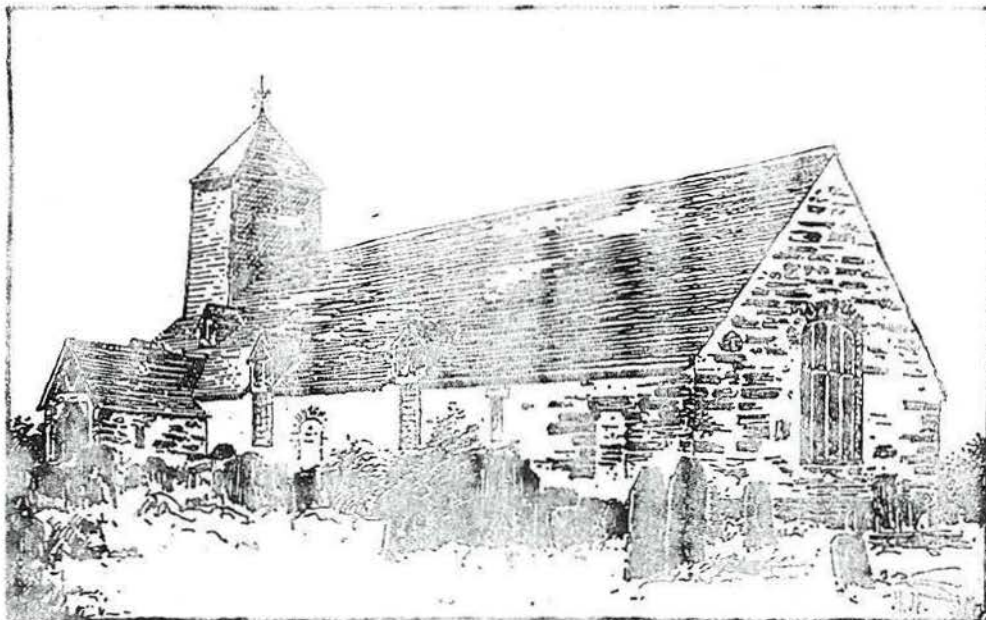


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WELSH HISTORIC CHURCHES PROJECT

GWYNEDD ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

THE GWYNEDD HISTORIC CHURCHES



Report prepared for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

by

Andrew Davidson

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**Report No. 276
1997**

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THE GWYNEDD HISTORIC CHURCHES PROJECT

1. INTRODUCTION

This survey of churches in Gwynedd forms part of the Cadw funded project to assess the current state of church archaeology in Wales. It was started in 1993/4, when a pilot project was carried out in Gwynedd to produce a suitable methodology for the rapid recording and assessment of ecclesiastical sites. In the following year the project was widened to cover all of Wales.

2. BACKGROUND

The reasoning behind the project lay in the need to provide the Church in Wales and its professional advisors with information on the relative importance of individual churches and their fittings prior to work being carried out to the fabric. This information is also required by the Historic Buildings Council, who grant aid much of the repairs to churches.

The Church in Wales is exempt from the constraints of listed building consent and scheduled ancient monument controls under the Ecclesiastical Exemption (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Order 1994. The Church requires such an exemption in order to retain control over their buildings, which were designed for the purposes of the liturgy. Instead the Church's Faculty Procedure covers the movement of fittings, repairs and maintenance, as well as major works, and as such exercises similar control over churches to the secular legislation.

The Church in Wales has its own system of legislation to control any changes made to a given church. Within this system a Parochial Church Council (PCC) petitions the Chancellor of the diocese to be granted a faculty to undertake any works affecting the church or churchyard. These works are usually necessary structural conservation measures, which are identified by an architect during the quinquennial inspections. The Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), consisting of members who embrace a number of areas of differing expertise, provides the Chancellor with advice. Each DAC now has a professional archaeologist as a permanent member to advise on the archaeological implications of any faculty petition. The information collected as part of this project is intended for use by the committee archaeologist.

3. AIMS OF THE PROJECT

The aims of the project as defined by Cadw are: "to provide a record of all pre-19th century churches within each project area that are under the ownership of the Church in Wales. This excludes Anglican churches on greenfield sites, Nonconformist chapels, Roman Catholic churches, cemeteries and monastic houses. Deserted church sites are to be noted but not surveyed. Pre-19th century churches rebuilt in the 19th century are to be investigated for earlier features". Also excluded from the project are Cathedrals.

As the project progressed, further aims were set, which included the provision of summary reviews of specific areas, and the assessment of certain criteria.

4. THE SURVEY AREA

The area taken for the survey was the post-1974 county of Gwynedd. This included all of the pre-1974 counties of Anglesey, Caernarfonshire, excluding Llysfaen in the north-east, and Merionethshire excluding Edeirnion in the east. It also included a small number of churches formerly in Denbighshire. For convenience, the pre-1974 counties are often used in this report to describe the location of a specific area.

The survey area falls mainly in the Diocese of Bangor, although it does not include the churches in the Deaneries of Cyfeiliog and Mawddwy or Arwystli in the south of that Diocese. However it does include the Deaneries of Penllyn and Llanrwst in the Diocese of St Asaph.

For comparative purposes the area was divided into four, and summary reviews for each of the areas form a part of this report. The four areas are Anglesey, Caernarfon excluding the Conwy Valley, the Conwy Valley, and the area covered by the former district of Meirionnydd.

A total of 168 churches were eventually included within the project, although many more sites were initially examined before being discarded because they fell outside the confines of the brief. The distribution was most dense on Anglesey, around the west coast of Caernarfonshire, and in the Conwy Valley. The interior of Caernarfonshire and Merionethshire, as would be expected, contained few churches. The numbers for each area were 69 in Anglesey, 51 in Caernarfon, 20 in the Conwy Valley and 28 in Meirionnydd.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

The project was divided into the following parts:

- (i) (i) A desktop survey was carried out to identify the full list of sites, and associated archive data. This involved visits to relevant archives, which included County and National Record Offices.
- (ii) A system was devised to store this information on computer, which would allow easy interrogation, and would also allow the information from the field visits to be added. Field visit forms were designed and a visit rota was drawn up.
- (iii) Each of the sites was visited, and the visit forms were completed.
- (iv) The field visit information was fed into the database, and the results printed out. These results were then used to write site descriptions and to assess certain criteria.
- (v) The gazetteer and summary reports were produced.

5.2 Secondary sources consulted

A full bibliography of all sources consulted can be found in section 6.0 of this report, and only a short description of the principal sources used will be given here.

Of particular value were the *Inventories of Ancient Monuments* (RCAHMW 1914, 1921, 1937, 1956, 1960, 1964) produced by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments for Wales, although the two earlier volumes covering Denbighshire and Merionethshire are of a much lower standard than those for Anglesey and Caernarfonshire.

