907.

Construction is in limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs, slated lean-to roofs in organ chamber, north aisle west bays and south transept. Chancel arch, with rood-loft corbels; south chapel arcade, lancets, buttresses and piscina; organ chamber vault; transept arches; sanctus bellcote; stoup in nave; south porch door and stoup; west tower including vault, crenellated parapet and openings; some rebuilt windows; blocked west door; all medieval. All other openings are from 1865-7. (Tomb chest in chancel, 16th-17th century. Large organ and loft in nave, later 19th century.)

Roofs and floors: 1865-7. Finishes: 1865-7, and 1937.

Condition - good. Some external dressings weathered.

Archaeological potential - good. Earthwork platform around 30% of church, primary?; medium-deep cutting, primary, around 50% of church; shallow primary cutting beyond 5% of church; floor raised in 10% of church; suspended floors with underfloor void in 75% of church; burials beneath 20% of church; below-ground boilerhouse against 5% of church. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls. Memorials lie significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 90% medieval core fabric; medieval arcade, arches, windows and doors; medieval sanctus bellcote; medieval vaults in tower and organ chamber; medieval stoup, buttresses and corbels; blocked doors and altered windows.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel (and nave?), early 13th century.

Phase 2 - South chapel, mid-13th century.

Phase 3 - North and south transepts, 14th century.

Phase 4 - West tower lower storeys, later 14th century?

Phase 5 - Organ chamber, 14th-15th century.

Phase 6 - West tower belfry, earlier 16th century.

Phase 7 - South porch, mid 16th century.

Phase 8 - Restored 1865-7?, medium-high impact; north aisle west bays built.

(Phase 9 - Former boilerhouse, 1907.)

DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Burton, is a 8-celled church, of large size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a wider 3-bayed nave, a single bayed organ chamber north of the chancel west bay, a 3-bayed south chapel of the same dimensions as the chancel, a narrow 3-bayed north aisle incorporating a former north transept, a short, single bayed south transept, a south porch and a 3-storey west tower.

Construction is in medium-sized limestone rubble, unsquared and uncoursed with large medieval quoining in areas; poor 1937 ribbon pointing; the interior is rendered/plastered, from 1865-7, and 1937. Roofs are mainly slated gables, the nave probably always roofed at a higher level; the organ chamber, south transept and north aisle have slated lean-to roofs, and the tower roof was not seen.

A pronounced earthwork platform lies along the south side of the church, with a straight, shallow scarp slope between the south chapel and the south porch, turning through a right-angle to run up to the west tower south-west corner. A medium-deep revetted external cutting, primary, with a secondary concrete-lined drain, runs along the east and north walls, and around the north-west corner; a wide, shallow primary cutting, running north-south, lies just west of the west tower. The tower floor has been raised. The floors are suspended with an underfloor void and heating ducts. There are known burials beneath the chancel. A below-ground boilerhouse lay against the chancel north wall. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls. Memorials lie significantly close to the south chapel south wall.

The present church is medieval and its plan, and much of the detail, has survived more-or-less unchanged. The chancel is primary (as may also be the nave, having characteristics in common, see below), but original detail has been lost; however the arcade into the south chapel, with its tall 2-centred arches, is similar to the tall lancets in the south wall which are of convincingly Early English character (and unique in the region), demonstrating that the chapel was added to an existing chancel in the mid-13th century. The chapel was formerly also entered from the exterior through its west wall. The main door was probably always in the nave south wall, but the west tower also formerly featured a 'processional' entry, now blocked. The north transept is probably 14th century, probably with a former skew passage converted into an organ chamber (choir recess?); it was absorbed into the 1865-7 north aisle. The south transept may be contemporary and blocks the south chapel west door; it now has a lean-to roof, original?. The west tower lower storeys are simple and probably early, possibly even 14th century (cf. Wiston); the belfry is more typical of the region and is early 16th century. The south porch also appears stylistically to be (later) 16th century.

The chancel

The chancel walls are medieval and have an external basal batter. The east window opening may be medieval but the 2-centred surround, with a drip-mould and 2 cusped lights with pierced spandrels, in oolite, is from 1865-7. The east bay north wall has a single square-headed light of 1865-7 which may similarly occupy a medieval opening; the square piscina recess is from 1865-7. An internal corbel at half-height may have supported the medieval roof, while a slight offset high in the west bay north wall may be associated with a former rood-loft. The south wall is a 3-bay arcade of tall, plain 2-centred arches inserted in the mid-13th century; on the south face a reversed offset lies above the arcade (wall originally parapetted?). In the arcade east bay, an 'acanthus'-moulded oolite corbel of medieval date has been reset in one of the stops. The chancel arch is a plain, 2-centred arch similar to the south wall arches and possibly also (re)built in the mid-13th century; to the north is an offset and recess on the east face, and corbelling on the west face, while to the south is a blocked door with a low, 2-centred head, all associated with the former rood-loft. Above the arch, the external east face is coped for the medieval, higher chancel roof, and has a plain sanctus bellcote with a rounded gable and a 2-centred opening, all an 1865-7 oolite ashlar rebuild of a medieval original.

The chancel roof is in softwood, of common rafters with collars, from 1865-7. The tiled floor is also from 1865-7; in the centre of the floor is a tomb chest, of one of the Wogans of Boulston, of 'mixed character and

questionable date' (Llandaff, 1898, 236), but the slab, with a cross raguly and 2 shields, may be 16th century on a chest of 16th-17th century date (Anon., 1898, 183).

The nave

The nave is similar in construction to the chancel, and is probably of similar date; it may have been added when the chancel arch was inserted in the mid-13th century, but lacks the austere Early English openings seen in the mid-13th century south chapel. The arcaded north wall, moreover, rises above the north aisle roof as an overhanging string-course like that in the chancel south wall - medieval? formerly parapetted?. The east bay side walls display rood-loft corbels. The south (external) wall is battered. It is pierced by 2 windows, that to the east possibly retaining medieval jambs in its 2-centred outer arch, but otherwise from 1865-7 with 2 lights in a 2-centred limestone surround. The western window is similar but single light and all from 1865-7. Between the 2 windows is the south door, always the main entrance but the rebuilt in 1865-7 with a 2-centred head. A plain square stoup recess lies in the external face, east of the door.

The nave roof is softwood, comprising scissors-braced trusses arch-braced from a wall-plate, from 1865-7. The passages are tiled, with heating ducts below, and with the suspended board floors are also from 1865-7 (later in the west bay, see below).

The south chapel

The south chapel is fenestrated in a style unique in the region, with tall lancet windows of similar Early English style to the arcade into the chancel; they are simple and without surrounds, but the heads have been rebuilt in concrete in the 20th century. There are 3 lancets in the east wall, and two groups of 3 in the south wall separated by a contemporary buttress, also rare within the region, with a string course and hipped coping. The east and west corners exhibit similar buttresses. There is a contemporary, 2-centred piscina recess in the south wall. Lying centrally in the west wall is the blocked chapel west door, also contemporary, its 2-centred head interrupted by the inserted arch from the later south transept. Higher up is a single lancet of later date, 14th century?, but again with a concreted surround. The north wall is corbelled above the arcade, for the medieval roof?. The chapel is now roofed in softwood, with arch-braced 'hammer-beam' trusses from 1865-7. Floored as the nave but the suspended floors have been removed and infilled with concrete.

The transepts

The north aisle east bay is an 1867 conversion from a former transept of probable 14th century date, which has retained its gable but is now open to the aisle. It communicates with the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch and there is a plain segmental-headed squint in the east wall, coeval with the transept fabric. The north wall window has a 2-centred outer arch of possible medieval date with an inserted window of 2 cusped lights, with a central quatrefoil, in a 2-centred oolite surround and drip-mould, 1865-7. The roof is of collared common rafters from 1865-7; floored as the nave.

The south transept is possibly coeval with the north transept and similarly from the 14th century, although the arch into the nave east bay is segmental; it is plain, with a deeply-chamfered western stop. The transept butts against the northern half of the south chapel west wall and opens to the chapel through a similar arch. The south wall window was inserted in 1865-7 and is like the north transept window, a corbelled oolite bracket on the external face, also from 1865-7, may have been associated with the drainage of the valley between the transept and chapel roofs. The roof, always a lean-to?, has a segmental barrel-vault. Floored as the nave.

A transeptal, lean-to chamber lies north of the chancel west bay, communicating with the chancel through a plain 2-centred arch, and with a crude barrel-vault. It may have been added in the 14th-15th century when such chambers were frequent additions to Pembrokeshire churches. Often there are two, flanking the chancel west bay, and have been termed 'choir recesses', but singly may often have functioned as organ chambers. It post-

dates the north aisle former transept, lying against its east wall and obstructing the view from the squint, but the impression of a blocked 2-centred arch in its west wall suggests that it was converted from a skew passage contemporary with the transept. The cusped, 2-light window in the north wall, with a square oolite surround, is from 1865-7, with infill. It is floored as the chancel.

The west tower

The west tower is of 3 storeys (RCAHM, 1925, 34). The lower 2 storeys are unquoined, are not tapered and lack the spiral stair, basal batter and string course characteristic of the late medieval towers of the district; they may be early, possibly 14th century, the more 'typical' belfry stage having been added in the earlier 16th century. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, full-centred semicircular arch reflects the profile of the ground floor barrel-vault, contemporary with the core fabric. The site of the former west door is visible as external blocking; its opening was re-used in 1865-7 for a double lancet window (like those in the north aisle - see below). The side wall slit lights have deep splays and sills that plunge both towards and away from the interior. The woodblock floor is from c.1966 (see below). The second stage is entered from a door high in the nave west wall, since rebuilt, and is lit by 2 slit lights in the north, south and west walls. The belfry has a basal external corbel table on the east wall, above which the walls are quoined where heightened in the earlier 16th century. There are contemporary semicircular-headed openings in all 4 walls, 2-light to the north. The crenellated parapet on a plain corbel table is also 16th century, but the merlons was recoped in 1937. The tower is in good condition.

