

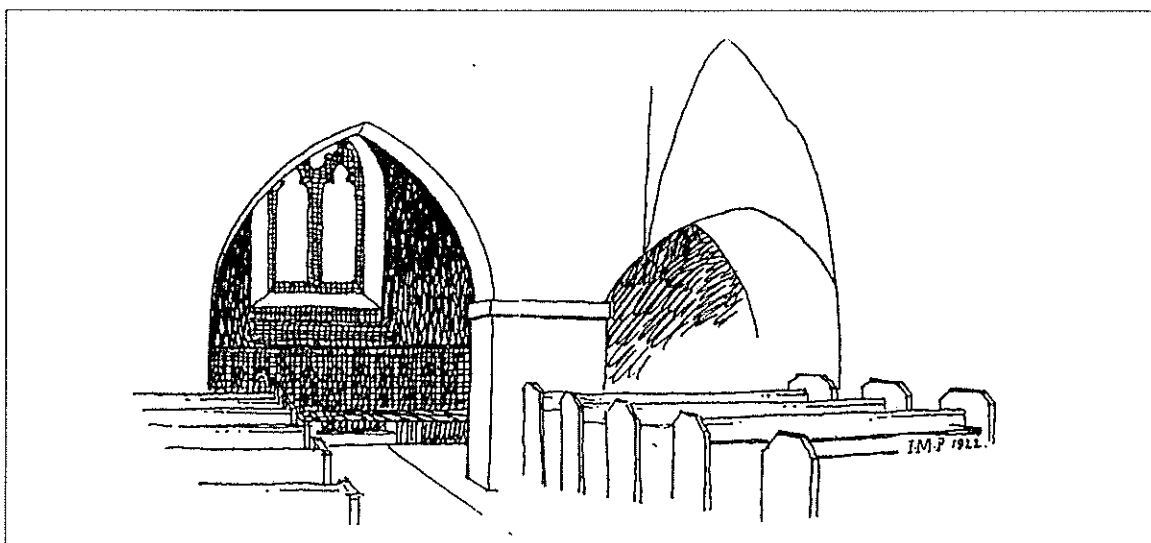
CADW WELSH HISTORIC  
CHURCHES PROJECT



01/05/98

PRESELI PEMBROKESHIRE CHURCHES, 1997-8  
(DAT 48)

PART 4: MAENCLOCHOG - PUNCHESTON



Reports prepared for CADW  
by Neil Ludlow  
ACA  
April 1998



ARCHAEOLOG  
**CAMBRIA**  
ARCHAEOLOGY

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

**Dyfed PRN 4454**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 0831 2739**

**Not listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

18th 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-medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; south transept, 1 bay; west turret/porch, 2 storeys; all c.1790. Vestry (transeptal, north of nave), 1881.

Construction is in mixed rubble. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs throughout. Chancel and south transept arches, c.1790. West turret with crenellated parapet and belfry lights, c.1790. Remainder of openings rebuilt in 1881 and include the windows and doors.

Roofs: c.1790? and 1881. Floors: 1881. Finishes, 1881-20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Church entirely rebuilt in c.1790, in same location as earlier church; no structural or physical evidence for earlier church; shallow, concrete-lined external drain around 100% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 85% 18th century core fabric; 18th century west turret and openings.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, south transept and west turret, c.1790.

Phase 2 - Restored 1881, high impact; vestry built.

## DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Maenclochog, is a 3-celled church, of medium size. It was entirely (re)built in c.1790, in the same location as its predecessor but retaining none of the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a single bayed south transept, a single bayed transeptal vestry north of the nave east bay, and a 2-storey west turret/porch.

Construction is in medium-sized mixed rubble, predominantly limestone, unsquared and uncoursed but with good quoins. The external ribbon pointing is all 20th century, and the internal walls are rendered/plastered, 1881. Slated gable roofs throughout, the chancel and nave being roofed continuously; there is a pyramidal iron frame over the west turret belfry.

The present church was (re)built by subscription in c.1790, according to Samuel Lewis who described it as 'a neat edifice' (Lewis, 1833); it may or may not have followed the plan of the earlier church. As built, the church lacked the present vestry, but otherwise the basic plan has remained unchanged. It was restored in 1881, and the Faculty submission for the restoration (NLW, SD/F/470) includes a plan and elevations of the church as it then existed. Openings were of the simple neo-gothic style typical of the period. The east window was a simple, 2 centred opening with a timber frame, there were 2 similar windows in the nave north wall and one in the south wall. All were subsequently rebuilt. The chancel arch was plain, narrow and 2-centred, but from the first the chancel and nave were roofed as one. The west turret was as it is at present, lying half within the nave west bay, its ground floor representing the entrance to the church; the plain, 2-centred belfry openings and crenellated parapet are unaltered. The south transept was entered through an arch like the chancel arch but had, at some period prior to 1880, been closed off, an entry with a plain, 2-centred head having been inserted in the transept south wall. A heating apparatus had been installed in the transept, with a flue in the west wall leading to a central, plain chimney. The roofs were of collar-rafter type, ceiled below the rafters. Seating was in open benches, and there was a triple-decker pulpit.

The church was restored in 1881 (*ibid.*), to the specifications of Middleton and Son, Architects, Westminster & Cheltenham, at an estimated cost of £525. The restoration was of high impact. The transeptal vestry was built, in squared slate ashlar, north of the nave west bay. The heating apparatus was moved from the south transept to the new vestry. The south transept arch was re-opened and the door in its south wall blocked. The timber frames were removed from the windows, which were given simple neo-gothic 2-centred oolite surrounds; 2 new side windows were inserted in the chancel, and one in the transept south wall blocking. The west turret doors were rebuilt, and a door was inserted from the nave into the new vestry, with similar surrounds. The church was replastered, but the extent of removal of the old is unknown. New softwood roofs were constructed throughout (except in the south transept?), and it may have been now that the iron frame was installed over the west turret (see above). The church was refloored with suspended floors and resealed with softwood pews in the nave and transept, stalls in the chancel. The font was moved to its present position, and the pulpit replaced.

There appears to have been little further work beyond repointing.

The form of the pre-1790 church is not known.

There is no structural or physical evidence for the pre-1790 church. A shallow concrete-lined external drain runs all around the church, from 1881, with a masonry revetment in the north half. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. The floors are suspended and an underfloor void is present. 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 nave south wall.

The font has a crude, square bowl with a square cavity in one of the faces (for a lid?). Bowl and stem are of one piece, the bowl being chamfered off into a cylindrical stem, which sits within a square base. The whole is 'of Norman type' (RCAHM, 1925, 205-6), 13th century?

The present church was not listed in 1998; it has been declared a Building of Special Architectural or Historical Interest.

## **SITE HISTORY**

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

St Mary, Maenclochog, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). The living was a vicarage which, in c.1320, was granted to St Dogmael's Abbey by David de Rupe ('Roche'), Lord of the Manor of Maenclochog (Green, 1912, 282); the grant included the two dependent chapelries of Llandeilo Llwydarth and Llangolman. In 1291 Maenclochog Church was assessed at £6 13s 4d for tenths to the king, the sum payable being 13s 4d (ibid.). In 1536, as 'Mayncloughauke' its annual value was £11 12s 11d (ibid.).

At the dissolution Maenclochog and its chapelries fell to the crown and in 1536 were leased to John Leche of Llawhaden (ibid.) but the king retained the advowson. In 1786 the benefices of Maenclochog, Llandeilo Llwydarth and Llangolman were united (ibid.); the union was formalised in 1877 and continued in 1998. Their annual value in 1786 was £25, rated in the king's books at £3 18s 9d (ibid.).

The patronage had fallen into the hands of the Bowen family of Camrose by 1796 (ibid.). In 1833 Maenclochog was a discharged vicarage of the Archdeaconry of St Davids, in the patronage of Hugh Webb Bowen, endowed with £400 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

St Mary, Maenclochog, was a parish church in 1998. The living was a vicarage, held with Llandeilo Llwydarth, Henry's Moat, Llangolman, New Moat and Lllys-y-fran (Benefice 831) 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, XVIII.9, 1889.

NLW, Parish of Maenclochog, Tithe Map, 1839.

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

### **Church in Wales Records**

Nicholas, F., 1996, Quinquennial Report, Maenclochog.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/470 - Faculty, restoration of church, 1880.

**Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

HPR/29 - Maenclochog:-

HPR/29/1 - Faculty and correspondence, restoration of church, 1880-81.

(HDX/1265/2 - Memorial transcriptions survey, 1991)

**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.

Fenton, 1903, A Historical through Pembrokeshire.

Green, F., 1912, 'Pembrokeshire Parsons', West Wales Historical Records Vol. II.

Hunter, J., and Traherne, J. H., 1852, 'The Original Charters of the de la Roche Family, Pembrokeshire', Archaeol. Cambrensis, Vol. III, Second Series.

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

RCAHM, 1925, Inventory: Pembrokeshire.

Salter, M., 1984, The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales.

**ST DAVID,  
MANORDEIFI,  
(OLD PARISH CHURCH),  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 2077**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 2283 4316**

**Grade II listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; west porch; all medieval. Vestry (north, transeptal), early 19th century.

Construction is in slate rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs. Medieval chancel arch. Medieval windows and piscina in chancel south wall, and possible medieval door in north wall. Medieval western single bellcote and buttress. Medieval angle buttresses?. Medieval west porch vault. late 18th century flagged floors, chancel footpace, box pews including fireplaces and chimney, and tomb recess. Remainder of openings late 18th-early 19th century, include windows and doors.

Roofs: 1905. Floors: 18th century. Finishes: 1905 and late 1960s.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Deep external cutting around 50% of church, primary; no evidence for floor level changes; no underfloor void; no internal crypt/vault is evident but possible 'mass grave' beneath 20% of church; no evidence for former components beyond church; memorials significantly close to 75% of church; possible excavation in environs of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. Medieval core; medieval chancel arch, windows, piscina, bellcote, buttress(es); porch vault. 18th century floors, fireplaces and fittings, including box pews, pulpit and desk.

Phasing:

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

Phase 2 - Vestry, early 19th century.

Phase 3 - Restored 1905, low impact; no new components.

## DESCRIPTION

St David, Manordeifi (old parish church) is a 3-celled church, of small-medium size. It retains approximately 80% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel and a wider 3-bayed nave, a single bayed transeptal vestry north of the chancel west bay, and a west porch. Construction is in medium-sized slate rubble, unsquared but roughly coursed and with crude medieval quoins. Fair pointing from the late 1960s; the internal walls are rendered/plastered, late 1960s. Roofs are slated gables, the nave probably always roofed at a higher level than the chancel. All floors are flagged, from the later 18th century.

A very wide and deep, rock-cut cutting was excavated into the steep uphill slope south of the church as a preliminary to its erection in the medieval period. There is no external drain. There is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are laid directly on the substrate without an underfloor void. No internal crypt/vault is evident, but a mass grave has been inserted under the chancel east wall (Dyfed SMR). Memorials lie significantly close to the north, south and west walls. There is no evidence for any former components beyond the present walls. The environs of the church were partly excavated in 1970-72.

The church has undergone no major late 19th-20th century restoration, and retains not only its medieval layout but a large number of details and fittings from the 18th-earlier 19th centuries. The chancel and nave are probably from the 13th or 14th centuries but retain no original detail; the west porch is probably a 14th-15th century addition but was modified in the 18th century. The vestry was added in the earlier 19th century.

The chancel east window is a plain, 2-centred opening without a surround, from the late 18th-early 19th century, and contains a timber sash-window. The south wall contains two medieval windows, a single light with a square surround in the east bay, of probable 15th century date, and a window of 2 square-headed lights in a square surround in the west bay, of c.1500. Both were rediscovered during the 20th century (Evans et al., 1995, 2), as was the plain, medieval piscina. There are 2 doorways in the north wall of the chancel west bay, both with rounded heads. that to the east leads into the vestry and was probably newly-inserted in the earlier 19th century; the door to the west leads outside and may be medieval, 13th-14th century? The plain, 2-centred chancel arch is 13th-14th century. The flagged floor is 18th century and retains a 3-sided Laudian footpace, but the altar rails were replaced in the early 19th century (Evans et al., 1995, 2). The present softwood roof is from 1905 (ibid.).

The nave has 3 windows in each of the side walls, like the chancel east window and also from the late 18th-early 19th century. The angle buttresses are thought to be medieval (ibid.) but are an unusual feature for the region, and may have been added in the late 18th-early 19th century. According to one source (Salter, 1984, 62) the nave north wall was rebuilt in the early 19th century, but there seems to be little evidence for this and all core fabric appears to be medieval. The west wall features a massive plain buttress, pierced by a doorway rebuilt as a plain 2-centred arch in the early 19th century but originally medieval; the buttress features 3 plain offsets and the summit is a plain, rather crude gable with a single, semicircular headed bellcote opening of medieval date, possibly as early as the 13th-14th century. The floor is flagged as the chancel and the nave has retained its late 18th century box-pews, including the two family pews in the nave east bay with their surviving fireplaces; one fireplace still features a plain square chimney. With the late 18th century pulpit and reading desk the fittings as a group are a rare survival from the 18th century (Evans et al., 1995, 2). The nave was re-roofed as the chancel in 1905 (ibid.).

The gabled west porch is also medieval, and has a barrel-vault; the medieval door was rebuilt in the late 18th-early 19th century. The entire porch structure was extended southwards by a massive thickening of the south wall in the late 18th century to house a recess, with a depressed semicircular head, for a timber memorial 'slab' with an associated railed tomb.

The transeptal north chapel is a plain gabled structure of a similar slate fabric to the rest of the church; it was added in the earlier 19th century and is lit by a window similar to those in the nave. It features a fireplace with a plain chimney. It was also reroofed in 1905.

According to a churchwardens' presentments of 1680 the windows needed repair (Evans et al., 1995, 5). In 1708 the church was in 'indifferent good repair', but the floor was not paved (*ibid.*); the church was restored early in the 18th century according to the RCAHM but the source for this suggestion is not given (RCAHM, 1925, 208). The church was described as 'not remarkable for any architectural features' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833), by which time it was in its present form, including the openings and fittings, and the vestry had probably been added.

Various repairs were carried out from 1886 onwards (Evans et al., 1995, 5). The church underwent minor, low impact restoration in 1905 (Evans et al., 1995, 5), mainly concentrating on the construction of new roofs and the stripping and replastering the interior; the chancel west bay south window was revealed and restored. The reredos was installed in 1922 (NLW, SD/F/475).

The chancel east bay south window, and the piscina, were discovered during a plaster strip (of unknown extent) and restoration in the late 1960s (Evans et al., 1995, 2), when the roofs were reslated, the site cleared of undergrowth and the church generally renovated.

The environs of the church were partly excavated in 1970-72 by the then incumbent, Rev. Percy Evans (Dyfed SMR), but the exact location of the excavations, and the results, are not known.

The font is of one piece, the square bowl with quatrefoil ornament being chamfered into a cylindrical stem with roll fillets, and a square base, of probable 13th century date (RCAHM, 1925, 208).

The bell is late 15th century (Evans et al., 1995, 2), with the inscription 'SANCTI LAURENTI ORA PRO NOBIS' (not from Manordeifi church?); bells cast by the same founder are also at Llandygydd, Ceredigion, and formerly at Moylegrove, Pembs (and 2 churches elsewhere in Wales).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

## **SITE HISTORY**

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

Manordeifi Church was a parish church in the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Emlyn. The living was, from an early date, in the patronage of the Earls of Pembroke (Green, 1912, 287). In 1307 it was in the hands of the king as custodian of the lands of the earl, who was under age (Evans et al., 1995, 8).

In 1291 Manordeifi was assessed, as 'Ecclesia de Manordauin' at £6 13s 4d for tenths to the king (Green, 1912, 287). The 1536 valuation for 'Manerdeyby' was £9, in tenths 18s (*ibid.*).

From an early date, the parishes of Manordeifi and Llanfihangel Penbedw have been associated. Their 2 dependent chapelries - Capel Colman, formerly in Llanfihangel Penbedw parish, and the former Cilfowir Chapel in Maenordeifi parish - were frequently grouped together for valuation purposes (Davies, 1934, 143-4; Green, 1911, 260; RCAHM, 1925, 208). The union continues into the 1990s.

With the death of Jasper Tudor, the last of the old Earls of Pembroke, in 1495, the advowson fell to King Henry VII (Evans et al., 1995, 8) and remained in royal patronage. In 1786 the rectory of 'Manerdivy alias Maenor Deifi (St David)', of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, was held by the king, as Prince of Wales, and



rated in the king's books at £9 (£90), yearly tenths, 18s (ibid.). The situation was unchanged in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

A new parish church of St David was consecrated in 1899 in another part of the parish (Evans et al., 1995, 6), and in 1998 Manordeifi old parish church was a chapel to the new church; occasional services were still held. The living was a rectory, held with the new parish church, Capel Colman, Llanfihangel Penbedw, Clydey, Penrhydd and Castellau (Benefice 805), in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

It has been said (Evans et al., 1995, 1) that the church was originally dedicated to St Llawddog (a popular cult in medieval Emlyn), rededicated to St Lawrence in the post-conquest period, and then finally (by the 18th century) dedicated to St David.

