

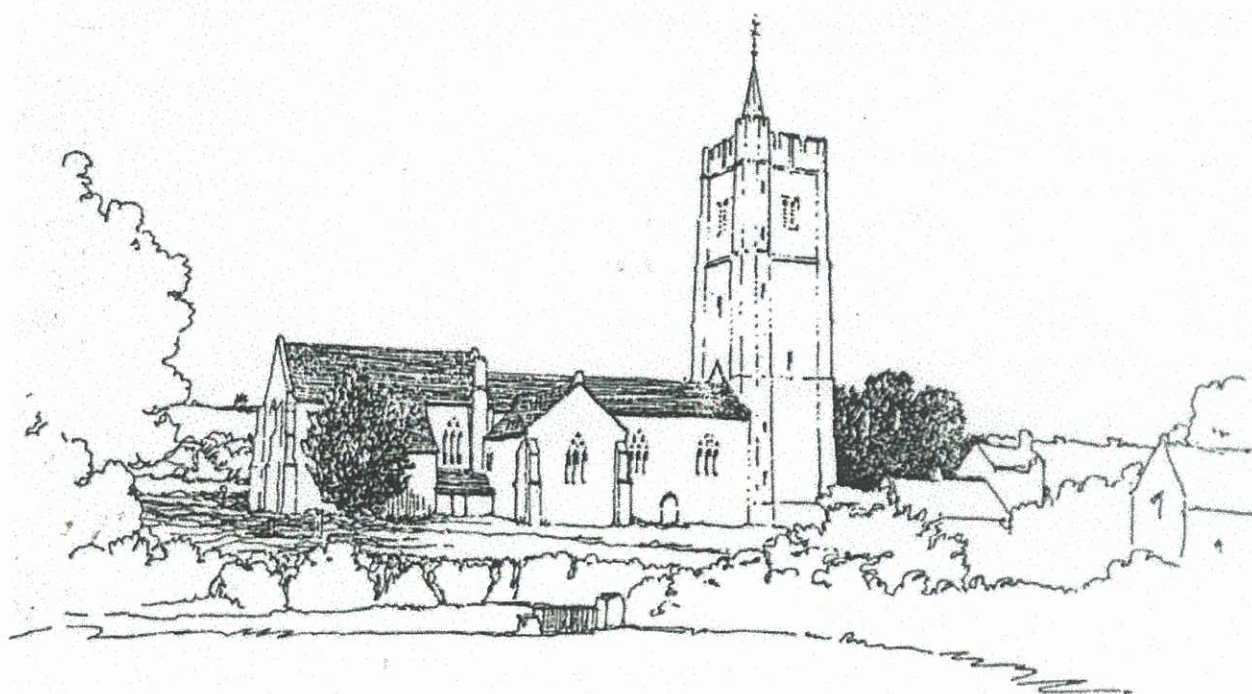
PROJ REC 57048 & 57044

CADW: WELSH HISTORIC MONUMENTS
HISTORIC CHURCHES PROJECT



SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE CHURCHES (DAT 48)

CHURCH REPORTS



St Mary, Carew

By Neil Ludlow
Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology
March 1998/August 2000



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SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE CHURCHES (DAT 48)

CHURCH REPORTS

Amroth (PRN 3663)	Manorbier (PRN 4219)
Angle (PRN 3091)	Martletwy (PRN 3598)
Begelly (PRN 3641)	Minwear (PRN 3595)
Bosherston (PRN 627)	Monkton (PRN 3273)
Carew (PRN 3492)	Narberth (PRN 3745)
Castlemartin (PRN 562)	Nash (PRN 4416)
Cosheston (PRN 3520)	Pembroke St Daniel (PRN 3279)
Crinow (PRN 4925)	Pembroke St Mary (PRN 3278)
Crunwere (PRN 3803)	Pembroke St Michael (PRN 3280)
East Williamston (PRN 3521)	Penally (PRN 4235)
Gumfreston (PRN 3687)	Redberth (PRN 4424)
Hodgeston (PRN 4187)	Reynalton (PRN 3483)
Jeffreyston (PRN 3478)	Rhoscrowther (PRN 3240)
Lampeter Velfrey (PRN 3790)	Robeston Wathen (PRN 3587)
Lamphey (PRN 3511)	St Florence (PRN 3539)
Lawrenny (PRN 3463)	St Issells (PRN 3642)
Llanddewi Velfrey (PRN 3728)	St Petrox (PRN 596)
Llawhaden (PRN 3582)	St Twynnels (PRN 569)
Loveston (PRN 3481)	Stackpole Elidor (PRN 593)
Ludchurch (PRN 3784)	Tenby St Mary (PRN 3713)

**ST ELIDYR,
AMROTH,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3663

RB No. 3395

NGR SN 1631 0790

Listed Building No. 6044

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 70% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, eastern 2 bays; north chapel, 2 bays; transeptal north tower, 3 storeys; south transept, 1 bay; medieval. Nave western 2 bays, 1851-55. South porch, 1855-88. Vestry, 2 bays (north of north chapel), 1899. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting throughout medieval components except chancel and north chapel. Medieval tower openings including tracery, arches (open and blocked) and piscina. All other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly from 1851-55 or 1899, neo-gothic, with yellow and grey oolite dressings.

Roofs: medieval vaulting and timberwork from 1851-55, 1855-88 and 1899. Floors: 1899 - 20th century. Finishes: 1851 - 20th century.

Condition - good. Plaster damp; vestry window dressings poor.

Archaeological potential - very good. Deep, wide revetted cutting around 40% of church, exposing footings; shallow drain around 60% of church; earthwork evidence of former south chapel/skew passage; churchyard truncated beneath and around 10% of church; floor lowered in 5% of church; floor raised in 10% of church; suspended floors above a void in 40% of church; external memorials significantly close to 40% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 70% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings including tracery, vaulting, arches and piscina.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower, in hilltop location; large churchyard with good memorials; remains of churchyard cross; part of larger *llan*?

Phasing:

- Phase 1 - Nave east bays, chancel west bay, C13?.
- Phase 2 - South transept, C14.
- Phase 3 - Transeptal north tower (and former side chapels/skew-passages?), earlier C16.
- Phase 4 - North chapel, mid-late C16.
- Phase 5 - Chancel east bay, c.1600.
- Phase 6 - Restored 1851-55, high impact; nave western bays built.
- Phase 7 - South porch, 1856-88.
- Phase 8 - Restored 1899, medium-high impact; vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Elidyr, Amroth, is a multicelled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 70% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave (originally 2-bayed), a 2-bayed north chapel, a north transeptal 3-storeyed tower, a single-bayed south transept, a 2-bayed vestry north of the north chapel, and a south porch. Former south chapel or skew passage. Construction is in limestone rubble; pointing is mainly from 1851-55 and 1899 but there is some poor 20th century repointing, and the interior is plastered. The interior is barrel-vaulted throughout except in the chancel, north chapel and south porch. The transept arches are medieval, and the tower has retained some medieval openings, including tracery; other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly from 1851-55, in grey oolite and Early English in style, or from 1899, in yellow oolite and neo-Perpendicular. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen.

There are a number of 18th century memorials.

The chancel weeps slightly. The east wall, and the south wall of the east bay, were rebuilt in small rubble c.1600 (see Structural Development below); the east wall exhibits a joint with the south-east corner of the north chapel east wall. The east window is from 1851-55 and comprises 3 uncusped, graduated lancets beneath a plain dripmould, all in chamfered grey oolite from 1851-5. The west bay represents the extent of the pre-c.1600 chancel and the south wall is thicker here, separated from the east bay south wall by a vertical offset and joint. This thicker section features an internal recess with a segmental head, which represents the archway into a former south chapel or skew-passage, probably from the earlier 16th century (see below) but removed, and the arch blocked, before 1844; the blocking is pierced by a single cusped lancet, in yellow oolite, from 1899. The double-chamfered chancel arch was rebuilt, in yellow oolite, in 1899. The softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1899 and lacks trusses, all rafters having collars and matchboarding. The floor was raised in 1899 and given black-and-white tiles (in imitation of a pre-existing floor?), partly replaced in the 20th century.

The nave is similarly of 2 phases, the 2 east bays being medieval while the 2 west bays were added in 1851-55 and are divided from the west bays by a plain, chamfered 2-centred arch from 1851-55 occupying the site of the original west wall. The west bay of the original nave is lit by a cusped single lancet in each side wall, from 1899; an external socket high up on the south wall is of unknown function. There is no evidence for either a medieval north or south door. The present south door is from 1851-55 and lies in the east bay of the 19th century extension; it has a 2-centred surround in grey oolite. To the west is a contemporary, uncusped double-lancet window in grey oolite. The north wall features the scar of a former lean-to building (boilerhouse?) of unknown date; internally, there is a blocked fireplace at the west end of this wall. The west, gable wall is pierced by a double-lancet in grey oolite, with a circular light in the spandrel, from 1851-5. The original west bays have a medieval, 2-centred barrel vault while the 19th century extension features a timber roof with collar-rafter trusses, carved into trefoils and arch-braced from wall corbel, all from 1851-5. The passages were oolite-flagged in the 20th century; the suspended board floors are from 1899 and contemporary with the seating.

The north chapel communicates with the chancel through a wide, depressed 4-centred arch that is nearly triangular headed; it is plain but has a slight chamfer, and is from the mid-late 16th century when the north chapel was built replacing an earlier north chapel or skew-passage. The chapel is lit by a 3-light window in the east, gable wall, with cusped, neo-Perpendicular tracery in a square surround and label, all in yellow oolite from 1899 but possibly in imitation of a mid-late 16th century original. Internally, there is a plain, 2-centred piscina in the eastern stop of the archway into the chancel. The oak and softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1899. Floored as the chancel but the tiles are all from the 20th century.

The transeptal north tower is not typical of the region, lacking an external string-course and having no external batter; stylistically, however, like many towers it belongs to the earlier 16th century. It is tapered. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north-west corner, entered through a plain segmental-headed doorway and lit by simple loops. The ground floor appears to be of one build with the tower above and is entered from both the nave and the north chapel through plain, segmental-headed arches from the earlier 16th century; the latter arch led into a skew-passage, or an earlier north chapel, before the present north chapel was built in the mid-late 16th century. There is a window in the north wall, of 2 lights with sunk cusps, in chamfered limestone from the earlier 16th century, somewhat weathered. There is a 2-centred barrel vault, also from the earlier 16th century. The ground floor is tiled like the north chapel. The second stage is lit by simple square lights in the east, north and south faces, that in the north face with a segmental head; all are earlier 16th century. The belfry stage has a tall, single-lancet opening in each face, each with a segmental-headed surround from the earlier 16th century. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table that does not continue around the stair turret.

The south transept is entered through a plain 2-centred arch from the 14th century. In the east wall is a recess like that in the chancel south wall, representing the blocked arch into the former south chapel or skew-passage discussed above; the arches are similar to those in the tower ground floor with which the chapel or passage was probably contemporary ie. earlier 16th century. The transept is now lit by a double-lancet window, with a quatrefoiled spandrel, in its south wall, of grey oolite from 1851-55. The 2 centred barrel-vault is from the 14th century. Floored as the nave.

The south porch was added to the nave extension at some period after 1855 but before 1888. The facework is in Flemish-bonded rusticated limestone with a external basal chamfered offset. The main south doorway has a double-chamfered surround in grey oolite, and there is a cusped single lancet in the west wall, both also from 1855-88. The softwood roof, and the tiled floor, are contemporary.

The lean-to vestry was added in 1899, in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble with an external basal offset in chamfered yellow oolite. It is entered from the north chapel through a contemporary doorway with a depressed 2-centred head, occupying the site of a former window possibly from the mid-late 16th century (NLW, SD/F/25). It is also entered from the churchyard through a doorway in its east wall with a very depressed, nearly square-headed ogival surround, in yellow oolite from 1899. The vestry is lit by 2 windows in the north wall and 1 in the west wall; all have 2 square-headed lights in square surrounds of chamfered yellow oolite from 1899, very badly weathered. The softwood lean-to roof is also from 1899 and continues the northern slope of the chapel roof.

A deep, wide revetted cutting runs along the nave north wall, the tower, exposing its footings, the vestry and the south-west corner of the nave; a shallow drain surrounds the rest of the church. There is earthwork evidence, debris?, for the former south chapel/skew passage. The churchyard area beneath and around the vestry was lowered in 1899. The floor of the north tower was lowered, and that of the chancel was raised, in 1899. Floors are suspended above a void. External memorials lie significantly close to the south side of the church.

Structural development

The 2 nave east bays, and the west bay of the chancel, appear to be the earliest work and may be 13th century. The style of the south transept arch suggests a 14th century date. The transeptal north tower appears to be all one build and its openings date it to the earlier 16th century; it appears to be contemporary with an earlier north chapel/skew-passage which was entered through an arch with a very similar profile to that of the former south chapel/skew-passage, and thus the three components may have been contemporary. The present north chapel is from the mid-late 16th century. The chancel was extended eastwards into line with the north chapel east wall at a somewhat later date, c.1600?; the joint with the chapel proves the chancel east bay to be later. The 2 nave west bays, the south porch and the vestry are 19th century.

The church was described by Fenton c.1811 'as a singular little building with its tower oddly disposed' (Fenton, 1903, 260). Some renovation had evidently been undertaken before 1833 as Lewis noted that the church was 'well fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners' (Lewis, 1833). The south chapel or skew-passage had gone by 1844, and is not shown on the tithe map of that year (NLW, Amroth, 1844).

The church was restored and enlarged between 1851 and 1855, to the designs of the architect R. Kyrke Penson (Nicholas, 1995, 1; SPARC, 1997). The 2 nave western bays were added, and most of the present windows were inserted. The church was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated. The south porch was added, apparently by Penson, at a later period, but before 1888 when it was shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 second edition; it is stylistically unlike the rest of Penson's work.

A second restoration was undertaken in 1899, to the designs of the architects Prothero & Phillott (NLW, SD/F/25). The vestry was added, with a doorway that apparently occupies the site of a mid-late 16th century window. The chancel arch was rebuilt. The north chapel east window was rebuilt, as was the chancel west bay south window. The west bay of the pre-1850s nave was fenestrated. The chancel and the north chapel were reroofed. The chancel floor was raised and refloored, the tower floor lowered, and the church was again reseated.

The lean-to building that formerly lay north of the nave may have been a boilerhouse. Its date is unknown and it is shown on no maps.

The sanctuary fittings, including the plain oolite reredos, are mainly from 1899, as are the softwood pews and pulpit (NLW, SD/F/25). The north chapel altar fittings are 20th century.

The font has a square bowl, stem and base, the bowl with incised foliated decoration, all from the 14th century.

The tower contains 2 bells, one of which was recast in 1929 (NLW, SD/F/27).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

The churchyard appears possibly to have been formed out of the northern part of a large irregular circular enclosure defined by hedgebanks and tracks - a former *llan*?

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Celtic dedication; part of larger *llan*?

St Elidyr, Amroth, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was granted c.1150 to the Knights Hospitaller of Slebech, by William Herrizon, with the permission of William of Narberth (Green, 1911, 232).

The patronage fell into private hands after the dissolution, but during the later 17th century presentations were being made by the Bishop of St Davids (ibid.). In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage in the patronage of Charles Poyer Callen Esq., rated in the king's books at £3 18s 6½d, endowed with £600 royal bounty and £600 parliamentary grant.

In 1998 St Elidyr, Amroth, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Issells (Benefice 669) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

'St Elidyr' can be equated with St Teilo.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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**ST MARY,
ANGLE,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3091

RB No. 3087

NGR SM 8662 0290

Listed Building No. 5921

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 50% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 1 bay; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. South porch, (re)built 1853. North chapel, 2 bays, continuous with single-bayed vestry to the east, 1880. Former south transept?. Limestone rubble construction with some ORS; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate and tile gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval tower openings including tracery, an vault; blocked ?medieval window. All other openings, including the chancel arch, are from 1853 and 1880, neo-gothic (Early English), with yellow oolite dressings. (17th - 18th century memorials, not all *in situ*.)

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1853 and 1880.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - very good. No external drain or cutting; earthwork platform, primary, beneath 100% of church; former component beyond 10% of church; floor raised in 10% of church; suspended floors above a void in 75% of church; cellar beneath 5% of church?; external memorials lie significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 50% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings including tracery, and vault, blocked ?medieval window.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower, in coastal location; central within Anglo-Norman planted village with many nearby medieval buildings including a pele-tower, dovecote and hall-house; churchyard with medieval mortuary chapel and remains of churchyard cross.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, north (and south?) transepts, south porch, all C14?

Phase 2 - West tower, c.1500.

Phase 3 - Restored 1853, high impact; partly rebuilt.

Phase 4 - Restored 1880, high impact; north chapel and vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Mary, Angle, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 50% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 2-bayed north chapel continuous with a single-bayed vestry to the east, a single-bayed north transept, a south porch, a 3-storeyed west tower. There may formerly have been a south transept. Construction is in limestone rubble, with some Old Red Sandstone; pointing is mainly from 1853 and 1880, and the interior is plastered. The tower has medieval openings, including rebuilt tracery, and a barrel-vault, and there is a blocked ?medieval window in the nave. All other openings, including the chancel arch, are from 1853 and 1880, in yellow grey oolite and Early English in style. Roofs are gables, both slated and tiled; the tower roof was not seen.

There are a number of 17th - 18th century memorials, not all *in situ*.

The chancel was rebuilt/refaced in roughly squared and coursed rubble in 1853, with a basal chamfered oolite offset. The contemporary 3-light east window has cusped, neo-geometric tracery in a 2-centred surround and drip-mould on human mask stops, all in chamfered oolite. There is no upstand, the roof overhang lying on plain oolite corbels at eaves level, also from 1853. There are 2 windows in the south wall, that to the east being a cusped single lancet with a sedilia in the sill, from 1853. The western window is an uncusped double-lancet with a quatrefoil spandrel, yellow oolite, in a 2-centred outer arch with infill, presumably from the 1880 restoration. The plain chancel arch with a chamfered inner order on 'stiff-leaf' corbels is from 1853. The softwood chancel roof is from 1853 and has princess-posts cusped to form a quatrefoil and double-trefoil pattern; the collars are arch-braced from contemporary wall corbels and the whole is matchboarded over. The passage is tiled, with suspended board floors also from 1853.

The nave south wall was rebuilt/refaced, like the chancel, in 1853, with 2 stepped external buttresses; the north wall is in random limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble from the medieval period. There are 2 windows in the north wall and 3 in the south wall, all in yellow oolite from 1853. The eastern north wall window has 2 uncusped lights in a 2-centred surround with a circular light in the spandrel and a plain drip-mould; the western window is similar but the lights are cusped, the spandrel is quatrefoil and the drip-mould lies on 'stiff-leaf' stops. There is a blocked window at the west end of the north wall retaining some voussoirs, medieval?. The east bay is lit by a partly cusped, 3 light window in the south wall, in a 2-centred surround with pierced spandrels. The central south wall window is like the east window in the north wall, while the west window is a cusped double-lancet. The south door lies between the 2 latter windows and has a simple chamfered surround from 1853. The nave is roofed and floored like the chancel, both also from 1853.

The north transept was partly refaced in 1853, like the chancel but without the offset. It is entered through a double-chamfered 2-centred arch from 1853, and lit by a window like that in the centre of the nave north wall also from 1853. The softwood roof, from 1853, lacks trusses, all common rafters having collars. Floored as the chancel and nave. The transept became a memorial chapel, with the relocation of a number of monuments and tablets, in c.1900.

The south porch was entirely rebuilt in 1853 with facework like that in the chancel; there are clasping buttresses at the corners. The internal walls have contemporary masonry benching with oolite seating. The main south door is a plain, chamfered 2-centred arch. The softwood roof, also from 1853, lacks trusses, all rafters having collars. The contemporary tiled floor is laid directly on the substrate.

The west tower, of limestone rubble, is not entirely typical of the region, lacking an external string-course and having only a slight external batter; stylistically, however, like many towers it belongs to c.1500. It is not tapered. A square spiral stair turret projects from the south-west corner, entered through a plain square-headed doorway with a sill below the present floor level, from c.1500, and lit by simple loops. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch that reflects the profile of the barrel-vault. There is a blocked doorway in the west wall, of uncertain form, its dressings having been robbed. Above it

lies a cusped, 2-light window, in limestone from c.1500 but partly rebuilt in yellow oolite, with a segmental drip-mould on rounded stops. The floor is fully carpeted but may be tiled like the chancel and nave; it may have been raised. The second stage is lit by a simple square-headed light in the north face. The belfry stage has 2-light openings with square-headed limestone surrounds, in segmental-headed outer arches, in the east and west faces, and similar single-light openings without outer arches in the north and south faces, all from c.1500; the east face openings are associated with 2 corbels at sill level, function?. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table that does not continue around the stair turret.

The north chapel was added in 1880 and forms a continuous unit with the vestry to the east (see below), with roughly squared and coursed facework like that in the chancel. It communicates with the chancel through a contemporary arcade of double chamfered, 2-centred arches. The north wall is pierced by a single lancet to the east, and an uncusped 2-light window with a circular light in the spandrel to the west, both in chamfered yellow oolite from 1880. The softwood, scissors-braced roof is also from 1880 lacks trusses and is matchboarded over. Floored as the chancel and nave but from 1880.

The vestry lies at the east end of the north chapel, from which it is divided by an internal wall. The vestry is entered from the chapel through a doorway in the dividing wall, with a 2-centred surround from 1880, and from the churchyard through a doorway, in its north wall, also with a 2-centred surround. It is lit by a window in the east wall, also from 1880, which comprises an uncusped single lancet with a trefoil light above which lies beneath a 2-centred drip-mould on human mask stops. There is a disused fireplace in the south wall, from which a square chimney is corbelled out from the north wall and leads to an octagonal stack, all in limestone ashlar. Roofed as the north chapel. The suspended floor lies above churchyard level and there may be a cellar below.

There is neither an external drain nor a cutting. The church stands upon a low, but pronounced oval earthwork platform. There may have been a former south transept. The floor level within the tower may have been raised. Floors are suspended above a void. There may be a cellar beneath the vestry. External memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

Except in the tower, the pre-19th century fabric lacks detail and cannot be closely dated. However, the chancel, the nave, the north transept and former south transept (see below) and the south porch form a unified plan that may be the product of a single building campaign; the presence of the transepts and the length of the chancel suggest that it may have been a later medieval undertaking, 14th century?. The tower openings suggest a date of c.1500. The north chapel and vestry are 19th century.

Fenton, writing c.1811, describes the south side of the church as featuring ‘an old arched aisle, which, from the aperture in its roof, seems to have been a belfry; on one side is a canopied recess covering a shelf, where formerly a recumbent effigy might have lain’ (Fenton, 1903, 220). The component described appears to have been a south transept, apparently in decay.

The first restoration can be dated to 1853 when the parish schoolroom was licensed for divine service (Green, 1911, 235) but neither the details of the work, nor the architect responsible, are known. However, it can be seen that the restoration was extensive, amounting to a partial rebuild. The chancel, the south porch and the nave south wall were rebuilt, or at least refaced. The church was refenestrated and a window was partly rebuilt in the tower. The church was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated.

The north chapel and vestry are not shown on the Ordnance Survey first edition, surveyed in 1875, and it is apparent that they were the product of a second restoration, even though they are stylistically identical to the 1853 work. Thomas, 1964, mentions a restoration in 1880 - a date which fits the map sequence - but he cites neither the details nor the sources.

The oak stalls, the softwood pews and the chancel rail are probably from the 1853 restoration. The sanctuary fittings, including the Minton tiled reredos, are probably late 19th century, from the 1880 restoration?. The organ in the north chapel, by Sweetland of Bath, is from 1914 (NLW, SD/F/29). The oak pulpit is 20th century.

The font has a square scalloped bowl, a cable-moulded cylindrical stem and a square base, all from the 12th century.

The tower contains 2 bells (Bartosch & Stokes, 1990, 11).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

Fenton noted a very small male effigy within the church, and the effigy of a priest within the churchyard 'almost covered with the sward' (Fenton, 1903, 220).

The churchyard features, to the north of the church, a masonry mortuary chapel, traditionally known as 'The Sailors' Chapel', with a vaulted basement and a vaulted roof. It retains most of the original openings which date the building to the 15th century. South of the church are the remains of a churchyard cross.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Angle, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was assessed at £8 in 1291 (ibid.).

The living was both a vicarage and a rectory, the latter having been granted, probably during the 12th century, to the Benedictines of Monkton Priory, Pembroke (Green, 1911, 234); Giraldus Cambrensis was the rector in c.1200. With Monkton's suppression as an alien priory by Henry V, the rectory fell into royal hands. In 1461 it was granted to St Albans Abbey (ibid.). The patronage again fell into royal hands after the dissolution, but was acquired for a short period of the later 19th century by the Principal and Professors of St Davids College, Lampeter (ibid.), before passing to the Bishop of St Davids. The rectory was rated in the king's books at £10 10s in 1833 (Lewis, 1833); it was suppressed in 1885 (Green, 1911, 235).

Presentations to the vicarage were made by the rector until the 17th century, when the advowson was acquired by the Bishop of St Davids (ibid.). In 1833 the vicarage was rated in the king's books at £3 19s 2d and endowed with £400 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Angle, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Castlemartin, Warren, Rhoscrowther and Pwllcrochan (Benefice 597) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST MARY,
BEGELLY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3641

RB No. 2780

NGR SN 1181 0731

Listed Building No. 6045

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; north chapel, 3 bays (absorbing north transept); south transept, 1 bay; south porch (now vestry; formerly with parvis?); west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Limestone rubble construction; 10% of church with 20th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval east window (rebuilt), south door, chancel arch, arcade, transept arches, tower openings, parapet, pinnacles and vault, rood-loft stair and corbelling, piscina and aumbry (blocked) and stoups, with limestone and yellow oolite dressings. Other openings from 1886 but in imitation of the original openings, mainly with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1886.

Condition - fair-good. North chapel roof fair; tower damp.

Archaeological potential - good - very good. External revetted cutting around 30% of church, partly primary?; shallow, concrete-lined drain around 100% of church; external earthwork platform beyond 25% of church, burial earthwork?; floors raised and suspended above heating ducts in 70% of church; heating chamber below 5% of church; external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; rebuilt medieval window(s), door, chancel arch, arcade, transept arches, tower openings, parapet, pinnacles and vault, rood-loft stair and corbelling, piscina and aumbry (blocked) and stoups

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower, in hillside location; lych-gate; associated C19 church hall; formerly nearby motte/ringwork.

Phasing:

- Phase 1 - Nave west bays, C13?
- Phase 2 - Nave east bays and transepts, early C14.
- Phase 3 - Chancel and north chapel, mid C14.
- Phase 4 - West tower, mid-late C16.
- Phase 5 - South porch, late C16 - early C17.
- Phase 6 - Restored 1886, medium impact; tower partly rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Mary, Begelly, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north chapel (absorbing former north transept), a single-bayed south transept with a skew-passage, a south porch (now a vestry) with a possible former parvis, and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in local limestone rubble. Medieval chancel arch, arcade, transept and tower arches, east window (rebuilt) and south door, with limestone and yellow oolite dressings; other openings are mainly from 1886, in a variety of neo-Gothic styles imitating the original openings, with grey oolite dressings. Pointing is mainly from 1886, with some 20th century external render; the interior is plastered. The tower is barrel-vaulted. Roofs are slated gables throughout; the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel east window has 2 cusped lights with slightly ogival heads, simple Decorated tracery in a 2-centred surround featuring sunk spandrels and a central quatrefoil, and a 2-centred drip-mould on out-turned stops, all in yellow oolite from the mid 14th century but largely rebuilt in 1886. Above the window is a simple trefoil light into the roof-space, in yellow oolite from 1886 but now blocked. The south wall is pierced by a single lancet with a cusped head, in grey oolite from 1886 but replicating a 14th century original; a large area of blocking is visible externally to the west, which may represent a former 'priest's door' blocked before 1885. Internally, a piscina, with an aumbry above, was noted east of the south window in 1925 (RCAHM, 1925, 16) but both are now blocked; a corbel for an earlier roof is visible on the internal face of the west bay north wall. The large, 2-centred chancel arch is in triple wave-moulded limestone ashlar from the mid 14th century, with a low, yellow oolite screen wall inserted in 1885. The profile of the chancel arch is reflected by a line of 5 medieval corbels above its west face, which were associated with a former rood-loft (see below). The flue from the heating chamber (see below) also rises through this wall to emerge as a plain square chimney with a cylindrical stack, from 1886. The softwood roof is from 1886 and has substantial, carved queen-post trusses arch-braced from the walls with curved knees, matchboarded above. The tiled floor is also from 1886.

The nave side walls exhibit an internal offset at three-quarters height, above which the wall has been heightened, during the post-medieval period?; in the west bays both walls have a pronounced external batter. The east bay side walls are arches into the south transept and the former north transept (now the north chapel west bay); both are plain, depressed 2-centred arches springing sharply from the transept side walls, probably from the earlier 14th century (see Structural Development below). A straight rood-loft stair lies to the east of the northern arch, entered from the north chapel and therefore mid 14th century at the earliest, probably contemporary with the chancel arch; both the lower and upper stair doorways have plain, segmental heads and the upper doorway, which emerges into the nave in the angle between the north transept arch and the chancel arch, is associated with loft corbelling. A further loft corbel lies above the south transept arch. The nave is lit by 2 windows in the south wall and one in the north wall; all have 2 ogival, cusped lights with pierced spandrels in square surrounds, in grey oolite from 1886 but the south wall windows are *in situ* replicas of mid-late 16th century originals. Between the south wall windows is a possible area of blocking that may represent an earlier window that was blocked in the 16th century. The

nave is entered through the north wall of the central bay, through a doorway with a 2-centred, roll- and chamfer-moulded surround and drip-mould rebuilt in 1886; to the west, the external face exhibits an area of cut-back facework which may mark the site of a former north porch, while to the east are two internal, square stoup-recesses, medieval, lying one above the other. A south door lies opposite and has a chamfered surround possibly from the 13th century. The nave roof is like that in the chancel and similarly from 1886, though rather less elaborate, with king- and princess-posts. The passages are tiled over heating flues, from 1886, with suspended board floors and an underground chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove, also from 1886 (now disused), in the central bays.

The north chapel communicates with the chancel through an arcade of 2 arches with plain, slightly chamfered 2-centred heads; they have springers cushioned from cylindrical, limestone ashlar stops, and a similar central pier, all with plain abaci/capitals but with concealed bases, stylistically mid 14th century. The arch into the nave has been described above. The east and west gable walls are each pierced by a window like those in the nave, from 1886 but similarly *in situ* replicas of mid-late 16th century originals; there is an identical window, also originally 16th century, in the north wall, flanked by cusped single lancets like that in the chancel, similarly from 1886 and representing *in situ* replicas of 14th century originals. The gables above the east and west windows feature louvered single lancets into the roof-space, from 1886. The queen-post roof is similar to those in the chancel and nave and also from 1886. The suspended board floor is originally from 1886.

The south transept communicates with the chancel via a skew-passage in the thickness of the chancel south wall, (re)built in 1886 with a square profile and a low head. It is lit by a window in the south gable wall, like those in the nave and from 1886 but similarly an *in situ* replica of a mid-late 16th century original; a louvered lancet above, from 1886, lights the roof space. A cusped single lancet in each side wall, like that in the chancel, also represent 1886 rebuilds of 14th century originals, possibly re-using some dressings. The softwood roof is from 1886 and lacks trusses, all rafters having scissors-braces. The suspended board floor is originally from 1886.

The vestry was modified from a south porch, by blocking its doorway, during the 19th century but before 1886 (NLW, SD/F/32). The porch may formerly have featured a first floor parvis; the internal thickening of the north-east corner may have housed a former stair. The south wall was refaced, with an inserted square-headed single light, in 1886, removing much of the evidence of the (blocked) south door which was a large, plain full-centred semicircular arch probably from the late 16th - early 17th century. The roof is concealed by a 20th century hardboard ceiling but may be vaulted. The floor is concrete.

The west tower, comprising 3 storeys in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, is from the mid-late 16th century and is typical of the region, but of rather better quality. It is slightly tapered and has the 'typical' external batter, but the string-course may be later (see Structural Development below). A square spiral stair turret projects from the eastern half of the north wall, is entered through a low, plain doorway, with a square head from the mid-late 16th century, and lit by simple loops. The 2-centred arch from the ground floor into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault from the mid-late 16th century, which is pierced for 5 bell-ropes. The west door has a 2-centred surround and drip-mould like the nave north door, similarly rebuilt in 1885; above the door is a window like those in the nave and from 1886 but similarly an *in situ* replica of a mid-late 16th century original, and there is a similar window in the south wall. The woodblock floor, from the earlier 20th century, is raised above nave floor level. The south and west walls of the second stage and the belfry were rebuilt in 1886; the second stage is lit by a simple, square-headed light in the east wall, from the mid-late 16th century. The belfry stage has 2-light openings with uncusped semicircular heads, in chamfered limestone from the mid-late 16th century and very like those in the slightly later tower at Lawrenny, Pembs., in the south, west and east faces; those in the south and west faces were rebuilt in 1886, while the north face has a square-headed 2-light opening from the mid-late 16th century. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, from the mid-late 16th century but similarly rebuilt to the south and west; the low, plain pinnacles corbelled out from the corners are again like those at Lawrenny Church.

The west end of the church, and the nave north wall, lie in an external revetted cutting which may be at least partly primary; a shallow, concrete-lined drain surrounds the church. A rectangular earthwork

platform lies between the south transept and the south porch/vestry, but probably represents a burial earthwork. The floors were raised in 1886. Floors are suspended above heating ducts and there is a heating chamber below the nave floor. External memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The 2 nave west bays have a pronounced external batter and may pre-date the 2 east bays; the west bays are not closely dateable but the south door may be 13th century. The nave may have been extended to the east when the transepts were built, probably during the earlier 14th century; they have identical arches and are thus probably contemporary though the north transept was larger than the south (as at a number of churches). The large, wave-moulded chancel arch, and the rebuilt/re-used east window, date the chancel to the mid 14th century, apparently contemporary with the north chapel which, though its arcade detail is unlike that of the chancel arch, has stylistically similar lancets (rebuilt from 14th century originals); the construction of the chapel, an early regional example, appears therefore to have initiated a major replanning of the east end and the chapel absorbed the former north transept. The west tower is stylistically late, from the mid-late 16th century, and similar to the slightly later tower at Lawrenny, Pembs.; the rebuilt windows indicate that a major refenestration of the rest of the church occurred at the same time. The south porch/vestry appears to have been entered through a semicircular arch that would give the porch a probable late 16th - early 17th century date.

The church was partially repaired in 1845 (Cadw, 1997, 1), but the details are not known. In the same year, Glynne visited the church (Glynne, 1886, 68) and noted that although most of the windows were sashes, the chancel and north chapel windows were medieval and much as today (see below). He described the tower as 'tall and rude', with a 'clumsy battlement' but without the string-course.

Elevation drawings from 1885 (NLW, SD/F/32), before restoration, show the church much as it exists today including the detail (see below), and kneelers for the gable upstands, but there was no nave north window. The tower string-course is shown. The south porch doorway had recently been blocked to form a vestry.

The church was restored in 1886 (ibid.) to the designs of the architect E. M. Bruce Vaughan, of Cardiff. The work was largely superficial. The church was refenestrated, but the new windows appear largely to be imitations of the originals and occupy their (rebuilt) embrasures, while the chancel east window largely re-used the 14th century dressings; the nave north wall window was, however, an entirely new opening. The skew-passage was (re)built. The south porch/vestry was largely rebuilt. The south and west walls of the upper 2 storeys of the tower were rebuilt. The church was reroofed and the interior was refloored, with a heating chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove, reseated and replastered.

The exterior of the east end of the church was rendered in the early-mid 20th century; the tower may have been refloored at the same time.

The softwood chancel altar fittings and panelled reredos, the softwood stalls, the deal pews, the oak pulpit and the neo-Gothic, softwood tower screen are all from 1886 (NLW, SD/F/32). The north chapel altar fittings are later, from c.1900, brought from Kilgetty Mission Chapel in 1986 (Cadw, 1997, 2).

The limestone font has a square bowl and a cylindrical stem and base, probably from the 13th century but possibly later.

A piece of loose lapidary in the church comprises fragments of a limestone frieze or fillet, with a late medieval moulded design of medallions; it was formerly built into the churchyard wall.

There is one bell in the tower, by Bayley of Bridgewater and dated 1760 (SPARC, 1996). The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Begelly, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The rectory appears to have always been in the patronage of the Lords of the Manor of Begelly, held of the Lordship of Pembroke. The church was, in 1291, assessed at £12 (Green, 1911, 242). East Williamston has always been a chapelry of the parish, first recorded as such in 1594 (*ibid.*); there was a second chapelry at Thomas Chapel, now lost.

In the mid 16th century both the Manor of Begelly and the patronage of St Mary were held by the Wogans of Wiston (*ibid.*), but by 1700 both had passed to the Philipps family of Picton Castle. In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory, in Philipps patronage and rated in the king's books at £12 19s 2d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Begelly, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Ludchurch and Crunwre (Benefice 815) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The original dedication is uncertain (Cadw, 1997, 1).

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**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
BOSHERSTON,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 627

RB No. 2922

NGR SR 9661 9482

Listed Building No. 5927

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay with skew-passage; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Vestry (north of chancel west bay), 1 bay, 1855. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in nave, transepts, tower and porch; medieval tower openings and arch, transept arches and skew-passage window, tomb-recesses with effigies, piscinae (one double), rood-loft corbelling and niche. Other openings, including chancel arch, are from 1855, neo-gothic, mainly with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs: medieval vaulting and timberwork from 1855. Floors and finishes: 1855.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - good. Shallow external drain around 100% of church; earthwork platform beyond the 10% of church; suspended floors above void in 60% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church; no external memorials or burials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting, tower openings, arches, skew-passage and window, tomb-recesses, effigies, piscinae, rood-loft corbelling and niche.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower; central village location; medieval churchyard cross; churchyard with bank of former circular boundary.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel west bay, nave, transepts and skew-passage(s), south porch, all C14?.

Phase 2 - West tower (and chancel east bay?), C15.

Phase 3 - Restored 1855, high impact; vestry built, south porch partly refaced.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Michael and All Angels, Bosherton, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a single-bayed north transept, a single-bayed south transept with a skew-passage, a south porch, a 3-storeyed west tower, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay. Construction is in limestone rubble. The church, except the chancel and vestry, is barrel-vaulted throughout. The tower openings and arch, the transept arches and a skew-passage window are medieval; other openings, including the chancel arch, were entirely (re)built in 1855, in neo-Gothic (late Early English) style, with mainly grey oolite dressings. There are the remains of 18th - early 19th century external render on the chancel and north transept; pointing is mainly from 1855, but the tower was repointed in 1925 and the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen. Medieval tomb-recesses with effigies.

The chancel walls have a slight external batter; the external string course, at sill level, is from 1855. The east window is a graduated triple-lancet, with a surround of cylindrical free shafts, in Purbeck marble, with plain abaci and tori; it may have been rebuilt in 1872 (Anon., 1992). The north and south walls of the east bay are each pierced by a cusped, ogival single lancet from 1855, possibly replicas of 14th century originals. Internally, there is a double piscina beneath the southern window, with twin scalloped bowls from the 14th century. The 2-centred, double-chamfered chancel arch is from 1855; externally, a medieval pilaster buttresses lies in the angle between the chancel south wall and the nave, rising above the skew-passage roof, associated with the former rood-loft the corbels for which can be seen either side of the arch. Towards the nave, a small, narrow niche lies south of the arch, medieval, possibly for former statuary. The softwood roof is from 1855 and lacks trusses, all rafters having braced collars, with matchboarding. The tiled floor is also from 1855.

The nave is lit by an uncusped double-lancet window in the north wall, with grey oolite dressings from 1855. The south door lies opposite and has a 2-centred surround in roughly squared limestone, (re)built in 1855. Externally, the north wall exhibits an area of 18th - early 19th century render that reflects the outline of a gable building that formerly abutted the wall. The north-west corner of the nave was rebuilt in 1855. The 2-centred barrel vault is from the 14th century. The passages are herringbone-tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1855; a below-ground heating chamber was inserted possibly after 1855.

The north transept is entered from the nave through a 2-centred, chamfered arch from the 14th century, and is lit by a cusped 2-light window in a 2-centred surround, with a quatrefoil light in the spandrel, in grey oolite from 1855, in the north wall. Beneath the window is a tomb-recess with a plain, depressed 2-centred head and the recumbent, limestone effigy of a lady, probably from the 14th century. There is now no internal evidence for the former skew-passage (see below), but a grating over a recess in the east wall leads into the vestry. Vaulted and floored as the nave.

The south transept is entered from the nave through a 2-centred, chamfered arch from the 14th century, and is lit by window in the south wall like that in the north transept and similarly from 1855. Beneath the window is a tomb-recess also like that in the north transept and a very weathered recumbent, limestone effigy of indeterminate sex and date. Set low in the east wall is a piscina with an ogival recess and plain bowl, from the 14th century. Vaulted and floored as the nave. The transept communicates with the chancel via a skew-passage, which has a depressed segmental vault emerging at either end as similar arches, and with a slated lean-to roof; it is lit by a cusped, ogival single lancet in its outer wall, similar to those in the chancel but in oolite from the 14th century.

The south porch side walls have a slight external batter, but the south wall was substantially rebuilt/refaced in 1855 including the contemporary doorway with a 2-centred surround. Internally the side walls exhibit masonry benching, medieval but with tile seating from 1855. Floored as the nave passages, 1855.

The west tower, comprising 3-storeys, is not typical of the region; it is not tapered, lacks the 'typical' external string-course, has only a slight external batter, and does not feature a west door. Stylistically, it belongs to the 15th century but in some respects, for example the parapet, is similar to the late 14th century tower at the nearby St Petrox Church, Pembs.. A square spiral stair turret projects from the eastern half of the south wall; it is entered through a narrow, square-headed medieval doorway, and is lit by simple loops and square-headed openings. Externally, a flue from the heating chamber occupies a diagonal wall cutting across the angle between the north wall and the nave, with a ventilation shaft at the base and a ceramic stack, all from 1855?, or later?. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch from the 15th century. The west wall is pierced by a cusped single lancet in grey oolite, from 1855 but probably occupying an earlier embrasure. There is a 2-centred barrel vault from the 15th century. The floor is concreted. The second stage is lit by a single lancet in the west wall, lying below a blocked slit-light, both 15th century. The belfry stage has simple square-headed openings in all 4 faces, 15th century, and there may be a blocked slit-light beneath the parapet of the west face. The tall, crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, from the 15th century, which does not continue around the stair turret; it has been restored, including the rainwater chutes.

The lean-to vestry is from 1855 and was constructed over the site of the former skew-passage from the north transept; its internal south-west corner is represented by the diagonal skew-passage wall. The vestry is entered from the chancel through a doorway with a chamfered 2-centred surround, and from the churchyard through a doorway with a Caernarfon-headed surround, in Old Red Sandstone, in the north wall; both doorways are from 1855. It is lit by an uncusped double-lancet window, with grey oolite dressings from 1855, in the east wall. A disused fireplace in the dividing wall with the chancel leads into a square chimney with a chamfered stack, 2-centred smoke-holes and a pyramidal cap, all in limestone and Old Red Sandstone ashlar from 1855. The softwood roof, and the floor, are also from 1855.

The church, except the tower, is surrounded by a shallow, slab-lined drain. There is a slight earthwork platform beyond the east end of the church. Floors are suspended above a void. There is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave. No external memorials or burials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The nave, transepts and skew-passages, chancel west bay, and possibly the south porch, form an integrated plan, all vaulted, that may represent 1 main building phase, 14th century?. The unvaulted chancel may have been subsequently extended by one bay, which is battered externally. Stylistically, the tower is from the 15th century and there is a joint between it and the nave. The vestry is a 19th century addition (see below).

The church was 'handsomely ornamented' by the patron in the mid 18th century (Lewis, 1833). A north-south running gabled building was constructed against the nave north wall, probably during the 18th - early 19th century, and has left a scar. It had gone by the 1880s and is not shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition.

The church was restored in 1855 (Anon., 1992; Bartosch, 1993, 6) but neither the details, nor the architect responsible, are known. The northern skew-passage was demolished and the vestry on its site. All openings except the transept arches, those in the upper storeys of the tower, the spiral stair door and the southern skew passage window, were rebuilt. The timber roofs were replaced, and the interior was refloored, replastered and reseated. The east window may have been rebuilt in 1872 (Anon., 1992). The nave heating chamber may also be later.

The tower was repointed in 1925 (Bartosch, 1993, 10).

The altar rail and commandment tablets, the softwood stalls and pews, and the pulpit are probably all from 1855. The altar table and reredos are 20th century.

The oolite font has a square, cushioned bowl, a cylindrical stem and a square base, from c.1200 but retooled (RCAHM, 1925, 21)

There are 3 bells in the tower, one of which was recast in 1967 when the headstocks were renewed by Taylors of Loughborough (Bartosch, 1993, 12).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

There is a cross in the churchyard (Dyfed PRN 628), with a medieval base and shaft, and a ?medieval head possibly derived from a different cross.

A low, curving earthen bank east of the church may represent part of the boundary of an earlier, smaller circular churchyard.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Michael and All Angels, Bosherton, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The rectory appears from the earliest times to have been appendant to the Manor of Stackpole Boshier (Bosherton). The church was, in 1291, assessed at £8 (Green, 1911, 245). St Govan's Chapel was a chapelry of the parish.

By the 18th century the living was in the patronage of the Earls of Cawdor, at Stackpole Court (ibid.). In 1833 the living was a rectory, in Cawdor patronage and rated in the king's books at £11 6s 8d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Michael and All Angels, Bosherton, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with St Petrox, Stackpole Elidor and Bosherton (Benefice 809) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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***RESTORED BY SCOTT IN 1852!!!!!!
ADD!!!!***

**ST MARY,
CAREW,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3492

RB No. 2790

NGR SN 0457 0281

Listed Building No. 6007

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of a chancel, 4 bays; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 2 bays; north aisle, 2 bays; south aisle, 3 bays (absorbing single-bayed south transept); west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. South porch, earlier 17th century. Vestry (north of chancel central bay), 1 bay, 17th - 18th century. Boilerhouse, between vestry and north transept, 1922. Limestone rubble construction; 10% of church with 18th - early 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry and boilerhouse with slate lean-to roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval chancel arch, arcades, transept arches, tower openings (including tracery), arch, vaulting and parapet, doorways, window embrasures, rood-loft stair turret, piscina, sedilia, buttressing, tomb-recesses with effigies, with limestone and yellow oolite dressings. Early 17th century doorway and stoup in porch. Other openings from 1844 and the late 19th century, some in imitation of the original openings?, with grey and yellow oolite dressings. (Early memorials including 14th and 17th century effigies; early 19th century box pews.)

Roofs, 1844. Floors: mid-late 19th century. Finishes: 18th - 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Shallow external drain around 100% of church; churchyard truncated around 100% of church; floors lowered in 70% of church?; below-ground floor in 5% of church; suspended floors above heating ducts in 70% of church; external memorials significantly close to 60% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval chancel arch, arcades, transept arches, tower openings (including tracery), arch, vaulting and parapet, doorways, window embrasures, rood-loft stair turret, piscina, sedilia, buttressing, tomb-recesses, effigies; early 17th century doorway and stoup.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; churchyard with medieval mortuary chapel (Grade I listed); listed boundary wall (Grade II) with adjoining 19th century barn/stabling; associated late medieval rectory building (Grade II* listed) and later almshouses.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13-14?

Phase 2 - Chancel, north transept (and former south transept), earlier C14.

Phase 3 - North and south aisles (absorbing south transept), later C15.

Phase 4 - West tower, c.1500.

Phase 5 - South porch, earlier C17.

Phase 6 - Vestry, C17-18.

Phase 7 - Restored C19, mainly 1890s, low impact.

Phase 8 - Boilerhouse, 1922.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Mary, Carew, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a long 4-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a single-bayed vestry (former north chapel?) north of the chancel central bay, a 2-bayed north transept, a 2-bayed north aisle, a 3-bayed south aisle (absorbing former south transept), a south porch (formerly with a parvis?), a 3-storeyed, Perpendicular west tower and a boilerhouse between the vestry and the north transept. Construction is in local limestone rubble. Medieval chancel arch, arcades, transept and tower arches, doorways, buttressing and window embrasures. The windows were rebuilt in the 19th century, largely in 'Decorated' styles, some possibly imitating the original openings, with grey and yellow oolite dressings. There is limited external render, from the 18th - early 19th century, mainly confined to the north aisle; pointing is mainly from the later 19th century but there is some poor 20th century repointing, particularly in the south aisle, and the interior is plastered. The tower is barrel-vaulted. Roofs are slated gables throughout; the vestry and boilerhouse have slated lean-to roofs, while the tower roof was not seen.

There are a number of early memorials including effigies from the 14th and 17th centuries. The church retains early 19th century box pews.

A shallow external drain surrounds the church. The churchyard was truncated by over 1m, all around the church, in the 19th century. The nave, transept and aisle floors may have been lowered in the 19th century. The boilerhouse floor is below churchyard ground level. Floors are suspended above heating ducts. External memorials lie significantly close to the east, south-east and north-west walls.

The chancel

The chancel is in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, and externally is buttressed into 3 bays with cross-buttresses at the east end; the buttresses are stepped, with string-courses, and are substantially 14th century but restored. The weathered east wall upstand is also from the 14th century, as is the chamfered external offset at the base of the side walls.

The 4-light east window has cusped, neo-Perpendicular tracery, in a 4-centred surround with a drip-mould on out-turned stops; it is in grey oolite from the 1890s and may be in imitation of an original, the 4-centred embrasure being from the later 15th century and contemporary with the chancel arch. There are 2 windows in the north wall and 2 in the south wall, in the east and west bays; all have 2 lights with cusped, curvilinear tracery in grey oolite, from the 1890s but possibly in imitation of the original detail; the

embrasures are from the 14th century but the outer arches were rebuilt in the 1890s. The north-west window features a moulded human mask in the western splay, *in situ*?

Internally, a 14th century string-course runs around the interior at sill level. There is an empty tomb-recess below this level in the north wall of the east bay, with a 2-centred surround in chamfered and roll-moulded limestone, from the 14th century. There is a similar recess to the west, in the east-central bay, the two being connected by a square opening; this recess was unblocked in 1843. There is a piscina in the south wall of the east bay, with a cusped, 2-centred surround in cavetto-moulded limestone from the 14th century, but the bowl has gone; it was unblocked in 1843.

To the west, in the east-central bay, is a triple sedilia with cavetto-moulded, 2-centred arches on cylindrical free shafts with plain abaci and tori, all in limestone from the 14th century, reopened in 1844. A further tomb-recess lies immediately west of the sedilia, like those in the north wall but smaller and with a chamfer and cavetto-moulded surround, also 14th century, reopened in 1843; it contains the very small effigy of a female, also 14th century and moved from the south aisle in 1843.

The west-central bay is entered through 'priest's doors' in both side walls, that to the south with a 2-centred surround in chamfered limestone from the 14th century, restored in 1844 when both doors were unblocked and that to the north was entirely rebuilt.

A fourth tomb-recess lies in the west bay north wall, similar to those to the east and also 14th century; it contains the effigy of a knight, traditionally held to be Sir Nicholas de Carew, whose death in 1311 is consistent with the armour worn by the effigy.

The tall, 4-centred, later 15th century chancel arch is in roll- and cavetto-moulded limestone, with shallow, shield-moulded imposts and plain bases; the inner, cavetto-moulded order features rose-mouldings throughout - Tudor roses?. In the angle with the south aisle east wall is a semi-octagonal turret, added c.1500, which houses a stair leading from the aisle to the former rood-loft; it has a lean-to roof continuing the chancel roof southern slope. The stair is lit by simple slit lights, but the doorway to the loft itself is blocked; however, an internal corbel on the chancel west bay south wall is associated with the former rood-loft.

The softwood chancel roof is from 1844, with collar-rafter trusses concealed beneath a contemporary plaster ceiling of 3 cants. The floor is of medieval heraldic tiles, traditionally moved from Carew Castle in the late 17th century, edged with later 19th century plain tiles..

The nave

The nave side walls are both pierced by arcades, and the west (end) wall is represented by the tower arch (see below). The nave is roofs as the chancel, also from 1844. The floor may have been lowered; the passages are flagged in limestone from the 19th century, relaid (irregularly) when heating ducts were inserted in 1922, with suspended board floors.

The north transept

The north transept is entered from the nave through a tall, 4-centred arch, with detail like the chancel arch including the rose-mouldings, and similarly from the later 15th century. The north (gable) wall is cross-buttressed, like the chancel from the 14th century. It is lit by a window in the north wall, like the chancel windows and similarly from the 1890s but occupying a 14th century embrasures; the sill has been raised. A second window in the southern bay east wall has a similar 14th century embrasure, with a chamfered surround, containing 'Y'-tracery of earlier 19th century character. There is a blocked window in the east wall of the northern bay, with 2-centred rear and outer arches like those in the chancel side walls and similarly 14th century, but with a low sill; it had been blocked by the later 19th century. An area of weathered masonry low down in the west wall of the northern bay may represent the site of a memorial; this area is shown with railings in a drawing from c.1850 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1748).

Internally, the north wall displays a low, plain internal offset, probably medieval. Roofed as the nave and chancel, from 1844; the slate creasing of an earlier, higher-pitched roof is visible on the nave north wall. Floored as the nave. In the north-west corner of the transept is a free-standing chest tomb with fine oolite effigies of Sir John and Elizabeth Carew, from 1637.

The north aisle

The north aisle communicates with the nave via a 2-bayed arcade of chamfered, 4-centred arches with chamfered stops and a central octagonal pier, with plain chamfered bases and imposts, all from the later 15th century; the bases may have been renewed when the nave, transept and aisles were refloored (with a lower floor level?). There is a similar, contemporary arch into the north transept. The west (gable) wall has a medieval upstand that was truncated in the post-medieval period.