The south porch

The south porch side walls have internal oolite benching with a medieval moulded stoup bowl reset on an attached shaft in the east wall, and there is a plain square recess in the west wall. The south wall has a slight external batter and the door is a full-centred semicircular arch, of probable 16th century date. There is a plain slit-light above. The softwood roof is of arch-braced common-rafters, from 1865-7; floored as the nave.

Developmental history

Richard Fenton, writing in c.1811, described the church as containing 'nothing worthy of remark' (Fenton, 1903, 152), testimony to the degree of blocking of medieval openings that had taken place in the intervening centuries. The church was described at length in 1864, on the eve of its main restoration (Anon., 1864, 34-8). All present core components of the church were noted, and all arcades and arches were open. However, all medieval windows are said to have been blocked and 'the worst and meanest kind of wooden sashes' had been inserted; there were some stone windows open, date?. The tower west door had already been blocked, and also the nave north door (lost when the north aisle was built). The tower bells and roof had gone, but the sanctus bellcote had survived, with its bell. The porch stoup was noted, and the plunging tower slit-lights. The church was seated with box-pews, but 'a few of the original seats (remain), ornamented with the fleur-de-lys and linen pattern'. The floor was flagged (Anon., 1865, 220). The present oak reredos may be 18th century.

The church was restored in 1865-7 to the specifications of the architect Talbot Bury, of London (Anon., 1865, 220). The restoration was of medium-high impact, but revealed more than it destroyed. The internal plaster was entirely stripped, revealing the medieval lights, in particular the south chapel lancets, which were unblocked. The later windows were taken out, and the church was refenestrated. The roofs were stripped, and new roofs were built throughout including in the tower, with tabling. The flag floors were removed and new floors established throughout, the chancel tiles by Minton; underfloor heating ducts were installed beneath the nave passages. The nave and chapel were seated in softwood, with 'neo-Perpendicular-carved bench ends copying originals (see above). The present pulpit may have been installed, and the altar rail. A vestry was established in the tower ground floor with a matchboarded ceiling and tiled floor.

The western 2 bays of the north aisle were an entirely new construction. They open to the nave as a 2-bayed arcade of 2-centred arches lying on an oolite cylindrical pier with a plain capital and base, and exhibit a moulded corbel representing an ecclesiastic. The north transept west wall was removed and is open to the aisle. The north wall has 2 windows each of 2 lancets without surrounds, unlike the remainder of the 1865-7 work; the west wall has a similar window. The lean-to roof is softwood, of common rafters. Floored as the nave.

The entire nave west bay is occupied in its upper level by an organ loft, all from the later 19th century?. The softwood deck is semicircular in plan and has wrought iron rails; it is supported on 3 cast iron piers. The whole is of good quality. The ?contemporary organ is by Nicholson & Co., Worcester. The west tower doorway from the nave was rebuilt, and a flight of 10 steps were inserted into body of nave, leading up to both the door and organ loft; they were rebuilt in concrete in the 20th century.

The boilerhouse was built against the chancel north wall in c.1907 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/104/8), its floor originally lying 2m beneath the interior surfaces. It was entered from the west, the roof was probably a lean-to and the interior was rendered. A 'No.2' hot-water heating apparatus, by John King Ltd of Liverpool, was installed. It is now disused and the boilerhouse truncated, but its square, shouldered ashlar chimney stack, with circular smoke-vents, survives in the angle between the chancel and the organ chamber west wall.

Further renovations were undertaken in 1937, to specifications by Mercer & Vaughan, Architects, of Swansea (Pembs. R. O., HPR/104/3). Plaster was stripped from the vestry (tower ground floor), the nave west wall, the aisle walls and the chancel walls. The vestry matchboarding was removed, and it was re-ceiled with new joists and boarding; the tile floor was stripped and raised with concrete, and retiled. The north walls and the tower were generally repointed and the parapet recoped.

The woodblock floor in the nave west bay and the vestry was laid in c.1966, when the vestry ceiling was removed and the softwood and glass vestry screen in the west tower arcade was (re)built (Rev. J. Hale, Burton, pers. comm.).

The seating and suspended floor in the south chapel were taken up in 1971, and concreted over, new oak benches being installed (Rev. J. Hale, Burton, pers. comm.).

The oolite font has a square scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem and square base, all of the 12th-early 13th century.

No Listed Building information available.

The south chapel is traditionally known as St Andrew's Chapel, and the south transept as the Scourfield or Williamston Chapel.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Burton, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Rhos (Rees, 1932). The benefice was a rectory that appears to have been appendent to the Manor of Burton, of the Lordship of Pembroke (Green, 1911, 254). There appears to have been no valuation in the 'Taxatio' of 1291, but in 1536 the church was assessed at £15 12s 11d (ibid.), in tenths 31s 3½d.

In 1786 the rectory was in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Cawdor and Sir William Owen of Orierton, rated in the king's books at £15 12s 11d, and assessed for yearly tenths of £1 11s 3½d (ibid.). The situation was unchanged in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Burton, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Rosemarket (Benefice 666) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Roose (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST ISMAEL,
CAMROSE,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 2423

RB No.

NGR SM 9271 2006

(No Listed Building information available)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, medium-large sized. Consists of chancel, 3 bays, nave, 4 bays; west tower, 2 storeys; all medieval.

(Former south chapel and ?transept, medieval.)

Construction is of limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are roughcast. Slated gable roofs. Medieval chancel arch; remains of rood stair with door, lancet window and corbels. Blocked medieval arcades to south chapel and ?transept. Blocked medieval windows. North and south doors, medieval, north door rebuilt. Medieval benching and piscina in chancel. West tower with medieval vault, spiral stair turret and openings. Remainder of detail, 1877-83, and 1883-4; includes windows and a sanctus bellcote, single, 1883-4.

Roofs: mid 19th century - 1883-4.

Floors: chancel floor 18th-earlier 19th century; nave and tower floors 1883-4.

Finishes: 18th century render on 30% of church; pre-1883 plaster in 30% of church; refinished 1883-4, and 20th century.

Condition - good; cutting overgrown.

Archaeological potential - excellent. Medium-depth external cutting around 100% of church, primary, secondarily deepened exposing footings; floor levels constant, lowered in 20% of church; no underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; good evidence for former components beyond 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% medieval core fabric; medieval arcades, open and blocked, including chancel arch; medieval rood-loft recess, corbels and blocked door; medieval tower including vault, openings, stair turret and parapet; medieval lancet, piscina and benching.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, 13th century.

(Phase 2 - Former south chapel and ?transept, gone, 14th-15th century).

Phase 3 - West tower, 15th century.

Phase 4 - Tower stair turret, 16th century.

Phase 5 - Restored 1877-1883, and 1883-4, low-medium impact; no new components.

DESCRIPTION

St Ismael, Camrose, is a 3-celled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a wider 4-bayed nave and a 3-storey west tower. Construction is in medium-sized limestone rubble throughout, unsquared and uncoursed, with medieval limestone quoining in the west tower only. Good pointing, 1883-4, with areas of surviving 18th century render and some 20th century ribbon pointing. The internal walls are rendered/plastered; pre-1883 plaster survives in the chancel. Roofs are slated gables, the nave always having been roofed at a higher level than the chancel; the tower roof was not seen.

The church largely follows its medieval arrangements, but most of the openings, except in the tower, have been rebuilt. It was entered through north and south doors in the nave, still open, but there is no west door. A south chapel and ?transept were formerly present, but have been removed. The church is remarkable for its length.

A deep-very deep, wide cutting surrounds the church, mainly primary but secondarily deepened in 1883-4, and concrete-lined, exposing the nave footings. The level of the medieval door sill suggests that internal levels are unchanged in the body of the church, but the tower floor has been lowered. There is no underfloor void. No internal crypt/vault is present. A south chapel and ?transept formerly existed.

The nave and chancel are little altered and the Early English former east window, replaced between 1877 and 1883 (see below), was an unusually early architectural feature in the region, suggesting a 13th century date for both - a relatively early date made possible, also unusually, for such a large structure.

The present church

Medieval features now present in the chancel include a blocked window in the south wall of the central bay, with a full-height, segmental-headed internal recess and a surviving 2-centred surround of 2 lancets, probably 15th century; it was blocked prior to 1877 (Allen, 1877, 218). A corresponding area of blocking in the north wall may or may not represent a former window. There is a piscina in the south wall, with an ogee-moulded surround but without a bowl, of the ?15th century. Medieval benching survives in the chancel central bay, and crude corbel, for a former roof truss?, on the north wall. The upper half of the north wall of the west bay exhibits an internal recess, with a half-arch and cut-out to the west wall for a former rood-loft stair; the stair recess was formerly lit by a single lancet window of broadly medieval date, blocked before 1877 (ibid.). The chancel arch is probably contemporary with the core fabric, and therefore 13th century; it is plain and 2-centred. To its north lies a square-headed doorway, blocked before 1877 (ibid.) leading from the stair recess, and rood-loft corbel survive to the south, and on the nave east bay side walls. On the upstand lay a medieval sanctus bellcote; it had gone by 1877 (ibid.), but was rebuilt, and the 'old bell' was re-used, in 1883-4 (NLW, SD/F/70); date of bell?