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

NLW, Parish of Manordeifi, Tithe Map, 1843.

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

### **Church in Wales Records**

Bartosch & Stokes, 1992, Quinquennial Report, Manordeifi.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/475 - Faculty, erection of reredos, 1922.

### **Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

(HPR/136 - Manordeifi)

### **Printed Accounts**

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

Anon., 1864, 'Notices & Queries', Archaeol. Cambrensis, Vol. X, Third Series.

Evans, P., Jones, F., and Davies, J. S., 1995, Manordeifi Old Parish Church Guide.

Green, F., 1911, 'Pembrokeshire Parsons', West Wales Historical Records Vol. I.

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Jones, E. D., 1934, 'A Survey of South Wales Chantries, 1564', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. LXXXIX.

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

RCAHM, 1925, *Inventory: Pembrokeshire*.

Salter, M., 1984, *The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales*.

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

**Dyfed PRN 17328**

**RB No.**

**NGR SM 9344 3631**

**Grade II listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 4598).

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; all earlier 19th century?, (re)built in late 19th century. Vestry (south), 1 bay, late 19th century. North porch, 1925.

Construction is in limestone rubble. Neo-gothic. 10% of external walls are rendered; 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Vestry transeptal; slate gable roofs throughout. Openings are from late 19th century, except north porch door, 1925. Western single bellcote, late 19th century. Vestry chimney, late 19th century.

Roofs and floors, late 19th century. Finishes, late 19th century - 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Church entirely rebuilt, in earlier 19th century?, in same location as medieval church; rebuilt in late 19th century, ; no structural or physical evidence for earlier church; platform beyond 10% of church, primary?; shallow earth-cut cutting around 20% of church; shallow external concrete drain around 40% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church.

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

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, earlier 19th century?.

Phase 2 - Chancel and nave, rebuilt late 19th century and vestry added.

Phase 3 - North porch, 1925.

## DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Manorowen, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built, possibly in the earlier 19th century, and certainly in the late 19th century, in the same location as the pre-19th century church but retaining none of its fabric. The exact date of the late 19th century rebuild, and the architect, are not known.

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

Construction is in limestone rubble throughout. Field observation suggests that the core walling of the chancel and nave may be earlier 19th century, but extensively rebuilt in the late 19th century when the vestry was added. The external pointing is good quality, from the late 19th century; the chancel south wall is rendered, 20th century. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. All dressings are in oolite; the detail is mainly from the late 19th century. It includes the windows, with plain 2-centred surrounds beneath polychrome brick heads, the 2-centred north entrance doorway and the vestry door. The vestry carries a brick chimney stack. The nave west wall carries a shouldered bellcote with a flat pediment over a single Caernarfon-headed opening, late 19th century. The roofs are slated gables throughout, late 19th century in chancel, nave and vestry. The floors are suspended and late 19th century in chancel, nave and vestry.

The gabled north porch was added in 1925 (NLW, SD/F/78; Pembs. R. O., HPR/90/13). It is similar in construction to the late 19th century fabric and with the same dressings; the doorway is 2-centred and bears a date stone over inscribed '1925'. It has a tile floor laid directly upon the substrate.

No physical evidence for the pre-19th century church is now present. However, a slight earthwork platform can be seen in the yard just east of the east end of the church, primary?. A shallow external cutting runs around the west wall and south-west corner. A shallow concrete-lined external drain runs along the north wall. 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.

The church appears to be shown in the present location on the earliest map source consulted, the tithe map of 1837 (NLW, Manorowen, 1837), which depicts the church very much as it is today; the nave is wider than the chancel, projecting to the north, but the map's reliability may be questionable. It has been suggested above that the core fabric of the present church is earlier 19th century, and it may be the present church that is depicted by the map. Samuel Lewis, writing in 1833, describes the then church as 'not remarkable for any architectural details of importance' (Lewis, 1833).

The form of the pre-19th century church is not known.

The font has been painted; its age is 'altogether uncertain' (RCAHM, 1925, 209).

The present church was Grade II listed in 1998.

## SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Manorowen was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Pebidiog (Rees, 1932). The benefice belonged to the Bishop of St Davids, and in 1335 was granted, by Bishop Henry Gower, to the Subchantors and Vicars of St Davids Cathedral (Green, 1912, 290). In 1536, the College of St Mary at St Davids received 50s a year from the church at 'Manornawen' (ibid.).

Prior to 1727, the tithes of Manorowen had been held with those of Llanrheithan, leased to Thomas Jones of Brawdy for an annual rent of £20 (Green, 1912, 251). The rent was increased and the lower Chapter of the

cathedral agreed to provide curates for the two parishes. In 1740 the Subchantor, Rev. John Edwardes, acquired the leases; they were renewed for the last time in 1872, to George Harries of Rickeston, Pembs (*ibid.*). The two benefices were however never united.

In 1786, the living was a vicarage not in charge, in the patronage of the Vicars Choral of St Davids (*ibid.*); its certified value was £4. By 1833 Manorowen, of the Archdeaconry of St Davids, was endowed with £600 royal bounty and £200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Manorowen, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Llanwnda, Goodwick St Peter and Llanstinan (Benefice 654) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Dewisland and Fishguard (St Davids, 1997-8).

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

NLW, Parish of Manorowen, Tithe Map, 1837.

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

### **Church in Wales Records**

Jones, W., 1993, Quinquennial Report, Manorowen.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/78 - Faculty, erection of porch, 1925.

### **Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

HPR/90 - Manorowen:-

HPR/90/13 - Faculty, erection of porch, 1925.

HPR/90/14 - Archdeacon's Certificate, electric heating and lighting, 1955.

HPR/90/15 - Vestry Minute Book and Inventory, 1924-56.

### **Printed Accounts**

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

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

Green, F., 1912, 'Pembrokeshire Parsons', West Wales Historical Records Vol. II.

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RCAHM, 1925, Inventory: Pembrokeshire.

Salter, M., 1984, The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales.

**ST PETER,  
MARLOES,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 2946**

**RB No.**

**NGR SM 7948 0823**

**(No Listed Building information available)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 70% medieval core fabric.

A 4-cell church, medium-sized, cruciform. Consists of chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; north transept, 1 bay, and skew passage; south transept, 1 bay, and skew passage; medieval, all 14th century?. Former boilerhouse, between nave and south transept, c.1900?.

(Remains of pre-14th century church beneath southern skew passage?.)

Construction is in mixed, predominantly Old Red Sandstone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; the skew passages have slated lean-tos. Chancel vault; piscina; chancel arch with 'screen' and blocked squint; transept arches; skew passage arches and vaults, and one partly rebuilt window; possible further window embrasures; medieval. Western double bellcote; all other windows; north door; most facework; 1874. Boilerhouse chimney, c.1900?.

Roofs and floors: 1874. Finishes: ?18th century render; 1874 pointing and internal plaster; some 20th century repointing.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Very deep, wide external revetted around 50% church, primary, secondarily deepened exposing footings; below-ground former boilerhouse; no evidence for floor level changes; floors are not suspended, no underfloor void; below-ground baptistery in 5% of church; no further internal crypt/vault evident; good evidence for former component beyond 10% of church; structural evidence for pre-14th century church?.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 70% medieval core fabric. Medieval chancel arch with 'screen' and blocked squint; arches and vaults; rebuilt medieval window and some window embrasures; piscina.

Phasing:

(Phase 1 - Remains of pre-14th century church beneath southern skew passage?.)

Phase 2 - Chancel, nave, transepts and skew passages, all 14th century.

(Phase 3 - Former north aisle, date? 19th century?.)

Phase 4 - Restored 1874, medium-high impact; no new components.

(Phase 5 - Former boilerhouse, c.1900?.)

## DESCRIPTION

St Peter, Marloes, is a 4-celled church, cruciform, of medium size. It retains approximately 70% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave of nearly the same width, a single bayed north transept and skew passage and a single bayed south transept and skew passage. There were formerly a north aisle of unknown form, and a ?c.1900 boilerhouse in the angle between the nave and south transept.

Construction is in chiefly in medium-sized mixed rubble, predominantly Old Red Sandstone, unsquared and uncoursed, without medieval quoins; 1874 work similar but with squared quoins. There are restricted remains of ?18th century external render; ribbon pointing over, 1874, with areas of poor 20th century cement repointing; internal render/plaster, 1874. The church appears always to have been entered through a north door. Roofs are slated gables, the nave and transepts roofed at a higher level than the chancel, which is vaulted; the skew passages are lean-to roofed continuing the chancel roof slopes.

A very deep, wide external revetted cutting runs along all south and west walls of the church, primary, but secondarily deepened to expose the wall footings. The external ground level has been truncated for the former boilerhouse. There is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are not suspended and there is no underfloor void. The north-west quarter of the nave has a below-ground baptistery; no further internal crypt/vault is evident. There is good evidence for a former aisle north of the nave, and for possible surviving contexts relating to an earlier church plan. No memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The church has a unified, symmetrical cruciform plan that may represent a single build; the chancel and transept arches are similar and 14th century in form, from a period when other churches in the region appear to have been entirely (re)built with transepts (cf. Loveston). There are remains of a north-south wall beneath the southern skew passage which does not relate to the present church arrangements, and may represent structural evidence of a pre-14th century church. There is documentary evidence for a former north aisle (see below), but neither the form nor the date of this component are known; it may have been 19th century. The north door has been rebuilt but probably represents the site of the medieval entry.

### *The present church*

The chancel east wall is built upon a large boulder at the north-east corner; both corners have square, full height cut-outs of unknown purpose (but cf. Robeston West nave west wall). The upper three-quarters of the east wall were refaced in 1874, with squared quoins; the east window rear-arch, however, appears to have not been rebuilt and may be later medieval (late 14th century? see below). The window is now of 3 cusped ogee-headed lights, with curvilinear tracery in a 2-centred Old Red Sandstone surround, from 1874. The side walls have not been refaced, and are battered externally. There is a piscina in the east bay south wall, with an irregular square recess and a circular projecting bowl, late 14th century?; to the east, a medieval corbel has been re-used as a credence shelf, original function?. The central bay is lit by a window in each side wall, the northern of 2 cusped ogee-headed lights in a square Old Red Sandstone surround, the southern similar but single light. Both are from 1874 but may re-use medieval openings; the southern sill was lowered in 1874 to form a sedilia. To the west, internal sockets midway up both walls are very deep and appear to have carried a beam, immediately adjacent to the skew passage arches, which are large, with irregular segmental heads. The 2-centred chancel arch is plain and not tall, and probably 14th century; its lower half is constricted into a narrow opening with plain offset stops, denoting the former rood screen. North of the arch is a square recess representing a squint, blocked after 1856. The chancel is vaulted, with a 2-centred barrel vault, 14th century. the floor is plain- and polychrome tiled, from 1874.

The nave east bay communicates with the transepts through plain 2-centred arches like the chancel arch, and similarly 14th century. The nave side walls were extensively refaced in 1874, and requoined. The north door was rebuilt/inserted in 1874, with infill, and has a 2-centred Old Red Sandstone surround. In the opposite (south) wall is a 2-light window like that in the chancel north wall but all de novo 1874 work. The west bay is



lit by a similar, single-light window in the north wall, and a 2-light window in the west wall, cusped, with trefoil- and quatrefoil pierced spandrels, in a 2-centred Old Red sandstone surround, all of 1874 including infill. The west wall also carries a square-topped double bellcote, of squared limestone rubble, all (re)built in 1874; the openings have depressed 2-centred heads; there is one bell (and in 1856; Glynne, 1885, 214). The nave roof is of oak and lacks trusses, all common rafters having arch-braced collars and ashlar posts, and occasional king-posts, from 1874. The passages are tiled, with woodblock flooring laid on cement; the north half of the west bay floor was lowered by c.1m in 1874 to form a baptistery.

The north transept was largely refaced in 1874 as the nave. It is lit by windows in the east and west walls as that in the nave north wall, all 1874, and a similar 2-light window in the north wall. Roofed and floored as the nave. The skew passage is entered through a segmental arch in the east wall reflecting the profile of the passage barrel-vault; the passage outside wall was largely rebuilt or refaced in 1874 but it is pierced by a single light with a square head and surround, from 1874, which may occupy a medieval opening.

The south transept and skew passage are similar, but there is no west wall window in the transept, while the passage outside wall has not been rebuilt, the similar window surround being partly medieval. This wall stands upon a projecting stump of masonry which appears to represent a north-south wall, from a former component?, from the pre-14th century church?.

#### *Developmental history*

In 1833 the church was described as a 'small edifice, not possessing any architectural details of importance' (Lewis, 1833). A more detailed account of the pre-restoration church was written in 1856 (Glynne, 1885, 214). In many respects the church described was like the present structure. The chancel vault is mentioned, but the side walls had stone benching, now gone. The chancel arch was in its present form but the squint was still open. The nave west wall also featured benching, and carried a double bellcote as present. Both transepts are mentioned, but the south transept lacked an arch to the nave; the skew passages had segmental heads as today but the southern passage featured an extension of the chancel benching. The chancel east window was of 2 lights, and 'Decorated', 14th century?; there were no windows in the nave south wall, while those on the north had been 'modernised'. The piscina was noted. The roofs were 'open, and out of repair'; there was no flooring in the west half of the nave, 'only the bare earth; the other parts have pavement of the rudest kind'. The church was whitewashed externally.

The 1856 church differed from the present building in one important respect, however; a north aisle was apparently present. The author described this as a 'north chapel' which, with the north transept, 'range as an aisle outwardly', a 'rude, misshapen arch opening from the nave to the north chapel'. There is no structural evidence for the former presence of such a component, nor does it fit in happily with the existing church plan, and it is not clear exactly what the author is describing. The tithe map of 1842, moreover, features a large-scale inset of the village which depicts the church plan as a simple cruciform (NLW, Marloes, 1842). Nevertheless, the presence of a north aisle is confirmed in the specifications for the 1874 restoration (NLW, SD/F/479), in which 'taking down the 3 walls forming the aisle on the north side of the church' represented one of the preliminary tasks; there are, unfortunately, no accompanying plans in the Faculty bundle. Might the aisle have been constructed between 1842 and 1856?

The church was restored in 1874 (ibid.) to the specifications of the architect John L. Pearson of London, at an estimated cost of £1199, a considerable sum. The restoration was of medium-high impact. Much of the church walling was refaced (rather than rebuilt). New windows were inserted throughout (except in the southern skew passage), some utilising existing openings, and the north door was rebuilt. The western bellcote was rebuilt. The interior was replastered, but the extent of removal of existing plaster is unknown. The chancel was given roof tabling, and refloored. The nave and transepts were reroofed, with similar tabling, and also refloored. The baptistery was excavated beneath nave floor level (RCAHM, 1925, 217). Oak stalls of good quality were fitted, on free-standing board flooring. The nave was reseated in softwood. A new altar table and rail and oak pulpit were fitted.

A small, square boilerhouse was constructed, probably at a later date (c.1900?), in the angle between the nave south wall and south transept. It has now gone, but has left its square ashlar flue in the internal angle, with a pyramidal cap and 4 smoke vents. The side walls were of brick and their construction included the truncation of the ground within to the level of the adjacent cutting. It was entered from the west, the north door jamb still surviving on the nave south wall, as does the through-heating flue, the internal render and the impression of its east-west lean-to roof; a corbel on the transept west wall supported the rafter.

There appears to have been little further work. Some repointing has been undertaken. The softwood baptismal rails are dated 1990.

The limestone font has a square, scalloped bowl with chamfered corners, earlier 13th century, on a (modern?) cylindrical stem and square base.

No Listed Building information available.

## **SITE HISTORY**

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

St Peter, Marloes, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Rhos (Rees, 1932). The benefice was, in 1380, appropriated to St Mary's College, St David's, by Bishop Adam de Houghton (Green, 1912, 292). In 1291, as 'ecclesia de Malros', the church was assessed at £16 for tenths to the king, the sum payable being £1 12s (bid); in 1536, the annual value of the vicarage was 100s 1d, for tenths of 10s 0¼d (bid). There appears to have been a subordinate chapel, dedicated to St Mary, on the Haven shoreline to the south of the church; it was apparently washed away, along with the glebe, during the post-medieval period (Lewis, 1833).

At the dissolution the possessions of the college, including Marloes, fell to the crown, and the patronage remained in royal hands. In 1786 the discharged vicarage, of the Archdeaconry of St Davids had an annual value of £20 (£30), rated in the king's books at £5 (Green, op. cit.). By 1833 the living was endowed with £200 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

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

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

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St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

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### **Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

HPR/62 - Marloes:-

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### **Printed Accounts**

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**HOLY MARTYRS,  
MATHRY,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 17338**

**RB No.**

**NGR SM 8793 3200**

**Grade IICA listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 4642).

A 5-cell church, medium-large. Consists of chancel, 1 bay; nave, 3 bays; south transept, 1 bay; south aisle, 1 bay; south tower, 2 storeys, vestry (north), 1 bay; all (re)built in 1869.