The aisle is lit by 2 windows in the north wall, each with a large, rather irregular semicircular-headed embrasure; these windows are shown as small square casements in early-mid 19th century drawings (NLW, Drawing Volumes 40, 17; Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1748), but it may be that the embrasures relate to an earlier refenestration, of the 17th - early 18th centuries. They are now occupied by 3 light windows with cusped, curvilinear tracery in a different style from that in the chancel and north transept, with 2-centred drip-moulds on human mask stops, all in yellow oolite from the later 19th century, with 2-centred outer and surrounding infill. There is a third window in the west wall, like those in the chancel and north transept and from the 1890s when the embrasure, with a segmental outer arch from the later 15th century, was unblocked. The north door was blocked in 1836 but retains a 2-centred surround, in chamfered Old Red Sandstone, from the later 15th century (re-used)?

The aisle has a gable roof like those in the rest of the church and similarly from 1844. Floored as the nave.

The south aisle

The east bay of the south aisle was formerly a south transept and is entered from the nave through a tall, 4-centred arch, with detail like the chancel and north transept arches including the rose-mouldings, and similarly from the later 15th century. The two western bays communicate with the nave through an arcade like that to the north aisle; there is a similar, contemporary arch between the central bay and the east, formerly transeptal, bay.

The east wall, now a gable, is blind, but the outline of a blocked window with a 2-centred head is visible externally. There is an internal doorway in the north-east corner, with a Caernarfon-headed limestone surround from c.1500, unblocked in 1844. It leads to the rood-loft stair turret (see above), which is squinched over the internal corner.

The south wall is pierced by 3 windows, all like those in the north aisle and also later 19th century, but in contemporary inserted embrasures with surrounding infill. Beneath the central window is a blocked light with a square-headed embrasure and a semicircular-headed surround, from the 17th - early 18th centuries like the north aisle embrasures?. There is a further blocked single lancet in the west (gable) wall, from the 15th century; it was reopened in 1843 but again blocked, with cement, in the later 20th century. The south door has a 2-centred surround that may have been rebuilt when the entry was reopened in 1838.

Internally, there is a plain, square, medieval recess in the east bay south wall, possibly a piscina for a former chapel.

The aisle has a gable roof like those in the rest of the church and similarly from 1844. Floored as the nave.

The south porch

The south porch is probably from the earlier 17th century. Both side walls feature medieval masonry benching. The main entrance doorway has a semicircular-headed surround in double-chamfered limestone from the early 17th century, blocked in 1836 and reopened in 1838. There is a simple, triangular-headed stoup in the east wall, also from the earlier 17th century. An internal offset at springer level suggests the possibility that a parvis formerly lay above lit by a blocked opening that possibly lies over the main door. The porch has a barrel vault with a semicircular profile from the early 17th century. The flagged floor may be from 1838 and is laid directly on the substrate.

The west tower

The west tower, comprising 3 storeys in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, is unique within West Wales, exhibiting fine Perpendicular detail typical of West Country church towers of c.1500. The exterior is divided into the 3 storeys by string-courses, and there are further string-courses at the base, which is offset, and beneath the crenellated parapet. There are full height, stepped angle-buttresses at the west and south-east corners, while the north-east corner is occupied by an octagonal spiral stair turret which projects internally into the north-west corner of the nave, with a low string-course, and is entered through a doorway with a 2-centred surround, all from c.1500; it is lit by simple loops and a quatrefoil opening, and carries an octagonal masonry cap.

The chamfered, 2-centred arch from the ground floor into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault from c.1500, with a central bell-raising port. The large west door has a chamfered 2-centred surround which was rebuilt, with infill, in 1836 when the entry was reopened. Above the door is a large, 5-light window with Perpendicular tracery in a 4-centred surround with a drip-mould on out-turned stops, in yellow oolite from c.1500 but largely rebuilt/restored. Floored as the nave.

The second stage is lit by simple, square-headed single lights with chamfered surrounds in the north and east walls, from c.1500.

The belfry stage has 2-light openings in all 4 faces, with uncusped, depressed semicircular heads in square surrounds with simple labels, all in chamfered limestone from c.1500. The crenellated parapet lies on the uppermost string-course, from c.1500 but restored during the later 19th century with a central strip-moulding applied to the central merlons on each face, in imitation of the original from c.1500.

The vestry

The vestry cannot be closely dated (see Structural Development below). It is lit by a window in the east wall which was converted from a doorway in 1844; it is now occupied by a cusped lancet window in chamfered grey oolite from the later 19th century. The softwood lean-to roof may be from 1844 and continues the chancel roof northern slope. The vestry contains the header tank for the adjoining boiler, from 1922.

The boilerhouse

The boilerhouse was established, between the vestry and the north transept, in 1922, with a low north wall connecting the two, in squared and coursed limestone rubble. It is entered from the churchyard through a plain square doorway in this wall. The flue from the boiler rises through the north-east corner of the nave to emerge as a plain, square contemporary chimney, also in limestone rubble. The low, lean-to roof is from 1922 and rises up to chancel sill-level. The floor is below churchyard ground level.

Structural development

The nave is secondarily arcaded all around and cannot be dated. Stylistically, the long chancel is entirely decorated, from the earlier 14th century, and with its buttressing, former windows, tomb-recesses, piscina and sedilia is a fine example only paralleled in West Wales by the chancel at St Mary's, Cardigan. The transepts have similar window embrasures and buttressing, and are probably contemporary, but their arches were rebuilt when the aisles were added during the later 15th century; the chancel arch and east window were also rebuilt. The west tower has good Perpendicular detail, and stylistically is the only fully 'West Country' tower in South-west Wales; with the similar rood-loft stair turret it is from c.1500, and is traditionally held to have been built under the then Lord of Carew Sir Rhys ap Thomas. The south porch has semicircular-headed openings and is probably from the earlier 17th century, it may formerly have featured a parvis. The aisles were refenestrated during the 17th - 18th century. The church had apparently featured late medieval oak wagon-roof ceilings, 'like those at Tenby St Mary', until 1844 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/68/21).

The chancel is floored with medieval heraldic tiles, from c.1500, traditionally brought from Carew Castle and laid in the church in the late 17th century; the chancel floor was 'paved with bricks' in 1811 and 1833 (Fenton, 1903, 148; Lewis, 1833). The chancel effigies were observed by Fenton in c.1811 when they lay loose 'on the projecting bench running the length of the (south) aisle' (Fenton, 1903, 149). The benching has now gone, along with a third effigy of a priest.

The vestry cannot be closely dated. It is shown on a map of 1815 (NLW, Maps of the Estates of the Lord Bishop of St Davids, 14429/6) when it was used as a lime store, but it may have earlier origins, as a north chapel?.

Alterations were undertaken throughout the early and mid 19th century, recorded in vestry minute books, churchwarden's accounts and an annotated preacher's book (Pembs. R. O., HPR/68/21 & 26). The south transept appears to have retained its gable, but this was truncated during the 18th - earlier 19th century. A west gallery was installed during the same period. The rood screen was not removed until 1805. The west door, which had been blocked at an unknown date, was reopened in 1836, when the north and south doors, and the north porch door, were blocked; the southern doors were reopened in 1838. In 1843 the churchyard was lowered, by over a metre, all around the church, and the tomb recesses in the chancel, which had been blocked, were reopened and the effigies, which had lain in the south aisle, were (re)inserted within them. The 'priest's doors' in the chancel, which had been blocked at an unknown date, were reopened in 1844 and a vestry was established in the building - hitherto a lime store (see above) - to the north, its eastern doorway into the churchyard being converted into a window. The church was reroofed with the present trusses and ceilings, in deal and plaster, in the same year. The flagged floors in the nave, aisles and north transept are probably earlier 19th century, as is the present box-pew seating.

A drawing of the church from the north, dated 1835 (NLW, Drawing Volumes 40, 17), shows square, casement windows in the north aisle, and 'Gothic' windows in the north transept and chancel north wall; the drawing is not clear, but the latter may represent early 19th century 'Y'-tracery as surviving in the north transept. A drawing from c.1850, this time from the north-west (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1748), shows 3-light, ?timber-framed windows in the north aisle north wall (the west wall of which was blind) beneath semi-circular outer arches from the 17th - early 18th centuries; a similar window is depicted in the end wall of the north transept. Otherwise the church is as today, including the north aisle upstand and blocked north door, and the lean-to vestry.

Restored by Gilbert Scott in 1852!!!!!!! (Freeman, 1852, 201, who says 'Cheriton is now rebuilding by Mr Scott')

The church was restored in the late 19th century, but neither the details, nor the architect(s) responsible, are known. The chancel windows are from the 1890s and the remainder, which are similar, may be roughly contemporary. They were inserted in the existing embrasures except in the south aisle where infill is visible around the surrounds. The church possibly received its present finishes at the same time.

The boilerhouse was added, and underfloor heating installed, in 1922 (NLW, SD/F/84); the heating is still operational.

The softwood box pews are from the earlier 19th century. The organ, in the east bay of the south aisle, is 20th century, by Sweetland of Bath. The carved oak reredos and altar table are from 1922 (NLW, SD/F/84). The oak and oolite pulpit is from 1965 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/68/28). The chancel fittings, including the oak stalls and altar rail, were installed in 1971 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/68/29); the impression of earlier stalls can be seen in the internal plaster.

The limestone font has a square, scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem and a square base, all from 1844 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/68/21).

There are 3 bells in the tower. One is from 1694, the other 2 from 1809, and all were restored in 1881 (Bartosch & Stokes, 1992).

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

The churchyard features, to the west of the church, a masonry mortuary chapel, with a vaulted basement and a vaulted roof. It retains most of the original openings which date the building to the 15th century. It was used as a schoolroom in the 18th and earlier 19th centuries.

Between the chapel and the church lies a pronounced scarp, which may represent the former north-west corner of the boundary of a smaller churchyard.

SITE HISTORY

There is a strong tradition of the pre-conquest religious use of the site.

St Mary, Carew, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The living was both a rectory, in the patronage of the Earls of Pembroke before passing to the Carew family, and a vicarage, in the patronage of the rectors (Green, 1911, 262). The church was assessed at £40 in 1291 (ibid.).

The patronage of the then Lord of Carew, Sir Rhys ap Thomas, in the late 15th - early 16th century is thought to provide the context for work at the church during this period, in particular the fine west tower. The rectory had passed to the crown by 1594 (ibid.), and then to the Bishops of St Davids (ibid.). In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty and £800 parliamentary grant, but not rated in the king's books (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Carew, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Lamphey and Hodgeston (Benefice 811) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church may have originally been dedicated to St John the Baptist, the dedication given by Lewis, 1833, and Green, 1911.

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**ST ELIDYR,
CRUNWERE,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3803

RB No. 2779

NGR SN 1870 1072

Listed Building No. 18858

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 40% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 1 bay; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval but largely rebuilt. South transept, 1 bay, 1843. South porch; vestry (north of chancel west bay), 1 bay, 1878. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to; tower roof not seen. Medieval openings and vaulting in tower. Other internal arches, and some embrasures, are from 1843; other openings, and the yellow oolite dressings, are from 1878.

Roofs: 1843. Floors and finishes: 1878.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Cutting, primary, around 15% of church; earthwork platform beneath 25% of church; very shallow drain around 100% of church; former component beyond 20% of church?; suspended floors above a void in 60% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church; cellar beneath 15% of church?; external burials significantly close to 00% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good-very good. 40% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting and openings in tower.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower; central within earthwork DMV site.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - North transept (and skew-passage/north chapel?), C14?.

Phase 3 - West tower, mid-late C16.

(Phase 4 - Former south porch, C18-early C19?)

Phase 5 - South transept, and partial rebuild, 1843.

Phase 6 - Restored 1878, high impact; vestry built, south porch rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Elidyr, Crunwere, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 40% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed north transept, a single-bayed south transept, a south porch, a 3-storeyed west tower, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay. There may formerly have been a northern skew-passage or north chapel. Construction is in limestone rubble. The tower openings and barrel-vault are medieval; other internal arches, including the chancel arch, were entirely (re)built in 1843, in neo-Gothic style. The main embrasures are also from 1843; other openings, and the yellow oolite dressings, are from 1878. Pointing is mainly from 1878 and the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel was substantially rebuilt in 1843 with proud, limestone ashlar quoins. The east window is a graduated triple-lancet, with uncusped plate-tracery in yellow oolite from 1878, in a 2-centred opening from 1843. The south wall is pierced by 2 cusped, single lancets in yellow oolite from 1878. A corbel lies high up on the external face of the north wall, possibly relating to a former component here - a skew-passage to the north transept?, or a north chapel? (see below). The plain, 2-centred chancel arch is from 1843. The softwood roof lacks trusses, is matchboarded and is also from 1843. The tiled floor is from 1878.

The nave is lit by 2 single lancets in the south wall, like those in the chancel and similarly from 1878. The south door lies between the 2 and has a 2-centred chamfered surround probably from the 1843 rebuild. There is one window in the north wall, of 2 lights with uncusped plate tracery like that of the chancel east window and similarly from 1878, but occupying a 2-centred opening possibly from 1843. The north-west and south-west corners of the nave were quoined like the chancel in 1843. The softwood roof has strutted king-post and matchboarding from 1843; it forms a 'crossing' with the transept roofs in the east bay. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1878 with a below-ground heating chamber.

The north transept is quoined as the chancel and entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch like the chancel arch and similarly from 1843, and lit by a window in the north gable wall like that in the nave north wall and similarly possibly occupying an 1843 opening. A corbel lies high up on the external face of the east wall, possibly relating to a former component here - a skew-passage to the chancel?, or a north chapel? (see above). The softwood roof is from 1843 and like that in the nave, but without the king-posts. Floored as the nave.

The west tower, comprising 3-storeys, is typical of the region, being tapered and exhibiting an external basal batter and string-course; however, it is stylistically rather late, from the mid-late 16th century. A square spiral stair turret projects from the eastern half of the north wall; it is entered through a segmental-headed doorway from the mid-late 16th century, and is lit by simple loops. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, 4-centred arch from the mid-late 16th century. No physical evidence for the blocked west door mentioned by RCAHM, 1925, 85, is visible; but the west wall is pierced by an uncusped double-lancet window, possibly original but largely rebuilt in concrete. There is a 2-centred barrel vault with a pronounced spring-line, from the mid-late 16th century and prised by a square bell-raising opening. The flagged floor may be from 1843. The second stage is lit by a simple slit light in the north face, and a small, square-headed light from the mid-late 16th century low down in the west face. The belfry stage has simple square-headed openings in all 4 faces, from the mid-late 16th century. The crenellated parapet has been restored and lies on an external corbel table, at a higher level around the stair turret.

The south transept was added in 1843 with contemporary quoins like those in the chancel. It is entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch like the north transept, and lit by a window in the south gable wall

also like that in the north transept. Roofed and floored as the north transept. A vent in the south wall may lead to an underfloor chamber, inserted in 1878?.

The south porch was entirely rebuilt in 1878 in small sandstone rubble, regularly coursed and squared. The contemporary doorway has a chamfered, 2-centred surround above which is a drip-mould of patterned concrete blocks on Acanthus-moulded stops. The softwood roof lacks trusses, all rafters being collared, with matchboarding, all from 1878. The flagged floor is also from 1878.

The lean-to vestry was added in 1878, possibly occupying the site of a former skew-passage from the north transept, or a north chapel. The vestry is entered from the chancel through a contemporary doorway with a chamfered 2-centred surround, and by a cusped single lancet in the east wall. The softwood roof, and the floor, are also from 1878.

The tower lies within a primary cutting, through the sloping yard, and the east end lies on a corresponding earthwork platform. The church is surrounded by a very shallow, concrete-lined drain. There may have been a former northern skew-passage or north chapel. Floors are suspended above a void. There is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave, and there may be cellar beneath the north transept. External memorials and burial earthworks lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The chancel, nave, and north transepts may be fundamentally medieval but were extensively rebuilt in 1843 (RCAHM, 1925, 85) and cannot be closely dated; the north transept was however secondary, exhibiting an external joint with the nave. The north transept and chancel exhibit physical evidence of a possible skew-passage or chapel. The tower is late, probably from the mid-late 16th century (but Thomas, 1964, claimed that it may be as late as the 17th century). The south transept is from 1843. The south porch was rebuilt in 1878 on the site of an earlier porch, and the vestry is contemporary.

A drawing dated 1847 (NMR, Pe 205, 780298) shows the church both before and after the 1843 rebuild. The pre-rebuild church comprised chancel, nave, north transept, south porch and west tower. The east window was of 3 lights in a 2-centred surround, apparently with plate tracery comprising a single quatrefoil - medieval?. There was a small single medieval lancet in the chancel north wall, a square window of late 18th - early 19th century domestic style in the transept gable wall, two double lancets of uncertain date in the nave south wall, and a further window, not shown in elevation, in the nave north wall. The south porch door was a simple square opening which may date the former porch to the late 18th - early 19th century. The church was reroofed, reseated, and presumably refloored. Any former skew-passage or north chapel had gone.

The post-rebuild church is shown with the new south transept which, as built, was not gabled but had a hipped roof. The new east window had 3 lights with geometric tracery, there was a triple-lancet in the south transept and a double lancet in the north transept. The nave south-west window is similar to that shown in the pre-rebuild drawing and was either retained or rebuilt and there was a window in the nave north wall. The south porch doorway was rebuilt as a 2-centred arch.

The church was restored in 1878 (Green, 1911, 286; RCAHM, 1925, 85) but neither the details, nor the architect responsible, are known. The south porch was entirely rebuilt, and the present windows were inserted. The church was reseated, refloored and replastered. The nave heating chamber was inserted.

The altar rail, softwood reredos, commandment tablets, and the softwood pews are probably all from 1878. The carved rood beam, with Holy Family figures, is from c.1900, as may be the oolite pulpit. The softwood and glass tower screen is mid 20th century.

The oolite font has an octagonal bowl and stem, and a square base, all 19th century and probably from 1878.

There is one bell in the tower (Jones, 1994, 3).

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; early post-conquest documentary reference.

St Elidyr, Crunwere, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The living was a rectory which was a possession of the Benedictines of Monkton Priory, Pembroke (Green, 1911, 286). Monkton was dissolved as an alien priory under Henry V and its possessions transferred to St Albans Abbey. At the dissolution, it fell to the crown (*ibid.*), and remained in royal patronage. In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory rated in the king's books at £6 16s 10½d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Elidyr, Crunwere, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Begelly and Ludchurch (Benefice 815) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church is mentioned, as 'Lann Cronnguern', in the 12th century *Book of Llandaff* which may suggest a pre-conquest foundation (RCAHM, 1925, 85). 'St Elidyr' is equated with St Teilo.

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**ST DANIEL,
PEMBROKE,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3279

RB No. 3015

NGR SM 9821 0047

Listed Building No. 6453

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Limestone rubble construction, with some ORS; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower with masonry spire. Medieval chancel arch, piscina, blocked door(s), vaulting, spire and tower openings. ?18th century blocked openings and buttressing. Other openings, with limestone dressings, are from 1890.

Roofs: medieval vaulting. Floors: 1890. Finishes: mid-19th century render, 1890 pointing.

Condition - poor-fair. Infrequent usage; ivied externally; floors poor.

Archaeological potential - very good. Medium-depth revetted cutting around 40% of church; no external drain; no evidence for floor level changes; no underfloor void; few external memorials lie significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting throughout, medieval chancel arch, piscina, blocked door(s), openings in tower and spire.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower; subcircular churchyard; lychgate.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C14?.

Phase 2 - Chancel, later C14?.

Phase 3 - West tower, late C14-early C15.

Phase 4 - Spire, mid C15.

Phase 5 - Restored C18, low impact.

Phase 6 - Restored 1890, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Daniel, Pembroke, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave and a 3-storeyed west tower with a spire. Construction is in limestone rubble with some Old Red Sandstone. Chancel, nave and tower are all barrel-vaulted. There are medieval openings in the tower and spire, a medieval chancel arch and piscina, and blocked 18th century windows; other openings were rebuilt in 1890 and there is 19th century external buttressing. There are the remains of mid 19th century external render; pointing is mainly from the later 19th century and the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the tower has a masonry broach spire.

The chancel is slightly wider than the nave, to which it exhibits external butt-joints. There is a secondary (18th century?) simple cross-buttress at the south-east corner and the remains of an earlier buttress at the north end. The east window has 3 graduated lancets in chamfered limestone, from 1890. The uppermost courses of the side walls were heightened/rebuilt in the later 19th century. There is a blocked window in each of the side walls of the east bay, with segmental rear-arches visible through the plaster but amorphous externally; they probably belong to the 18th century. A blocked doorway can be seen in the north wall of the west bay, but the blocking is amorphous throughout and its original form cannot be ascertained; it may be a medieval 'priest's door'. Internally, there is a plain, 2-centred piscina in the south wall, without a bowl. The medieval chancel arch is plain and 2-centred, with chamfered imposts that are probably secondary, 18th century?; it is not square to the rest of the church. The chancel has a 2-centred barrel vault, without springers and also medieval; there are the remains of blue paint beneath the present whitewash. The concrete floor may be from 1890.

The nave is lit by 2 single lancets in the south wall and one in the north wall, like the east window and similarly from 1890, with infill. There is a small, amorphous area of blocking in the centre of the north wall which may represent the window 'through which the mass-bell of St Mary's could be heard', noted by RCAHM, 1925, 287 - blocked after 1925?. A further blocked window, possibly square-headed (18th century?), lies in the north wall of the west bay. The north door has a 2-centred head and a crude surround, probably 19th century, with an inserted concrete 'tympanum' above the timber door frame, from 1890?. There is a blocked south door, amorphous externally. The nave has a similar vault to that in the chancel. The brick floor is in poor condition; it is probably later 19th century and lacks a void below.

The west tower is not typical of the region. It has an external basal batter but lacks a string-course and there is no proper spiral stair turret. It is fairly small, narrow and tapered, and the openings are all simple; it may be fairly early, from the late 14th - early 15th century. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch from the late 14th - early 15th century, above which is a simple square opening to the second stage. The spiral stair ascends only to the second stage and occupies a semicircular projection between the south wall and the nave, now truncated, with a visible joint to the nave and entered through a damaged square-headed doorway from the late 14th - early 15th century. The single lancet in the ground floor of the tower west wall is from 1890 and is like those in the nave. Internally, the wall is carried diagonally over the north-west corner, with a square recess that may represent a former fireplace, from the 18th century?. The 2-centred vault is original and pierced for 1 bellrope. The concrete floor may be from 1890. The second stage is lit by a simple slit-light low in the north face and a small, square-headed opening in the west face, from the late 14th - early 15th century. The belfry stage is lit by a simple slit-light in each face. The parapet lacks crenellations and lies on an external corbel table; there is a rainwater chute on the east face, and rainwater holes on the west face; a further corbel lies at a lower level at the north-east corner - function?. The tower is surmounted by an octagonal broach spire which lies on a square base within the parapet; there is a string-course at the junction of the broaches below which are 4 lucarnes, in the form of simple lancets, at the cardinal points. The spire is secondary but probably no later than the mid 15th century.

There is a medium-depth revetted cutting along the north side of the church, but no external drain. There is no evidence for floor level changes, and there is no underfloor void, but the floors are lower than the churchyard ground level. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The nave appears to pre-date the chancel and tower, but in the absence of original detail cannot be closely dated; Thomas, 1964, gives a possible 12th century date for the nave fabric but does not give his reasons. The chancel and tower are both secondary and butt against the nave end walls, but the character of the vaulting is similar throughout and it may be secondary. The tower can be given a late 14th - early 15th century date, and the spire belongs to a similar period, but is secondary.

In 1721 the church was described as neglected, with services held 'rarely, if at all', being the 'solitary habitation of Owles and Jackdaws' (Hughes, 1996). In 1733 it was 'ruinous' (RCAHM, 1925, 288). It was restored to use as a Methodist chapel in 1740 (Hughes, 1996). A print from 1748 shows the church from the north with square openings in the nave and chancel, which may be represented by the present blocked openings and belong to the chapel conversion (Haverfordwest Library, Prints and Pictures, Pembroke from the north by S & N Buck, 1748).

St Daniel was repossessed by the established church in 1849 (ibid.). It was restored in 1890 (Hughes, 1996) but the details of the restoration, and the architect responsible, are not known. This may have been when the 18th century openings were blocked; at any rate the present windows were inserted and the north door rebuilt. The church was refloored.

An early 19th century triple-decker pulpit lies loose in the church, having been brought from Upton Chapel (Rev. C. W. Bowen, Pembroke, *pers. comm.*). The softwood stalls, altar rail, readers' desks and pews are from 1890.

There is now no font.

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Daniel, Pembroke, was a chapel in the parish of Pembroke St Michael, of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932); according to Fenton, 1903, 206, it was annexed to the Benedictine Priory of St Nicholas at Monkton, Pembroke and although it does not appear to have been a part of the priory possessions seized in 1414 it seems to have been transferred with them to St Albans (Hughes, 1996). In 1484 it was granted to the Mayor and Burgesses of Tenby by Richard III and in 1534 is listed as a free chapel (ibid.).

In 1551 it was leased by the crown to William Warren (ibid.) and the patronage remained in private hands though in nominal control of the Bishop of St Davids. Its usage appears to have been irregular and in 1721 it is described as neglected, with services held 'rarely, if at all', being the 'solitary habitation of Owles and Jackdaws' (ibid.). In 1733 it was 'ruinous' (RCAHM, 1925, 288).

St Daniel was restored to use as a Methodist chapel under the Rev. Howell Davies, c.1740 (Hughes, 1996), and in 1810 Fenton described it as 'long desecrated, and now become a Methodist conventicle' (Fenton,

1903, 206). In 1830 the church was leased to the Rev. B. Thomas for use as a Baptist meeting house, which was constituted the following year (Hughes, 1996). Services had been discontinued by 1845.

St Daniel was repossessed by the established church in 1849 when it was purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for £275 (Hughes, 1996). Since that time it has mainly functioned as a mortuary chapel.

In 1998 St Daniel, Pembroke, was a chapel-of-ease to Pembroke St Michael (Benefice 552), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8). Usage was infrequent; the only regular service was held just once a year, on St Daniel's day (11 September).

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Pictorial sources

Haverfordwest Library, Prints and Pictures, Pembroke from the north by S & N Buck, 1748 (church from north).

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**ST FLORENTIUS,
ST FLORENCE,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3539

RB No. 2428

NGR SN 0823 0115

Listed Building No. 6008

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 100% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays, with choir-recess/organ chamber; nave, 5 bays; vestry (north chapel), 1 bay; south chapel, 2 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south transept, 2 bays with 4 storeyed tower; south porch; medieval. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry, choir-recess/organ chamber and south chapel with slate lean-to roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in chancel and choir-recess/organ chamber, vestry, south transept, and porch; medieval tower openings and arch, chancel arch, rood-loft corbelling, many internal openings and arcades, south door, porch door, window opening and some dressings, former skew-passage, ?piscina recess and stoup; early 17th century blocked window. Other openings mainly rebuilt 1870, in neo-Gothic style, with limestone dressings; some as copies of originals.
(External medieval tomb-recess; internal Elizabethan monument.)

Roofs: medieval vaulting and timberwork from 1870. Floors: 1870 and 1997. Finishes: 1870 - 1997.

Condition - good. Renovated 1995-7.

Archaeological potential - very good-excellent. Shallow external drain around 100% of church; medium-depth cutting around 50% of church exposes footings; below-ground heating chamber beneath 10% of church; external stairwell beneath footings of 5% of church; floors raised in 60% of church; below-floor heating ducts 80% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 25% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 100% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting, tower openings and arch, chancel arch, rood-loft corbelling, internal openings and arcades, doorways, window opening and some dressings, former skew-passage, ?piscina recess and stoup; early 17th century blocked window.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower in central planned village location; large churchyard with good memorials, medieval churchyard ?cross-shaft and sundial stem from 1841 pulpit.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave west bays, C12.

Phase 2 - Chancel and nave east bays, C13.

Phase 3 - South transept, mid C14.

Phase 4 - North chapel, choir-recess/organ chamber and south porch, earlier C15.

Phase 5 - South chapel, c.1500.

Phase 6 - Tower (over south transept), earlier C16.

Phase 7 - North transept, early C17.

Phase 8 - Restored 1870, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Florentius, St Florence, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 100% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel with a choir-recess/organ chamber, a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed vestry (formerly a north chapel), a 2-bayed south chapel, a single-bayed north transept, a 2-bayed south transept with a 4-storeyed tower over the southern bay, and a south porch. There is a below-ground heating chamber beneath the vestry. Construction is in limestone rubble, with good medieval quoins. The chancel and choir-recess/organ chamber, the vestry, the south transept and the south porch are barrel-vaulted. The transept/tower openings and arch, the chancel arch and rood-loft corbelling, the vestry and choir-recess/organ chamber internal openings, the south chapel arcade, the south door and porch door, a nave window opening and some window dressings, a former skew-passage, a ?piscina recess and stoup are medieval; there is an early 17th century blocked window in the north transept. Other openings were rebuilt in 1840, 1843 and 1870, in neo-Gothic style, with limestone dressings; some of the windows, at least, may be faithful copies of the originals. Pointing is from 1870 with some earlier 20th century repointing of the west wall and extensive repointing, particularly of the tower, from 1996-7. The interior is plastered except the voussoirs, replastered in 1997. Roofs are slated gables, reslated in 1995; the vestry, choir-recess/organ chamber and south chapel have slated lean-to roofs and the tower roof was not seen.

External medieval tomb-recess; internal Elizabethan monument.

The footings of the chancel east wall are visible and follow the original ground line which crests in the centre of the wall. The east window has a triangular rear-arch which may be medieval (13th century); the present graduated, uncusped triple-lancet window with chamfered limestone surrounds is from 1843 but may be a faithful copy of a 13th century original. To the west, the lower half of the north wall is chamfered back from the nave (see below); this has been interrupted by a projecting, lean-to roofed recess that was added to the north wall, between the contemporary north chapel (now the vestry) and the nave east wall, in the earlier 15th century. It has a north-south, depressed 2-centred barrel-vault which opens to the chancel as a segmental-headed arch with irregular stops, communicates with the vestry through a contemporary 2-centred doorway, without a surround, and is lit by a single uncusped lancet in its north wall, with a cavetto-moulded, limestone surround, rebuilt in 1870 but retaining some 15th century dressings. The recess may be a 'choir-recess' or an organ chamber (see Structural Development below); a below-ground stairwell to the heating chamber beneath the vestry, from 1870, runs along the north wall, exposing its footings which are supported on an inserted prop wall. The plain, rounded 2-centred chancel arch is rather crude and from the 13th century; it springs from the chancel side walls, without stops, where the lower halves of the latter have deep chamfers opening towards the nave. The southern chamfer exhibits a vertical line of 3 corbels associated with the former rood-screen and loft; there are 2 similar corbels on the south wall of the nave east bay and one on the north wall. The chancel has a 2-centred barrel-vault which may be secondary. In 1996 it had a Minton-tiled floor from 1870, with underfloor heating ducts, which appears to have respected

the medieval level; the sanctuary flooring incorporated 4 memorial slabs from the 18th and 19th centuries, not in situ.

The east half of the nave north wall was refaced in 1870 in squared and coursed limestone rubble, with contemporary corbelling at eaves level and a north door that was rebuilt with a 2-centred chamfered sandstone surround. The opposite, south door has a 2-centred, chamfered sandstone surround, probably rebuilt in the 15th century with a head that was replaced in 1870. The nave is lit by 3 wide single uncusped lancet windows in the north wall, from 1870, with cavetto-moulded limestone surrounds that may imitate earlier openings. The 2 south wall windows are similar but the western has a tall, semicircular embrasure from the 12th century. The west wall has a slight external basal batter and is pierced by an uncusped triple-lancet window in chamfered limestone, in a square limestone surround with a simple label, from 1840. Against the original external facework of the nave west bay is a low, wide coped projection which houses a wide, shallow, 2-centred recess; The recess was opened in 1835 when it was apparently found to contain a medieval stone coffin which was subsequently removed (RCAHM, 1925, 370)., The nave has a softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling from 1870. and has king-post trusses, arch-braced from contemporary wall corbels. The passages are quarry-tiled from 1870, on a floor level raised by c.1m in 1835, with suspended board floors.

The vestry occupies what was a north chapel added against the chancel, as a lean-to, during the earlier 15th century and separated from it by a slightly offset vertical joint. It originally communicated with the chancel via a 2-bayed arcade of segmental arches, now blocked, the outer order of which, supported on a central corbel, is visible in the vestry south wall. The western arch, at least, was blocked at an early date but featuring a doorway, itself now blocked, with a crude, 2-centred head and plain imposts, from the later 15th century?. The vestry is also entered from the churchyard via a simple, 2-centred doorway, from 1870, in the west, lean-to wall. It is lit by an uncusped 2-light window in the east wall, with a square surround with sunk spandrels, in chamfered limestone from 1870; this wall terminates at the north end as a plain, original buttress. A heating chamber was inserted beneath the vestry in 1870, entered via a below-ground doorway, with brick jambs and a concrete lintel, beneath the west wall doorway. The heating chamber flue ascends the north wall terminating as a plain, square shouldered stack with a plain string-course, from 1870. The chapel has a depressed, segmental barrel-vault with a cut-out in the centre of the northern limb - to a former component?. The tiled floor is from 1870 and laid on concrete.

The south chapel was also added against the chancel as a lean-to, and is separated from it by a vertical joint. It replaced an earlier skew-passage from the northern bay of the south transept, the end of which survives as a low, crude, semicircular arch in the west wall. The chapel communicates with the chancel via a 2-bayed arcade of 4-centred, chamfered arches, with chamfered stops featuring plain imposts and a central, cylindrical pier including a chamfered, 'cushion' capital, with 4 device mouldings, and a similar base; the eastern stop features a square-headed niche that may have been a piscina but which now contains a loose, Acanthus moulding. The arcade is in limestone ashlar and can be dated to c.1500. The chapel is lit by an uncusped single lancet, with a chamfered limestone surround from 1870, in the east wall. The south wall is blind and features a secondary repair in regular limestone blocks, and an external recess is stepped back in the upper half of the west end to allow light into the adjacent, earlier south transept window (see below). Internally, a large Elizabethan floor-mounted monument lies against the east wall; it has a Classical surround with a broken pediment, is dated 1601 and is in fair condition but weathered. The softwood, simple lean-to roof is from 1870 and braced by a soulace to a contemporary corbel on the north wall; there are some implications that the chapel may originally have been gabled (Cadw, 1996, 1). In 1996 it had a suspended board floor above heating ducts, over material imported in 1835 when the level was raised by c.1m, which was partly removed in 1997 (Trethowan, 1997). The chapel is traditionally known as 'Brinning's Aisle' and may have been, originally, a mortuary chapel (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The north transept is entered from the nave through a plain 2-centred arch, with chamfered stops, from the early 17th century. It has noticeably thin walls and is lit by a cusped 2-light window in the north, gable wall, with plate tracery featuring a quatrefoil and a 2-centred surround and drip-mould, in limestone from 1870; the gable itself was rebuilt in 1870. There is a blocked window in the east wall, visible externally as a square surround, from the early 17th century, in weathered sandstone. The stairwell to the heating

chamber beneath the vestry begins against this wall, exposing its footings which are supported on a prop wall. Roofed as the nave. In 1996 the passage was tiled with a suspended board floor above heating ducts, over material imported in 1870, when the level was raised by c.1m, which was partly removed in 1997 (Trethowan, 1997). The transept is traditionally known as 'Tonk's Chapel' (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The southern bay of the south transept now forms the ground floor of the tower but, from the first, appears to have been intended as a chapel. The tower was added in the earlier 16th century, in coursed and squared limestone rubble unlike the random facework of the transept itself. It appears that, in order to receive the tower, the south, east and west walls of both transept bays were thickened internally, the west wall as a blind arcade in the form of 2 full-height, 2-centred arches on a central plain, square pilaster. The tower is tapered and fairly typical of the area but comprises 4 stages in all and lacks a basal batter and string-course. A spiral stair turret projects slightly from the eastern half of the south wall; it is entered from the ground floor, over the south-east corner of which it is squinched, through a doorway with a plain lintel from the earlier 16th century, and is lit by simple slit lights. The transept is entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch, possibly rebuilt in the earlier 16th century, reflecting the profile of its vault. It is lit by windows in all 3 external walls. In the centre of the east wall is a large, 2-centred embrasure from the mid 14th century which descends to floor level and may have originally represented an altar; it houses an uncusped single lancet in weathered, chamfered limestone also from the mid 14th century, while to the south lies second, similar recess with an asymmetrical head that may represent a second altar. The south wall is pierced by an uncusped single lancet with a surround like that in the east wall but partly replaced in 1870. The west wall window lies in the northern internal arch and is a single lancet, from the mid 14th century, without a surround. Both east and west walls feature square, through-sockets of unknown function. The 2-centred barrel vault is from the earlier 16th century and is pierced for bellropes; the northern bay carries a slated gable roof. Floored as the nave.

The second stage of the tower is lit by simple square openings in the east and north walls; the third stage has a smaller square opening in the north wall. The belfry stage has 2-light openings in each face, with chamfered limestone surrounds from the earlier 16th century; those in the east, west and south walls have 2-centred heads, while those in the north wall have square heads. The crenellated parapet lies on an external offset and string-course and appears to have been entirely rebuilt, probably in c.1890, replacing an original corbel table (see Structural Development below).

The south porch doorway has a 2-centred, chamfered arch, with an inner roll-moulding, from the earlier 15th century but the head was restored, in sandstone, in 1870. Internally the side walls exhibit crude masonry benching from the earlier 15th century. In the internal angle between the east wall and the nave is a secondary, crudely cut recess with a worn limestone stoup bowl, medieval, date?, re-used?. The 2-centred barrel-vault is also 16th century. The flagged floor is weathered and may predate the 1870 restoration; it is laid directly upon the substrate.

The church is surrounded by a shallow, concreted external drain; this lies within a medium-depth secondary cutting around the eastern half of the church, including the transepts, which exposes their footings. There is a below-ground heating chamber beneath the vestry, with an external stairwell along the north transept east wall and the choir-recess/organ chamber north wall, both walls being supported on secondary prop walls. The floors in the nave, transepts and south chapel were raised by approx. 1m in 1835, on material possibly derived from drain excavation; the surfaces were superficially re-excavated in 1997. The chancel floor level is unchanged. There are below-floor heating ducts in the chancel, nave, transepts and south chapel, partly extended in 1997. There may be many burials beneath the south chapel. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the north walls, and the south chapel and south transept.

Structural development

The western 3 bays of the nave can be dated by a surviving window to the 12th century; the 12th century church apparently terminated as an apsidal chancel on the site of the 2 present nave east bays (Burn and Thomas, n.d.). The nave was extended when the present chancel was constructed in the 13th century (ibid.), and the present uncusped triple-lancet east window may replicate the original window. The south transept, formerly with a skew-passage, was added in the mid 14th century during the widespread trend for transept construction. The vestry was added in the earlier 15th century (but nb. post-medieval according to Cadw, 1996, 1), alongside a projection from the chancel which may represent a 'choir-recess' more often seen in central Pembrokeshire, eg. at Loveston, Herbrandston and Johnston churches, but also occurring nearby at Jeffreyston and at Pendine, Carms.; its form is unusual, connecting as it does with the north chapel, and it may alternatively represent an organ chamber. The south porch is contemporary (ibid.). The south chapel can be dated on stylistic grounds to c.1500. The tower was constructed over the south transept in the earlier 16th century. The thin-walled north transept is probably early 17th century (ibid.).

A drawing of 1835 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1450), taken from the west, shows the church much as today but with a casement west window and a corbelled parapet on the tower.

The church was reseated in 1835, when the nave, transept and south chapel floors were raised by approximately 1m (Cadw, 1996, 1). The casement west window was replaced with the present 3-light window in 1840, and the present east window was inserted, replacing a square window, in 1843 (ibid.). An undated drawing of the interior, from around the middle of the 19th century (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1747), shows similar arrangements to present church but a doorway with a moulded, 2-centred surround is clearly shown in the south wall of the south chapel; there is now no evidence for an opening in this location. Also shown are box-pews and a triple-decker pulpit, from 1835 (Cadw, 1996, 1), while a west gallery was present (Burn and Thomas, n.d.).

The church was restored in 1870 (ibid.) but neither the details, nor the architect responsible, are known. The remainder of the present fenestration was inserted and the church was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated, the west gallery and box pews being removed. The nave north wall was refaced. Part of a 'foliated double light' window was apparently recovered from the church and built into the vicarage stable (RCAHM, 1925, 370).

The tower parapet may have been rebuilt when the belfry was restored c.1890 (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The concrete drainage channel around the exterior of the church is dated 1937. The interior of the tower was renovated in 1963 (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The roofs were reslated in 1995 and the church was extensively repointed, particularly the tower, in 1996-7. The south chapel and transepts were refloored in 1997 when a new heating system was installed largely in the pre-existing ducting (Trethowan, 1997, 2); the church was replastered at the same time, when areas of the existing plaster were removed, but no features of archaeological interest were revealed by the latter works (ibid.).

The oak altar table and rail are 19th century. The arcaded oolite reredos, with a pediment, the octagonal oolite pulpit on Purbeck marble shafts, the free-standing, oak stall benches and the plain, softwood pews are probably all from 1870. The large organ in the south chapel is from c.1890 (Cadw, 1996, 1) and was restored in 1966.

The limestone font has a square, scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem and a square base, from the later 12th century. A loose, square bowl in the porch, on a conical stem, may not belong to the church; it is damaged.

There are 6 bells in the tower; the earliest is dated 1639, and 2 were added in 1963 when the bells were restored (Burn and Thomas, n.d.).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

There is a medieval ?cross-shaft in the churchyard.

Fenton, writing c.1810, described the vicarage as having ‘a detached building near it, now used as a stable, with an arched (ie. vaulted) roof... and might have been the portion of some monastic edifice’ (Fenton, 1903, 242). The function of this building is unknown.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Florentius, St Florence, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, associated with an important planned and planted settlement of the 12th century (Kissock, 1993, 7-8). The living was a rectory and a vicarage, both in the hands of the Earls of Pembroke by the 14th century at least. The church was first mentioned in 1248 (Cadw, 1996, 1) and was assessed at £13 6s 8d in 1291, the sum payable being £1 6s 8d (Green, 1913, 290).

By the 16th century the patronage had been acquired by the crown (ibid.) and in 1594 George Owen of Henllys described the rectory as ‘a free church without cure of souls’ (ibid.). By 1810 the living, as a rectorial sinecure, had been appropriated to St John’s College, Cambridge, the rector being the patron of the vicarage (Fenton, 1903, 241). In 1833 the sinecure rectory was rated in the king’s books at £16 12s 1d and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of St John’s College, while the vicarage, which was discharged, was rated at £4 18s 4d and endowed with £400 royal bounty and in the patronage of the Rector (Lewis, 1833); the Bishop of St Davids had formerly collated to the vicarage.

In 1998 St Florentius, St Florence, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Manorbier and Redberth (Benefice 810) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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HODGESTON CHURCH, SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE

Dyfed PRN 4187

RB No. 2789

NGR SS 0294 9938

Listed Building No. 5659

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, small. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 2 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. South porch, later 19th century. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. High quality piscina, sedilia, string-course, rood-loft steps and corbelling in chancel, medieval openings and vaulting in tower. Other openings, with yellow oolite dressings, are from the mid 19th century in the chancel, and the late 19th century in the nave.

Roofs, floors and finishes: mid-late 19th century.

Condition - good. Damp; piscina and sedilia weathered.

Archaeological potential - very good. Low mound beneath 100% of church, natural?; shallow external drain around 20% of church; considerable churchyard build-up around 100% of church; floor lowered in 10% of church?; suspended floor above a void in 40% of church; external burials significantly close to 60% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting and openings in tower, high quality 14th century Decorated mouldings in chancel.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower; adjacent to earthwork moated site.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - Chancel, C14.

Phase 3 - West tower, late C16.

Phase 4 - Chancel restored mid C19, low impact.

Phase 5 - Nave restored late C19, medium impact; south porch built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

Hodgeston Church is a multicelled church, of small size. It retains approximately 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a large, elaborate 3-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a south porch, and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in limestone rubble. The nave and tower are barrel-vaulted. There are medieval openings in the tower and window embrasures, piscina and sedilia in the chancel; other openings, including the chancel arch, were rebuilt in the mid- and later 19th century, in neo-Gothic style with yellow oolite dressings but partly in imitation of pre-existing openings. Pointing is mainly from the mid- and later 19th century, and the tower was repointed in the 20th century; the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel is very large in relation to the rest of the church, and roofed at a higher level than the nave. It was (re)built in the mid 14th century in an elaborate, Decorated style, but heavily restored in the 19th century when the windows, and the chancel arch, were rebuilt. There is a weathered external string-course at sill level, 14th century, and a similar internal string-course on the north wall. The 3-light east window has cusped, Geometric tracery in a 2-centred arch and drip-mould on human mask stops, all from the mid 19th century and, though in the general style as the surviving 14th century work, replacing a plain window from the ?18th century (see Structural Development below), in a 14th century embrasure. The side walls are both pierced by 2 light windows with cusped, ogival heads, quatrefoil spandrels and 2-centred surrounds with drip-moulds on out-turned stops, again from the later 19th century but in 14th century embrasures. The internal face of the east wall exhibits 14th century corbelling, possibly associated with a former altar-beam or statuary. Internally, the east bay south wall exhibits a large cusped, ogival-headed double piscina with crockets and finials and a scalloped bowl, in weathered sandstone of Decorated character from the mid 14th century; the central free shaft has gone but the surrounds have semi-octagonal attached shafts. To the west is a stylistically similar, and equally elaborate triple sedilia, with similar mid 14th century mouldings and retaining its 2 weathered, octagonal free shafts. The limestone flag benching extends west to the chancel arch, where it gives onto a flight of 6 steps leading to a former rood-loft doorway, and the loft corbelling survives in the nave, but the 2-centred, double-chamfered chancel arch, on plain stops, was rebuilt in the mid-late 19th century. At the junction with the nave, the north wall exhibits a plain, external buttress from the 14th century. The softwood roof is mid-late 19th century and has queen-post trusses cusped into quatrefoils and arch-braced from moulded oolite wall-corbels. The tiled floor is also mid-late 19th century.

The nave south wall has an external basal batter; the uppermost courses of both side walls were (re)built in the late 19th century. The nave is lit by 2 cusped, double-lancet windows in the north wall, and one in the south wall, also from the late 19th century; in the south wall of the east bay is a line of voussoirs with a segmental head, from an earlier, 17th century? window (see Structural Development below), while in the west bay north wall is a blocked window, possibly with a semicircular head. The south door is from the late 19th century and has a plain, 2-centred head; to the east is an internal, medieval stoup, with a plain, segmental-headed recess. In the opposite, north wall is a blocked north door with a low, rounded 2-centred head. The barrel-vault has a 2-centred profile. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from the late 19th century.

The west tower is not typical of the region being small, narrow and tapered, and lacking an external basal batter and string-course; it belongs, stylistically, to c.1600. A square spiral stair turret projects from the eastern half of the north wall, entered through a 2-centred doorway from c.1600, and lit by simple loops. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch from c.1600, that respects the profile of the barrel-vault. The west wall is pierced by a 2-light window with square surrounds and a plain label on out-turned stops, from the later 19th century but probably a rebuild of an original from c.1600. The flagged floor is from the mid-late 19th century when it may have been lowered. The second stage is lit by a large, square-headed single light in the south face, from c.1600. The belfry stage has uncusped 2-light

openings the east and west faces, with semicircular, 2-piece heads, and there is a similar, blocked, single light in the south face. The parapet lacks crenellations and lies on an external corbel table which does not continue around the stair turret; there is a rainwater chute on the west.

The small south porch was added in the late 19th century in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble. The contemporary doorway is a plain, 2-centred opening. The softwood roof lacks trusses, and is matchboarded. The flagged floor is also late 19th century.

The church stands on a low mound, which however is probably natural. There is a shallow external drain at the east and west ends of the church. There has been a considerable build-up of churchyard deposits around the church and the head of the former north door is now very low. The tower floor may have been lowered. The nave floor is suspended above a void. External memorials and burial earthworks lie significantly close to the east, west and south walls.

Structural development

The nave appears to pre-date the chancel and its openings may be 13th century, but its the vault may be later. The chancel has Decorated detail from the mid-14th century; it is of a very high quality, similar to that at nearby Carew church, and dwarfs the nave, but the reason for this is unknown, the church always having been in the patronage of relatively insignificant laymen. The tower stylistically late, from c.1600. The south porch is 19th century.

Drawings from the mid 19th century show the church before and during restoration. In the earlier drawings (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1745) there was no south porch and the nave and chancel are depicted as being roofed continuously. The south door is shown with a very low, semicircular head. The chancel east window had been replaced with a small round-headed light, 18th century?, and the chancel south windows had been blocked. A small, 2 light window, of 17th century appearance, lay high in the nave south wall.

A slightly later drawing, from 1854 (NLW, Drawing Volumes 24, 4), shows that some restoration had already taken place. The chancel was roofed at a higher level than the nave, with new upstands and weather tabling. The present chancel east and south windows appears to be shown and the present north wall windows are suggested; the chancel may have been reroofed and refloored, and the present chancel arch inserted at the same time. However, the nave north door was still open, with a low, semicircular head, and the north wall itself was blind.

The nave was restored later in the 19th century when the north door was blocked and the present windows were inserted. It was reroofed and refloored. The south porch was probably rebuilt at this time and the tower ground floor west window was rebuilt. The details of neither restoration, nor the architect(s) responsible, are known.

The softwood pews and pulpit are from the late 19th century. The stalls, and possibly an organ, have been removed from the chancel but the scars remain.

The font has a square, scalloped bowl with an incised wheel-cross, and a cylindrical stem and base, all 19th century or retooled?.

There are 2 bells in the tower (Bartosch & Stokes, 1995, 12).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

Fenton refers to an account of 1717 describing 'ruins' of a former 'religious house' that were apparently visible at the church (Fenton, 1903, 238). There appears to be no basis for this interpretation.

SITE HISTORY

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

Hodgeston Church was a parish church of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke during the post-conquest period according to Rees, 1932; according to Green, 1912, 203, however, the benefice was originally a free chapel. It had become a parish church by the post-medieval period. The church appears to have always been in the patronage of the Lords of the Manor of Hodgeston, one moiety of which was vested in the heirs of the Baron de la Rote, the second moiety belonging to the heirs of the de Longueville family, as a result of the partition of the Marshal inheritance in 1247. It remained in joint patronage.

In 1833 the living was rectory rated in the king's books at £7 13s 4d and in the patronage of Sir John Owen, Bart., for 2 turns, and Pryse Pryse, Esq., for one turn (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 Hodgeston Church was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Lamphey and Carew (Benefice 811) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication is unknown.

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**SS FAITH AND TYFEI,
LAMPHEY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3511

RB No. 2791

NGR SN 0154 0047

Listed Building No. 5962

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 50% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized, cruciform . Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; north transept with internal skew-passage, over cellar, 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval but extensively rebuilt in the 19th century. Limestone and ORS rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs, chancel and nave roofed continuously; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in tower and south porch; re-used medieval lancets and piscina in chancel. 18th - early 19th century transept arch. All other openings, including the chancel arch, are from 1870, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1870.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Shallow, brick-lined drain around 100% of church; 'D'-shaped external earthwork adjacent to 10% of church; cellar beneath 15% of church; suspended floors above a void in 60% of church; heating chamber beneath 5% of church; external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 50% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings and vault, re-used medieval lancets and piscina; 18th - early 19th century transept arch.

Group value - high; landmark medieval church with tower; central village location; external earthwork.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, transepts, all C14?.

Phase 2 - South porch, C14-15.

Phase 3 - West tower, later C16.

(Phase 4 - Restored 1826, low impact?).

Phase 5 - Restored mid C19, high impact; church partly rebuilt except tower.

Phase 6 - Restored 1870, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

SS Faith and Tyfei, Lamphey, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 50% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed north transept, with an internal skew-passage, over a cellar, a single-bayed south transept, a south porch and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in limestone rubble, with some Old Red Sandstone; pointing is mainly from 1870, and the interior is plastered. The tower and porch are barrel-vaulted. The tower has retained some medieval openings, and there are re-used lancets and a reset medieval piscina in the chancel; other openings, including the chancel arch, are from 1870, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings. Roofs are slated gables, and the chancel and nave are roofed continuously; the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel walls were largely rebuilt in 1870, and there is a contemporary external string-course on the east wall. The 3-light east window is from 1870 and has cusped 'Geometric' tracery in a 2-centred surround and a drip-mould on simple corbel stops. The north and south walls are each pierced by a single lancet with a cusped, roll-moulded surround and plain, 2-centred drip-mould, partly in re-used limestone dressings from the 14th century restored in 1870. Internally, the south wall exhibits a piscina with a 2-centred recess and hood-mould, with cavetto-moulded dressings, and a hexafoil bowl, all from the 14th century but re-used. The north wall of the west bay is pierced by a skew-passage from the north transept, which is contained within the thickness of the wall and has a triangular head; the lower half has been blocked. The chancel arch is from 1870 and has a chamfered inner order on moulded corbels. The softwood roof is from 1870 and has king-post trusses arch-braced from wall corbels and with wind-braces in the slopes. The passage is quarry-tiled, from 1870.

The nave is lit by a 4 windows, 2 in each side wall; all have 2 cusped lights and quaterfoliate spandrels in grey oolite from 1870. The south door has a 2-centred chamfered surround from 1870. The roof is continuous with that in the chancel. The passages are quarry-tiled and feature heating flues and an underground chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove, with suspended board floors over a deep void, all from 1870.

The north transept is entered from the nave through a full-centred semi-circular, three-quarter arch that appears to be an 18th-early 19th century rebuild, from 1826?. The transept was largely rebuilt in the early-mid 19th century and is lit by contemporary windows in all 3 external walls. The east window is a double lancet, the west window is a triple lancet while the north, gable wall features a window like those in the nave. The cellar inserted beneath the transept in the mid 19th century is reached by an external flight of steps along the east wall leading to a simple doorway with a square brick head; it was probably occupied by a heating chamber and the flue from the present heating chamber in the nave rises through the north wall to emerge at the apex as a plain cylindrical chimney, from 1870. The softwood roof lacks trusses, all rafters having scissors-braces from 1870. Floored as the nave. The transept is now used as a chapel.

The small south transept has also been largely rebuilt and is entered through a doorway with a chamfered 2-centred surround from 1870. It is lit by a cusped single lancet in its south wall, from 1870. Roofed as the north transept. The floor is fully carpeted but may be like that in the nave. The transept is now used as a vestry.