Descriptions of many of the churches in the 19th century are provided by Glynne (1884-1901), and excellent 19th century descriptions for Anglesey and part of Caernarfonshire can be found in the *Mona Medieva* and *Arvon Medieva* series by H Longueville Jones (1848-1862). Early descriptions of churches in the diocese of St Asaph are found in the Ven. D R Thomas's *History of the Diocese of St Asaph* (1911, 1913). For Snowdonia, the volume by Hughes and North (1924) is informative. Modern descriptions of some of the churches are given in the Clwyd volume of the *Buildings of Wales* series (Hubbard, 1986); there is as yet no comparative volume for Gwynedd, though one is in preparation.

Thematic studies proved useful, particularly those by Nash-Williams (1950) and Gresham (1968) for early memorials, the articles by Crossley and Ridgeway (1943-6) on screens and lofts, and Lewis (1970) on stained glass in Wales. Clarke's articles on 19th century church building (1961a and 1961b) are interesting and informative.

For Anglesey and Caernarfonshire the writings of Harold Hughes proved of great value, and a number of other writers (e.g. Lloyd 1954, 1958, and Pierce 1957) provided contributions on specific churches.

5.3 Primary sources consulted

5.3.1 Location of resources

Archive Offices

The ecclesiastical records deposited by individual parishes were consulted in the regional offices of the Gwynedd Archive Service at Llangefni, Dolgellau and Caernarfon, which were formerly the archive depositories for the pre-1974 counties of Anglesey, Merionethshire, and Caernarvonshire. These records were indexed alphabetically by parish, with all of the records deposited relevant to the churches in the parish listed *en bloc*. Some churches were listed together under the major church, reflecting the parochial structure of the 18th and 19th century. Estate maps showing churchyards were indexed by estate. The *Church notes of Sir Stephen Glynne 1829-73*, which formed the basis of his published *Notes on the older churches of the Welsh diocese in Archaeologia Cambrensis*, were deposited in the Clwyd Record Office, Hawarden.

National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth

The Diocesan records are deposited in the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. These are indexed by diocese and divided into sources types such as terriers and faculties, which are further sub-divided into parishes.

Archive Department of the University of Wales, Bangor

Some ecclesiastical records are deposited in the Archive Department of the University of Wales, Bangor, although the estate maps held within the various collections also proved useful.

National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth

The archive material within the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth are indexed by the pre-1974 counties of Merionethshire, Anglesey and Caernarvonshire and listed according to dedication.

Diocesan Offices, Bangor

The past faculty minutes outlining previous work carried out on the churches and churchyards, and the architect's quinquennial reports, which outline the work required for the maintenance of the churches and churchyards, are housed in the Diocesan Office, Bangor.

5.3.2 Types of primary sources

Faculties

The faculties contained information of proposed programmes of works similar to those Architect's plans and specifications held by the local archive depositories. However, those held within the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth also contained grants indicating that a faculty was agreed, the assumption being that the proposed works were actually carried out. The faculties covered a variety of works from the re-laying of floors, heating systems, new bases for fonts, drainage works, the movement of memorials, churchyard paths, window and door insertion and replacement, repointing and replastering, new seating and roofing and major building programmes, including the erection of entirely new churches. As such they give a valuable indication of the amount of work carried out at certain times in the past allowing an assessment of the architectural and archaeological potential of the church and churchyard to be made.

Architect's specifications and plans

The surviving architect's plans and specifications were arguably some of the most valuable of the documentary sources identified during the course of the study. They have been included here as a separate section as they occurred as such within the parish records within the local archive depositories. Many also occurred within the faculty section of the Records of the Church in Wales, Bangor Diocese, in the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. The standard of information contained within the architect's plans and specifications varied considerably. Some consisted of the outline plan of the proposed works and the church, whilst others included detailed plans and elevations of the existing church, including the arrangement of its fittings, together with plans and elevations of the proposed works and the proposed arrangement of the new fittings. Many were accompanied by written specifications by the architects, which detailed the exact work to be done by each contractor, down to the sources of materials, the size of the trenches to be excavated and the level to which the walls of the previous church were to be demolished.

Consecration records

The consecration records held within the Diocesan records in the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth contained certificates of consecration of churches and churchyard extensions. These consecration certificates are often accompanied by plans of the area to be consecrated by the bishop (usually tracings of the 25 inch Ordnance Survey map), and as such were an invaluable source for the extension of cemeteries and the identification of earlier boundaries within present churchyards.

Quinquennial reports

Reports by appointed architects on the condition of the parish churches are housed in the Diocesan Offices. The quinquennial reports list the works required for the maintenance of a church and churchyard. They are generally accompanied by a scaled plan and should be consulted prior to any field work especially in Meirionnydd (for which few plans were made by the Royal Commission), and for the churches built in the 19th and 20th centuries. An assessment of the potential threats to the archaeological resource within the church and churchyard, and the opportunity to obtain further knowledge of the building sequence of the church can be obtained from consulting the quinquennials.

Faculty minutes

Previous faculty grants, for which no work may have been carried out to date, was obtained from consulting the faculty minutes.

Terriers

Terriers, which contained descriptions of the church and its contents, together with the definition of church lands and property, were consulted where possible. In many cases, the entries were terse, consisting of outline dimensions of the church and churchyard, other terriers contained more detailed descriptions. Some were exact copies of earlier terriers, often the earliest terrier surviving within the parish records. It was noted that many terriers of the diocese of St Asaph often contained no details about the church and churchyard and merely dealt with the landholdings and property.

The National Monuments Record

The National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth contained a variety of records concerning churches arranged by pre-1974 counties and sub-divided by dedication. The content and usefulness of this material varied considerably. Some of the files contained photographs of churches prior to restoration, very few had accompanying plans, and some only had a copy of the Royal Commission Inventory entry. However, occasionally a newspaper cutting mentioning a rebuilding, consecration or restoration and a photograph of the architects plan had been included.

Churchwarden's accounts

The content of the churchwarden's accounts varied greatly, but typically contained such items as expenditure for altar wine, church cloth, churchyard upkeep, church cleaning, churchyard wall repairs, painting, thatching, slating, and re-glazing the church windows.

Vestry minute books

The content of the vestry minute books varied greatly from the decisions to seek faculties, the raising of finance for the major works and repairs, to decisions on the payment of poor relief. Some also contained copies of earlier terriers, visitation replies and churchwarden accounts.

5.4 Fieldwork Methodology

A set of questions were drawn up prior to fieldwork as an *aide memoir*. These were designed to ask specific questions to assist the assessment of a church's archaeological and architectural potential.

Variations from the RCAHMW plan and Inventory description

As discussed above, Gwynedd is fortunate with its survey coverage of the churches by the Royal Commission. As a consequence the Inventory entries and plans were used as a starting point for the fieldwork survey. The structural sequence and features of a church, as observed in the field, were checked against those outlined by the Commission's description and plan and any variations (such as fabric changes), and additions (such as recent porches or windows) were noted on the church survey form. This enabled a great deal of time to be saved as it avoided the need for a new detailed description. Also, as the core of the architectural data held within the

database had been based on the Commission Inventory entries only the additional features or information needed to be entered into the database on returning to the office.