Construction is in limestone and slate rubble. Neo-gothic. Internal walls are mainly rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs; south aisle with a slate lean-to. Apical chancel, polygonal. All openings are from 1869. Some buttressing, 1869. Tower spiral stair turret, 1869.

Roofs and floors, 1869 and 1903. Finishes, 1869 and 1899.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Church entirely rebuilt 1869, in same location as earlier church; no structural or physical evidence for earlier church; ?platform adjacent to 20% of church; very shallow external cutting around 25% of church; no external drain around church; floors raised in 100% of church; underfloor void; underground heating chamber; cellar below 10% of church; no further crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-1869 core fabric.

Phasing:  
All 1869.

## DESCRIPTION

Holy Martyrs, Mathry, is a 5-celled church, of medium-large size. It was (re)built in 1869 (RCAHM, 1925, 148; A. Gordon, 1993, has the church rebuilt in 1867 by an unnamed Bristol architect). The church was built in the same location as its predecessor, in fact 'on the old foundations' (RCAHM, 1925, 221), but retaining none of the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a single bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave (with irregular spatial rhythm), a single bayed south transept, a single bayed south aisle, a 2-storeyed south tower incorporating the entry, and a gabled vestry of 1 bay, against the north wall of the chancel.

Construction is in large limestone rubble throughout and some slate, squared and coursed, with squared quoins. The external pointing is good quality, of 1899 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/10/9). The internal walls are mainly rendered/plastered, 1869?. The chancel forms a polygonal apse. The south transept, short lean-to south aisle and south tower all connect. The 2-storey lies against the nave west bay and the south door, having a large doorway in the south wall and an octagonal spiral stair turret at the south-east corner, implying an intended 3rd (belfry) stage that was not built (and possibly a spire?; Anon., n.d.). The northern vestry is transeptal, lying above a basement and reached from the outside by a flight of 9 steps on the north wall.

All dressings are in limestone; the detail is all from 1869 and neo-gothic (Early English). It includes the chancel arch and internal arcades, the lancet windows with plain 2-centred surrounds, and the 2-centred south and vestry doors. The tower is angle-buttressed; there is intermittent further buttressing throughout, all 1869. The nave is roofed at a higher level than the other components. The roofs are slated gables except the lean-to south aisle, and all from 1869, but the internal matchboarding is from 1903 (NLW, SD/F/482) and may represent the 1902 'restoration' referred to by the RCAHM (RCAHM, 1925, 221). The tower roof was not seen. The floors are suspended except in the tower ground floor, and from 1869. A heating chamber was added in 1899 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/10/9).

There is no physical or structural evidence for the earlier church. However, a scarp slope runs from north-south across the yard 4m east of the chancel east wall; platform?, primary?, for earlier church?; or debris from earlier church?. A very shallow earth-cut cutting runs around the chancel south and east walls, probably from 1869 or later. No external drain is present. All floors are raised c.1m above yard. Suspended floors, over void. There is a below-ground basement below the vestry. No vault or crypt is evident, except the heating chamber.

The form of the pre-1869 church is not known. The present church is allegedly the fifth to occupy the site (Anon., n.d.). Its immediate predecessor lay in the same location and was apparently of the same general size and disposition, if not of the same plan (RCAHM, 1925, 221). It is depicted on the tithe map of 1842 (NLW, Mathry, 1842) as a medium-sized edifice comprising chancel and nave, with north and south transeptal structures. It is possible that a north porch and southern vestry might be represented, but equally likely that the drawing has merely been conventionalised. In 1833 the church was described as 'not distinguished by any architectural features of importance' (Lewis, 1833). The church, as it existed c1800, was apparently 'dignified by a steeple, serving for a land mark for mariners' (Fenton, 1903, 18); is a tower implied? or perhaps a spire?

The font is modern. In 1925 the marble vestry table-top was said to be derived from the earlier church (RCAHM, 1925, 222).

Three ECMs are present at Mathry Church. Two cross-incised stones (Dyfed PRNs 2860 and 2861) are built into the churchyard wall but are not in situ, having been brought to the site from surrounding farms in 1901 and 1904 (RCAHM, 1925, 222). The third (Dyfed PRN 2862) now lies in the church porch. Observed by Edward Lhuyd in 1681 on the 'south (or north) side of Mathri Church' (ibid.) the stone was subsequently lost; it was rediscovered in 1937, built into the yard wall as a gatepost (Anon., 1937, 325-8). It bears a Latin and Ogam inscription.

The present church was Grade IICA listed in 1998.

## **SITE HISTORY**

Holy Martyrs, Mathry occupies a high-certainty site (and probably the location) of a pre-conquest religious foundation -

Celtic dedication; early medieval documentary mention; 3 ECMs, 1 of them in situ.

Mathry was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Pebidiog (Rees, 1932). The living was a rectory which was, from the first, in the patronage of the Bishop of St Davids (Green, 1912, 296). The stipend of the vicar was provided by the prebendary of the 'Golden Prebend', as Mathry was called, due to its valuable endowment (ibid.). As 'Ecclesia de Martre', it was assessed at the considerable sum of £26 13s 4d for tenths to the king in 1291, the sum payable being £2 13s 4d (ibid.). In 1536 the annual value was £4 6s 7d, tenths to the king 8s 8d (ibid.).

Giraldus Cambrensis held the Prebend of Mathry c.1200-1204, a portion of which was sequestrated by Bishop Peter de Leia during his absence in Rome (Davies, 1928, 119). During this period, Mathry and Llanwnda churches were apparently despoiled by insurgents (Davies, 1947, 267).

A 21 year lease of the parsonage and prebend, with a cursal prebend, was granted by Bishop Thomas Barlow to his brother John, of Slebech, in 1564, and renewed as a 40 year lease in 1567 (Green, 1912, 297). The portion of the tithes reserved for the vicar was termed 'domadrek' (corrupted from 'dan y dre?').

The clear yearly value of the vicarage, annexed to Granston, was £12 in 1786, rated in the king's books at £4 7s 6d (ibid.); the tithes of the parish were held by Sir Hugh Owen under a lease from the prebendary c.1811 (Fenton, 1903, 185). By 1833, the discharged vicarage was annexed to Granston and St Nicholas and endowed with £200 royal bounty, in the patronage of the bishop; the Golden Prebend was rated in the king's books at £25 14 4½d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 Holy Martyrs, Mathry, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Edren's, Granston, St Nicholas and Jordanston (Benefice 655) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Dewisland and Fishguard (St Davids, 1997-8).

The 'Holy Martyrs' dedication is not to be confused with the Latin 'All Saints' tradition (Rhys, 1895, 22). The dedication is Celtic, the eponymous Holy Martyrs traditionally having been associated with the so-called 'waterman' disciples of St Teilo (Yates, 1973, 61). 'Mathru in Pebydiog' is mentioned (in connection with the martyrs as 'the Seven Saints') in the pre-conquest 'Book of Llandaff'.

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

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### **Church in Wales Records**

Jones, W., 1995, Quinquennial Report, Mathry.

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NLW, SD/F/482, Faculty - Matchboarding roof of church, 1903.

NLW, SD/F/483, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1921.

**Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

HPR/10 - Mathry:-

HPR/10/9, Vestry Minutes, 1898-1909.

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**ST DOGMAEL,  
MELINE,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 979**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 1180 3875**

**Grade II listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

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

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; south porch; vestry (north), 1 bay; all new built in 1865.

Construction is in limestone rubble throughout. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs. All openings are from 1865; however, a medieval door surround has been reused, but not in situ (and not open). Western bellcote, 1865.

Roofs and floors, 1865. Finishes, 1865.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Church newly built in 1865, on same location as medieval church; displays structural and physical evidence for medieval church; wide cutting around 50% of church - primary? for medieval church?; shallow external drain around 30% of church; floor levels raised; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor-fair. 0% pre 1865 core fabric; reused medieval door surround with mouldings.

Phasing:  
All 1865



## DESCRIPTION

St Dogmael, Meline, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in 1865 on the site of the demolished medieval church, yet retaining no earlier fabric apart from a reused medieval door surround.

The present church consists of a polygonal, apsidal 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a south porch and a lean-to vestry north of the nave.

Construction is in roughly coursed, squared limestone rubble throughout. The external pointing is of 1865. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. All dressings are in oolite. The openings are neo-gothic and the windows generally plain, but there is a fine rose window in the west wall. The west wall carries a low, gabled bellcote, with a single opening into the roof space. The floor level is raised 0.5m from the general level of the yard. The roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slate lean-to roof through which emerges a plain chimney from a fireplace within. All the detail is, like the rest of the fabric, of 1865. There is a shallow drain around the east end of the church. A wide, earth-cut cutting runs along the southern wall and may be primary, for the medieval church.

The only structural evidence for the medieval church is a fine door surround, reused and resited (but not open) in the 1865 north wall; it features a simple drip-mould on stops with human head mouldings which, though crude, are probably 14th-15th century. However, the font was retained from the earlier church and has an octagonal font and stem 'of pre-Reformation date' (RCAHM, 1925). At the rebuilding, a well-carved pew-back bearing a Latin inscription and the date 1626 was removed to a nearby mansion (*ibid.*).

The pre-1865 church is shown in the same location on the tithe map (NLW, Meline, 1837), and appears to depict a single-cell structure without division into chancel and nave. No description is known, but the vestry book sheds some light on 18th-earlier 19th century expenditure upon the fabric. In 1777 the not inconsiderable sum of £5 4s 11d was spent on repairs (Lewis, 1972, 100) while in 1810 it was resolved that a new oak door be placed 'in the front of the church' (west door?) and that a sash window be sited to light the pulpit, the latter costing £6 10s 0d (*ibid.*). In 1817 it was resolved to reroof the church for £27 (*ibid.*), a sum which may indicate an entirely new roof including timbers.

The present church was Grade II listed in 1998.

## SITE HISTORY

There is good evidence for the possible pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication; circular churchyard

Meline was a medieval parish church of the Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). During the 14th century the benefice was in the gift of the Welsh community, according to Rees, 1932, but by 1577 was, as a rectory, appendent to the Barony of Cemais, the lord of Cemais and the free tenants of the parish who had the right of alternate presentation to the living (Green, 1912, 299), a patronage which continued into the 20th century (Lewis, 1972, 100).

There is no entry for Meline in the 'Taxatio' of 1291 (*ibid.*). The church appears in a variety of aliases in 16th century sources, such as 'Mylene, alias Mylen alias Melinau alias Meline' in 1534 (*ibid.*). In 1536 'Mylene ecclesia' was assessed at £10 yearly (Green, 1912, 299). By the later 18th century the annual value of the benefice was £34 (*ibid.*), and in 1833, as a discharged rectory of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, was rated in the king's books at £10 (Lewis, 1833).

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

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

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(HPR/137 - Meline)

### **Printed Accounts**

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Salter, M., 1984, The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales.

**ST NICHOLAS,  
MONINGTON,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 17357**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 1353 4381**

**Grade II listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 5308).

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; north porch; vestry (south), 1 bay; all (re)built in 1860.

Construction is in Blue Lias ashlar. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof. All openings are from 1860. Western single buttressed bellcote, 1860. Fine vestry chimney, 1860.

Roofs and floors, 1860. Finishes, 1860.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Church entirely rebuilt in 1860, in same location as medieval church; no structural or physical evidence for earlier church; deep external cutting around 50% of church, primary?; shallow external earth-cut drain around 50% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church.

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

Phasing:  
All 1860.

## DESCRIPTION

St Nicholas, Monington, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was entirely (re)built in 1860 under the architect R. J. Withers (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, a 2-bayed nave, a north porch and a lean-to vestry of 1 bay, against the south wall of the chancel west bay.

Construction is in Blue Lias ashlar throughout (ibid.). The external pointing is good quality, from 1860. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. All dressings are in oolite; the detail is all from 1860 and in the 'Severe High Victorian Gothic' tradition (ibid.). It includes the windows, with plain 2-centred surrounds, and the 2-centred north door, vestry door and north porch door. A fireplace in the vestry carries a fine chimney stack. From a broad buttress on the west wall rises a gabled bellcote, of good quality, with a single 2-centred opening, 1860. The roofs are slated gables while the vestry has a slate lean-to roof, 1860. The floors are suspended except in the porch, and from 1860.

No physical evidence for the earlier church is now present. A deep external cutting runs around the eastern half of the church where it is built into the hillside, and may be a primary feature from the earlier church; no corresponding platform lies beneath the western half of the church but the yard is built up here. A shallow earth-cut external drain runs around western half of the church. 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.

The pre-1860 church appears to be shown in the same location as the present building on the tithe map of 1837 (NLW, Monington, 1837), which depicts the church as a medium-sized edifice comprising chancel, nave, north chapel and south transept (possibly south porch?). That it was largely medieval is indicated in an comment made shortly after the 1860 rebuild - 'Some of them (the Lloyds of Trefegin) must have built the old church of Monington, which bore greater marks of antiquity than any church in the neighbourhood' (Vincent, 1864, 308). A substantial bellcote or turret is suggested by a 1684 presentment which submits the 'steeple' as out of repair (Evans, 1927, 395). Samuel Lewis, writing in 1833, however merely mentions the church in passing (Lewis, 1833).

The present church was Grade II listed in 1998.

(A bier house survives within the yard, a rare building type in the district, in squared rubble from the earlier 19th century.)

## SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for possible pre-conquest religious use of the site - Circular churchyard.

St Nicholas, Monington was not a parish church during the post-conquest period, but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). The living was a curacy belonging to the vicarage of Llantwyd, which was appropriated to St Dogmael's Abbey (Green, 1912, 304). There is no reference to the church in either the 'Taxatio' of 1291 or the 'Valor Ecclesiasticus' of 1536.

At the dissolution St Dogmael's Abbey with all its appurtenances fell to the crown, including the patronage of Monington Church (Green, 1913, 281). In 1624 Monington was united with Llantwyd and St Dogmael's (Green, 1912, 304), as a vicarage; the three livings were assessed together and in 1786 the clear yearly value was £15, rated in the king's books at £4 13s 4d (Green, 1913, 281). The three vicarages remained united into the 20th century.

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage, and was consolidated with that of St Dogmael's, in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Nicholas, Monington, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Dogmael's and Moylegrove (Benefice 645) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

(The Welsh name for the parish - Eglwys Wythwr - translates as 'the Church of Eight Men', 'that being the number of freeholders in the parish at the time of the church's foundation' according to George Owen (Fenton, 1903, 294). The name is more likely to be derived from the personal name Gwyther)

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

NLW, Parish of Monington, Tithe Map, 1837.

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

### **Church in Wales Records**

Bartosch & Stokes, 1991, Quinquennial Report, Monington.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

### **Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

(HPR/138 - Monington)

### **Printed Accounts**

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Anon., 1867, 'George Owen's MSS', Archaeol. Cambrensis, Vol. XIII, Third Series.

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Evans, G. E., 1927, 'Miscellanea', Archaeol. Cambrensis, Vol. LXXXII, Seventh Series.

Fenton, R., 1903, A Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire.

Green, F., 1912, 'Pembrokeshire Parsons', West Wales Historical Records Vol. II.

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

RCAHM, 1925, Inventory: Pembrokeshire.

Salter, M., 1984, The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales.

Vincent, H. J., 1864, 'Caerau in St Dogmells', Archaeol. Cambrensis, Vol. X, Third Series.

**SS MYNNO, DAVID & ANDREW,  
MOYLEGROVE,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 17346**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 1227 4464**

**Grade II\* listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 5309).

A 3-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; south transept, 1 bay; vestry (north), 1 bay; all (re)built in 1866-7.

Construction is in slate rubble. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof. All openings are from 1866-7. Western bellcote turret and spire, 1866-7. South 'porchlet', 1866-7.

Roofs and floors, 1866-7. Finishes, 1866-7.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Church entirely rebuilt in 1866-7, in same location as earlier church; no structural evidence for earlier church; large earthwork platform beneath 50% of church, primary?; medium depth external earth-cut drain around 25% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; underfloor void; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church; some memorials significantly close to 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor. 0% pre-1866 core fabric.

Phasing:  
All 1866-7.

(Former building history:  
Phase 1 - Medieval church  
Phase 2 - Restored 1617  
Phase 3 - Rebuilt 1814.)

## DESCRIPTION

SS Mynno, David & Andrew, Moylegrove, is a 3-celled church, of small-medium size. It was entirely (re)built in 1866-7 under the architect R. J. Withers (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, a 2-bayed nave, a south transept and a lean-to vestry of 1 bay, against the north wall of the chancel west bay and joining the transept east wall.