The south porch is fundamentally medieval but was heavily restored in 1870 with a doorway featuring a 2-centred, double-chamfered surround and drip-mould. The 2-centred barrel-vault is medieval, while the quarry-tiled floor is from 1870.

The 3-storeyed west tower is not typical of the region, lacking an external string-course and having only a slight external batter; and is rather late, dateable by its belfry openings to the mid-late 16th century. It is slightly tapered. A square spiral stair turret projects from the east half of the north wall, entered through a doorway with a low 2-centred and lit by simple loops. The west door has a Caernarfon-headed surround

from 1870 which may or may not occupy an earlier opening; a window, like the chancel east window and similarly from 1870, lies above occupying an earlier embrasure. The 2-centred arch into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault. Floored as the nave. The second stage is lit by a simple slit lights in the north, south and west walls. The belfry stage has uncusped, 2-light, semicircular-headed openings in the east, west and north walls, and a similar single light in the south wall, from the mid-late 16th century. The tall, crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, and features rainwater chutes in the south and west faces.

A shallow, brick-lined drain surrounds the church. A 'D'-shaped external earthwork lies immediately west of the tower. There is a cellar beneath the north transept. Floors are suspended above a void. There is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave. External memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The chancel contains re-used single lancets from the 14th century and, with the nave and asymmetrical transepts may be 14th century originally, but substantially rebuilt in the 19th century when a cellar was inserted beneath the north transept. The south porch is vaulted and may be a later 14th - 15th century addition. The tower is stylistically dateable to the mid-late 16th century; there is a joint with the nave.

In 1826 the church was 'thoroughly repaired' with an additional 200 sittings (Lewis, 1833) and 'even before 1851 this church had been "fearfully modernised"' (RCAHM, 1925, 134). It was depicted with its present plan in 1839 (NLW, Lamphey, Tithe Map, 1839). Glynne described the south transept, in 1845, as 'a small chapel, made into a pew, opening by a very rude and low obtuse arch (Glynne, 1886, 56-7).

Churchwarden's accounts of the 1850s mention that the church was reglazed, possibly with some refenestration (Pembs. R. O., HPR/69/13). However, it is apparent that some rebuilding had occurred by 1860, when the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition shows the north transept in its present form, with steps down the cellar which may have housed a heating chamber.

Most of the present openings, however, belong to a restoration undertaken in 1870 when the church was reroofed, refloored and reseated.

There is a clock in the tower, by Smiths of Derby (Bartosch, 1991). The mosaic and tile reredos may be from 1870, like the softwood stalls, pews and pulpit. The altar fittings in the north transept are 20th century.

The oolite font has a square, scalloped bowl with floral mouldings, a cylindrical stem with a cable-moulding and a square base, possibly all from the 13th century.

The tower contains 4 bells, 3 from 1874 and one from 1902 by L. James of Bristol, rehung in 1957 (Bartosch, 1991).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Pre-conquest episcopal holding?; Celtic dedication..

SS Faith and Tyfei, Lamphey, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was appendent to the Manor of Lamphey (Green, 1912, 220) which was an episcopal holding of St Davids by the later 11th century at least. When the manor was transferred to the crown in the 16th century, the patronage was retained by the Bishop (ibid.).

The Bishop was patron in 1833, when the living, a discharged vicarage, was rated in the king's books at £5 8s 11½d and endowed with £600 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 SS Faith and Tyfei, Lamphey, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Hodgeston and Carew (Benefice 811) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The church is probably correctly dedicated to St Tyfei, of whose name Faith is doubtless an Anglicisation.

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**ST MARCELLUS,
MARTLETWY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3598

RB No. 2839

NGR SN 0328 1058

Listed Building No. 6080

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 1 bay; nave, 3 bays; north aisle, 3 bays; medieval. South porch, earlier 17th century. Limestone rubble construction; 90% of internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs. Medieval chancel arch, arcade, window(s) and piscina. 17th century door (and window). Later 17th - early 18th century single bellcote, on north aisle. Other openings, with grey oolite dressings, are mainly from 1897.
(15th century memorial slab.)

Roofs and floors: 1897. Finishes: 1897 - later 10th century.

Condition - good. West walls damp.

Archaeological potential - very good. Deep, revetted around 70% of church, exposing footings in 5% of church; deep cutting close to 10% of church; earthwork platforms beyond 20% of church, structural?; floor levels raised; suspended floors above void; external memorials significantly close to 80% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval chancel arch, arcade, window(s) and piscina; 17th century door (and window); later 17th - early 18th century bellcote

Group value - medium-high. Medieval church in central village location; suboval churchyard; associated earthwork evidence.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, C12?.

Phase 2 - North aisle, C15.

Phase 3 - South porch, early C17.

Phase 4 - Restored 1842, low impact.

Phase 5 - Restored 1897, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Marcellus, Martletwy, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a single-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north aisle and a south porch. Construction is in limestone rubble. The chancel arch and aisle arcade are medieval, and there are medieval - 17th century windows in the chancel; the south porch door is 17th century while the bellcote, which occupies the north aisle, is 17th - 18th century. Other openings, and the grey oolite dressings in 'Early English' style, are from 1897. Pointing is mainly from 1897, with some poor 20th century repointing of the west walls, and the interior is plastered except the chancel east wall and the arcade. Roofs are slated gables.

The chancel east window is a graduated triple-lancet, uncusped except the central lancet, in grey oolite from 1897. The south wall is pierced by 2 windows. That to the east is a single lancet with weathered cusps in limestone from the 14th-15th century, the remainder of the surround having been rebuilt in 1897; the embrasure features an arched cut-out for a plain sedilia seat in the eastern reveal, also medieval. To the west is a single light with a square surround in weathered, chamfered limestone from the 16th - 17th century. The chancel arch is plain, semicircular, with plain square imposts, from the 12th century?, or from the 17th-early 18th century?. The softwood king-post roof is from 1897 and is matchboarded over. The sanctuary is oolite flagged, from 1897, said to lie above an earlier black marble slab (guide in church); the passage is tiled, with woodblock flooring, also from 1897.

The nave is lit by an uncusped 2-light window in the south wall, with plate tracery featuring a central quatrefoil, in grey oolite from 1897. The west is the south door which has a double-chamfered, 2-centred surround also in grey oolite from 1897; above it, the internal face exhibits an earlier corbel for a former roof, medieval?. The west wall is pierced by a window like that in the south wall and also from 1897, but occupying an earlier opening with a segmental head, date?, medieval?. A feature, of unknown nature, may be represented by an area of irregular plaster in the north-west corner. The nave roof is similar to that in the chancel and also from 1897. The passages are tiled, with woodblock flooring, also from 1897.

The north aisle communicates with the chancel via a plain, low, 2-centred arch from the 15th century, and with the nave through an arcade of 2 similar arches with a central plain, cylindrical pier. The aisle is lit by a window in the east and west gable walls, and 2 windows in the north wall; all are like those in the nave and from 1897. There is a doorway into the churchyard in the north wall with a chamfered 2-centred surround in grey oolite from 1897. On the west wall is a square, single bellcote with a plain, semicircular-headed opening, all from the later 17th - earlier 18th century. Internally, a plain, square medieval piscina recess lies the east bay south wall; a later 19th century, oolite fireplace occupies the north-east corner of the aisle and leads to a plain, square contemporary chimney. Roofed and floored as the nave, from 1897; the east bay is used as a vestry and the floor is in woodblock throughout.

The south porch doorway is a plain, semicircular arch with large voussoirs from the earlier 17th century. The side walls feature contemporary masonry benching but are pierced by single lancets from 1897. The softwood roof lacks trusses, all rafters being collared, with matchboarding, all from 1897. The flagged floor is earlier 19th century.

A deep, revetted external drain runs around the east, west and south walls, exposing the footings of the north-west corner of the nave and the west wall of the south porch; a deep cutting runs close to the south-west corner of the church. A pronounced earthwork platform extends beyond the chancel east wall terminating as a 'D' shape, and a similar platform lies beyond the north aisle east wall but is square-ended; both are cut by 19th century burials. Floor levels have been raised. Floors are suspended above a void. External memorials lie significantly close to the north, east and west walls.

Structural development

The semicircular chancel arch is normally regarded as 12th century but may, like the 17th - early 18th century bellcote, be a neo-Classical rebuild; however the chancel is short, and with the nave it may be early though the present windows are 14th - 17th century. The north aisle is probably 15th century. The south porch detail is early 17th century. 'Traces of a squint and possibly a piscina' were visible to the south of the chancel arch in 1896 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/41/46) and were thought to be later than the arch; all evidence of these has been lost.

The church was restored in 1842 by Hugh Hoare of Lawrenny (Pembs. R. O., HPR/41/30). The restoration was 'cheap and unecclesiastical' (NLW, SD/F/481) and included the insertion of 5 new timber-framed windows with 'Venetian shutters', and a new roof of poor quality including some thatching (temporary?). Some internal repairs were undertaken and the seating improved in 1850 (Cadw, 1997, 1).

Work was undertaken on the chancel in 1879 (ibid.). Possibly contemporary with this work, and certainly before 1897 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/41/46), was the conversion of the north aisle east bay into a vestry, with the present fireplace and chimney.

A further restoration occurred in 1897 to the designs of the architect E. V. Collier of Carmarthen (ibid.; Pembs. R. O., HPR/41/46). The church was refenestrated and windows were inserted in the porch side walls, but the chancel south wall windows were retaining/re-opened. The north aisle north door was inserted and the south door was rebuilt. The church was reroofed, refloored, reseated and replastered.

Minor repairs to copings, tabling etc. were undertaken in the chancel in 1938 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/41/49).

The softwood stalls, pews and pulpit are from 1897, like the softwood vestry screen in the north aisle. The chancel fittings, except the altar rail from 1897, were installed in 1935 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/41/32). The organ in the north aisle may be 20th century and was installed in 1964, having been brought from a Yorkshire church (Cadw, 1997, 2). A loose altar table was moved from the nearby church at Yerboston in 1983.

The limestone font has a square bowl, on a cylindrical stem and base, possibly from the 13th century.

There is one bell in the bellcote.

The chancel contains a memorial slab featuring a moulded human priest's head and a 15th century inscription, not *in situ* (RCAHM, 1925, 219), revealed in the 1879 chancel restoration.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

The pronounced earthwork platform extending beyond the chancel east wall terminates as a 'D' shape, and may be structural, relating to an earlier east end?; a similar platform lies beyond the north aisle east wall but is square-ended. Both are cut by 19th century burials and may themselves merely represent grave earthworks.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Celtic dedication?; suboval churchyard.

St Marcellus, Martletwy, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was granted to the Knights Hospitaller of Slebech by John, the son of Raymond, probably during the later 12th century and confirmed in 1231 and 1330 (Green, 1912, 294). It was valued at £9 6s 8d in 1391 (ibid.).

At the dissolution, the living fell to the crown but was sold to the Barlows of Slebech (ibid.). In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £200 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lady Mansfield who owned the great tithes of the parish (Lewis, 1833). The parish was united with Lawrenny in 1918.

In 1998 St Marcellus, Martletwy, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Lawrenny, Minwear, Yerboston and Templeton (Benefice 816) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication to St Marcellus may be a corruption of St Martin (RCAHM, 1925, 219).

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**SS NICHOLAS AND JOHN,
MONKTON,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3273

RB No. 2869

NGR SM 9796 0145

Listed Building No. 6330

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of a long chancel, 4 bays; long nave, 5 bays; detached north chapel (former Chapter House?), 2 bays; south transeptal tower, 4 storeys; south porch (formerly with parvis); medieval. Vestry (north of chancel west bays), 2 bays, incorporating part of medieval ?conventual building; vestry porch; boilerhouse (north of north chapel); coalhouse (north of nave), 1887. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Nave, tower and south porch barrel-vaulted; truncated medieval vaulting in vestry. Slate gable roofs; vestry porch, boilerhouse and coalhouse with slated lean-to roofs; tower roof not seen. Romanesque openings, with high-quality mouldings, in nave and south porch; medieval arcades in chancel, medieval tomb-recesses in chancel and nave, re-used 14th century niche in chancel; some further medieval openings, open and blocked, in nave and tower. 17th century windows in vestry. Other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly in yellow oolite from 1882-7, but many windows are copies of medieval originals. (two medieval effigies; two 17th century monuments.)

Roofs: medieval vaulting and 1882-7 timberwork. Floors: 1882-7. Finishes: 1882-7.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good. No external drain; cutting around 2% of church; churchyard ground levels raised; external platform around 20% of church; below-ground components beyond 20% of church; below-ground floor in 2% of church; no evidence for floor level changes; floors suspended over a void in 50% of church; many internal burials in 75% of church?; no external memorials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval openings, including high-quality Romanesque mouldings and 13th century tracery, arcades, vaulting tomb-recesses and niche. 17th century windows.

Group value - high. Former priory church; landmark medieval church with tower, adjacent to castle and walled medieval borough; remains of associated monastic buildings including a pele-tower; medieval churchyard cross-base; nearby dovecote; nearby medieval hall-house.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave west bays, C12.
Phase 2 - South porch, c.1200.
Phase 3 - Chancel, north chapel (Chapter House?) and nave east bay, mid C13.
Phase 4 - South tower, C16.
Phase 5 - Restored 1882-87, high impact; vestry and porch, boilerhouse and coalhouse built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

SS Nicholas and John, Monkton, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a long, 4-bayed chancel, a similarly long, 5-bayed nave, a detached, 2-bayed north chapel (formerly a Chapter House?), a 2-bayed vestry (formerly part of a ?conventual building), a vestry porch, a south transeptal 4-storeyed tower, a south porch, formerly with a parvis, a boilerhouse north of the north chapel and a ?coalhouse north of the nave west bay. Construction is in limestone rubble. The nave, tower and south porch are barrel-vaulted. There are 12th century windows, and 13th century windows with tracery in yellow oolite, in the nave; the nave and south porch (and parvis) doorways are from c.1200, with yellow oolite dressings and high-quality Romanesque mouldings, some zoomorphic; a 14th century, Decorated niche has been re-used in the chancel; the internal arcades, most of the tower openings, the vestry openings and truncated vaulting, a number of blocked doorways, and the tomb recesses, are medieval. There are early 17th century openings in the vestry. The chancel arch and the remainder of the windows are from 1882 and 1887 and in yellow oolite, in neo-Gothic style, but many windows are copies of medieval originals. Pointing is mainly from 1882 and 1887 and the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry porch, boilerhouse and ?coalhouse have slated lean-to roofs and the tower roof was not seen.

There are 2 medieval effigies and 2 monuments from the 17th century.

There is no external drain and a cutting is only present along the south wall of the south porch, where churchyard ground levels have been raised. A regular, earthwork platform runs along the south wall of the chancel, and around the south-east corner as a right-angle. Below-ground evidence for former monastic buildings may lie north of the church. The boilerhouse floor is below ground, reached by an external stairwell in a cutting. There is no evidence for changes in the internal floor levels. Floors are suspended over a void in the nave and north chapel. It is suggested that the chancel, nave and chapel will contain many internal burials. No present external memorials lie significantly close to the church, but most memorials have been moved.

The chancel

The large chancel is in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, largely original and from the mid 13th century. The east wall features a plain, full-height buttress at each corner, clasping to the south and a pilaster to the north, both in limestone ashlar and featuring 2 chamfered offsets; they are from the mid 13th century but have been restored.

The 5-light east window, from 1887, has uncusped Early English tracery of cinquefoils and a central hexafoil beneath a 2-centred drip-mould on moulded stops, all in yellow oolite, and may faithfully replicate a mid 13th century original; the oolite, moulded rear-arch, with moulded imposts, appears to be largely medieval. Both the outer arch, and the gable wall above it, were rebuilt in very regular limestone blockwork in 1887, the latter incorporating a re-used niche containing a weathered figure sculpture, with a Decorated, ogee-headed, ballflower-moulded surround in yellow oolite dateable to the second quarter of the 14th century. The chancel is further lit by 4 windows in the south wall, with rebuilt heads from 1887, each of 2 lights with Early English tracery and rear-arches similar to that in the east window, but without

the imposts, and similarly may faithfully replicate mid 13th century originals. There are no windows in the north wall which divides the chancel from the south wall of the contemporary, detached north chapel.

A medieval string-course runs around the interior of the chancel at sill-level. At the east end of the south wall is a piscina in a 2-centred recess with a cusped head and a hood-mould similar to the window mouldings; immediately to the west is a triple-sedilia with similar mouldings and Purbeck marble shafts. Both features are from 1887 but may copy originals from the late 13th century; a sedilia is mentioned in 1810 (see Structural Development below); a re-used Acanthus-moulded capital has been set in the wall between the two. There is a tomb recess in each of the side walls, both with depressed, 2-centred surrounds which may be later, 14th century insertions; that to the north contains the incomplete limestone effigy of a priest, probably 14th century, while the southern recess contains a fragment of a mid 14th century limestone effigy of a knight. Neither may be *in situ*.

The tall, wide 2-centred chancel arch occupies the entire space between the nave and chancel as a cluster of slender, oolite shafts with stiff-leaf moulded capitals and bases, with an apex just below the ridge of the chancel roof; it replaced a narrower, blocked chancel arch in 1887.

The chancel has a 'wagon-roof' ceiling with transverse frames and plaster panelling, from 1887. The elaborate tiled floor is also from 1887.

The nave

The long nave is in random rubble largely from the 12th century and retains a number of Romanesque features. The east bay appears to have been an addition of the mid 13th century when the chancel was rebuilt; its north wall is thinner, defined internally as a tall 2-centred recess, from the mid 13th century, which appears not to have led to a transept but instead may be associated with the former rood screen and loft. The tower arch in the south wall appears to have originally defined a similar recess.

The thick nave north wall is pierced by 3 windows, 2 of them blocked. To the east, but west of the internal recess, is a plain, single lancet with a rounded, 2-centred head, from c.1200 and similar to the parvis-stair doorway in the south wall (see below); the internal surround, in chamfered oolite, was rebuilt in or after 1882 when the window was unblocked. To the west are 2, smaller single lights, blocked since before 1860 (Ordnance Survey, 10" per mile, Series 1), with very plain, full-centred semicircular heads; they appear to be somewhat earlier, from the mid 12th century?. There are 4 buttresses against the north wall, the western 3 being broad and massive, stepped, and with basal offsets, possibly also from the 12th century, while the plain, eastern, raking buttress is later but before 1861 (*ibid.*). The south wall is pierced by three 2-light windows, with simple Geometric tracery featuring cusped heads and central quatrefoils, in chamfered yellow oolite but without proper surrounds; the windows are very similar to those in Pembroke Castle and at Haverfordwest St Mary where they can be dated to the 1280s, but at Monkton were extensively restored in 1882 when the rear arches were rebuilt and the surrounds were largely replaced, with infill beneath the sills. A stepped external buttress, with string-courses, between the western two may also be late 13th century but has been restored. The west, gable wall is pierced by an uncusped 4-light window with uncusped Early English tracery and a drip-mould similar to that in the chancel and from 1882, but which again may replicate an original, mid 13th century window.

The south door has a full-centred semicircular surround of 4 roll-moulded orders, in oolite, with plain bases and without capitals, from c.1200 and similar to that at nearby Pembroke St Mary which was under Monkton's patronage; the contemporary drip-mould rests on high-quality Romanesque animal-head stops, while the rear-arch has a contemporary, roll-moulded segmental surround. To the west of the south door is a second, narrow doorway, its sill above internal floor level, with a 2-centred surround in chamfered oolite; it leads to a stair in the thickness of the wall which emerges, at a higher level in the external face, as a similarly narrow doorway with a full-centred, semicircular surround in chamfered oolite. The whole is also from c.1200 and associated with a former first floor parvis in the south porch. Internally, a plain segmental-headed stoup, also from c.1200, lies east of the south door.

A blocked doorway, with a very crude square head, is visible externally in the north wall east bay opposite the recess; it may be mid 13th century but was blocked by 1653 (see below). It is associated with a vertical scar and corbel/keystone lying immediately to the west, and an area of truncated, cut-back vaulting which forms a low external recess to the east (like that in the vestry - see below), which together appear to represent the junction between the nave and a former north-south range of buildings (see vestry, north chapel, and Structural Development below), truncated (and altered?) when the nave was extended east by 1 bay in the mid 13th century?. A segmental-headed recess beneath the west window may represent a blocked former doorway but is not discernible externally.

There is a plain, segmental-headed, empty tomb-recess in the centre of the internal face of the nave north wall. In the recess at the east bay of the wall is a fine, 17th century chest-tomb, the Classical back of which features a gabled pediment with devices, dated 1653; the tomb blocks a former doorway through the north wall (see above).

The nave barrel-vault, with a 2-centred profile, is secondary - late 13th - 14th century?. The passages are tiled, from 1882, with suspended board floors over heating ducts.

The north chapel

The north chapel fabric is identical to that of the chancel, with which it appears to be contemporary ie. dateable to the mid 13th century. It is detached from the chancel, the 2 eastern bays of which it lies alongside separated by a narrow 'passage' which emerges as a plain, square-headed doorway through a connecting wall at the east end dating from 1887. It is known as the 'Prior's Chapel', but also as the 'Lady Chapel' (Bartosch and Stokes, 1994) and occupies a similar detached location to the Lady Chapel at eg. Ely Cathedral; however, there is evidence that it may originally have been a Chapter-House (see Structural Description below).

The chapel is entered from the chancel through a 2-centred doorway with a moulded surround from 1887 which is reflected by a second doorway at the west end of the chapel south wall; in the 'lobby' so formed is a third doorway onto the 'passage' against the chancel, also from 1887.

The building is lit by a 3-light window in the east, gable wall, like the chancel east window and which may similarly follow a mid 13th century original. The outer arch, and the gable wall above, were rebuilt in 1887. Two similar windows, but 2-light, in the north wall of the east bay are also from 1887 when they may have been entirely new; the outer arches are from 1887 along with corresponding areas of facework.

A flue from the adjoining boilerhouse (see below) lies in the west bay north wall and leads to a square, stepped stack, with oolite ashlar quoins, which is corbelled out from the external face; it is from 1887 and corresponds with an internal recess which may represent a former tomb-recess.

The western quarter of the north wall exhibits, on its external face, the scar of an adjoining, north-south running 2-storey building represented by a wall scar, the springers of 2 former vaults and an area of plaster (see below, the vestry); it is argued below that the building represented was a medieval, monastic east range which pre-dated the construction of the chapel and present chancel in the mid 13th century.

The west, gable wall exhibits medieval internal corbelling 'such as might have been available to the Bishops of St Davids in their frequent periods of residence here in the 14th century' (Thomas, 1964 (ii), 345).

The chapel is roofed as the chancel, from 1887. The passages are tiled, from 1887, with contemporary suspended woodblock flooring over heating ducts.

The vestry

The present 2-bayed, east-west vestry is from 1887 but occupies the site of part of a medieval, monastic east range (see nave and north chapel, above) with a very complex building history. The east wall is shared

with the north chapel and the east bay incorporates the truncated east ends of 2 east-west running, parallel, semicircular headed barrel-vaults, the southern of which is open to the chapel. The west end of this southern vault may be the recess that is visible on the nave north wall (see above). The northern vault is incomplete, and appears to have been replaced by the chapel west wall which, despite being shown as open on 19th century Ordnance Survey maps, features 2 levels of openings into the chapel, the upper level lying above the vault, which appear to be early 17th century in style; they have segmental headed embrasures, double in the upper level, with plain square lights. The two levels reflect the levels as preserved within the chapel north wall (see above) and may belong to a period after the chapel had become disused, and roofless (see Structural Description below) but when a building occupied the vestry.

It is clear that the remains of a 2-storeyed vaulted range are represented, which appears to have been truncated, and altered, when the chapel was added and the chancel rebuilt in the 13th century. A plain, full-height, 2-centred arch, with plain square stops, dating to the 13th century, leads from the vestry west bay into the chancel, interrupting the projected line of the southern vault. However, it has been seen that the range survived, in an altered fashion, until the 17th century, while the upper half of the south wall of the vestry east bay features an internal recess, mirroring the arch into the chancel and probably also 13th century, which contains a plain, square-headed opening, with a sill at first floor level, forming a skewed doorway into the chancel - for a night-stair?. A similar doorway into the chancel lies below, at ground floor level.

The north and west, external walls of the vestry are entirely from 1887 and in very roughly coursed limestone rubble. Both feature a window like those in the chapel north wall. The softwood, east-west gable roof features plain trusses with matchboarding, also from 1887 as is the tiled floor.

A doorway in the north wall, with a triangular head from 1887 (re-used?), leads to a small porch in the angle with the chapel east wall, built new in 1887. The porch has rubble walls with oolite ashlar quoins, a doorway with a plain 2-centred surround in the north, lean-to wall and a 2-light, uncusped window of 2-centred heads in a square surround, also of oolite, in the west wall. The softwood, lean-to roof runs up to the chapel west wall; the porch is floored as the vestry.

The tower

The 4-storeyed tower occupies a south transeptal position, but appears to have been constructed as one unit rather than over a pre-existing transept; the arch from the nave mirrors that in the nave north wall where it merely represents a recess (see nave, above).

The tower can be dated by its detail to the 16th century. It is not entirely typical of the region, lacking a basal batter and string course, and is also only very slightly (almost imperceptibly) tapered. A square spiral stair turret projects from the south-west corner, entered through a simple square-headed doorway from the 16th century, and lit by simple loops. The ground floor features a processional doorway in the south wall with a 2-centred, ovolo-moulded head lying in a square surround whose spandrels feature blind trefoils; immediately above the door is a 4-light window in a depressed, 2-centred surround and drip-mould, with tracery like that in the chancel and north chapel but here, like the doorway below, entirely new in 1887, with yellow oolite dressings. The ground floor barrel-vault is from the 16th century, with a 2-centred profile and a central bell-raising port. Floored as the nave with a suspended board floor over. Against the internal face of the east wall is a chest tomb with a Classical back bearing heraldic motifs, and weepers on the chest panels; it is dated 1660 but is Jacobean in style.

The second stage is lit by a simple, uncusped semicircular-headed lancets, with ashlar voussoirs from the later 16th century, in the east and south faces, and there is a similar light in the east face of the third stage. The belfry stage has similar openings in the east and west faces; blocked openings may lie beneath the clock faces on the north and south faces. The parapet, restored with crenellations, lies on an external corbel table which does not continue around the spiral stair turret.

The south porch

The south porch is early, from c.1200, and formerly featured a first floor parvis. The large entry in the south wall has a semicircular surround of plain ashlar voussoirs, on nookshafts with plain, annular abaci on cushion capitals and similar bases, in weathered yellow oolite from c.1200. The side walls exhibit internal, medieval masonry benching. The parvis stair from the nave, with doorways from c.1200, is described above; there is an offset at first floor level in the south wall and an area of random masonry over the entry may indicate the site of a former light. The barrel-vault has a 2-centred profile and is probably secondary. The tiled floor is from 1882 and laid directly on the substrate.

The boilerhouse

The below-ground, lean-to boilerhouse was added against the north wall of the north chapel in 1887-1907, in brick. It is entered through a plain doorway in the east, lean-to wall, with a concrete lintel, which is reached from a below-ground stairwell running along the chapel north wall. The softwood, lean-to roof runs from churchyard ground level up to chapel sill level.

The ?coalhouse

A small, lean-to building was inserted between the western buttress of the nave north wall and the churchyard wall where it joins the north-west corner of the nave in 1887-1907, in random limestone rubble. It is entered through a plain doorway with a timber lintel in the north, side wall, west of which is a 'neo-Gothic' single-light window with a triangular head formed from 2 slates - later?. The softwood, lean-to roof runs up to nave sill level. The building may have originally been a coalhouse.

Structural development

The chancel represented the medieval priory church, while the long nave was the parish church of Monkton.

The small, semicircular-headed windows date the thick nave north wall to the 12th century. The Romanesque south door is from c.1200 when the nave south wall may have been rebuilt; the south porch door, and those of the former parvis over, are contemporary, making the porch a very early example of its type in Pembrokeshire. If the Early English chancel and north chapel windows are stylistic copies of the original openings, which they appear to be, then a mid 13th century date is suggested for the rebuilding of the chancel and the addition of the chapel (the latter as a Chapter House?, see below); at the same time, the nave was extended east by one bay, with a chancel arch described as 'pointed' (Fenton, 1903, 205), and the original nave west window may be contemporary. The Geometric windows in the south wall of the nave are similar to those at Haverfordwest St Mary, and at the nearby Pembroke Castle where they are dateable to the 1280s (Ludlow, 1991, 28); the present piscina and sedilia may be faithful rebuilds of contemporary originals. The uncusped semicircular-headed lancets, with ashlar voussoirs, date the tower to the 16th century.

The priory was dissolved in 1535; the chancel and north chapel were abandoned and the chancel arch was blocked. They were restored in 1887 when the vestry, boilerhouse and coalhouse were constructed.

The remains of the vaulted undercroft in the vestry is interrupted by the chancel and north chapel and is thus earlier than the mid 13th century. It appears to have formed part of the east range of the conventual buildings, which may have been arranged around a cloister to the north of the nave; a building possibly representing part of the west range is depicted in early views and on 19th century Ordnance Survey maps. The east range was altered in the mid 13th century, possibly with a night-stair from the ?first floor dorter into the chancel.

The church is depicted in a number of early views. In a watercolour by Francis Place of c.1678, taken from the south, the chancel and chapel appear to be roofed, while the nave is obscured by a gabled building possibly representing the conventual west range. The Buck Brothers engraving from the same viewpoint, of 1740 (Haverfordwest Library, Prints and Pictures), shows the chancel and chapel as roofless; square openings are shown in the south wall of the latter. The nave north wall buttresses are clearly shown, as is a building on the site of the present vestry, with a northern gable and chimney, and a possible ?circular stair turret against the chapel north wall; this building occupied the truncated conventual east range and may be represented by the surviving 17th century windows in the vestry. Calcott's view of c.1800 again depicts the roofless chapel and chancel, but by this time the east range/vestry building had gone; all views show the tower without crenellations

The church was described in c.1810 as 'a mixture of the Saxon (ie. Romanesque) and pointed order' (Fenton, 1903, 205). The unroofed chancel was known as the Virgin's Chapel (*ibid.*) and the 'pointed' chancel arch 'must have been stopped for some centuries, as it incorporates a monumental recess... now forming the back of the communion table'. The church was 'paved partly with glazed bricks, having arms, mottos and flowers on them as at St Davids' (*ibid.*). The 'modern' font was set on a clustered pier which survives beneath the present font (see below), but which was noted as being in a style represented nowhere else within the building; the 'four handsome windows' in the chancel south wall were all still open, as was the east window, the stone altar table had survived in addition to the original sedilia (*ibid.*). A detached building to the north of the nave was known locally as the 'Monkey-house' (*ibid.*); the west range building noted above is implied.

A large-scale (10" to the mile) Ordnance Survey map from 1861 provides a detailed ground plan. The chancel is labelled 'ruin' and only the east window, and the eastern pair of south wall windows are depicted, the western pair having presumably been blocked after 1810. The north wall tomb recess is clearly shown, and a doorway in the north wall of the east bay ('priest's door?'), now blocked. The north wall arcade into the vestry was blocked, as was the chancel arch. The 3 windows in the nave south wall, and the west window, were open, but the north wall windows were all blocked; all the present north wall buttresses are shown. The north chapel is also labelled 'ruin' and only the east window is shown. The chapel west wall is depicted as an open arcade; this, coupled with its location and the lack of any evidence for any original north wall windows or any original entry into the chapel from the chancel, suggests that the chapel may, in fact, have been a Chapter House. The stump of the east range building against the west end of its north wall is shown as an irregularity; the east range building on the site of the present vestry was also ruined and depicted as 2 east-west wall-lines. The west range building (Fenton's 'Monkey-house'?) is shown, and also a building in the angle of the south porch west wall and the nave, which had gone by 1880 (NLW, Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First Edition, Pembs. Sheet XL.9). Prior to restoration, the tower south door was a plain, square opening with a plain, square window above (photograph in church).

The nave and tower were restored from 1882 to the designs of the Diocesan Architect John Prichard of Llandaff (NLW, SD/F/490), and the chancel and chapel from 1887 under the same architect (NLW, SD/F/490). Restoration work continued until 1907 (Thomas, 1964 (ii), 344). The nave restoration was slight, confined to re-opening the north wall east window, rebuilding the west window and restoring the southern windows, but in the chancel and chapel the work was of higher impact. The gables were rebuilt and both components were entirely refenestrated, the chapel with new north wall windows and a doorway from the chancel; in the chancel the refenestration appears to have been a faithful copy of the original arrangements. The chancel arch was unblocked and a new, larger chancel arch was inserted. A vestry, with a porch, was constructed over the truncated remains of the east range, and the medieval arch into the chancel was reopened. The boilerhouse and ?coalhouse were added. The tower was restored with a new south door and window, and a crenellated parapet. The church was reroofed, refloored, reseated and replastered. Later work has been slight.

The panelled oak pews and pulpit are from 1882 (NLW, SD/F/491). The elaborate chancel fittings include double tiers of canopied, carved oak, neo-Perpendicular stalls from 1887 (NLW, SD/F/491), 2 commandment tablets probably from 1887, a carved, neo-Gothic oak altar table, from the mid 20th century and a painted-panel reredos of similar date. The north chapel altar table is converted from a chest and lies

on a marble footpace from 1887. The large organ in the vestry is by Wade and Meggitt of Tenby and dated 1887. The tower clock is by W. Potts & Sons, of Leeds, from 1907 (Bartosch & Stokes, 1994, 19).

The limestone font has a circular, moulded bowl from 1882, mounted on a shaft-cluster of 13th century date, derived from the church?.

The tower contains 8 bells, by Charles Carr of Smethwick and dated 1897 (Bartosch & Stokes, 1994, 15), now hung for chiming.

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
relativity to possible *llys* site.

SS Nicholas and John, Monkton, was both a Benedictine priory (dedicated to St Nicholas) and a parish church, of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932). The priory was founded by Arnulf de Montgomery, Lord of Pembroke, in 1098 as a cell of the Abbey of Seéz, Normandy, and as a memorial chapel to his brother Hugh, soon after the establishment of a castle at Pembroke (Ludlow, 1991, 27). There is no evidence that the initial foundation lay within the castle, as has been suggested by the wording of the foundation grant (Green, 1913, 236, *et al.*). A settlement developed at the priory gate which, by the 14th century, had acquired the rights to a fair (Laws, 1909, 194). Among the many churches held by the priory were the 2 parish churches of Pembroke borough, St Mary and St Michael.

The church was assessed at £26 13s 4d in 1291, the sum payable being £2 13 4d (Green, 1913, 236). The priory was apparently a favoured residence of the earlier 14th century Bishops of St Davids (Thomas, 1964 (ii), 345).

Monkton, as an alien priory, was temporarily seized by Edward III finally being suppressed by Henry V in 1415 (Laws, 1909, 166). It was granted by Henry VI, in 1440, to his uncle Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester and Earl of Pembroke, who in turn granted it, as a cell, to St Alban's Abbey in 1442 (Fenton, 1903, 205; *et al.*). The gift was confirmed in 1445.

The house was dissolved, falling to the crown, in 1535 (RCAHM, 1925, 237) when it was valued at £57 9s 3d (Fenton, 1903, 205). It was acquired by the Vaughans of Whitland and later the Devereux Earls of Essex (Thomas, 1964 (ii), 344). The vicarages of Monkton, Pembroke St Michael and Pembroke St Mary were united from 1770 until 1872, when the former 2 were separated from St Mary by Order of Council (Green, 1913, 237). In 1833 the consolidated vicarage was rated in the king's books at £9 (*viz.*, £4 for St Michael and £5 for Monkton, St Mary being discharged) and in the gift of Sir John Owen (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 SS Nicholas and John, Monkton, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage (Benefice 338), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The evidence for a pre-conquest religious foundation at Monkton is circumstantial, and largely dependent on Pembroke Castle being the site of a pre-conquest *llys* with a twin ecclesiastical site (Ludlow, 1991, 26).

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**ST ANDREW,
NARBERTH,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3745

RB No. 3178

NGR SN 1083 1442

Listed Building No. 6475

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 30% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of north transeptal tower, 4 storeys; medieval. Nave, 5 bays; north transept/vestry (formerly north chapel), 2 bays; partly medieval, largely rebuilt 1879-82. Chancel, 2 bays, 1879-82. Mainly snecked local muddy limestone rubble, with grey limestone ashlar quoins; medieval work uncoursed. The tower ground floor is vaulted. Pointing is mainly from 1879-82; the interior is plastered. All openings, except in the tower, are from 1879-82 and neo-gothic, with limestone dressings; exterior largely buttressed, from 1879-82.

Roofs: medieval vault, 1879-82 roofs. Floors and finishes: 1879-82.

Condition - fair-good. Tower floors, bellframe and roof poor; nave south and west walls damp, with poor plaster.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Medium-depth external drain around 100% of church; shallow revetted cutting around 30% of church. below-ground evidence for former components beyond 20% of church?; below-ground heating chamber beneath 15% of church; deep underfloor excavation and void; no external memorials significantly close to the church but evidence of former burials beyond 75% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 30% medieval core fabric; medieval tower with openings, vault and parapet.

Group value - high. Landmark church with medieval tower, in hilltop location; central within historic town; large churchyard with some good memorials.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave north wall (and former chancel, south transept and south porch?), C14?.

Phase 2 - North transept/vestry (former north chapel), C15?.

Phase 3 - Tower, early C16.

Phase 4 - Chancel (and rebuilt nave and north transept/vestry), 1879-82.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Andrew, Narberth, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 30% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 5-bayed nave, a single-bayed north transept roofed continuously, as an east-west gable, with a single-bayed vestry to the east, and a 4-storeyed tower west of the north transept. The tower, the nave north wall and the lower courses of the transept/vestry north wall represent the only surviving pre-19th century fabric, the remainder of the church having been rebuilt in 1879-82.

The 19th century construction is in snecked local muddy limestone rubble, with grey limestone ashlar quoins; the medieval work is uncoursed. Pointing is mainly from 1879-82; the interior is plastered. All openings, except in the tower, are from 1879-82 and neo-gothic. They include the north transept and vestry arcades, which have moulded oolite 2-centred arches, and the elaborate tripartite chancel arch which features 2 cylindrical oolite piers. Doors are 2-centred, with chamfered grey limestone dressings. The 19th century windows are generally 2-light, with neo-Decorated ogival tracery, in chamfered grey limestone; the end wall windows have 3 and 5 lights, with similar tracery. The medieval nave north wall is blind, and exhibits no blocked openings. The exterior, except the tower and transept/vestry, has stepped buttresses throughout, cross-buttressed at the corners, from 1879-82; a larger buttress with a crocketed pinnacle lies on the south wall at the junction of the nave and chancel. An external chamfered grey limestone offset runs around the base of the 19th century walls. There is a heating chamber beneath the chancel, reached by an external stairway along the north wall, all from 1879-82. The roofs are slated gables, while the tower roof was not seen. The softwood roof timbers are from 1879-82 and 1903, as are the tiled passages and suspended board floors.

The north transept/vestry were rebuilt from a medieval north chapel which lay north of the medieval 2-bayed chancel. Only the lowermost courses of the medieval work have been retained, and the internal dividing wall is from 1879-82.

The tower is from the early 16th century and is not typical of the region being tall, narrow and only slightly tapered, comprising 4 storeys, while it has only a slight external basal batter which lacks a string course. It occupies a transeptal position north of the nave east bay, in the angle with the former north chapel (now the north transept). The facework is in thin, uncoursed limestone rubble, with limestone dressings. The spiral stair turret is squinched out as a quarter circle, with a shallow external buttress, from the southern half of the west wall in the angle with the nave, from which it is entered through a plain, 2-centred early 16th century doorway; it is lit by simple square-headed and slit-lights, is offset back to the wall face at nave eaves level, above which it forms a shallow square projection, and features a similar early 16th century doorway to a former parvis with a suspended floor that has now gone. The ground floor communicates with the nave through a 2-centred arch from the early 16th century and is entered from the exterior through the north wall via a plain, 2-centred doorway rebuilt in 1879-82 and with a rear-arch of concrete; above it is a line of medieval voussoirs forming a segmental arch, the infill below featuring a slit-light. There is a wide, segmental-headed internal recess in the east wall, with a sill above floor level, from the early 16th century - function?. The 2-centred barrel-vault is from the early 16th century and lacks springers. The limestone-flagged floor is from 1879-82. The second stage is lit by a simple, square-headed light, from the early 16th century, in the north wall, while the third stage is lit by a simple slit-light in the east wall. The belfry stage has simple, segmental-headed openings in all 4 faces, from the early 16th century. The crenellated parapet, which is flush with the shallow stair-turret, lies on a corbel table from the early 16th century; rainwater chutes issue from the north and east faces.

A medium-depth external drain surrounds the church. A shallow revetted cutting runs along the north wall of the church. There may be below-ground evidence for the former south transept and south porch beyond

the nave south wall. There is a below-ground heating chamber beneath the chancel. One metre of ground was excavated beneath the floor level of the 1879-82 church and there is an underfloor void. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church but there is evidence of former burials to the east, west and south.

Structural development

The pre-19th century church comprised a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 2-bayed north chapel, a north transeptal tower, a south transept and a south porch.

Three views of the church taken prior to 19th century rebuilding appear to show a building fundamentally unaltered from its medieval layout. The earliest, a Buck print from 1740 (NLW, Original Drawings, PD7042, Top. B12/6, B114) is an engraving from the south which shows the chancel with 2 square windows of 18th century domestic type in the south wall, the nave, the tower, the south transept with a large, 2-centred ?medieval window in the end wall, and the south porch. The same arrangement is shown in a sketch, again taken from the south, of c.1785 (NLW, Drawing Volumes 63, 119), depicting the transept window with 2 lights and with a circular light above, the nave west bay south wall as pierced by a slit-light or a lancet, and the south porch doorway with a low, 2-centred arch; the eastern of the 2 chancel windows had been blocked. The third is a watercolour from the east, from the earlier 19th century (NLW, Original Drawings, Parker Colln., Drawings Vol. III, 87) which again shows the same arrangements, and a corbel table on the tower east wall between the ground and second storeys. None of the views shows the north chapel.

The components as depicted suggest a largely 14th century date for the church, with a 15th century north chapel and a 16th century tower. The tower was apparently reroofed, in lead, after a lightning strike in 1796, and other repairs were undertaken (Morris, 1990, 16).

The church was enlarged in 1828 by the Narberth architect James Hughes (James, 1992, 43), aided by a grant of £150; in 1833 Lewis described the 'recently rebuilt' church as 'a neat edifice, in the later style of English architecture... containing 150 free sittings' (Lewis, 1833). A view of the church from the south, by the French artist A. Dousseau and reproduced by James (James, 1992, 45) shows a somewhat conventionalised building, lacking a south porch, but the south transept is shown, and tall, early 19th century neo-Gothic single-light windows, with 16-pane glazing, appear to be depicted throughout. The church is not included in the tithe map of 1840 (NLW, Narberth, 1840).

Except for the tower, the nave north wall and the north chapel, the church was entirely rebuilt in 1879-82 to the designs of the architect T. G. Jackson (NLW, SD/F/511). The new church exhibited an entirely different plan from its predecessor, lacking a south transept and a south porch, below-ground evidence for which may lie beyond the present nave south wall. The chancel extends east of the earlier chancel, and the nave extends beyond the west wall of the earlier nave.

The good-quality internal fittings are mainly from 1879-82 including the oak stalls, the pews and panelled dado and the polychrome oolite and marble pulpit. The neo-Tudor, panelled softwood and glass tower screens are dated 1927.

The oolite font is from 1879-82.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is no firm evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site, but the nearby castle represents the probable site of the documented *llys* of Arberth.

St Andrew, Narberth, was a chapelry with a parish of its own during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), in the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. There appears to be no support for Rees' depiction of the church as an advowson of a religious house, the living instead having been a rectory appendant to the Lordship of Narberth (Green, 1913, 210). In 1249, as a possession of William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke and Lord of Narberth, the rectory was valued at 30 marks (*ibid.*). In 1291 it was assessed at £1 1s. (*Ibid.*). The rectory appears to have fallen to the crown in 1536 when the Lordship of Narberth was abolished. Robeston Wathen church appears always to have been annexed to Narberth rectory.

In 1833 the rectory was rated in the king's books at £25 10s 10d, and in the patronage of the king (Lewis, 1833). Robeston Wathen was still consolidated with the rectory, and the chapel of Mounton, with a parish of its own, was also consolidated with Narberth, to which it was traditionally regarded as a chapel-of-ease..

In 1998 St Andrew, Narberth, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Robeston Wathen, Mounton and Crinow (Benefice 631) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST MARY,
PEMBROKE,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3278

RB No. 3016

NGR SM 9835 0152

Listed Building No. 6400

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 75% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; tower, (north of chancel), 4 storeys; north aisle (absorbs former north transept), 4 bays; south transept, 1 bay; medieval. South porch, early 17th century. South porch southern bay, 1876. West porch; boilerhouse (north of north aisle), 1924. Limestone rubble construction, with some ORS; internal walls with render/plaster. North aisle and south porch barrel-vaulted, tower (secondarily?) rib-vaulted. Slate gable roofs; boilerhouse with slated lean-to; tower roof not seen. Medieval openings in tower, medieval north aisle arcade, south door and chancel doorways are medieval, blocked medieval windows and door. Other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly in yellow oolite from 1876.

(15th century monument; many 17th - 18th century monuments.)

Roofs: medieval vaulting and 1876 timberwork. Floors: 1876. Finishes: 1876-20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good. No external drain or cutting; churchyard raised around 30% of church; buildings near and against 60% of church; floor levels raised in 10% of church; ?underfloor void beneath 40% of church; no external memorials significantly close to church

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 75% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval and early 17th century vaulting; medieval arcade, doorways, tower openings and blocked openings.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower, in town centre location; medieval town wall-line forms part of churchyard boundary; focal point of view; possible early buildings encroach yard.

Phasing:

- Phase 1 - Nave, c.1200.
- Phase 2 - South transept (and former north transept?), C14.
- Phase 3 - Chancel and tower, c.1400.
- Phase 4 - North aisle, c.1500.
- Phase 5 - South porch, early 17th century.
- Phase 6 - Restored 1876, medium impact.
- Phase 7 - West porch, boilerhouse, 1924.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Mary, Pembroke, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 75% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 3-storeyed tower north of the chancel west bay, a 4-bayed north aisle (absorbing a former north transept), a single-bayed south transept, a long, 2-bayed south porch, a west porch and a boilerhouse north of the aisle. Construction is in limestone rubble with some Old Red Sandstone in the north aisle. The north aisle and south porch are barrel-vaulted; the tower is rib-vaulted. There are medieval openings in the tower, the north aisle arcade, the south door and the chancel doorways are medieval, there are blocked medieval windows in the nave south wall and a blocked medieval door in the north aisle; other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly from 1876 and in yellow oolite, in neo-Gothic style. Pointing is mainly from 1876 and the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the boilerhouse has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen. There are the remains of a 15th century monument, and 17th-18th century wall monuments.

The chancel is in random limestone rubble. The 5-light east window is from 1876 and has cusped 'Geometric' tracery beneath a 2-centred drip-mould on plain stops, all in yellow oolite. The north wall is largely shared with the tower, which is entered through a plain, deeply-chamfered 2-centred arch, without capitals or bases, from c.1400 (see Structural Development below), above which an internal corbel table, at eaves level, supports the tower upper stages. East of this a blocked doorway is visible externally, where it has lost its head, and is visible internally as a small, narrow, blocked 2-centred doorway noticeably further west and therefore with a skewed or dog-leg passage through the wall; the doorway, which appears to be medieval and was presumably a 'priest's door' from c.1400 (possibly into a former component- see below), was re-used as the entry to a former vestry erected in 1876, and was blocked in the 20th century when the vestry was demolished. The south wall was rebuilt in 1876 (Parkinson, 1980) with 3 windows, all of 2 uncusped lights with pierced spandrels and central quatrefoils, in yellow oolite; the easternmost sill descends to floor level for a sedilia. Internally, east of the windows, is a piscina with a plain 2-centred head and a sunken bowl, from 1876; above it a narrow 2-centred opening appears to run through the wall, also from 1876?. The 2-centred chancel arch is from 1876 and is in double-chamfered yellow oolite without capitals or bases. The chancel 'wagon-roof' ceiling has transverse deal frames with pitch-pine matchboarding, from 1876 (NLW, SD/F/534). The passages and sanctuary flooring are unknown, being fully carpeted; suspended board and woodblock floors, from 1876, above voids?, lie either side.

The nave south wall features a window either side of the south door, each set high in the wall and with a segmental embrasure that may be medieval; the 2-light windows themselves, with 'Geometric' tracery in yellow oolite and a central trefoil, are from 1876. There is now no evidence for the blocked semicircular-headed windows noted in 1938 (Mathias, 1938, 290-292). The south door has a full-centred semicircular surround of 3 roll-moulded orders and a similar drip-mould, without capitals or bases, from c.1200 and similar to that at nearby Monkton. Externally, an early 17th century memorial is set in a recess above. The west, gable wall features a doorway with a 2-centred surround, inserted in 1924 (NLW, SD/F/536). Above it is a 2-light window with uncusped plate tracery and a central quatrefoil, and a plain 2-centred dripmould,

in yellow oolite from 1876, the mullion recently replaced; a possible area of blocking is visible externally beneath sill level. The softwood nave roof is from 1876 and lacks proper trusses, all rafters being scissors-braced, but every 4th pair is arch-braced from ashlar-posts; matchboarded above. The passage flooring, like in the chancel, is unknown, being fully carpeted; suspended woodblock floors, from 1876, above voids?, lie either side.

The 4-storey tower occupies a position, only seen within the area at one other church (Manorbier), north of the chancel west bay and in the angle with the north transept. It is also stylistically unusual, being very large, lacking the basal batter and string course typical of the region, being only slightly tapered, and having a spiral stair turret that is entered from the exterior, all characteristics which it shares with the nearby tower at Tenby St Mary which can be assigned a date of c.1400 (and which was constructed in the angle of the chancel and a former *south* transept). The external facework is all in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, with good quoins, and appears to represent a single build. The ground floor opens, via 2 tall, 2-centred arches, into the chancel and north aisle (formerly the north transept); the southern arch has deep triple-chamfers on both faces, without capitals or bases, from c.1400, while the northern arch is similar but with deep single chamfers. The east wall was pierced by a half-arch respond against the chancel north wall, with a semicircular profile and plain voussoirs, apparently representing an original passage into a former, contemporary component on the site of the later vestry (see Structural Development below); the arch was later blocked, in 1876 when the present 2-centred doorway, now itself blocked, was inserted?. The remains of a truncated east-west wall, against north end of the half-arch, and the lower of the two lean-to roof-scars visible above the arch on the tower wall, may both be from the medieval component; the upper scar represents the 19th century vestry roof line. To the north of this half-arch, and a somewhat higher level, the tower east wall is pierced by a 2-light window beneath a 2-centred outer arch, each light with a plain, 2-centred head in chamfered limestone from c.1400. A similar, single light pierces the north wall, also from c.1400; beneath it a blocked doorway is visible externally, in a similar position to the door at Tenby St Mary, with a 2-centred head of prominent voussoirs and without a surround, from c.1400; its head now lies only 1.2m above churchyard level. The north-west corner houses the spiral stair which projects as a clasping buttress from the north and west faces and lit by plain slit-lights; it is entered from the interior through a narrow, plain, 2-centred doorway from c.1400, and from the churchyard through a plain, lintelled doorway, from c.1400, in the north wall. The ground floor has a rib-vault which springs from the 4 corners. The ribs have square sections and may be later insertions, possibly secondary to the vault itself which may have originally been a barrel-vault like that at Tenby St Mary. The ribs continue around a central bell-raising port which is again like that at Tenby. The floor has been raised by over 1m concealing the medieval openings within, and now has a flagged surface, from 1876?, or the earlier 19th century?. The second stage is lit by deep, simple, square-headed single lights in all 4 faces, from c.1400 and now louvered, while the third stage exhibits a plain, louvered, large, 2-centred single lancet in each face, also from c.1400. The belfry stage has contemporary, 2-light openings, with square heads, in all 4 faces, now also louvered. The contemporary crenellated parapet lies on a corbel table which does not extend around the west side of the stair.

The north aisle communicates with the nave, to which its west, gable wall exhibits an external joint, via a 4-bayed arcade of plain, 2-centred arches, chamfered only on their square piers, from c.1500. The west bay absorbed an earlier north transept (see Structural Development below) and its north wall features a plain, full-height internal recess with a 2-centred head, representing the end (gable) wall of the former transept. A blocked opening into the tower lies high up in the east wall; its head is formed by the apex of the vault (see below) dating the opening to c.1500 or later; its sill extends as an offset to the south wall arcade suggesting that it may have been associated with a rood-loft or screen; a corbel lies at the same level on the east bay north wall. The north wall is in Old Red Sandstone rubble and has a slight external basal batter; it was heightened by 0.20m in 1876. It is pierced by 3 windows, each a single, 2-centred uncusped lancet in chamfered oolite from 1876. The east-central bay exhibits a blocked doorway lying opposite the south door; its head has gone and it lacks a surround, but it may be from c.1500, and was blocked by the mid 18th century (see Structural Development below). The west wall is pierced by a window like that in the nave west wall and similarly from 1876, but with a central trefoil; beneath its sill and the floor is a plain internal offset, probably medieval - benching?. The aisle is barrel-vaulted, the vault having a plain, 2-

centred profile which dies into the side walls without springers; its apex is substantially lower than the nave roof apex. Floored as the nave.

The south transept is entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch, like the chancel arch from 1876 and similarly in double-chamfered yellow oolite without capitals or bases. It is lit by a graduated triple lancet window in the south (gable) wall, in a 2-centred arch and surround with chamfered oolite dressings from 1876. The softwood roof is from 1876 and lacks trusses, all common rafters having collars and ashlar-posts, from which every third rafter is arch-braced. The floor is fully carpeted but may be like that in the nave. The transept has been a chapel since 1990.

The south porch is from the early 17th century, but was extended southwards to form a passage from Main Street in 1876. The original section has side walls that lean inwards slightly, and exhibit internal masonry benching from the early 17th century. The barrel-vault has a segmental profile and is also early 17th century. The flagged floor may be from 1876 but possibly re-uses earlier 19th century flags, and there are 3 steps down into the nave. The side walls of the 1876 extension are thicker, perpendicular and lack internal benching; the east wall features a doorway into the churchyard, with a 2-centred head, from 1876. The south wall is in sneaked rubble from 1876 and is entered from Main Street through a contemporary 2-centred doorway with a chamfered oolite surround, flanked by single lancets with similar surrounds. The extension roof is from 1876, in softwood, and lacks trusses, all common rafters having collars and ashlar-posts. Floored as the original porch, with 3 steps down from Main Street pavement level.