Flooring

The type of flooring of each church was noted to enable an assessment of the survival and potential of internal archaeological deposits and structures to be made. A note was made if the floor of a church appeared to have been lowered, and the difference in height between the threshold and the floor was used as an aid to identify such churches. Floors of timber boards below the seating, with a tiled or stone flagged central aisle and a raised chancel of stone flags or timber boards was the most common flooring type used. It was also noted whether under floor heating systems, internal graves or tombs were present.

Drainage

The presence and location of drainage trenches around the churches were noted to assess whether the walls and foundations had been divorced from their surrounding archaeological stratigraphy. However, it was often impossible to gauge the depth of this disturbance.

Roof

A rapid assessment was made of the roof, to check whether any alterations had been made since the Royal Commission survey.

Furnishings

A rapid assessment was made of the furnishings, including monuments and glass, to check whether any alterations had been made since the Royal Commission survey.

Re-used architectural stone

A search was made of the visible wall fabric, the churchyard wall and within the churchyard for any fragments of architectural stonework which might provide further evidence for the building history of the church.

Re-used stone sculpture

A search was made of the visible wall fabric for any fragments of sculptural stonework, such as inscribed stones, grave slabs, and fonts.

Wall covering

This was recorded according to the visibility of individual stones and the ability to recognise blocked features within the standing masonry.

Churchyard fieldwork

As with the church, a set of questions were drawn up prior to fieldwork as an *aide memoir*, designed to ask specific questions to assist in the assessment of the archaeological potential of the churchyard.

General condition of churchyard

An assessment was made of the general condition of the churchyard including whether it was well kept, overgrown, and whether there had been any recent burials.

Cemetery boundary

A brief description of the location and form of the churchyard was made, which included distinguishing between churches with curvilinear boundaries and churches with rectilinear boundaries. The types of boundary, *e.g.* stone wall or earth bank, and the character of the immediate environs was recorded.

Traces of former boundaries

The location and form of any traces of former boundaries of the churchyard which could be observed both within and without the present churchyard were noted.

Drainage

Any drainage through the churchyard, other than that around the church, was noted.

Extensions to the churchyard

The location of any extensions to the churchyard were noted. These were usually obvious and could be seen as areas of recent burial

Entrances to the churchyard

The location of entrances to the churchyard, including lych gates and their date, was noted. Also included here were blocked entrances which could be observed in the churchyard walls.

Paths

The location of paths in the churchyard and whether they have been significantly lowered was noted.

Re-used architectural stone and stone sculpture

A search was made of the churchyard wall and within the churchyard for any fragments of architectural stonework.

5.5 The structure of the database

In addition to the standard Sites and Monuments Database, four tables were created. The first, called "Detail" held all the detail information in a simple coded record, which was capable of storing both entities of a church and events which took place.

The second table held the remainder of the fields necessary to store the data needed for this project but which were not already part of the SMR database. This included the assessment ratings, the Diocese and Deanery, the dedication and the individual text descriptions.

Two additional tables were used to hold the bibliographic information.

5.6 Assessment of Criteria

Six criteria were assessed for each church, each on a scale of *Very good, Good, Medium, Poor, Very poor or None*. The six criteria were:

- Survival of medieval architecture
- Survival of fittings
- Potential for architectural evidence
- Potential for archaeological evidence
- Value of documentary evidence
- Group value.

5.7 Area summaries

A summary for each of the identified areas was produced. The four areas into which Gwynedd was divided each has its own summary report, and these reports are attached to this document.

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ANGLESEY CHURCHES

The nature of the resource

Anglesey was formerly an Archdeaconry within the Diocese of Bangor, but is now amalgamated with northern Caernarfon and lies within the Archdeaconry of Bangor. Anglesey contains the Rural Deaneries of Menai and Malltraeth, Llifon and Talybolion, Twrcelyn, and Tindaethwy.

There are 77 parish churches on Anglesey, and the remains of four other churches which never were of parochial status. There are also a number of church sites which no longer contain upstanding masonry, and so were not considered for this project.

Of the 81 churches considered for inclusion, only 69 (68 parish churches and one non-parochial church) met the relevant criterion for final inclusion, namely churches of pre-19th century origin which are still owned by the Church in Wales. The 69 churches do, however, include one church managed by the Friends of Friendless Churches.

The 12 churches not included but which contain medieval architecture or archaeological potential are:

Ceirchiog: church went out of use in 19th century and only foundations remain

Llanddwyn: ruinous church, now served by Newborough, (SAM)

Llanfihangel Esceifiog: ruinous church, served by new church at Gaerwen, (SAM)

Llanidan: old parish church now in private hands, area served by new parish church (SAM)

Llanllibio: site only remains

Llanwenllwyfo: foundations only remain, area served by new parish church

Llanynghenedl: church demolished c. 10 yrs ago

Llechylched: foundations only remain, area served by new church in village

Penrhos Lligwy Capel Lligwy: church ruinous, (SAM)

Rhodgeidio St Mary's: church ruinous

Towyn y Capel: church ruinous, (SAM)

Ynys Seiriol: church ruinous, (SAM)

Six of the churches not suitable for inclusion but which contain archaeological remains are scheduled ancient monuments.

The 69 churches that were included are:

6903	ABERFFRAW PARISH CHURCH
6904	AMLWCH PARISH CHURCH
6905	BEAUMARIS PARISH CHURCH
6909	BODEDERN PARISH CHURCH
6910	BODEWRYD PARISH CHURCH
6912	BODWROG PARISH CHURCH
6915	CAERGYBI PARISH CHURCH
6921	CERRIGCEINWEN PARISH CHURCH
6923	COEDANEU PARISH CHURCH
6935	HENEGLWYS PARISH CHURCH
6938	LLANALLGO PARISH CHURCH
6940	LLANBABO PARISH CHURCH
6941	LLANBADRIG PARISH CHURCH
6944	LLANBEDR GOCH PARISH CHURCH
6948	LLANBEULAN PARISH CHURCH
6950	LLANDDANIEL FAB PARISH CHURCH
6953	LLANDDEUSANT PARISH CHURCH
6954	LLANDDONA PARISH CHURCH
6956	LLANDDYFNAN PARISH CHURCH
6959	LLANDEGFAN PARISH CHURCH
6960	LLANDRYGARN PARISH CHURCH