Construction is in slate rubble throughout, with slate ashlar quoins. The external pointing is good quality, from 1866-7. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. The entrance doorway is in the nave south wall. All dressings are in yellow sandstone; the detail is all from 1866-7 and neo-gothic. It includes the windows, with plain 2-centred surrounds, and the 2-centred south and vestry doors. The south door exhibits a projecting gabled 'porchlet' of 1866-7. The nave west wall carries an octagonal bellcote turret, of good quality, with quatrefoil openings and a low sandstone ashlar spire, with lucarnes, all of 1866-7. There is one external buttress on the north wall. The roofs are slated gables while the vestry has a slate lean-to roof, 1866-7. The floors are suspended except in the porch, and from 1866-7.

No structural evidence for the earlier church is now present. However, a massive, steeply scarped platform lies below the northern half of the church, where the ground falls away steeply to the towards the north. The platform is probably at least partly natural, but its regular outline suggests that it has been artificially enhanced, presumably as a primary feature forming made ground for the pre-1866 church. A medium depth earth-cut external drain runs along the chancel south wall. 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 lie significantly close to the south walls.

The form of the earlier church cannot be definitely known, and it is clear that the present church is merely the latest in a long succession of rebuilds; a date stone inscribed '1617' is set into the nave west wall and presumably refers to a restoration or rebuild.

A second date stone inscribed '1814' records the rebuilding of the church, apparently representing a complete reconstruction (RCAHM, 1925, 240). The 1814 church is depicted, in the same location as the present building, on the tithe map of 1847 (NLW, Moylegrove, 1847) as a medium-sized edifice comprising chancel and nave, without structural division, and a north aisle running the entire length of the nave; the map appears to be precise. The church by this time cannot have retained any medieval fabric, and Samuel Lewis, writing in 1833, described it as 'not remarkable for any architectural details' (Lewis, 1833).

The present church was Grade II\* listed in 1998.

(A font 'of Norman type' lay loose in the yard in 1925 (RCAHM, 1925, 241); it had 'a plain bowl, with a circular shaft and base' and was thought to have been derived from the medieval church.)

## SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for possible pre-conquest religious use of the site -  
Possible circular churchyard?

Moylegrove was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). The living was a vicarage appropriated to St Dogmael's Abbey (Green, 1912, 307). As 'Ecclesia de Grava Matilda' the church was assessed at £4 for tenths to the king in 1291 (ibid.). In 1536 the clear yearly value was 40s, tenths to the king 4s (ibid.).



At the dissolution St Dogmael's Abbey with all its appurtenances fell to the crown, including the advowson of Moylegrove Church, and in 1594 the vicarage, annexed to Y Beifil (Bayvil), was under royal patronage (ibid.). The two livings remained united until the 19th century, and in 1786 had a clear yearly value of £6 10s (£20), rated in the king's books at £5 (Green, 1911, 240). In 1833 the royal bounty for the discharged vicarage of Moylegrove was £600 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 SS Mynno, David & Andrew, Moylegrove, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Dogmael's and Monington (Benefice 645) in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, Rural Deanery of Cemais and Sub-Aeron (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church has been traditionally associated with St Andrew, and although no dedication is mentioned by George Owen in 1594 (Green, 1912, 307) it was given as St Andrew in 1786 (ibid.). However, Moylegrove had by this time been annexed to Y Beifil, dedicated to St Andrew the Apostle, and this may have given rise to the association. The dedication has, during the 20th century, been extended to include SS Mynno & David.

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

NLW, Parish of Moylegrove, Tithe Map, 1847.

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

### **Church in Wales Records**

Bartosch & Stokes, 1993, Quinquennial Report, Moylegrove.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/499, Faculty - Removal of buildings, 1899.

### **Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

(HPR/139 - Moylegrove)

### **Printed Accounts**

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**ST DOGMAEL,  
MYNACHLOGDDU,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 943**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 1318 2825**

**Not listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A 2-cell church, small-medium sized. Consists of chancel/nave (without structural division), 3 bays; north aisle, 3 bays; all medieval. The north aisle represents the former nave/chancel.

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, ?14th century and c.1500. Medieval corbels/brackets, plain. Remainder of openings (windows), 1889. Bellcote, 1889.

Roofs and floors, 1889. Finishes, 1889-1988.

Condition - fair-good. Some ivy; plaster fair.

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

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair-good. 80% medieval core fabric; medieval arcade; 2 medieval doors.

**Phasing:**

Phase 1 - North aisle (former nave), C14?

Phase 2 - Chancel/nave (former south aisle), c1500

Phase 3 - Restored 1889, low-medium impact; no new components.

## DESCRIPTION

St Dogmael, Mynachlogddu, is a 2-celled church, of small-medium size. It retains approximately 80% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel/nave (formerly the south aisle) and a longer, 3-bayed north aisle (formerly the chancel/nave), which extends beyond the chancel/nave west wall. Construction is in limestone rubble throughout, unsquared and uncoursed, with medieval quoins. The external pointing is generally good and is of 1889; the east and walls were repointed c.1988. All internal walls are rendered/plastered, some of which is fair only. Both cells have slated gable roofs.

The northern cell (now the north aisle) appears to be the earlier of the two components; it is not possible to date closely but it may be 14th century, the door in its north wall being medieval and possibly this early. The southern cell (now the chancel/nave) was added c.1500 - the 3-bay arcade between the two cells comprising 2-centred arches on octagonal piers, of good quality but without bases or capitals and rather asymmetrical, is stylistically of this date, while the door in the west wall differs somewhat from the north door and appears later medieval. There is no chancel arch in either cell, both of which were always roofed continuously at similar levels. No medieval windows survive but in the northern cell, the north wall west window and west wall window both lie beneath segmental outer arches that may be medieval. Brackets/corbels on the interior of the north cell east wall may also be medieval - for statuary? or altar rail? There is a single bellcote on the northern cell west wall, (re)built in 1889, but the medieval church presumably featured a bellcote.

A deep earth-cut cutting runs around the eastern half of the church, exposing the southern cell footings, and thus post-dating its construction; the northern cell footings are not exposed and there appears to have been a cutting here from the first. There is no cutting or drain around the western half of the church. The flooring is suspended throughout. There is no evidence for any below-ground crypt/vault within the church. In the absence of pier bases within the arcade, evidence for floor level changes is lacking.

The extent of any 18th-early 19th century work at the church is unknown; it may be assumed that at least some sash windows - standard for the time - were introduced. In 1833 the church was described as 'not remarkable for any architectural details' (Lewis, 1833).

A Faculty was applied for restoration in 1888 (NLW, SD/F/508), following specifications by the architect Charles Baker King, of London. Large-scale alterations were proposed, including the construction of an entirely new chancel east of the south aisle. Most of the windows were to be replaced, but the north and west doors were to be retained. The Faculty was not granted.

The church was however restored in 1889 (RCAHM, 1925, 244), but the work was fairly low-impact and no components were removed or added. The two medieval doorways were retained unchanged; however the church was entirely refenestrated with 2- and 3-light, square-headed, neo-perpendicular windows with oolite surrounds. Entirely new softwood roofs were put on both cells, a king-post roof in the northern cell and a collar-rafter roof in the southern; there are, however, no upstands or weather tabling. The interior was replastered but the extent of removal of the old is unknown. It may have been at this period that the chancel was established in the southern cell, with a polychrome tiled floor; the remainder of the floors were given plain-tiled passages and suspended boarded floors beneath the new seating. The bellcote was rebuilt as a simple, square, gabled structure with a single opening and bell. Most fittings, except the font, are from this restoration, and include the altar rail, pulpit and desk.

The church was closed for some years prior to 1988, when local pressure and fundraising led to its reopening (Pems. R. O., HDX/1414/12). Repairs were generally minor - the bellcote, the east walls and the north wall were repointed, some slates, flashings and gutters were replaced, and the church was rewired and redecorated. Most of the fittings had been retained (ibid.).

The plain font is medieval, with a square bowl and stem, and octagonal base, all probably 13th-14th century.

The church was not listed in 1998, but was a Building of Special Historical or Architectural Interest; in PCNP.

## **SITE HISTORY**

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

Mynachlogddu was not a medieval parish church (Rees, 1932). The benefice was originally a curacy belonging to St Dogmaels Abbey, as a grange chapel (Green, 1913, 209). In 1291, as 'Capella de Nigra Grangea', it was assessed at £2 13s 4d (ibid.). It was not separately assessed in the 'Valor' of 1536, described instead, within a list of St Dogmaels properties, as the free chapel of 'Manoghloke Duy' (ibid.).

There is evidence that the church was formerly dedicated to St Giles. George Owen of Henllys, writing in the late 16th century, called it 'Mynachlog ddu, otherwise St Giles Chapel in Prysely' (Wade-Evans, 1935, 132-3). The present dedication to St Dogmael may be a result of its former connection with that abbey.

At the dissolution the advowson was first leased, and then purchased by private individuals (ibid.). The church became the parish church of Mynachlogddu.

The church was closed for some years prior to 1988. In 1998 St Dogmael, Mynachlogddu, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Maenclochog, Llandeilo Llwydarth, Henry's Moat, Llangolman, New Moat and Llys-y-fran (Benefice 831) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Daugleddau (St Davids, 1997-8).

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

NLW, Parish of Mynachlogddu, Tithe Map, 1840.

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

### **Church in Wales Records**

Jones, W., 1994, Quinquennial Report, Mynachlogddu.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/507, Faculty - Removal of cottage, 1888.

NLW, SD/F/508, Faculty - Restoration of church, 1888 (not granted).

**Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

(HPR/87 - Mynachlogddu)

HDX/1414/12, Notes on Church History.

**Printed Accounts**

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**ST BRYNACH,  
NEVERN,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 1604**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 0833 4002**

**Grade II\* listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A 6-cell church, large, 'cruciform'. Consists of chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south aisle, 2 bays; west tower, 2 storeys; medieval. South porch, 1864-81.

Construction is in limestone rubble. 90% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; the north transept has a slated lean-to. Vaulted 'choir recesses' with rebuilt window and arches; chancel piscina; north chapel window, piscinae and door opening; south aisle rib-vault, rebuilt windows, buttresses, spiral stair turret and 'priest's room' above the vault; west tower with diagonal buttresses, spiral stair turret, all openings and crenellated parapet; all medieval. All windows and doors in their present form; chancel, transept, aisle and tower arches, chancel and nave buttressing; south porch; 1864-81. (3 ECMs, Dyfed PRNs 1605-1607, built into church fabric.)

Roofs and floors: 1864-81. Finishes: 1864-81, some 20th century repointing.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Medium-deep external cutting around 20% of church, primary, footings not exposed; west tower floor raised?; suspended floors in 50% of church, with underfloor void; known crypt/vault beneath 30% of church; no evidence for former components beyond church; memorials lie significantly close to 50% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 80% medieval core fabric. Medieval 'choir recesses', windows (original and rebuilt), some arches, piscinae, rib-vault, buttresses, spiral stair turrets, rebuilt door, west tower with diagonal buttresses and crenellated parapet; relocated ECMs.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, 12th century?

Phase 2 - Chancel, 13th-14th century.

Phase 3 - North transept, 15th century.

Phase 4 - Choir recesses, c.1500.

Phase 5 - South aisle, early 16th century.

Phase 6 - West tower, first half of 16th century.

Phase 7 - Restored twice, 1864 and 1881, high impact; south porch built.

## DESCRIPTION

St Brynach, Nevern, is a 6-celled church, of large size, 'cruciform'. It retains approximately 80% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel with projecting 'choir-recesses' in the west bay, a wider 4-bayed nave, a single bayed north transept (chapel), a 2-bayed south aisle (chapel) south of the nave east bays, with a rib-vault and a 'priest's room' over, a south porch and a 2 storey west tower.

Construction is chiefly in medium-large limestone rubble with some large medieval quoining; pointing from 1864-81, poor, obscures masonry, with 20th century cement repointing in areas; internal render/plaster, 1864-81, except in the west tower. The church was always entered through a south door. Roofs are slated gables, the nave roofed at a higher level; the north transept has a lean-to roof continuing the nave northern roof slope; the tower roof was not seen.

A medium-deep external earth-cut cutting runs around the east wall, and the east half of the church north walls, primary, later concrete lining, but footings not exposed. The west tower floor may have been raised. The floors are suspended through most of the church, with an underfloor void and heating ducts beneath the nave passages. There are crypts/vaults beneath the chancel. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls. Memorials and ECMs lie significantly close to the east end, the south walls and the chancel north wall.

The church, though restored, has retained its medieval plan and arrangements, which exhibit a long constructional history with components from many periods. The chancel and nave are of different fabrics, that in the nave being large rubble, roughly squared and coursed; in the absence of surviving detail and the original chancel arch neither can be closely dated but the form of the nave facework suggests an early, possibly 12th century date (ie. 'Norman' coursework). The chancel may then be 13th-14th century. The north transept is very short and has a lean-to roof, and was probably built as a chapel; it has 2 piscinae of early 15th century form, probably contemporary with the construction of the transept. The chancel west bay has 'choir-recesses' similar to those seen in such Pembrokeshire churches as Johnston and Herbrandston, but larger and with 4-centred arches to the chancel suggesting a date of c.1500, but they may not be exactly contemporary. The south aisle is a complex construction with one of the rare Pembrokeshire rib-vaults and a 'priest's room' above unique for West Wales, stylistically belonging to the early 16th century. The west tower is also from the earlier 16th century, but stylistically 'Tudor' and would appear to post-date the aisle; it is of unusual design for the region, its closest parallel being at the nearby church of Newport. The south door appears to have always been the only entrance into the church, but the south porch is from 1864-81.

### *The chancel*

The chancel east wall displays set-back angle buttresses, with coping, from 1864-81; there is a similar buttress against the north wall. The east window has 3 cusped lights with neo-Perpendicular tracery in a 2-centred surround, of oolite, from 1864-81. The east bay side walls are both pierced by 2 windows, each with 2 cusped lights and a quatrefoil-pierced spandrel in a 2-centred surround and drip-mould, all 1864-81 (but from different restorations, see below). A piscina is set in the south wall, with a cusped, ogee-headed surround, late medieval?

The side walls of the chancel west bay are thrown out as 'choir recesses' in external square projections with slated lean-to roofs. Each communicates with the chancel by a 4-centred arch, both c.1500, but the southern arch has roll-moulded stops; the arches reflect the profile of the recess vaults. The sill and jambs of a large, blocked medieval window are visible in the north wall of the northern recess, into which an 1864-81 window similar to those in the main chancel walls has been inserted. The southern recess is lit by windows in the west and south walls, the former a single cusped lancet with a limestone surround and all from 1864-81, the latter a 3-light window with sunk cusps and simple tracery, from 1864-81 but occupying a medieval opening. The 2-centred moulded chancel arch is from 1864-81.



The chancel roof is of softwood and lacks trusses, all common rafters having scissors-braces that are arch-braced from the wall-plate, and a crown-plate, all from 1864-81. The floor is tiled, from 1864-81; burial vaults lie below.

#### *The nave*

The nave north wall is pierced by two 3-light windows like that in the southern choir recess, inserted de novo in 1864-81, and has an external central buttress also from 1864-81; into the facework is built a Latin-inscribed stone (Dyfed PRN 1607). The south wall features a similar window. The south door is in the west bay and has a 2-centred embrasure with a surround and drip-mould all from 1864-81. The nave roof has softwood king-post trusses arch-braced from the wall-plate, from 1864-81. The passages are tiled, above heating ducts, and there are suspended board floors.

#### *The north transept*

The short north transept (chapel) is entered from the nave through a moulded segmental arch (re)built in 1864-81. A door in the west wall leads to the exterior; the segmental rear arch may be medieval but the depressed ogee surround is from 1864-81. The transept is lit by windows in the east and north walls. The former is of 2 cusped lights in a square surround, rebuilt in 1864-81 but retaining the jambs from a medieval window. The upper half of the north wall was rebuilt in 1864-81 and included a de novo window like those in the nave, but 2-light. The east wall features 2 medieval piscinae, the northern with a moulded, cusped recess, the southern with an ogee head; both are probably from the early 15th century. The lean-to transept roof continues the nave roof northern slope in softwood common rafters from 1864-81. Floored as the nave.

#### *The south aisle*

The gabled south aisle communicates with the nave through a 2-bayed arcade of moulded, 2-centred arches on an octagonal pier with a moulded base and capital. The arches lie beneath a depressed segmental relieving arch, the whole ensemble being from 1864-81. There are windows in the east and south walls, the former being of 3 cusped lights with curvilinear tracery in a depressed, 2-centred oolite surround and drip-mould, all from 1864-81. The 2 south wall windows occupy early 16th century openings but are insertions of 1864-81, like the nave windows; the west bay window originally had a lower sill which can be seen externally. The internal sills of the south wall windows are formed by 2 re-used ECMs discovered in 1906 in the priest's room passage (incised and Ogam stone, Dyfed PRN 1605; relief cross slab, Dyfed PRN 1606). The external wall face also features a small, re-used cross-incised stone (no Dyfed PRN?). The 3 south wall buttresses were largely rebuilt in limestone ashlar in 1864-81, but are fundamentally medieval. The south aisle has a 2-bayed, quadripartite rib-vault of fine quality, with rib-clusters carried on corner corbels, from the earlier 16th century. Floored as the nave, 1864-81. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north half of the aisle west wall, entered from the aisle by a low door with a 2-centred surround; all is early 16th century work. The turret is lit by 2 plain slit-lights and is roofed in coping stones forming a half-hip to the aisle east wall, renewed 1864-81. The stair leads to a low chamber in the roof-space above the vault, unique in West Wales and possibly representing a 'priest's room'; it is lit by a circular quatrefoil light high in the east gable wall, rebuilt in 1864-81, and a plain square loop in the west wall, fundamentally 16th century. A similar square light low down in the main body of the west wall retains its ?medieval iron bar.