The west porch is from 1924 and is in random limestone rubble but with good quoins; the side and west walls all feature an external offset in chamfered grey oolite. The doorway lies in the west (gable) wall and has a rounded, 2-centred surround in chamfered grey oolite, from 1924; above it is a contemporary, neo-Tudor, uncusped 3-light window in a square surround and plain label, also in grey oolite. The softwood roof and tiled floor are also from 1924.

The lean-to boilerhouse was added against the north wall of the north aisle east bay in 1924, in random limestone rubble. It is entered through a plain doorway in the east (end) wall, with a concrete lintel, and lit by a similar window in the north wall. An inserted flue in the aisle wall leads to a simple, square chimney with a plain offset, from 1924. The softwood lean-to roof runs up to aisle sill level.

There is neither an external drain nor a cutting, but churchyard ground levels have been altered and have been raised to the north of the church; domestic buildings lie close to, or against, the south and east walls. There is no evidence for former floor levels except in the tower, where the floor has been raised by over 1m. An underfloor void is probably present. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The Romanesque south door, and the 2 blocked, semicircular-headed windows that were formerly visible (Mathias, 1938, 290-292), provide a date of c.1200 for the nave. The south transept (and the former north transept) probably belong to the 14th century trend for transept construction. The tower and (rebuilt) chancel may be contemporaneous (Parkinson, 1980); the tower is very similar in general form to that at Tenby St Mary which can be dated to c.1400 and both it and the chancel can be assigned a similar date. The tower occupies a position only seen within the area at one other church, Manorbier, where it pre-dates the north transept; at Pembroke it post-dates the former transept, with which it exhibits a joint, but pre-dates the north aisle, which is from c.1500. A former component, contemporary with the tower, appears to have occupied the angle between it and the chancel, superseded, in 1876, by a vestry which in turn has gone (see below). The south porch is from the early 17th century.

A watercolour by Francis Place, dated to c.1678, shows the church much as today but lacks detail. A print from 1748 shows the church from the north-west with large 'Perpendicular' windows in the nave and north aisle west walls (15th-16th century?), and 3 square-headed windows in the aisle north wall; a sanctus

bellcote lay on the nave east gable (Haverfordwest Library, Prints and Pictures, Pembroke from the north by S. & N. Buck, 1748).

The church was described in c.1810 as 'shewing the pointed order, and consists of nave, chancel and north side aisle, with a small chapel to the south (the south transept). There are three arches now stopped up, two in the north aisle and one in the chancel, which evidently communicated with buildings now no more, that have left not a trace behind, and whose form and use we now vainly enquire after' (Fenton, 1903, 204). The description is repeated by Lewis, 1833, but there is no suggestion that the doorways, all now blocked, led to any associated buildings, the chancel door being a former 'priest's door, and the main north aisle door being a north doorway into the church. A print from 1830 (Haverfordwest Library, Prints and Pictures, Pembroke from the north by H. Gastineau, 1830), taken from the north-west, is similar to that of 1748 but appears to show a smaller north aisle west window with a possible blocked doorway below it.

The church was 'altered and restored' in 1876, under the architect J. L. Pearson, of London, but according to plans prepared by C. Buckeridge (NLW, SD/F/534). The restoration was heavy; most openings were rebuilt, the walls were heightened, the chancel south wall was entirely rebuilt and the south porch was extended southwards by one bay to form a long 'corridor' from Main Street. A vestry was added in the angle between the chancel north wall and the tower, but this has since been removed. The church was reroofed, refloored, reseated and replastered.

The reredos was erected under Pearson, and the font moved to its present location, in 1892 (NLW, SD/F/535). Three windows were reglazed in 1908 (Green, 1913, 231) and early 20th century reglazing includes some glass by Kempe (Bartosch & Stokes, 1992).

The west porch and boilerhouse were added in 1924 (NLW, SD/F/536). The lead tower roof was replaced by the present slated roof in 1929 (NLW, SD/F/537). The interior has been replastered since 1938 (Mathias, 1938, 290-292).

The plain softwood pews, and the similar octagonal pulpit, may be from 1876. The large organ, the body of which occupies the tower ground floor, is dated 1890. The elaborate, oolite reredos, featuring a central Christ in Majesty and flanking niches, is from 1892 and was designed by Pearson (NLW, SD/F/535). The neo-Perpendicular, softwood-panelled altar table and low redaltar may be contemporary. The oak stalls, with carved bench ends and bookboards, and the similar reader's desks, are from 1909 (Bartosch & Stokes, 1992). The softwood and glass west door lobby is from 1924. The neo-gothic softwood screen between the tower and the north aisle is dated 1932, and the similar north aisle altar table and rail may be contemporary. The low, main altar rail is dated 1937. The south transept chapel fittings, including the carved, oak altar table and reredos, and the oak-panelled wainscot, are dated 1990.

The limestone font has a square, scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem with cable-moulding, and a square, cushioned base, all from the later 12th century.

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Pembroke, was a parish church, of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932). It was a possession of the Benedictine Priory of St Nicholas at Monkton, Pembroke, and the advowson was appendant to the Manor of Monkton (Green, 1913, 230). It was a primary feature of the medieval borough of Pembroke, established during the 12th century although the first reference to the church was not until 1260 (Hindle, 1979, 78).

At the dissolution, it fell to the crown, and with Pembroke St Michael was purchased by Lettice, Countess of Essex (ibid.). The vicarages of St Mary, St Michael and St Nicholas, Monkton (the former Monkton Priory) were united from 1770 until 1872, when the latter 2 were separated from St Mary by Order of Council (Green, op. cit., 232). In 1833 the consolidated vicarage was rated in the king's books at £9 (viz., £4 for St Michael and £5 for Monkton, St Mary being discharged) and in the gift of Sir John Owen (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Pembroke, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Pembroke St Michael (Benefice 552), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST MICHAEL,
PEMBROKE,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3280

RB No. 3017

NGR SM 9883 0138

Listed Building No. 6408

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 20% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large, complex. Consists of chancel east bay; vestry (north of chancel), 1 bay; tower ground floor (south of chancel); medieval. Tower south porch, 18th century. Chancel west bay; nave, 4 bays; tower second stage; south aisle, 5 bays; 1832. Tower belfry; south porches; 1887. Limestone rubble construction, with some slate ashlar; 50% of external walls with render; 90% of internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Vestry (formerly chapel) barrel-vaulted. Chancel east window partly medieval; re-used medieval door in nave. Some 18th century openings and a piscina, and blocked 1832 openings. Other openings, including the chancel arch, are in yellow oolite, with polychrome heads, from 1887.

(Good 18th century monuments.)

Roofs: medieval vaulting and 1887 timberwork. Floors: 1832 and 1887. Finishes: 1832-20th century.

Condition - Fair-good. Tower porch very poor; internal plaster poor in areas; some dressings weathered; ivied externally, particularly north and east walls; environs overgrown north of church.

Archaeological potential - Good-very good. No external drain or cutting; below-ground heating chamber beneath 10% of church; floors suspended above heating ducts in 60% of church; no evidence for former floor levels; former components beyond 20% of church; marked burials within 5% of church; no external memorials significantly close to church

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 20% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting, window and re-used door?; 18th century openings and piscina.

Group value - high. Landmark church with tower, in town centre location; medieval town wall-line forms part of churchyard boundary; focal point of view; adjacent late-medieval buildings.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel east bay, vestry, tower ground floor, medieval.

Phase 2 - Tower south porch, C18.

Phase 3 - Chancel west bay, nave, south aisle, tower second stage, 1832.

Phase 4 - Restored 1887, high impact; tower belfry and south porches built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Michael, Pembroke, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 20% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church has an unusual plan and a complex developmental history. It consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel east bay, a 3-storeyed tower south of the chancel east bay, a long, 5-bayed south aisle, a south tower porch, and 2 further south porches at either end of the south aisle. An earlier chancel and south transept were formerly present. Construction is mainly in limestone rubble, but the tower belfry stage is in slate ashlar. The vestry is barrel-vaulted. The chancel east window may be fundamentally medieval, and there may be a re-used medieval door surround in the nave fabric. The tower porch has ?18th century openings and there is a blocked 18th century door and piscina in the vestry. Other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly from 1887 and in yellow oolite, in neo-Gothic style, with polychrome outer arches. The chancel east wall, the north and west walls of the church, the vestry and the tower second stage have external render, probably from the earlier 20th century; the south walls have ribbon-pointing from the later 20th century and the interior is plastered except for the west end. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen.

There are good 18th century monuments in the vestry.

The chancel east wall is fundamentally medieval when it formed the east wall of a former north transept (see Structural Development below). It is rendered externally. A stepped buttress at the south end of the wall may be the stump of the medieval chancel north wall; a similar buttress at the north end is from 1832. The 3-light east window has cusped 'Geometric' tracery in a 2-centred surround of yellow oolite, possible medieval (Parkinson, 1980) but restored in 1832 and in 1887 when the drip-mould, on stiff-leaf stops, was added. The side walls lean in markedly. The north wall is pierced, in the east bay, by a doorway into the vestry, with a chamfered 2-centred surround and hood-mould like the east window, all from 1887; to the east is a small, square 20th century (internal) aumbry. The west bay features a 2-light window with a polychrome outer arch in squared limestone and oolite, cusped openings with a central quatrefoil, and a drip-mould like the east window, all from 1887. The south wall features a large piscina from 1887, in a 2-centred recess, and a doorway opposite, and similar to, the vestry door, also from 1887. A full-height vertical rebate in the wall marks the site of an earlier chancel arch, from 1832, to the west of which is a full-height, 2-centred arch into the south aisle, double-chamfered, with Acanthus-mouldings at springer level and a hood-mould like the east window. The present chancel arch is similar and also from 1887. The softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1887 and has transverse frames lying on wall-plates, with pitch-pine matchboarding, from 1887. The sanctuary has a polychrome-tiled floors, while the passage floor is plain-tiled; both floors are from 1887. Suspended board floors, above voids, lie either side.

The nave was an addition of 1832. It is divided from the south aisle by a 4-bay arcade inserted in 1887; the 2-centred arches are double-chamfered, with hood-moulds like the east window, on cylindrical piers with plain abaci and tori. The nave is lit by 4 windows in the north wall like that in the chancel west bay and similarly from 1887. A heating-chamber was inserted beneath the east bay in 1887 and is entered through a doorway, below the easternmost window, with a 2-centred surround which may be re-used medieval work; in the angle with the chancel arch is a flue leading to a square chimney in limestone ashlar, also from 1887. The west wall is cross-buttressed at the north-west corner, with a similar buttress at the junction with the south aisle; the buttresses are from 1887 and simple, unstepped, in squared and coursed limestone rubble

with basal offsets in chamfered oolite. The west window has a 2-centred opening partly from 1832 and in brick, rebuilt in 1887 and now with a surround and drip-mould like the north wall windows but with a central hexafoil. Internally, a blocked window, with a semicircular head from 1832, is visible at a higher level; it was blocked in 1887. A similar, contemporary blocked window lies on the junction with the later south aisle arcade by which it is partly obscured; beneath it a blocked doorway is also visible internally, with a wide, segmental-headed opening from 1832, later constricted into a 2-centred arch before being blocked in 1887. A thin fillet of wood runs horizontally across the internal face of the west wall at half-height, associated with the former west gallery?. The softwood nave roof is from 1887 and, externally, is a continuation of the chancel roof; the trusses and common rafters are scissors-braced, each alternate truss being arch-braced from wall-corbels also from 1887, and matchboarded above. The cross-passage is floored with, to the east, large oolite flags and small black ceramic tiles, in poor condition and possibly from 1832, while the central passage is limestone-flagged, from 1887, with gratings to underfloor heating flues and suspended board floors either side.

The vestry is medieval and was, apparently, a former chapel north of the north transept. A 2-centred recess representing the blocked medieval door from the chancel lies east of the present entry (see above). The east, gable wall is buttressed like the chancel east wall, from 1832, and pierced by a window like those in the nave, from 1887; to the south is a blocked doorway with a polychrome head, chamfered surround and drip-mould like the 1887 windows, partly blocked with breeze-blocks and formerly entered from the churchyard up a flight of 7 steps. The north wall features an external buttress from 1832 and a central recess with a segmental head, roll-moulded internally with ovolo-moulded imposts from the 18th century, possibly representing a blocked doorway; above it is offset a very depressed semicircular arch., possibly representing an earlier, medieval door. At the east end of the wall is a piscina with a bracket-mounted, 18th century gadrooned oolite bowl in a 2-centred recess. The west (gable) wall features an external string-course which is carried up as a triangular-headed drip-mould over a probable blocked opening visible externally; internally, the space is occupied by a disused fireplace with a black marble surround, from 1832, rebuilt in 1887. The vestry is barrel-vaulted, with a 2-centred, east-west vault without springers. The limestone-flagged floor is probably from 1832 and laid upon the substrate, but features a number of inhumations.

The 3-storey tower was formerly central but now occupies a position south of the chancel east bay, and was almost entirely rebuilt in 1832 and again in 1887. The ground floor east wall was inserted, as an outside wall, into a former arcade in 1832; it is pierced by a contemporary, single-light window with a 2-centred head and plain, 20th century glazing. The west wall arcade is still open but was rebuilt as a chamfer- and cavetto-moulded arch in 1832, largely in plaster and now in poor condition. The north and south walls both feature blocked, medieval doors; the northern doorway, which is 2-centred, was blocked in 1887, the southern, 4-centred doorway was blocked at a later date. The ground floor has a timber ceiling and is floored as the nave central passage. The second stage was entirely rebuilt in 1832 but is now rendered externally; there is a neo-Tudor, square-headed, 2-light window with a plain, square label in the south face above a circular recess for a former clock-face. A plain string-course, from 1832, divides the second stage from the belfry stage which was again entirely rebuilt in 1887, in slate ashlar. There is a solid, semi-octagonal turret at each corner, and each face is pierced by a 3-light opening, with geometric tracery, in a 2-centred surround of yellow oolite similarly from 1887. The contemporary crenellated parapet lies on a double string-course, the upper of which is offset and extends around the turrets.

Against the south face of the tower ground floor is a porch, in large, roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, which was added before 1832, probably in the later 18th century being in 'estate gothic' style. The east and west (side) walls rise above the south wall as large, square 'buttresses', the western containing a spiral stair entered through a doorway with a 4-centred head. The thin, south wall has a basal external offset and a cavetto-moulded string-course towards the wall-top, at which level the side wall buttresses are stepped back. It is pierced by a plain, 4-centred doorway. The lean-to roof was contained within the side wall buttresses but is now represented only by a few very rotten joists.

The south aisle occupies the site of the medieval nave but was entirely rebuilt in 1832 in random limestone rubble. The south wall features a doorway at either end, both from 1887 with 2-centred oolite surrounds

and drip-moulds on heraldic stops. It is pierced by 4 windows, the eastern 2 like those in the nave north wall, the western two being similar but single-light, all from 1887; a fifth, triangular light above the eastern doorway is contemporary, with a similar polychrome head, and is cusped as an octofoil. The west, gable wall features a window like that in the nave west wall, and a blocked window from 1832 again like that in the nave west wall. The aisle is roofed and floored as the nave, and the east bay is now a chapel.

The two south porches are both from 1887 and very similar. They are in roughly coursed limestone rubble with external basal offsets in chamfered oolite. The side walls have simple buttresses at their south ends. The entries are like the aisle south doors. The eastern porch features a plain, square stoop in the west wall, while the western porch side walls are pierced by a single-light window from 1887, similar to those in the aisle. The softwood roofs are from 1887 and lack trusses, all common rafters having scissors-braces and ashlar-posts. The floors are polychrome-tiled, laid directly on the substrate, from 1887.

There is neither an external drain nor a cutting. The nave east bay lies over a below-ground heating chamber and floors are suspended above heating ducts. There is no evidence for former floor levels. A chancel was formerly present east of the tower, and a former south transept lay beyond the present south walls. There are marked burials within the vestry. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The church has an unusual plan and a complex developmental history. The medieval church was cruciform about a central tower (Parkinson, 1980), the lowest storey of which survives albeit in an altered form. The nave lay on the site of the present south aisle, and the chancel lay east of the tower, but the only other surviving medieval components are the core of the chancel, which was originally a north transept, and the vestry which, apparently, was originally a chapel at the end of the north transept.

St Michael was described in c.1810 as bearing ‘marks of great antiquity, and is of Norman architecture, cruciform with a stunted tower, the area of which opens by four arches into the nave, the chancel and the transepts, than which nothing can be more simple, having no tendency to ornament of any kind’ (Fenton, 1903, 204). However, it appears that the south transept had gone before 1832 (Parkinson, 1980) and had been replaced by the present tower porch, which appears to be 18th century Gothic in style (similar to much ‘estate’ church work from this period). The vestry/chapel piscina is also 18th century.

The church was almost entirely rebuilt, to the designs of the architect T. Rowlands (ibid.), in 1832 when its arrangements were radically altered; according to Lewis, writing in 1833, the church had been ‘nearly rebuilt from the ground, in the later style of English architecture’ (Lewis, 1833). The north transept became a single-bayed chancel, which communicated with the tower via a doorway that may have been retained. The nave was demolished, a new, wide, 5-bayed nave being constructed on the site of the present nave and south aisle with a low-pitched west gable wall pierced by 3 windows and a central doorway (NLW, Drawing Volumes 40, 39). The nave was entered through a doorway in the south wall of the west bay, with a porch that has now gone (NLW, SD/F/538). The upper stage(s) of the tower was demolished and rebuilt with a crenellated parapet on a corbel-table, single-light belfry openings and crocketed corner pinnacles (NLW, Drawing Volumes 40, 39). The chapel at the end of the north transept was retained and converted into a vestry, with the medieval doorway from the chancel, and the medieval north transept east wall window may have been retained to become the chancel east window (Parkinson, 1980). The church was lit by sash-windows which, with few exceptions, occupied the location of the present windows (ibid; NLW, SD/F/538.). A timber west gallery was present (NLW, SD/F/538).

In 1886-7 the church was restored to the designs of the architect E. H. Lingen Barker (ibid.). The work was of high impact. An arcade was inserted down the centre of the nave to create a south aisle and the low-pitched west was removed and replaced by the present double-gable; the central west wall window, and door, were blocked, while buttresses were added to the wall. The present chancel arch was built one bay west of the 1832 arch, limiting the new nave to 4 bays, and the medieval chancel side doorways were

blocked, a new doorway into the vestry being inserted slightly to the west of the old. The two south aisle south porches were added with new doorways into the south aisle. The church was reroofed, refloored, refenestrated and replastered. A heating chamber was inserted beneath the nave east bay. Although not mentioned in the specifications for the work (*ibid.*), it is apparent that the tower belfry stage was entirely rebuilt in its present form, in slate ashlar, with the present openings.

The tower south door and porch doors were blocked at a later date.

The softwood altar table, the carved reredos and flanking panelled wainscot, the altar rail, the panelled deal stalls and reader's desks, the wrought-iron, gothic chancel-screen, the cylindrical, moulded pulpit on 4 Purbeck marble shafts and the plain softwood pews are all from 1887. The softwood tower-screen may be contemporary. The large organ in the south aisle east bay is dated 1888, and was restored in 1958. The panelled oak, south aisle altar table is dated 1967 and the altar rail is probably contemporary.

The oolite font has a square, scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem with cable-moulding, and a square base on a hexagonal plinth, and is probably from 1887.

There is 1 bell in the tower (Bartosch & Stokes, 1995).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Michael, Pembroke, was a parish church, of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932). It was a possession of the Benedictine Priory of St Nicholas at Monkton, Pembroke, and the advowson was appendant to the Manor of Monkton (Green, 1913, 233). The church was established before the 1260s as the parish church of an originally extra-mural market suburb of the medieval borough of Pembroke (Hindle, 1979, 78; Ludlow, 1991, 28). It was assessed at £10 in 1291 (*ibid.*). Pembroke St Daniel (PRN 3279) was a chapel-of-ease to St Michael.

At the dissolution, St Michael fell to the crown, and with Pembroke St Mary was purchased by Lettice, Countess of Essex (Green, *op. cit.*, 231). The vicarages of St Michael, St Mary and St Nicholas, Monkton (the former Monkton Priory) were united from 1770 until 1872, when St Michael and Monkton were separated from St Mary by Order of Council (Green, *op. cit.*, 232). In 1833 the consolidated vicarage was rated in the king's books at £9 (*viz.*, £4 for St Michael and £5 for Monkton, St Mary being discharged) and in the gift of Sir John Owen (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Michael, Pembroke, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Pembroke St Mary (Benefice 552), in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8). Pembroke St Daniel is attached to the benefice as a chapel-of-ease to St Michael.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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**SS NICHOLAS AND TEILO,
PENALLY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 4235

RB No. 3667

NGR SS 1177 9917

Listed Building No. 5992

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 1 bay, with skew-passage; south transept, 1 bay, with skew-passage; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Vestry (north of chancel), 1 bay, 1884. Limestone and ORS rubble construction; remains of 18th - early 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting throughout, except in the vestry; medieval openings in tower, and medieval doorway, benching, stoup and tomb recess with effigy. Blocked early 17th century windows. Other openings, with yellow oolite dressings, are from 1851, and 1884 in the vestry.

Roofs: medieval vaults, and 1884 roof in vestry. Floors: 1851 and 1884. Finishes: 18th - early 19th century - 20th century.

Condition - good. Tower damp; some dressings weathered; ECM weathering.

Archaeological potential - good-very good. Deep, wide, revetted external drain around 30% of the church; shallow external drain around 70% of church; floor level raised in 10% of church?; suspended floors above heating ducts in 50% of church; heating chamber beneath 15% of church; external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting, openings in tower, doorway, benching, stoup and tomb recess with effigy; blocked early 17th century windows.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower; large churchyard with good memorials; 2 ECMs (SAM Pe 142); associated late medieval building

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13-14?
Phase 2 - Chancel, transepts and skew-passages, C14.
Phase 3 - West tower lower stages, late C14.
Phase 4 - South porch, C15.
Phase 5 - West tower belfry, mid-late C16.
(Phase 6 - Former vestry, 1825-27.)
Phase 7 - Restored 1850-51, low impact.
Phase 8 - Vestry, 1884.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

SS Nicholas and Teilo, Penally, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, single-bayed, asymmetrical north and south transepts with skew-passages, a south porch, a 3-storeyed west tower, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel. Construction is in limestone rubble, with some Old Red Sandstone. The church is barrel-vaulted throughout except in the vestry. There are medieval openings in the tower and porch, a medieval doorway, benching, stoup, tomb recess and ?coffin lid, and blocked medieval and 17th century windows; other openings, including the chancel arch, were rebuilt in 1851 (1884 in the vestry), in neo-Gothic style with yellow oolite dressings. There are the remains of 18th - early 19th century render; pointing is mainly from 1851 but the tower was repointed in 1877, and the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel east window is from 1851 and comprises 3 cusped lights with geometric tracery, beneath a 2-centred hoodmould, in yellow oolite (mullions weathered - possibly re-used?). The west half of the south wall has a slight external batter. A blocked window is visible in the exterior of the east bay south wall; It has 2 lights with crude, triangular heads in weathered limestone, probably from the late medieval - early modern period. Immediately to the west is a crude external stepped buttress, probably medieval. Internally, the north wall of the east bay exhibits 2 low, 2-centred, cusped recesses with attached shafts housing brass commandment panels from 1894. The 2-centred chancel arch is in double-chamfered oolite, without imposts or bases, from 1851. The chancel has a plain, medieval, 2-centred barrel-vault without springers. The tiled floor is from 1851.

The nave north wall has a pronounced external basal batter which stops short of the west end - extended west in the later medieval period?; it retains much 18th - early 19th century external render. It is pierced by 2 windows, both cut through the batter. To the east is a 2-light window with a moulded oolite rear-arch, without an outer arch, with cusped, 2-centred surrounds in yellow oolite from 1851, with surrounding infill occupying a possible larger, 2-centred former opening. To the west is a similar, single lancet also from 1851 and between the two is a blocked window with a square surround in chamfered Old Red Sandstone from the early 17th century, blocked before 1851? (see below). The south wall is pierced by a similar 2-light window also from 1851. The south door has a chamfered, 2-centred surround from 1851; to the east, the external wall exhibits a stoup with deep, semicircular limestone bowl in a square recess, probably from the 14th century. The medieval barrel-vault is like that in the chancel. The passages are tiled, from 1851, with suspended board floors probably from 1884 when the underfloor heating ducts were inserted.

The north transept is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred medieval arch reflecting the profile of its vault. The transept may originally have been wider, approaching the width of the south transept; west of the junction between the present west wall and the nave north wall is an area of squinching, coped back

to the nave wall above transept eaves level and with a small slated area, which may represent the stump of a former transept west wall. The present west wall masonry is unlike that in the east and north walls, which retain much 18th - early 19th century render, and the upper courses have been recently repaired. The transept is lit by an uncusped, graduated triple-lancet window in the north, gable wall, in yellow oolite from 1851. There is a blocked window in the east wall visible externally as a square, weathered, chamfered limestone surround from the early 17th century. The transept is vaulted as the nave and chancel, and floored as the nave. A horizontal score in the internal plaster, a third of the way up the walls, may indicate former seating. The skew-passage is entered through a very depressed, 2-centred arch in the east wall, south of which is a mid-height offset which stops at the nave arch. It has a depressed segmental vault, above which is a slated lean-to roof up to chancel eaves level; it was lit by a blocked window in its external wall which is visible externally as a 2-light opening with square heads in a square, chamfered surround in weathered limestone from the early 17th century. It emerges into the chancel via a wide opening with a depressed segmental head following the line of the vault. The transept is now used as a chapel.

The south transept is similarly entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred medieval arch reflecting the profile of its vault. It is similar to the north transept but wider, and the external render is less extensive. It is lit by a window in the south, gable wall like that in the north transept north wall and similarly from 1851. A blocked window in the east wall is also like that in the north transept east wall, and similarly from the early 17th century but with an Old Red Sandstone surround; beneath it is an internal tomb-recess with a plain, semicircular head from the 14th century, containing a limestone slab (coffin lid?) with male and female heads in relief, a much weathered cross and an inscription that apparently reads '*William de Hanton et Isamay sa femme (gisent) ici. Dieu de leur almes eyt merci. Amen*' and which may commemorate the son of a 14th century seneschal of Pembroke (RCAHM, 1925, 292). The skew-passage arch and offset, the vault, the floor and the horizontal score in the plaster, are like the north transept. The skew-passage is like that of the north transept but there is no evidence of any blocked window. The transept is now used as a chapel.

The south porch butts against the west wall of the south transept; the rubble walls have good medieval quoins. The side walls exhibit internal masonry benching, medieval but with oolite seating from 1851. The main entry has a rounded 2-centred surround in limestone, from the 15th century. The vault is like that in the nave, chancel and transepts. The quarry-tiled floor is from 1851.

The west tower is not typical of the region being small, narrow and tapered. It has an external basal batter, on a square plinth, but without a string-course, and lacks an external spiral stair turret. The 2 lower stages may be early, with detail similar to later 14th century towers (cf. Loveston Church, Pembs.), but the belfry stage was (re)built in the mid-late 16th century. The ground floor north wall lies under later 20th century external render. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch from the later 14th century, that respects the profile of the barrel-vault. The west wall is pierced by a doorway with a 2-centred head formed from 2 voussoirs, like that at Loveston Church, Pembs., and from the later 14th century. A 2-light window from 1851 lies above, like those in the nave. The flue from the 1884 heating ducts ascends the interior south-west corner. The 2-centred barrel-vault may have been rebuilt. The suspended board floor is probably from 1884 and may lie above medieval floor level. The second stage is lit by a slit light in the north wall and 2 rectangular lights in the west wall, the lower blocked, all from the later 14th century. The belfry stage is quoined, and is has uncusped, 4-centred, 2-light openings in the north and south faces, with square labels, and similar, single-light openings in the east and west faces, all from the mid-late 16th century. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table and exhibits a continuous string-course at the base of the merlons, which appears to be an original mid-late 16th century feature.

The vestry is in uncoursed Old Red Sandstone rubble from 1884 and was added to the east of the northern skew-passage; there are contemporary external angle-buttresses at the north-east and north-west corners and a low, chamfered offset. The vestry is entered from the chancel through a 2-centred doorway and from the churchyard through a doorway with a Caernarfon-headed surround in the north wall; both are from 1884. It is lit by a simple, single lancet with a chamfered oolite surround in the east, gable wall, also from 1884. Beneath the vestry is a heating chamber entered from the churchyard via a flight of 4 steps down to a

brick-lined, square-headed doorway now blocked with concrete. The softwood roof is an east-west gable, also from 1884.

A deep, wide, revetted external drain runs along the nave north wall, the west tower and south porch, and a shallow external drain surrounds the remainder. The tower ground floor may lie above medieval floor level, otherwise there is no evidence for floor-level changes. The nave and transept floors are suspended above heating ducts. There is a heating chamber beneath the vestry. External memorials and burial earthworks lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The nave is in limestone and Old Red Sandstone and may be earlier than the chancel and transepts, 13th - early 14th century?. The chancel and transepts are in limestone only and may be part of the trend for transept addition of the 14th century; they have similar vaults, and the externally-battered nave may have received its vault at the same time, and have been extended west without a batter (see above); this possible extension may, however, belong to the later 14th century when the west tower was added, with detail similar to other contemporary examples in the region (cf. Loveston Church, Pembs.). Only the lower two stages belong to this period; the belfry stage was (re)built in the mid-late 16th century with detail typical of the period. The south porch is typical of the 15th century in South Pembrokeshire. There are a number of blocked windows suggesting that a major refenestration occurred during the early 17th century; the chancel south window cannot be closely dated but may belong to the same campaign. The north transept may have been rebuilt as a narrower component during the post-medieval period. The vestry is 19th century.

The church was described in c.1810 as 'a nave with vaulted roof, separated from the chancel, vaulted also by a skreen (sic) of elegant workmanship. It has a transept: in the south aisle (sic) under a plain canopy is an ancient altar tomb... there were three other arched recesses in the same aisle (and) at the western extremity... (a) little steeple (Fenton, 1903, 243). No doubt by aisle, the description refers to the present south transept; the screen has gone.

Drawings from the early 19th century show a church very similar to the present building. The earliest, dated 1825 (NLW, MS 19125A), shows the tower as at present, including the merlons and coping, but there is a 3-light window in the north transept north wall of early 17th century character; no windows are shown in the nave north wall. By 1827 a vestry had been added (copy of drawing in NMR), on the site of the present vestry but with a transeptal gabled roof; a 2-light window of early 17th century character lay in the south transept south wall, and there was a (neo?)gothic east window. Similar fenestration, and the early vestry, are depicted in a drawing of 1819-39 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/2183), and also a former rood-stair which formed a semicircular 'turret', with a slit-light, projecting from the southern half of the nave east wall.

In 1833 the church had been 'recently repaired and enlarged by the erection of a gallery containing sixty additional sittings' (Lewis, 1833).

The church was restored in 1850-51 (Anon., n.d.; NMR), to the designs of the architect David Brandon, of Bloomsbury (Cadw, 1996, 1). It was refenestrated, refloored, replastered and probably reseated. The chancel arch was rebuilt. Wall paintings were observed 'in the church' during the restoration (NMR), but their location is unknown.

The tower was restored in 1877 (ibid.).

The vestry was added in 1884 with a below-ground heating chamber formerly housing a 'Grundy's' heating apparatus (Pembs. R.), HPR/45/11). In 1891 the church was the first in Pembrokeshire to receive electric lighting (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The softwood pews are from 1884. A large organ occupies the nave west bay, dated 1892. There is a later 19th century altar table in the north transept. The chancel has a panelled dado in a plain, neo-Classical

style, probably from the earlier 20th century. The readers' desk is probably contemporary. The square softwood pulpit is dated 1929. The plain altar table is later 20th century, as is that in the south transept. The softwood and glass tower screen is dated 1983.

The oolite font has a square, scalloped bowl on a cylindrical stem and a square base, all later 12th century.

There are 5 bells in the tower (Anon., n.d.), restored in 1878 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/45/12) and hung for chiming.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

Two ECMs (SAM Pe 142) now lie in the south transept; both originally stood in the churchyard. One is the well-known wheel-cross of 10th - 11th century date (PRN 4230) which formerly stood north-east of the church, the other (PRN 4229) is a contemporary cross-shaft that formerly stood south-west of the church and is now partially deteriorating.

SITE HISTORY

There good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:
Mixed dedication; 2 ECMs; pre-conquest documentary reference.

SS Nicholas and Teilo, Penally, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was assessed at £16 in 1291 (Green, 1913, 240). The advowson was granted to the prioress and convent of Aconbury, Herefordshire, by John de Barri, Lord of the Manor of Manorbier and Penally, in 1301 (ibid.).

At the dissolution, the advowson fell to the crown, and in 1541 a lease of the rectory was granted to Rice ap Morgan and Richard Merdon of Cranebroke, Kent (ibid.).

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage rated in the king's books at £4 17s 11, endowed with £200 royal bounty and in the patronage of the Bishop of St Davids (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 SS Nicholas and Teilo, Penally, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage of the Rectorial Benefice of Tenby (Benefice 702) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST DECUMANUS,
RHOSCROWTHER,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3240

RB No. 3085

NGR SM 9039 0220

Listed Building No. 6591

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; south chapel, 2 bays; north transept with skew-passage, 1 bay; south transeptal tower, 4 storeys; north porch; vestry (south of nave west bay), 1 bay; medieval. Coalhouse (north of nave west bay), 1864-1908. Limestone and ORS rubble construction; some 18th - 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; coalhouse with slate lean-to; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in transept, tower and porch; medieval tower openings and arch, chancel arch and blocked rood-loft doorway, chapel arcade, transept and skew-passage arches, sanctus bellcote, east window dressings, north and south doors, piscinae, north porch statuary and mouldings, stoups and tomb recesses; blocked medieval slit-lights and door, blocked medieval windows. Other openings are from 1915, neo-gothic, with oolite and ORS dressings. (Medieval tomb-recesses and effigy; two 13th century cross incised stones)

Roofs: medieval vaulting and timberwork from 1915. Floors: 1915. Finishes: 18th - 20th century

Condition - fair. Church closed; roof damaged; some external ivy.

Archaeological potential - excellent. Earthwork platform 'terrace' beneath 50% of church; shallow external drain around 100% of church; internal levels unaltered; suspended floors in 15% of church; no external memorials or burials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting, tower openings and arch, chancel arch and blocked rood-loft doorway, chapel arcade, transept and skew-passage arches, sanctus bellcote, east window dressings, north and south doors, piscinae, north porch statuary and mouldings, stoups and tomb recesses; blocked medieval slit-lights and door, blocked medieval windows.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower in coastal location; medieval churchyard cross base; churchyard contains 1830s schoolhouse; associated C19 rectory; nearby holy well

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Vestry (former chapel/cell?), C13.

Phase 2 - Chancel and nave, late C13 - early C14.

Phase 3 - North (and south) transept, mid C14.
Phase 4 - South chapel, late C14.
Phase 5 - North porch, mid C16.
Phase 6 - Tower (over south transept), late C16.
Phase 7 - Coalhouse, 1864-1908.
Phase 8 - Restored 1897, medium impact; tower partly rebuilt.
Phase 9 - Restored 1915, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Decumanus, Rhoscrowther, is a multicelled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 2-bayed south chapel, a single-bayed north transept with a skew-passage, a 4-storeyed south transeptal tower with a former skew-passage, a north porch, a coalhouse north of the nave west bay, and a single-bayed vestry (former chapel) south of the nave west bay. Construction is in limestone rubble, with some Old Red Sandstone. The transept, tower and porch are barrel-vaulted. The tower openings and arch, the chancel arch and blocked rood-loft doorway, the chapel arcade, the transept and skew-passage arches, the sanctus bellcote, some of the east window dressings, the north and south doors, the piscinae, the north porch statuary and mouldings, the stoups and the tomb recesses are medieval; there are blocked medieval slit-lights and a door, and blocked medieval windows in the north transept. Other windows were largely (re)built in 1915, in neo-Gothic style, with dressings in Old Red Sandstone and oolite. There are the remains of 18th - early 19th century external render on the chancel, chapel and north transept; pointing is mainly from 1915 but there is poor, later ribbon-pointing on the south walls. The interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables, the chancel with 'fish-scale' slates; the coalhouse has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen. Medieval tomb-recesses and effigy; two 13th century cross incised stones.

The chancel east window has a slightly pointed, semicircular rear-arch, medieval; the outer arch was rebuilt in 1915 as a 2-centred arch with a drip-mould, containing a 2-light, cusped window with a central trefoil, re-using some 14th century dressings in yellow oolite. An architect's plan (Bartosch, 1990) suggests that there may be an ambry to the north of the window, concealed by the present reredos. The north wall features extensive remains of 18th - early 19th century external render. It appears to have been always blind. Internally, the east bay features a tomb-recess from the late 14th century, with a surround of 5 straight cants with sink cusps, and a hood-mould with crockets and pinnacles; the recess, which is now empty, is shallow and the rear face has 20th century slate cladding. The surround interrupts an earlier plain, square ambry lying to the east. At the east end of the south wall is a piscina with a plain segmental head and a scalloped bowl, from the 13th century?. The lowish, 2-centred chancel arch is very plain, with square stops, and probably dates from the late 13th - early 14th century; north of the arch is a slight, semicircular squinch to the nave north wall, associated with the former rood-loft?, while to the south is a 2-centred recess with a stepped sill, representing a blocked rood-loft doorway?. Above, an empty, single sanctus bellcote lies eccentrically on the gable, with a semicircular headed opening from the 16th-17th century and a stepped profile to the north, above the gable apex. The softwood chancel roof is from 1915 and in the 'Arts & Crafts' tradition; it has collar-rafter trusses, every other pair of which is arch-braced from contemporary wall corbels. The plain tiled floor, in a similar style, may also be from 1915; there is no underfloor void.

The nave side walls have a slight, external basal batter. The north wall is pierced by a central doorway with a plain, 2-centred head from the late 13th - early 14th century; externally, a figure sculpture (of a king?) lies above the door while a plain stoup, with a triangular head, lies west of the door. A similar doorway, now blocked, lies opposite in the south wall. To the east of the former south door is a cusped 2-light window, set high in the wall, with a 2-centred outer arch and surround in grey oolite from 1915; below it is

a plain, square internal stoup. An internal corbel on the north wall of the east bay, and three corresponding corbels on the south wall, were associated with the former rood-loft. The west, gable wall is pierced by a 3-light window with cusped, simple geometric tracery and a 2-centred drip-mould, in yellow oolite from 1915. The softwood nave roof is from 1915 and has king-post trusses, arch-braced from contemporary wall corbels. The plain tiled floor is like that in the chancel, with no underfloor void.

The south chapel communicates with the chancel via a 2-bayed arcade of slightly pointed semicircular arches with plain, square sections, chamfered into an equally plain central octagonal pier, without a base; the arcade cannot be closely dated but it is probably late 14th century. Above the arcade is a line of corbels at the wall-top, some of them medieval, which support the present wall-plate apparently reflecting their original function. The chapel is lit by a 2-light window in the east wall, with cusped neo-Perpendicular tracery in a 2-centred surround and drip-mould, with plain stops, all of yellow oolite from 1915; the 2-centred outer arch may be medieval. A medieval, internal splayed aumbry, with a segmental head, lies beneath and south of the window. There are 2 further, contemporary windows in the south wall, each of 2 cusped lights with a central quatrefoil, in a 2-centred surround of chamfered Old Red Sandstone, but without outer arches. Between them is a stepped external buttress, from 1915. The east end of the internal face of the south wall features a piscina with a cusped, ogival head from the later 14th century and a scalloped bowl replaced in the 20th century. The west half exhibits 2 late 14th century tomb recesses, cusped like that in the chancel but without the surrounds, crockets and pinnacles and with depressed, 2-centred profiles. The east recess contains the recumbent, limestone effigy of a lady, dateable to the late 14th century, while the west recess is empty. The west wall is shared with the former south transept and skew-passage; the passage was truncated when the chapel was added but the segmental arch through the wall, like that in the north transept and similarly from the mid 14th century, survives. The softwood chapel roof is from 1915 and has collar-rafter trusses, arch-braced from the wall-plates. The plain tiled floor is like that in the chancel and nave, but with a suspended board floor over a void in the southern half.

The north transept is entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch which reflects the profile of its vault. It is lit by a cusped 2-light window in the north wall, with a 2-centred surround, in Old Red Sandstone from 1915, inserted through the 18th - earlier 19th century external render, with infill. Beneath the window is a tomb-recess, now empty, its plain segmental head with voussoirs like the transept arches and with a similar mid 14th century date and with a sill that projects out as 'benching'. A blocked window is visible as an internal recess in the east wall; it is tall, splayed, with a segmental head, medieval?, with vague indications of blocking visible externally. A similar blocked window lies in the west wall, the outline of the blocking being visible beneath the external render; this window may have been blocked when the north porch was added in the 16th century (see Structural Development below). The plain, 2-centred barrel-vault has a slightly rounded profile. Floored as the nave. The skew-passage is entered through a low irregular arch and has a depressed segmental vault which exits into the chancel as an arch; the passage is lit by a cusped, 2-light window in its outer wall with a square surround in chamfered Old Red Sandstone from 1915. The north transept is traditionally known as the 'Hendleton Chapel' (RCAHM, 1925, 306); in 1925 it apparently contained the 'pedestal of a 15th century shrine' (ibid.).

The former south transept now forms the ground floor of the 4-storeyed tower. The south and west walls were rebuilt, or refaced and thickened, in large, coursed and squared limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble when the upper stages were added in the later 16th century, to create a tower that, in detail, is unlike any other in South-west Wales. It lacks the basal batter typical of the majority, the exterior is divided by a number of string-courses, and the parapet has corner pinnacles, but the tower does feature a basal, moulded string-course and a spiral stair turret, which projects from the south-west corner, is entered from the ground floor through a door with a low, monolithic segmental head, from the later 16th century, and is lit by regular, square slit-lights. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a 2-centred arch which reflects the profile of its vault, like that in the north transept and of similar mid 14th century date. It is lit by window in the south wall with a 2-centred opening, partly 16th century, with 2 cusped lights and a central quatrefoil in a 2-centred, yellow oolite surround partly from the 16th century but rebuilt in 1915. The barrel-vault is like that in the north transept, with an inserted, circular bell-raising port. Floored as the nave. The second stage was partly rebuilt in 1897. It is defined externally by 2 external string-courses, copied from the original tower, with a third string-course lower down on the stair turret, and is lit by an uncusped

single lancet in the east wall with a square, Perpendicular oolite surround and sunk spandrels. The third stage was similarly partly rebuilt and is lit by a simple, semicircular headed lancet in the east wall. The belfry stage, also partly rebuilt, has 2-light openings with simple semicircular heads in the east and west walls, and similar, single-light openings in the north and south walls. The tall, crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, has been rebuilt, including the rainwater chutes on the south face, and the plain corner pinnacles with the basal fillets, but all rebuilding is in imitation of the original, late 16th century work.

The north porch doorway is a wide, full-centred semicircular arch from the 16th century with large voussoirs, a central weathered figure sculpture and 2 flanking shield devices, mouldings which were apparently brought from the nearby church at Angle (RCAHM, 1925, 306).. Internally the side walls exhibit masonry benching, medieval but with slate seating from 1915. The 2-centred barrel-vault is also 16th century. The flag and cobble floor is 20th century and laid directly upon the substrate.

The vestry was converted from a medieval chapel or cell in 1915. It is entered through the south wall of the nave west bay through a plain, 2-centred arch, from the late 13th - early 14th century; it is also entered from the churchyard through a doorway in the west wall with a double roll-and-cavetto moulded, 2-centred opening in a square surround with trefoil-moulded spandrels, in yellow oolite from 1915. The east wall features a blocked slit-light with crude, 2-centred, splayed embrasure from the 13th century; to the south is a blocked doorway with a segmental head that may be later medieval. The south, gable wall features a similar blocked slit-light and an inserted single lancet with a cusped, oolite surround and dripmould from 1915. A blocked fireplace lies in the south-west corner with a square chimney offset to a square ashlar stack with trefoiled, gabled smoke-vents. The softwood, north-south running close-coupled roof is from 1915. Floored as the nave.

A small coalhouse was inserted in the angle between the north porch west wall and the nave between 1864 and 1908 (see Structural Development below). The walls are of Old Red Sandstone and limestone rubble but the north, lean-to wall is concreted and pierced by a simple doorway with a concrete lintel. The lean-to roof continues the porch roof western slope.

The church is surrounded by a shallow external drain, deeper around the north porch and north transept. The church lies upon an earthwork platform 'terrace', with an east-west running scarp south of the building which appears to project as a semicircle south of the tower. Internal levels appear to be unaltered and floors are suspended only in the south chapel. No external memorials or burials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The vestry has traditionally been regarded as a former chapel or 'cell', and as the earliest component of the present fabric; there appears to be no reason to suggest otherwise and the blocked slit-lights suggest a 13th century date. The component may have stood alone until the nave and chancel were added in the later 13th or early 14th century. The north transept, and the south transept in its original form, were probably added in the mid 14th century during the widespread trend for transept construction. The south chapel can be dated on stylistic grounds to the late 14th century. The highly decorative north porch was added in the mid 16th century; the tower, which with its string-courses and pinnacled parapet is unlike any others in South-west Wales, may have been constructed over the south transept somewhat later in the 16th century. The sanctus bellcote appears to be 16th - 17th century in style.

The church was described by Lewis, in 1833, as 'a venerable structure of very great antiquity, in the early style of English architecture, but is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural details' (Lewis, 1833). A drawing of the church from the north-east, from c.1852 (Freeman, 1852, pl.) shows the building much as it exists at present. However, a medieval, cusped 2-light window appears to be shown in the north wall of the north transept and the chancel and south chapel east walls exhibit square sash-windows inserted

into partially-blocked, 2-centred ?medieval outer arches. The north transept east wall window was already blocked, but there is no window into the skew-passage.

The tower was 'rebuilt' in 1897, according to a plaque within the church, but the work replicated the original arrangements including the parapet pinnacles, which are shown on the c.1852 drawing (ibid.). The coalhouse was added at some period between 1864 (Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition) and 1908 (Ordnance Survey 1:2500 second edition).

The remainder of the church remained more-or-less unrestored until 1915, and then the restoration was of low impact, under the architect W. D. Caröe (Caröe, 1915). The present fenestration was inserted, and the chapel/cell was converted into a vestry with a fireplace and door. The church was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated, in the 'Arts & Crafts' tradition..

The tower was repointed in 1925 (Bartosch, 1993, 10).

The softwood pulpit is dated 1868. The large organ in the north transept is dated 1870 and has softwood and oolite railed enclosure. The plain oak stalls and reader's desk, the low, oak altar rail, the plain box-pews and the plain benches in the south chapel are in the 'Arts & Crafts' tradition and from 1915. The commandment panels either side of the west window may be contemporary. The softwood, Gothic, panelled altar table and reredos appear to be early-mid 20th century and may be among the fittings recovered from the nearby church at Pwllcrochan in 1982, but there is a similar screen between the nave and vestry. The south chapel altar table and reredos are similar to those in the chancel, dated 1931 and known to have been brought from Pwllcrochan. Also in the chapel is a second softwood pulpit, earlier 20th century, presumably also from Pwllcrochan.

The limestone font has a square, scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem and a square base, from the later 12th century. A similar font lies loose in the north porch, from Pwllcrochan?.

There are 3 bells in the tower, recast in 1884 and 1885 (Bartosch, 1990).

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

The two wheelhead-cross incised slabs lying loose in the south chapel church have been dated to the late 13th century (RCAHM, 1925, 306); they appear to be grave slabs. A loose, square ?stoup bowl also lies in the chapel.

There is a medieval cross-base in the churchyard.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Celtic dedication; probable former 'bishop house'; nearby holy well.

St Decumanus, Rhoscrowther, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The living was a rectory, in the hands of the Earls of Pembroke by the 14th century at least (Green, 1913, 257). The church was assessed at £13 6s 8d in 1291, the sum payable being £1 6s 8d (ibid.). An alternative name for the site appears to have been 'Llandegeman' (Rees, 1932).

By the 16th century the right of presentation had been acquired by the crown (Green, 1913, 257) with which it was vested in 1833 when the rectory was rated in the king's books at £15 12s 11d (Lewis, 1833)..

In 1998 St Decumanus, Rhoscrowther, was a parish church but closed. The living was held with Castlemartin, Warren, Angle and Pwllcrochan (Benefice 597) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8). The future of the church was uncertain.

One of the pre-Conquest bishop houses of Dyfed stood at or near the site, and there is an associated holy well also dedicated to St Decumanus.

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**ST MICHAEL,
COSHESTON,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3520

RB No. 3071

NGR SN 0007 0366

Listed Building No. 5955

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 60% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large sized. Consists of a chancel, 4 bays; nave, 4 bays; north aisle, 3 bays; south transept, 1 bay; south porch; west tower, 2 storeys including the nave west bay; medieval. Vestry (north of chancel), 3 bays, 1885. Boilerhouse (east of vestry), c.1900. Limestone rubble construction; some remains of 18th - early 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry and boilerhouse with slate lean-to roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in tower/nave west bay; medieval tower openings, ?sedilia, tomb recess and blocked doors including skew passage; blocked 17th - 18th century window. All internal arcades and chancel arch, and most other openings from 1885, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs, floors and finishes: mainly 1885 (some earlier external render).

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, wide revetted cutting around 30% of church; internal levels lowered in 100% of church; below-ground floor in 5% of church?; suspended floors above heating flues in 70% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church; known burials beneath 15% of church; well beneath 5% of church?; external memorials lie significantly close to 40% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good - very good. 60% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings and vault, ?sedilia, tomb recess and blocked doors including skew passage; blocked 17th - 18th century window.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church on hillside, within planned and planted medieval settlement; churchyard with good memorials; earthworks (of former, larger churchyard?) in neighbouring field.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - Chancel west bays, south transept, south porch (and former north transept?), C14.

Phase 3 - West tower, north aisle, early C16.

Phase 4 - Restored earlier C19, high impact; chancel rebuilt and extended, vestry built.

Phase 5 - Restored 1885, high impact; new vestry built.

Phase 6 - Boilerhouse, c.1900.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Michael, Cosheston, is a multicelled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 60% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a long, 4-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north aisle, a single-bayed south transept (with a former skew passage), a 2-storeyed west tower over the nave west bay, a 3-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bays, and a boilerhouse east of the vestry. Construction is in limestone rubble. There are the remains of 18th - early 19th century render on the transept south wall; pointing is mainly from 1885, with some 20th century repointing, and the interior is plastered. The nave west bay (beneath the tower) is barrel-vaulted. The tower openings are medieval; there is a medieval ?sedilia in the nave, the remains of a tomb recess, a blocked door, skew passage and blocked 17th - 18th century window. Other openings, including the chancel arch and internal arcades, are mainly from 1885, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry and boilerhouse have slated lean-to roofs while the tower roof was not seen.

The cusped triple lancet chancel east window is from 1885 but may occupy an earlier opening; it has an elaborate internal surround with Purbeck marble shafts. The east bay is also lit by an uncusped single lancet in each side wall, also 1885, and there are 2 similar double lancets in the south wall the western of which occupies an earlier opening retaining part of its brick surround from the early 19th century. The moulded, 2-centred chancel arch is from 1885. The softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1885 and features carved bosses at the frame intersections. The passage is tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1885.

The nave north and west walls have a pronounced, sloping basal batter, medieval. There is a double lancet window in the south wall of the west bay, in a 2-centred surround, all from 1885 but occupying an earlier embrasure. The south door has a 2-centred surround with a hoodmould from 1885, possibly in a medieval opening; internally, to the east is a double recess with 2 plain 2-centred arches supported on a central corbel, all 13th century?, which appears to represent a sedilia but may be the well-head of a medieval baptistery (RCAHM, 1925, 83). The west wall was probably rebuilt when the tower was added in the early 16th century, and its north end continues as a flying buttress incorporating steps, from 1885. The softwood nave roof is from 1885, with trifoliate collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall-corbels, matchboarded above. The passages are concreted above heating flues, with suspended board floors, from 1885, and there is a contemporary underground chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove.

The north aisle communicates with the nave east bay via an arcade of 3 moulded, 2-centred arches on cylindrical shafts with circular, moulded capitals and bases, from 1885. The aisle is lit by 2 windows in the north wall, like the nave south wall window but 2-light, from 1885 but occupying earlier embrasures. Between the two is a blocked, square-headed window from the 17th - 18th centuries, blocked before 1885 (NLW, SD/F/130), and high in the east wall is a blocked, triangular opening with a brick head, early 19th century. The softwood roof is like that in the nave, 1885. Floored as the nave.

The south transept is entered through a 2-centred arch rebuilt like the aisle arcade in 1885. The north end of the east wall features the partially blocked, segmental-headed entry into a former skew-passage, blocked before 1885 (*ibid.*). It is lit by a triple lancet window like in the chancel and also from 1885, but in an earlier embrasure which itself interrupts a segmental-headed tomb recess below. The west wall is very irregular and features at least one blocked opening, a doorway to a former south porch parvis?. The softwood roof is from 1885 and lacks trusses, being matchboarded above the common rafters. Floored as the nave. The transept contains many memorials and is known as the 'Paskeston Chapel'.

The south porch is medieval, and may formerly have featured a first floor parvis (see above); the east wall, which features a medieval plain, square stoup recess, is very irregular. The 2-centred doorway, with a dripmould and infill, is from 1885. The porch is roofed as the transept, from 1885, and has a concrete floor.

The west tower comprises just 2 storeys, the lower of which is represented by a recess in the nave west bay with a 2-centred vault and a surround rebuilt in 1885 like the aisle arcade; the recess is lit by a triple lancet window beneath a hoodmould, all from 1885. The second stage is corbelled out from the west wall and entered through a square-headed doorway above the northern nave gable, reached by the external stair described above. It has a 2-light, semicircular-headed opening in the east wall, 2-centred single-light openings in the south and west walls, and a segmental single light in the west wall, all from the early 16th century but partly rebuilt, along with the crenellated parapet and external corbel table. The tower is similar to that at Minwear, S. Pems..