A blocked arcade in the south wall of the chancel west bay led to a former south chapel; the arch is 2-centred and full-height. The chapel had gone by 1877 (Allen, 1877, 218) but was probably removed long before (see below) - the tithe map is of little assistance being highly conventionalised (NLW, Camrose, 1839). The blocking is pierced by a window from 1877-83 (see below), that has succeeded a sash-window (Allen, 1877, 218).

The nave retains some medieval features. A similar arch lies in the south wall of the east bay, that communicated with a former component; the ragged finishing of the nave south-east corner indicates that a wall butted here, suggesting that the component was separate from the former south chapel, and therefore a transept; this need not, however, necessarily have been the case. The arch voussours lie beneath external render of possible 18th century date, by which time the component (and doubtless the south chapel, if separate) had gone; the blocking itself was rebuilt or repointed in 1883-4, and pierced by a window. Both

north and south doorways are still open; the south door retains its 2-centred limestone surround of 13th-14th century date, but the north door was rebuilt in 1883-4; all windows and other detail are also from 1883-4.

The west tower is of 2 storeys (RCAHM, 1925, 46) and has retained most of its medieval fabric, of 15th century date; it is not tapered and lacks the basal batter and string course characteristic of the district. A polygonal spiral stair turret projects from the east end of the north wall; it is of smaller limestone rubble and may be a 16th century addition. The turret is entered from the nave by a square headed door with a sill probably always above floor level, and lit by simple slits. A plain 2-centred arch divides the tower ground floor from the nave, and the barrel-vault is contemporary with the core fabric. The floor is tiled as the nave, and at the same level; exposed internal footings demonstrate that it has been lowered, before 1883?. Openings are confined to the stair turret and the belfry, which is pierced by plain square single openings in all four walls; a blocked light formerly opened into the nave roof space (RCAHM, 1925, 47). There is a crenellated parapet on a plain corbel table, also 15th century, but the parapet was partly rebuilt in 1883-4. A rainwater chute is in the form of a gargoyle, also 15th century. The tower is in good condition.

Developmental history

The pre-restoration church was subject to a lengthy description in 1877 (Allen, 1877, 214-223). The medieval arrangements had largely survived (although the south chapel and ?transept had gone), but much of the detail in the body of the church had been altered. The windows had largely been replaced by the ubiquitous sashes, 'of the early 19th century', and the chancel south window had by now been blocked. The chancel east window, however, was a rare survival of a ?13th century 3-lancet window (illus. p220), with mullions displaying internal beading, all now gone. The interior was plastered, some of which survives especially in the chancel. The nave was roofed in oak, with collar-rafter trusses with moulded arch-braces, of medieval date? The present chancel roof was of 'recent' construction in 1877 and features oak scissors-braced trusses with moulded struts. The present chancel floor, of limestone flags, may be 18th-earlier 19th century.

There was evidently some work between 1877 and the 1883-4 restoration, when the medieval east window was replaced by a 2-centred opening with 3 lights, and Y-tracery, in oolite. A similar window, with a brick head, was inserted in the infill in the chancel west bay south wall.

The church was restored in 1883-4 (NLW, SD/F/70), following specifications by the architect John P. Seddon, of London. The restoration as planned created some dissent, due to which the proposed north porch, a structure 'out of place' for region, was not built, and the design for the sanctus bellcote was modified (Anon., 1882, 324). The restoration as undertaken was low-medium impact and largely concerned the nave. The nave east and west wall tops were rebuilt, and the tops of the side walls for the simple oolite roof corbels. The single sanctus bellcote was built new, as a replica of the old?; it is simple and square, with a 2-centred opening, and the old sanctus bell was rehung. The nave was refenestrated with neo-gothic 2-light windows, with 2-centred limestone surrounds. The north door was rebuilt with a replica 2-centred surround. The nave was replastered, and only damaged plaster was to be removed. It was reroofed, with a softwood tie-beam roof with king-posts, and arch-braced collars. Tabling is on the nave east wall only. New flooring included tiling the passages and inserting herringbone woodblock, not suspended, beneath the new softwood seating. The chancel west bays were probably given their polychrome tiled surface at the same time. The pews and stalls are of softwood and free-standing; a new altar rail, pulpit and softwood tower screen were fitted. The proposed chase for the vertical flue, from a free-standing stove in the nave, to be cut in the tower south wall, was not undertaken.

There has been little further work on the church, apart from some external repointing.

The limestone font is medieval, with a square scalloped bowl, cylindrical stem, and square base, all massive and of 12th century date.

No Listed Building information available.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Ismael, Camrose, was a parish church in the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Rhos. It was appropriated to the Augustinians of Haverfordwest Priory (Green, 1911, 258). In 1291 the benefice was a vicarage assessed at £12, a considerable sum, the tenths payable to the king being 24s (ibid.). In 1536 the vicarage had an annual value of £6 10s 3½d, tenths to the king, 13s 0½d (ibid.).

At the dissolution the advowson fell to the crown. In 1543 Arnold Butler of Johnston obtained a 21-year lease of the 'rectory' of Camrose from the king (ibid.), and 2 years later a member of the royal household obtained a lease of the tithes of the rectory.

The living was a vicarage again by 1620 (Green, 1911, 259n.). The discharged vicarage of Camrose was, in 1833, in the patronage of a private individual, with an annual value of £40, rated in the king's books at £6 10s 5d and endowed with £400 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids.

In 1998 St Ismael, Camrose, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with St Lawrence, Ford and Hayscastle (Benefice 636) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Roose (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST COLMAN,
CAPEL COLMAN,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 5085

RB No.

NGR SN 2165 3840

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (no separate Dyfed PRN).

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, 2 bays; west porch; west turret over chancel/nave; all 1835-7. Vestry (north), 20th century.

Construction is in limestone and slate rubble, and slate ashlar. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs; the vestry with a slate lean-to roof. West turret buttressed and pinnacled, 1835-7. Openings are mainly from 1835-7 and include the west doorway; one window is from 1895 and all timber window frames were renewed in 1895.

Internal timber gallery, classical, 1835-7.

Roofs, 1835-7; floors, 1895. Finishes, 1835-20th century.

Condition - fair-good. Tower is apparently leaning (A. Gordon, 1993).

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Church entirely rebuilt in 1835-7, in same location as earlier church; no structural or physical evidence for earlier church, but an earthwork lies immediately to north-west - debris? earlier feature? funerary?; Very shallow external drain around 100% of church; deep buried drain around 25% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void in 50% of church; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 25% of church.

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

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, west porch, west turret, 1835-7.

Phase 2 - Restored 1895, low-medium impact, no new components.

Phase 3 - Vestry, 20th century.

DESCRIPTION

St Colman, Capel Colman, is a 2-celled church, of small size. It was (re)built in 1835-7 by the architect Daniel Davies (A. Gordon, 1993), in the same location as its predecessor but retaining none of the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel/nave, a western turret over the west bay, a west porch and a later lean-to vestry against the east bay north wall.

Construction is in medium-sized limestone and slate rubble, unsquared but roughly coursed, with squared quoins; the west porch and turret are in slate ashlar; all is in early 19th century 'Estate Chapel' style, broadly neo-gothic. There is external pointing of the 19th century, but the turret and vestry have 20th century pebbledash render. The internal walls are rendered/plastered, partly replastered in 1895. The west turret is buttressed and pinnacled in slate ashlar, 1835-7; there are no further mouldings. All openings, except in the vestry and the window high on the north side of the chancel/nave, are from 1835-7 and include the west and porch doors; all have simple 2-centred heads, the windows featuring oak frames with Y-tracery from 1895. The chancel/nave is roofed continuously as a slated gable, with a suspended ceiling, of 1835-7, while the vestry has a slate lean-to roof up to the eaves of the east bay; the turret roof was not seen. Internally, the timber west gallery survives from 1835-7, and is Classical in style.

The church was restored in 1895, under the architect R. Thomas of Cardigan (NLW, SD/F/76). The restoration was low-medium impact. The church was refloored, with tiles in the east bay and suspended woodblock flooring in the west bay; the west porch was tiled directly onto the substrate. A new window was opened high on the north wall of the west bay and the present window frames installed throughout (see above). The interior was partly replastered. The present oak seating, pulpit, desk and altar rail were installed. The present font was fitted.

Some subsequent work has been performed. The pebbledash surfaces (see above) are 20th century, while the northern lean-to vestry is a 20th century addition.

There is no structural or physical evidence for the earlier church. However, an earthwork mound/bank lies immediately north-west of the church, of unknown origin; is it funerary? prehistoric? or merely debris?. A very shallow external drain runs all around the church, from 1835-7? or 1895?. A deeper below-ground drain of the 1990s runs around the east wall. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. An underfloor void was excavated in 1895. No vault or crypt is evident. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls. Some memorials are significantly close to the east end of the church.

The form of the earlier church is not known. George Owen suggested in 1594 that the medieval chapel was, at least temporarily, abandoned (Green, 1911, 260). It certainly was in 1721 as far as worship was concerned (ibid.) and according to a contemporary account only served 'for the solitary habitation of owles and jackdaws'. In fact no presentations appear to have been made to the incumbency between 1501 and 1772. However, the church was apparently rebuilt in 1764 (Cadw, 1995), and was restored again in 1810 before the 1835-7 rebuild (Cadw, 1995). The 1810 church was described as 'a neat edifice' by Samuel Lewis in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

The font was 'new' in 1895 (NLW, SD/F/76).

An ECM (Dyfed PRN?) formerly lay, it is said, in the yard, but was moved to a neighbouring hedgerow in the 18th century (Anon., 1861, 209-11).