#### *The west tower*

The west tower is also from the earlier 16th century and is of unusual design for the region, its closest parallel being at the nearby church of Newport. It is large but only has 2 storeys, giving it a rather squat appearance. It has an external chamfered basal offset but no batter, and diagonal, stepped corner buttresses which ascend to parapet level; a similar angle buttress projects from the south-east corner. A square spiral stair turret

projects from the north-west corner entered from the ground floor through a 2-centred doorway with a very low head and lit by slit-lights; it extends eastwards as a wide pilaster buttress against the nave north wall, coped at 2 levels but largely rebuilt in limestone ashlar 1864-81. The ground floor is unvaulted and is roofed with the floor joists and boards of the belfry above, and displays corbelling for the medieval joists. It opens to the nave through a 2-centred arch rebuilt in moulded oolite in 1864-81. The west wall is pierced by a window with a depressed segmental relieving arch and similar outer and rear arches; the square surround features a 4-light uncusped window with sunk spandrels, in chamfered oolite and all from the earlier 16th century. The external face is pierced by possible putlog-holes. Floored as the nave, 1864-81, and possibly raised. The belfry stage has square lights in simple surrounds at a lower level in the north and west walls, and 2-light openings in square surrounds beneath segmental arches higher up in all 4 walls; all are earlier 16th century. The crenellated parapet lies on a plain, continuous corbel table, also earlier 16th century; the merlons and embrasures have been restored with pitched coping, 1864-81. The tower is in good condition.

#### *Developmental history*

A churchwardens' presentment of 1708 submitted the church to be 'in indifferent good repair', but the floor was of earth as appears to have been frequent at the time (Evans, 1935, 302). In 1891, the interior was evidently ceiled in a manner typical of the period for in that year the ceiling was evidently replastered (Rhys, 1913, 382); the church interior was evidently under a very thick coat of plaster that concealed all structural features. A pre-restoration window apparently pierced the chancel south wall with one of the ECMs forming its sill (*ibid.*).

An account of 1850 describes the pre-restoration church in its overall present form, and as 'rather irregular', and 'the architecture rude' (Glynne, 1898, 358-9). The chancel choir recesses opened into the interior as 'flat arches'; the chancel north wall was pierced by 2 windows of 2 lights and 14th century form, one of which was blocked, and the south wall featured a Perpendicular 2-light window (referred to above?). Most of the other windows were 'debased and modernised with sashes'. The chancel arch was 2-centred. The south aisle arcade was originally of 2 plain 2-centred arches on a square pier, and the two bays of the aisle were separated by a 'transverse arch', referring to the rib-vault?. The tower was described in its present form. There was a west gallery. The commandment tablets still in the chancel are probably pre-1864.

Funding was sought for restoration in 1861 (Anon., 1861, 174) which was to include the removal of the ceiling, reseating, the insertion of new windows and the removal of the western gallery to reveal the west tower arch. The church was described as having been 'of much beauty, but little of that is now left'.

The church was restored in 1864 (Anon, n.d., 14; Lewis, 1972, 104); it underwent a second restoration in 1881 (Anon., 1883, 341; Lewis, *op. cit.*) under the architect E. Lingen Barker. In the absence of specifications for either restoration, it is difficult to establish which features belong to which project. Taken together, the restorations were high-impact. The chancel arch, north transept arch, south aisle arch and tower arch were all rebuilt. All windows are from the restorations, some using existing openings and rebuilt/re-used in the north transept east wall. The south door was entirely rebuilt, while the north transept door was partly rebuilt. External buttressing was built against the chancel and nave. The church was reroofed, with tabling, and refloored, with heating ducts in the nave passages from a disused heating apparatus in an unknown location. the church was reseated with softwood pews and stalls, the latter with neo-gothic trefoil backs in the southern choir recess. The present altar table and rail were fitted, and the reredos, with an oolite frieze and Minton tiles, is possibly from 1881; similarly the oolite pulpit and the panelled softwood vestry screen in the west tower arch were probably part of the later restoration.

The south porch was new built, possibly in the earlier restoration of 1864. It is in limestone ashlar, with a basal batter and offset in the side walls. The doorway has a plain 2-centred head and dripmould. The gable roof comprises softwood arch-braced, scissors-braced common rafters. Floored as the nave.

There appears to have been little further work. Some repointing has been undertaken during the 20th century, and the church was reconditioned and redecorated, and the tower renovated, in 1951-2 at a cost of £2000 (Lewis, 1972, 104).

The font is 19th century, but the old font still occupies the nave and is of limestone, with a square bowl, cylindrical stem and a square base, from the 14th-15th centuries.

The west tower has a peal of 6 bells cast by Thomas Rudhall of Gloucester in 1763 (Anon., n.d.), of which the fourth was recast in 1887. The bellframe, headstock and wheels are also 18th century, but the bells are normally set for chiming.

The church was Grade II\* listed in 1998.

The north transept is traditionally known as the 'Glasdir Chapel', and the south aisle as the 'Trewern-Henllys Chapel'.

## **SITE HISTORY**

St Brynach, Nevern, occupies the high-certainty site of a pre-conquest religious foundation - Celtic dedication; ECMs (Dyfed PRNs 1598, 1599, 1605-1607, the latter 3 in the church); long tradition.

St Brynach, Nevern, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). The living was a vicarage appendent to the Barony of Cemais, the patronage belonging to the Lord of Cemais (Green, 1913, 217). In 1324 the advowson had an annual value of 24 marks and formed part of the knights' fees assigned to James d'Audely, heir of William FitzMartin, Lord of Cemaes (ibid.). His son, Nicholas d'Audely, alienated the advowson to Bishop Adam de Houghton of St Davids in 1377, who appropriated it to the College of St Mary at the cathedral (ibid.). The church had been assessed at £16 for tenths to the king in 1291; in 1536 the annual value was £8, for tenths of 16s (ibid.).

There were 8 subordinate chapelries within the parish, most of which were in ruins by 1594 (ibid.). That at Cilgwyn is still a functioning church.

At the dissolution of the college, the advowson fell to King Henry VIII. In 1548 the rectory was leased to a Thomas Howicke for an annual rent of £33 14s 8d (Lewis, 1972, 102), and by 1596 were leased to the Birt family of Llandygwydd, Ceredigion, for the same rental. In 1786 the discharged vicarage of 'Nearne alias Newerne alias Nyfer alias Nevern' was valued annually at £30 (£50), rated in the king's books at £8 and in the patronage of the king as Prince of Wales (Green, op. cit.).

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

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**ST NICHOLAS,  
NEW MOAT,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 1318**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 0624 2524**

**Grade B listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 30% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, with 5 cells, medium-large. Consists of nave, 3 bays; north aisle, 2 bays, west tower, 3 storeys, medieval; north aisle rebuilt 1884-5. Chancel, 3 bays; north chapel, 3 bays; 1725, rebuilt 1884-5. (Former baptistery north of nave, 1725, gone.)

Construction is in mixed rubble throughout. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs. Medieval arch between nave and tower; medieval vault, stair, door and slit lights in tower. Remainder of openings (windows and door), 1884-5.

Roofs and floors, 1884-5. Finishes, remains of 18th century plaster and render, remainder 1884-5.

Condition - good. Tower poor-fair in areas; some external ivy.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. 25% of church with below ground crypt/vault; shallow external drain around 50% of church; floors raised; underfloor void; memorials significantly close to church; good evidence of former component beyond church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 30% medieval core fabric; medieval west tower with arch. (Jacobean monument, large).

**Phasing:**

Phase 1 - Nave, C13-14?

Phase 2 - West tower, later C15.

Phase 3 - North aisle, c.1500?

Phase 4 - Chancel, north chapel (not separate from aisle), 1725  
(and former baptistery).

Phase 5 - Restored 1884-5, high impact; north aisle rebuilt (and divided into aisle and chapel).

## DESCRIPTION

St Nicholas, New Moat, is a 5-celled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 30% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north chapel, a 2-bayed north aisle and a 3-storey west tower. Construction is in mixed limestone, shale, slate and Old Red Sandstone rubble throughout, unsquared and uncoursed, with medieval limestone quoining in the west tower only. Good pointing, 1884-5, with remains of 18th century render in limited areas. The internal walls are rendered/plastered; pre-1884 plaster in west tower. The nave and north aisle are now of roughly equal height; the chancel and north chapel are lower. Roofs are slated gables.

### *The present church*

Medieval openings are restricted to the tower, and there largely rebuilt (see below). The remainder of the detail is all from 1884-5; the windows are neo-gothic and 1-, 2- and 3-light, with oolite surrounds, the larger with curvilinear tracery, and some with Caernarfon heads. The chancel arch is plain and 2-centred while a similar arch leads from the chancel west bay into the north chapel; a 2 bay arcade of similar arches on a clustered-shaft pier with a plain capital and base lies between the nave and the north aisle. Doors are 2-centred, and with oolite surrounds. The south door has a gabled 'porchlet' with oolite dressings including a string-course. There is a further door between the chancel central bay and north aisle. The north and south walls display stepped buttresses, the northern with a plain chimney. There is no dressed tabling.

A large, fine, oolite Jacobean monument (Scourfield family) however occupies a semicircular-headed recess in the south wall of the chancel central bay, dated 1621.

The north chapel lies over a below-ground crypt/vault, of 1725, with a wide, revetted external stairwell; it also housed a former heating apparatus, 1884-5. There are further vaults beneath the east end of the chancel. A shallow earth-cut cutting runs north aisle north wall, and a shallow slabbed drain along the nave south wall, both of 1884-5. Floor levels appear to have been raised in chancel, nave, chapel and aisle; the chancel floor obscures the base of the 17th century monument. There are suspended floors in the nave, north chapel and north aisle; the tower floor lies directly on the substrate.

The 3-storeyed west tower has retained most of its medieval fabric; the openings, however, were largely rebuilt in 1884-5. It is slightly tapered and the basal batter and string course characteristic of the district, all medieval; the exterior is pierced by a number of contemporary sockets - putlog holes? The square spiral stair turret projects from the east end of the north wall. A plain 2-centred arch divides the ground floor from the nave, with the plain spiral stair door and slit lights it is late 15th century; the barrel-vault is contemporary. The west door and window occupy medieval openings but were rebuilt 1884-5. The floor comprises a series of steps down to the west lying on the substrate. The second stage is blind but exhibits an external string course, late 15th century. The 2-light belfry openings, with 2-centred oolite heads, are 1884-5. The belfry roof was not seen. There is a crenellated parapet on a plain corbel table, also late 15th century but the merlons have been partly rebuilt. Externally, the tower displays extensive remains of render, probably 18th century; internally, the ground floor walls lie beneath pre-19th century plaster. The tower is in poor-fair condition, with external plant growth and poor finishes.

The core of the nave is medieval but has been almost entirely rebuilt in 1884-5 and cannot be closely dated; an elevation drawing accompanied the Faculty application of 1884 and shows the south wall as pierced by 2 windows, of 2 cusped lights within square surrounds, of general 16th century form (NLW, SD/F/519). The plain, 2 centred door occupied the same location as the present south door and may too have been medieval. The north aisle was entirely rebuilt in 1884-5 but replaced a medieval aisle, of the same dimensions; the Faculty plan shows window splays in the aisle west half that may be medieval (NLW, SD/F/519), while in 1883 the north wall was described as retaining 'one of the small loop windows' (Anon, 1883, 340) and a niche 'for an image' was observed between two of the arches. A further window had been blocked (NLW,

SD/F/519). It appears then that the medieval church comprised tower, nave and north aisle, and was extended eastward in 1725.

The chancel and north chapel (including the chapel), in their present form, are almost entirely 1884-5 (*ibid.*) but they replaced components apparently built in 1725, as suggested by the datestone formerly over the south door (*ibid.*; Anon, 1883, 340); the earliest pictorial source is the tithe map of 1839 (NLW, New Moat, tithe map, 1839) by which time they were already present. The implication is then that the Jacobean monument was removed from its original location. Whilst this may appear unlikely, the traditional name for the chancel is the Scourfield Chapel (Anon, 1883, 340) and it is probable that the construction of the chancel was funded by that family - the patrons of the benefice - as their mausoleum.

The north aisle and chapel were, in 1725, continuous. Both chancel and aisle exhibit a low, plain external offset; it is not known whether this represents the 1725 fabric or is part of the 1884-5 rebuild. The east half of the aisle (the present north chapel) lies over a crypt or vault, with a memorial dated 1722. Until 1884 this was reached by an internal stair (NLW, SD/F/519). The Faculty elevation shows single light 'Georgian' sash windows in the chancel south wall; similar windows occupied the aisle while the east window was 3-light with stone mullions (*ibid.*), possibly 16th century as in the nave. A baptistery, semicircular in plan with a lean-to roof and an entry in its north wall, lay in the angle between the nave north wall and the aisle west wall in 1884 (*ibid.*); it was probably also of 1725, but removed in 1884-5. The floors were boarded, with flagged passages (*ibid.*). Prior to 1884 there was a west gallery in the nave, which also featured box pews, and open seats in the aisle (*ibid.*).

#### *Developmental history*

The pre-restoration church is described in a number of sources. It was called 'handsome' c.1811 (Fenton, 1903, 195) and as a 'venerable structure' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833) the chancel of which 'appears to have been very richly embellished at no very distant period, but of late has been very much neglected'. The 17th century monument in the chancel was noted. Some work had evidently been performed by 1883 when the chancel was 'embellished with a good deal of stucco and colour' (Anon., 1883, 340).

The church was restored in 1884-5 (NLW, SD/F/519), following specifications by the architect A. Ritchie, of Chester. The north aisle was demolished 'to the level directed' and rebuilt, as was the nave north wall and arcade between the two; much of the nave and chancel walling was also rebuilt and refaced. A new chancel arch was built, and a similar arch divide the north aisle into aisle and chapel. The chancel north wall arch and door were inserted, and the tower and nave doors were rebuilt, the latter with the 'porchlet'. Buttresses were added to the north and south walls, and a heating chamber inserted in the north chapel vault. The decorative plasterwork noted in 1883 was stripped and the walls replastered. The floors were raised and the chancel and passages tiled, the flooring under the new seating being boards laid on concrete. Heating flues were installed beneath the passages. A suspended boarded floor lies over the chapel vault. The church was entirely refenestrated, including the tower. Entirely new oak and softwood roofs were put on, with king- and queen-post arch-braced trusses in the chancel and nave, and scissors-braced common rafters in the aisle and chapel. New fittings included the present pulpit, stalls and seating, and the bellframe was renewed. The font was moved to its present position. The contemporary stove in the north aisle is still present.

There has been little further work on the church, except the introduction of softwood screens between the chancel and chapel, and between the nave and the tower, both of which are mid 12th century. The composite stone credence shelf is also 20th century. The iron railings between nave and chancel, which were to have been retained from the pre-restoration church according to the Faculty, are not present, and were possibly removed in 1884.

The slate font is medieval, with a square scalloped bowl, cylindrical stem, and square base, all 12th-13th century but redressed in 1884-5.

Three post-reformation bells lay loose in the aisle in 1925, the earliest dated 1631 (RCAHM, 1925, 269).



The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

The chancel was traditionally called the 'Scourfield Chapel' (Anon., 1883, 340).

## **SITE HISTORY**

St Nicholas, New Moat, appears to be a de novo church of the post-conquest period. There is no evidence for any pre-conquest religious use of the site, while the 'Nicholas' dedication is usually regarded as a feature of the Angle-Norman frontier. It was not a parish church, but a chapelry in the medieval Deanery of Rhos (Rees, 1932) erected presumably to encourage settlement within the developing borough of New Moat (Soulsby, 1983, 198). It was granted to Pill Priory c.1200 (ibid.), the priors of Pill being the rectors.

In 1291, as 'Ecclesia de Nova Mota', it was assessed at £4 13s 4d for tenths to the king (Green, 1913, 220), a relatively small sum, the amount payable being 9s 4d. The clear yearly value was 44s 7d in the 'Valor' of 1536, tenths to the king, 4s 5½d (ibid.). At the dissolution the benefice came into the hands of the crown. The patronage was later acquired by the Scourfield family (ibid.) while the crown retained the rectorship until some period prior to 1795, when the vicarage of New Moat was merged in the rectory (Green, 1913, 221). The church became the parish church of New Moat.