The vestry was added in 1885. It communicates with the 3 chancel west bays via an arcade of 3 hoodmoulded arches, otherwise like the north aisle arcade and also from 1885; it is also entered from the north aisle through a moulded, triangular headed doorway in the west wall, and entered from the churchyard through a doorway in the north wall with a Caernarfon surround, both from 1885. There is a 3-light window in the north wall which is otherwise as the chancel windows, 1885. A blocked fireplace, from 1885, lies in the east wall; the chimney has gone. The softwood lean-to roof is from 1885 and matchboarded above the rafters. Probably floored as the chancel, but concealed beneath linoleum.

The lean-to boilerhouse was built against the vestry east wall between 1885 and 1907. It is entered from the churchyard, through a plain 2-centred doorway in its north wall, and lit by a single lancet in the east wall. The lean-to roof runs up to the vestry; the floor may be below ground level.

A deep, wide revetted cutting runs around the north and west walls, and the south porch west wall; there is no further external drainage. All internal levels were lowered in 1885. The boilerhouse floor may be below ground level. Floors are suspended above heating flues, and there is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave. There are many known burials beneath the south transept. There may be a well beneath the nave south wall. Many external memorials lie significantly close to the south walls.

Structural development

The nave may be 13th century, and may incorporate the contemporary chancel if the recess in the nave south wall is a sedilia. The chancel west bays, and the south transept with its former skew passage, and south porch (with its possible former parvis) may be 14th century, but the chancel has been much rebuilt; a corresponding north transept and skew passage may have been present (hinted at in RCAHM, 1925, 83). The west tower is from the early 16th century and formerly possessed a contemporary octagonal spire; the north aisle has similar fabric and may be contemporary; it features a blocked 17th - 18th century window.

The weathervane on the former spire was dated 1781, which may refer to a restoration. The chancel was rebuilt, with some brick openings, after 1830, and extended eastwards; in a drawing of 1830 it is noticeably short (NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb. A, PB5121). The removal of the northern skew passage and its replacement with a small vestry may be contemporary. Further work appears to have been undertaken, for in 1842 Lewis described the church as a 'neat modern structure, in the early style of English architecture' (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The rebuilt church was depicted in 1885 much as today (NLW, SD/F/130), but without the present vestry and boilerhouse. The north aisle lacked an arcade being separated from the nave by a solid wall with a wide break at either end. Most present windows occupy earlier embrasures, but only one window was present in the chancel side walls, at the west end of the south wall; the windows are depicted as 2-light, neo-gothic windows with simple cusped tracery by Freeman, 1852, 171. The then vestry was entered from the aisle through a doorway to the south of the present vestry door.

The church was restored in 1885 (NLW, SD/F/130), to the designs of the architect Stephen Williams of Rhayader. The work was high impact. The vestry was added, the aisle arcade was rebuilt and all openings rebuilt or refenestrated. New windows were inserted in the chancel and a new doorway inserted between the north aisle and the new vestry. The upper courses of all walls were rebuilt and the church was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated..

The boilerhouse was added between 1885 and 1907 (shown on the Ordnance Survey second edition). The west tower spire was removed in the mid 20th century.

The softwood stalls, pews, pulpit and vestry screens are from 1885 and the oolite and Purbeck marble reredos is probably contemporary, as is the tiled dado in the nave west bay recess. The organ in the vestry is dated 1886. The oak rood-beam and transept screen are from 1926 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/14/15). The panelled dado in the chancel is dated 1945.

The oolite font is 19th - 20th century.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

In the field adjoining the south side of the churchyard is a system of earthwork banks, which may partly be derived from an earlier, larger churchyard boundary (D. Benson, *Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology, pers. comm.*).

SITE HISTORY

There no some equivocal evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Possible pre-conquest Latin dedication?; earthwork evidence of former, larger churchyard?.

St Michael, Cosheston, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It appears to have always been in the patronage of the Lords of the Manor of Cosheston. In 1291, it was assessed at £14 13s 4d. (Green, 1911, 283).

The patronage had passed to the Owen family of Orielton by 1594 (ibid.), where it remained until the 19th century. In 1833 the living, a discharged rectory, was rated in the king's books at £11 12s 11d and in the patronage of the Sir John Owen, Bart. (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Michael, Cosheston, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Nash and Upton (Benefice 583) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST TEILO,
CRINOW,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 4925

RB No. 3179

NGR SN 1276 1437

Listed Building No. 6536

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; ?40% pre 19th century core fabric.

A 3 cell church, small. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; partly medieval?. South porch, mid 19th century. Vestry (north of chancel), 1 bay; boilerhouse (north of vestry); 1894. Local rubble construction, vestry and boilerhouse in brick; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry and boilerhouse with slate lean-to roofs. Base of chancel arch, medieval?. Mid 19th century doors and window, neo-Gothic; remainder of windows are from 1894, neo-Perpendicular, with grey oolite dressings. Simple, gabled single bellcote, 18th century?.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1894.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, wide external cutting around 50% of church, with corresponding earthwork platform beneath 50% of church, primary?; shallow, concrete drain around 20% of church; below-ground floor in 5% of church; suspended floors over heating flues in 90% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - fair. 40% pre-19th century core fabric; chancel arch partly medieval?.

Group value - low-medium. Medieval church, largely rebuilt.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, medieval core.

Phase 2 - Restored 1839, high impact; south porch built.

Phase 3 - Restored 1894, high impact; vestry and boilerhouse built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Teilo, Crinow, is a 3-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 740% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a south porch, a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay, and a boilerhouse north of the vestry. Construction is in local rubble; pointing is mainly 19th century with areas of poor 20th century repointing, and the interior is plastered. The vestry and boilerhouse are in brick. The chancel arch may be fundamentally medieval; doors and windows are mid 19th century, the latter with 'Y'-tracery, or from 1894 and neo-Perpendicular; dressings are in grey oolite. There is a simple, gabled single bellcote at the west end, 18th century?. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry and boilerhouse have slated lean-to roofs.

The chancel was largely rebuilt in the mid-19th century (Thomas, 1964). The 3-light, cusped, neo-Perpendicular east window is from 1894. The plain, 4-centred chancel arch was rebuilt in the mid-19th century but the base may be medieval (ibid.). The softwood 'wagon-roof' matchboarded ceiling is from 1894; the flagged floor is of the same date, overlying heating flues, but the flags may be re-used.

The nave north wall leans out markedly. The north and south walls each feature a window like the east window and similarly from 1894. The plain, 4-centred south door is similar to the chancel arch and from the mid-19th century when the south wall was rebuilt (ibid.). The 2-light west window is also from the mid-19th century and has 'Y'-tracery; above it is a crude, gabled single bellcote, with a 2-centred opening, that may be earlier, 18th century?. The nave is ceiled as the chancel, 1894. The passages are flagged above heating flues, with re-used flags?, with suspended board floors, from 1894.

The plain, small south porch was added in the mid-19th century and has a contemporary 4-centred doorway like the south door. The collar-rafter roof is concealed by matchboarding from 1894. Flagged as the nave, transept is entered through a 2-centred arch reflecting the profile of its vaulting, and is lit by a double lancet window in its south wall from 1870-72. The medieval vault has a rounded 2-centred profile. Floored as the nave.

The lean-to, brick vestry is from 1894 and entirely open to the nave. It is lit by a simple, single 'lancet' window in the north wall, 1894. The roof continues the chancel roof northern slope but the matchboarded ceiling, also from 1894, is 'gabled'. Floored as the chancel. The below-ground boilerhouse lies against the north wall and continues the roof slope down to churchyard level; it is similarly of brick, with a plain doorway in the east wall, with a concrete lintel, reached via a flight of 7 steps. The 1894 firebox survives internally.

A deep, wide external cutting runs along the north and east sides, at least partly primary where the church is built into the hillside; there is a corresponding slight platform beneath the southern half of the church. A shallow, concrete drain runs along the west wall. The boilerhouse floor is below ground. Floors are suspended above heating flues. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The church now appears to be post-medieval but Thomas, 1964, attributed most of the fabric to before the 18th century, probably medieval, including the base of the chancel arch.

The church was in poor repair in 1710, and again in 1833 (Nicholas, 1994, 3). It was reroofed in 1839 (ibid.) when the south porch may have been added (it is not shown on the tithe map published in 1840, but had been added by the time of the Ordnance Survey first edition of 1888, and the tithe survey was undoubtedly earlier than 1840); in addition, the south wall and chancel were rebuilt in the 19th century on

the earlier footings (Thomas, 1964) and the work was probably contemporary. The nave west window is probably of similar date, but the simple bellcote may be rather earlier.

The church was restored in 1894 (Nicholas, 1994, 3) when the vestry and boilerhouse were added, most of the windows were replaced, and the present roofs and floors were inserted, the latter probably re-using earlier flags. The interior was replastered and reseated

The softwood pews, pulpit and vestry screen are from 1894.

The font is mid-19th century.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Teilo, Crinow, was not a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of the medieval Deanery of Carmarthen, when it appears to have been known as Llandeilo Velfrey (Green, 1911, 285). By 1594, at least, it was in crown patronage (ibid.).

Crinow had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a discharged rectory in the patronage of the king, was endowed with £600 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Teilo, Crinow, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Narberth, Mounton and Robeston Wathen (Benefice 631) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
CASTLEMARTIN,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 562

RB No. 3089

NGR SR 9106 9888

Listed Building No. 5948

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; north aisle, with skew-passage, 4 bays; south transeptal tower; 3 storeys; south porch (formerly with parvis); medieval. Vestry (north of chancel; over cellar/boilerhouse) 1 bay, 1858. (Former north chapel, 2 bays; south chapel; 2 bays; north transept; 1 bay; medieval. Former west porch, early 17th century?.) Limestone rubble construction, with remains of early 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof; tower with slate pyramidal roof. Medieval arcades (open and blocked), south porch vault, doorways, corbelling and benching, piscina, stoup, medieval tower with vault, openings and parapet. Windows and doors rebuilt 1835 and 1858, neo-Gothic, with limestone dressings. Chancel arch, 20th century?. Tower formerly with 'saddleback' roof.

Roofs: medieval vaults and 1858 timberwork. Floors: 1858. Finishes: early 19th century and 1858.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good. Very deep, wide, earth cutting around 50% of church, primary; very shallow, external brick-lined drain around 100% of church; below-ground floor in 5% of church; former components beyond 30% of present church; levels unchanged; suspended floors over void; no external memorials significantly close to the church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval arcades, piscina, stoup, porch vault, corbels, doors and benching, tower openings, parapet and vault. Tower formerly with 'saddleback' roof.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; very large terraced churchyard with associated medieval vicarage building (Grade II* listed), ?C19 cross and good memorials; lych-gate; boundary with medieval ?consecration cross and post-medieval mounting block (Grade II listed).

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave and chancel, C13?.

(Phase 2 - Former north and south chapels, C14 (earlier).)

Phase 3 - South (and former north) transepts, C14 (later).

Phase 4 - Tower over south transept, C15.

Phase 5 - North aisle, south porch, later C15.

Phase 6 - Tower belfry stage, early C16.

(Phase 7 - Former west porch, early C17 or early C19.)

Phase 8 - Restored 1858, high impact, vestry built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Michael and All Angels, Castlemartin, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 90% pre 19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 4-bayed north aisle and skew-passage, a south transeptal 3-storeyed tower, a south porch (formerly with a first floor parvis) and a single-bayed vestry, over a cellar/boilerhouse, north of the chancel central bay. A 2-bayed north chapel, a 2-bayed south chapel, a north transept, and a west porch, were also formerly present. Construction is in local limestone rubble. There is medieval arcading, both open and blocked, but openings are mainly from 1858, neo-Gothic, with limestone dressings. There are the remains of early 19th century external render in the north aisle; pointing is mainly from 1858, and the interior is plastered. The tower ground floor, the skew-passage and the porch are barrel-vaulted. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof and the tower has a slated pyramidal roof.

The chancel weeps markedly. The east window has plain-cusped triple lancets from 1858; a ?medieval, rounded 2-centred outer arch can be seen at a higher level externally. There are cusped, single lancets in the east bay side walls, also from 1858, and the outline of a blocked medieval lancet is visible immediately to the west in the south wall. The 2 western bays of each side wall were formerly open arcades, each of two 2-centred arches of 2 plain orders, on a cylindrical pier (2 in the north arcade) with a plain-moulded abacus and torus, 14th century. The east bay of the northern arcade has been blocked, with an inserted 2-centred doorway from 1858. Both southern bays have been blocked, and feature uncusped 2-light windows with plain plate tracery from 1858. Internally, the east bay south wall features a piscina with a 2-centred recess, medieval?. The plain, 2-centred chancel arch has chamfered stops and may be 20th century (see below); the northern stop is detached from the western pier of the north wall arcade. The chancel, unusually, is roofed at a higher level than the nave, with a softwood collar-rafter roof arch-braced from wall-plates, all 1858?. The floor similarly incorporates 7 full-width steps down to the nave, and is tiled, from 1858 but probably respecting earlier levels.

The nave south door was rebuilt, with a 2-centred surround, in 1858. There is an internal, straight stair in the thickness of the south wall, connecting the porch to the second stage of the south transeptal tower, with a slated, lean-to roof which follows its line downhill towards the west. It is lit by a 15th century single lancet on both the internal and external faces, and there is a contemporary doorway into the nave at the foot of the stair, now blocked. The south wall to the west of the porch appears to have been rebuilt above the level of the external basal offset batter, which exhibits a cut-out which was, until 1858, associated with a relieving arch. The wall now features a 2-light window like those in the chancel which, along with the rebuilt wall, is from 1858. Externally, the west wall exhibits the amorphous blocking of a former west door, medieval?, blocked in 1858; above it is a window like that in the south wall but with a trifoliate spandrel, from 1858. The softwood roof has queen-post trusses arch-braced from wall corbels, all from 1858?. The passages are quarry-tiled, with suspended board floors, also from 1858.

The north aisle communicates with the nave through an arcade of four 2-centred arches, each with a 2-centred head of 2 orders, on octagonal piers with semi-cylindrical attached shafts to the north and south and chamfered into the imposts and bases; all in limestone ashlar, later 15th century?. The southern half of the east wall opens, as a half-arch to the westernmost pier of the chancel arcade, into the ?earlier 15th century skew passage, which is vaulted, and floored as the nave passages, and lit by single plain lancet from 1858. The east gable exhibits the crease of a lower roof line, and the wall by a 2-light window from 1858, like those in the chancel. In the north wall of the east bay is a large, full-height arch with a rounded 2-centred profile, visible on both faces and represented internally by a recess; the arch may have led into a transept, but it is more likely that the east bay absorbed an earlier transept which extended further north. The arch blocking is pierced by a plain-cusped double lancet window from 1858; the north wall features 3 further windows, all simple uncusped lancets similarly from 1858 but possibly occupying medieval embrasures. The west wall is pierced by a window like that in the nave west wall, 1858. The softwood roof lacks trusses, all rafters being scissors-braced from wall-plates, all from 1858?. Floored as the nave.

The south transept/tower ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch, above which the nave south wall is corbelled out to support the body of the tower over the transept. The east wall of the ground floor is represented by a blocked 2-centred arch, from the 14th century, which led into the former south chapel. The single lancet in the south wall is from 1835 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/57/6) and may occupy a contemporary embrasure. The barrel-vault has a 2-centred profile and is 14th century; the suspended board floor appears to lie over a void. The tower was built over the existing vault in the 15th century; it tapers markedly and both succeeding stages are vaulted. The second stage is entered from the passage in the nave south wall (see above) and lit by 2 openings in the east wall, the lower a plain square-headed slit-light, the upper a plain single lancet. In the east and west walls can be seen the impressions of a former, steeply gabled saddleback roof. The belfry stage is an addition of the early 16th century when the second stage was given a vault. It has a plain, square-headed slit-light in the north, west and east faces, and there are 2, wide, 2-centred independent openings in the south wall, early 16th century, whose heads interrupt the crenellated parapet which lies on an external corbel table, also early 16th century but much restored, and incorporating rainwater chutes.

The south porch is from the later 15th century. It formerly comprised 2 storeys, the medieval corbels for a first floor parvis being visible on the internal face of both side walls, which both also feature medieval masonry benching. In the east wall are 2 doorways, both with simple, 2-centred heads and leading onto a straight stairway in the thickness of the irregular wall, which leads to the tower stairway in the thickness of the nave south wall; the parvis-level doorway is blocked. A medieval stoup with a plain recess occupies the same wall. The main, south wall entrance doorway has a large, rounded 2-centred arch, later 15th century, but the double-chamfered surround was rebuilt in 1858. A blocked medieval lancet into the parvis lies above. The porch has a 2-centred barrel vault from the later 15th century. The quarry-tiled floor is from 1858 and laid directly on the substrate.

The vestry was added in 1858, and lies over a cellar/boilerhouse entered from the churchyard down a steep flight of steps to a plain square doorway in its west wall. The vestry itself is lit by a plain-cusped double-lancet window in both the east and south walls, from 1858, and there is a contemporary, disused fireplace with a Caernarfon head in the south wall; the chimney has gone. The softwood rafters of the lean-to roof are from 1858, as is the quarry-tiled floor.

The eastern half of the church lies in a very deep, wide, earth cutting, primary, cut into the hillslope. The church is surrounded by a very shallow, external brick-lined drain. The vestry cellar/boilerhouse is below ground. North and south chapels, and a west porch, were formerly present beyond the present church. There is no evidence for floor level changes. Floors are suspended over a void. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

According to Thomas, 1964, there are some 'fragments of possible 12th century date in the chancel', but these are not described and were not seen. Both nave and chancel, however, appear to pre-date the addition of the side chapels to the chancel, which - sequentially if not markedly stylistically, appear to be 14th century. The north chapel appears to have been short-lived and when the north and south transepts were added, later in the 14th century, it was replaced by a skew passage. The transepts were probably vaulted from the first, but the south transept received a tower with a 'saddleback' roof in the 15th century; this was entered via its second stage from a stairway in the thickness of the nave south wall. The doorway to this stairway was blocked in the later 15th century when the south porch, with a first floor parvis, was added, which incorporated a new doorway onto the tower stair. The replacement of the north transept with a north aisle may be contemporary. The addition of a crenellated belfry stage in the tower can be dated by its large openings, similar to those at Manorbier Church, to the (early?) 16th century; the former west porch may have been early 17th century (see below).

The church was described as having been 'repaired within the last 10 years' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833), and churchwarden's accounts for 1820 refer to the reroofing of the north aisle, and in 1823 the pews, pulpit and reading desk were repaired (Pembs. R. O., HPR/57/6). The present south transept window was inserted in 1835 replacing a late 18th - early 19th century sash window (ibid.).

The church was the subject of a number of mid 19th century drawings, all from the south-west (Haverfordwest Library, prints and pictures; NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb. B, PA2550; RCAHM, 1925, 64), in a form largely like that of today; the south chapel had already gone. It had largely retained its Gothic character, but there was a sash window in the chancel south wall, and the main south porch door had been blocked with an inserted small, square-headed doorway. The nave south-west window was a single 'medieval lancet, lying over a large relieving arch of unknown function; the west windows of both nave and north aisle appear to be similar, single lancets. The former west porch is shown in a form that appears 'Jacobean', with a 4-centred doorway and a 'pedimented' gable end; it may, however, have been an early 19th century addition. The nave roof apex was not continuous, being roofed at 2 levels.

The church was restored, in 1858 according to the guide within the church, but no details of the restoration, nor the architect responsible, are known. The west porch was removed and the west door blocked. The vestry was added. The doorways, in particular the south porch door, were rebuilt and the church was almost entirely refenestrated. The interior was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated.

There were minor repairs to the tower in 1876-7 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/57/6).

The present chancel arch may be an insertion of the 20th century; according to the RCAHM account of 1925 it was 'low and narrow', at odds with today's tall, wide chancel arch (RCAHM, 1925, 64).

There is a 17th century oak altar table in the south transept. The free-standing softwood stalls, the 3-seater softwood sedilia and the softwood pews are from 1858. The pulpit may be later 19th century. The softwood vestry screen in the north aisle west bay may be later 19th-early 20th century.

The limestone font has a square cushion bowl on a cylindrical stem and base, all 12th century.

There are 2 bells in the tower (Bartosch, 1991).

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

A 'post-conquest cross-incised stone is built into the churchyard wall (RCAHM, 1925, 64) - a consecration cross?.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Adjacent to ?pre-conquest settlement; pre-conquest Latin dedication?.

St Michael and All Angels, Castlemartin, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It lay at the heart of the Manor of Castlemartin, chief among the estates of the Lordship of Pembroke, and was assessed at £26 13s 4d in 1291 (Green, 1911, 268). The Earls of Pembroke were the patrons until 1299 when the church was granted to the Priory of St Nicholas, Monkton, by Joan de Valence (Green, op. cit., 267). It was transferred, in 1461, to St Albans Abbey, and at the dissolution, when the annual value was £7 17s 6d, it fell to the crown (ibid.). A subordinate chapel lay at Flimston, now restored.

The Campbells of Stackpole, later Earls of Cawdor, had acquired the patronage by the early 18th century (Green, op. cit., 268), and were still patrons in 1833 when the living was a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7 17s 6d and endowed with £400 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Michael and All Angels, Castlemartin, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Warren, Angle, Rhoscrowther and Pwllcrochan (Benefice 597) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

It has been argued that Castlemartin is the site of a pre-conquest settlement following a radial plan, with a peripheral church on the site of St Michael and All Angels (Kissock, 1993, 8-9); the dedication then may also be pre-conquest

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**ST LAWRENCE,
GUMFRESTON,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3687

RB No. 3665

NGR SN 1092 0110

Listed Building No. 5958

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 100% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; south chapel, transeptal, 1 bay; north transeptal tower and skew passage, 5 storeys; west porch; all medieval. Limestone rubble construction; limited remains of early render; internal walls with medieval render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; porch roof unslated; tower roof not seen. Medieval barrel vaulting in tower and porch, and rib-vaulting in the chapel; medieval chancel arch, doorways, windows, tower openings, piscina, stoups, tomb-recess(es); rood-loft door and corbelling, blocked south door and ?squints. Nave alcove, medieval baptistery, or 17th century?. 17th century windows, and memorials. Few later openings. Medieval wall-painting in nave.

Roofs: medieval - 1869. Floors: 1867-9. Finishes: 1867 - later 20th century.

Condition - fair-good. Plaster damp; external ivy; wall-painting poor.

Archaeological potential - good. Possible external earthwork platform around 50% of church; deep, wide external drain around 30% of church and truncated adjacent levels; internal levels lowered; suspended floors above a void; known internal burials beneath 25% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 100% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval vaulting, ?baptistery, chancel arch, doorways, windows, tower openings, piscina, stoups, tomb-recess(es); rood-loft door and corbelling, blocked door and ?squints; 17th century windows.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; large churchyard with holy wells (Grade II listed) and schoolhouse (on site of medieval priest's house?)

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel and nave, C12.

Phase 2 - North transept, west porch, C14.

Phase 3 - Tower over transept, C15.

Phase 4 - South chapel, C16.

(Phase 5 - Nave alcove, C17?).

Phase 6 - Restored 1867-9, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Lawrence, Gumfreston, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 100% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a single-bayed transeptal south chapel, a 5-storeyed north transeptal tower and skew passage, and a west porch. Construction is in limestone rubble; there are the limited remains of 18th - early 19th century external render in the chancel but the pointing is mainly from 1867-9, with some (poor) later 20th century cement repointing; the interior is plastered except in the west porch, with medieval plaster including a wall-painting. The tower and west porch are barrel-vaulted, while the south chapel has a rib-vault. The chancel arch, many windows and doors are medieval; other windows are 17th century and there is a medieval - 17th century ?baptistery. Roofs are slated gables; the gabled porch roof is unslated and the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel east wall has a slight external batter. The east window occupies an early 19th century, brick-headed embrasure that was constricted in 1867-9 for the present single lancet. There is a single light in the north wall with a medieval embrasure but the present square headed surround is in mortar, from 1980? (Pembs. R. O., HPR/77/124). The south wall window has been subject to many rebuilds and occupies a large area of blocking; the single-light window occupies an area within defined by brickwork from the early 19th century but containing a limestone surround from the 17th century, rebuilt in 1867-9 and since given a concrete lintel, 1980? (ibid.). Internally, a medieval piscina with a semicircular bracket bowl occupies a square-headed recess. The small, semicircular-headed chancel arch has plain imposts and is probably 12th century; either side are square recesses that may be blocked squints, to the north is a blocked, square-headed rood-loft door while the either side on the east face is masonry benching. The softwood chancel roof is from 1867-9, with collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall corbels, matchboarded above. The sanctuary floor comprises early 17th century memorial slabs; the remainder of the chancel is tiled, from 1867-9.

The nave south wall leans outwards markedly. The east bay exhibits rood-loft corbelling. A vaulted, semicircular alcove projects from the north wall, perhaps a medieval baptistery, or monumental in nature, 17th century and possibly occupying the site of a medieval north door; in the south wall opposite is blocked south door with a 2-centred head, 13th-14th century. The nave is lit by a medieval lancet, with a limestone surround, in the north wall, which was reopened in 1867-9; in the south wall are 2-light and 3-light windows with square limestone surrounds of 17th century date; they have been given concrete lintels as in the chancel, and the eastern of the 3 is a copy of 1867-9. An area of irregular masonry at the west end of the north wall may be patching rather than blocking. The south wall exhibits external buttressing in 1867-9. The west wall has a 2-centred doorway of 13th - 14th century date and 2 square-headed slit lights above, both medieval but one blocked and the other partly rebuilt. Internally, there is a stoup in the north wall with a square head, adjacent to a medieval wall-painting probably representing the martyrdom of St Lawrence, uncovered in 1980. The softwood roof is from 1867-9 and has alternate collar-rafter and king-post trusses, the former arch-braced from wall-corbels and the latter with tie-beams, matchboarded above. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1867-9.

The transeptal south chapel is entered through a wide, plain 2-centred arch of early 16th century date. The walls are battered externally. It is now used as a vestry and there is a doorway into the churchyard in the east wall with a trefoil head from 1867-9. It is lit by a cusped, 2-light window in the south wall from the early 16th century., reopened and partly rebuilt in 1867-9. It has a cross-ribbed vault, but there are suggestions that the plain, square ribs may be later insertions. Floored as the chancel incorporating a memorial slab from 1614.

The tower ground floor occupies a north transeptal location and communicates with the nave via a plain, irregular 2-centred arch from the 14th century. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north-east corner entered through a square-headed doorway from the 15th century. The north wall features a 2-light 17th century window like those in the nave, but occupying an earlier embrasure. In the east wall is a blocked window and a recess with a 2-centred head; the latter may be a tomb-recess but the presence of an associated corbel suggests the possibility that it was a secondary altar; a recess in the west wall may be for a tomb but any effigy has gone. The 2-centred barrel vault may be 14th century; floored as the chancel. The skew passage has segmental-profiled openings to the chancel and tower, and a crude slab roof. It is lit by a simple, square-headed opening with an Old Red Sandstone surround from the 17th century.

The remainder of the tower is from the late 15th century and comprises 4 further storeys, an example of the multi-storeyed Pembrokeshire tower seen elsewhere at eg Robeston West and Hubberston., Pres.. It is lit by simple square openings in the north and east walls, 15th century; the belfry stage has similar, 2-light openings in the north, west and east walls, and a crenellated parapet on an external corbel table.

The west porch is vaulted as the nave. The doorway features a medieval, 2-centred surround; above it lies a simple loop. A medieval stoup lies within the south wall, with a plain bowl in a simple recess. Internally the side walls exhibit masonry benching, medieval. The 2-centred barrel vault is also medieval, and has no external covering. Floored as the nave passages.

A possible external earthwork platform lies along the south side of the church. A deep, wide external drain runs along the nave and porch north walls, cut in 1867-9 when the adjacent churchyard levels were truncated. Floors are suspended above a void, and lowered in 1867-9. There are many known burials beneath the chancel and south chapel. A few external memorials lie significantly close to the nave and north transept.

Structural development

The form of the chancel arch suggests that both nave and chancel may be 12th century, though an offset visible in the nave south wall between the east and central bays may represent a change of build or a break in construction; the wall is slightly narrower to the west. The tower was erected over a pre-existing north transept which, with the skew passage, is 14th century (Thomas, 1964); the west porch may be of similar date and its crude, unfinished vault surface suggests that it may have been initially intended to carry a tower. The tower was erected over the north transept in the later 15th century, while the detail of the south chapel suggests an early 16th century date. The semicircular alcove projecting from the nave north wall is similar to that at Llys-y-fran, Pres., where it appears to represent a late medieval baptistery; it has been suggested that the Gumfreston alcove is monumental in nature and 17th century (RCAHM, 1925, 103). There are a number of windows from the early-mid 17th century.

There has been no substantial further addition, but a lean-to (shed?) is shown against the south wall of the nave east bay in early 19th century drawings (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/2132, 1817-39, *et al.*) when the chancel and nave had very low-pitched roofs, much overgrown. The chancel was refenestrated in the early 19th century, with brick surrounds.

The church was restored in 1867-9 (Anon., 1992), but the impact of the work was very slight. The nave buttresses were added, and the east window, nave south wall east window and south chapel door were inserted. The church was reroofed and the interior was refloored and resealed.

The tower was repaired in 1932-3, and repointed in the 1950s (Pembs. R. O., HPR/77/32). A stove, with a flue and pipe, lay within the nave alcove from 1937-63 (*ibid.*). The church was partly renovated in 1980 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/77/124).

The pulpit is from 1867-9, while the oak pews are 20th century.

The limestone font has a chamfered square bowl, cylindrical stem and square base, from c.1200.

The bell has been dated to 1350 and thus pre-dates the tower (Pembs. R. O., HPR/77/40).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Tradition; associated springs.

St Lawrence, Gumfreston, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The church appears always to have been in the patronage of the Lord of the Manor of Gumfreston. In 1291 it was assessed at £5 6s 8d, the amount payable being 10s 8d (Green, 1911, 305).

In 1833 the living, a discharged rectory vicarage in the patronage of the John Meyrick Esq., was rated in the king's books at £9 12s 3½d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Lawrence, Gumfreston, was a parish church. The living was a curacy of the Rectorial Benefice of Tenby (Benefice 702) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

Gumfreston is one of the sites traditionally held to be 'Eglwys Gunniau', the 5th century birthplace of St Teilo (Cadw, 1996, 9).

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**ST ISSELL,
ST ISSELL'S,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3642

RB No. 3396

NGR SN 1325 0582

Listed Building No. 6093

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 40% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of a chancel, 1 bay; nave, 4 bays; north aisle, 5 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. South aisle, 4 bays; south porch; 1864. Vestry (transeptal, north of north aisle east bay), 1 bay, 1910. Limestone and shale rubble construction, some remains of 18th - early 19th century external render, internal walls mainly with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; south aisle with slate lean-to roof; tower roof not seen. Medieval chancel arch and north aisle arcade; medieval openings in tower. Remainder of openings mainly from 1864, and neo-gothic, with oolite dressings.

Roofs: 1864 and 1910. Floors: later 19th - 20th century. Finishes: 18th - 20th century.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, narrow external cutting around 20% of church; shallow external drain around 80% of church; evidence for former components beneath 15% of church?; levels unchanged; suspended floors above a void in 80% of church; external memorials significantly close to 30% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good-very good. 40% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval chancel arch, arcade, and west tower with openings.

Group value - high. Landmark church with medieval tower; large churchyard with medieval churchyard cross (Grade II listed), an early 19th century building, 3 sets of iron gateposts (all Grade II listed), and 5 iron grave slabs (Grade II listed).

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, north aisle (and former south porch and south transept), all later C14?.

Phase 2 - West tower, early C16.

(?Phase 3 - Former component south-west of nave, C18 - early C19?).

Phase 4 - Restored 1864, high impact; south porch and transept demolished, south aisle and new south porch built.

Phase 5 - Vestry, 1910.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Issell, St Issell's, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 40% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a single-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 5-bayed north aisle, a 4-bayed south aisle, a south porch, a single-bayed transeptal vestry north of the north aisle east bay, and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in largely in shale rubble, from 1864; surviving medieval work is in limestone rubble. Pointing is mainly from 1864 but there are the remains of earlier render in the tower, which also has some 20th century repointing; the interior is plastered except in the porch. The chancel arch, the north aisle arcade and the west tower, with its openings, are medieval; The remainder of the openings are mainly from 1824 and neo-gothic, with oolite dressings. Roofs are slated gables; the south aisle has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel was almost entirely rebuilt in 1864 on the same site as its predecessor. The external walls are all from 1864 with single, double and triple lancet windows, both cusped and uncusped. There is an external decorative string-course. The tall, 2-centred chancel arch is in ashlar, with roll-moulded stops, chamfered imposts, from the later 14th century; the chamfered bases were rebuilt in 1864. The softwood chancel roof is scissors-braced throughout, the trusses also being arch-braced from wall corbels, matchboarded above, all from 1864. The 'marble' flagged floor is mid 20th century.

The nave is open to both the north and south aisles. The softwood roof is without trusses, the rafters all having collars and scissors-braced throughout, matchboarded above, all from 1864. The oolite flagged floor may be later 19th century, with suspended board floors.

The north aisle, like the chancel, was almost entirely rebuilt in 1864 on the same site as its predecessor. The east bay communicates with the chancel through a very depressed 2-centred arch, in ashlar, on chamfered stops with chamfered imposts; the detail, however, is sufficiently similar to that of the chancel to assign the same general later 14th century date. It communicates with the nave through an arcade of 4 similar arches, but with 2-centred heads; they are also later 14th century with chamfered bases partly rebuilt in 1864. The external walls are all from 1864 and have an external string-course like the chancel. They are pierced by uncusped single and double lancet windows, but the east window is in a 2-centred surround with plate tracery. Roofed as the nave, from 1864, and floored as the nave, later 19th century?.

The west tower is from the early 16th century and exhibits the basal batter and external string-course typical of the region. A square spiral stair turret projects from the eastern half of the north wall, entered through a simple, square-headed doorway, 16th century, and is lit by simple loops. The west door has a chamfered, 2-centred surround with a square drip-mould, 16th century but restored in 1864; the 3-light mullioned window above has a similar drip-mould but appears to have been entirely rebuilt. The chamfered, 2-centred arch into the nave is in ashlar. The timber ceiling is suspended on wall corbelling, 19th century?; a line of earlier corbels lies below which themselves are secondary, interrupting the arch head. The quarry-tiled floor is from 1864 and lies at a much lower level than the nave from which it is reached by a flight of 9 steps, also from 1864. The second stage is lit by simple square-headed lights in the north wall, 16th century. All 4 faces of the belfry stage are pierced by 2-light openings with semicircular heads in Old Red Sandstone surrounds, 16th century; the crenellated parapet lies on an external moulded offset, 16th century.

The south aisle was added in 1864, with a contemporary 4-bayed arcade into the nave copying the north aisle arcade. The south wall is pierced by single lancets and the east and west end walls by 2-light windows like the north aisle; there is a string-course like that in the chancel and a contemporary south door with a chamfered surround. The softwood, lean-to roof is braced by soulaces from wall corbels and is matchboarded, from 1864. Floored as the nave.

The south porch is also from 1864 and is battered beneath the external string-course. The side walls have internal masonry benching. The softwood roof is from 1864, lacks trusses, all common rafters having

collars, and is matchboarded above, Floored as the chancel. The 2-centred door has a moulded surround from 1864 and is reached by a flight of 5 semicircular external steps (re)built in 1978.

The transeptal vestry was added in 1910. It is entered from the north aisle east bay through a contemporary tall, chamfered segmental arch on plain square bases. There is a single lancet in the east wall, from 1910, and the 2-light window in the north wall is re-used from the 1864 north aisle. The vestry is entered from the yard through a doorway with a Caernarfon surround, from 1910. The softwood roof, and the floor, are also from 1910. The vestry is now occupied by a pipe-organ.

There is a deep, but narrow external cutting around the north-eastern quarter of the church, and a shallow drain around the remainder. Evidence for former components possibly survives beneath the south aisle. Floors lie at a number of levels but there is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are suspended above a void. External memorials lie significantly close to the north wall.

Structural development

St Issell, St Issell's, was largely rebuilt in 1864. However, the chancel arch and north aisle arcade belong, stylistically, to the later 14th century, and the west tower is early 16th century. From the sources (chiefly NLW, PG4244, Picton Castle Deposit 1985, no. 143, 1859) it would appear that the pre-1864 church comprised the present chancel and nave, possibly rebuilt in the later 14th century when the north aisle was added, a south transept and south porch in the area now occupied by the south aisle, and the present west tower. In addition, a further component is shown against the west end of the nave south wall - a bier house?, or limehouse?.

The church was restored in 1864 to the designs of the architect F. R. Kempson, of London (Saundersfoot Community Council, 1996), when the south transept, south porch and southern component were demolished. In addition, the outer walls of the chancel, nave and north aisle were demolished and rebuilt, a south aisle was added and a new south porch was built. The roofs and finishes date from this restoration; the floors may be rather later.

The vestry was added in 1910 (NLW, SD/F/607) to the designs of the architect E. V. Collier, of Carmarthen.

The iron railings in the north aisle may be from 1864. The organ now occupying the vestry was installed after 1910. The chancel fittings, including the reredos, and the south aisle altar fittings, are 20th century. The oak pulpit is from 1920 (NLW, SD/F/609) with a canopy dated 1945. The stalls are from 1925 (NLW, SD/F/611). The simple pews, and the tower screen, are later 20th century.

The limestone font has a square scalloped bowl with moulded, foliated decoration, and a square stem and a scalloped base, all late 12th century.

The tower contains 3 bells, one of which is pre-Reformation (Saundersfoot Community Council, 1996); the other 2 are from 1719 and 1787.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is good evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Site of pre-conquest 'bishop house'; Celtic dedication; churchyard originally subcircular.

St Issell, St Issell's, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was initially a possession of the Abbot of Seèz in Normandy (through Monkton Priory?), who later granted the church, along with Jeffreyston, S. Pembs., to the canons of St Davids Cathedral (Green, 1913, 297); the two churches were consolidated in 1339. In 1291 the church was assessed at £13 6s 8d (ibid.).

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage, in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of St Davids, rated in the king's books at £3 17s 6d and endowed with £600 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Issell, St Issell's, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Amroth (Benefice 669) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST JEFFREY,
JEFFREYSTON,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3478

RB No. 3388

NGR SN 0894 0652

Listed Building No. 6052

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 75% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; south chapel, 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. North aisle, incorporating former north transept, 3 bays; vestry, 1 bay; organ chamber, 1 bay (north of chancel, on site of former skew passage); 1867-8. Limestone and ORS rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry/organ chamber with slate lean-to roof; tower roof not seen. Medieval tower openings, parapet and vault, skew-passage arches, south porch door, benching and stoup. Remainder of openings including chancel arch, arcades and windows, from 1867-8, neo-Gothic, with limestone dressings.
(Good 18th century memorials.)

Roofs: medieval vaults and 1867-8 timberwork. Floors: 1867-8. Finishes: 1867-8 and later 10th century.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - very good. Slight external cutting around 40% of church; shallow drain around 60% of church; floors lowered in 25% of church; suspended floors over heating ducts in 75% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church; mortuary vault beneath 20% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 75% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, parapet and vault, skew-passage arches, south porch door, benching and stoup.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; central village location; associated with good masonry buildings; ECM; circular churchyard with C19 ?charnel-house building, good memorials and churchyard cross with medieval base (Grade II listed).

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave (with west porch?) and chancel, C13-14.

Phase 2 - Transepts (and former skew-passages), and chancel east bay?, C14.

Phase 3 - South chapel, south porch, and west tower, mid-late C15.

Phase 4 - Restored 1867-8, high impact, north aisle and vestry/organ chamber built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Jeffrey, Jeffreyeston, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 75% pre 19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed south chapel, a 3-bayed north aisle incorporating a single-bayed north transept and former skew-passage, a single-bayed south transept, a south porch, a 3-storeyed west tower, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel east bay continuous with a single-bayed organ chamber north of the chancel west bay. Construction is in local limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble. Arcades and openings, except in the tower, were entirely (re)built in 1867-8, in neo-Gothic (Early English) style, with limestone ashlar and dressings. Pointing is mainly from 1867-8, with some later (19th-20th century) external render and ribbon-pointing, and the interior is plastered. The south chapel, south transept, south porch and the tower ground floor are barrel-vaulted. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry/organ chamber has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen.

There are a number of good 18th century memorials.

In the chancel east wall is a graduated, uncusped triple-lancet window in chamfered limestone, with the embrasure entirely from 1867-8, and there is a similar double-lancet in the east bay south wall. The depressed 2-centred chancel arch has 2 plain, unchamfered orders on chamfered imposts, all in limestone ashlar from 1867-8. The roof-line is continuous with that of the nave; the softwood roof, from 1867-8, lacks trusses, all rafters have collars and are arch-braced from wall-plates. The passage and sanctuary are tiled, from 1867-8, with suspended board floors; there is said to be an 18th century mortuary vault below.

The nave south wall leans out markedly. It is pierced by 2 windows; to the east is a double-lancet like that in the chancel, and to the west is a similar, single lancet, both from 1867-8. The south door was rebuilt, with a chamfered, 2-centred surround in limestone ashlar, in 1867-8; externally, to the east of the door is a stoup with a simple square recess, medieval. The south-west corner of the nave lies on an external masonry plinth, primary. The softwood roof has collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall plates, from 1867-8. The passages are quarry-tiled, from 1867-8, with heating ducts and a chamber for a 'Porritt's' or 'Grundy's' stove; there are suspended board floors.

The north transept was absorbed into the north aisle in 1867-8, but extends beyond the north wall of the latter; the aisle communicates with the nave through an arcade of three 2-centred arches, each with a 2-centred head of 2 plain, unchamfered orders; the outer orders lie on corbels while the inner orders are on cylindrical piers with plain bases, and plain tori supporting cushion capitals, all in chamfered limestone ashlar, from 1867-8. The east wall (ie. the transept side wall) communicates with the chancel via the former skew-passage described below; to the north is a single lancet, like that in the nave from 1867-8. The flue from the heating stove emerges from this wall as a square, shouldered chimney with blind lancet decoration, late 19th century?. The north, gable wall of the transept is pierced by a graduated triple-lancet window, like the chancel east window and also from 1867-8. The aisle proper is lit by a further, similar window in the north wall, and a similar single lancet in the west wall but with a 2-centred outer arch, from 1867-8?, or earlier?. The softwood roof is from 1867-8 and is in 2 parts, a north-south gabled section in the transept and an east-west gabled section in the aisle; it lacks trusses, the softwood rafters all having collars. Floored as the nave.

The arch between the chancel and the south chapel is blocked by the large organ keyboard installed in 1908, which occupies most of the chapel, which is lit by a 2-light window in its south wall like that in the chancel, from 1867-8, associated with a ?contemporary outer arch. The external face exhibits a datestone commemorating the 1867-8 restoration. There is a 2-centred barrel-vault, medieval. The floor is obscured by the organ.

The south transept is entered from the nave through a depressed 2-centred arch in chamfered limestone ashlar, from 1867-8. It communicates with the south chapel via a low, chamfered segmental-headed arch

with an almost square profile, medieval but restored, associated with a former skew-passage that was replaced by the chapel. The transept is lit by a 2-light window in its south wall like that in the chancel, from 1867-8, associated with a contemporary outer arch. There is a 2-centred barrel-vault, medieval. The floor is fully carpeted but appears to be suspended and floorboarded. The transept is now fitted as a chapel.

The south porch side walls feature medieval masonry benching. The entrance doorway has a double-chamfered 2-centred surround with simple impost, of limestone with some sandstone, weathered, medieval but restored. There is a 2-centred barrel-vault, medieval. The flagged floor is from 1867-8 and laid directly on the substrate.

The west tower, comprising 3-storeys in roughly squared limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble, is not entirely typical of the region but can be given a broadly 15th century date; it is tapered but lacks the external string-course typical of the region, has only a slight external batter, and does not feature a west door. The south wall of the ground floor is divided by an external vertical joint, to the east of which the wall has a basal plinth, like the nave west wall, and may represent the remains of an earlier structure eg. a west porch?. A square spiral stair turret projects from the east end of the north wall, which does exhibit the weathered remains of a basal string course; the turret is entered through a narrow triangular-headed doorway, medieval?, restored?, is lit by simple loops, and is offset back towards the north wall face at a higher level. The 2-centred arch from the ground floor into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault, 15th century. The west wall is pierced by a single lancet with a 2-centred outer arch, from 1867-8?, or earlier?; the embrasure appears to be contemporary, rebuilt?. The floor is carpeted, and to the west lies beneath a suspended board floor. The second stage is lit by a simple slit-light in the north wall; there are blocked, square-headed, simple single lights, with sandstone surrounds from the 15th century in the south and west walls. The belfry stage has a single-light opening with a 2-centred head in each face, from the 15th century. The tall, crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, which does not extend around the uncrenellated stair turret; there are rainwater chutes on the south and west faces of the parapet, originally 15th century?.

The vestry and organ chamber were added in 1867-8, and form a continuous lean-to against the chancel north wall divided by an internal wall. The vestry lies in the eastern chamber; it is entered from the chancel through a doorway with a 2-centred surround, in chamfered limestone ashlar, from 1867-8, and from the churchyard up 2 steps and through a similar door in the east, lean-to wall. It is lit by 2 windows in the north wall, both from 1867-8 and comprising 2 lights with square heads in a square surround in chamfered limestone. The softwood rafters of the lean-to roof are from 1867-8. The floorboards are suspended over a void, but probably raised above the substrate. The organ chamber occupies the site of the medieval skew-passage into the north transept, with which it communicates via a low, segmental-headed arch with an almost square profile, medieval, with deeply chamfered stops following the line of the former passage. It communicates with the chancel through a similar low, segmental medieval arch. It is lit by a window in the north wall like those in the vestry, from 1867-8, and roofed as the vestry. The floor is fully carpeted but is probably tiled, from 1867-8. The present organ is later, and situated in the south chapel.

There is a slight external cutting along the north walls, secondary, and a shallow drain surrounds the rest of the church. The chancel and tower floors were apparently lowered in 1867-8 (Lloyd, 1992). Floors are suspended over heating ducts and there is a heating chamber in the nave. A mortuary vault apparently lies beneath the chancel. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The nave, and the chancel west bay, may be 13th-14th century, but cannot be closely dated. The vaulted transepts and skew passages are from the 14th century when the long chancel east bay may have been added. The south chapel, replacing the southern skew-passage, and the south porch may be contemporary; the porch is larger than the south transept and its doorway is stylistically later 15th century. The porch may have been added as a result of the construction of the ?contemporary west tower, which appears to have replaced an earlier ?west porch. The north aisle and vestry/organ chamber are 19th century.

The pre-restoration church was described in 1867 (Lloyd, 1992), when the north and south transepts were 'low and insignificant' and their arches 'low and coarse', the northern one 'obtuse and mis-shapen' and the southern 'so flat as hardly to be an arch'. The chancel east window had been 'vilely modernised'. A watercolour of c.1830 by Charles Norris, taken from the south-east (ibid.), shows 'domestic' sash-windows in the chancel east and south walls, and high in the south walls of the south chapel and south transept; there were low-pitched slate gable roofs throughout and the exterior was whitewashed. A west gallery was present. There were, apparently, no windows on the north side (Nicholas, 1993, 4). By 1867 the 'roof had fallen in and the walls fallen out' (Lloyd, op. cit.).

Restoration began in 1867, to the designs of the London architect Thomas Talbot Bury (ibid.; Green, 1911, 210) who had previously restored Burton Church, Pembs. The restoration, completed in 1868, was heavy. The north aisle was added, absorbing the north transept, and the vestry/organ chamber were built, the latter converted from the former skew-passage. All internal arches, apart from those to the former skew-passages and the tower, were rebuilt. The church was entirely refenestrated and the south door was rebuilt. The interior was reroofed, refloored, replastered and resealed.

The softwood stalls and pews, the pulpit and the glazed, softwood tower screen, are from 1867-8 (Lloyd, 1992). The elaborate moulded reredos, in oolite and marble, is late 19th century (ibid.). The large organ was installed in the south chapel in 1908 (ibid.). The tower clock is from 1911 (ibid.). The chapel fittings, and screen, in the south transept are from the 20th century.

The limestone font has a square scalloped bowl on a cylindrical stem and base, all 12th century.

There are 3 bells in the tower (Nicholas, 1993, 6).

An ECM, a wheel-cross incised stone (Dyfed PRN 3479) of possible 9th century date, lies loose in the porch; it had been used for the threshold until moved in the early 20th century (RCAHM, 1925, 127).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
Circular churchyard; ECM; central to ?pre-conquest settlement.

St Jeffrey, Jeffreyston, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It may initially have been a possession of the Priory of St Nicholas, Monkton (Green, 1911, 208) and was assessed, as 'Ecclesia de villa Galfri', at £5 in 1291 (Green, op. Cit., 209). It was transferred, with St Issells, to the canons of St Davids Cathedral, at a date between 1331 and 1339 when the 2 churches were united (ibid.). The union was dissolved before 1534; the patronage remained with the Dean and Chapter of St Davids but the tithes were leased to succession of private individuals (ibid.).

In 1833 the living was a vicarage in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter, rated in the king's books at £4 17s 6d, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty and £1000 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Jeffrey, Jeffreyston, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Loveston, Reynalton and East Williamston (Benefice 668) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The full dedication is to SS Jeffrey and Oswald; it has been suggested that the 'Oswald' element may be derived from the name 'Ismael' (RCAHM, 1925, 126) or represent the Saxon St Oswald of Worcester (Lloyd, 1992).

It has been argued that Jeffreyston is the site of a pre-conquest settlement following a radial plan, with a central church on the same site as the present structure (Kissock, 1993, 11).

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**ST PETER,
LAMPETER VELFREY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3790

RB No. 3171

NGR SN 1552 1444

Listed Building No. 6055

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large. Consists of a chancel/nave, without structural division, 5 bays; south aisle, 5 bays; north transept, 1 bay; medieval. South porch, rebuilt 1860-67. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs. Medieval arcade, blocked windows and ?door; 17th century windows, partly open and blocked. Other openings are mainly from 1860-67, neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings. Western single bellcote, 1860-67.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1860-67.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good - very good. Shallow external drain around 100% of church; external earthwork platform/terrace beyond 20% of church; floor levels unchanged; suspended floor over heating flues in 90% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval arcade, blocked windows and ?door; 17th century windows, partly blocked.

Group value: high. Medieval church in central village location; circular churchyard with good, early memorials and a 1921 war memorial (Grade II listed).

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - South aisle, C14.

Phase 3 - North Transept, C16-17?

Phase 4 - Restored 1837, low impact.

Phase 5 - Restored 1860-67, high impact; south porch (re)built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Peter, Lampeter Velfrey, is a multicelled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 5-bayed chancel/nave, without structural division, a 5-bayed south aisle, a single-bayed north transept and a south porch. Construction is in limestone rubble. There is a medieval arcade; other openings are mainly from 1860-67, neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings; there is a rebuilt medieval door and blocked medieval - 17th century windows, ?and door. Pointing is mainly from 1860-67; the interior is plastered. Roofs are slated gables throughout.

The chancel/nave has a slight external batter. The 3-light east window is from 1860-67 and has cusped, Geometric tracery. There is a similar window in the west wall, and 2 similar 2-light windows in the north wall. The east bay north wall exhibits a blocked, cusped 2 light window, 14th century?, mullion now gone; to the west is a poorly blocked single light opening with a square surround, also 14th century?. There is an external stepped buttress at the junction of the east wall with the south aisle, from 1860-67; there was one on the west wall. The west wall carries a large, elaborate gabled bellcote with 2-centred, moulded, gabled openings in all 4 faces, from 1860-67. The mounting for an altar rail from 1830 survives internally. The softwood roof has arch-braced collars and matchboarding, from 1860-67. The passages are flagged, with suspended board floors over heating ducts, all 1860-67.

The south aisle communicates with the chancel nave through an arcade of 5 plain, 2-centred arches on cylindrical shafts with plain impostes and bases, from the 14th century but altered in the 1860s when a rectangular pier at the junction of 'nave' and 'chancel' was replaced by a cylindrical shaft, and the westernmost shaft was rebuilt. The walls have a slight external batter and are pierced by similar windows to those in the chancel/nave and of similar date. In the south wall is a blocked, 2-light window with a square, moulded surround from the earlier 17th century. The 2-centred south door may have been rebuilt in 1837; and area of possible blocking in the west wall may be the site of a former door. The softwood roof is from 1860-67 and lacks trusses, all common rafters having scissors-braces; matchboarded above. The floor is flagged as the chance/nave passages, also 1860-67.

The north transept is entered through a 2-centred, chamfered arch from 1860-67. The east wall is lit by a single light window adapted from a 16th - 17th century 2-light window with a square surround, and there is a 2-light window like those in the chancel/nave in the north wall, from 1860-67. A doorway to the churchyard in the west wall may have medieval origins, but was rebuilt in 1860-67. There is a plain, brick chimney in the north wall, late 19th century?, leading from the heating flues. The ?collar-rafter roof is concealed by softwood matchboarding from 1860-67; the floor is flagged as the south aisle. The transept is now an organ chamber.

The south porch was (entirely?) rebuilt in 1860-67 and has a contemporary 2-centred door. The roof is matchboarded above the common rafters, 1860-67, and the floor is flagged as the south aisle.

A shallow external drain surrounds the church. A earthwork platform/terrace lies between the north transept and the chancel/nave east bay, with a sharp southerly turn at its east end. There is no evidence for any internal level changes. The floor is suspended over heating flues in the nave, aisle and transept. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The chancel/nave may be 13th century, and may originally have been divided by a chancel arch. The south aisle arcade appears, stylistically, to belong to the 14th century; the north transept may be later but cannot be closely dated. The south porch was (entirely?) rebuilt in 1860-67 but occupies the site of an earlier structure.

The church was restored in 1837 when the westernmost arcade pier was apparently removed, and new windows, with square timber frames, were inserted; it appears that the door openings were also rebuilt. The floors were apparently of earth until 1860 (Canon G. Morris, Rural Dean, pers. comm.), and a western gallery was present.