The present church was Grade II listed in 1998. On Cilwendeg Estate (Now Pembs. County Council).

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication; ECM (Dyfed PRN?) formerly in yard?

St Colman, Capel Colman, was not a parish church during the post-conquest period, but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Emllyn (Rees, 1932). It is mentioned in 1394 as 'Llangolman' when it was held with the chapel of Cilfowir in Maenordeifi parish (Green, 1911, 260), as it still was in 1492. The living appears to have been a perpetual curacy (*ibid.*).

Capel Colman was in royal hands in 1594, but it may have been, during this period, temporarily abandoned (*ibid.*). It certainly had been by 1721 (*ibid.*; see above). In fact no presentations appear to have been made to the incumbency between 1501 and 1772, when the curate was presented by the local squire Owen Brigstocke, and the chapel was united with Llanfihangel Penbedw. Its tithes and ancient endowments had, during the intervening period, presumably all been seized by the crown, but the church has been gradually re-endowed and by 1833 the living, in the Archdeaconry of St Davids and the alternate patronage of the Brigstocke family and a Major Bowen, was endowed with £800 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833). Capel Colman had become a parish church by now.

In 1998 St Colman, Capel Colman, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Maenordeifi, Llanfihangel Penbedw, Clydey, Penrhydd and Castellon (Benefice 805), in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST LLAWDDOG,
CILGERRAN,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 1178

RB No.

NGR SM 1906 4307

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 20% medieval core fabric.

A 5-cell church, large sized. Consists of west tower, 3 storeys, medieval. Chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays, vestry (north, transeptal), 1 bay; organ chamber (south), 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay; south aisle, 2 bays; all 1855. (External heating chamber, 1930)

Construction is in slate rubble. Internal walls rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; organ chamber roof is a slated lean-to; west tower roof not seen. Medieval tower with medieval vault, spiral stair turret, openings, corbel table and crenellations. All other openings and detail, 1855, and include the chancel arch, the south aisle arcade and transept arch, windows, doors and external buttressing.

Roofs and floors: 1855. Finishes: 1855.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Church largely rebuilt 1839 and 1855; external cutting around 40% of church, with drain; no evidence for floor level changes; suspended floors and underfloor void; external heating chamber beyond 20% of church; no internal crypt/vault evident; no evidence for former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 60% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. Largely rebuilt in 1839 and 1855, 20% medieval core fabric; medieval tower with vault, stair turret, openings, and parapet.

Phasing:

(Phase 1 - Chancel, nave etc, gone, medieval.)

Phase 2 - West tower, c.1500.

(Phase 3 - Rebuilt 1839, except west tower, gone.)

Phase 4 - Chancel, nave, vestry, organ chamber, south transept, south aisle, (re)built 1855.

Phase 5 - Heating chamber, 1930.

DESCRIPTION

St Llawddog, Cilgerran, is a 5-celled church, of large size. It retains approximately 20% medieval core fabric, confined to the west tower.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a single bayed organ chamber south of the chancel west bay, a single bayed transeptal vestry north of the chancel west bay, a single bayed south transept, a 2-bayed south aisle and a 3-storey west tower which includes the church entrance. There also is an attached, below-ground heating chamber between the south aisle west wall and the tower south wall.

Construction is in good quality, medium-large slate rubble, roughly squared and coursed; good mortar pointing, 1855; rendered/plastered within, also mainly 1855. Roofs are mainly slated gables, the nave always roofed at a higher level; the organ chamber roof is a slated lean-to, and the heating chamber has a flat roof. The west tower roof was not seen.

A deep external earth-cut cutting runs along the south walls, containing a drain. There is no evidence for floor level changes. Suspended floors are present, with an underfloor void. There is an external below-ground heating chamber between the aisle and tower, from 1930; no internal crypt/vault is evident. There is no evidence for any former components beyond those present. Some memorials lie significantly close to the west, east and south walls.

The west tower was constructed c.1500, and includes the main west doorway into the church; it is stylistically characteristic of the region. The remainder of the church was entirely rebuilt, twice, in 1839 and in 1855.

Little can now be reconstructed of the form of the rest of the pre-19th century church, but it may be that the present structure has closely followed its plan. Richard Fenton visited Cilgerran c.1811 (Fenton, 1903, 276). He described the church as forming 'a very interesting subject for the pencil; but there is nothing in the structure within or without worthy of particular observation'. Within the church, however, was a fragment of carved oak rood screen, a rare survivor of the Reformation in Pembrokeshire (but cf. St Brides). The fragment was 'beautiful...of the same character, and most probably of the same age, as that most perfect specimen' at Patricio, Brecks. (ibid.). The church was evidently substantial and of good quality, being described in 1833 as 'an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and in tolerably good repair' (Lewis, 1833). The tithe map of 1838 shows a cruciform church which is probably only a stylistic representation (NLW, Cilgerran, 1838).

The church was (re)built in 1839, the sources suggesting that the rebuild was total, excluding the tower (RCAHM, 1925, 69). This church was in turn 'levelled to the ground...for reasons of safety' in 1855 (ibid.). The 1855 church was apparently built on the same foundations as its predecessor (Anon., 1856, 72).

The 3-storeyed west tower is from c.1500. It is fairly typical of the region and is tapered throughout. The fabric is well squared and coursed slate rubble. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north-east corner and retains its slit-lights unaltered. The ground floor is vaulted with a 2-centred barrel-vault of c.1500 and is floored as the nave (see below). It is entered from the exterior through a 2-centred west door rebuilt, with a moulded oolite surround, in 1855. The remainder of the openings are from c.1500, and include single cusped lights in the second stage, and a single, 2-light louvred opening into the belfry, with a cinquefoil pierced spandrel; the oolite surrounds are original. The crenellated parapet lies on a corbel table typical of the region; the crenellations were renewed in 1855 (RCAHM, 1925, 69).

All detail in the remainder of the church is, like the core fabric, from 1855 and neo-Decorated in style. The 3-light chancel east window is traceried, in a 2-centred oolite surround. There are similar 2-light windows with pierced spandrels in the remainder of the church. The exterior of the 1855 fabric exhibits stepped and coped buttresses throughout. The 2-centred chancel arch is of simply moulded oolite, without capitals; the organ chamber arch, and vestry door, have similar profiles. The softwood roof is from 1855 as is the tile floor.

The nave is divided from the south aisle by a 3-bayed arcade of 2-centred arches on octagonal piers, with moulded slate capitals. A simpler arch, like the chancel arch, leads from the aisle into the south transept. The west door into the tower has a 2-centred surround. The softwood roofs of the nave, aisle and transept are from 1855, as are the softwood seating, suspended floor and tiled passages.

There has been some further work. The reredos was erected in 1877 (NLW, SD/F/112), and the plain oak retable in 1879 (NLW, SD/F/113). A large heating chamber lies externally, between the west wall of the south aisle and the tower south wall. It was built in 1930 (NLW, SD/F/116), mainly below ground, but with low slate rubble walls and a flat roof above ground level; it is reached by a (largely internal) flight of steps.

The font is from 1855, and an imitation of that in St Mary Magdalene, Oxford (Glynne, 1898, 357).

An ECM stands in the churchyard (Dyfed PRN 1178). It is an inscribed stone, with Latin and Ogam characters, and there is a faint incised cross (RCAHM, 1925, 69).

13th century coins were found in a cist grave within the yard in 1855-6 (Anon., 1859, 350).

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 (Dyfed PRN 1179).

St Llawddog, Cilgerran, was a parish church in the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Emlyn. The living was a rectory which appears to have been in the patronage of the Earls of Pembroke (Green, 1911, 272). In 1291 it was assessed, as the church of 'Elygarthen' at £4 for tenths to the king (ibid.). The 1536 valuation was £9, in tenths 18s (ibid.).

With the Act of Union and the abolition of the Earldom of Pembroke, the advowson fell to King Henry VIII, and remained in royal patronage. In 1786, the discharged rectory of 'Kilgarran alias Culgerran alias Cylgerddan', of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, had an annual value of £38 (£50), and was rated in the king's books at £9 (ibid.). The situation was unchanged in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Llawddog, Cilgerran, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Bridell and Llantwyd (Benefice 644) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The cult of St Llawddog appears to have been the dominant cult in Cantref Emlyn during the later medieval period, with 3 more dedications (Yates, 1973, 67).

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**ST MARY,
CILGWYN,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 7731

RB No. 813

NGR SN 0771 3597

Not listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; unknown % of medieval core fabric (Dyfed PRN for post-medieval rebuild; no PRN for medieval core/documentary evidence).

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, 4 bays, medieval. South porch, 1883.

Construction is in mixed rubble. Internal walls rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs. No chancel arch. All openings 1883; include windows and door. Buttresses, ?post-1888.

Roofs and floors: 1833. Finishes: 1883.

Condition - fair. Weathered; pointing poor; ivied.

Archaeological potential - very good. External cutting around 50% of church, primary?; no evidence for floor level changes; suspended floors and underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence for former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. Largely rebuilt, unknown % of medieval core fabric; no pre-19th century openings or detail.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, medieval.

(Phase 2 - Restored/rebuilt 1786?)

Phase 3 - Restored 1883, high impact; south porch built.

DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Cilgwyn, is a 2-celled church (properly a chapel), of small size. It retains an unknown percentage of medieval core fabric.

The present chapel consists of a 4-bayed chancel/nave, without structural division, and a south porch. There is no chancel arch. Construction is in mixed rubble, unsquared and uncoursed. The external pointing is poor-fair, largely from 1883. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs in both components.