In 1833 the living was a rectory rated in the king's books at £2 4s 7d, in the patronage of a local squire (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Nicholas, New Moat, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Maenclochog, Llandeilo Llwydarth, Mynachlogddu, Llangolman, Henry's Moat and Llys-y-fran (Benefice 831) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Daugleddau (St Davids, 1997-8).

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

**Dyfed PRN 1504**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 0578 3896**

**Grade II\* listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 60% medieval core fabric.

A 6-cell church, medium-large, cruciform. Consists of chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; north aisle (transeptal), 2 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; all medieval. South aisle (transeptal), 2 bays; north porch; all rebuilt 1879. Coalhouse (north of chancel), earlier 20th century.

Construction is in limestone rubble. 0% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; coalhouse lean-to roofed. Stoup; rood-loft stair; west tower including spiral stair turret, arch, west door, openings, mouldings, parapet and corbel table; medieval. Chancel arch; north and south aisle arcades; windows; north door and porch; all 1879. Coalhouse steps and openings, earlier 20th century.

Roofs: 1879. Floors: c.1967. Finishes: 1879 and c.1967.

Condition - good. Some ivy on west tower; some cracks in north aisle.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, wide cutting around 50% of church, primary, footings not exposed; no evidence for floor level changes; suspended floors, with underfloor void and heating ducts; below-ground heating chamber; vaults beneath chancel?; coalhouse floor below ground; memorials significantly close to 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair-good. 70% medieval core fabric. Medieval spiral stairs, stoup (resited?), and west tower with openings and parapet.

Phasing:

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

Phase 2 - North aisle (and former south aisle), 14th-15th century?.

Phase 3 - West tower, earlier 16th century.

(Phase 4 - Former north porch, medieval?)

Phase 5 - Restored 1879, high impact; walls rebuilt/refaced, south aisle and north porch (re)built.

Phase 6 - Coalhouse, earlier 20th century.

## DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Newport, is a 6-celled church, of medium-large size, and cruciform. It retains approximately 60% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave of the same width, a 2-bayed, double-gabled north aisle, a similar south aisle, a north porch, and a 3-storey west tower. There is also a coalhouse against the chancel north wall.

The medieval construction is in medium-sized mixed rubble, mainly limestone and slate, unsquared but roughly coursed and with large, squared quoins; good external pointing from 1879; the 1879 rebuilt work is similar except in the south aisle (see below). There is no internal render/plaster, the interior exhibiting ribbon-pointing from 1967. The coalhouse is in brick, cement rendered externally. Roofs are slated gables, the nave roofed at a higher level than the chancel but at the same level as the aisles, which have transeptal double gables; the coalhouse roof is a low slated lean-to; the west tower roof was not seen.

A deep, wide cutting runs around the church south walls, revetted in areas and concrete-lined, but is fundamentally a primary feature and footings are not exposed. There is now no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are suspended, with an underfloor void and heating ducts from a below-ground heating chamber. There may be vaults beneath the chancel. The coalhouse floor is below ground and internal floor level. There are memorials significantly close to the east and west walls of both aisles, and a large external vault between the tower north wall and the porch west wall.

The church was extensively restored in 1879, and most openings, including the chancel arch and aisle arcades, were rebuilt and much of the walling was rebuilt/refaced. In the absence of so much original fabric it is impossible to date the structure closely. All that can be safely said is that the transeptal aisles are characteristic of the later medieval period and may be 15th century in origin; the nave west wall displays a stoup from the 14th century but this may have been re-used and reset when the west tower was added. The tower was added in the earlier 16th century and is not typical of the region, but has a number of features in common with the tower at the nearby church of Nevern. The church was probably always entered from the north, but there is a 'processional' doorway in the west tower. The north porch is from 1879 but replaced an earlier porch; the south aisle was rebuilt at the same time. The coalhouse is from the earlier 20th century.

### *The present church*

The chancel east wall gable, and the upper quarter of the chancel south wall were rebuilt in 1879, and substantial areas of the chancel were at least refaced. The east window is of 4 cusped lights with Geometric tracery in a 2-centred oolite surround with a dripmould and is all from 1879. There are 3 windows in each side wall, cusped single lancets with oolite surrounds entirely from 1879. The 2-centred, moulded chancel arch with its hoodmould is entirely from 1879, a medieval grotesque corbel has been resited on the east face north of the arch. The stair to the former rood-loft lies within an angular external projection between the north wall and the north aisle east wall, coped back to the wall at  $\frac{3}{4}$  height; the stair was closed off in 1879. The chancel is ceiled with a softwood 'wagon-roof' from 1879. The floor is flagged, with large composite flags from c.1967, retaining the tiled altar dais from 1879 and with suspended woodblock floors in the west bay, also c.1967.

The external walls of the nave were not refaced in 1879, and infill is visible around the inserted windows. There are three, 2 in the south wall and one in the north wall, all of 2 trefoil-headed lights with quatrefoil-pierced plate tracery in 2-centred oolite surrounds with dripmoulds, all 1879. The north door was similarly inserted but in the same location as its predecessor, and has a moulded 2-centred surround and drip-mould. Internally, a stoup lies in the west wall south of the tower arch (see below), comprising a circular bowl in an ogee-headed recess with a moulded trefoil decoration, from the 14th century. The nave has a softwood roof comprising collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from moulded wall-corbels, all from 1879. The passages are tiled, with a heating chamber and ducts, with suspended board floors, all from 1879.

The north and south aisles are both transeptal, with double-gabled roofs and central valleys. Both communicate with the nave through 2-bayed arcades with 2-centred heads like the chancel arch, on pier-clusters of 4 attached shafts with plain-moulded capitals and bases, inserted in 1879 taking the place of single arches. The north aisle was extensively rebuilt in 1879 including the gables and the upper quarters of the side walls; the south aisle, on the other hand, appears to have been entirely rebuilt with slate banded coursework and a plain basal offset, beneath which can be seen the footings of the original aisle. Both aisles are lit by 2 windows in the end wall gables, of 2 cusped lights with crocketed-quatrefoil pierced spandrels, in 2-centred oolite surround and drip-moulds as in the nave; all are from 1879 and surrounding infill is visible in the north aisle. The softwood roofs are without trusses, the common-rafters with scissors-braces and with flying bressumers, mounted on wall corbels, supporting the valleys; all from 1879. Floored as the nave.

The 3-storeyed west tower is from the earlier 16th century and is of unusual design for the region, its closest parallel being at the nearby church of Nevern. It has a slight external basal batter and a weathered string course. On the west wall are diagonal, stepped corner buttresses which ascend to belfry stage level. A square spiral stair turret projects from the south-east corner, without the string-course and with truncated masonry visible externally at its foot, foundation material?. The turret is entered from the ground floor and is lit by slit-lights and quatrefoil lights. On the opposite, north wall is a wide pilaster buttress similar to that seen at Nevern, with a basal offset and coped back to the wall-face at nave eaves level; it appears to be secondary, a full-height butt-joint being visible. The tower is unvaulted and the floors are timber throughout. The ground floor is now used as a vestry and opens to the nave through a plain 2-centred arch beneath a similar relieving arch (again cf. the Nevern tower which features relieving arches) and features a west door. The west door occupies a cut-out in the batter and string-course and has a 2-centred drip-mould with relief-work shields and out-turned stops, and a double-chamfered surround, all from the earlier 16th century. The west wall is pierced by a window with a depressed segmental relieving arch and similar outer and rear arches; the square surround features a 4-light uncusped window with sunk spandrels, in chamfered oolite and all from the earlier 16th century. Above the door is a window of 2 cusped ogee-headed lights with pierced spandrels in a square oolite surround, all (re)built in 1879. The second stage is lit by simple slit lights, that to the west with relief-work shields on its lintel. The belfry stage is pierced in all 4 walls by 2-light openings with 4-centred heads in square surrounds, from the early 16th century; those to the east and south have been subsequently blocked. The parapet is all from the earlier 16th century and lies on a plain corbel table interrupted by the stair turret whose plain parapet lies at a higher level and is itself corbelled; the parapet has lost its crenellations (shown on 18upstanding merlons lie at the other three corners of the main parapet, also earlier 16th century; the merlons and embrasures have been restored with pitched coping, 1864-81. The moulded devices on the north wall exterior are now much weathered, but can still be discerned. The corner corbels are moulded as faces and one of them has been reset on the north-west buttress; a stoup has been similarly reset to the north-west, some 10m above ground level, before 1811 (Fenton, 1903, 298-9). The tower is in good condition, but with some external ivy.

A stone coffin lid, with a foliated cross and knights head in relief, from c.1320, lay loose in the church (Anon, 1922, 496); in c.1811 it occupied a tomb-recess in the chancel, now gone. There was also a 17th century altar table in the church (Salter, 1984, 65). Neither were seen 15/1/98.

#### *Developmental history*

There is a reference to fabric repairs as early as 1401, when £20 was donated 'for building the church' (Miles, 1995, 89). This considerable sum may represent a major building phase.

A print of c.1740 by the Buck brothers, from the south-east, appears to show a chapel south of the chancel (Anon., 1883, 342). It may have been mistakenly depicted; if present, it had evidently gone by 1787 when the same view was taken in a watercolour by John Warwick Smith. The latter shows the church much as it is at present; the aisles were double gables as at present but considerably lower. Two-light windows are shown in the chancel east wall and the chancel south wall (where 2 are shown). The south transept south windows appear to be tall, single lancets, and there is a window in the south transept east wall (ie. was a chapel?). A

wide, 3 light window is shown in the west bay south wall. The church was presumably entered from the north as at present. The tower had a small, pyramidal spire like a Cardiganshire tower roof.

Richard Fenton described the church in c.1811 when plain 2-centred arches divided the nave from the aisles (Fenton, 1903, 298-9). The windows exhibited 'no mean tracery'. The church was roofed in 'old oak' throughout. The 'handsomely wrought and gilt' rood-loft had been removed within living memory, also an organ. The chancel south wall contained two tomb-recesses, 'canopied', one containing the present stone lid and the other having formerly contained an effigy; both recesses have gone. A sanctus bellcote in the form of a 'richly wrought open spire' was present, and appears to be shown in the Warwick Smith print of 1787 (see above), also now gone. (Samuel Lewis repeated the above account in 1833, but added that the architectural style was Early English - sight unseen?).

A north porch is suggested by Fenton and was present by 1815 at least when its 'king-post' roof was repaired (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/58). The church floors were flagged, the roofs were slated, and the exterior was whitewashed. Vestry minutes from the early years of the 19th century (*ibid.*) record considerable expenditure on fabric repairs.

However, a major 'restoration' was undertaken in 1834-5 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/3; Wallace-Hadrill, 1989, 10-11) when the aisles were rebuilt with single low gables, the stone windows were replaced by timber ones, the tower arch was blocked, the church was given new, low roofs which were whitewashed, the church was refloored and reseated to a total of 418 sittings, a western gallery was installed and a large, triple decker pulpit in front of the chancel arch. It is highly likely that the church was replastered, and all earlier finishes removed. The interior alterations at least were by the local builder John Morgans (Miles, 1995, 92).

A plan of the church in 1835 shows the alterations (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/3). The church was seated throughout, including the chancel from which any semblance of an altar appears to have been removed. There were 2 windows in each of the nave side walls, in each of the transept end walls and in the chancel east bay north wall. An opening in the chancel west bay south wall may have been a door. A photograph from the middle of the century, from the south-west, shows the windows as 2-centred timber framed sashes. There was a possible component south of the chancel, now gone.

The restored church was apparently in very poor repair by 1878 (Wallace-Hadrill, 1989, 8) and considered by the then Mayor of Newport to be 'one of the ugliest churches in Pembrokeshire' (Miles, 1995, 93). Plans for a major restoration were sought from Middleton & Son, Architects, of Cheltenham (NLW, SD/F/520), a programme completed in 1879 at a total cost of £2,250, an immense sum. The restoration was high-impact. The south aisle was entirely rebuilt, while the upper portions of the north aisle walls and the chancel south wall were rebuilt and substantial areas of chancel walling were at least refaced. The west gallery was removed, and all fittings. The present chancel arch and aisle arcades were inserted. The body of the church was refenestrated with windows in entirely new openings. The interior was stripped of its plaster, but it is likely that any early plaster had already been stripped in 1834-5; it was not replastered. The church was reroofed, with the present tabling. It was probably also refloored. Heating was from 2 free-standing stoves. Some fittings from the 1879 restoration have survived, including the softwood pews and the softwood vestry screen in the west tower arch, extended in glass in 1970 (Wallace-Hadrill, 1989, 12). The oolite pulpit may be later.

The north porch is entirely from 1879 but replaced an earlier one (see above). The facework is like that in the chancel, but with oolite ashlar quoins and the side walls exhibit a plain basal offset. The doorway has a 2-centred oolite surround comprising 2 moulded orders with plain capitals and bases, and a drip-mould. The stepped buttress on the east wall appears to be secondary. The softwood roof lacks trusses, and all common rafters are collared and have ashlar posts, from 1879. The floor is tiled as the nave, directly on the substrate, 1879.

Further restoration work was proposed in 1884 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/41), but no features of the church can be definitely attributed to a second restoration. No heating apparatus (nor chamber and and flues) is

mentioned in the specs. for the 1879 restoration, however, and were presumably installed at a later date (NLW, SD/F/520).

The coalhouse was probably added when the low pressure water heating system was installed (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/51); the date of the installation is not known, but occurred during the first half of the 20th century. It is built against the north wall of the chancel central bay and is low, rectangular and in brick, with a cement render external finish and a low, lean-to roof. The floor is below churchyard ground level and is reached from the east via a flight of steps lying within a gabled 'porch'.

The organ presently in the north aisle was modified from a Vowles organ by Wordsworth & Maskell, of Leeds, in 1905. It was installed in the chancel in 1907 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/49) and moved to its present location in the 1980s, when the roofs were partially reslated and the interior redecorated (Wallace-Hadrill, 1989, 12)

The tower was renovated in 1939-41 at a cost of £780 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/42). The church interior was renovated in 1967 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/33/50), work which apparently includes the chancel flag floors and oak fittings ie. the altar table and reredos, the altar rail, and the panelled stalls and desks. The interior was repointed.

The south aisle was dedicated as a Lady Chapel in 1976 (Wallace-Hadrill, 1989, 21), when it was fitted with its present altar table and simple reredos. The altar rail is 19th century and re-used, originally in the chancel?.

The font has a square scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem and square base. It dates from c.1120 (Anon, 1922, 496) and is 'one of the earliest and least altered' of its kind (Barnwell, 1880, 215).

There are 3 bells in the tower, dated 1809, 1812 and 1887, the last recast (Wallace-Hadrill, 1989, 16)

The church was Grade II\* listed in 1998.

(There may have been an ECM in the 'lying in the churchyard' in 1896 (Allen, 1896, 296, 306), probably the cross-incised stone now in a nearby garden (Miles, 1995, 89). The present ECM - another cross-incised stone of 7th-8th century date - was brought from a nearby farm in 1953 (ibid.) - no Dyfed PRNs?.)

## SITE HISTORY

There is no firm evidence for any pre-conquest religious use of the site -  
Former ECM not in situ?.

St Mary, Newport, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). The church was probably established soon after the foundation of the 'new port' in the early 13th century, when the caput of the Lordship of Cemaes was moved to the new town (Soulsby, 1983, 199).

The living was a rectory appendent to the Barony of Cemais, the patronage belonging to the Lord of Cemais (Green, 1913, 222-3) to whom it still formally belonged into the 20th century. In 1326 the advowson had an annual value of 12 marks and formed part of the knights' fees assigned to James d'Audely, heir of William FitzMartin, Lord of Cemaes (ibid.). There were 2 subordinate chapelries within the parish, called Capel Dewi and Capel Curig in 1594 (ibid.).

The church had been assessed at £8 for tenths to the king in 1291; in 1536 the annual value was £16, for tenths of 32s (ibid.). In 1786 the annual value of the discharged rectory was £44, rated in the king's books at £16 (ibid.). By 1833, it was endowed with £400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Newport, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Cilgwyn, 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 MADOG,  
NOLTON,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 3112**

**RB No.**

**NGR SM 8669 1818**

**(No Listed Building information available)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 40% medieval core fabric.

A 3-cell church, medium. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; south porch; all medieval. Vestry (north of nave), 1876.  
(Former south transept, medieval.)

Construction is in limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs, vestry with a slate lean-to. Medieval north and south doors. Medieval internal corbels in chancel and nave, some in situ. Part of blocked medieval arcade, and benching, in nave. Medieval rib-vaulting, benching, altered door and blocked door in porch. Medieval buttress. Chancel arch, 1801. Western double bellcote, 1876. All windows, 1876. Chancel buttresses, 1923?  
(Effigy, loose, 14th century.)

Roofs: 1876. Floors: 1801? and 1876. Finishes: 1876-20th century

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Shallow-deep external cutting around 100% of church, primary; floor levels constant?; underfloor void; crypt/vault beneath 15% of church; good evidence for former components beyond 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair-good. 40% medieval core fabric; medieval doors, open and blocked; medieval vault; blocked medieval arcade; medieval corbels, benching and buttress; medieval effigy.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, 13th century.