6967	LLANDYFRYDOG PARISH CHURCH
6969	LLANDYSILIO PARISH CHURCH
6970	LLANEDWEN PARISH CHURCH
6972	LLANEILIAN PARISH CHURCH
6976	LLANERCHYMEDD PARISH CHURCH
6977	LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH
6978	LLANFACHRAITH PARISH CHURCH
6980	LLANFAELOG PARISH CHURCH
6982	LLANFAES PARISH CHURCH
6983	LLANFAETHLU PARISH CHURCH
6987	LLANFAIR MATHAFARN EITHAF PARISH CHURCH
6988	LLANFAIR PWLLGWYNGYLL PARISH CHURCH
6989	LLANFAIR Y CWMWD PARISH CHURCH
6990	LLANFAIR YN NEUBWLL PARISH CHURCH
6992	LLANFAIRYNGHORNWY PARISH CHURCH
6993	LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH
6994	LLANFFINAN PARISH CHURCH
6995	LLANFFLEWYN PARISH CHURCH
6996	LLANFIGAEL PARISH CHURCH
6998	LLANFIHANGEL DIN SYLWY PARISH CHURCH
7000	LLANFIHANGEL TRE'R BEIRDD PARISH CHURCH
7004	LLANFIHANGEL YN NHOWYN PARISH CHURCH
7007	LLANFWROG PARISH CHURCH
7008	LLANGADWALADR PARISH CHURCH
7009	LLANGAFFO PARISH CHURCH
7010	LLANGEFNI PARISH CHURCH
7011	LLANGEINWEN PARISH CHURCH
7015	LLANGOED PARISH CHURCH
7017	LLANGRISTIOLUS PARISH CHURCH
7020	LLANGWYFAN PARISH CHURCH
7021	LLANGWYLLOG PARISH CHURCH
7024	LLANIESTYN PARISH CHURCH (ANG)
7030	LLANRHWDYDRYS PARISH CHURCH
7032	LLANRHYDDLAD PARISH CHURCH
7035	LLANSADWRN PARISH CHURCH
7036	LLANTRISANT PARISH CHURCH
7045	LLECHCYNFARWY PARISH CHURCH
7051	NEWBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH
7054	PENMON PARISH CHURCH
7056	PENMYNYDD PARISH CHURCH
7059	PENRHOS LLIGWY PARISH CHURCH
7061	PENTRAETH PARISH CHURCH
7064	RHODOGEIDIO PARISH CHURCH
7068	RHOSCOLYN PARISH CHURCH
7069	TAL Y LLYN CHURCH (ANG)
7072	TREFDRAETH PARISH CHURCH
7075	TREGAIAN PARISH CHURCH
7076	TREWALCHMAI PARISH CHURCH

Churches of particular merit

Of the churches included, the following were considered to contain medieval remains to the value of very good or good; in the list "01" is very good and "02" is good.

6905	BEAUMARIS PARISH CHURCH	01
6972	LLANEILIAN PARISH CHURCH	01
6993	LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH	01
7054	PENMON PARISH CHURCH	01

7056	PENMYNYDD PARISH CHURCH	01
6912	BODWROG PARISH CHURCH	02
6915	CAERGYBI PARISH CHURCH	02
6938	LLANALLGO PARISH CHURCH	02
6940	LLANBABO PARISH CHURCH	02
6941	LLANBADRIG PARISH CHURCH	02
6948	LLANBEULAN PARISH CHURCH	02
6956	LLANDDYFNAN PARISH CHURCH	02
6967	LLANDYFRYDOG PARISH CHURCH	02
6969	LLANDYSILIO PARISH CHURCH	02
6977	LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH	02
6992	LLANFAIRYNGHORNWY PARISH CHURCH	02
6998	LLANFIHANGEL DIN SYLWY PARISH CHURCH	02
7008	LLANGADWALADR PARISH CHURCH	02
7017	LLANGRISTIOLUS PARISH CHURCH	02
7024	LLANIESTYN PARISH CHURCH (ANG)	02
7030	LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH	02
7051	NEWBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH	02
7072	TREFDRAETH PARISH CHURCH	02
7076	TREWALCHMAI PARISH CHURCH	02

Churches at risk

Of the churches which contained upstanding medieval masonry a number are now closed or redundant, and therefore considered to be at risk. The following is a list of these churches, the figure after denotes the survival value of the medieval church:

6948	LLANBEULAN PARISH CHURCH	02
6990	LLANFAIR YN NEUBWLL PARISH CHURCH	03
7064	RHODOGEIDIO PARISH CHURCH	03
7069	TAL Y LLYN CHURCH (ANG)	03

Tal y Llyn church has recently been put up for sale, although is currently (March, 1997) still owned by the Church in Wales.

The following are only open occasionally, that is less than 12 times per year, and so are also at risk:

6912	BODWROG PARISH CHURCH	02
6940	LLANBABO PARISH CHURCH	02
6941	LLANBADRIG PARISH CHURCH	02
7030	LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH	02
7020	LLANGWYFAN PARISH CHURCH	03
7021	LLANGWYLLOG PARISH CHURCH	03

Churches rebuilt or restored

The following churches have all been restored or rebuilt on the site of the medieval church:

6904	AMLWCH PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6910	BODEWRYD PARISH CHURCH	restored
6921	CERRIGCEINWEN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6923	COEDANEU PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6950	LLANDDANIEL FAB PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6953	LLANDDEUSANT PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6954	LLANDDONA PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6959	LLANDEGFAN PARISH CHURCH	restored
6970	LLANEDWEN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6976	LLANERCHYMEDD PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site

		(except for tower)
6978	LLANFACHRAITH PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6980	LLANFAELOG PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6982	LLANFAES PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6988	LLANFAIR PWLLGWYNGYLL PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6994	LLANFFINAN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt ?on site
6995	LLANFFLEWYN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6996	LLANFIGAEL PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7000	LLANFIHANGEL TRE'R BEJRDD PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7004	LLANFIHANGEL YN NHOWYN PARISH CHURCH	restored
7007	LLANFWROG PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7009	LLANGAFFO PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
7010	LLANGFNI PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
7015	LLANGOED PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7032	LLANRHYDDLAD PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt ?on site
7035	LLANSADWRN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7045	LLECHCYNFARWY PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7068	RHOSCOLYN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site.

The following churches, *i.e.* those rebuilt churches in the list above which were not built directly over the medieval church but to one side of it, therefore, retain the site of a medieval church within the cemetery, and are of high archaeological potential.

6904	AMLWCH PARISH CHURCH
6923	COEDANEU PARISH CHURCH
6953	LLANDDEUSANT PARISH CHURCH
6980	LLANFAELOG PARISH CHURCH
7009	LLANGAFFO PARISH CHURCH
7010	LLANGFNI PARISH CHURCH

Architectural analysis

The density of churches on Anglesey is greater than in any other part of Gwynedd, which reflects the higher population and greater agricultural wealth of the area. However there are also other differences less easily explained, which include a higher percentage of churches with 12th and 13th century remains, and the relatively common occurrence of churches in which the nave is structurally divided from the chancel, unlike the remainder of the area where the plan is typically an undivided double square.