The chapel retains medieval core fabric but has been much rebuilt, to the extent that the RCAHM assigned the chapel an 18th century date (a quoin stone in the porch bears the date 1786), and termed the 1883 restoration a rebuild (RCAHM, 1925, 265). Nonetheless, the basic plan of a single celled chancel/nave appears to reflect the medieval arrangement. All openings were (re)built in 1883, and are neo-gothic; the south porch was built new in 1883. There is no bellcote.

The east window is of 3 lights with simple tracery, in a 2-centred surround, from 1883. The side walls have single lancets with oolite surrounds, 3 in the north wall and 2 in the south, and there are 2 lancets in the west wall; all are from 1883. The south door lies in the west bay and has a similar, 2-centred surround, also from 1883. The end walls have simple, raking buttresses, possibly added after 1883. The softwood collar-rafter roof is from 1883, and is arch-braced, with a matchboarded ceiling in the east bay. The floor passages are tiled, with suspended board flooring; with the softwood seating, altar rail and pulpit they are from 1883. The porch has low rubble walls with a half timbered superstructure, in oak, while the gabled roof is softwood - the common rafters all with collars - and the floor is tiled directly on the substrate; all from 1883.

A deep external cutting runs around the eastern half of the chapel where it is built into the hillside, and which may be a primary feature; no corresponding platform lies beneath the western half of the chapel. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. There is an underfloor void beneath the suspended floors, but no vault or crypt is evident. Some memorials are significantly close to the west end of the chapel.

The pre-1883 chapel was described by Richard Fenton in c.1811 (Fenton, 1903, 310-11) as 'a very ancient structure...which has all the appearance of having undergone a thorough revolution (in the 12th century)'. The Faculty submission for the 1883 restoration includes a plan of the chapel, and some idea of its nature can be gained from the specifications (NLW, SD/F/117); whether, however, the chapel in 1883 was Fenton's 'ancient structure', or whether the 1786 stone marks a restoration or a rebuild, is not clear. The chapel was single-celled as today, but entered through a north door in the centre of the north wall. There were timber-framed single-light windows in all four walls but only one in each of the side walls; all existing openings were used, but enlarged, in 1883. The end walls exhibited weather tabling and there was a bellcote on the western gable. The floor was flagged. Seating was in open benches, and the pulpit was of standard 19th century form suggesting at least some earlier 19th century renovation. The font was in its present position.

The 1883 restoration was undertaken to the plans of E. H. Lingen Barker, at an estimated cost of £480 (ibid.). It was high impact. The chapel was reroofed, refloored, refenestrated and reseated. The north door was blocked and the bellcote removed. The chapel was replastered, all the old plaster apparently being removed. A timber bell-turret with a slated spire was planned, but apparently never built.

The font has a square bowl 'which may be ancient' (RCAHM, 1925, 265).

The chapel was not listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Cilgwyn, was not a parish church during the post-conquest period, but a chapelry of Nevern parish in the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932), the vicarage of which, until 1377, had been in the hands of the Lords of Cemaes (Green, 1913, 217). In 1377 Nevern was granted, along with its appurtenances, to the chantry of St Mary at St Davids Cathedral (*ibid.*).

There were 8 pilgrimage chapels in Nevern parish according to a 16th century list by George Owen, of which 'Capel Kilgwin' is the only survivor (*ibid.*). From at least 1291, and until the later 20th century, it had been annexed to the vicarage of Nevern - the entry in the 'Taxatio' valued 'Navarn cum Capella' at £16 for tenths to the king (*ibid.*).

At the dissolution Nevern vicarage fell to the crown, and remained in royal patronage (*ibid.*). In 1786 the discharged living of 'Kilywynne alias Culgwyn (St Mary)', was listed as a chapel to Nevern, with no valuation; the situation was unchanged in 1913 (*ibid.*). Later in the 20th century the vicarage of Cilgwyn was annexed to Newport, but geographically the chapel remained in Nevern parish (Lewis, 1972, 105).

In 1998 St Mary, Cilgwyn, was a chapelry of Nevern parish. The living was a vicarage, held with Newport, Dinas and Llanllawer (Benefice 813) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST MARTIN OF TOURS,
CLARBESTON,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 4461

RB No. D818 3459

NGR SN 0480 2115

Grade B listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 5% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; west tower, 2 storeys; lowest courses medieval, rebuilt above, 1840-41. Vestry (north, transeptal), 1 bay, 1932.

Construction is in limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs. Chancel arch; west tower with doors, belfry openings and parapet; all 1840-41. Windows. 1892. Vestry door and window, 1937.

Roofs and floors: 1892-1937. Finishes: 1840-20th century.

Condition - good. Plaster fair in west bays; some external ivy.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Church largely rebuilt 1840-41; external earthwork platform around 25% of church, primary?, former component?; shallow soakaway around 50% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; no suspended floors or underfloor void; no internal crypt/vault evident; memorials significantly close to 50% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. Largely rebuilt 1840-41, 5% medieval core fabric limited to lower courses; no medieval openings.

Phasing:

(Phase 1 - Chancel, nave and west tower (lower courses), 13th-16th century?)

Phase 2 - Chancel, nave and west tower, 1840-41.

Phase 3 - Restored 1892, low impact; no new components.

Phase 4 - Vestry, 1932.

DESCRIPTION

St Martin of Tours, Clarboston, is a 3-celled church, of small-medium size. It was almost entirely rebuilt in 1840-41 (Evans, 1917, 7; Green, 1911, 278; RCAHM, 1925, 72) retaining only approximately 5% of the medieval fabric, represented by the lowest courses of the chancel and nave (but including the facework), and possibly rather more in the west tower.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 2-bayed nave, a single bayed transeptal vestry north of the chancel and a 2-storey west tower which includes the church entrance. There is a small shed north of the chancel in the angle with the vestry east wall.

Construction above the lowest (medieval) courses is in medium-sized limestone rubble, unsquared but roughly coursed, with ashlar quoins; the medieval courses are cruder. Good lime pointing, 1840-41, with poor cement repointing on the west tower, 20th century. Internal render/plaster, 1840-41, reskimmed in the 20th century?. Roofs are slated gables throughout, the nave always roofed at a higher level; the west tower roof was not seen.

There is a pronounced 'D'-shaped earthwork platform east of the chancel, primary make-up?, former component?, which runs around the south wall to merge with irregular burial earthworks along the nave south wall (include some building debris?). A shallow soakaway runs along the nave and west tower north walls, and the south-west part of the church. There is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are not suspended and lack an underfloor void. No internal crypt/vault is evident. Many memorials, from the late 18th century - 1864, are significantly close to the south and east walls.

The chancel retains just the lowest course of the medieval fabric; the remainder is from 1840-41. The east window has 3 ogee-headed lights with curvilinear tracery in a 2-centred surround with dripmould, of oolite, and all de novo in 1892?. A similar window lies in the west bay south wall, but is 2-light with a central quatrefoil, lacks the drip-mould and was inserted in 1892 into an opening from 1840-41 (see below). The chancel arch is plain and 2-centred, from 1840-41. The chancel roof has a tie-beam at the wall-heads, above which the common rafters all have arch-braced collars with queen-posts, and curved ashlar posts, forming a semi-circular profile; all in softwood, from 1892 and without weather tabling. The woodblock flooring is laid on concrete, from 1892; the tiled east bay floor, and passage, may also be from 1892.

The nave is of similar construction and of the same date, but retains an average of 3 courses of the medieval fabric, with crude weathered quoins. There are 2 windows in each of the side walls, all with cusped oolite Y-tracery in 2-centred surrounds, inserted in 1892 into openings from 1840-42. The softwood roof is also from 1892 and features a tie-beam as in the chancel, and collared common-rafters with scissors-braces and ashlar posts. The woodblock floors and tiled passages are as in the chancel, all 1892?

The low 2-storey west tower was also rebuilt in 1840-41 but may retain more medieval fabric in its lower stage. It lacks a stair turret, external basal batter and string-course, and has been re-quoined in ashlar, 1840-41. The ground floor represents the entrance to the church and the west door has a simple, 2-centred head from 1840-41; a simple external recess above contains a plaque recording the 1840-41 rebuild. The entrance into the nave is a simple square-headed doorway, an 1840-41 rebuild of a medieval original?. The ground floor is ceiled in plasterboard, 20th century, with a hatch and pierced for 1 bellrope. The floor was limestone flagged directly on the substrate in 1840-41. The belfry stage is entirely from 1840-41; it is represented on the nave west wall by an offset forming the sill of a plain square doorway into the belfry, now blocked in timber. Externally, each face has a single opening with a depressed ogee head, without surrounds. The crenellated parapet lies on a plain string course. The tower is in good condition.

The church as rebuilt in 1840-41 more-or-less resembled its present form (NLW, SD/F/121). However, there was a west gallery, and the present side window embrasures contained timber-framed windows. The seating was probably of box-pews. The detailed arrangements in the pre-1840 church, and their form, are not known.

The church was restored in 1892 (ibid.), to the specifications of Kempson & Fowler, Architects, at an estimated cost of £700. The restoration was low impact. The church was re-roofed (without tabling) and the

nave was refloored with the roof and flooring now present; the chancel floor and nave passages are not mentioned in the specs. but may have received their present tiled surfaces. The present side windows were fitted in the existing embrasures, but the east window was proposed to be entirely new. The gallery and pews were removed and the present softwood seating fitted, along with the stalls, altar rail and pulpit. The plaster was only renewed where it had been disturbed. The font was moved to its present position. A vestry had been proposed, but was not built.