Phase 2 - Chancel, 14th century.

(Phase 3 - South transept, gone, 14th-15th century.)

Phase 4 - South porch, earlier 16th century.

Phase 5 - Restored 1876, high impact; vestry built.

## DESCRIPTION

St Madog, Nolton, is a 3-celled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 40% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a narrower 4-bayed nave, a single bayed lean-to vestry north of the nave, towards its west end, and a south porch opposite. There was formerly a (medieval) south transept.

Construction is in medium-large limestone rubble throughout, the medieval work unsquared and uncoursed, without quoining; later work is quoined. Good ribbon pointing, 1876, with areas of poor 20th century cement repointing. The internal walls are rendered/plastered. Roofs are slated gables, the nave roofed at a slightly higher level than the chancel; the vestry roof is a slated lean-to.

The church has been much rebuilt but the basic plan of chancel, nave and south porch follows the medieval arrangements. The medieval building was entered through north and south doors in the nave, still open. A south transept was formerly present, but has been removed.

A cutting surrounds the church, shallow and earth cut in the eastern half and becoming deeper towards the west; it is deep and revetted at the west end, but mainly primary throughout and nowhere are footings exposed. There is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are suspended in the nave and vestry. A crypt/vault lies beneath the chancel, and an infilled stairwell immediately beyond its east wall. A south transept formerly existed.

### *The present church*

The earliest part of the building is probably the nave, possibly 13th century in origin; the large, wider chancel is an addition, and, though detail has been lost, may be dateable to the 14th century in comparison as are large chancels added to other churches in the region (cf. Hodgeston). The former south transept may have been contemporary with the chancel, or from the 15th century. The south porch is earlier 16th century.

Medieval features now present in the chancel include limestone brackets low in the east wall, either side of the window, and formerly associated with niches (see below). A recess of unknown form in the east bay south wall has been plastered over - former piscina?. The west bay south wall displays the external lintel and sill of a blocked, square headed window of possible medieval date - it may have been blocked between 1851 and 1876 (see below). The chancel arch, and east window, are later rebuilds.

The chancel south wall displays, at its west end, a very rough area of external facework, produced out slightly and nearly full height; it has been patched over the joint with the east wall of a former south transept. A vertical line of quoins in the medieval fabric of the nave south wall represents the west quoin of the former transept arch. The transept was gone before 1851 (see below).

The nave has been largely rebuilt but retains its medieval north and south doors; the south door was always the main entry but both have similar 2-centred surrounds of 13th-14th century date. There is no evidence of any former west door. The west wall has a pronounced external batter throughout its height and continues as a full-height, raking buttress on the north wall; it is not, however, suggested that the wall ever extended any further north. The south-west corner of the nave has internal stone benching. The west wall kneelers may be medieval, but the bellcote is later. A corbel internally mounted on the nave north wall has a moulded grotesque of the Holy Trinity, of possible 14th century date, probably not in situ; it may have formed the base of a Jesse Tree. The nave windows are all later.

The south porch is vaulted with a transverse rib-vault, unusual for the region (but also seen at Roch), Perpendicular in style and dateable to the earlier 16th century. The walls are quoined and probably contemporary; they feature internal benching. The door has a 4-centred rear-arch but the surround is later. At the north end of the east wall is a second, blocked door (again cf. Roch) with a depressed, semicircular

head; it is now an internal recess housing the torso of an effigy of a mailed knight, of 14th century date, described in 1908 (Laws and Edwards, 1908, 386). Two plain stoup bowls lie loose in the porch; a third, simply moulded stoup bowl lies loose in chancel.

#### *Developmental history*

There has been much succeeding, but pre-restoration work at the church. A below-ground crypt/vault was established east of the chancel, with a 2-centred external opening still visible low in the east wall, blocked in 1800 when the steps down to the vault were infilled. Some kind of masonry enclosure had been built around the vault entrance c.1700, against the east wall, but in 1789 the remains of its side walls were in a 'ragged state' (Green, 1913, 228). In that year they were taken down and the chancel was new roofed, ceiled and plastered, and given a new east window. In 1801 the medieval chancel arch was 'widened and raised' (ibid.), into the plain, full-centred semicircular arch now present. It may have been now that the chancel was refloored with the present black-and-white tiles.

In c.1811 the church was described as 'a low, undignified structure, and has nothing within or without to demand the attention of the antiquary but the porch' (Fenton, 1903, 87). The church was subject to a fuller description in 1851 (Glynne, 1885, 215), and is here reproduced in full, and in conjunction with the plan that accompanied the Faculty submission of 1876 (NLW, SD/F/524). The church was much as today, the south transept having already been removed. The rebuilt chancel arch and east window were thought by the author to be original medieval features, the arch being 'rude and round, with an impost on the north', as today. The east window appeared Gothic, and had 'two lights with a plain mullion, surmounted by a depressed hood which has foliated corbels...in the angle of this window, internally, are shafts with First Pointed capitals' - all 1789 neo-gothic? The bracketed niches either side were noted. There were no further windows in the chancel, as at present. The nave north door was open (called the 'west door' in 1851 - author's mistake?), and had a 2-centred head. The south door and porch were noted. There were 2 windows in the nave north wall, both east of the north door, described as 'bad and modern' and were presumably the usual sashes. The southern windows were called 'square-headed and poor' and possibly 16th century?; one of these probably represents the present blocked chancel south window (see above) as only one is shown in 1876, in the nave south wall east of the porch. There was a western double bellcote. The entire church was whitewashed. There was a western gallery, 10 box pews in the nave, and a triple decker pulpit. The deep, revetted cutting around the west end is shown on the plan. The church was extensively re-roofed in 1861 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/31/12).

The church was restored in 1876 (NLW, SD/F/524), following specifications by the architect E. H. Lingen Barker, of London, Hereford and Tenby. The restoration was high impact. The chancel east wall, and the nave north and south walls were truncated to window sill level and rebuilt in squared limestone rubble. The church was refenestrated, with neo-gothic windows; the chancel east window comprises 2 cusped lights with a central quatrefoil in a 2-centred oolite surround, while the nave side walls were given simple lancets, only the 2 in the east bay in existing openings. The western bellcote was rebuilt, as a gabled double bellcote in squared limestone rubble with shoulders and 2-centred openings in oolite. The porch door was rebuilt with a 2-centred surround. Internal walls were replastered, all existing plaster apparently being removed. The western gallery was removed. The church was re-roofed, in softwood, the chancel with a 'wagon-roof' ceiling, while the nave common rafters all have scissors-braces; oolite weather tabling was also built. The nave passages, and the south porch, were polychrome tiled, with suspended board floors; the present seating may be later (see below). The present altar rail and pulpit were installed.

A vestry was built against the nave north wall, opposite the porch and entered through the former north door. It is of squared limestone rubble with a square-headed, 2-light window in a square oolite surround. It has a softwood lean-to roof continuing the nave roof northern slope, and a suspended board floor.

There has been a fair amount of further work. The raking buttresses against the chancel exterior, 2 on the east wall and 2 on the north wall, were built in the earlier 20th century, probably in 1924 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/31/59). The softwood stalls and desk, free-standing on the chancel floor, are from c.1900 (Pembs. R.

O., HPR/31/53); the pews are similar, also replaced c.1900?. The exterior was repointing in the later 20th century. The external cutting was extended around the south side of the church, also later in the 20th century (Canon A. Craven, pers. comm.)

The limestone font is medieval, with a square scalloped bowl, cylindrical stem, and square base, of 12th-early 13th century date.

No Listed Building information available

## **SITE HISTORY**

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

St Madog, Nolton, was a parish church in the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Rhos. It was granted, as 'St Madog de Veteri Villa', to Pill Priory by Thomas de Rupe (Roche), in the 13th century (Green, 1913, 226-7). In 1291 the church was assessed at £8 for tenths to the king, the sum payable being 16s (ibid.). In 1536 the rectory had an annual value of £4 2s 7d, in tenths 8s 3½d (ibid.).

At the dissolution the advowson fell to the crown, although Sir William Perrott of Haroldston, who held the Barony of Roch, attempted to claim patronage (ibid.). In 1786 the discharged rectory of 'Nolton alias Knowleton' had an annual value of £40, rated in the king's books at £4 2s 11d and by 1833 was endowed with £400 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids and in the patronage of the king.

In 1868 the livings of Nolton and Roch were united (ibid.), a union which persists into the 1990s.

In 1998 St Madog, Nolton, was a parish church. The living was a rectory held with Roch (Benefice 357) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Roose (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST BRYNACH,  
PONTFAEN,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELI)**

**Dyfed PRN 1546**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 0217 3408**

**Grade II listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A 4-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; north transept, 1 bay (and skew passage); all medieval. South porch; vestry (between nave and north transept), 1 bay, 1901-4.

Construction is predominantly in limestone rubble. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; skew passage has a slate lean-to. Chancel arch, rood-loft corbel; north transept and skew passage arches; skew passage vault; east window embrasure; western single bellcote; medieval. Windows and doors, inserted 1880-1904.

Roofs and floors: 1880-1904. Finishes: 1880-1904, external repointing 1987.

Condition - good. Vestry window poor.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Deep cutting around 100% of church, primary, footings not exposed; external earthwork beyond 30% of church, building debris?; floors lowered in 60% of church; floors not suspended, no underfloor void; no internal crypt/vault evident; no evidence for any former components beyond present church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 90% medieval core fabric. Medieval chancel, transept and skew passage arches, rood-loft corbel, skew passage vault, window embrasure and bellcote.

Phasing:

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

Phase 2 - North transept and skew passage, 14th century.

Phase 3 - Restored c.1880 and in 1901-4, medium-high impact; south porch and vestry built.

## DESCRIPTION

St Brynach, Pontfaen, is now a 4-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 2-bayed nave, a single bayed north transept with a large, low skew passage, a vestry in the angle of the nave west bay north wall and the transept east wall, and a south porch.

The medieval facework is in medium-large limestone rubble, with some Old Red Sandstone and slate, unsquared and uncoursed, with crude medieval quoins. Poor incised pointing from 1880-1904 obscures masonry, and there has been some repointing from 1987. Internal render/plaster, 1880-1904. The church is entered through a south door. Roofs are slated gables, the nave always roofed at a higher level; the vaulted skew passage is lean-to roofed continuing the chancel roof northern slope; the roofs were partly reslated in 1987.

A deep, earth-cut cutting surrounds the church, primary, not exposing any footings, with a concrete lining and revetted around the porch. There is an irregular external earthwork beyond the north walls of the chancel, north transept and skew passage, building debris?. The nave and north transept floors have been lowered. The floors are not suspended and there is no underfloor void. No internal crypt/vault is evident. There is no evidence for any former components beyond the present church walls.

The church has a simple 3 celled plan retaining most of the medieval fabric and arrangements. The nave and chancel may be contemporary, both being battered externally, 13th century?. The north transept and skew passage were probably added during the 14th century and their arches accord with such a date; the chancel arch is similar, shares an impost with the new work and was probably rebuilt at the same time. The church was always entered from the south but the south porch and vestry are both from 1880-1904.

### *The present church*

The chancel has a pronounced, irregular external basal batter. The east window has 2 cusped lights and a quatrefoil-pierced spandrel, in a 2-centred oolite surround and drip-mould, all 1880-1904 but possibly using an (unblocked) existing medieval opening. A window in the south wall was all new in 1880-1904 and is a single, cusped oolite lancet; to the east is a square, compartmented aumbry also from 1880-1904. The 2-centred chancel arch is fairly low, plain and probably 14th century; there is a plain impost on both stops, running around the pier between the chancel arch and skew passage at springer level, primary?. A corbel to the north, not shown in an engraving of 1865 (see below) may nonetheless be medieval, for a former rood-loft. The softwood chancel roof has collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from hammer-beams near the wall-tops, and neo-Gothic panelling between the queen-posts, all 1880-1904. The floor is tiled, 1880-1904.

The nave walls are battered like the chancel. A window in the south wall of the east bay is like that in the chancel south wall but was inserted in 1880-1904 into an existing opening. The south door has a tall square embrasure, pre-1880?, and a 2-centred surround from 1880-1904. The west wall is pierced by a window like that in the chancel east wall, but all new in 1880-1904; the wall carries a gabled single bellcote carried on an internal plain offset, with a 2-centred opening, all medieval but partially (and badly) rebuilt in the 20th century. There is a bell. The nave roof is like that in the chancel and similarly from 1880-1904. The floor is tiled, 1880-1904.

The north transept lacks the batter seen in the nave and chancel, is quoined, and is probably later, from the 14th century. It communicates with the nave east bay through a plain 2-centred arch, similar to the chancel arch whose impost it shares. The north wall is pierced by a window, like the east window but with a trifoliated spandrel, also 1880-1904 and enlarged from an existing opening. The gabled roof is like those in the nave and chancel, 1880-1904. Floored as the nave.



The skew passage is entered from the transept through a low, plain segmental arch, 14th century, reflecting the profile of the passage vault; the arch into the chancel is similar. Externally, the passage outside wall is not diagonal but forms an almost square projection, partially battered and with projecting stones at the base (not footings?).

#### *Developmental history*

The church was described as 'not remarkable for any architectural details of importance' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833). It was became disused shortly afterwards, and by 1859 was a 'ruin' (Jones, 1865, 179-182). A detailed contemporary account of the ruined church (*ibid.*) is accompanied by an engraving of the interior and is worth reproducing in full. At the time the church comprised just the chancel, nave and north transept with the skew passage. The church was entered from the south, as at present. The 2-centred chancel and transept arches were as at present but the skew passage arch to the chancel is shown as semicircular. The chancel was lit by a small, square sash east window of 18th-early 19th century date, while the north transept north wall was pierced by a square-headed opening with a 2-light cusped window of c.1500. There was also a plain, 2-light window in the nave south wall. A semicircular-headed aumbry occupied the nave east bay north wall, now gone. 'All was of the latter part of the 15th century; but...had been much mutilated, and badly treated at various periods.' There were 3 plain stone altar tables within the church, one loose in the skew passage, and 2 in situ in the north transept either side of the passage arch, demonstrating that the transept was a chapel, an 'unusual circumstance to find such adjuncts of ancient Catholic service remaining'. The floor was at one level and flagged; the roofs had simple collar-rafter trusses in poor repair. The altar rail was of simple timber balusters and there was a 'modern' altar table. No seating remained.

The church had been restored by 1883, one of the stone altar table-tops being used as the sill for the south door (the other 2 have gone); a contemporary account (Anon., 1883, 341) termed the work 'only a renovation' and in the absence of any specifications it is not possible to determine its impact. Some of the work, particularly the erection of the south porch and vestry, may belong to a further restoration undertaken between 1901 and 1904, when the church was reopened (Anon., n.d.; Jones, 1995, 1).

The cumulative restoration work has been medium-high impact. The church has been refenestrated, with new openings in the west wall and the chancel south wall; the north transept window is an enlarged pre-existing opening. The south door was rebuilt. The interior was replastered, but the extent of removal of the existing plaster is unknown. The church was reroofed, without tabling, and refloored, the nave and transept floors being lowered. Many of the fittings date from this period, including the altar table and rail. The pulpit is dated 1907.

The south porch and vestry were new built in 1901-4 in facework similar to the medieval fabric. The porch side walls have a plain, basal external offset, and there are angle buttresses at the southern corners; both walls are pierced by simple square lights. The doorway has a 4-centred surround, in concrete and from 1987 (*guide in church*). The roof is of softwood common rafters with collars and ashlar posts, partly replaced in 1987. The floor is tiled directly on the substrate, 1901-4.

The large vestry is entered through a door inserted in the north transept east wall in 1901-4; it has a plain, segmental head. There is an external clasping buttress at the north-west corner, and a window in the west wall of 2 square lights in a square oolite surround that is badly weathered. It has a matchboarded ceiling and a lean-to roof nearly up to nave eaves level. Floored as the nave.

There has been some further work. The wainscot dado in the nave, north transept and vestry is dated 1922, while the nave and transept seating is loose and from the later 20th century. Extensive repointing was undertaken in 1987, especially in the vestry and south porch, the latter being substantially repaired.

The limestone font has a plain, square bowl, stem and base, all chamfered, from the 13th-early 14th century.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

(In the yard are 2 ECMs (Dyfed PRNs 1544 and 1545), both cross-incised stones.)

## **SITE HISTORY**

There is good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site - Celtic dedication; 2 ECMs (Dyfed PRNs 1544 and 1545).

St Brynach, Pontfaen, was not a parish church during the post-conquest period, but was a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Cemais (Rees, 1932). It was appurtenant to Pill Priory. It is not mentioned in the 'Taxatio' of 1291, but in 1536 the chapel had an annual value of 66s 8d, in tenths 6s 8d (Green, 1913, 244-5).