Pre-conquest (*i.e.* pre 1283) architecture

The architecture of pre-conquest Anglesey can be divided into two styles: prior to c. 1200 belong the examples of Romanesque architecture, whereas after that date the Early English style predominates. Anglesey contains some excellent examples of the former, in quantities which are not to be found either in the remainder of this study area or elsewhere in North or Mid Wales. The explanation for this has still to be found, although agricultural wealth and strong political leadership undoubtedly played a role. The best decorative material from this period is found in the combination of ornament around the arches to the crossing at Penmon, and the decorated tympanum of the nave door. Penmon, with Tywyn in Meirionnydd, are examples of cruciform churches, which may have been the layout preferred by Clas churches. At Aberffraw church is another arch, although probably not in its original place, which contains beakhead ornament typical of this date. Elsewhere on Anglesey are a number of simple rough arches rising from flat or chamfered abaci which indicate structures of this date. A number of simple round-headed windows remain, of which again the best are at Penmon in the nave and tower, although a number of other examples are found in churches throughout the county. Also of this date are a number of towers: the central tower at Penmon has been mentioned, but west towers existed at Llaneilian and Llanerchymedd, and perhaps the Llanfechell tower is this early also. One would have expected a tower at Aberffraw, and perhaps excavation will one day prove its former existence. One other feature of this period are the carved fonts, which also do not occur outside Anglesey. These range in date from the 12th to the 13th century, and, with the exception of Hughes's work, have never been properly studied. The carved graveslabs of the 9th to 11th centuries have been looked at in greater detail (Nash-Williams 1950), but the relationship of the

proposed schools of work in the Llangaffo and Llanginwen area has not been looked at in relation to the later fonts, which may show a natural progression – does this in turn lead through to the decorated graveslabs of the 13th and 14th centuries as described by Gresham (1968).

Churches with rounded chancel arches of the 12th century are:

- 6903 ABERFFRAW PARISH CHURCH (not *in situ*)
- 6977 LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH
- 6992 LLANFAIRYNGHORNWY PARISH CHURCH
- 7054 PENMON PARISH CHURCH

Churches with round-headed windows and doors are:

- 6940 LLANBABO PARISH CHURCH
- 6948 LLANBEULAN PARISH CHURCH
- 6977 LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH
- 6993 LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH
- 7011 LLANGEINWEN PARISH CHURCH
- 6972 LLANEILIAN PARISH CHURCH
- 7030 LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH
- 7054 PENMON PARISH CHURCH
- 7059 PENRHOS LLIGWY PARISH CHURCH
- 7069 TAL Y LLYN CHURCH (ANG)

Churches with decorated fonts are:

- 6921 CERRIGCEINWEN PARISH CHURCH
- 6935 HENEGLWYS PARISH CHURCH
- 6940 LLANBABO PARISH CHURCH
- 6941 LLANBADRIG PARISH CHURCH
- 6948 LLANBEULAN PARISH CHURCH
- 6953 LLANDDEUSANT PARISH CHURCH
- 6977 LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH
- 6989 LLANFAIR Y CWMWD PARISH CHURCH
- 6990 LLANFAIR YN NEUBWLL PARISH CHURCH
- 6993 LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH
- 6994 LLANFFINAN PARISH CHURCH
- 7009 LLANGAFFO PARISH CHURCH
- 7010 LLANGFNI PARISH CHURCH
- 7011 LLANGEINWEN PARISH CHURCH
- 7017 LLANGRISTIOLUS PARISH CHURCH
- 7021 LLANGWYLLOG PARISH CHURCH
- 7024 LLANIESTYN PARISH CHURCH (ANG)
- 7030 LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH
- 7036 LLANTRISANT PARISH CHURCH
- 7045 LLECHCYNFARWY PARISH CHURCH
- 7051 NEWBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH
- 7064 RHODOGEIDIO PARISH CHURCH
- 7072 TREFDRAETH PARISH CHURCH
- 7075 TREGAIAN PARISH CHURCH

The introduction of the pointed arch in the 13th century is usually associated with the introduction of monasteries and priories to an area. Certainly the fine lancet in the refectory at Penmon is Augustinian influenced, as would have been the former chancel at Penmon. Also of this period would have been the Friary at Llanfaes, although nothing has survived of this. However a number of other churches exhibit work of this period, of which the chancel arch at Llangristiolus is one of the finest examples, and the erection of which may have been influenced by Einion ap Gwalchmai. There is some slight evidence for the erection or lengthening of chancels in this

period, (e.g. Llanfechell, Llanrhwydrys, Caergybi), and a number of churches contain windows and doors characterised either by a simple lancet with two-centred arch, or door of two-centred arch rising from abaci.

Churches with chancel arches of this date are:

6915	CAERGYBI PARISH CHURCH
7017	LLANGRISTIOLUS PARISH CHURCH
7030	LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH

Churches with windows and doors of this date are:

6915	CAERGYBI PARISH CHURCH
6993	LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH
7008	LLANGADWALADR PARISH CHURCH
7030	LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH
7054	PENMON PARISH CHURCH

There are numerous graveslabs of pre-conquest date, but few are found in direct relationship with churches. However, the coffin and lid of Joan at Beaumaris is of particular interest, and others worthy of mention are at Cerrigceinwen, Llanfair y Cwmwd and Llanfechell. The collection of decorated stones at Llangaffo and Llanginwen has already been mentioned.

Post-Conquest (*i.e.* post 1283) architecture of the decorated style

The ecclesiastical architecture of this period is typified nationally by the work at Beaumaris and Newborough; this includes the introduction of geometric window tracery and the lack of abaci on pointed arched doors. However, these churches are undoubtedly the work of masons brought in by Edward I for building the castle, and it is interesting that the style is not to be found elsewhere on the island. Indeed, there appears to have been a hiatus in church building, only to be taken up again in the 14th century. Possible small windows of this period include those at Llanddyfnan and Llanfairynghornwy, but it has not proved possible to list them in detail because of the difficulty of close dating. One particular window style, however, consisting of a small single light with simple curving tracery above, was found in the east window in five Anglesey churches, are probably of the late 14th century; three remain *in situ* (Llanbabo, Rhodogeidio and Tregaian), one has been rebuilt in the west wall (Llandrygarn) and one no longer exists (Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd). Another pattern of this date is the relatively simple two light window at Llantrisant, of which there was formerly another at Llechynfarwy. Popularity subsequently gave way to the more flamboyant style of window found in a number of Anglesey churches of three cinquefoiled lights with curvilinear tracery in a two centred arch. Many of these windows have had their tracery renewed, but it appears to have been a favourite with the Victorians also, as instead of replacing they usually rebuilt to the same style. Examples can be found at Trewalchmai, Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf, Trefdraeth and Llandysilio. Good doors typical of this period are at Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf and Trefdraeth. Strangely, the RCAHMW date the south door at Aberffraw to the 14th century, whereas its chamfered abaci and pointed arch would suggest a date at least 100 years earlier.

New churches were being built in the 14th century, and good examples include Llanbadrig, Llanddyfnan, Llanfair yn Neubwll and Trefdraeth. Unusually, the south chapel at Trefdraeth also appears to be of this date, although the majority of additional chapels are post-1500 in date.