The vestry was eventually constructed north of the chancel in 1932 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/88/8), in much the same style as the rest of the church. It is transeptal, lit through the north gable wall by a window like the chancel south wall window of 1892. The doorway into the chancel west bay has a simple 2-centred head. The common rafters of the softwood gable roof are all scissors-braces and have ashlar posts. The floor is woodblock, in the style of the 1892 work.

There has been little further work. The tower was repointed with cement in the 20th century, and the interior appears to have been reskimmed. The lean-to corrugated iron shed in the angle between the chancel north wall and the vestry east wall was constructed during the mid-20th century.

The oolite font has an octagonal bowl, stem and base, from 1840-41?

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Martin of Tours, Clarbeston, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Rhos (Rees, 1932). The benefice was a perpetual curacy. It was granted, as 'ecclesiam Sancti Martini de Villa Clarenbaldi', to the Knight Hospitaller of Slebech Commandery by Wizo, Lord of Wiston, his son Walter and grandson, also Walter, c.1130 (Green, 1911, 277). There was no separate valuation of the church in the 'Taxatio' of 1291 but in 1536 it had an annual value of £6 (ibid.).

At the dissolution Slebech Commandery, and all its appurtenances including the patronage of Llanfyrnach rectory, fell to King Henry VIII. The parsonage was with Thomas Awdley in 1580 (Anon., 1896, 260). The curacy was still in royal hands in 1594, but by the 17th century the patronage had been acquired by the Stepneys.

The Stepneys also acquired the tithes of Clarbeston. They were, c.1645-9, owned by Sir John Stepney, Bart.. The inhabitants of the parish petitioned the Commonwealth for an augmentation for their minister, their maintenance being only £10 a year, while the tithes were worth £21. Sir John was fined and ordered to settle (ibid.).

In 1786 the curacy, of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, had an certified value of £5 15s 0d and was still in Stepney patronage. By 1833 the advowson had been acquired by W. H. Scourfield, Esq., and the curacy was endowed with £800 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Martin of Tours, Clarbeston, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Wiston and Walton East (Benefice 818), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Daugleddau (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST CLYDAI,
CLYDAI,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 1065

RB No. 661

NGR SN 2508 3546

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 60% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, with 5 cells, medium sized. Consists of nave, 4 bays; south aisle, 4 bays; west tower, 2 storeys; all medieval. Chancel, 1 bay; north porch, late 19th century.

Construction is of slate rubble throughout. Internal walls not rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs. Medieval arch into tower, and tower openings (some blocked) including west door. Medieval door to rood stair and remains of stair. Medieval stoup and aumbry. Remainder of openings, including chancel arch and arcade, late 19th century.

Roofs and floors, late 19th century. No finishes.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Floor levels raised, late 19th century?; shallow external soakaway around 30% of church; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to east walls.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair-good. 60% medieval core fabric; medieval west tower including openings; medieval rood stair and door; medieval stoup and aumbry.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C14?

Phase 2 - South aisle, c1500.

Phase 3 - West tower, early 16th century.

Phase 4 - Restored late 19th century, medium-high impact; new chancel and north porch built.

DESCRIPTION

St Clydai, Clydai, is a 5-celled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 60% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a single bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 4-bayed south aisle, a north porch and a 2 storeyed west tower, west of the nave. Construction is in slate rubble throughout, unsquared and uncoursed, but with medieval limestone quoins. Good pointing, later 19th century, with some ribbon (re)pointing. The internal walls are neither rendered nor plastered. The nave and south aisle are now of roughly equal height; the chancel is lower. Roofs are slated gables throughout; the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel now projects eastward beyond the south aisle, having been added to the church in the late 19th century. The location of the medieval chancel - and rood screen - is marked by the square external projection from the north wall of the what is now the nave central bay which houses a semi-spiral rood loft stair; the lintelled door onto the stair is medieval, but the upper part of the stair was truncated and blocked during the late 19th century restoration and the external projection finished with coping.

The present church

The 2-storeyed west tower has retained most of its medieval fabric and, in one form or another, its medieval openings. It is not tapered and lacks the basal batter and string course normally characteristic of the district. It also lacks a spiral stair turret. A low, 2-centred arch divides the ground floor from the nave, and the external west door also has a 2-centred head; both are early 16th century. North of the arch, the nave west wall displays a blocked, segmental headed medieval doorway into the tower; a similar doorway lies south of the arch, adjacent to similar blocking in the tower south wall suggesting that a skewed 'passage' lay in the angle between the two outer walls. A third door with a 2-centred arch, high in the nave west wall, formerly led into the belfry and was reached via a ladder (Glynne, 1898, 355); this had apparently been blocked by 1925 (RCAHM, 1925, 74) but is now represented by a slit light with a limestone surround which is, curiously, of convincing late medieval date - sources erroneous? The ground floor has a contemporary 2-centred barrel-vault; the belfry roof was not seen. The single-light belfry openings, with semicircular heads, and a slit light at a lower level, are also medieval. The crenellations, on a continuous offset corbel table, were rebuilt in the late 19th-early 20th century (RCAHM, 1925, 74).

The remainder of the openings are late 19th century, including the chancel arch and the arcade between the nave and south aisle. However, in the nave north wall, east of the north door, is an internal stoup with a square scalloped bowl and 2-centred head, of later medieval form. In addition, the south wall of the south aisle exhibits towards its east end a plain, square aumbry, probably contemporary with the surrounding wall ie. c.1500.

A shallow soakaway runs around the south aisle east and south walls, and a second runs around the tower north wall and north porch west wall; no drain or cutting elsewhere. There are suspended floors in the chancel, nave and south aisle; the north porch and tower floors lie directly on the substrate. There is no evidence for any below-ground crypt/vault within the church but memorials lie significantly close to the east walls. The tower floor now lies over 1m below floor levels within the rest of the church, and probably reflects its original levels; while the tower floor was probably always lower, the low head of the arch between the tower and the nave suggests that the nave, chancel and south aisle floors have at some period been raised.

It is not possible to closely date the core of the fabric but the nave - relatively long, and apparently of one build - may be 14th century in origin rather than earlier. The south aisle arcade has been rebuilt and cannot be dated, but the aisle was probably added c.1500 - a period when aisles were frequently added to churches in the region. The west tower is stylistically of early 16th century date, again a period of widespread tower construction.

The overwhelming character of the pre-restoration church was Perpendicular, ie. 15th-16th century, and it appears that the church was widely fenestrated with good mullioned windows of this style. A fragment of

dressed stone now lies within the church apparently derived from a fine window of this type, of at least 2 lights; all windows have now been rebuilt. Clydai church was the subject of a lengthy account in 1860 (Glynne, 1898, 355) in which the entire church was described as 'of the rude Welsh type' but stylistically 'Perpendicular'. It comprised a single bayed chancel with some form of division to the 3-bay nave (both absorbed into the present nave), with the 4-bay south aisle occupying the entire length of both cells. The west tower was as today but no porch was apparently present. The arcade between the nave and chancel and the aisle comprised 4 low, depressed arches on plain square piers which however, with the exception of the western arch, displayed mouldings. The chancel arch was plain and 2-centred, and while the rood stair in the nave north wall has survived, the door 'set high up' has gone. The attribution of a south door may be erroneous, for it is mentioned in connection with the stoup which is now located by the north door, while there is no physical evidence for a south door in the aisle. Windows were all square headed, stone mullioned and Perpendicular in style, and mainly 3-light; no timber framed windows or sashes appear to have been introduced, while some windows even retained fragments of stained glass, presumably medieval.

Developmental history

Despite its evidently fine construction the church was in poor condition by 1849 and the roof was leaking badly (Anon., 1849, 150). Nevertheless, it was described as a 'very old and handsome building'. The 1860 account describes a similar condition when all was 'decayed and out of repair'; the west tower was described as 'of very rude construction', especially the arch into the nave. All external walls were whitewashed. In 1874 the church was described in similar terms, but was said to lack 'any features of interest' (Brash, 1877, 277). It had been recently roofed in deal.

The church as it exists at present is largely the product of an extensive late 19th century restoration. The exact date of this work (and the architect responsible) is unknown but it was evidently after 1874 (see above). The north half of the church was extended east by one bay with the addition of a chancel in similar slate rubble to the rest of the church, the former east wall being pierced to form a 2-centred, moulded chancel arch. The arcade between the now longer nave and the south aisle was rebuilt as 4 bays of similar arches, on cylindrical piers with plain-moulded capitals and bases. The walls were generally repaired including the blocking of the rood stair and removal of all evidence for the upper (loft) door described in 1860, while the truncated projection was coped; new weather tablings were added throughout. The church was entirely refenestrated, except for the tower, mainly with 2- or 3-light neo-gothic windows beneath 2-centred heads and oolite dressings, some with tracery (unfortunately the Perpendicular ethos of the existing church was not followed). The north door was (re)built with a 2-centred head on moulded shafts, in oolite. Entirely new, softwood roofs were put on the chancel, nave and south aisle; the chancel roof with a boarded 'wagon-roof' ceiling, queen-post roofs arch-braced from wall-corbels in the nave and aisle. It has been suggested above that floor levels throughout the church (except in the tower) were raised; this probably occurred during the restoration when the church was refloored throughout. The chancel was polychrome tiled, while the nave and aisle passages were flagged (new flags, not re-used?) incorporating heating ducts below; suspended boarded floors were inserted beneath the new seating. A heating apparatus (type? not seen - still present) was installed within the tower, the remainder of which was largely unaffected. All fittings, except the font, were replaced, including the altar table and rails, seating, pulpit, and font, while the south aisle east bay was screened off as a vestry. The north porch was an entirely new construction; it is a north-south gabled structure, buttressed, with a door like the contemporary nave north door and single light neo-gothic windows.