In a second restoration of 1860-67, under the architect J. P. Seddon, the church was again refenestrated (Cadw, 1997, 1), and new windows inserted at the east end of the chancel/nave north wall and the west end of the south aisle. The western nave pier was replaced. The north transept arch and south door were rebuilt, and the south porch (entirely?) rebuilt. The interior was reroofed and refloored. The gallery was removed, and the church was reseated.

The organ in the north transept is dated 1853. The tiled reredos, commandment tablets, softwood stalls, pews and pulpit are from 1860-67

The font has a square bowl and stem from c.1200, but the base has gone.

There is a large, Jacobean table tomb in the south aisle, in situ?, from the early 17th century.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Peter, Lampeter Velfrey, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Carmarthen. The church was in the patronage of the Lord of the Manor of Velfrey (Narberth). In 1291 it was assessed at £8 (Green, 1912, 218).

In 1833 the living, a rectory in the patronage of the crown, was rated in the king's books at £10 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Peter, Lampeter Velfrey, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Llanddewi Velfrey (Benefice 630) in the Archdeaconry of Carmarthen, Rural Deanery of St Clears (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST AIDAN,
LLAWHADEN,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3582

RB No. 3404

NGR SN 0752 1746

Listed Building No. 6062

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 3 bays; south chapel (now vestry), 2 bays; south transeptal tower, 3 storeys, absorbing earlier south tower, 2 storeys; west porch; medieval. Former north transept? And south porch?. Limestone rubble construction, with remains of 18th - early 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roofs not seen. Medieval vaulting in towers and west porch; medieval tower openings, blocked door and blocked window; early 17th century arcade and tomb recess. Earlier tower formerly with 'saddleback' roof?. Remainder of windows, chancel arch and doors from 1861-2, neo-gothic. (ECM, medieval effigy and 17th century memorial.)

Roofs: medieval vaults and 1861-2 timberwork. Floors: 1861 - 20th century. Finishes: late 18th century - 1930.

Condition - good. Nave west wall damp; vestry/south chapel roof poor.

Archaeological potential - very good. Shallow, earth-cut drain around 80% of church; river adjacent to 10% of church; former components beyond 20% of church?; floor raised in 15% of church; suspended floors above heating flues in 75% of church; no external memorials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; unusual 2-phase (double) tower, the earlier formerly with 'saddleback' roof?, with medieval vaults and openings, medieval blocked door and blocked window; early 17th century arcade and tomb recess..

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with unusual 2-phase (double) tower, in riverside location; on edge of historic settlement; early site with ECM.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C12.

Phase 2 - Chancel west bay, C13?.

Phase 3 - South transept (and skew-passage), ?chancel east bays (and former north transept?), C14.

Phase 4 - South tower (i), c.1400?.

Phase 5 - South tower (ii), west porch?, c.1500.

Phase 6 - South chapel (later vestry), early C17.

Phase 7 - Restored 1861-2, low-medium impact; west porch partly rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Aidan, Llawhaden, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 2-bayed vestry (formerly a south chapel), a south transept with a skew-passage and later 2-storeyed tower added over, absorbing part of an earlier 3-storeyed tower south of the transept, formerly with a 'saddleback' roof?, and a west porch. There may have been a former north transept and south porch. Construction is in limestone rubble. There are the remains of 18th-early 19th century external render in the chancel and nave; pointing is mainly from 1861-2, and from 1930 in the tower; the interior is plastered. The towers, and the west porch, are barrel-vaulted. The tower openings are medieval, there is a medieval window and a door, both blocked, and an early 17th century arcade; the remainder of the windows and doors, and the chancel arch, are from 1862 and neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roofs were not seen. Medieval effigy and 17th century memorial.

The chancel east wall facework is in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble and may have been largely rebuilt, or at least refaced, in 1861-2; the side walls are in smaller, random rubble. The gable is very tall, rebuilt 1861-2. The 3-light east window has Geometric tracery in a 2-centred surround with a drip-mould on human mask stops, all in chamfered yellow oolite from 1861-2. The north wall is pierced by a single cusped lancet in the east bay, in chamfered yellow oolite from 1861-2 but occupying, with infill, a larger, earlier (medieval?) opening with a segmental head; east of the window is an uneven vertical joint. There is a blocked window in the south wall of the east bay, of 2 cusped, segmental-headed lights, with sunk spandrels in a square surround and label, all in yellow oolite from the 16th century; the window was blocked after 1740 and lies beneath the 18th - early 19th century external render. The 2-centred chancel arch has a double roll-moulding and a hood-mould on angel-moulded stops, in yellow oolite from 1861-2. The softwood roof is from 1861-2 and has queen-post trusses arch-braced from contemporary wall-corbels. The sanctuary and passage are quarry-tiled, also from 1861-2, with suspended board floors.

The nave also has a very tall gable. It is lit by a 3 windows in the north wall, and 2 in the south wall, each of 2 cusped lights with quaterfoliated spandrels, in chamfered yellow oolite surrounds inserted, with infill, in 1861-2. At the west end of the east bay north wall is a vertical joint, with a possible shale springer, possibly representing the arch into a former north transept which had gone by the early 19th century (see below). A blocked south door lies between the 2 southern windows, and has a semicircular head with a weathered plain limestone surround (formerly chamfered?) of convincingly 12th century form; it was blocked in 1861-2. The west ends of both side walls each feature a low, crude plain buttress, overlying the 18th - early 19th century external render and possibly from the 20th century. The west, gable wall is pierced by a doorway with a 2-centred surround in roll-moulded yellow oolite and a hood-mould on human mask stops, from 1861-2 and contemporary with the triangular window above which has 3 trifoliated circular lights, a similar drip-mould and a basal fillet with foliated stops, all in yellow oolite. The nave is roofed like the chancel, similarly from 1861-2. The passages are fully carpeted but may be flagged, from 1861-2 or earlier?, above inserted heating ducts, with suspended board floors.

The vestry was formerly a south chapel and communicates with the chancel through an arcade of 2 lowish, 4-centred, double-chamfered arches, the eastern stop has a plain impost below which is a small, square recess, the western arch springs from the west wall, while both arches share a cylindrical pier with a plain abacus and cable-moulding (no base is evident). The arcade was described by Fenton, c.1811, as 'very singular' (Fenton, 1903 edn., 174) and indeed it is unusual, probably late in a 'debased' gothic style suggestive of the early 17th century; the outer arch chamfers meet over the pier as an oolite, animal head corbel which may either be contemporary or re-used. The east wall gable is from 1861-2, as is the present 2-light window in the same wall which is like those in the nave but with a 2-centred drip-mould; the low, 2-centred rear arch may be earlier (also early 17th century?) but any window here had been blocked before 1740 (NLW, Topographical Prints, Pemb. PD 7045, Top. B12/4, B75). In the south wall is a tomb recess with a plain, very depressed 2-centred head from the early 17th century. It contains the weathered, Nolton stone effigy of an ecclesiastic which may be somewhat earlier and which was relocated when the chapel was built in the early 17th century; according to Fenton (Fenton, op. cit., 174), the effigy was traditionally said to be that of the founder (St Hugo - see Site History below). The softwood roof is from 1861-2 and lacks trusses, the common rafters being scissors-braced. The floor is fully carpeted but may be tiled; it was raised in 1861-2.

The south transept/tower ground floor was entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch; it was subsequently blocked, possibly before 1662, the date of a memorial tablet fixed against the blocking, and has inserted breeze-blockwork in the northern jamb, from the late 20th century. The transept was rebuilt when the tower was built over it in c.1500 (see Structural Development below), retaining the skew passage that now leads into the vestry/south chapel, but which formerly led into the chancel and is probably 14th century in its original form. It opens into both the transept and the chapel through a depressed 2-centred arch reflecting the profile of its vault through the thickness of the former's east wall, but at the transept end was given a 2-centred surround in 1861-2.

The earlier tower lies at the south end of the south transept and contained 2 storeys. It may be relatively early, from c.1400?; it is not typical of the region and lacks the external string-course and basal batter typical of the region, being instead tapered throughout. A square spiral stair turret, lit by simple loops, projects from the north end of the west wall, but it is now entered from the later tower. The construction of the latter included the removal of the earlier tower north wall and its replacement with a thin dividing wall, through which the ground floor of the earlier tower is entered via a plain, lowish 2-centred arch, from c.1500; it is also entered from the churchyard through a 20th century doorway, at the south end of the east wall, with a concrete lintel. There is a low, segmental-headed recess in the west wall, medieval, function?, over which the internal wall face is projected. The ground floor is now open to the second stage, but the offset that supported a former timber floor can be seen on the internal faces of the original walls. The concrete floor is 20th century. The second stage is lit by a simple square light in the east and west walls, from c.1400, and by a plain lancet in the side wall below which is a corbel in the form of a gargoyle, both also from c.1400 and providing the only firm dating evidence. Below the lancet and corbel, the south wall interior exhibits an area of blocking which appears to represent a former doorway with a segmental head and a sill at second stage floor level, function?. There is a second, open doorway in the west wall, leading onto the spiral stair. The second stage is vaulted, with a low, 2-centred, east-west barrel vault, from c.1400. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, all (re)built in 1861-2; the tower may formerly have been a gabled 'saddleback' (see Structural Development below).

The later, larger tower was added over the south transept, which was rebuilt, in c.1500, and partly absorbed the earlier tower which now forms a 'turret' projecting from the lower two thirds of its south wall. The tower comprises 3 storeys and is typical of the region, having an external string-course and very broad basal batter, and being tapered throughout. Facework is in very large limestone rubble, roughly squared and coursed. The spiral stair turret from the earlier tower was re-used, and occupies a shallow cut-out in the south-west corner, over which it is jettied in the belfry stage; the turret projects into the south-west corner but has been roughly stepped back higher up, to occupy a squinch at the top of the ground floor level; the stair is entered through a doorway with a segmental-headed, chamfered surround from c.1500. The ground floor is unlit and now only entered from the vestry/south chapel via the skew-passage, and from the earlier

tower. However, the north wall exhibits, above the level of the blocked arch into the nave, a blocked doorway with a sill level that corresponds to that of a line of internal sockets; the latter may have carried the floor of an (inserted) timber gallery, reached via the blocked door - date?. There are sockets (putlog holes?) in the external batter. The ground floor is vaulted; the barrel-vault has a rounded 2-centred profile with pronounced spring-lines, and is from c.1500. The concrete floor is 20th century. The second stage is blind. The belfry stage has a plain, 2-light opening in each face, the openings having segmental heads and plain surrounds in limestone, from c.1500. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, also from c.1500 but much restored in both 1861-2 and 1930.

The west porch was largely rebuilt, or at least rebuilt, in 1861-2 but retains an earlier vault, probably from the later medieval period. The facework is in coursed and squared limestone rubble from 1861-2, and the side walls have internal masonry benching with contemporary limestone flag seating. The main doorway was rebuilt at the same time, with a 2-centred surround in double-cavetto moulded oolite with ogee-moulded imposts, and a drip-mould on human mask stops. The barrel vault has a 2-centred profile. The limestone-flagged floor is from the late 19th - early 20th century and laid directly on the substrate.

A shallow, earth-cut drain surrounds the church except the east end, which lies very close to the west bank of the Eastern Cleddau river. There is structural evidence for a former north transept and a south porch may also have been present. The vestry/south chapel floor was raised in 1861-2. Floors are suspended above heating flues. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The style of the blocked south door surround dates the nave to the 12th century; it may have also previously featured Romanesque windows (see below). There is a joint between the nave and the chancel, which is secondary, but its north wall exhibits a further vertical joint towards its west end which may be derived from the later extension of a shorter chancel, from the 13th century?. In its extended form the chancel may be 14th century; it cannot be closely dated but is pierced by a 16th century window. The south transept and skew-passage (and the possible former north transept) are also probably 14th century. The earlier south tower is probably from c.1400, superseded by the tower over the south transept c.1500. The vestry/south chapel can be assigned, by its arcade, a possible early 17th century date (see above) and a possible Laudian context; it certainly post-dates the second tower whose batter forms its west wall. The west porch has been heavily restored, but appears to be medieval in origin (see below). The arch from the nave into the south transept/tower was blocked at an unknown date, but possibly before 1662 (see above).

A map of 1815 (NLW, 'Maps of the Lands of the Lord Bishop of St Davids', 14229/6) depicts the church plan as today but, curiously, the vestry/south chapel is not shown. The west porch is shown, as it is on the tithe map of 1839 (NLW, Llawhaden, 1839). A building adjoining the west end of the nave south wall is also shown on the 1815 map, but is not depicted in any of the other sources - function?. Any former north transept had already gone.

18th-early 19th century drawings, taken mainly from the south-east, show the chancel, nave, vestry/south chapel, the tower(s) and the west porch. In one, from 1740 (NLW, Topographical Prints, Pemb. PD 7045, Top. B12/4, B75), the open south door is shown, and a triple lancet east window; the nave south windows are shown as small, semicircular-headed (Romanesque?) single lights and the chancel south window was still open. In the other drawings (NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb. PD 9343; NLW, Topographical Prints, Pemb. PD 7351, Top. B12/4, B77) the side windows are square and a large (single-light?) west window is shown. The gables were as tall as at present, but the vestry/south chapel had a lean-to roof. The later tower is shown with a crenellated parapet as today, but the earlier tower summit is ruined, and possibly gabled, ie. formerly saddlebacked. A mid-19th century painting by Arthur Fripp shows gable roofs over *both* towers (Anon., 1995, 5), but there is no further pictorial, or structural, evidence for this.

The church was 'restored' in 1834 (Cadw, 1997, 16) when the walls were repaired, the church was reroofed and a gallery was installed. The workmanship was apparently of inferior quality (ibid.).

The church was again restored in 1861-2 (RCAHM, 1925, 142) when the vestry/south chapel was given a gable roof and the south door was blocked along with most of the windows. The west porch and west door were largely (re)built. The chancel arch was rebuilt and the church was refenestrated, reroofed, refloored and reseated. The earlier tower parapet was (re)built with the corbel table. The gallery was removed. The restoration is recorded on a plaque in the south chapel but the architect responsible is unknown. The underfloor heating, supplied from a plant in the tower, may be somewhat later; the buttresses added at the west end of the nave side walls may be later still.

The tower was renovated in 1930, to the specifications of the architect W. D. Caröe (NLW, SD/F/462). Further renovation occurred in 1993 when the vestry and chancel were partly reslated (Anon., n.d., 6), and in 1995 when the present east window glazing, originally from the 19th century church at Slebech, was inserted (ibid.).

The free-standing softwood stalls, the similar pews and possibly the pulpit are from 1861-2. The neo-Gothic softwood screen between the vestry/south chapel and the tower is probably from c.1900. The sanctuary fittings, and the softwood vestry/south chapel screen, are all 20th century.

The limestone font has a square scalloped bowl, a cylindrical, cable-moulded stem and a square base, all ?12th century but retooled.

There are 3 bells in the tower, 2 cast in 1634 by Purdie of Bristol, mounted on a headstock dated 1773 (Anon., 1995, 3). The third bell was recast in 1872 by Warner of London (ibid.).

An ECM (Dyfed PRN 3583) is built into the east wall, with an incised Latin cross. It may have been a coffin lid from the 10th - 11th century (Anon., 1995, 5).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Aidan, Llawhaden, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Rhos. It appears to have been a possession of the Bishops of St Davids, lying within the administrative centre of the episcopal Manor of Llawhaden, since the pre-conquest period when Llawhaden was one of the 7 'Bishop Houses' of Dyfed. In 1287 the rectorial tithes of the parish were granted as a prebend to the Chancellor of St Davids, by Bishop Anthony Bek (Green, 1912, 270). The prebend was assessed at £17 6s 8d in 1291 (Green, op. cit., 271). Bletherston Church appears to have been annexed to Llawhaden vicarage from an early date (ibid.); a free chapel dedicated to St Mary, and a chapel of St Cadoc also lay within the parish.

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Bletherston annexed, rated in the king's books at £8 16s 6½d and in the patronage of the Bishop (Lewis, 1833); the parish remained a prebend of the Cathedral.

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

Fenton, in c.1811, stated that the dedication was to St Hugo (Fenton, 1903 edn., 174), but this may represent an anglicisation of St Aidan's name (Green, 1912, 271).

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

NLW, 'Maps of the Lands of the Lord Bishop of St Davids', 14229/6, 1815.

NLW, Parish of Llawhaden, Tithe Map, 1839.

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

Pictorial sources

NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb. PD 9343, n.d. (church from south-west, early 19th century).

NLW, Topographical Prints, Pemb. PD 7045, Top. B12/4, B75, 1740 (church from south-east by S & N Buck).

NLW, Topographical Prints, Pemb. PD 7351, Top. B12/4, B77, n.d (church from south-east, late 18th century).

Church in Wales Records

Jones, Andrews & Associates, 1991, Quinquennial Report, Llawhaden.

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

NLW, SD/F/461, Faculty - Removal of body, 1873.

NLW, SD/F/462, Faculty - Repairing tower, 1930.

Parish Records, Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest

(HPR/106 - Llawhaden)

Printed Accounts

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

Anon., 1995, St Aidan's Church, Llawhaden.

Cadw, 1997, Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest (Llawhaden).

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

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

RCAHM, 1925, Inventory: Pembrokeshire.

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

SPARC (South Pembrokeshire Partnership for Action with Rural Communities), n.d., Llawhaden leaflet.

**ST CARADOG,
LAWRENNY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3463

RB No. 2836

NGR SN 0164 0689

Listed Building No. 5971

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 2 bays; south transept, 1 bay; medieval. West tower, 4 storeys; c.1600. Vestry (east of north transept), 1 bay, 1886. North porch, 1896. Heating chamber (south of chancel west bay), early 20th century. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry and heating chamber with slate lean-to roofs and tower with a slated pyramidal roof. Medieval windows, chancel arch, transept arches, sanctus bellcote, skew-passage with tomb recess and effigy, piscina, sedilia, squint and aumbries, with limestone and ORS dressings. Tower openings, parapet, pinnacles and vault, from c.1600 with limestone dressings. Other openings, including chancel arch, are mainly from 1886, neo-Gothic, with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1886-96.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good - very good. Slight external cutting around 10% of church; shallow drain around 100% of church; below-ground floor in 5% of church; suspended floors above heating ducts in 75% of church; few external memorials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval windows, chancel arch, transept arches, sanctus bellcote, tomb recess and effigy, piscina, sedilia, squint and aumbries; tower openings, parapet, pinnacles and vault, from c.1600.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower, in coastal hilltop location; C18 churchyard entrance arch (Grade II listed); associated mansion curtilage.

Phasing:

- Phase 1 - Nave, c.1200.
- Phase 2 - Chancel, earlier C14.
- Phase 3 - North and south transepts, later C14.
- Phase 4 - West tower, c.1600.
- (Phase 5 - Restored mid C19, medium impact; vestry built.)
- Phase 6 - Restored 1886, medium impact; vestry rebuilt.
- Phase 7 - North porch, 1896.
- Phase 8 - Heating chamber, early 20th century.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Caradog, Lawrenny, is a multicelled church, of medium-large size. It retains approximately 90% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 2-bayed north transept with a skew-passage, a single-bayed south transept, a north porch, a 4-storeyed west tower, a single-bayed vestry in the angle between the north transept and its skew passage, and a below-ground heating chamber south of the chancel west bay. Construction is in local limestone rubble. Medieval chancel, transept and tower arches, and some windows, with Old Red Sandstone and limestone dressings; other openings are mainly from 1886, in neo-Gothic (Early English) style, with grey oolite dressings. Pointing is mainly from 1886, but the tower was repointed in 1986; the interior is plastered. The tower is barrel-vaulted. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry and heating chamber have slated lean-to roofs (synthetic in the heating chamber) and the tower has a slated pyramidal roof (not seen). There is a medieval effigy, and good 17th-18th century memorials.

The chancel south wall leans out above the level of a crack. The east window is an uncusped, graduated triple-lancet, with an overall 2-centred drip-mould, from 1886. There are 2 large, cusped single lancets in the south wall, and one in the north wall, in chamfered Old Red Sandstone from the earlier 14th century, re-exposed and restored in 1886. To the west, both side walls have cusped, 2-light windows in 2-centred surrounds with quatrefoiled spandrels, with infill, from 1886. A trefoil light from 1886 lies above the skew passage arch in the north wall of the west bay. Internally, the east bay south wall features a piscina with a plain cusped recess, and a similar double sedilia, which may both also be earlier 14th century; plain square medieval aumbries lie in the east and north walls of the east bay. The plain, semicircular chancel arch is from c.1200; to the south is a plain, square squint, with an irregular outline, inserted in the 14th century, and there is a rood-loft corbel on the nave north wall. The upstand above carries a double, gabled sanctus bellcote with 2-centred openings, late medieval but now empty. The softwood roof is from 1886 and has collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall-plates, matchboarded above. The tiled floor is also from 1886.

The nave is entered through the north wall of the central bay, through a doorway with a plain 2-centred head, probably from the 13th century; a similar, blocked south door lies in the opposite wall. To the east of the north door is an internal stoup with a triangular-headed recess, from c.1200?. The west bay is lit by an uncusped, triple-lancet in a 2-centred surround, from 1886, in the north wall, and a cusped, 2-light window in 2-centred surround with a quatrefoiled spandrel, also from 1886, in the south wall. Immediately west of the latter is an area of blocking, former window?. The nave roof is like that in the chancel and similarly from 1886; the creasing for an earlier, higher-pitched roof can be seen on the east wall of the tower. The passages are tiled, from 1886 but over heating flues inserted in the earlier 20th century, with suspended board floors.

The north transept is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred medieval arch, and is lit by a cusped 3-light window with Geometric tracery in the north wall, from 1886 but with a drip-mould that possibly retains some medieval fabric. There is also an uncusped 2-light window, with triangular heads, from 1886, in the west wall, and a single lancet in the east wall the embrasure of which, at least, is medieval, but with a much-restored surround. The transept is both roofed and floored as the nave. It communicates with the chancel via a skew-passage that is now concealed from the exterior by the vestry; it opens as depressed segmental arches that reflect the profile of its vault. Its outer wall features a cusped, 2-centred tomb recess from the 14th century containing a contemporary, damaged, limestone effigy of a knight.

The south transept is entered from the nave through a similar plain, 2-centred medieval arch, and is lit by a cusped 3-light window with Geometric tracery in the south wall, in yellow oolite (from 1886? or later?) but with an ?earlier limestone drip-mould on human mask stops. There is also a single lancet in the east wall the embrasure of which, like that in the north transept, is medieval, but with a much-restored surround. A door in the west wall, inserted in 1886 with a 4-centred surround, leads into the churchyard.. Internally, the east wall features a square tomb recess with a chest tomb of variegated marble, from 1809, with the arms of Barlow and Cresigny (Lewis, 1833). The transept is both roofed and floored as the nave.

The west tower, comprising 4 storeys in squared and coursed limestone rubble, is typical of the region, but of rather better quality, and is late - from c.1600. It is slightly tapered and has the 'typical' external batter and string-course, but does not feature a west door. A square spiral stair turret projects from the eastern half of the north wall, entered through a plain, segmental-headed doorway, c.1600, and lit by simple loops. The 2-centred arch from the ground floor into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault from c.1600, which has a central bell-raising port. The west wall is pierced by an uncusped, 3-light window, with segmental heads in a square surround and a straight, plain label, rebuilt in chamfered limestone, with infill, in the 20th century but probably in imitation of an original of c.1600; the outer arch is tall and 2-centred. There is a suspended board floor. The second stage is lit by a simple, square-headed light in the east wall, from c.1600; there is a similar light in the north wall of the third stage, from which the second stage is divided externally by an plain string-course. The belfry stage has 2-light openings with uncusped semicircular heads, in chamfered limestone from c.1600, in all 4 faces. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, from c.1600, with low, plain pinnacles at the corners, the north-eastern of which incorporates the head of the spiral stair. The pyramidal tower roof is slated (Nicholas, 1994, 4).

The vestry is from 1886 and adjoins the north transept, through the east wall of which it is entered via a contemporary doorway with a plain 2-centred head. It is also entered from the churchyard through a 2-centred doorway in the north wall, and is lit by an uncusped double-lancet window in the east wall, both also from 1886. The softwood lean-to roof, from 1886, continues the transept roof eastern slope; the floor is also from 1886.

The north porch was added in 1896 in limestone ashlar; it adjoins the west wall of the transept and has a stepped buttress at the north end of its west wall. The contemporary doorway has a 2-centred, double-chamfered surround; to the east of the door is a square light, also from 1896, and the west wall is pierced by a contemporary double-lancet window. The softwood roof, from 1896, lacks trusses. The floored is tiled like the nave passages, but from 1896.

The heating chamber was excavated in the angle between the chancel and the south transept in the earlier 20th century. It is largely below-ground but there are low rubble walls to the south and east, with a plain, square doorway in the east wall. A flue in the dividing wall with the south transept leads into a square, brick chimney-stack. The softwood lean-to roof lies against the transept wall.

A slight external cutting runs around the north porch and the tower north wall; a shallow, concrete-lined drain surrounds the church. The heating chamber is below churchyard ground level. Floors are suspended above heating ducts. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The semicircular chancel arch appears to be original and suggests an early date for the nave, c.1200, although the doorways may be somewhat later. The chancel windows are early 14th century in style and may indicate a rebuild/extension of the chancel. The north and south transepts are probably also 14th century, but not contemporary; the north transept has a skew-passage while the south transept merely has a squint. The west tower can be given, on stylistic grounds, the late date of c.1600; it is similar to the slightly earlier tower at Begelly, Pembs.. The vestry, north porch and heating chamber are 19th-20th century additions (see below).

A restoration was undertaken in c.1860 when an 18th-early 19th century timber gallery was removed, the (contemporary?) timber window frames were replaced by masonry surrounds, plaster ceilings were introduced and the interior was reseated (Cadw, 1997, 11). In 1867 Glynne thought the church too modernised (Glynne, 1888, 137); he noted that the northern skew-passage was blocked but was able to view the effigy.

A photograph of 1871 (NMR, 900175/7) shows the east end of the church prior to the second, main restoration; some restoration had, however, already been undertaken. A vestry occupies the site of the present vestry with which it is similar in scale and form; it probably dates from the early-mid 19th century. The present north window of the north transept may be shown; a similar, 4-light window occupied the chancel east wall; alternatively, both windows depicted may have been medieval. The medieval chancel windows were still blocked.

The church was restored again in 1886 (HPR/42/24) to the designs of the architect T. G. Jackson, when the vestry was rebuilt and the church was refenestrated, including the re-opening of the medieval chancel windows, sedilia and aumbry. The plaster ceilings were removed and the church was reroofed and the interior was refloored, reseated and replastered. The construction of the present north porch was anticipated, but not executed until 1896, to Jackson's design (NLW, SD/F/225).

The heating chamber, and underfloor heating ducts, are from the early 20th century; the heating apparatus is now oil-fired, with an external oil tank.

The tower was repointed in 1986.

In the south transept are 2 alabaster vases on marble pedestals, from the mid 18th century (Lewis, 1833). The free-standing softwood stalls and reader's desk, the pulpit, the open, free-standing nave benches and the panelled dado are from 1886 (Cadw, 1997, 12). The tower clock is from 1901 (Nicholas, 1994, 5). The neo-Gothic panelled reredos is from 1919 (Cadw, 1997, 12). The oak altar table is dated 1951.

The limestone font has a square bowl and stem, 12th century?, retooled?.

There are 3 bells in the tower (Nicholas, 1994, 5). The double sanctus bellcote is now empty.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Caradog, Lawrenny, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The rectory appears to have been in private patronage from the earliest date and, by 1594 at least, was appendant to the Manor of Lawrenny (Green, 1912, 225). The church was, in 1291, assessed at £8 (ibid.).

The Manor of Lawrenny and the patronage of St Caradog were held by the Wogans of Wiston in 1594 (ibid.), but by the later 17th century both had passed to the Barlows of Lawrenny Castle. In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory, in Barlow patronage and rated in the king's books at £13 (Lewis, 1833). In 1998 St Caradog, Lawrenny, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Martletwy, Minwear, Yerboston and Templeton (Benefice 816) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST DAVID,
LLANDDEWI VELFREY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3728

RB No. 3170

NGR SN 1439 1586

Listed Building No. 18982

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 70% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; north chapel, 3 bays, incorporating earlier north transept; south porch, medieval. Former west bell-turret, north porch?, medieval, and west porch, early 19th century. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls without render/plaster. Gable roofs with 20th century synthetic coverings. Medieval chancel arch and chapel arcade, blocked medieval doors. Other openings are mainly from 1861, neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings. Western double bellcote, and nave west wall, 1893.

Roofs; 1861. Floors and finishes: 1861 and 1893..

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, revetted external cutting around 50% of church, primary, secondarily extended for external burial vaults against 50% of church; shallow external drain 50% of church; below-ground evidence for former components beyond 40% of church?; levels unchanged?; no underfloor void?.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 70% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval arcade, chancel arch and blocked doors.

Group value - medium-high. Medieval church; large churchyard with good memorials and burial vaults.

Phasing:

- Phase 1 - Nave, C13?.
- Phase 2 - Chancel (and former north transept), C14.
- Phase 3 - South porch (and former north porch?), C14-15.
- Phase 4 - North chapel, c.1500.
- Phase 5 - Restored 1715-37, low impact?.
- Phase 6 - Restored 1756-7, high impact; chancel rebuilt.
- Phase 7 - Restored early C19, high impact; west porch built.
- Phase 8 - Restored 1864, high impact; west porch removed.
- Phase 5 - Restored 1893, medium impact; nave west wall rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St David, Llanddewi Velfrey, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 70% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north chapel incorporating an earlier north transept, and a south porch. Construction is in limestone rubble. The chancel arch and north chapel arcade are medieval, and there are blocked medieval doors in the nave. Other openings are mainly from 1861, neo-gothic, with yellow oolite dressings. The double western bellcote is from 1893; there was formerly a ?medieval western bell turret. Pointing is from 1861 and 1893; there is no internal plaster. Roofs are gables throughout, with later 20th century synthetic tiles.

The external walls of the chancel have been much rebuilt. The 3-light east window is from 1861 and has cusped, Geometric tracery. The south wall is pierced by 2 cusped, single lancets also from 1861. Externally, this wall exhibits a basal plinth in the west half, medieval?. The fairly large, 2-centred chancel arch is slightly asymmetrical, has chamfered stops and is medieval, 14th century?; on the east face the creasing for the former, lower-pitched chancel roof can be seen. The present roof is softwood, from 1861 and has collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall corbels, matchboarded above; the eaves are corbelled externally, 1861. The tiled floor is also from 1861, with woodblock flooring from 1893.

The nave is lit by cusped single and double lancets in the south wall, from 1861, and a similar single lancet in the north wall added in 1893. The west wall was entirely rebuilt in 1893 with an elaborate gabled double bellcote, projecting from an external corbel table, with a string-course and 2-centred louvered openings; the wall below is pierced by 2 cusped single lancets, 1893. Internally, the north wall contains the blocked semicircular-headed entrance to an 18th - early 19th century external burial vault, now replaced by a simple square opening; it interrupts the earlier blocking of a ?medieval north door. An adjacent area of blocking, truncated by the 1893 window, may represent the doorway to the stair for a former north porch parvis. The nave is roofed like the chancel, from 1861. The passages are flagged, like the woodblock flooring from 1861.

The north chapel communicates with the chancel through a 2-bayed arcade of depressed, 4-centred arches in cavetto-moulded oolite ashlar, on a cylindrical pier with a cable-moulded impost, featuring 2 moulded grotesque masks in the spandrel; all is from c.1500 but re-using earlier mouldings?. The chapel originally stood higher than the chancel and the south face of this wall was raised in 1861; the junction is visible. The single arch into the nave is like the chancel arch, 14th century and originally leading to a north transept; there is a joint to the nave north wall showing the arch to have been a secondary insertion. The chapel is lit by a 2-light window in the east wall, like the chancel east window and also from 1861, and 2 double lancets in the north wall like the nave, also 1861. The west wall contains a area of blocking at its junction with the nave, of unknown purpose, and appears to have formerly extended north of the present north wall (transept originally longer?), now finished as a buttress. The north wall exhibits the external scar of a

former lean-to shed, early 20th century?. The softwood roof is from 1861, lacks trusses and all common rafters are scissors-braced and matchboarded above. Floored as the chancel; the west bay is screened off as a vestry, with a suspended woodblock floor.

The south porch doorway has a 2-centred, chamfered surround from 1861. The porch has a softwood roof, without trusses, all common rafters having collars, from 1861. The floor is flagged directly onto the substrate, also from 1861.

A deep, revetted external cutting runs around the northern half of the church, primary, extended when external burial vaults were excavated against the nave and chapel north walls in the 18th - early 19th centuries. There may be below-ground evidence for a west porch, a north porch and a longer north transept beyond the present church; however, the external burial vaults will have removed much of this evidence. A shallow external drain runs around the southern half of the church. There is no evidence for any internal level changes. The floors may not be suspended over any void.

Structural development

The nave may be 13th century, but now lacks detail. The chancel south wall butts against the nave east wall and the form of the chancel arch dates its addition to the 14th century. The north chapel west bay was initially a north transept, with an arch, similar to the chancel arch, which can be seen to be an insertion of the 14th century; the transept was originally longer, having been truncated when absorbed into the north chapel. The south porch lacks detail but may be 14th or 15th century in origin; a north porch may have been present, and may have featured a first floor parvis chamber. The north chapel is from c.1500, but its arcade may re-use earlier detail.

The church has been subject to a number of restorations (Canon G. Morris, Rural Dean, pers. comm.). The first recorded was in 1715-37, but its extent is unknown. A second restoration occurred in 1756-7 when the chancel was apparently rebuilt (recorded on a datestone on the east end). In a third restoration of the early 19th century a west door was inserted and a west porch added. A drawing from this period, from the south-west, shows the chancel, nave and south porch; there was a crenellated western bell-turret, medieval? (similar to the turret at East Williamston, from c.1500), and the nave south wall was pieced by a square, domestic 12-pane window (Thomas Lloyd, private collection).

A major restoration occurred in 1861 (Canon G. Morris, Rural Dean, pers. comm.) when the church was largely refaced. All windows and doors were rebuilt, and the church was reroofed, refloored, and reseated. The chancel was heightened. The west porch was removed and the west door was blocked.

In 1893 the church was restored to the designs of the architect George Halliday (NLW, SD/F/304). The crenellated bell-turret was removed and rebuilt in its present form, along with the nave west wall. A window was inserted in the nave north wall. Some of the woodblock flooring, and fittings, were replaced.

The carved softwood stalls are from 1861. The softwood pews and pulpit, and the vestry screen in the chapel, are from 1893 (NLW, SD/F/304).

The font has a plain square bowl, not closely dateable, and a 19th century stem and base.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St David, Llanddewi Velfrey, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Carmarthen. The church was in the patronage of the Lord of the Manor of Velfrey (Narberth). In 1291 it was assessed at £8 (Green, 1912, 232). There were 2 former subordinate chapels within the parish (ibid.).

In 1833 the living comprised both a rectory and a vicarage. The sinecure rectory was in the patronage of the Principal and Tutors of St Davids College, Lampeter and rated in the king's books at £8 (Lewis, 1833), while the discharged vicarage was in crown patronage and rated at £7 9s 4½d (ibid.). The tithes were divided equally between the rector and the vicar.

In 1998 St David, Llanddewi Velfrey, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Lampeter Velfrey (Benefice 630) in the Archdeaconry of Carmarthen, Rural Deanery of St Clears (St Davids, 1997-8).

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Map Evidence

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

Church in Wales Records

St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

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(HPR/74 - Llanddewi Velfrey)

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**ST LEONARD,
LOVESTON,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3481

RB No. 3387

NGR SN 0841 0847

Listed Building No. 6076

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, small-medium sized, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays, with 'choir recess'; nave, 2 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south transept, 1 bay; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; all medieval and single phase, 14th century. Limestone rubble construction, internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Vaulting in transepts and tower; chancel arch, piscina, stoups, doorways, blocked windows and tower openings, 14th century; squints and east window, earlier 16th century. Two early 19th century windows. (Jacobean monument.)

Roofs: medieval vaults and 1914 timberwork. Floors: 18th - early 19th century. Finishes: mainly 1914.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - excellent. Shallow external cutting around 40% of church, primary?; very shallow, earth-cut drain around 90% of church; floor levels unchanged; no underfloor void.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval chancel arch, windows, doors, choir recess, squints, stoups, piscina, blocked windows and door, tower openings and vaults.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, transepts, south porch and west tower, all C14.

Phase 2 - Restored 1914, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Leonard, Loveston, is a multicelled church, of small-medium size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel with a 'choir recess', a 2-bayed nave, single-bayed north and south transepts, a south porch and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in limestone rubble. Pointing is mainly from 1914, with some external render from the 20th century, and the interior is plastered. The transepts and tower ground floor are barrel-vaulted. The chancel arch and squints are medieval; there are medieval windows and doors, both open and blocked, many with distinctive 2-piece heads; there is little later work. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen. The floors are 18th - early 19th century.

There is a Jacobean monument, now obliterated.

The cusped, 3-light chancel east window has a square surround and drip-mould, of late Perpendicular style and 16th century. The south wall is rendered externally, 20th century, and has a basal plinth; there is the embrasure for a blocked window, medieval, and below it a piscina represented by a 2-centred recess, also medieval. To the west the south wall is thrown out as a shallow 'choir recess' as seen at eg. Herbrandston and Johnston, both Pres.; it lies beneath a segmental arch and has a blocked, single light window, both medieval. The north wall retains a possible early roof-truss corbel. The 2-centred chancel arch has chamfered stops and chamfered imposts and bases, all 14th century; either side is a squint, each with 2, square-headed chamfered lights in a square surround, from the 16th century, the northern of which has lost its mullion (cf. the similar squints at Johnston, Pres.). A large, but obliterated Jacobean monument lies south of the altar, with Corinthian pilasters and a moulded entablature with a heraldic crown. The softwood roof has simple collar-rafter trusses with coach-bolt fastenings, from 1914 but possibly re-using earlier timbers. The flagged floor is weathered, 18th - early 19th century; the sanctuary has a 20th century 'marble' floor.

The 2-bayed nave is very short and was originally unlit; the north wall window has been converted from a blocked north door with a 2-piece, 2-centred head from the 14th century, now containing a single-light window from 1914. The south door is similar, also 14th century; to the east is a stoup represented by a square-headed recess, medieval. The ?collar-rafter nave roof is concealed by a plaster ceiling of 3 cants, 1914?. Floored as the chancel, 18th - early 19th century.

The transept arches reflect the profiles of their medieval 2-centred barrel vaults. They are by simple, square window in their end walls, with brick surrounds from the early 19th century. Floored as the chancel, 18th - early 19th century. The north transept is now used as a vestry.

The south porch has a similar doorway to those in the nave, also 14th century but with a concrete rear-arch from 1914; the internal benching is also concrete and from 1914, replacing earlier benching?. In the east wall is a simple stoup like that in the nave. The roof is simple like that in the chancel, also 1914 but probably re-using earlier timbers. Floored as the chancel, 18th - early 19th century.

The west tower is demonstrably of one build with the nave and its form suggests that it is early, probably from the 14th century; it lacks the external string-course typical of the region, and has no external batter, being tapered throughout (cf. Ludchurch, S. Pembs.). A square spiral stair turret projects from the north-west corner, entered through a 2-centred doorway, 14th century, and is lit by simple loops. The west door is like those in the nave and porch and similarly 14th century; above it is a similar single lancet, also 14th century but rebuilt in cement in the 20th century. The 2-centred arch into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault. Floored as the chancel, 18th - early 19th century. The second stage is lit by simple slit-lights, all 14th century. The belfry stage has single-light openings with 2-piece heads in the north, south and west walls, and a similar, 2-light opening in the east wall, al 14th century; the crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, also 14th century but partly rebuilt, especially over the turret.

There is a slight external earth cutting along the north wall, primary?. A very shallow, earth-cut drain surrounds the church except the tower. There is no evidence for floor level changes. The floors are laid directly on the substrate throughout. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

St Leonard, Loveston appears, uniquely, to be a single-phase structure belonging entirely to the 14th century. The characteristic 2-piece headed openings occur throughout the nave, porch and tower, no external joints are visible and there is no evidence to suggest that the chancel or transepts are any later. The general form of the tower tends to confirm its early date. The east window and squints are from the earlier 16th century.

There has been little alteration. The transept windows belong to the earlier 19th century, possibly contemporary with the flagged floors.

A restoration of 1914, to the designs of the architect F. R. Kempson (Pembs R. O., HPR/74/9), was very low impact and confined to reglazing the windows, reroofing, replastering and reseating the church. The seats were pitch-pine box-pews, removed in 1971-5. The external render in the chancel is probably rather later.

The vestry screen across the north transept is from 1914 (Pembs R. O., HPR/74/9). The pulpit is dated 1964. The oak stalls and pews are from 1971-5 (Pembs R. O., HPR/74/12-13).

The limestone font has a square scalloped bowl, a circular stem and a square base, all 12th century.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Leonard, Loveston, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The patronage always appears to have lain with the Lords of Manor of Loveston and remained in private hands (Green, 1912, 277).

In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory in the patronage of the Earl of Cawdor, rated in the king's books at £4 5s 5d and endowed with £600 royal bounty (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Leonard, Loveston, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Jeffreyston, Reynalton and East Williamston (Benefice 668) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

SOURCES CONSULTED

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

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HPR/74 - Loveston:-

HPR/74/8 - Churchwardens' Accounts, 1913-50.

HPR/74/9 - Architect's specifications for restoration, 1914.

HPR/74/10 - Archdeacon's Certificate, west door and heating, 1951.

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HPR/74/12 - Archdeacon's Certificate, replacement of pews, 1971.

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**ST ELIDYR,
LUDCHURCH,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3784

RB No. 2779

NGR SN 1411 1091

Listed Building No. 6050

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 90% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 3 bays; south aisle, 5 bays; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. North porch, mid 19th century. Limestone rubble construction, with remains of 19th century external render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in tower; medieval chancel arch, arcade, windows, stoups, blocked windows and door; late 16th - early 17th century windows and door. Tower formerly with 'saddleback' roof. Remainder of windows, and porch door, from 1893 and neo-gothic.

Roofs: medieval vault and 1893 timberwork. Floors: 1893. Finishes: early 19th century and 1893.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - very good. Regular, rectangular earthwork platform beneath 100% of church, including evidence for former, longer chancel?; shallow, earth-cut drain around 80% of church; floor levels unchanged; suspended floors above heating flues in 80% of church; underground heating chamber in 5% of church; external memorials significantly close to 30% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 90% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval arcades, windows, stoups, blocked windows and door, tower openings and vaults; 16th - 17th century windows and door. Tower formerly with 'saddleback' roof.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower, in hilltop location; large churchyard with good memorials including one with Wedgewood tiles.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - Chancel, C14 (earlier?).

Phase 3 - West tower, C14 (later?).

Phase 4 - South aisle (and tower belfry stage), C15.

Phase 5 - North porch (and restoration?), mid 19th century.

Phase 6 - Restored 1893, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Elidyr, Ludchurch, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 90% medieval core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 3-bayed nave, a 5-bayed south aisle, a north porch and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in limestone rubble. There are the remains of early 19th century external render in the chancel, and the nave north wall; pointing is mainly from 1893, with some poor 20th century repointing, and the interior is plastered. The tower ground floor is barrel-vaulted. The chancel arch and south aisle arcade are medieval; there are medieval windows and doors, both open and blocked; the 1893 windows are neo-gothic. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen.

The 3-light chancel east window has Perpendicular tracery in a 2-centred surround, from c.1500 but restored in 1893; the gable above was rebuilt in 1893. There is a cusped, single lancet in the east bay north wall, from 1893 but in an earlier opening unblocked in 1893 (NLW, SD/F/468); to the west a blocked window is visible, depicted as a small, 2-light window in the mid 19th century (Anon., n.d.). The 2-centred chancel arch has chamfered stops and semi-octagonal imposts, all 14th century. The softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1893; the passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1893.

The nave east bay is lit by a cusped 2-light window in the north wall, with a square, neo-Perpendicular surround, all an 1893 replacement of a 3-light window of uncertain date (Anon., n.d.). The west bay north wall has a single lancet, as in the chancel and also 1893. The segmental-headed north door may have been altered or rebuilt in the earlier 19th century; to the east is an internal stoup with a bowl moulded as a human face between two flower-heads, in a segmental recess, 14th - 15th century. The softwood nave roof has braced, queen-post trusses with a crown-plate, all 1893. Floored as the chancel, with an underground heating chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove, all 1893.

The south aisle occupies the entire length of both chancel and nave, communicating with them through a 5-bayed arcade of depressed 2-centred arches on cylindrical shafts, with plain-moulded octagonal capitals and bases; the capitals exhibit moulded shields; all 15th century. The east wall is pierced by an uncusped, 2-light window in a square surround, 16th - early 17th century. There are three 2-light windows in the south wall, all as in the nave east bay and similarly from 1893 but occupying earlier (late medieval or post-medieval) openings (NLW, SD/F/468). The west wall is pierced by a double lancet, also from 1893 in an earlier opening; below can be seen slate creasing of unknown purpose. A blocked single light window can be seen in the south wall of each of the eastern 2 bays, while in the west bay south wall is an uncusped single lancet from the 15th century, reopened in 1893. The central bay exhibits a blocked medieval doorway with a 2-centred head, to the west of which lies a deep-bowled, late medieval stoup in a 2-centred recess. Roofed as the nave, but with tie-beams, 1893. Floored as the nave.

The west tower has been altered but in its original state may be early, probably from the 14th century; it lacks the external string-course typical of the region, and has no external batter, being tapered throughout (cf. Loveston, S. Pems.). A square spiral stair turret projects from the east half of the north wall. The 2-centred arch into the nave was blocked before the 19th century; the west door has a segmental-headed,

chamfered surround from the 16th - 17th century, and a similar, blocked single light lies above. The ground floor has a 2-centred barrel vault, 14th century; the floor is concrete. The second stage is lit by lancets and square-headed single lights, all 14th century. The tower formerly possessed a saddleback roof and belfry, the outline of which can still be seen, and above this level the walls become perpendicular, including in the stair turret. The present belfry stage is a rebuild of the late 15th century and has contemporary, single-light square-headed openings in the east, south and west walls, and a similar, 2-light opening in the north wall, the crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, also 15th century. The brick flue from the Porritt's stove rises through the tower interior, 1893. The ground floor is now used as a store.

The north porch appears to be mid-19th century. There is a contemporary plain, square doorway in its east wall, while the similar north wall door was rebuilt from an elaborate, moulded doorway in 1893. The softwood roof was rebuilt in 1893, without trusses; the quarry-tiled floor is also from 1893.

The church stands upon a pronounced, regular, rectangular earthwork platform which extends eastwards to form a remarkably square east end, beyond the present east wall, with a low bank possibly representing a buried wall - chancel originally longer?. A shallow, earth-cut drain surrounds the church except the tower. There is no evidence for floor level changes. Floors are suspended above heating flues, and there is an underground heating chamber in the nave. External memorials lie significantly close to the south wall.

Structural development

The nave may be 13th century, but cannot be closely dated. The chancel arch is 14th century, as may be the chancel itself. The west tower was originally a saddleback tower of early form, probably 14th century. The arcade dates the south aisle to the 15th century, when the tower belfry stage was rebuilt in its present form. There was a refenestration in the later 16th - early 17th century (surviving in the south aisle and tower).

The north porch appears to have been an addition of the mid-19th century. It is not shown on the tithe map (NLW, Ludchurch, 1839) but was present by 1873 (Anon., n.d.) when the south door and some medieval windows had been blocked; this work all probably dates from c.1860 when the church was repaired, partially reseated (Cadw, 1997, 15), and at least the partially refenestrated. The blocking of the tower arch may be earlier.

A restoration was anticipated in 1873 (ibid.), under the architect John P. Seddon, but the work appears not to have been undertaken.

The church was restored again in 1891-3, to the designs of the architect F. R. Kempson (NLW, SD/F/468). It was partially refenestrated, one of the porch doors was rebuilt, and the interior was reroofed, refloored, replastered and reseated. A 'Porritt's' stove was installed.

The oak stalls, and freestanding softwood pews are from 1893. The pulpit may be earlier 20th century. The carved oak chancel screen is from 1928 (NLW, SD/F/469).

The limestone font has a square bowl, stem and base, all 12th century? (later according to RCAHM, 1925, 204); the stem has been retooled in classical style.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Elidyr, Ludchurch, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, referred to as 'Ecclesia de Loudes' in 1324 (Cadw, 1997, 15). The Earls of Pembroke were the patrons until the 15th century when it became a possession of the crown (Green, 1912, 279).

In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory in crown patronage, rated in the king's books at £3 14s 4½d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Elidyr, Ludchurch, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Begelly and Crunwre (Benefice 815) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The 'Elidyr' of the dedication may be equated with St Teilo.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Map Evidence

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**ST JAMES,
MANORBIER,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 4219

RB No. 2849

NGR SS 0650 9764

Listed Building No. 5975

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 100% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays; nave, 4 bays; tower (north of chancel), 4 storeys; north transept, 2 bays; south transept, with skew-passage/squint, 1 bay, south aisle, 3 bays; south porch (formerly with parvis?); medieval. North aisle, 3 bays, early 17th century. Vestry (north of chancel) 1 bay, 1865-8. Limestone rubble construction, some ORS, with remains of early 19th century external render; internal walls with early render/plaster. Nave, transepts and skew passage, aisles, tower, porch, barrel-vaulted, north transept north bay rib-vaulted. Slate gable roofs; vestry with slate lean-to roof; tower with slate pyramidal roof. Medieval arcades (open), chancel arch?, some windows, doors (open and blocked), rood loft stair, doors and corbelling, squint, piscina, tomb recess (with effigy), south porch vault and benching, medieval tower with vault, openings and parapet; limestone and ORS dressings. Early 17th century arcades, windows, sanctus bellcote and blocked door, with limestone and ORS dressings. Some windows from 1865-8, neo-Gothic, with limestone dressings. (Early 17th century oak rood-loft/gallery; medieval and 18th century wall-paintings).

Roofs: medieval vaults and 1865-8 timberwork. Floors: 1865-8?. Finishes: medieval plaster, early 19th century render and 1865-8 pointing.

Condition - good. Porch (with painting) damp.

Archaeological potential - excellent. External cutting around 40% of church, secondary, footings exposed in 5% of church; shallow drain around 100% of church; 1m of churchyard build-up around 40% of church; levels unchanged; no underfloor void; known burials beneath 20% of church?; external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 100% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval arcades, chancel arch?, windows, doors, rood loft stair, doors and corbelling, squint, piscina, tomb recess and effigy, south porch vault and benching, tower with vault, openings and parapet; early 17th century arcades, windows, sanctus bellcote and door.

Group value - high. Important medieval landmark church with tower, in coastal hilltop location; in historic village with castle etc.; churchyard with associated masonry buildings (Grade II* listed), one vaulted, late

medieval, function?; medieval ?consecration cross; adjacent masonry buildings (Grade II listed), late medieval, function?.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, early C13 (vault added early C14).

Phase 2 - Chancel, transepts, early C14.

Phase 3 - Tower lower storeys, mid-late C14.

Phase 4 - South aisle, late C15.

Phase 5 - South porch, c.1500.

Phase 6 - North transept north bay, late C16.

Phase 7 - Tower belfry stage, C16.

Phase 8 - North aisle, early C17.

(Phase 9 - Restored early-mid C19, low-medium impact; vestry built.)

Phase 10 - Restored 1865-8, low-medium impact; vestry rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St James, Manorbier, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 100% pre 19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 3-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a 4-storeyed tower north of the chancel west bay, a 2-bayed north transept, a single-bayed south transept and skew-passage, a 3-bayed north aisle, a 3-bayed south aisle, a south porch (formerly with a first floor parvis?) and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel central bay. Construction is in local limestone rubble, with some Old Red Sandstone. The chancel arch and arcades are medieval, and some openings; there are also early 17th century openings. Other openings are from 1865-8, neo-Gothic, with limestone dressings. There are the remains of early 19th century external render in the north aisle, and, to a lesser extent, the south aisle; pointing is mainly from 1865-8 but there has been some later 20th century repointing. The interior is plastered, which is early in the porch which has medieval wall-paintings, and in the north aisle which has a painting from 1701. The nave, transepts and skew passage, aisles, tower and porch are barrel-vaulted, and there is a rib-vault in the north transept north bay. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof and the tower roof was not seen.

There is a 17th century oak gallery.

An external cutting runs around the east and south walls, secondary, exposing footings at the east end. The church is surrounded by a shallow, external drain. There has been deep, post-medieval churchyard build-up concealing the base of the north and west walls to a depth of approx. 1m. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. Floors are not suspended, and there is no void. Known burials lie beneath the tower ground floor, and probably the north transept. Many external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The chancel

The chancel weeps markedly. Its walls have an external basal batter which incorporates the exposed footings. The east window has plain-cusped triple lancets from 1865-8, beneath a contemporary wide outer arch with a drip-mould on moulded stops. There is a plain, single lancet in the east bay north wall with a chamfered limestone surround, probably 14th century; in the opposite, south wall is a plain-cusped, 2-light window with plate tracery featuring a quatrefoil, from 1865-8. The central bay side walls both feature a doorway, ie. 'priest's doors', each of which has a simple, square lintelled head, medieval. The west bay north wall is pierced by a plain, 2-centred arch into the tower, and is 0.4m higher than the rest of the north

wall, featuring a corbel-table to support the body of the tower. The south wall is similarly an arcade, with a plain, segmental head, for the skew passage into the south transept; the low external wall of the passage projects only slightly from the angle between chancel and transept and is coped back to their external walls. The lower half of the passage entry was blocked in the later medieval period to form a squint, which is now interrupted by a single-light, cusped window with a trefoil above, all from 1865-8.

The plain, 2-centred chancel arch is said to have been rebuilt in 1865-8; it was, apparently, previously 'very narrow' (Davies, n.d.), but the present arch appears convincingly medieval. Above it are 2 medieval corbels for the former rood loft and the northern half is pierced by a plain, segmental-headed doorway, medieval, representing the entry into the tower second stage (see below), and now associated with a 17th century gallery which extends into the north transept (see the Structural Development below).

Internally, the east bay north wall features a tomb recess with a 2-centred head, with a moulded chest and recumbent male effigy, in armour, all from the early 14th century and occupying a shallow projection from the external face. In the opposite, south wall is a piscina with a cusped, 2-centred recess and plain projecting bowl, probably 14th century; it has been supplanted by a similar piscina and adjoining, arcaded double sedilia, with cusped arches on cylindrical shafts, from 1865-8.