One would expect a hiatus in church building at the time of the Glyndwr revolt, and indeed the huge increase in re-building did not start until the later 15th century, but one exception is the excellently preserved church at Penmynydd, which possibly just post-dates the revolt. If it does, it may be the work of Gwylim ap Gruffydd (d. 1431), founder of the Penrhyn estate, whose family were also responsible for the carved stone effigies of Pabo and Iestyn (and the one in Bangor Cathedral of Gwylim's grandmother, Eva). Interestingly one of the five single light east windows is in Llanbabo church: could this be another example of the influence of this family on church architecture?

Late Medieval church building

The period 1450 to the reformation saw a huge increase in church building and repair. The principal late medieval churches are Caergybi, Llanddwyn (not included in this survey), and Llaneilian. This re-building appears to have followed the lead given by the Bishop of Bangor at the Cathedral, and similar work was being carried out throughout North Wales. Nearly every church has, or formerly contained prior to 19th century restorations, work of this period, typified by that still visible at Beaumaris, Llangristiolus and Llanddyfnan. From this period of building come the doors and windows with rectangular labels and decorated spandrels. Elsewhere, tower building is also typical of this period, but only Llanfechell and Llanfairynghornwy may be of this date on Anglesey.

The increase in population led to the need to expand the size of the churches, and this was followed by the rise in devotional and private chapels. Typically chapels were opened up on one side of the chancel, as at Trewalchmai, and Llanfairynghornwy, or along the full length of the church as at Aberffraw and Llangwyfan. In some cases very small chapels such as those at Penmynydd and Llanrhwydrys were opened.

Churches with chapels are:

6948	LLANBEULAN PARISH CHURCH	south
6977	LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH	north
6992	LLANFAIRYNHORNWY PARISH CHURCH	south
7008	LLANGADWALADR PARISH CHURCH	north and south
7024	LLANIESTYN PARISH CHURCH (ANG)	south
7030	LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH	north
7035	LLANSADWRN PARISH CHURCH	north
7036	LLANTRISANT PARISH CHURCH	south
7045	LLECHCYNFARWY PARISH CHURCH	south
7056	PENMYNYDD PARISH CHURCH	north
7061	PENTRAETH PARISH CHURCH	south
7069	TAL Y LLYN CHURCH (ANG)	south
7076	TREWALCHMAI PARISH CHURCH	north

Churches with transepts are:

6915	CAERGYBI PARISH CHURCH	north and south
6938	LLANALLGO PARISH CHURCH	north and south
6944	LLANBEDR GOCH PARISH CHURCH	north and south
6959	LLANDEGFAN PARISH CHURCH	north and south
6993	LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH	north and south
7015	LLANGOED PARISH CHURCH	north
7054	PENMON PARISH CHURCH	north and south
7072	TREFDRAETH PARISH CHURCH	south

Churches with aisles are:

6903	ABERFFRAW PARISH CHURCH	north
6905	BEAUMARIS PARISH CHURCH	north and south

Two of the churches, Llanddyfnan and Llangwyllog, have an unusual west annexe.

A number of medieval roofs survive, often only the trusses, which are usually arch-braced collar-beam trusses of 15th or 16th century date, although two of the churches (Llandysilio and Llanrhwydrys) contain crucks, which may still exist elsewhere but are so embedded in the wall that it is impossible to identify them. Some have cusped struts or windbraces. The following churches were noted as containing medieval roof timbers:

6940	LLANBABO PARISH CHURCH
6960	LLANDRYGARN PARISH CHURCH
6969	LLANDYSILIO PARISH CHURCH

6972	LLANEILIAN PARISH CHURCH
6977	LLANEUGRAD PARISH CHURCH
6992	LLANFAIRYNGHORNWY PARISH CHURCH
6998	LLANFIHANGEL DIN SYLWY PARISH CHURCH
7011	LLANGEINWEN PARISH CHURCH
7020	LLANGWYFAN PARISH CHURCH
7030	LLANRHWYDRYS PARISH CHURCH
7056	PENMYNYDD PARISH CHURCH
7069	TAL Y LLYN CHURCH (ANG)

Fittings from late medieval times include a number of fonts, mostly octagonal gritstone bowls, which are found at:

6909	BODEDERN PARISH CHURCH
6959	LLANDEGFAN PARISH CHURCH
6976	LLANERCHYMEDD PARISH CHURCH
6995	LLANFFLEWYN PARISH CHURCH
6996	LLANFIGAEL PARISH CHURCH
6998	LLANFIHANGEL DIN SYLWY
7015	LLANGOED PARISH CHURCH
7056	PENMYNYDD PARISH CHURCH
7064	RHODOGEIDIO PARISH CHURCH
7068	RHOSCOLYN PARISH CHURCH
7069	TAL Y LLYN CHURCH (ANG)

Glass of late medieval date was noted at the following churches:

6905	BEAUMARIS PARISH CHURCH
6993	LLANFEHELL PARISH CHURCH
7008	LLANGADWALADR PARISH CHURCH
7054	PENMON PARISH CHURCH
7072	TREFDRAETH PARISH CHURCH

Of these, that at Llangadwaladr is the most interesting. At Llanwenllwyfo, a church not included in this survey, is some interesting Flemish glass, donated by Sir Arundel Neave from Llysdulas.

Rood Screens are uncommon in Anglesey, and the only one left is the example at Llaneilian, a church which also contains seating of late medieval date. The only other church noted with late medieval seating was Beaumaris.

Late medieval memorials consist of the following: the 14th century grave slabs of Iestyn and Pabo at Llanestyn and Llanbabo; the two effigies in Newborough church; and the two alabaster table tombs in Beaumaris and Penmynydd, both possibly originating from Llanfaes Priory.

Post-Reformation building

Private chapels were still being constructed after the reformation, as were some churches (e.g. Gwydyr chapel, Llanrwst), but on Anglesey these are few, and by far the best example is the Owen chapel at Llangadwaladr, built in late perpendicular style in 1661. This was formerly matched by the Meyrick chapel, but this was re-built in the 19th century. Very little other substantial work was carried out before the 19th century, although the towers at Llanfairynghornwy and Caergybi are probably of the 18th century.

The majority of the fittings and seating in the churches was 19th century or later, and was not specifically recorded. However two 17th century pulpits were noted, one at Llanfihangel Din Silwy and the other at Llangoed. At Llanfigael are early 19th century fittings which are of interest as they have not been significantly altered since the church was re-furnished c. 1800.