There has been no real further work at the church subsequent to the restoration, but the shallow soakaways noted above may be later.

The font is medieval, with a square, cushioned bowl featuring mouldings including figures; it may be 12th or 13th century. The cylindrical oolite stem and base are late 19th-early 20th century.

Three ECMs now lie loose within the church (Dyfed PRNs 1066, 1211 and 1212). The former two - inscribed stones, one featuring an incised cross in addition - are regarded as originally having been situated within the yard (RCAHM, 1925, 75). One had been built into the north wall of the yard by 1860, forming the base of a

sundial (Westwood, 1860, 223-8). The other had been removed from the site in the 19th century, and then returned; it was said to have once stood 'in an old chappel in the churchyard' (RCAHM, 1925, 75), presumably referring to a chantry, but there is no further evidence for the former presence of such a structure.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

The south aisle is traditionally known as 'Capel Mair' (RCAHM. 1925, 75).

SITE HISTORY

St Clydai, Clydai, occupies the probable site and location of a pre-conquest religious foundation - Celtic dedication; sub-circular churchyard; 3 ECMs (2 from site?); on line of possible Roman road (Dyfed PRN 13025).

During the post-conquest period, it has always apparently been a parish church, within the medieval Deanery of Emlyn (Rees, 1932). In 1291 it was assessed at £10 yearly, a not inconsiderable sum (Green, 1911, 279). In 1536 the value was £12 by which time, at least, the benefice was a vicarage. However, although the Prebendary of Clydai was the rector, the advowson belonged to the Bishops of St Davids (ibid.) and gave its name to a prebendal stall in the cathedral, to which the rectorial tithes of the parish were annexed (Fenton, 1903, 267).

By 1786 its clear yearly value was £25 (Green, 1911, 280). The prebend was rated in the king's books at £12, while the living - a discharged vicarage in 1833 - was rated at £6 and in the patronage of the bishop (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Clydai, Clydai, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Maenordeifi, Capel Colman, Llanfihangel Penbedw, Penrhydd and Castellon (Benefice 805), in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST JAMES,
DALE,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELD)**

Dyfed PRN 3011

RB No.

NGR SM 8062 0580

(No Listed Building information available)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric?.

A 3-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; all medieval. Boilerhouse (south of nave), mid-20th century.

Construction is probably in limestone rubble. 100% of external walls are rendered. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; boilerhouse lean-to roofed. Chancel arch; north door and blocked south door; west tower with vault, spiral stair, arch, openings and parapet; all medieval. Remainder of openings (windows), later 19th century and 1890.

Roofs and floors: later 19th century and 1890. Finishes: 1890 and mid-20th century.

Condition - good. West tower openings weathered.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Deep, revetted cutting around 50% of church, primary, footings exposed in 5% of church; very shallow concrete drain around 45% of church; floors not suspended, no an underfloor void; below-ground boilerhouse against 5%, but no internal crypt/vault evident; no evidence for former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 40% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair-good. 80% medieval core fabric?. Medieval chancel arch, north door and blocked south door, west tower with vault, spiral stair, arch, openings and parapet.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, 13th-14th century.

Phase 2 - West tower, c.1500.

Phase 3 - Restored later 19th century, medium impact; no new components.

Phase 4 - Restored 1890, medium impact; no new components.

Phase 5 - Boilerhouse, mid-20th century.

DESCRIPTION

St James, Dale, is a 3-celled church, of small-medium size. It retains approximately 780% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 4-bayed nave, and a 3-storey west tower. It is entered from north. A lean-to boilerhouse lies against the nave south wall.

The facework cannot be seen, all lying beneath thick external roughcast render from the mid-20th century. Internal render/plaster, 1890. Roofs are slated gables, the nave always roofed at a higher level; the boilerhouse roof is a lean-to with a synthetic covering; the west tower roof was not seen.

The yard build-up around the church was excavated away in 1890, and a deep, revetted cutting excavated around the north, west and south-west walls, but only exposes the footings of the tower south wall. A very shallow concrete drain on a raised 'plinth' lies along the south walls. The floors are not suspended and lack an underfloor void. The boilerhouse against the nave south wall is below-ground, but no internal crypt/vault is evident. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present walls. Memorials, from the early 19th century - 1913, are significantly close to the south and east walls.

The church and its plan are fundamentally medieval, and the present chancel and nave may be 13th or 14th century; the chancel arch appears 14th century in form. One source suggests that the nave and chancel south walls are entirely Victorian (Salter, 1984, 51) but the external finishes prevent real analysis of the fabric. The church was always entered from north, but there is a blocked south door. The west tower was added c.1500 and is a 'typical' Pembrokeshire tower.

The present church

The chancel east and north walls have a pronounced external batter. The east window is a triple plain lancet with independent heads, in oolite, from the later 19th century (before 1890). The north and south walls of the west bay are pierced by uncusped 2-light windows in squared surrounds, of oolite and from 1890. The chancel arch is medieval, plain and 2-centred, with bold offsets in the stops suggesting the former presence of a rood-screen; a through-socket lies in the wall north of the arch, associated with the rood-loft stair?. The chancel roof has a softwood, 'wagon-roof' ceiling, inserted beneath existing timbers in 1890. The east bay floor is tiled, from 1890; the west bay passage is tiled in later 19th century tiling reused in 1890, with woodblock flooring laid on concrete.

The nave is similar and the north wall is similarly battered. The 2 east bays have 2 windows in each of the side walls, of 2 uncusped lancets in square surrounds with sunk spandrels, in oolite and from the later 19th century (before 1890). The west bay north and south walls each have a window like those in the chancel side walls, from 1890. The north doorway has a depressed semicircular arch, and cut-outs for double doors, but no surround, and is from the 14th or 15th centuries. A blocked door with a similar arch lies opposite in the south wall, blocked at the Reformation?. The roof is like that in the chancel and also from 1890. Floored as the chancel, from 1890 reusing later 19th century tiles.

The west tower is from c.1500; it is tapered and has the basal batter characteristic of the district, but lacks a string course. It is rendered externally as the rest of the church. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north-west corner entered through a narrow doorway of c.1500 from the ground floor; it is lit by slit-lights, some with oolite surrounds. The ground floor has a barrel-vault of c.1500 with a 2-centred profile, with a large central bell-rope opening. It opens to the nave through a 2-centred arch reflecting the profile of the vault, and is tiled as the nave passages, from 1890. The west wall is pierced by a lancet with an oolite surround, from c.1500. The second stage is lit by 2 single, cusped square lights in the north wall, c.1500. The belfry stage has 2-light openings with square heads in square oolite surrounds in the east and north walls, c.1500. The parapet lies on a plain corbel table that stops at the stair turret, also c.1500; the merlons have been restored without coping, 1890?, 20th century?, and with a rainwater chute. The tower is in good condition but the medieval dressings are weathered.

Developmental history

According to Samuel Lewis, the church was 'rebuilt' in 1761 (Lewis, 1833), and was described as a 'neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, (with) an elegant font of marble'. The RCAHM Inventory describes the church as having seen 'several restorations, in the course of which all features of antiquarian interest which it may have contained were removed' (RCAHM, 1925, 87).

The church was restored in the later 19th century but no details are known. The restoration appears to have been of medium impact including reroofing, reflooring and refenestration. The nature of the restored church can be ascertained from the text of the 1890 Faculty submission (NLW, SD/F/141). It was much as at present, but had a west gallery. A number of features survived subsequent restoration, including the present east window, the windows in the eastern 2 bays of the nave, and the present roofs and tabling. The church was tiled as at present but the tiles were later relaid. Medieval features like the chancel arch, present north door, blocked south door and tower openings are mentioned. There was a dormer window on south side, removed in 1890. The church was plastered internally, and featured 'Royal Arms' mounted internally, from the 18th century?, now gone.

The church was restored in 1890 (NLW, SD/F/141), to the specifications of Kempson & Fowler, Architects, at an estimated cost of £467. The restoration was medium impact. The yard build-up around the church was excavated away, and drainage laid. The existing walls were 'made good'. The west gallery and seating were removed. All internal plaster was entirely stripped, and the walls were replastered. New windows were inserted in the chancel side walls and in the nave west bay side walls, in entirely new openings?. The existing roofs and tabling were retained, but given the present internal softwood panelled ceilings. The passages were relaid reusing the existing tiles, and woodblock flooring inserted; the chancel east bay received a new tile floor. The church was resealed in softwood, and the pulpit fitted; an altar rail was omitted from the specs. but appears to have been fitted. The tower ground floor was curtained off as the present vestry. The font was moved to its present position. A new north porch was proposed but not constructed.

An American organ was fitted before 1895 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/118/7), when roof ventilators were installed; both have now gone. The belfry was repaired and the bell rehung at the same time.

There has been some further work. Two oil stoves were installed in 1902 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/118/7) and were still in use in 1923 but were subsequently removed; the tower was further repaired in 1903.

A boilerhouse was constructed, after 1923 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/118/7), against the south wall of the nave opposite the entry. It has low brick walls and is entered through the west end wall via a flight of 3 steps down to the below-ground floor. The south side wall has a plain window. There is still a functioning boiler with an aluminium flue rising through the lean-to roof. An oil-tank lies on a breeze-block stand south of the tower.

The entire church, including the boilerhouse, was given an external finish of roughcast render in the mid 20th century.

The children's' pews in the nave west bay may be 20th century.

The marble font has a circular bowl and an octagonal stem and base, from 1808?, when a font and a stone altar table were brought from Italy (RCAHM, 1925, 87); the latter was removed after 1925 and substituted with a plain table.

No Listed Building information available.