The chancel roof may be of oak and comprises queen-post trusses, arch-braced from wall-corbels, with softwood matchboarding, all 1865-8; the east bay has a contemporary 'wagon-roof' ceiling, with matchboarding. The patterned-tile floor is similarly from 1865-8.

The nave

The nave side walls are both pierced by inserted arcades (see below); the arches towards the west are wider. In the east central bay, the south wall is pierced by a single light, with a semicircular-headed embrasure from the 12th century, or more probably the early 13th century, above the level of the inserted arch which interrupts its sill. The west wall features a blocked doorway with a very low doorway with a 2-centred head comprising 2 chamfered limestone voussoirs. Above the door is a graduated triple-lancet window, each lancet with a drip-mould, all from 1865-8 but inserted into an earlier, segmental-headed embrasure. A flue from an internal heating apparatus rises through the west wall to emerge from the southern slope as a plain, square chimney in limestone ashlar, from the earlier 20th century. The nave has a plain barrel-vault, with a 2-centred profile, from the early 14th century (secondary, see below). The floor is quarry-tiled, probably without a void, 19th century, 1865-8?.

The tower

The 4-storey tower occupies a position, only seen within the area at one other church (Pembroke St Mary), north of the chancel west bay and in the angle with the north transept. It is also stylistically unusual, and the lower 3 storeys are probably early, lacking the basal batter and string course typical of the region, and not being tapered. The external facework suggests at least 3 successive builds, much of it in squared and coursed rubble, with good quoins, but with the exception of the belfry stage, the tower may be attributed to the mid-late 14th century.

The ground floor opens into the chancel via the arch described above, and to the north transept through a semicircular-headed arch with rather crude, plain voussoirs inserted in the mid-late 14th century. The east wall is pierced by a simple, single light with a stepped square head, from the mid-late 14th century, while the north wall has a single lancet that is medieval in origin but was rebuilt in 1865-8. Internal masonry benching runs along the north wall, medieval. The ground floor has a plain barrel-vault with a rounded 2-centred profile and a bell-raising port. The floor comprises earlier 19th century memorial slabs (used as a family chapel?) and quarry tiles from the 19th century, 1865-8?.

The second stage is entered through the doorway from the 17th century gallery described above, and lit by a simple slit light in the east and north faces, from the mid-late 14th century, while the third stage has a similar, contemporary slit in the east wall, and a square through-shaft in the north wall.

The belfry stage is an addition of the 16th century (or even possibly the 17th century) and features large openings similar to those at Castlemartin Church. They comprise a large, single plain lancet with an unchamfered surround in the east and west faces (and a blocked lancet in the south face), and a similar triple lancet in the north face. The contemporary crenellated parapet lies on a corbel table.

The north transept

The north transept comprises 2 bays roofed at different levels and from 2 periods, apparently having been enlarged as a family (mortuary?) chapel in the later 16th century.

The southern bay, which may be early 14th century, is the earlier of the two, and is entered from the nave through a plain, 2-centred arch, crudely cut through the solid side wall and pre-existing barrel-vault; the south-east corner of the western stop has a marked chamfer probably associated with the former rood-screen and loft, there being 6 medieval corbels above and around the arch. The southern bay is open to the northern bay through a plain 2-centred arch respecting the profile of the vault in the northern bay beyond, above which its north wall oversails the roof of the northern bay; in this wall is a window with a triangular-headed embrasure, 14th century, with an inserted, cusped 2-light window, with a quatrefoiled spandrel, from 1865-8. The upstand is gently 'crow-stepped', again from 1865-8. This bay also communicates with the tower through the arch described above, and with the north aisle (see below). Internally, the east wall exhibits medieval rood-loft corbelling now carrying the 17th century gallery which extends into the nave (see the Structural Development below). The softwood roof is like that in the chancel, from 1865-8. The floor is like that in the nave and also from the 19th century, 1865-8?.

The northern bay is an addition of the later 16th century, with walls that are lower than those in the southern bay. It is lit by windows in all 3 walls. That in the east wall has a simple square embrasure, later 16th century, occupied by a single light window with a square surround from 1865-8; there is now no evidence in this wall for the blocked doorway shown in earlier 19th century drawings (see below). The northern window occupies a similar embrasure and is similar to that in the southern bay but with a trifoliated spandrel, from 1865-8. The west wall is properly the north aisle east wall, which will be described below; however, in the lower part of this wall is a window that looks into the aisle, with a plain, square, chamfered surround in weathered limestone from the later 16th century, and thus pre-dating the aisle. This bay is roofed, at a much lower level than the southern bay, with a rib-vault also from the later 16th century; the vault has a 2-centred profile and the ribs have a simple square profile. Floored as the southern bay.

The north aisle

The gabled north aisle communicates with the nave through an arcade of three plain, 2-centred arches, on plain square piers without capitals or bases, which are, like the transept arches, crudely cut through the side wall and vault, but lower, and from the early 17th century. It also communicates with the southern bay of the north transept through a low, plain 2-centred arch having square stops with plain, roll-moulded imposts to the east. Above this, the eastern, gable wall rises above the north transept and is surmounted by a sanctus bellcote; this is plain, gabled, with a single, square opening, from the early 17th century. Beneath it is a single light window with a plain, square, chamfered surround in weathered limestone from the early 17th century.

The north wall is pierced by 4 windows. At the east end is a low, single light with a square embrasure and surround in chamfered limestone, from the early 17th century and associated with a former rood-screen. The straight stair to the former rood-loft occupies a shallow projection from the wall immediately to the west, which has coping back to the wall face that follows a downhill slope to the west reflecting the line of the stair. The stair is entered through a narrow doorway with a plain, 2-centred head with a chamfered surround and a hood-mould on carved head stops, from the early 17th century, and exits onto the loft through a contemporary doorway with a simple square head. The stair is associated with the ?contemporary gallery noted above (and see below, Structural Development), which is supported on corbelling. Above the stair projection is the second window, which lies in a large plunging embrasure, from the early 17th

century; the single Caernarfon-headed light is from 1865-8. The remaining 2 windows are both rather low, uncusped double lancets with semicircular heads in chamfered, weathered Old Red Sandstone from the early 17th century. Between them is a blocked doorway, also from the early 17th century, whose 2-centred head is very low externally where ground levels have been raised.

The west, gable wall exhibits a joint to the nave west wall. It is pierced by a plain-cusped, 2-light window with a drip-mould on moulded corbels and plate tracery featuring a quatrefoil, all from 1865-8. The internal face has masonry benching from the early 17th century.

The aisle is barrel-vaulted, with a 2-centred profile, from the early 17th century. Floored as the nave. At the east end of the north wall is a painted Royal Arms from 1701 (Parkinson, 1978).

The south transept

The south transept contains a single bay, entered from the nave through an arch like that of the north transept, and also early 14th century, but taller and without the chamfered stop; a rood-loft corbel lies on the western stop. It also communicates with the south aisle, see below; the skew-passage/squint into the chancel has been noted above. It is lit by a window in the south wall like that in the end wall of the north transept and similarly from 1865-8, but in a 2-centred embrasure that may be medieval. The east wall has an external buttress from the 19th century, badly weathered and originally taller; it may overlie a blocked, earlier opening. It has a 14th century barrel-vault with a 2-centred profile. Floored as the nave.

The south aisle

The gabled south aisle is narrower than the nave and north aisle, with a lower roof-line. It communicates with the nave through an arcade of three plain, 2-centred arches like those to the north aisle, but is probably from the later 15th century. It also communicates with the south transept through a plain 2-centred arch.

The south wall features 2 windows, that in the east bay being an uncusped double-lancet from 1865-8 possibly occupying an earlier embrasure. The west bay window is a single light with a square surround in chamfered limestone, from the late 16th-early 17th century; there is a possible area of blocking immediately to the east, high in the external face. The south door lies between the windows and has a 2-centred surround in unchamfered limestone ashlar, from the later 15th century. The internal face has contemporary masonry benching, with a cut-out around the door.

The west wall is pierced by a 2-light window, with square heads in a chamfered, square limestone surround and a segmental embrasure, all from the early 17th century. Below it is a plain lintel, set very low down but probably representing a (late) blocked doorway where external ground levels have been raised.

The aisle is barrel-vaulted, with a 2-centred profile, from the later 15th century. Floored as the nave.

The south porch

The south porch is from c.1500. It is probable that it formerly comprised 2 storeys (ie. with a parvis); internally, the walls are very tall, the west wall features an internal socket at half-height, for a floor-joint?, and there is a scar within the angle between the east wall and the south aisle which may represent the site of a former (spiral?) stair. Both side walls feature medieval masonry benching. The main entrance doorway has a weathered, double roll-moulded, 2-centred surround in large limestone, and a similar drip-mould on corbelled stops, one of which has gone, all from c.1500. The porch has a 2-centred barrel vault from c.1500, exhibiting on its ?contemporary plaster finish painted ribs, dividing the space into 4 panels with a central boss, also c.1500? (Parkinson, 1978); the painting is in fair condition only. The post-medieval flagged floor slopes downhill from south - north and is laid directly on the substrate; in all there are 4 steps down from the churchyard to the south aisle.

The vestry

The vestry was added in 1865-8 replacing an earlier 19th century building. It is entered from the chancel through the medieval doorway described above, and from the churchyard through a Caernarfon-headed doorway in its east wall, from 1865-8. It is lit by a window in its north wall like that in the end wall of the north transept, also from 1865-8. There is a disused fireplace in the south-east corner, leading to a tall, square chimney set diagonally to the wall, with a cusped, gabled smoke-vent in each face, from 1865-8. The softwood, lean-to roof and tiled floor are both also from 1865-8.

Structural development

The nave may be late 12th century, but is more likely to be early 13th century, dated by the contemporary window surviving high in its south wall; the barrel-vault is an addition from the early 14th century when the transepts were added and the chancel, wider than the nave, was rebuilt. The tower is stylistically early and was probably inserted between the chancel and the north transept in the mid-late 14th century. The addition of the south aisle entailed the insertion of arches through the nave south wall; the aisle contains no original features that can be closely dated, but sequentially it appears to be late 15th century, to which the south porch was added c.1500. The tower belfry stage is an addition of the 16th century (or even possibly the 17th century) and features large openings similar to those at Castlemartin Church. The north bay of the north transept can be given, by its openings and vault, a broadly late 16th century date. There are no features in the north aisle that can be given a date any earlier than the early 17th century, and indeed it appears that they are all primary and that the aisle was added, with a crude arcade like that to the south aisle, at this late date, when the south aisle was refenestrated..

There appear to have been 2 rood-screens, which may have co-existed; the medieval screen in the nave and north transept has now gone (removed in 1865-8 according to Davies, n.d.), and an early 17th century rood-screen in the north aisle, represented by the present gallery that is probably contemporary? (see below); figure-carving was apparently present on the rood-screen or loft, which was removed in 1707 and replaced by the Royal Arms of William III (Cadw, 1996, 1).

The church was described as 'rather dilapidated' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833). There was the usual expenditure upon small-scale repairs during the early 19th century, and a west gallery was installed in 1841 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/5/16). The pre-restoration church is shown in a number of late 18th - early 19th century pictorial views (see sources) none of which, however, show the church from the south. The church was much as it exists today but the north door may still have been open until 1839, and a blocked door is shown in the north transept east wall. From the early 19th century onwards, a small, lean-to roofed vestry occupied the site of the present vestry. The nave and north aisle west windows were large, square openings from the late 18th century, and there was a similar, smaller sash window in the north wall of the north transept southern bay. The original, early 17th century window survived above the rood-loft stair in the north aisle. Some restoration evidently took place in the mid 19th century when the north transept north wall received a 2-light window and the chancel east window was replaced with a 3-light window; both had 'Y'-tracery. No openings are shown in the tower ground floor.

The church was restored in 1865-8, to the designs of the architect Frederick Wehnert (Cadw, 1996, 1) who was also responsible for restoring Hubberston Church, Pembs. The restoration was largely superficial. The vestry was rebuilt to a larger plan. The chancel arch was apparently rebuilt (but nb. see above, Description). New windows were inserted in the chancel, transepts and at the west end. The tower ground floor openings were reopened/rebuilt. The chancel and north transept received their present softwood roofs. The tiled floors may date from this restoration, or may belong to an earlier, mid 19th century restoration. The 1841 western gallery was removed. The internal finishes were largely retained, with their paintings.

The roofs were reslated in the 1980s (Bartosch & Stokes, 1991).

In the southern bay of the north transept is an early 17th century carved oak rood-loft, partly restored, which is for the most part supported on corbelling for the medieval loft, but lying on an inserted 20th century openwork screen around the southern bay north wall. The gallery extends into the nave, and into the contemporary north aisle where it is supported from the east and north walls on a coved, panelled bressumer, which exhibits traces of colouring (Parkinson, 1978), and entered from a contemporary rood-loft stair.

The free-standing softwood pews are from 1865-8 and have boarded floors laid over the flooring; those at the west end of the nave are more robust and may be earlier. The tower clock was installed in 1907 (Bartosch & Stokes, 1991). The carved, softwood altar table and reredos are earlier 20th century, as may be the free-standing stalls and the carved, neo-Gothic traceried chancel and tower screens, and the pulpit. There is a contemporary vestry screen in the west bay of the nave/south aisle, with a heating apparatus. The chapel fittings in the north transept are from the 1960s, and there are similar 'domestic' fittings in the north aisle.

There are 2 fonts. One, in limestone, has a square, scalloped bowl on a cylindrical stem, 12th century, and a square base from the 19th century. The second has a later medieval octagonal bowl, in limestone, and a secondary stem and base, from the 19th century?.

There are 3 bells in the tower, dated 1639, 1698 and 1806 (Bartosch & Stokes, 1991); the casting of the latter is referred to in a churchwarden's account of 1806 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/5/16).

The effigy in the chancel was described by Fenton, 1903, 241. A ?post-conquest cross-incised stone, which may be a consecration cross (RCAHM, 1925, 216), lies loose in the porch.

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some circumstantial evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
centre of pre-conquest commote.

St James, Manorbier, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke, within the sub-lordship of Manorbier. It was assessed at £20 in 1291 (Green, 1911, 284). The church was granted to the Priory of St Nicholas at Monkton by John de Barri, Lord of Manorbier, in 1301 (RCAHM, 1925, 216). Monkton was suppressed as an alien priory by Henry V and fell to the crown; in 1507 the patronage of Manorbier was granted by King Henry VII to his mother Margaret, who regranted it to Christ Church College, Cambridge (Green, 1911, 284). In 1536 the annual value was £8 (ibid.).

Christ Church College, Cambridge, were the patrons in 1833 when the living was a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £600 royal bounty and £1400 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St James, Manorbier, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Florence and Redberth (Benefice 810) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST WOMAR,
MINWEAR,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3595

RB No. 2840

NGR SN 0396 1300

Listed Building No. 6081

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 60% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, small-medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; south transept, 1 bay; west tower, 2 storeys including the nave west bay; medieval. North chapel, 3 bays, 17th century?. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; north chapel with slate lean-to roof; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in transept and tower/nave west bay, with arches; medieval tower openings, north doorway and blocked south door; chancel arcade and chapel arcade are 17th century. Windows are from 1870-72, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs: medieval vaults and 1870-72 timberwork. Floors and finishes: 1870-72.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Shallow, earth-cut drain around 100% of church; external truncated around 25% of church exposing footings; external earthwork around 25% of church, secondary; floor levels unchanged; suspended floors above void; few external memorials significantly close to 5% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good - very good. 60% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, vaults, door, blocked door; 17th century arcades.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower, in hilltop location; associated vicarage and farm buildings.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - Chancel and south transept, C14.

Phase 3 - West tower (and rebuilt nave west bay?), early C16.

Phase 4 - North chapel, C17.

Phase 5 - Restored 1870-72, medium-high impact; north chapel rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Womar, Minwear, is a multicelled church, of small-medium size. It retains approximately 60% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north chapel, a single-bayed south transept and a 2 storeyed west tower over the nave west bay. Construction is in limestone rubble; pointing is mainly from 1870-72 and the interior is plastered. The south transept and nave west bay (beneath the tower) are barrel-vaulted. The chancel arcade and chapel arcade are 17th century; other openings are mainly from 1870-72, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings. Roofs are slated gables; the north chapel has a slated lean-to roof while the tower roof was not seen.

The triple lancet chancel east window is from 1870-72, as is the single lancets in the south wall. The chancel arch is, in fact, an arcade of 3 low openings which appears to have been substantially rebuilt during the post-medieval period, 17th century?. The central arch is crudely rounded and is flanked by 2 segmental arches on square ashlar piers; the southern arch is set south of the chancel south wall which carries an internal chamfer to the south transept as a kind of 'skew-passage'. Above the arches are 2, large triangular-headed openings into the chancel, also 17th century?. The softwood roof is from 1870-72 with collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall corbels; matchboarded above. The floor is both flagged and tiled, all from 1870-72.

The nave is lit by single, simple circular windows in the north and south walls. The north door has a plain 2-centred head and there is a similar blocked door in the south wall; both are medieval. The west wall has a pronounced external batter but was probably rebuilt when the tower was added in the early 16th century. The softwood nave roof lacks trusses, all common rafters being scissors-braced and from 1870-72; plastered above. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1870-72.

The north chapel communicates with the chancel and nave east bay via an arcade of 3 plain segmental arches with moulded imposts on a cylindrical column and a square pier, Jacobean in style and earlier 17th century. There is a cusped, single lancet in the east wall and a 2-light square-headed window in the west wall; both, like the walls themselves, are from 1870-72. The lean-to roof has softwood rafters from 1870-72, plastered above. Floored as the chancel.

The south transept is entered through a 2-centred arch reflecting the profile of its vaulting, and is lit by a double lancet window in its south wall from 1870-72. The medieval vault has a rounded 2-centred profile. Floored as the nave.

The west tower comprises just 2 storeys, the lower of which is represented by a square projection from the nave west wall with a 2-centred vault. The second stage is narrower, the north and south walls sloping into it; it entered through a semicircular-headed doorway above the northern slope, from the early 16th century and accessible only by ladder. It has a 2-light, segmental-headed opening in the east wall, similar single-light openings in the north and west wall, and a slit-light in the south wall, all from the early 16th century but largely rebuilt, along with the uncrenellated parapet and external corbel table, in 1870-72. The tower is similar to that at Cosheston, S. Pembs.

A shallow, earth-cut drain surrounds the church. External levels have been truncated along the north wall of the north aisle exposing its footings. A regular external earthwork lies south of the nave, secondary, above former sill level, debris? or sweepings?. There is no evidence for floor level changes. Floors are suspended above a void. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the north aisle east wall.

Structural development

The nave may be 13th century, but cannot be closely dated. The chancel and south transept contain very similar facework and are probably 14th century. The tower is early 16th century. The north chapel may be the same date as its arcade, ie earlier 17th century, when it appears that the chancel arch was rebuilt.

‘Various repairs’ were undertaken between 1738 and 1821 (Cadw, 1997, 16). A Faculty was obtained for rebuilding the church under the patron Baron de Rutzen, in 1836, but the work was never carried out (ibid.). Instead, the roofs were stripped, and ‘some of the fabric was demolished’ (north chapel?), by Baron de Rutzen in 1844, in a deliberate attempt to increase the congregation of his new church at Slebech (Nicholas, 1994, 3). Rutzen in fact applied for a Faculty to demolish the church 1864 but this was refused.

The church was eventually restored in 1870-72 (NLW, SD/F/489), to the designs of the architect C. K. W. Ladd of Pembroke Dock, when the external walls of the north chapel, and the chancel east wall, were entirely rebuilt. The church was refenestrated, reroofed, refloored and reseated. The upper part of the tower belfry stage was rebuilt. There appears to have been little significant further work.

The softwood pews and pulpit are from 1870-72. The vestry screen in the north chapel is possibly contemporary. The oak reredos is dated 1951.

The limestone font has a circular bowl with ballflower and carved head mouldings, a cylindrical stem and a circular base, all from the 13th century.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Womar, Minwear, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was a possession of the Knights Hospitaller of Slebech, having been granted by one Robert FitzLomar c.1150 (Green, 1912, 302).

At the dissolution, the patronage passed to the crown but was sold to John Barlow of Slebech (ibid.). In 1833 the living, a discharged vicarage, was in the patronage of the Baron de Rutzen of Slebech, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty and £200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Womar, Minwear, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Martletwy, Lawrenny, Yerboston and Templeton (Benefice 816) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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Church in Wales Records

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St Davids, 1997-8, Diocesan Year Book.

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**ST MARY,
NASH,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 4416

RB No. 3070

NGR SN 0101 0327

Listed Building No. 5988

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

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

A single-cell church, small. Consists of chancel/nave, without structural division, 5 bays; 1841-2. Vestry (north), 1 bay, later 19th century?. Construction is in limestone rubble. Slate gable roofs, vestry with slate lean-to. Openings mainly from 1841-2, simple neo-gothic. Western bellcote, single, later 19th century. (Box pews, west gallery and pulpit from 1841-2.)

Roofs and floors: 1841-2. Finishes: later 19th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - very good. Medium-deep external drain around 40% of church; former component beyond ?40% of church; no underfloor void; no external memorials significantly close to church.

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

Group value - low. C19 church; adjacent masonry farm buildings.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, 1841-2.

Phase 2 - Vestry (and bellcote), later C19?.

DESCRIPTION

St Mary, Nash, is a single-celled church, of small size. It was entirely rebuilt in 1841-2 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, retaining none of the earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a 5-bayed chancel/nave without structural division, and a single bayed vestry north of the 'chancel' west bay. Construction is in limestone rubble; external pointing is largely from the later 19th century and the interior is plastered. Openings are from 1841-2 and simple neo-Gothic; the windows have 4-centred heads and 2 or 3 lights, in a simple 'Perpendicular' style. The west door has a 4-centred head; above it lies a parapet with a single bellcote, in darker limestone and probably an addition. The chancel/nave roof is a slated gable; the vestry has a slated lean-to roof.

Richard Fenton visited the earlier church c.1810 and described it as 'though certainly ancient... neither has, nor appears to have had, any steeple or other ornament whatever, being the meanest religious structure I have seen in this hundred' (Fenton, 1903, 234). It was apparently single-celled like the present church; a north aisle or chapel, 'being grown ruinous', had apparently been demolished a few years previously. According to Lewis, 1833, it was 'a very ancient structure, remarkable for the rude simplicity of its architecture, and is said to have been erected by one of the earliest Norman proprietors of Upton Castle'. The tithe map of 1840 shows a conventionalised church, in elevation, with a west tower that is entirely spurious (NLW, Nash, 1840).

The church was demolished and rebuilt in its present form in 1841-2, under the local architect George Gwyther, of Pembroke Dock (Cadw, 1996, 11), and was reseated with the present pews, pulpit and gallery (Pembs. R. O., HPR/15/17); the flagged floor and plaster ceiling are contemporary. The vestry had been added by 1874 (Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First Edition, Pembs. Sheet XL.6.), when the bellcote was probably (re)built in its present form. The church was repaired in the 1890s (Cadw, 1996, 11) but the details of this work are not known.

There is a good range of internal fittings from 1841-2 including box pews, a pentagonal pulpit and a west gallery (cf. near-contemporary fittings at the nearby church at Redberth). The 'chancel' fittings are later 20th century (Bartosch & Stokes, 1992, 11).

The font has a square bowl which cannot be closely dated.

There is 1 bell (Bartosch & Stokes, 1992, 10).

A medium-deep external drain runs along the south wall. A north aisle/chapel was formerly present. The floor appears to lie directly on the substrate. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Richard Fenton saw a medieval effigy, 'of a crusader', lying loose outside the church; apparently it had previously lain within the former north aisle/chapel (Fenton, 1903, 235). It has been moved to Upton Chapel (RCAHM, 1925, 253).

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Nash, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was appendant to the Manor of Nash (or 'Esse') and was assessed at £5 in 1291 (Green, 1913, 214). Its annual value was £6 12s 8½d in 1536 (ibid.). The chapel of Upton was subordinate to Nash parish.

Patronage was vested with the Manor of Upton and Nash in the 16th century, held by the Bowen family (ibid.), but was divided among a number of individuals by the 18th century and in 1833 was in the hands of the Rev. William Evans (Lewis, 1833), when the living was a rectory, with Upton annexed, rated in the king's books at £6 12s 8½d (ibid.).

In 1998 St Mary, Nash, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Cosheston and Upton (Benefice 583) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication is occasionally given as St Catherine (Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First and Second Editions, Pembs. Sheet XL.6.).

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**ST PEDROG,
ST PETROX,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 596

RB No. 2923

NGR SR 9707 9756

Listed Building No. 6015

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 50% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 3 bays, with 'choir-recess'; nave, 3 bays; north transept, 1 bay; south porch; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. Vestry (transeptal, north of chancel west bay), 1 bay, 1854-5. Old Red Sandstone and limestone rubble construction, much of the ORS facework from 1854-5 and snecked; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower with a masonry dome. Medieval vaulting in nave, transept, tower and porch; medieval tower openings, arch, transept arch and blocked north door. Other openings, including chancel arch, are from 1854-5, neo-gothic, with ORS dressings.

Roofs: medieval vaulting and timberwork from 1854-5. Floors and finishes: 1854-5.

Condition - good. Tower damp.

Archaeological potential - good - very good. Deep, wide drainage trench, primary?, around 60% of church; shallow, concrete-lined drain around 40% of church; suspended floors over void; external memorials significantly close to 50% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 50% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, vaults, transept arch and blocked door.

Group value - high. Landmark church with medieval tower, in hilltop location; churchyard cross; good memorials.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13.

Phase 2 - North transept, earlier C14.

Phase 3 - West tower, chancel and south porch, all late C14?.

Phase 4 - Restored 1858, high impact; vestry built, south walls and porch rebuilt/refaced.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Pedrog, St Petrox, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 50% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel with a 'choir-recess', a 3-bayed nave, a single-bayed north transept, a south porch, a 3-storeyed west tower, and a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay. Construction is in Old Red Sandstone rubble, much rebuilt/refaced in 1854-5 with snecked facework; the medieval west tower is in limestone rubble. Arches and openings, except in the tower, and the double sanctus bellcote were entirely (re)built in 1854-5, in neo-Gothic (late Early English) style, with Old Red Sandstone dressings. Pointing is mainly from 1854-5, and the interior is plastered. The church, except the chancel and vestry, is barrel-vaulted throughout, including the tower roof which is a masonry dome; other roofs are slated gables.

The chancel is faced with snecked rubble from 1854-5. The 3-light east window is from 1854-5 and has geometric tracery in a 2-centred surround with a drip-mould on human mask stops. The east bay north wall is pierced by a cusped single lancet from 1854-5, while the south wall has a central, uncusped double-lancet window also from 1854-5. The south wall of the west bay is projected externally as a square 'choir recess', a medieval feature of some Pembrokeshire churches but here entirely rebuilt in 1854-5; the internal recess has a segmental head and the outer walls are blind. The 2-centred, chamfered chancel arch is from 1854-5; the upstand above carries a double, gabled sanctus bellcote with 2-centred openings, also (re)built in 1854-5 and now empty. The softwood roof is from 1854-5 and has collar-rafter trusses cusped into trefoils, matchboarded above. The tiled floor is also from 1854-5.

The nave south wall facework is in snecked rubble, from 1854-5 like that in the chancel, with a contemporary stepped buttress at the west end; the north wall is in random medieval rubble, has a slight external batter and is now blind. The nave is lit by 2 windows in the south wall, both from 1854-5; an uncusped 2-light window in a 2-centred surround, with a plain circular light in the spandrel, lies to the east, and to the west is an uncusped single lancet. The south door lies further west still and has a chamfered, 2-centred surround also from 1854-5. Opposite the south door is a blocked north doorway, with a plain 2-centred head in Old Red Sandstone, occupying a cut-out in the batter and probably from the 13th century; immediately to the east is an area of amorphous masonry that may represent a blocked window but is situated fairly low down in the wall. The 2-centred barrel vault is from the 13th - 14th century. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1854-5.

The north transept is entered from the nave through a 2-centred, chamfered arch reflecting the profile of its vaulting, and is lit by an uncusped 2-light window in a 2-centred surround, with a plain circular light in the spandrel, from 1854-5, in the north wall. There is no evidence for a former skew-passage. Vaulted and floored as the nave.

The south porch is also vaulted as the nave, but was substantially rebuilt/refaced in snecked rubble in 1854-5, with a contemporary 2-centred doorway. Internally the side walls exhibit masonry benching, also rebuilt in 1854-5. Floored as the nave passages, 1854-5.

The west tower, comprising 3-storeys in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble with distinct quoins, is not typical of the region and may be early, being similar in many respects to the 14th century tower at Loveston, Pembs.. It is slightly tapered but lacks the 'typical' external string-course, has only a slight external batter, and does not feature a west door. A square spiral stair turret projects slightly from the north-west corner; it is entered through a narrow doorway, with a 2-centred surround from 1854-5, and is lit by simple loops. The 2-centred arch from the ground floor into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault from the late 14th century. The west wall is pierced by a single lancet with an uncusped circular light above, beneath a 2-centred drip-mould on human mask stops, all from 1854-5 but probably occupying an earlier embrasure. The floor is like that in the nave. The second stage is lit by a

simple, late 14th century square-headed light in the north wall. The belfry stage has 2-centred single-light openings, with 2-piece heads characteristic of the late 14th century work at Loveston, in the east, west and south walls, that in the west wall being 2-light; there is a simple, late 14th century square-headed light in the north wall. The tall, crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, from the late 14th century but restored; within the parapet is a shallow masonry dome (RCAHM, 1925, 382).

The vestry is from 1854-5 with snecked rubble facework, and adjoins the north transept with which it forms a double-gable. It is entered from the chancel through a contemporary doorway with a 2-centred surround and lit by a cusped double-lancet window in the north wall. A flue in the dividing wall with the transept leads into a square, brick chimney-stack, from later in the 19th century?. The softwood roof, and the floor, are from 1854-5.

The nave, north transept, tower and south porch are surrounded by a deep, wide drainage trench, primary?, secondarily deepened and partly revetted; a shallow, concrete-lined drain runs around the chancel and vestry. Floors are suspended above a void. External memorials lie significantly close to the south walls.

Structural development

The blocked north door surround may date the vaulted nave to the 13th century. The vaulted north transept is unlikely to be contemporary; there is no evidence for a corresponding south transept and it may thus be an addition of the earlier 14th century. The unvaulted chancel may be later still; the 'choir-recess' is probably a faithful rebuild of a Pembrokeshire feature that is more typical of the late 14th-15th century (cf. Herbrandston, Johnston and Loveston churches, Pembs.). The south porch was largely rebuilt in 1854-5 but is vaulted and may preserve the core of a 14th-15th century original. The tower exhibits a joint to the nave and may be later 14th century, sharing its characteristic 2-piece headed openings with the late 14th century tower at Loveston, Pembs.. The vestry is a 19th century addition (see below).

The chancel was wainscoted and 'otherwise adorned' in c.1700, and new altar rails were fitted (Fenton, 1903 edn., 232).

The church was restored in 1854-5 to the designs of the architect R. Kyrke Penson (Anon., 1992), when the vestry was built and the south porch (re)built. The south walls of the chancel and nave were refaced and possibly at least partially rebuilt. The church was refenestrated; the chancel arch, north transept arch, 'choir-recess', and south door were rebuilt, and the south wall was given an external buttress. The sanctus bellcote was (re)built. It was reroofed and the interior was refloored, reseated and replastered. The work is similar in style to that at Stackpole Elidor Church, undertaken to the designs of Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1851; the two benefices were united and the imitation of his work may have been deliberate.

The altar fittings are from 1854-5 and the late 19th century and include 2 commandment tablets, probably from 1854-5. The softwood pews and pulpit are probably contemporary. The simple oak reredos is dated 1965.

The oolite font has a square, scalloped bowl, a cylindrical stem with a cable moulding and a square base, from the 19th century, 1854-5?.

There is one bell in the tower, inscribed 'recast by John Lord of Cawdor, 1809' (Bartosch & Stokes, 1994, 11). The double sanctus bellcote is now empty.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

There is a cross in the churchyard, rebuilt in the 19th century on the medieval base (RCAHM, 1925, 382).

SITE HISTORY

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

Celtic dedication.

St Pedrog, St Petrox, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The rectory appears from the earliest times to have been appendant to the Manor of Stackpole Elidor (Green, 1913, 303). St Petrox was, in 1291, assessed at £10 (ibid.).

By the 18th century the living was in the patronage of the Earls of Cawdor, at Stackpole Court (ibid.). In 1833 the living was a discharged rectory, in Cawdor patronage and rated in the king's books at £7 3s 9d (Lewis, 1833). The living was united to the rectory of Stackpole Elidor in 1839 (Green, op. cit., 303).

In 1998 St Pedrog, St Petrox, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with St Twynells, Stackpole Elidor and Bosherton (Benefice 809) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The rectangular churchyard appears to be imposed upon a north-south system of long, linear, co-axial field boundaries. However, the date of these boundaries has yet to be firmly established and their framework, at least, may have prehistoric origins.

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(HPR/100 - St Petrox)

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REDBERTH CHURCH, SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE

Dyfed PRN 4424

RB No. 2850

NGR SN 0824 0417

Listed Building No. 18213

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

19th century church; ?% medieval core fabric. On site of, and same location as, medieval church, possibly retaining some pre-19th century fabric.

A 3-cell church, small. Consists of chancel, 1 bay; nave, 2 bays; west porch and bell-turret; all 1841. Construction is in limestone rubble. Slate gable roofs. Openings mainly from 1841, simple neo-gothic with grey oolite dressings. Western bell-turret, above porch, originally gabled; later given a crenellated parapet, in 1913?.

(Box pews and triple-decker pulpit from 1841.)

Roofs and floors: 1841. Finishes: 1913.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Wide, shallow, earth cutting around 30% of church, primary?; suspended floor over a void in 60% of church.

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

Group value - medium. 19th century church on medieval site, central within planted and planned village.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, west porch, 1841.

Phase 2 - Bell-turret, 1913?.

DESCRIPTION

Redberth Church is a 3-celled church, of small size. It was rebuilt in 1841 on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, possibly retaining some earlier fabric.

The present church consists of a single-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave and a west porch incorporating a bell-turret. Construction is in limestone rubble. Openings are mainly from 1841 and simple neo-Gothic; the windows are single-light, 2-centred and square, with simple grey oolite dressings. The chancel arch is simple, 2-centred and from 1841. The west porch is also from 1841 and in limestone ashlar, with a 2-centred door. Rising from it is a rubble buttress, with 2 string-courses and pierced by 2 square-headed bellcote openings, that formerly terminated as a gable; it was later heightened to form a square, crenellated bell-turret, with a 2-centred opening in each of the 4 faces, possibly in 1913. Other roofs are slated gables.

The earlier church appears to have followed the same plan form (NLW, Redberth, Tithe Map, 1841). In 1833, 'having fallen into a very dilapidated condition', it was undergoing 'complete repair' (Lewis, 1833); this may represent the same general campaign dated to 1841 and which was undertaken by George Brown of Craigyborion, Amroth (SPARC, n.d.). It is possible that some of the earlier core fabric was retained. The present roofs and floors date from 1841, and there is a good range of internal fittings from 1841 including box pews and a 3-decker pulpit (cf. near-contemporary fittings at the nearby church at Nash).

The church was renovated to the designs of the architect F. R. Kempson, of London, in 1913 (A. Gordon, 1993; Pembs. R. O., HPR/20/9). The work was largely superficial and fittings were retained, but may have included the rebuild of the bell-turret into its present form.

The font has a square bowl with incised decoration, early 13th century?; the cylindrical stem and base, in oolite, are 20th century (1913?).

There is 1 bell (Bartosch & Stokes, 1992, 9).

There is a wide, shallow, earth cutting south of the nave. The floor is suspended over a void in the nave. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

Redberth Church was not a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), but a free chapel of Carew parish in the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was a possession of the Knights Hospitaller of Slebech.

Redberth had become a parish by 1833 when the living, a perpetual curacy, was endowed with £1200 royal bounty and £200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833). The patronage had recently passed from the Vicar of Carew to the Bishop of St Davids.

In 1998 Redberth Church was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with Manorbier and St Florence (Benefice 810) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication is unknown, but is occasionally given as St Mary.

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NLW, SD/F/570, Faculty - Stained glass window, 1926

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REYNALTON CHURCH, SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE

Dyfed PRN 3483

RB No. 3386

NGR SN 0898 0883

Listed Building No. 6091

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 100% pre 19th century core fabric.

A 3 cell church, small sized. Consists of a chancel/nave, without structural division, 3 bays; south transept, 1 bay; west tower, 2 storeys; medieval. Former south porch?, with parvis?. Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in tower, with arch and openings; medieval south transept arch, blocked door and steps. Other openings mainly mid-late 19th century, neo-gothic, plain limestone dressings.

Roofs: medieval vault and mid-late 19th century timberwork. Floors and finishes: mid-late 19th century

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep wide cutting around 40% of church, primary; shallow external drain around 60% of church; former component beyond 20% of church?; levels lowered in 75% of church exposing footings; suspended floors above a void in 40% of church; few external memorials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good - very good. 100% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, vaults, south transept arch, blocked door and steps.

Group value: high. Medieval landmark church, with tower; large triangular churchyard.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel/nave, C12-14.

Phase 2 - South transept (and former south porch), C15.

Phase 3 - West tower, early C16.

Phase 4 - Restored mid-late C19, low impact.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

Reynalton Church is a 3-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 100% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 3-bayed chancel/nave, without structural division, a single-bayed south transept and a 2-storeyed west tower. Construction is in limestone rubble; the exterior has been extensively, and poorly repointed in the 20th century with some render on the north wall; the interior is plastered. The west tower ground floor is barrel-vaulted, medieval. The tower and south transept arches are medieval, as are some windows; other openings are mainly mid-late 19th century, neo-gothic, with plain limestone dressings. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen.

The chancel/nave east wall has a pronounced external basal batter. The double lancet chancel east and north wall windows are from the mid-late 19th century, as may the single, square-headed light in the east bay south wall. The south door has plain 2-centred head and appears to have been rebuilt in the mid-late 19th century; to the east, the internal face of the south wall exhibits a stoup in a chamfered segmental-headed recess, 15th - 16th century. The softwood collar-rafter roof trusses are bolted, and mid-late 19th century; plastered above. The slate flagged floor is probably mid-late 19th century, and the level appears to have been lowered exposing the internal footings.

The south transept is entered through a very depressed semicircular arch, chamfered, on 'corbelled' impost stones, all late 15th century. It is lit by a double lancet window in the south wall, like the chancel/nave windows and similarly mid-late 19th century. A flight of steps is built into the west wall, leading up to a blocked doorway which can only have led to a parvis over a former south porch. Roofed as the chancel/nave. The floor is fully carpeted, flagged?; there is an underfloor void.

The west tower is not typical of the region, comprising just 2 storeys and lacking an external batter and string-course. It is not tapered. A square spiral stair turret projects from the east half of the north wall, which terminates as a gable below the summit of the belfry stage. The ground floor is entered from the nave through a plain 2-centred arch, from the early 16th century. The low west door has been blocked, and the double-lancet window above, like the rest, is from the mid-late 19th century, but occupying a 16th century embrasure. The 2-centred barrel vault is pierced for bellropes, and early 16th century. The floor is flagged as the chancel/nave, but over a void. The belfry stage has single-light, square-headed openings in all 4 faces, early 16th century, the crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, also 16th century.

A wide, deep earth cutting runs around the north and east walls, primary, where the church is built into the hillslope; no corresponding platform. A shallow external drain runs around the remainder of the church. There may be below ground evidence for a possible former south porch. Floor levels have been lowered in the chancel/nave and south transept exposing internal footings. Floors are suspended above a void in the west tower and south transept. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

Vertical offsets at either end of the internal faces of the chancel/nave walls, 1-2m in from the present end walls, may define the original extent of the chancel/nave; 12th - 13th century?, extended in the 13th - 14th century?. The form of the south transept arch suggests a later 15th century date. The west tower was added in the early 16th century. A south porch, with a first floor parvis, may formerly have adjoined the south transept and have been contemporary with it; a plan of 1953 depicts an 'enclosure' between the south door and the transept east wall, which may represent footings of a porch that were then still visible (Kay, 1953).

In 1833 the church was in a 'very dilapidated condition' (Lewis, 1833). It was restored in the mid-late 19th century, to judge from the window openings, but neither the precise date, nor the architect, is known (Nicholas, 1995, 3). The restoration was low impact, comprising refenestration, rebuilding the south door, reroofing the nave and transept, and reflooring, reseating and replastering the interior.

There has been little further work beyond repointing.

The softwood pews and tower vestry screen are from the mid-late 19th century. The chancel fittings are later 20th century.

The limestone font has a square bowl and stem, probably 13th century, on a modern base.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

Reynalton Church was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It was a possession of the Priory of St Thomas, Haverfordwest, with an annual value of £2 13s 4d in 1538-9 (Green, 1913, 256).

At the dissolution, the patronage passed to the crown and then into private hands. In 1833 the living, a perpetual curacy, had recently passed from the patronage of the Rector of Begelly to that of the Bishop of St Davids; it was endowed with £600 royal bounty and £200 parliamentary grant (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 Reynalton Church was a parish church. The living was a vicarage held with Jeffreyston, Loveston and East Williamston (Benefice 668) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication is unknown but is occasionally given as St James (RCAHM, 1925, 305).

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ROBESTON WATHEN CHURCH, SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE

Dyfed PRN 3587

RB No. 3177

NGR SN 0845 1574

Listed Building No. 6092

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 60% pre 19th century core fabric.

A multicell church, medium sized. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 2 bays; south transept, 1 bay; west tower, 3 storeys; medieval. North aisle, 3 bays, 1875 (replacing medieval north transept). Limestone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; tower roof not seen. Medieval vaulting in tower; medieval tower openings and stoup. All other openings, including the chancel arch, are from 1875, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings.

Roofs, floors and finishes: 1875.

Condition - good. Tower damp with poor pointing.

Archaeological potential - good. Shallow, earth-cut drain around 100% of church; external levels truncated around 30% of church; internal levels truncated, exposing footings, with deep underfloor void in 80% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. 60% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, stoup and vault.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower, in hilltop location; central within village.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, south transept (and former north transept), all C14?.

Phase 2 - West tower, earlier C15.

(?Phase 3 - Restored 1836-40, low impact?).

Phase 4 - Restored 1875, high impact; north aisle built replacing north transept.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

Robeston Wathen Church is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 60% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north aisle (absorbing former north transept), a single-bayed south transept and a 3-storeyed west tower. Construction is in limestone rubble; pointing is mainly from 1875, with some ?contemporary external render and poor 20th century repointing, and the interior is plastered. There is barrel-vaulting in the tower. The tower has retained some medieval openings, including a stoup and a 16th -17th century west window; other openings, including the chancel arch, are mainly from 1875, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings. Roofs are slated gables; the tower roof was not seen.

The 2-light chancel east window is from 1875 and has a moulded surround with 'Decorated' tracery. The south wall features a similar 3-light window but with a square surround, also from 1875; internally, to the east is a 20th century piscina. Internal corbelling below the side wall eaves may be pre-19th century. The moulded chancel arch is from 1875. The softwood 'wagon-roof' ceiling is from 1875 and has bosses at the frame intersections. The passage is tiled, with suspended board floors over a deep void, from 1875.

The nave is lit by a 3-light window like that in the chancel south wall, from 1875 but possibly occupying an opening from 1836. The roof is ceiled like the chancel but features tie-beams with king-posts, again from 1875. The passages are carpeted but feature heating flues and an underground chamber for a 'Porritt's' stove, with suspended board floors over a deep void, all from 1875.

The north aisle is from 1875, replacing a medieval north transept from which none of the fabric was retained. It communicates with the chancel west bay via a full-centred, moulded semicircular arch from 1875. The arcade into the nave is contemporary and comprises 2 moulded, 2-centred arches. The aisle east bay is separated from the central bay, as a vestry, by 2 similar arches on a cylindrical pier, also from 1875; a stepped external buttress is built against the north wall opposite. The aisle is lit by a cusped, single lancet in both the east and west end walls, from 1875, and 2- and 3-light windows in the north wall, like the chancel south wall window and also from 1875. In the angle between the west wall and the tower is a buttress containing the flue from the Porritt's stove, from 1875. The roof is like that in the nave, from 1875. The aisle has a suspended timber floor above a very deep void.

The south transept is entered through a plain 2-centred arch rebuilt in 1875. It is lit by a window in its south wall, from 1875 and again like the chancel south window. Ceiled as the chancel, and floored as the north aisle over a deep void. The south transept is now a chapel.

The west tower may be an earlier example of the type, lacking the external string-course typical of the region and having no external batter. It is not tapered. A square spiral stair turret projects from the north end of the west wall, entered through a simple square-headed doorway and lit by simple loops. The west door has a 2-centred chamfered surround of medieval date and apparently occupying an earlier opening, the southern jamb of which is visible; a 2-light window above has square heads of 16th - early 17th century date. Internally, the ground floor south wall features a stoup with a massive crude bowl in a recess with an asymmetrical arched head, again suggesting an early date; a horizontal line of sockets above may be associated with a former west gallery, 18th - early 19th century. The 2-centred arch into the nave reflects the profile of the 2-centred barrel vault. The ground floor is flagged, from 1875? Re-used flags?. The second stage is lit by a simple square light in the east wall; a ?relieving arch in the north wall is of unknown function. The belfry stage has 2-light, square-headed openings in the east and south walls, of medieval date; the similar single-light openings in the north and west walls are larger and may be later. The crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table, much restored.

A shallow, earth-cut drain surrounds the church. External levels have been truncated along the north and west walls. The underfloor void is particularly deep, especially so beneath the north aisle where it may be vaulted, and internal levels truncated, particularly in the tower exposing its footings internally. There is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the east end.

Structural development

The chancel, nave, south transept and former north transept may all have been of one build, and 14th century. A number of features of the tower suggest that it is early, possibly earlier 15th century.

The church was illustrated by Dinely in 1684 in a view from the south, in which the nave and chancel can be seen, roofed continuously, and the south transept and tower (Nicholas, 1992, 3).

Some restoration may have been undertaken in 1836 when reroofing, raising the walls and inserting a window in the nave north wall were discussed in a vestry meeting (Pembs. R. O., HPR/37/8); the roof itself was restored in 1842 under the local architect Thomas Lewis, of Narberth (Cadw, 1997, 28).

The church was again restored in 1875 (NLW, SD/F/581, to the designs of the architect T. G. Jackson of the Temple, London. The restoration was high impact. The north transept was demolished, and the north aisle built instead. The chancel arch, and south transept arches were rebuilt. The church was refenestrated and reroofed. Levels, both internal and external, were truncated, and the church was refloored over a very deep void which may be vaulted in the north aisle (over a tomb?). The interior was replastered and reseated.

The oak stalls and pews, north aisle vestry screen and the pulpit are from 1875. The clock in the tower is from 1885 (Cadw, 1997, 28). The 'Renaissance' altar rail is from 1911 (Nicholas, 1992, 8). The chancel beam is from 1940, the timber sanctuary canopy is from 1941, the screen in the south transept is from 1942 and the painted reredos is dated 1943.

The font is 20th century, but the base and stem of a Classical, wineglass font of 18th century date lie loose within the church.

The tower contains a peal of 6 bells, 2 from 1682, and 4 from 1947 (Anon., n.d.).

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

Robeston Wathen Church was a chapelry with a parish of its own during the post-conquest period (Green, 1913, 260), annexed to Narberth rectory in the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. The living was still consolidated with Narberth rectory in 1833 (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 Robeston Wathen Church was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with Narberth, Mounton and Crinow (Benefice 631) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication of the church is unknown.

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**SS JAMES AND ELIDYR,
STACKPOLE ELIDOR,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 593

RB No. 2925

NGR SR 9872 9730

Listed Building No. 6020

Grade I listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 70% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, large, cruciform. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 4 bays; south chapel, 1 bay; north transept, 1 bay; south transept, with skew passage, 1 bay; tower, 4 storeys, north of the north transept; medieval. South porch; vestry (north of chancel west bay), 1 bay; 1851. Boilerhouse, north of nave; coal cellar (north of vestry), late 19th century. Limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble construction; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry, boilerhouse and coal cellar with slate lean-to roofs. Medieval barrel vaulting in transepts and tower, rib vaulting in chapel; medieval tower openings, skew passage openings, piscina, tomb recess. Rebuilt nave, south porch (with barrel vault) other openings, including chancel arch, are mainly from 1851, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings. (Medieval effigies; 17th century monument.)

Roofs: medieval vaulting and 1851 timberwork. Floors: 1851. Finishes: 1851 - 20th century.

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Deep, wide revetted external cutting around 30% of church, primary, secondarily extended; shallow external drain around 70% of church; internal levels altered?; floor lowered in 10% of church; suspended floors above heating flues; internal burials beneath 15% of church; external memorials significantly close to 30% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 70% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, vaults, arches, piscina, tomb recess.

Group value - high. Medieval landmark church with tower; ECM; large churchyard with good memorials, medieval churchyard cross-shaft and 19th century masonry building; 20th century lych-gate.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Chancel, nave, C12?.

Phase 2 - Transepts and skew passage(s), (and former south porch), C14.

Phase 3 - Tower, early C15.

Phase 4 - South chapel, C16.

Phase 5 - Restored 1851, high impact; vestry built, south porch rebuilt, nave partly rebuilt.

Phase 6 - Boilerhouse and coal cellar, late 19th century.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

SS James and Elidyr, Stackpole Elidor, is a multicelled church, of large size. It retains approximately 70% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church is cruciform and consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 4-bayed nave, a single-bayed transeptal south chapel, a single-bayed north transept, a single-bayed south transept and skew passage, a south porch, a 4-storeyed tower north of the north transept, a single-bayed vestry between the chancel and north transept, a boilerhouse between the nave and north transept, and a coal cellar north of the vestry. Construction is in limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble; the pointing is mainly from 1851 but there is some poor 20th century repointing, and the interior is plastered. The transepts and all stages of the tower have medieval barrel-vaults, while the south chapel is rib-vaulted; the south porch barrel-vault is from 1851. All openings except in the tower, and the transept and skew passage arches, are from 1851 including the chancel arch, neo-gothic, with grey oolite dressings; there is a medieval piscina and tomb recess(es), some with effigies, and 17th century monuments. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry, boilerhouse and coal cellar have slated lean-to roofs.

The 3-light chancel east window has cusped, neo-Geometric tracery and was inserted in 1851. In the north wall is a fine, Decorated tomb recess with a crocketed and finialled surround from the 14th century; an ogee-arch moulded chest is mounted by a contemporary effigy. The large, hoodmoulded, 2-centred chancel arch is in oolite and from 1851; to the north an internal flue from the heating ducts emerges as an octagonal moulded chimney, also from 1851?. The softwood roof is from 1851 and is unusual, with windbraced, 2-centred rafters matchboarded above. The glazed (Minton?) tile floor is also from 1851.

The external nave walls were rebuilt, or at least refaced, in 1851, but the south wall retains a corbel relating either to a former rood-screen or former roof. The west wall features a low external plinth. The south door has a moulded, 2-centred surround and is entirely from 1851. There are 3 windows in the south wall, and one in the west wall, all like the chancel east window (but of 2 lights in the south wall) and from 1851; the north wall is blind. The softwood roof is from 1851 and has tie-beamed, king-post trusses; all common rafters are arch-braced and matchboarded above. The passages are tiled, above heating flues, with suspended board floors, from 1851.

The transeptal south chapel is entered through a wide, depressed semi-circular headed arch, 16th century, which truncates the skew passage from the south transept lying to the west. Lying within the arch is a tomb chest with a moulded arcade of cusped arches upon which is a female effigy, 14th - 15th century and possibly in situ?. The chapel is lit by a 2-light, ogee-headed window in the east wall which occupies an earlier embrasure and may be an 1851 copy of a 16th century original, and by a single lancet in the south wall, all from 1851. The chapel has a 2-centred, simple rib-vault, 16th century. The flagged floor includes a number of memorial slabs and is probably all early. A fine Jacobean dresser tomb, from 1613, occupies the south wall; the chapel is known as the 'Lort Chapel'.

The north transept is entered from the nave via a plain 2-centred arch from the 14th century. It is lit by a single lancet, from 1851 but occupying a medieval opening (with drip-mould?). The north wall has an

external buttress, pre-19th century. The transept has a 2-centred barrel vault, 14th century. Floored as the nave.

The 4-storey tower adjoins the north wall of the north transept, and is entered through a 2-centred arch reflecting the profile of its vault; The tower is not typical of the region; it lacks a basal batter and string-course, is rather narrow, and the succeeding 3 stages are also vaulted. All these details may indicate an earlier date, early 15th century?. It is tapered, and a square spiral stair turret projects from the north-west corner, entered through a simple, square-headed doorway, medieval, and lit by simple slit-lights. The ground floor is lit by a 2-light window in the north wall like those in the nave and also from 1851; the boarded floor is suspended and ?raised. The second stage is lit by a simple lancet in the east wall, and there is a blocked single light in the north wall. The third stage is lit by a square-headed light in the north wall. The belfry stage has a semicircular-headed single-light window in all 4 faces, early 15th century; the contemporary crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table.

The south transept is entered through a plain 2-centred arch reflecting the profile of its vaulting, 14th century, and is lit by a 2-light window in its south wall, like those in the nave and also from 1851. A piscina, represented by a 2-centred recess without a bowl lies in the internal face of the east wall; the 'Decorated' tomb recess in this wall is from 1879 but may occupy an earlier recess. To the north is the segmental-headed opening into the similarly vaulted, but altered, skew passage, 14th century. Floored as the nave.

The south porch is was entirely rebuilt, or at least refaced, in 1851 in squared and coursed Old Red Sandstone with internal masonry benching; it is vaulted as the nave, possibly rebuilt in 1851. The moulded 2-centred doorway is from 1851. Floored as the nave.

The vestry is from 1851, when it was converted from a former skew passage which opens into the chancel via a 2-centred arch with a double chamfer, and to the north transept via a segmental headed arch, both 14th century. The outer walls are from 1851 and there is a contemporary double lancet window in the east wall. The softwood lean-to roof, and the tiled floor, are also from 1851.