19th century rebuilding and restoration

Restoration of Anglesey churches in the 19th century was thorough, and very few churches escaped any restoration. Perhaps the most fortunate was Penmynydd, which was to be replaced by a church to the design of the Diocesan architect H Kennedy, but instead, partly through the encouragement of H Longueville Jones, author of *Mona Medieva*, the church was carefully restored and many of its original fittings were retained. Also of interest is the church at Rhodogeidio, rebuilt by the rector but using all its original materials. However, many were either restored to the extent that only medieval walls remained, or were completely rebuilt. The majority were architect designed, many of them to designs by H Kennedy, whose windows tend to be easily recognised. Caergybi was restored by Sir Gilbert Scott, whose plans remain. Money was invested by a number of the estate owning families, such as the Meyrick's of Bodorgan, who rebuilt the north chapel at Llangadwaladr, or the Bulkeley's of Baron Hill, responsible for the tower (1811) and the north chapel (1885) at Llanfaes. Amlwch is an interesting example of a church rebuilt early in this period: it was built in 1800, and was designed by James Wyatt, and is the only example in the area of a church in classical style. The list of churches rebuilt or restored is given above.

CAERNARFON CHURCHES

The nature of the resource

The churches described in this section are those within the pre-1974 County of Caernarfon, but excluding those on the east side of the former county, which are discussed in the Conwy Valley report. These areas are covered by the earlier Deanery's of Lleyllyn and western Arllechwedd, and the modern Deanery's of western Arllechwedd, Arfon, Lleyllyn and Eifionydd.

This area includes 58 churches of medieval date, of which 51 met the criteria for inclusion within this project, namely churches of pre 19th century origin which are still owned by the Church in Wales. One of the 51 churches (Llanfaglan) is managed by the Friends of Friendless Churches. A private chapel of the 17th century exists at Vaynol Hall. Bangor Cathedral does not fall within the scope of this project.

The churches not included but which contain medieval architecture or archaeological potential are:

Bardsey: in ruins, only tower remains (SAM).
Bodferin: only foundations remain (SAM)
Capel Galltgoed: ruined chapel, in private hands (SAM)
Melltteyrn: demolished c. 1989, foundations remain
Nefyn: 18th century church in private hands.
Penrhos: church of 1842 built on an earlier site, now in private hands
Rhiw: 18th century church on earlier site, now in private hands

Three of the above, as indicated, are scheduled.

The following is an alphabetical list of churches which were included within the present study; the number on the left is the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust's Primary Record Number (PRN).

6900	ABER PARISH CHURCH
6901	ABERDARON PARISH CHURCH
6902	ABERERCH PARISH CHURCH
6906	BEDDGELERT PARISH CHURCH
6907	BETWS GARMON PARISH CHURCH
6911	BODUAN PARISH CHURCH
6913	BOTWNNOG PARISH CHURCH
6914	BRYNCROES PARISH CHURCH
6917	CAERNARFON, St MARY'S CHURCH
6919	CARNGUWCH PARISH CHURCH
6920	CEIDIO PARISH CHURCH
6922	CLYNNOG FAWR PARISH CHURCH
6925	CRICCIETH PARISH CHURCH
6926	DENEIO PARISH CHURCH
6927	DOLBENMAEN PARISH CHURCH
6930	DWYGYFYLCHI PARISH CHURCH
6931	EDERN PARISH CHURCH
6937	LLANAELHAEARN PARISH CHURCH
6939	LLANARMON PARISH CHURCH
6942	LLANBEBLIG PARISH CHURCH
6946	LLANBEDROG PARISH CHURCH
6947	LLANBERIS PARISH CHURCH (NANT PERIS)
6951	LLANDDEINIOLLEN PARISH CHURCH
6958	LLANDEGAI PARISH CHURCH
6962	LLANDUDWEN PARISH CHURCH
6966	LLANDWROG PARISH CHURCH
6968	LLANDYGWNNING PARISH CHURCH
6975	LLANENGAN PARISH CHURCH
6981	LLANFAELRHYS PARISH CHURCH

6984	LLANFAGLAN PARISH CHURCH
6986	LLANFAIR IS GAER PARISH CHURCH
6991	LLANFAIRFECHAN PARISH CHURCH
6997	LLANFIHANGEL BACHELLAETH PARISH CHURCH
7002	LLANFIHANGEL Y PENNANT PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7014	LLANGIAN PARISH CHURCH
7018	LLANGWNNADL PARISH CHURCH
7022	LLANGYBI PARISH CHURCH
7025	LLANIESTYN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7026	LLANLLECHID PARISH CHURCH
7028	LLANLLYFNI PARISH CHURCH
7029	LLANNOR PARISH CHURCH
7033	LLANRUG PARISH CHURCH
7039	LLANWMDA PARISH CHURCH
7043	LLANYSTUMDWY PARISH CHURCH
7052	PENLLECH PARISH CHURCH
7055	PENMORFA PARISH CHURCH
7060	PENTIR PARISH CHURCH
7062	PISTYLL PARISH CHURCH
7073	TREFLYS PARISH CHURCH
7077	TUDWEILIOG PARISH CHURCH
7079	YNYSCYNHAEARN PARISH CHURCH

Churches of particular merit

Of the churches included, the following were considered to contain medieval remains of particular merit (i.e. to the value of very good (01) or good (02), as defined in the introduction to this report).

6901	ABERDARON PARISH CHURCH	02
6902	ABERERCH PARISH CHURCH	02
6906	BEDDGELERT PARISH CHURCH	02
6922	CLYNNOG FAWR PARISH CHURCH	01
6975	LLANENGAN PARISH CHURCH	01
7018	LLANGWNNADL PARISH CHURCH	01
7025	LLANIESTYN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)	01
6937	LLANAELHAEARN PARISH CHURCH	02
6939	LLANARMON PARISH CHURCH	02

Churches at risk

Of the churches which contained upstanding medieval masonry two are now redundant, and therefore considered to be at risk. The survival of medieval architecture at these two sites was classed as medium, and no churches considered to be of particular merit. The following is a list of these churches, the figure after denotes the survival value of the medieval church.

6920	CEIDIO PARISH CHURCH	03
7055	PENMORFA PARISH CHURCH	03

Churches rebuilt or restored

A very high number of churches (27 out of 51) in this area were either rebuilt or completely restored in the 19th century. This may reflect the relatively poor standard of original building, particularly in the early part of the medieval period.

The following churches were all restored or rebuilt in the 19th century:

6900	ABER PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6907	BETWS GARMON PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site

6911	BODUAN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt ?on site
6913	BOTWNNOG PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6914	BRYNCROES PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6919	CARNGUWCH PARISH CHURCH	restored
6926	DENEIO PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6930	DWYGYFYLCHI PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6931	EDERN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6951	LLANDDEINIOLEN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
6962	LLANDUDWEN PARISH CHURCH	restored
6966	LLANDWROG PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6968	LLANDYGWNNING PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6981	LLANFAELRHYS PARISH CHURCH	restored
6986	LLANFAIR IS GAER PARISH CHURCH	restored
6991	LLANFAIRFECHAN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
6997	LLANFIHANGEL BACHELLAETH PARISH CHURCH	restored
7002	LLANFIHANGEL Y PENNANT PARISH CHURCH (CRN)	rebuilt on site
7026	LLANLLECHID PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
7033	LLANRUG PARISH CHURCH	restored
7039	LLANWDA PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt ?off site
7043	LLANYSTUMDWY PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7052	PENLLECH PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7060	PENTIR PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site
7073	TREFLYS PARISH CHURCH	restored
7077	TUDWEILIOG PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site
7079	YNYSCYNHAEARN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site

The following churches, therefore, retain the site of a medieval church within a cemetery which is now occupied by a later church, and therefore have a high archaeological potential:

6900	ABER PARISH CHURCH
6907	BETWS GARMON PARISH CHURCH
6926	DENEIO PARISH CHURCH
6951	LLANDDEINIOLEN PARISH CHURCH
7026	LLANLLECHID PARISH CHURCH
7039	LLANWDA PARISH CHURCH
7060	PENTIR PARISH CHURCH.