SITE HISTORY

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

St James, Dale, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Rhos (Rees, 1932). It was a perpetual curacy appurtenant to Haverfordwest Priory, and as 'Ecclesia de Valle', was valued at £5 6s 8d in 1291, the tenths payable being 10s 8d (Green, 1911, 288). In 1536 it had an annual value of £10 (ibid.). There was a dependent chapelry on St Anne's Head (ibid.).

At the dissolution, Haverfordwest Priory and its appurtenances fell to the king, including the patronage of Dale, but it was later acquired by the Philipps family of Picton Castle (ibid.). In 1786, as a discharged curacy of the Archdeaconry of St Davids, it had a certified value of £6 (ibid.). It was endowed with £800 royal bounty in 1833 (Lewis, 1833), and the patron, J. A. Lloyd Philipps, was the lay impropiator.

In 1998 St James, Dale, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Brides and Marloes (Benefice 664) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Roose (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST CRISTIOLUS,
EGLWYSWRW,
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

Dyfed PRN 4974

RB No.

NGR SN 1420 3849

Listed CA in 1998

SUMMARY

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (no separate Dyfed PRN).

A 3-cell church, medium-sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; south porch; all (re)built in 1883-4. Vestry (west), 1 bay, 1930.

Construction is in slate rubble. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs; vestry with a flat roof. Openings are mainly from 1883-4, including chancel arch. Western single bellcote, 1883-4. Buttresses, 1883-4. South porch half-timbered, 1883-4. Vestry openings, 1930.

Roofs and floors, 1883-4, and 1930. Finishes, 1883-4, and 1930.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good. Church entirely rebuilt in 1829, in same location as earlier church and above its foundations, and again in 1883-4; no physical evidence for pre-19th century church; no external cutting or drain around church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; evidence of former components beyond 10% of church; possible prehistoric features beneath church.

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

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave and south porch, 1883-4.

Phase 2 - West vestry, 1930

(Former building history:

Phase 1 - Medieval church.

?Phase 2 - Rebuilt/restored 1756?

Phase 3- Rebuilt 1829.

DESCRIPTION

St Cristiolus, Eglwysrwrw, is a 3-celled church, of medium size. It was (re)built in 1883-4 by Middleton and Son, Architects (NLW, SD/F/158). The rebuild was termed a 'restoration' but it is apparent that only the core of the earlier fabric, from 1829, was retained.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a south porch and a flat-roofed vestry of 1 bay, against the west wall of the nave.

The Chancel, nave and south porch are constructed from slate rubble throughout, unsquared but roughly coursed and without true quoins; the facework is all from 1883-4. External pointing of 1883-4; the internal walls are rendered/plastered. All dressings are in oolite, from 1883-4 and neo-gothic. The side windows are lancets with plain 2-centred surrounds, but the east window is 3-light and traceried, while there is a fine rose-window in the west wall. The main entry is the 2-centred south door. There is the chancel arch, with external buttressing. The west wall carries a gabled bellcote, shouldered, with a single 2-centred opening and bell. The south porch is half-timbered. The roofs are slated gables, from 1883-4. Floors are suspended except in the porch, and from 1883-4.

The vestry is similar, including the openings and dressings, but from 1930 (NLW, SD/F/159). There are 2 doorways, one square-headed. It has a flat roof, of 1930. The floor is suspended, from 1930.

There is no physical evidence for the pre-19th century church. No external drain or cutting is present. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. There is an underfloor void beneath the suspended floors. No vault or crypt is evident. A former south transept lay beyond the south wall. The church is built within a possible prehistoric site, and upon a round barrow?

There are several contemporary accounts of the disposition and condition of the pre-1829 church, which may have comprised nave, separate chancel, and south transept. A visitation in 1504 by the impropiator, the Abbot of St Dogmaels, records that the chancel 'was ruinous and the windows not glazed' (Pritchard, 1907, 91). Churchwardens' presentments of the 17th and 18th provide further evidence. The church had apparently never been paved and still had not been by 1708 (Evans, 1935, 45). In 1684 the windows were again not glazed, the 'chancel' not whitewashed and one of the bells was out of repair (Evans, 1918, 164); a double bellcote was presumably present. The chancel roof was evidently rebuilt c.1700 - it was 'newly made' in a presentment of 1708 (Evans, 1935, 145) suggesting that the pre-1829 church had a separate nave and chancel roof, and that a chancel arch may have been present. Fragments of medieval ridge-tile were found during excavations within the churchyard (Ludlow, forthcoming), presumably from the church. A south transept was present, south of the nave west bay, which, when finally demolished in 1883, yielded fragments of dressed stone of medieval date, including a mullion (RCAHM, 1925, 94). It lay at a pronounced angle to the nave (NLW, SD/F/158).

A date-stone in the porch (not in situ) is inscribed '1756', suggesting a restoration or rebuild. However, the church was still, in 1829, fundamentally medieval to judge by an account of c.1811, which described it as 'a low plain building, without tower or any decoration within or without' (Fenton, 1903, 291), and 'like all the others in Cemaes'; the author felt it to be medieval.

The church was rebuilt in 1829 (RCAHM, 1925, 93; Lewis, 1972, 92). The extent of the work is not known, but a high impact was suggested in 1859 when the Cambrian Archaeological Association examined the church and found 'nothing of antiquarian interest' (Anon., 1859, 337). Moreover, the present fabric is all 19th century but, to judge from the Faculty specifications (NLW, SD/F/158), not all from the 1883-4 restoration. The specifications and accompanying plan and north elevation show the 1829 church; it was a low, single celled building without a chancel arch, but divided into a 2-bayed chancel and a 3-bayed nave by slight internal buttresses. The south transept was retained. The church was entered through a segmental-headed doorway in the nave west wall, of any date, and there was an east window, 2 windows in the nave north wall and one in the south wall; all had plain 2-centred openings of typical early 19th century form, and 16-pane sash windows with simple timber-traceried heads. The gable-end walls had upstands; the west end carried a double bellcote with Caernarfon-headed openings and a classical ball-moulded 'cupola'. The roofs were of 1829 with double-collar

trusses; the floors were also probably renewed in 1829. A triple-decker pulpit is shown; seating comprised 11 box pews in the nave, and loose benches at the west end.

In 1844 a schoolroom was adapted from the south transept (Lewis, 1972, 206). It is also shown on the Faculty plans; the wall between it and the nave was by this time solid and without evidence of ever having been otherwise. It was entered through its west wall and was lit by 3 windows, of unknown form. The roof appears to have been transeptal to the nave; the structure was 'nearly roofless' in 1883.

The church was restored in 1883-4 by Middleton and Son, Architects, of Cheltenham (NLW, SD/F/158). The specifications for the work suggest that it was confined largely to reroofing, reflooring and refenestration, it is clear that most of the fabric dates from this restoration. Only the core of the 12th century walling seems to have been retained; the church was considerably heightened, but the present facework is similar throughout, while the schoolroom/transept was demolished as part of the programme but has left no evidence within the facework. The west door was blocked. The church was also reroofed, refloored, reseated and refitted.

Subsequent work includes the construction of the western vestry, which occurred in 1930 (NLW, SD/F/159) and involved the reopening of the west door; the architect is unknown. The vestry is described above.

The font was new in 1883 (NLW, SD/F/158).

The present church was listed CA in 1998; it has been declared a Building of Special Historic or Architectural Interest.

SITE HISTORY

St Cristiolus, Eglwyswrw, occupies the high-certainty site, and probably the location, of a pre-conquest religious site -
Celtic dedication; cist cemetery; possible prehistoric features.

Eglwyswrw was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). It is first mentioned in 1291, as 'Ecclesia de Clessierow', when it was an advowson of St Dogmaels abbey valued at £4 annually for tenths to the king (Green, 1911, 293). The grantor of the advowson is not known but it has been suggested that it was Jordan de Cantinton, a tenant of the Lordship of Cemaes and possibly Lord of the Manor of Eglwyswrw during the later 12th century (Pritchard, 1907, 51). With its chapelries at Llanfair Nant-gwyn and 'Penkelly Vychan', the vicarage of Eglwyswrw was valued at £12 2s 8d in 1536 (ibid.).

At the dissolution, St Dogmaels and all its appurtenances fell to the crown. Eglwyswrw was leased to John Bradshaw of Ludlow; he paid £7 6s 8d to the king who retained the advowson and the vicarage (Lewis, 1972, 91). The living was still in the patronage of the crown in 1786, with an annual value of £16 (£20), and was rated in the king's books at £3 13s 4d (Green, 1911, 293). In 1833, as a discharged rectory of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, and endowed with £200 royal bounty and £200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Cristiolus, Eglwyswrw, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Nevern, Y Beifil (Bayvil), Eglwyswen, Meline and Llanfair Nant-gwyn (benefice 806) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication to St Cristiolus has been subject to much controversy and there is a strong contender for the original dedication in St Eirw (Ludlow, forthcoming); the original dedication may in fact have been a joint one. Other authorities have regarded the 'wrw' element of the place-name as relating to a topographic feature, while 'Eirw' may be derived from '(g)wrwyf' (ie. Virgin).

(A cist cemetery occupies at least the southern side of the churchyard (Dyfed PRN 32087). It was partly excavated in 1996 (Ludlow and Ramsey, forthcoming) and produced burials and surfaces dateable to the 12th and 13th centuries, in addition to features of possible prehistoric date.

A chantry chapel is said to have stood within the yard 'in the reign of Queen Elizabeth' (Fenton, 1903, 291-2), and dedicated to 'St Eirw'. A large, square feature appearing to represent a robbed structure was excavated south of the church in 1996 (*ibid.*), but was inconclusive.)

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