The boilerhouse was constructed between the nave and north transept between 1851 and 1880. It occupies a deep cutting and is entered through a segmental-headed doorway in its west wall. A brick-lined flue ascends a chase within the nave north wall. The lean-to roof rises up to the nave north wall. The coal cellar north of the vestry is contemporary, and also occupies a deep cutting with a lean-to roof up to the vestry north wall; a chute lies in the east wall.

A deep, wide revetted external cutting runs around the northern half of the church except the tower, partly primary where the church has been built into the hillside but ?deepened and extended around the vestry and coalhouse in 1851. A shallow external drain runs around the rest of the church. The interior lies at a number of levels which may have been altered; the tower floor, at least, may have been lowered. Floors are suspended above heating flues. Many known internal burials lie beneath the south chapel. External memorials lie significantly close to the east and south walls.

Structural development

The pre-1851 chancel arch was semicircular-headed and may have been 12th century; it may date the chancel or the nave. The latter, however, was largely rebuilt in 1851. The transepts and skew passages, and the former south porch, are 14th century. The tower may be early 15th century. The south chapel is 16th century and was built as a mortuary chapel.

The interior was 'richly embellished' in 1766 (Lewis, 1833). This work may represent the wainscoting of the '3 chancels' (ie. Transepts) and new altar rails referred to in 1810 (Fenton, 1903 edn., 232n.). The windows of the time were casements, 'not one of which opened' in 1848 (Anon., n.d.). The pre-1851

chancel arch and east window are shown in a contemporary drawing (ibid.); the former was low and semicircular-headed, the latter a square sash window.

Two effigies present in the north transept or tower in 1810 (Fenton, 1903 edn., 233) have now disappeared.

The church was restored in 1851 to the designs of the architect Sir George Gilbert Scott (Anon., n.d.). The nave walls were largely rebuilt, the south porch rebuilt, and the vestry added. The church was refenestrated, reroofed, refloored, reseated and replastered, and the chancel arch was rebuilt. During the restoration a wall -painting was exposed, apparently occupying a 'niche' in the south transept and representing a cross and the shield of St George; the painting has since been lost, but did it occupy the east wall recess?.

The boilerhouse and coal cellar had been added before 1880, when they are shown on the Ordnance Survey First Edition.

The pews, vestry screen and the glazed (Minton?) tiled reredos are from 1851. The organ in the vestry is dated 1874 and the pulpit is later 19th century.

The oolite font is 20th century.

The tower contains 3 bells, from the 17th - 18th century, recast in 1971 (Anon., n.d.).

An ECM (Dyfed PRN 594) lies in the south chapel; it is a Latin-inscribed stone and is probably not *in situ*.

The church was Grade I listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

There is some evidence for the pre-conquest religious use of the site:-
ECM; Celtic element in dedication secondary?.

SS James and Elidyr, Stackpole Elidor, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. It appears to have always been in the patronage of the Lords of the Manor of Stackpole Elidor.

The living consisted of both a sinecure rectory rated in the king's books at £15 12s 11d, and a discharged vicarage rated at £3 18s 4d and endowed with £600 royal bounty; both were in the patronage of the Earl of Cawdor (Lewis, 1833). The offices were merged in 1814 (Anon., n.d.).

In 1998 SS James and Elidyr, Stackpole Elidor, was a parish church. The living was a rectory, held with St Petrox, St Twynnell's and Bosherston (Benefice 809) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

The 'Elidyr' of the dedication may be equated with St Teilo, but in this case may be secondary.

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**ST MARY,
TENBY,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 3713

RB No. 3666

NGR SN 1342 0044

Listed Building No. 6177

Grade A listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% pre 19th century core fabric. The largest medieval parish church in Wales.

A multicell church, very large. Consists of a chancel, 4 bays above crypt; nave, 5 bays; north chapel, 3 bays, south chapel, 2 bays; tower (south of chancel west bay), 3 storeys, with spire; north aisle, 5 bays; south aisle, 5 bays; south porch (formerly with parvis?); medieval. North porch, 1862-66. Vestry (2 storeys, south of chancel east bay), 1 bay, 1885. Limestone rubble construction, some ORS; internal walls with render/plaster. Tower and porch barrel-vaulted; chancel, nave and south aisle with medieval oak roofs. Slate gable roofs; tower with medieval spire. Medieval arcades (open, with mouldings), chancel arch, few windows, doors (open and blocked), piscinae, tomb recesses with effigies, south porch vault, doors and parapet, medieval tower with vault, openings, rood loft stair (blocked), parapet and spire; dressings mainly in yellow oolite. Few early 17th century windows. Windows mainly from 1862-66, and 1885, neo-Perpendicular, with yellow and grey oolite dressings.

(15th century altar table, 17th century pulpit, 16th-18th century memorials).

Roofs: medieval vaults, late 15th century oak roofs and c.1840 softwood roofs. Floors: 1862-66. Finishes: 1862-1966.

Condition - good. (Effigies and tomb recesses poor.).

Archaeological potential - excellent. Surviving below-ground archaeology around ?100% of church; former component beyond 5% of church; church; very shallow, concrete external drain around 100% of church; levels unchanged; crypt beneath 20% of church; below-ground floor in 10% of church; suspended floors over heating ducts in 80% of church; below-ground heating chamber in 5% of church; marked burials beneath 80% and evidence for earlier church plan(s); no external memorials significantly close to church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval arcades, chancel arch, windows, doors, piscinae, tomb recesses with effigies, south porch vault, doors and parapet, medieval tower with vault, openings, rood loft stair, parapet and spire; early 17th century windows.

Group value - very high. Important medieval landmark church with tower, the largest medieval parish church in Wales, in coastal clifftop location; at centre of historic walled town; churchyard with associated remains of medieval 'college' of chantry priests, medieval town hall and gaol.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, chancel west bays (and former south aisle), C13.

(Phase 2 - Former south transept, south porch, and ?north transept, c.1300.)

Phase 3 - South chapel, tower (and spire), north aisle, c1400.

Phase 4 - South aisle, chancel east bay, mid-late C15.

Phase 5 - North chapel, late C15.

Phase 6 - South porch, c.1500.

(Phase 7 - Vestry, early C19.)

Phase 8 - Restored 1862-66, medium impact; north porch built.

Phase 9 - Restored 1885, medium impact; vestry rebuilt.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Mary, Tenby, is a multicelled church, of very large size, being the largest medieval parish church in Wales. It retains approximately 80% pre 19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a long, 4-bayed chancel, partly over a crypt and formerly featuring a loft-chapel, a 5-bayed nave, a 3-bayed north chapel, a 2-bayed south chapel, a single-bayed, 2-storeyed vestry east of the south chapel, a 3-storeyed tower, with a spire, south of the chancel west bay, a 5-bayed north aisle, a north porch, a 5-bayed south aisle, and a south porch, formerly with a parvis?. A ?cruciform west porch was formerly present. Construction is in local limestone rubble, with some local Old Red Sandstone. The chancel arch and arcades are medieval, and some openings. Other openings are from 1862-66 and from 1885, neo-Perpendicular, Gothic, with yellow oolite dressings. Pointing is mainly from 1862-66, 1885 and the 1960s; the interior is plastered. The tower and the south porch are barrel-vaulted, and there are late 15th century carved oak wagon-roof ceilings. Roofs are slated gables; the tower carries a medieval masonry spire. (There are a 15th century altar table, a 17th century pulpit, medieval effigies, and a number of good 16th - 18th century memorials.)

The external levels surrounding the church have been much altered through time, but the survival of below-ground archaeology was demonstrated during recent excavations of the former west porch (Williams and Brennan, 1994, 26-9). There is structural evidence for many former components that have been absorbed into the present church. The church is surrounded by a very shallow, concrete external drain. There is no evidence for internal floor level changes. A medieval crypt lies beneath the chancel east bay. The vestry ground floor is below-ground, from 1885. Floors are suspended over heating ducts, and there is a below-ground heating chamber in the nave. Many marked burials lie beneath the south chapel, and occur throughout the church. No external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

The chancel

The chancel is very long, and the east end lies over a medieval crypt that is partly above-ground (not seen); the sanctuary is thus approached up a flight of 11 steps. The chancel is also unusual in the region in having clerestorey level openings, cf. Haverfordwest St Mary, but here lighting a former loft over the chancel which served as a chantry chapel to St Anne (Thomas, 1984, 7) which was founded in the late 15th century (Walker, 1978, 303) and entered from the south chapel (see below); it was dissolved in 1545-47. The name St Anne's Chapel has occasionally been applied to the entire chancel (eg. Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1610).

The east wall has very large, crude quoins in limestone and Old Red Sandstone. The large, 5-light east window has neo-Perpendicular tracery in a 2-centred surround and dripmould on lozengic stops, all in yellow oolite and from 1855 (Thomas, 1984, 7); there is a large, 2-centred outer or relieving arch above the window, of medieval date. The gable apex was rebuilt with a small square opening into the roof space, with a triangular surround, probably during the 19th century but before 1855 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1753).

The side walls are largely arcades to the flanking chapels, but the east bay projects beyond their end walls; the north wall, however, exhibits an offset at $\frac{3}{4}$ height which represents the roof-creasing for a former lean-to building, which had gone by the mid 19th century and is of unknown nature. The offset coping forms the head of a 3-light window, of ogival openings with simple neo-Perpendicular tracery in a square surround, of yellow oolite, probably from 1855. The sill of this window corresponds with the creasing for a second, ?earlier lean-to roof, possibly late medieval and associated with 2 blocked arches that lie below. These both have segmental heads from the late 15th century and represent a former arcade into the crypt, the vault of which lies within; the eastern of the two arches lies at a higher level and a window has been inserted through the blocking, having 3 square-headed lights in a square surround, in weathered limestone, from the early 17th century.

The south wall of the east bay was similarly a former outside wall and the impression of a large, blocked segmental-headed window is visible internally; this was blocked in 1885 when the vestry was built against the wall, which entered through a doorway, from 1885, with a 4-centred, double chamfered surround in yellow oolite.

The side walls of the 3 western bays are arcades. The northern arcade comprises three 4-centred arches, on slender piers formed by a cluster of 4 attached shafts with plain abaci and tori, in oolite from the late 15th century; a low wall lies within the arches, added in the 19th century. There is a visible horizontal joint above their apices, above which the wall leans outwards. The 2-bayed arcade into the south chapel has narrower, 2-centred arches of roll- and cavetto-moulded yellow oolite, on similar piers, with foliated abaci, all from c.1400. The westernmost bay is occupied by the arch into the tower ground floor (see below).

The chancel arch springs from the side walls and is nearly full height, with a 4-centred profile, is in triple-chamfered oolite and has a plain impost on the northern limb, all from the late 15th century.

Internally, the chancel side walls exhibit moulded corbels for the roof timbers. When the internal plaster finishes were stripped during renovations of the 1960s a line of internal sockets was revealed high up in the south wall, and small, blocked clerestorey windows in both side walls (NMR, Pe 0721-0775), associated with the flooring and lighting of the former 'St Anne's Chapel' (see above). Four of the windows were reopened and have 2 square-headed lights in square surrounds, in limestone, probably from the 16th or earlier 17th century. A medieval piscina has been relocated within the crypt (Thomas, 1984, 7).

The chancel roof occupies a continuous level with that in the nave. It is an oak wagon roof ceiling with a 2-centred profile, and substantial frames and plaster panels, from the late 15th century; at the frame intersections are carved, mainly heraldic bosses, while the transverse timbers are carried on the wall-corbels via carved figurines. The whole was extensively restored in the 1960s (NMR, Pe 0721-0775).

Much of the floor is occupied by the 11 steps up to the sanctuary, which overlies the crypt; both floor and steps comprise yellow oolite flags, probably from 1862-66 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/125), and incorporate earlier memorial slabs.

The nave

The nave side walls are both pierced by inserted arcades (see below), but the west, gable wall is pierced by what was the main, processional church entrance, with a former west porch (see Structural Development

below). The doorway has a double-ogee head, in alternate, shallow roll- and cavetto-mouldings to form 3 orders, the outer order with moulded tablet flowers. Above it is a band with the raised Latin inscription 'Blessed be God in his gifts' and above this, in turn, a double-ogee dripmould on out-turned stops. The whole is in weathered yellow oolite from the very late 15th century, but its asymmetric appearance suggests that it has been at least partly rebuilt. Above the door is a large 5-light window with neo-Perpendicular tracery featuring a large, quatrefoil spandrel, in a 2-centred surround and drip-mould on lozengic stops, in yellow oolite from 1868. There is an area of blocking below sill-level and a disturbed area of masonry north of the window, associated with a ?medieval window; the internal semi-circular line of dressings above the present rear-arch relate to a post-medieval window, possibly that shown in drawings of 1838 and 1862 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1390 & 1993/71), which had 5 lights beneath a 4-centred head.

The nave has an oak wagon-roof with a semicircular profile, of slighter frames than that in the chancel, without the corbelled figurines but with carved figurine bosses, and plaster panels; it is of a similar late 15th century date to that in the chancel but similarly restored in 1966.

The floor is oolite flagged like that in the chancel, over heating ducts from 1862-66.

The north chapel

The north chapel is traditionally known as 'St Nicholas' Chapel' although, during the medieval period, it was called 'The Aisle of the Rood of Grace' and was a chantry chapel founded in the late 15th century (Walker, 1978, 303) and dissolved in 1545-47. A rood (with a screen?, see below) was formerly present at the east end.

The east, gable wall has been much rebuilt. A window was inserted in 1885 (Thomas, 1984, 9), into a wall that has previously been blind here and is shown thus in a mid-19th century drawing (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1753) when the roof creasing of the former lean-to against the chancel north wall, noted above, was still visible; the 3-light window has neo-Perpendicular tracery, a 2-centred head and drip-mould on human mask stops, and a similar internal surround, all in grey oolite. Probably contemporary with the window is the refacing of the northern half of the wall in larger rubble; the buttress at the northern corner is later still and divided by a vertical joint. The outline of an earlier, lower gable is visible externally, this had been heightened, in small limestone rubble, by the mid 19th century (ibid.); also visible the creasing for the lower, ?earlier lean-to roof seen on the chancel south wall, and a vertical joint low down in the wall which may represent the northern jamb of a former light. The mid 19th century drawing (ibid.) also shows a small squinched area high up in the angle between the east wall and the chancel; this may have been associated with a former rood-loft.

The north, side wall has a low, basal batter. The uppermost metre of the wall was, like the east wall, raised/rebuilt in small rubble before the mid 19th century. The wall is pierced by 3 large windows, all like that in the east wall but both 3- and 4-light, similarly from 1885 but possibly occupying earlier openings; the windows were square-headed, with labels, and of 2 - 3 lights in 1862 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1993/71). Towards the west end is an area of rubble blocking, visible high up on the external face; function?. Against the east end of the internal face is a Jacobean chest tomb, with the recumbent effigy of Margaret Mercer, d.1610, and the kneeling figure of her husband Thomas ap Rees, both painted; the chest has a moulded frieze of weepers, and the back has a rich entablature supported on debased Corinthian columns, acroteria and a crown with a device motif.

The south wall is represented by the aisle into the chancel described above; in the eastern arch is a plain chest tomb with the recumbent limestone effigy of Robert Tully, Bishop of St Davids d.1481, in Episcopal dress and mitre, with brass inlaid characters.

The wagon roof ceiling has a 2-centred profile, is framed and plaster-panelled, and is entirely painted; it does not appear to be medieval and may be part of the re-roofing of the church in the 1840s.

The floor is oolite flagged like that in the chancel, incorporating memorial slabs from 1457 - 19th century.

The name St Nicholas Chapel is derived from a nearby street name, which continued in use when the chapel was re-dedicated in 1899 (Thomas, 1984, 11).

The south chapel

The south chapel is traditionally known as 'St Thomas' Chapel'; it contains a very large number of memorials, including an assemblage of wall-monuments and tablets from the 17th-19th century.

The solid east end wall rises above the gable of the adjoining vestry to the east, with which the chapel communicated via a doorway with a 2-centred surround, square head and neo-Perpendicular moulded tympanum, from 1885 (Pems. R. O., HPR/78/125). To the north is a Carolian monument, at floor level, with a kneeling figure of William Risam, d.1633; the entablature, supported on Ionic columns, has a crown with a device motif, and an illegible inscription that by tradition was damaged during the Civil War.

The north wall is represented by the aisle into the chancel described above. Above the western arch is a corbel table, which presumably survives from the earlier, pre-chapel chancel. Below it is a socket and corbel associated with the former 'St Anne's Chapel' over the chancel, described above. In the eastern arch is an alabaster, double chest tomb (set end-to-end) with extravagantly moulded, neo-Perpendicular chest sides and recumbent limestone effigies of Thomas White and his son John, both probably from 1507.

The south, side wall is in roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble, with a cavetto-moulded oolite corbel table for the roof eaves, from 1885. There are 2 large 3-light windows like those in the north chapel, similarly from 1885, and again possibly occupying earlier openings, but in yellow oolite that perhaps retains some weathered elements of the 15th century surrounds. At the west end is a small, 2-light window set high in the wall, with cusped heads in a cavetto-moulded, square, yellow oolite surround, 16th-17th century but re-opened and restored in the 1960s (NMR, Pe 0721-0775). Below the window is an external, blocked square opening with a chamfered yellow oolite surround, above which is an area of infill; the whole represents the blocked doorway to a gallery which was approached via an external stair, was lit by the window mentioned, and led from the chapel into 'St Anne's Chapel'. Internally, at the east end of the wall is a piscina with a cusped, 2-centred head, in chamfered limestone, probably 14th century and relocated from the chancel when the chapel was built. To the west, between the 2 windows, is a Jacobean oolite chest tomb, simply moulded with panelled sides and a plain back, without effigies, to Ralph Mercer d.1613.

The softwood, wagon roof ceiling has 6 straight cants, framed and matchboarded, and is entirely painted; it may be part of the re-roofing of the church in the 1840s. The medieval roof-line was higher (Thomas, 1984, 9).

The limestone flagged floor is 20th century, and features 18th-19th century memorial slabs.

The tower

The 3-storey tower occupies a position, unusual within the area, south of the chancel west bay and in the angle with the south aisle. It is also stylistically unusual and was assigned an early (13th century) date by Thomas, 1964 and 1966, but is probably from c.1400 (see Structural Development below). It is very large, it lacks the basal batter and string course typical of the region, and is only slightly tapered, characteristics which it shares with the nearby tower at Pembroke St Mary. The external facework is all in roughly squared and coursed muddy limestone rubble, with good quoins, and appears to represent a single build.

The ground floor opens, via 3 tall, 2-centred arches, into the chancel, south chapel and south aisle; the south external wall is slender meaning that the corners of this stage are effectively piers, deeply chamfered towards the tower interior, that carry the second stage. The south-west corner also houses the main spiral stair which projects as a clasping buttress from the south and west faces and lit by plain slit-lights; it was entered from within the tower but access is now from the churchyard, through a plain 2-centred doorway, of 19th century date but with an incomplete head, in its south face. The north-west corner is occupied by a second spiral stair entered from the nave east bay through a small, square-headed doorway in its north face, now blocked, which formerly led to the rood-loft. The door was temporarily unblocked in 1906 and the stairwell interior was apparently found to feature a medieval mural painting of the Crucifixion (Thomas, 1984, 15); to the west of the door is a piscina beneath a full-centred semicircular arch.

The arch from the tower ground floor into the chancel has deeply chamfered external stops that do not continue into the arch itself. The arch to the south chapel is similar but only the northern stop has an external chamfer; a 2-centred recess was probably for statuary and a corbel above is associated with the former chapel roof. The similar arch into the south aisle is deeply chamfered in just the southern stop, the chamfer continuing into the secondary thickening of the wall added later in the 15th century (see below). The south, external wall of the tower ground floor is pierced by a doorway into the churchyard, with a chamfered, 2-centred surround in weathered limestone from c.1400. Above the door is a window with a 2-centred embrasure from the 15th century but now containing a 3-light window with simple, uncusped tracery and a drip-mould on plain stops, all in yellow oolite from the mid-19th century.

The ground floor has a barrel-vault from c.1400 which springs from the 4 corners and is pierced by a central bell-raising port. It is now occupied by a organ, and the floor is not visible.

The second stage is lit by a deep, simple, single-lancet in all 4 faces, from c.1400. It formerly served as a chapel and retains a stone altar table in the east lancet embrasure, and a piscina (Thomas, 1984, 16). The belfry stage has contemporary, similar single-lancet openings in all 4 faces, but larger. The contemporary crenellated parapet lies on a corbel table.

The tower is surmounted by a spire, in limestone ashlar, that may be contemporary; it lies within the parapet but is broached up to a string-course, and octagonal above. It was repaired during the 18th and 19th centuries before the upper part was rebuilt in 1963 (Thomas, 1984, 16).

The north aisle

The gabled north aisle is the same width as the nave, with which it communicates through an arcade of five wide, 2-centred arches which are roll- and cavetto-moulded into 4 orders, without capitals or bases, in yellow oolite; in its present form the arcade dates from c.1400 (see Structural Development below).

The aisle also communicates with the north chapel through a tall, wide 2-centred arch in yellow oolite inserted in the late 15th century when the chapel was added (see Structural Development below), similar to the south aisle arcade but roll-moulded into 3 orders, and with plain abaci and tori. Externally, the gable rises above the chapel roof; the upstand carries a weathered apical pinnacle, possibly medieval (shown in 1862 on Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1993/71), and was rendered in the 20th century.

The north wall is in random, small limestone rubble, but the bottom 2 courses are large and roughly squared, earlier?; there is a cavetto-moulded oolite corbel table for the roof eaves, like that in the south chapel and also from 1885?. At the east end of the wall is a large external buttress rebuilt in the 1830s (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/57) but on the site of an earlier structure; it is in limestone ashlar, with 'lean-to' coping up to the wall face, and incorporates a chamfered, 2-centred arch, without abaci, that is from the 1830s but retains earlier (medieval?) Old Red Sandstone in the jambs, which lie on octagonal bases. The north is now pierced by 4 windows, all 4-light with neo-Perpendicular tracery in yellow oolite and with dripmoulds, like the north chapel windows but from 1862-66 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/58); they replaced 'Tudor' 4-light windows with square heads and labels, of unknown date, shown in drawings of 1838 and 1862 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1390 & 1993/71). The 2 easternmost window interrupt the

blocking of earlier windows, which lay somewhat further west and are thus unlikely to represent the ones shown in the drawings, possibly representing blocked medieval windows; at the west end of the wall is a further large area of blocking, again west of the present window but rather amorphous and lying beneath a horizontal line of weathered Old Red Sandstone rubble. The north door lies in the central bay between the two western windows; it is medieval in origin but had been blocked for some time prior to its reopening, and rebuild, in 1862 (shown as such on Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1390 & 1993/71). It has a 2-centred surround in yellow oolite, roll- and cavetto-moulded into 2 orders with a drip-mould in the form of a scroll bearing the date '1860'.

Internally, the north wall features 2 tomb recesses. In the central bay, east of the north door, is a tomb recess from c.1400 and contemporary with the wall itself, with a crocketed, pinnacled, cusped ogival surround in yellow oolite, which interrupts the adjacent window-sill and is in rather poor condition; the limestone effigy, of a recumbent female in 14th century costume, in similar poor condition, was probably relocated from the nave but was turned to face west in the late 19th century (Thomas, 1984, 12). The second recess lies west of the door and is from later in the 15th century, having an uncusped, 4-centred pinnacled surround with a quatrefoliated spandrel, in yellow oolite that is similarly in rather poor condition; it contains an oolite chest that features a moulded cusped arcade and may be derived from a different (earlier?) tomb, on which is mounted a male *gisant* effigy of an unknown ecclesiastic (possibly John Denby, d.1499), also in poor condition.

The west, gable wall has a slightly lower apex than that of the nave; the upstand, from 1866?, lies above an earlier, still lower gable line. It exhibits a joint to the nave west wall. It is pierced by a large, 5 light window with uncusped, intersecting tracery in a 2-centred surround and plain drip-mould, all in yellow oolite from 1860 and shown in a drawing of 1862 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1993/71); it replaced a 5-light window with a 4-centred head, of unknown date, the lower half of which was blocked by 1838 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1390) but with an outer arch that can still be seen above the present window.

The ?oak roof has collar-rafter trusses arch-braced from wall-plates, and boarding, 19th century but possibly later than the re-roofing of the church in the 1840s.

The aisle is floored as the nave, with 18th-19th century memorial slabs. There are also a number of 17th-19th century wall-monuments and tablets.

The north porch

The north porch was added in 1862-66 and does not appear to occupy the site of an earlier building. It is constructed from squared and coursed limestone rubble with stepped angle buttresses on the external northern corners, and lacks internal plaster. The contemporary door has a 2-centred surround in limestone, roll- and cavetto-moulded into 4 orders, on cylindrical, attached, double-nookshafts with acanthus-moulded capitals; there is a 2-centred drip-mould on stiff-leaf corbels. In both side walls is a contemporary window featuring 2 cusped ogival lights with neo-Perpendicular tracery in a segmental surround.

The softwood roof, similarly from 1862-66, lacks trusses, all common rafters having collars, with matchboarding. The quarry-tiled floor is also from 1862-66 and is laid directly on the substrate.

The south aisle

The gabled south aisle is wider than both the nave and the north aisle. It communicates with the nave through an arcade of five wide, 2-centred arches which do not follow the spatial rhythm of the north aisle arcade, and which, in their present form, are from the late 15th century (see Structural Development below); the arches are roll- and cavetto-moulded into 3 orders, with foliated abaci and plain tori, and feature, to the north, hoodmoulds on human mask stops, all in yellow oolite. Except for the western arch, which is weathered, all have been subsequently restored and the easternmost arch, which is higher, was

entirely rebuilt in 1828 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/57); there is a rounded, projecting offset towards the nave over the unrestored western arch, above which the wall is thicker - representing the pre-arcade thickness?.

The east wall was originally the side wall of an earlier south transept (see Structural Development below), which is represented by the thicker, lower section of the wall and the deeply chamfered western half of the tower arch which appears to have led into a skew-passage prior to the addition of the tower. The plain offset back to the tower wall-face may have supported a rood-loft or gallery; the thinner, upper half displays a vertical stop which represents the projecting tower stair turret, into which there is a plain square headed doorway with a sill at offset/?loft level, blocked in the 19th century. When the aisle was rebuilt in its present form the southern half of the wall was thickened externally, in large, squared limestone rubble, with a joint that is visible from the south; it exhibits a blind, external opening near the south-east corner with a square surround and label on human mask stops, all in weathered limestone from c.1600, *in situ*?. Internally, an unusual 'squinch' offset lies at eaves level in the south-east corner.

The south wall has an external corbel table at eaves level, like that in the north aisle and south chapel and also from 1885?. It is the product of a number of builds (see Structural Development below). It now features 3 large windows like those in the north aisle and similarly from the 1862-66 restoration. An area of ?contemporary infill is visible above the windows; that of the westernmost window fills the 4-centred arch of an earlier window of unknown date, which lay somewhat to the west of the present window and the western jamb of which, in oolite ashlar, is represented internally by an offset. The south door lies in the central bay between the two western windows; it has a tall, rounded 2-centred rear-arch from the later 13th century when this bay formed an earlier south porch (see Structural Development below) but the segmental outer arch was rebuilt at a lower level in the 18th century (Thomas, 1984, 16) when the present 2-centred surround was inserted. A simple, single lancet lies above the door, which also belonged to the earlier porch. Beneath the westernmost window is a vertical joint representing the south-west corner of this earlier porch, to the west of which the lowest three facework courses are in large, squared rubble. Further west still are 2 small openings, lying one above the other; the lower is blocked and represented by a square surround in chamfered Old Red Sandstone from c.1600, while the upper opening has a square embrasure and with a wide single lancet in chamfered Old Red Sandstone (re)built in 1862-66. The lower half of the south-east corner of the aisle is chamfered internally.

Internally, a plain, rectangular recess for a medieval piscina lies beneath the easternmost south wall window; the east bay of the south aisle was possibly a former chantry chapel called 'The Altar of Jesus' (Thomas, 1984, 21) the foundation of which may have been early (Walker, 1978, 303). It was dissolved in 1545-47.

The west, gable wall has large, limestone quoins. The north half of the wall is continuous with the nave west wall and represents the west wall of an earlier, narrower south aisle, contemporary with the nave, the south-west corner of which is marked by the vertical joint beneath the aisle west window (see Structural Development below). This earlier aisle was lit by a window of which the segmental head, and the blocking, can be seen externally north of the present window. There is a second vertical joint just north of the south-west corner which, unless it merely represents a break between the construction of the present aisle south and west walls, cannot readily be explained. The present west wall window has 5 lights with very early neo-Perpendicular cusped tracery in a 2-centred surround and plain drip-mould, from before 1838 (shown as at present in Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1390, from 1838), but after 1822 when a drawing by Charles Norris shows a 4-light window, of early 19th century date?, with simple, uncusped tracery (NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb. B, MSS 15023, 27).

The oak roof has collar-rafter trusses, arch-braced from the wall-head, from the late 15th century (Thomas, 1984, 15) and with ?contemporary boarding.

The aisle is floored as the nave, with some 18th-19th century memorial slabs. There are also a number of 18th-19th century wall-monuments and tablets.

The south porch

The south porch is from c.1500 in a severe style, of large, very roughly squared and coursed limestone rubble. The main door is in the south wall, but there is also an entrance in each side wall. The main door has a wide 2-centred surround in yellow oolite, with shallow roll- and cavetto-moulded divisions into 3 orders, and a 2-centred drip-mould on out-turned stops, all stylistically derived from the nave west door. The side wall doorways are similar but lower, and wider. Above the west door is a small, square-headed doorway that may be inserted; it may have led to a 'parvis' chamber in the roof-space above the present vault. A crenellated parapet runs around all 3 faces of the porch, the central merlon in the south wall rising as a shallow gable; the parapet was 'renewed' in 1726 (Thomas, 1984, 16) and lies on a heavily restored string-course in yellow oolite.

The porch has a segmental barrel vault from c.1500. The post-medieval flagged floor is laid directly on the substrate.

The vestry

The 2-storeyed vestry was added in 1885 (NLW, SD/F/648) replacing an earlier 19th century building, of similar dimensions, which is shown on an estate map of c.1850 (NLW, Picton Castle Colln., Vol. 4, 109). It has sneaked limestone rubble facework and is entered from the south chapel through the doorway described above, and from the churchyard through a doorway in its south wall, with a segmental-headed surround and drip-mould, both are from 1885 and open onto a landing of the internal timber staircase connecting the 2 storeys.

The upper vestry is also entered from the chancel through the doorway described above. It is lit by a large, 3-light window in the east, gable wall, with neo-Perpendicular tracery identical to that in the north chapel east window, and a 2-centred drip-mould on simple stops, from 1885; a single cusped lancet in the gable apex, also from 1885, lights the roof-space. There is a disused fireplace in the north wall. The softwood roof is from 1885, as is the suspended timber floor between the upper and lower vestries.

The lower vestry is partly below ground level. It too is lit by a window in the east wall, set low down and comprising 3 cusped, ogival lights with pierced spandrels in a square surround with a label, all in grey oolite and similarly from 1885; there is a blind, square external recess to the south, function?. The external south-east corner is chamfered at this level. The floor is laid directly on the substrate, at a higher level than the floor of the chancel crypt.

Structural development

This large church has a very complex structural history, which has to a large extent been clarified by Thomas. The chronology adopted here is largely that of Thomas, 1966 and 1984. Amendments from the slightly different sequence in Thomas, 1964 are noted; further alterations are those of the present author. In summary, there were 3 main building phases: the late 13th century, c.1400 and the mid-late 15th century.

The nave may be fundamentally 13th century. Also present at an early date was a short chancel and a narrow south aisle now represented by the northern half of the west wall of the present south aisle. To this had been added, by 1300, a south transept, with a skew-passage, represented by the east bay of the present south aisle, and a south porch, the south wall and doorway of which is represented by the south door and adjoining masonry of the present south aisle. The chancel had been lengthened and there may also have been a contemporary north transept on the site of the present north aisle east bay.

Thomas suggests that the tower is also 13th century; however, its overall morphology is in the tradition of the 'mainstream' Pembrokeshire towers of the later medieval period, its features are similar to the later 14th century tower at Haverfordwest St Martin, Pembs., and the openings, if not other structural details, are not unlike that of the tower at Kidwelly, Carms., of c.1400. Furthermore, the 3 arches into the tower ground floor, from the chancel, south aisle and south chapel, all appear to be primary pre-supposing the existence of a south chapel. The present south chapel can be dated by its arcade to c.1400 and, though divided from the tower by a vertical joint, may be broadly contemporary. The spire may be also be contemporary with the tower, being similar to that at Bridgewater dated to 1367 (Thomas, 1964, 322). The north aisle can also be dated, by its arcade and *in situ* tomb recess, to c.1400; it absorbed any earlier north transept.

Its arcade dates the rebuilding of the south aisle in its present form to the mid-late 15th century, when the chancel was once more extended eastwards to reach its present length and the chancel arch was rebuilt; the present oak roof is contemporary and can be dated by its boss inscriptions to 1461-75 (*ibid.*). The north chapel can be dated by its arcade and the arch into the north aisle to the late 15th century and it may be broadly contemporary with the effigy, from 1482, lying within. The nave and south aisle roofs are from a similar date.

The nave west door can be dated stylistically to the very late 15th century; it is not known whether there was a pre-existing west door. The south porch is similar, but its detail suggests a stylistic derivation from the west door of a slightly later date, c.1500.

A loft-chapel was established in the chancel at an unknown date; the windows lighting it are, however, from c.1600. The chancel crypt lights are from the early 17th century.

The vestry and north porch are both late 19th century (see below).

A building said to represent the former west porch was demolished in 1831 (Thomas, 1984, 16); an inscription, now in the south chapel, was apparently recovered from the porch and bears the date 1496 (Thomas, *op. cit.*, 9). The area was excavated in 1993 (Williams and Brennan, 1994, 26-9) but the evidence obtained poses more questions than it answers. The porch has, on the basis of documentary evidence, long been supposed to have been cruciform, stylistically similar to - and contemporary with - the nave west door. However, drawings made in the early 19th century, after its conversion into a schoolroom (eg. NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb. B, MSS 15023, 27), show a rectangular, east-west 2-storey building detached from the church. Excavation revealed the corner of such a structure, connected by a former narrow passage to the west door, the mouldings of which it obscured and with which it is thus unlikely to be contemporary.

There is little evidence from the earlier post-medieval period at St Mary, Tenby (but see below for fittings). Expenditure during the 18th-early 19th century chiefly concerned minor repairs to the tower and spire (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/48 and HPR/78/57). However, the south porch parapet was apparently 'renewed' in 1726 (Thomas, 1984, 16) and the south door was rebuilt during the same century. Two phases of lean-to buildings against the chancel north wall survive as structural evidence, but the buildings had gone by the mid 19th century; the north door had also been blocked. The former west porch had, by the early 19th century, been converted into a schoolroom (see above), demolished in 1831.

More work appears to have been undertaken during the earlier 19th century. The eastern arch of the south aisle arcade was entirely rebuilt in 1828 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/57) and the odd arched buttress against the north aisle/north chapel junction, of medieval origin?, was rebuilt in the 1830s (*ibid.*). The north and south chapels, and the north aisle, were at least partly reroofed during the 1840s (*ibid.*) when a timber west gallery was (re)built. Contemporary prints, nearly all taken from the north or west, depict these sides of the church as being fenestrated with 'Tudor'-style windows with square heads and labels, or with 4-centred heads; whilst there may have been a campaign of refenestration in c.1600 it seems more likely that the square windows, at least, were insertions from the earlier 19th century. The south aisle west window is an early example of good neo-Perpendicular tracery, dating from 1822-38 (NLW, Original Drawings, Pemb.

B, MSS 15023, 27; Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1390); The mid 19th century chancel east window was an odd feature in idiosyncratic, broadly neo-Gothic style (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1983/1753); it was replaced by the present window in 1855 (Thomas, 1984, 7) when the present south window was probably built replacing a square window. The present north aisle west window had been inserted by 1862 (Tenby Museum & Art Gallery, 1993/71). A vestry had been established on the site of the present building by c.1850 (NLW, Picton Castle Colln., Vol. 4, 109).

The church was partly restored in 1862-66 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/58), when the north door was unblocked and the north porch added; the architect responsible is not known. The north and south aisles were refenestrated with the present windows. The timber west gallery was removed. Underfloor heating was installed. The church was refloored, replastered and reseated.

There was a second restoration in 1885. A faculty application was made for the construction of the present vestry and the conversion of the chancel crypt into a boilerhouse and coalhouse, to the designs of the architect J. P. Seddon (NLW, SD/F/648). This was not granted, but work was nonetheless undertaken in a modified form, and to the same designs. The crypt conversion did not go ahead, but the vestry was built. A window was inserted into the north chapel east wall, hitherto blind (Thomas, 1984, 9) and its north wall was refenestrated; the south chapel was also refenestrated. The church was reseated again in 1903.

A major refurbishment of the 1960s exposed the chancel clerestorey windows, a small light in the south chapel south wall and a lancet over the south porch, which were reopened and restored (NMR, Pe 0721-0775). The medieval roofs were restored, particular attention being given to the chancel roof bosses. The upper part of the spire was entirely rebuilt (Thomas, 1984, 16).

The tower was repointed in 1981 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/124).

The chancel altar table is 15th century, and was restored to use in 1889 (Thomas, 1984, 7); the remainder of the altar fittings are from the 1960s. The octagonal, panelled ?rosewood pulpit bears the date 1634, and there is a Jacobean oak chair in the south aisle. The brass weathercock on the spire may be from 1715 (Thomas, 1984, 16) and the sundial over the south porch door is from 1726 (*ibid.*), restored in 1903. The doors in the south doorway are from the 18th century (*ibid.*). The Vowles organ in the tower ground floor is from 1869 but has subsequently been enlarged (Thomas, *op. cit.*, 15). A clock was present in 1650 (Thomas, *op. cit.*, 18) but the present tower clock dates from 1889. The neo-Perpendicular, oak north chapel screen is from 1892 (Thomas, *op. cit.*, 8); its oak altar fittings, pews and panelled dado are from 1966 (Thomas, *op. cit.*, 11). The free-standing oak stalls, and the similar pews?, are from 1903 (Thomas, *op. cit.*, 8). The altar fittings in the south aisle are 20th century. The oak, glazed lobby around the nave west door, and the similar panelled dado either side and extending into the aisles, are from 1965, as is the neo-Perpendicular oak tower screen. The similar lobby around the north door is dated 1988; the south door lobby may be contemporary.

There are 2 fonts. The main font, in the north aisle, is from 1887 (Pembs. R. O., HPR/78/59) and has an octagonal bowl and stem in yellow oolite, both with panelled neo-Gothic recesses and figure sculpture; there is a contemporary oak, neo-Perpendicular font-cover in the form of a spire, with a hoist. The second font lies within the south chapel and has an octagonal bowl and a slender octagonal stem, all in oolite from the 15th century and with notches for a canopy; it formerly stood near the main west door (Thomas, 1984, 9).

There were 5 bells in 1659 (Thomas, 1984, 18), recast several times before 1789 by, *inter alia*, Rudhall of Gloucester. There is now a peal of 8 bells in the tower, including 4 of the 6 bells cast in 1789 by Bilbie of Chewstoke, Somerset. One of the 18th century bells was recast in 1888 when 2 treble bells were added; the remainder was recast in 1951 when the bells were rehung (*ibid.*).

A bell lies loose in the south chapel, inscribed 'SANCTA ANNA' and with the initials of the Bristol founder R. T., from c.1500 (Thomas, 1984, 9).

Part of a damaged female effigy, medieval, and a piece of timber which may be derived from a Jesse Tree, also lie loose in the south chapel.

The church was Grade A listed in 1998.

The churchyard formerly contained a complex of late medieval buildings, the remains of some of which survive. To the south of the church are the remains of the Town Hall and gaol (Dyfed PRNs 3712 and 11615) including the remains of an arch into the yard. To the west of the church are the remains of the east wall of a building known as the 'College' (Dyfed PRN 3708) which probably represents the remains of a college of chantry priests (Thomas, 1984, 21), there having been at least 3 chantry chapels in the late medieval church, which were dissolved in 1545-7 (Walker, 1978, 303). Records exist of other buildings in the north-west area of the churchyard, including the medieval 'White's House' to which a surviving cellar (Dyfed PRN 11603) may relate (Williams and Brennan, 1994, 27). The remains of an undated building, possibly with a fireplace, were excavated in 1993 some 7m west of the north-west corner of the present church (Williams and Brennan, *op. cit.*, 28).

SITE HISTORY

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

St Mary, Tenby, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. Its foundation date is unknown (Walker, 1978, 301) but it was probably established by the 12th century. The rectory was a sinecure normally held by absentee pluralists including Giraldus Cambrensis (*ibid.*). The church was granted, at an unknown date, to the Priory of St Nicholas at Monkton (*ibid.*).

Monkton Priory was suppressed as an alien priory by Henry V, and the advowson of Tenby fell to the crown. It was granted, in 1440, to the Earl of Pembroke (*ibid.*) who in turn granted it to St Alban's Abbey in 1442. The gift was confirmed in 1445 conditional upon the appointment of a vicar (*ibid.*); however the late 15th century Earl of Pembroke, Jasper Tudor, took a great interest in the town of Tenby and its civic enhancement and his personal influence may lie behind the contemporary development of the church. At the dissolution the advowson returned to the crown. There were at least 3 chantry chapels within the church (see above), 2 of which were late 15th century foundations; all were dissolved in 1545-47 but one chantry priest remained as a curate (Walker, *op. cit.*, 304).

In 1833 the benefice, which was in the patronage of the crown, consisted of a consolidated rectory, rated in the king's books at £26 10s 10d, and a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £13 6s 8d (Lewis, 1833).

In 1998 St Mary, Tenby, was a parish church. The Rectorial Benefice of Tenby included Gumfreston and Penally (Benefice 702) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

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**ST GWYNOG,
ST TWYNNELLS,
SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dyfed PRN 569

RB No. 2924

NGR SR 9495 9759

Listed Building No. 6018

Grade II* listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; 80% medieval core fabric.

A multicell church, medium-large. Consists of a chancel, 2 bays; nave, 5 bays; south transept, with skew passage, 1 bay; west tower, 2 storeys over the nave west bay; south porch; medieval. Vestry (north of chancel west bay), 1 bay; coal cellar (east of vestry), 1 bay; later 19th century. Former north transept?. Limestone rubble construction; limited remains of early render; internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs; vestry and coal cellar with slate lean-to roofs. Medieval vaulting in nave, transept, tower and porch; medieval tower openings, stoup, rood-loft corbelling and blocked door and window. Other openings, including chancel arch, are mainly from 1858, neo-gothic, with ORS dressings.

Roofs: medieval - later 19th century. Floors and finishes: 1858 - later 19th century.

Condition - good. Plaster damp in areas.

Archaeological potential - good - very good. Deep, wide revetted cutting around 30% of church; former component beyond 20% of church?; suspended floors above void; below-ground floor in 5% of church; few external memorials significantly close to 10% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - very good. 80% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval tower openings, vaults, blocked openings, corbelling and stoup.

Group value - high. Landmark medieval church with tower.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave central bays, C13?.

Phase 2 - Nave east bays, chancel, C13-14.

Phase 3 - South transept (and former north transept?), south porch, C14.

Phase 4 - West tower (and nave west bay?), C15.

Phase 5 - Restored 1858, low-medium impact.

Phase 6 - Vestry and coal cellar, later 19th century?.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

St Gwynog, St Twynnell, is a multicelled church, of medium size. It retains approximately 80% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a 2-bayed chancel, a 5-bayed nave, a single-bayed south transept and skew passage, a south porch, a 2 storeyed west tower over the nave west bay, a single-bayed vestry north of the chancel west bay, and a coal cellar east of the vestry. Possible former north transept?. Construction is in limestone rubble; there are the limited remains of early 19th century external render and the pointing is mainly from 1858; the interior is plastered. The nave, south transept and south porch are barrel-vaulted, while the west tower is barrel vaulted in all 3 stages. The chancel arch and principal openings are from 1858, neo-gothic, with Old Red Sandstone dressings; there is a medieval window embrasure and blocked medieval doors and window. Roofs are slated gables; the vestry and coal cellar have slated lean-to roofs.

The moulded, triple-lancet chancel east window is from 1858., as are the single lancets in the chancel side walls. The 2-centred chancel arch is in oolite, rebuilt in 1858; corbelling for the former rood-loft is present around its west face. The softwood roof is from 1858 and lacks trusses, all common rafters having scissors-braces; matchboarded above. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1858.

The nave is lit by single, double and triple lancets like those in the chancel, with infill, and also from 1858. That in the east bay north wall is inserted through a possible area of blocking, defined as a thinner area of walling beneath a 2-centred arch - site of former north transept arch?. The south wall is wider in the 3 western bays and at the junction is an external buttress, (re)built in 1858. The 2-centred south door is from 1858 but opposite is a blocked medieval north door, blocked in 1858?. To the west the north wall exhibits a blocked, ?2-centred window opening. The 2-centred barrel vault is from the 13th - 14th century. The passages are tiled, with suspended board floors, from 1858.

The south transept is entered through a 2-centred, chamfered arch reflecting the profile of its vaulting, and is lit by a 2-light window in its south wall, from 1858. Vaulted and floored as the nave. The skew passage has a segmental-profiled barrel vault and is lit by a single lancet from 1858 in the outside wall, possibly occupying a medieval embrasure.

The south porch is also vaulted as the nave. The 2-centred doorway, with infill, was inserted in 1858; above it lies the lintel from the medieval door. Internally the side walls exhibit masonry benching, medieval. A plain, medieval stoup lies in the nave south wall. Floored as the nave passages, 1858.

The 3-storey west tower was erected over the nave west bay, which forms its ground floor and through which is inserted a window like that in the south transept. It is tapered, vaulted in each succeeding stage and all 15th century work. A square spiral stair turret projects from the west wall with plain slit lights from the 15th century. The second stage is lit by a semicircular-headed single-light window, 15th century, in the east wall and a slit light in the north wall. The belfry stage has a similar opening in the north wall, and a 2-light opening in the east wall; the crenellated parapet lies on an external corbel table.

The vestry may be later than 1858 with openings that are stylistically unlike those in the rest of the church. It is entered from the chancel through a Caernarfon-headed doorway and lit by a 2-light, Caernarfon-headed window in the north wall. A flue in the dividing wall with the chancel leads into a square, moulded chimney of good quality. The softwood lean-to roof, and the floor, are contemporary. To the east, the coal cellar has low walls and a lean-to roof up to the vestry; there is a plain, square doorway in the north wall with steps down to the below-ground floor.

A deep, wide revetted cutting runs along the nave north wall, truncating possible below-ground evidence for a former north transept?. Floors are suspended above a void. The coal cellar floor is below-ground. Few external memorials lie significantly close to the church.

Structural development

The central bays of the nave have a wider south wall than the east bays and may be earlier, 13th century?. The remainder, and the chancel, may be 13th - 14th century. The south (and former north?) transept, skew passage(s) and south porch may be later 14th century, while the west tower was added in the 15th century (Thomas, 1964) and the nave may have been extended to the west to carry it, and have received its vaulting. The vestry and coal cellar were added in the later 19th century.

The church was restored in 1858 (Anon., 1992), when it was refenestrated; the chancel arch, south door, and south porch doors were rebuilt, the chancel was reroofed and the interior was refloored and resealed. The vestry is stylistically unlike the 1858 work and may be later.

The softwood stalls, pews and pulpit are from 1858.

The font has a square, scalloped bowl that may be 12th century but has been retooled.

The church was Grade II* listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

St Gwynog, St Twynnells, was a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), of the medieval Deanery of Pembroke. Until 1260 it had been a possession of the Benedictine Priory of St Nicholas at Monkton (Pembroke), but in that year was appropriated by the prior to the canons resident of St Davids Cathedral (Green, 1913, 305). In 1291 it was assessed at £12, the amount payable being £1 4s (ibid.).

In 1833 the living was a discharged vicarage, in the patronage of the Sub-Chanter and Minor Chapter of St Davids and rated in the king's books at £3 17s 11d (Lewis, 1833). From the 16th century, the tithes had been leased by the Orielson Estate (Green, 1913, 306).

In 1998 St Gwynog, St Twynnells, was a parish church. The living was a vicarage, held with St Petrox, Stackpole Elidor and Bosherston (Benefice 809) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Castlemartin (St Davids, 1997-8).

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EAST WILLIAMSTON CHURCH, SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE

Dyfed PRN 3521

RB No. 3385

NGR SN 0982 0491

Listed Building No. 6051

Grade II listed (1998)

SUMMARY

Medieval church; ?70% pre 19th century core fabric.

A 3 cell church, small. Consists of a chancel, 1 bays; nave, 2 bays; medieval?. North porch, c.1890. Former north chapel?. Limestone and ORS rubble construction, external walls partly rendered, internal walls with render/plaster. Slate gable roofs. Chancel arch, medieval?; blocked medieval south door and window?. Mid - late 19th century doors and window, neo-Gothic, without dressings, some with brick heads. Crenellated western bell-turret, c.1500.

Roofs and floors: c.1895. Finishes: c.1895 - 20th century. .

Condition - good.

Archaeological potential - good. Low, rectangular earthwork platform beneath 100% of church, primary; shallow, brick-lined drain around 100% of church; no underfloor void?; external memorials significantly close to 100% of church.

Structural value (pre 19th century) - good. ?70% pre-19th century core fabric; medieval bell-turret and ?chancel arch, blocked medieval door and ?window.

Group value: Medium. Medieval church with crenellated bellcote.

Phasing:

Phase 1 - Nave, C13?.

Phase 2 - Chancel (and former north chapel?), C14?.

Phase 3 - Western bell-turret, c.1500.

Phase 4 - Restored c.1895, medium-high impact; north porch built.

DESCRIPTION

The present church

East Williamston Church is a 3-celled church, of small size. It retains approximately 70% pre-19th century core fabric.

The present church consists of a single-bayed chancel, a 2-bayed nave, and a north porch. Former north chapel?. Construction is in limestone and Old Red Sandstone rubble. The east, west and south walls are rendered externally, 20th century; the interior is plastered. The chancel arch may be medieval; the crenellated western bell-turret is also medieval; there is a blocked medieval door and ?window. All other openings are 19th century, the windows single-light, some neo-gothic, all with timber frames. The chancel and nave have a continuous slated gable roof; the turret roof was not seen.

The chancel and nave are the same width with a continuous roof line. There are 2-centred, single light windows in the east and south walls of the chancel, without surrounds and possibly pre-1890; the timber frames may be c.1895. The side walls exhibit internal corbels for former roof-trusses, and an offset high in the south wall suggest that they have been heightened. It has been suggested that the plain, 2-centred chancel arch may be medieval (Thomas, 1964), but this is at odds with a 19th century description (see Structural Development below) suggesting that the arch was rebuilt, and possibly relocated, in c.1895 (Cadw, 1996, 1). The softwood collar-rafter roof may be from c.1895, and is matchboarded above. The quarry-tiled floor, over a void?, may also be c.1895.

The nave side walls have a considerable external batter and exhibit evidence of heightening like the chancel side wall. A vertical scar at the east end of the north wall suggested a north-south wall led off at this point. This wall is pierced by a single-light window with a segmental brick head, pre-1890, with a 4-pane timber frame from c.1895?. To the west may be the internal impression of a blocked lancet window. The south wall is pierced by 3 windows, one with a pre-1890 segmental head, the other 2 being 2-centred like the chancel windows; timber frames as above. A small recess (sconce?) is visible high up on the internal face, date?. The north door opening is obscured by the porch and cannot be characterised; in the south wall is a blocked, 2-centred doorway of 13th - 14th century date. The west wall is thick and features a square, full-height internal recess with a blocked slit-light. Above this recess, a square bell-turret from c.1500 is offset out from the external face; it is in squared and coursed limestone rubble and is entered through a low, lintelled doorway reached from a flight of steps up the west gable slope. There is a 2-light opening, with segmental heads, in the east face, and similar single light openings in the south and west faces, c.1500 like the crenellated parapet on an external corbel table. The nave is roofed and floored as the chancel.

The plain, small north porch was added c.1895 and is entered through a 2-centred, brick doorway; it has a contemporary simple softwood roof and a quarry-tiled floor from c.1895.

The church stands upon a low, but well-defined rectangular earthwork platform, primary. A shallow, brick-lined drain surrounds the church. There may be no underfloor void. External memorials lie significantly close to the entire church.

Structural development

The nave and chancel are fundamentally medieval, but not contemporary; the nave walls are battered and there is a joint between the chancel and nave, visible internally. The nave may be earlier. The scar at the east end of the nave north wall suggests that a wall, contemporary with the chancel or nave, was keyed in at this point, the west wall of a former north chapel?. The western bell-turret is from c.1500 and is comparable with the towers at eg. Cosheston and Minwear, S. Pembs. (and the former turret at Llanddewi Velfrey, now gone); the claim that it is an 18th century folly, expressed in Cadw, 1996, 2, appears to be without foundation given its massive form and the internal evidence.

The church was described as 'a rude structure without a tower' in 1833 (Lewis, 1833, Begelly parish). In 1867 it was in a 'wretched state', had modern windows 'of the worst kind', a low, mis-shapen chancel arch, and a plain octagonal font; the exterior was whitewashed (Glynne, 1897, 47).

Some, if not all of the present openings appear to be mid-19th century but may be as late as c.1895, when the church apparently underwent some restoration (RCAHM, 1925, 416). The chancel arch was rebuilt, and possibly relocated. The present roofs, floors and window frames, at least, appear to date from this period, and the north porch was probably added.

The simple sanctuary fittings may be c.1895, as may be the softwood pews; the alter rail is from 1939 (Cadw, 1996, 2). The pulpit is dated 1922.

The font has a circular bowl with a moulded arcade, and a cylindrical stem and base, all 14th century.

The church was Grade II listed in 1998.

SITE HISTORY

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

East Williamston Church was not a parish church during the post-conquest period (Rees, 1932), but a chapelry of Begelly parish in the medieval Deanery of Pembroke (Green, 1911, 241). It has little recorded history.

In 1998 East Williamston Church was a chapelry of Begelly parish. The living was a vicarage, held with Jeffreyston, Reynalton and Loveston (Benefice 668) in the Archdeaconry of St Davids, Rural Deanery of Narberth (St Davids, 1997-8).

The dedication is unknown, but is occasionally given as St Eleanor or St Elidyr (SPARC, 1996).

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