At the dissolution, Haverfordwest Priory and its appurtenances fell to the king, including the patronage of Pontfaen. It had passed to the Laugharne family by the later 18th century, and thence to the Ardens who funded the church restoration (ibid.). The church had become the parish church of Pontfaen by the 17th century (Evans, 1919, 219-20).

In 1786, the discharged rectory of Pontfaen, in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, had a certified value of £7 (£20), rated in the king's books at £3 6s 8d (Green, op. cit.). It was endowed with £1200 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant by 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Brynach, Pontfaen, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Mary Fishguard, Llanychar, Morfil and Llanychlwyddog (Benefice 814) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Dewisland and Fishguard (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church and appears originally to have been dedicated to St Brynach (Green, op. cit.). The dedication, however, became corrupted to St Bernard (Lewis, 1833) before returning to its original form.

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

**Dyfed PRN 3316**

**RB No.**

**NGR SM 9566 1634**

**Grade B listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

Medieval church; 15% medieval core fabric.

A 6-cell church, large. Consists of north-west tower, 4 storeys, medieval. Chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; north chapel, 2 bays; north aisle, 3 bays; south porch; 1867-8. Boilerhouse (north of tower, 1911.

Construction is in sandstone rubble, some limestone in the medieval work. 100% of internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slated gable roofs; the tower roof was not seen. Medieval north-west tower with medieval arch, spiral stair, window, lights and corbelled plain parapet. Chancel arch, arcades, all other windows, south door, south porch door, tower west door, buttresses; all 1867-8.

Roofs and floors: 1867-8. Finishes: 1867-8, 20th century repointing.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Church largely (re)built 1867-8; shallow-deep external cutting around 75% of church; all internal levels raised 1867-8; suspended floors in 50% of church; below-ground boilerhouse against 5% of church; no internal crypt/vault evident; no evidence for former components beyond the present church; memorials lie significantly close to 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - poor-fair. Largely (re)built 1867-8, 15% medieval core fabric; medieval north-west tower with vault, arch, stair, door, window, lights and parapet; respond for former arcade.

Phasing:

(Phase 1 - Former chancel, nave, north chapel, north aisle, south 'transept' and south porch, 13th-15th century)

Phase 2 - West tower, c.1500.

Phase 3 - Rebuilt 1867-8, apart from north-west tower.

Phase 4 - Boilerhouse, 1911.

## DESCRIPTION

St David, Prendergast, is a 6-celled church, of large size. It retains approximately 15% medieval core fabric, confined to the west tower.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 4-bayed nave, a 2 bayed north chapel of the same length and width as the chancel, a 3-bayed north aisle of the same width as the chapel, a 4 storey tower west of the aisle and north of the nave east bay, and a south porch. All except the tower was (re)built in 1867-8. There is also a below-ground boilerhouse against the tower north wall, from 1911.

The medieval construction is in medium-sized limestone and sandstone rubble, unsquared and uncoursed, with crude quoins; fair pointing from the 20th century; internal plaster/render, 1867-8. The 1867-8 facework is roughly squared and coursed sandstone rubble, some limestone, with good 1862-76 pointing and limited 20th century repointing; internal render/plaster, 1867-8. Roofs are slated gables, the nave and north aisle roofed at a higher level; the west tower roof was not seen but is believed to be pyramidal and leaded.

A shallow-deep external earth-cut cutting runs around the eastern three-quarters of the church, excavated 1867-8 when the church was rebuilt. All floor levels were raised when the church was rebuilt. There are suspended floors in the nave and north aisle. The boilerhouse against the tower north wall is below-ground. No internal crypt/vault is evident. There is no evidence for former components beyond the present church walls. Memorials lie significantly close to the south-west quarter and west walls.

The church was almost entirely rebuilt in 1867-8, not on the existing foundations but to a larger, if similar plan; all floor levels were also raised.

### *The present church*

The 4-storeyed tower was the only component retained from the medieval church. It occupies a position between the nave west bay north wall and the east end of the north aisle, reflecting its position in the pre-1867 church; it was thus a later component of the pre-1867 church. There was originally no west door. Stylistically, the tower belongs to c.1500; it is slightly tapered but lacks the projecting spiral stair turret, basal batter and string-course characteristic of the region. The spiral stair instead occupies a curved internal projection into the north-west corner and is entered from the ground floor through a doorway with a depressed 2-centred surround from 1867-8 and is lit by simple slit-lights. The ground floor has a depressed 2-centred barrel-vault of c.1500, pierced (secondarily?) for a single bellrope, and opens to the north aisle through an arch reflecting the vault profile. The floor has been raised, but is lower than in the aisle, and is limestone-flagged, pre-1867? re-used?. There is a window in the west wall of 3 cusped lights with Perpendicular tracery in a 2-centred oolite surround and drip-mould, all c.1500; a 2-centred doorway was inserted beneath the window in 1867-8 interrupting its sill. The second and third stages are divided by an external plain granite string-course, c.1500, and are lit by single square loops in the north and west walls. The belfry stage is entered from the stair through a 'fine early curved arched entrance' (Nicholas, 1997, 4), not seen 17/1/1998. The east and south walls have 2-light openings with square heads in segmental outer arches, partly rebuilt but with mullions from c.1500; the north and west walls have similar openings but single-light. The parapet lies on a continuous plain corbel table, c.1500, and is not crenellated; much of it was rebuilt in 1876 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/71/8). The tower is in good condition, and has been repointed during the 20th century.

The south-east corner of the tower displays part of the western respond for the medieval arcade between the pre-1867 nave and north aisle, in the form of a chamfered stop of probable 15th century date.

The chancel is all from 1867-8. The east wall is divided from the north chapel east wall by an external stepped buttress. The east window is of 3 cusped lights, with a hexafoil-pierced spandrel beneath a 2-centred surround, in oolite. The 2 south windows is similar, but 2-light and trefoil-pierced; they are separated by a buttress similar to that on the east wall but with a basal batter and string-course. The north wall is a 2-bayed arcade into the north chapel, of moulded 2-centred arches on a cylindrical polychrome pier with a square base

and plain capital. The 2-centred chancel arch is moulded. There is a softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling and external weather tabling. The floor is tiled. The altar rail is from 1867-8. The elaborate reredos with a marble frieze is dated 1894. The panelling either side, the altar table, and the free-standing oak-panelled stalls and desks, are later 20th century.

The nave is divided from the north aisle by a 3-bay arcade similar to that between the chancel and chapel, but with octagonal piers; the westernmost stop is medieval (see above). The south wall is pierced by three 2-light windows with trefoil-pierced spandrels, with squared oolite surrounds in 2-centred openings; the eastern 2 are separated by an external buttress like that on the chancel south wall, and there are similar buttresses at all external corners of the nave. The west window is of 3 lancets each with a cusped head and a trefoil above; a quatrefoil opening lights the roof space. The south door has a moulded, 2-centred surround. The oak nave roof has collar-rafter trusses, with king- and princess-posts, arch braced from moulded wall-corbels; the exterior has weather tabling. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors. The nave is seated with softwood pews; the oolite pulpit may be later than 1867-8.

The north chapel has an external basal batter and string-course. The east wall is pierced by a single cusped lancet, while the north wall exhibits 2 windows and a buttress as in the chancel side wall. The chapel opens to the north aisle through a moulded 2-centred arch similar to the chancel arch. It is roofed in softwood, all common rafters having scissors-braces arch-braced from simple wall-corbels; the exterior has weather tabling. Floored as the chancel?, but beneath superficial floor-boarding. A low softwood screen divides the east bay from the chancel, while the west bay is largely occupied by an organ dated 1874. The altar table, altar rail and credence table are 20th century.

The north aisle has a batter and string-course like the chapel, and is buttressed at the east and west ends like the nave. It is lit by 3 windows in the north wall, the eastern 2 as the chancel south wall windows, the western a single light as in the north chapel. A square, moulded chimney emerges from the western buttress, with a pyramidal cap and smoke-vents. The softwood roof is supported by tie-beams on plain wall-corbels, with crown-posts and a crown-plate, from which the common rafters are braced. Floored and seated as the nave, the west bay with an inserted, enclosed and ceiled vestry from 1978, all in softwood.

The south porch also has a batter and string-course. The doorway has a 2-centred head. The softwood roof is of collared common rafters. The floor-tiles may be re-used from the earlier church, earlier 19th century?.

#### *Developmental history*

The form of the pre-rebuild church can be reconstructed from the sources. In 1833 it was described by Samuel Lewis as 'an ancient and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture' (see below), 'and in good repair', fulsome praise indeed for one of the more dismissive of contemporary commentators (Lewis, 1833). All these factors did not, unfortunately, prevent its demolition and rebuild in 1867. The Faculty submission for the rebuild (NLW, SD/F/564) does, on the other hand, contain a detailed plan of the existing church. It occupied approximately four-fifths of the area of the present church and was very similar in plan, comprising a 2-bayed chancel, a wider 3-bayed nave, a 5-bayed north aisle of the same length as the nave and chancel, a south porch and the present west tower. The tower occupied the same position as at present within the arrangements, ie. it lay at the west end of the north aisle which, however, does not appear to have been a former nave and chancel; the tower partially intruded into the aisle, but projected westwards from it to a far greater degree than at present. The church was only entered from the south. There was a short south transept lit by a 3-light window in the south wall, possibly representing a rood-loft stair bay rather than a transept proper. There was a chancel arch, and a second transverse arch in the centre of the north aisle suggesting the former presence of a north transept, or an extended north chapel. The arcade was of broad, chamfered piers. The church was well fenestrated with 2- and 3-light windows, apparently with stone surrounds and possibly all medieval. It was seated throughout with box-pews, and there was a triple-decker pulpit in the south transept. None of the components extended beyond the present walls, with the exception of the south-east corner of the south porch.

The proposed demolition did arouse contemporary concern, and a member of the Cambrian Archaeological Association called it to public attention; the architectural features were described as 15th century in the account (Anon., 1869, 202-3). However, the demolition and rebuild went ahead, to the plans of Foster & Wood, Architects, of Bristol (NLW, SD/F/564), and for an estimated cost of £1900, a massive sum for the day.

The below-ground boilerhouse against the tower north wall has brick walls, rendered where they rise slightly above yard level. It is entered from the west down a flight of 8 concrete steps to a concrete-lintelled door. The lean-to roof is almost flat, and now with a polymer-resin finish. The heating apparatus may still be present, functional? The boilerhouse was built in 1911 (NLW, SD/F/565) but the chimney in the adjacent aisle buttress suggests that some form of heating arrangement was present from 1867-8; 'new stove pipes' were fitted in 1882 Pembs. R. O., HPR/71/7), while coke was a frequent purchase (Pembs. R. O., HPR/71/8), and probably a free-standing stove is referred to.

The oolite font, with a square scalloped bowl, cylindrical stem and square base, is apparently medieval but has been 'redressed and spoilt' (RCAHM, 1925, 298).

The church was Grade B listed in 1998.

## **SITE HISTORY**

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

St David, Prendergast, was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Rhos (Rees, 1932). It was granted to the Knights Hospitaller of Slebech Commandery by Wizo, Lord of Wiston, his son Walter and grandson, also Walter, c.1130 (Green, 1913, 246), a grant confirmed in c.1165 in which it was termed 'the church of St David of the vill of Prendelgaste' (Rees, 1897, 214-5). There was no separate valuation of the church in the 'Taxatio' of 1291 but in 1536 the rectory of Prendergast had an annual value of £9 14s 9d, for tenths of 19s 5d (Green, op. cit.).

At the dissolution Slebech Commandery, and all its appurtenances including the Prendergast rectory, fell to King Henry VIII, and was to remain in royal hands. In 1786 the discharged rectory, of the Archdeaconry of St Davids, had an annual value of £28 (£50) rated in king's books at £9 14s 9d (ibid.). By 1833 the living was endowed with £200 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St David, Prendergast, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Rudbaxton (Benefice 601), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Daugleddau (St Davids, 1997-8).

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Salter, M., 1984, *The Old Parish Churches of South West Wales*.

**ST MARY,  
PUNCHESTON,  
PEMBROKESHIRE (PRESELD)**

**Dyfed PRN 15265**

**RB No.**

**NGR SN 0085 2973**

**Not listed (1998)**

**SUMMARY**

19th century church; 0% medieval core fabric. On site of, and in same location as, medieval church (Dyfed PRN 12570).

A 2-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, 3 bays, earlier 19th century. South porch, 1895.

Construction is in limestone and slate rubble. Neo-gothic. All internal walls are rendered/plastered. Slate gable roofs. Western single bellcote, earlier 19th century. All other openings are from 1895 and include the south doorway and chancel arch. The 1895 south porch is half-timbered. External buttressing, 1895.

Roofs and floors, 1895. Finishes, early 19th century-late 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Church entirely rebuilt in the earlier 19th century, in same location as earlier church; no structural or physical evidence for earlier church; No external cutting; shallow concrete external drain around 100% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; no underfloor void?; no crypt/vault evident; no evidence of former components beyond church.

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

Phasing:

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

Phase 2 - Restored 1895, medium impact. South porch built.

## DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Puncheston, is a 2-celled church, of small size. The nature of the core fabric suggests that it was (re)built in the earlier 19th century in the same location as its predecessor but retaining none of the earlier fabric. It was all regarded as 'modern' in 1925 RCAHM, 1925, 299).

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel/nave, and a later half-timbered south porch.

The chancel/nave is constructed in limestone and slate rubble throughout, of the earlier 19th century, unsquared but roughly coursed, without true quoins and of a very severe aspect, probably intentionally so and never intended to receive any render finish. There is external pointing of the 19th century, but the east, west and south walls were repointed in the later 20th century. The internal walls are rendered/plastered. The nave west wall carries a simple gabled bellcote, with a single 2-centred opening, of the earlier 19th century. The chancel/nave is roofed continuously as a slated gable and during this period, the church probably lacked a chancel arch.

The church was restored in 1895, under the architect E. V. Collier of Carmarthen (A. Gordon, 1993). The restoration was medium impact. New windows were inserted, possibly within the existing openings, and are simple neo-gothic lancets with oolite dressings with plain 2-centred surrounds. The plain 2-centred south entry door is similar. A new chancel arch was inserted, supported by an external buttress on each of the side walls. The church was possibly refloored, without suspended flooring?. The roof timbers may date from this period. The gabled south porch was built new, with low rubble side walls supporting a half-timbered superstructure, and floor-tiled directly onto the substrate.

There is no structural or physical evidence for the earlier church. A shallow, concrete-lined external drain runs all around the church, from 1895?. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. There may not be an underfloor void. No vault or crypt is evident.

The form of the earlier church is not known. The chancel is mentioned in a churchwardens' presentment of 1678 and was evidently not in the best condition; 'ye chauncell windows want glazing', while 'an illiterate fellow doth by himself...keep it clean' (Evans, 1927, 396-7; Evans, 1935, 304). However, the phrasing of the presentment does not necessarily imply that the 17th century church was structurally divided into chancel and nave. The church was described as 'not remarkable for any architectural details' by Samuel Lewis in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

The font is probably of 1895.

Apparently an ECM (Dyfed PRN 1288) formerly lay in the yard (Dyfed SMR).

The present church was not listed in 1998.

## SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site -  
Former ECM (Dyfed PRN 1288), in situ?

St Mary, Puncheston was a parish church during the post-conquest period, of the medieval Deanery of Cemaes (Rees, 1933). The living was a rectory, according to differing sources either in the gift of 'divers persons', or appendent to the Manor of Puncheston in the Barony of Cemaes (Green, 1913, 249). Certainly, in 1326 the advowson - worth 8 marks annually - was held by the Lord of Cemaes (ibid.), who later alienated it to the warden of 'the Chantry of St Mary, Punchardon' to find 2 chaplains to celebrate service for the souls of his kinsmen. The Lord of the Manor Owen Jones held the advowson from c.1594-1622 (ibid.).

In 1291 the church was assessed at £6 13s 4d for tenths to the king (*ibid.*). As 'Ponchereston', its 1536 annual value was 106s 8d, in tenths 10s 8d. The rectory of 'Poyngeston alias Puncteston alias Ponchardeston alias Castel Maul', St Mary, had an annual value of £22 in 1786 and was rated in the king's books at £5 6s 8d (*ibid.*). In 1833 the discharged rectory, of the Archdeaconry of Cardigan, was in the patronage of the incumbent, Rev. James Williams James (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Puncteston, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Letterston, Llanfair Nant-y-Gof, Little Newcastle and Castlebythe (Benefice 656) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Dewisland and Fishguard (St Davids, 1997-8).

## **SOURCES CONSULTED**

### **Map Evidence**

Rees, W., 1933, *South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.*

### **Church in Wales Records**

St Davids, 1997-8, *Diocesan Year Book.*

### **Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest**

(HPR/141 - Puncteston)

### **Printed Accounts**

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

Crossley, F. H., and Ridgway, M. H., 1956, 'Screens, Lofts and Stalls situated in Wales and Monmouthshire: Part 8', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. CVI.

Evans, D. P., 1898, 'Llandissilio Church', *Archaeol. Cambrensis*, Vol. XV, Fifth Series.

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