Architectural analysis

From the lists given above, it is clear that a large proportion of the churches in this area were never built to a high standard, and the archaeological and architectural remains of interest are confined to a relatively small number of churches, some of which, however, are of a particularly high standard. The typical church is of a continuous nave and chancel, with a south door and west bell-cote. There were often no windows in the north or west walls, and occasionally the only light would appear to have come from the door and an east window. Many of the churches appear to have been extended to the east in later medieval times, but virtually no information, with the possible exception of Llanfaglan, has come to light concerning the presence of early sanctuaries, and unlike Anglesey, none of the churches, with the exception of Llanbeblig, have chancel arches. Most naves and chancels would, however, have been separated by a screen, and a number of these survive.

Pre-conquest (i.e. pre 1283) architecture

Very little pre-conquest architecture of Romanesque style survives, and of that which does, only the west door at Aberdaron is of note. The churches at Pistyll and Llanfaglan probably retain masonry of this date.

The arrival of the pointed arch, as elsewhere, is typified by monastic work, and one of the best examples is the triple lancet east window and the arcade at Beddgelert. However, also of this date is Llaniestyn church, with its triple lancet east window, and there appears to have been another at Llannor, although the present window is

modern. There were at least 27 churches in the area listed in the Valuation of Norwich of 1254, but the majority were rebuilt in later medieval times.

The following churches are thought to contain work of 12th or 13th century date:

6901	ABERDARON
6902	ABERERCH
6906	BEDDGELERT
6925	CRICCIETH
6946	LLANBEDROG
6968	LLANDYGWNING (Font only)
6984	LLANFAGLAN
7014	LLANGIAN
7025	LLANIESTYN
7029	LLANNOR
7062	PISTYLL

Post-conquest (i.e. post 1283) architecture

There is very little early post-conquest architecture surviving in this area. Llanbeblig is the principal example, with St Mary's in Caernarfon, but these, like churches associated with the other Borough towns, are influenced by the English work being carried out at the borough and castle. Also of English influence is likely to be the two light east window at Llanfaglan. Some of the best work of this period is to be found at Bangor Cathedral, but this does not appear to have influenced local building at all.

Local churches with 14th and 15th century work are found at Penmorfa, Llanaelhaearn, and Llanllyfni. The east windows at Penmorfa and Llanaelhaearn, each of three equal sized lights, are considered to be a 14th century development of the earlier triple lancet window found at Llaniestyn (RCAHMW 1964). The north door at Llanllyfni, with a two centred arch of deep voussoirs, is probably of this period.

Late Medieval church building

The late medieval period, from 1450 to the reformation, witnessed a dramatic increase in church building, and it is from this period that the best quality work is to be found. This includes the church at Clynnog, the construction of which may have been influenced by the work being carried out at Bangor by Bishop Skeffington, and recorded on the tower of Bangor Cathedral, dated 1532. Work at Llangwnnadr is dated by inscription to 1520. Churches built or re-built in this period which contain particularly fine work are:

6902	ABERERCH
6922	CLYNNOG
6927	DOLBENMAEN (Roof)
6939	LLANARMON
6946	LLANBEDROG (Rood screen)
6958	LLANDEGAI
6975	LLANENGAN
7018	LLANGWNNADL
7025	LLANIESTYN

Towers

Tower building is typical of this period, and although these were only built in small numbers in this area, it is nevertheless a marked phenomenon. The following churches have towers built in the late medieval period:

6922	CLYNNOG
6942	LLANBEBLIG (this tower is of 14th/15th century date)
6958	LLANDEGAI (central tower)
6975	LLANENGAN

Aisles, transepts and chapels

Also typical of this period is the construction of additional internal space, either by the addition of one or two chapels or an aisle. In some cases, a chapel would be increased in length to form an aisle. Churches with aisles and arcades of this period are:

6901	ABERDARON
6902	ABERERCH
6925	CRICCIETH
6939	LLANARMON
6975	LLANENGAN
7081	LLANGWNNADL
7025	LLANIESTYN

Churches with either one or two chapels or transepts of this period are:

6922	CLYNNOG	(2)
6937	LLANAELHAEARN	(2)
6947	LLANBERIS	(2)
6958	LLANDEGAI	(2)
6962	LLANDUDWEN	(2)
6966	LLANDWROG	(2)
6986	LLANFAIR IS GAER	(1)
6991	LLANFAIRFECHAN	(2)
7028	LLANLLYFNI	(2)
7029	LLANNOR	(1)
7033	LLANRUG	(2)

Roofs

A number of medieval roofs survive, often only the trusses, which are usually arch-braced collar-beam trusses of 15th or 16th century date, some with cusped struts and/or windbraces. Some also with chamfered soffits. The arch-braced collar-beam roof had a very long life, at least from the late 14th century through to the late 16th century, and close dating by roof type is not yet possible. Llanrug contains one hammer beam truss, whereas the roof at Clynnog is an excellent example of a camber beam roof. The following churches all have roof trusses of medieval date:

6902	ABERERCH
6914	BRYNCROES
6920	CEIDIO
6922	CLYNNOG
6925	CRICCIETH
6927	DOLBENMAEN
6931	EDERN
6937	LLANAELHAEARN
6942	LLANBEBLIG
6947	LLANBERIS
6975	LLANENGAN
6984	LLANFAGLAN
6986	LLANFAIR IS GAER
7014	LLANGIAN
7018	LLANGWNNADL
7028	LLANLLYFNI
7033	LLANRUG
7062	PISTYLL

Rood screens

Rood screens are more common in this area than in Anglesey, although not all remain in situ, and only Llanengan retains its loft. The following churches contain rood screens:

6902	ABERERCH
6922	CLYNNOG
6937	LLANAELHAEARN
6939	LLANARMON
6946	LLANBEDROG
6947	LLANBERIS
6975	LLANENGAN

Seating

Remains of medieval seating survives at the following churches:

6902	ABERERCH
6922	CLYNNOG
6975	LLANENGAN

Glass

There is very little glass of medieval date within this area. Only three churches retain any, and these are only fragments. The three churches are:

6946	LLANBEDROG
7018	LLANGWNNADL
7055	PENMORFA

Memorials

Medieval memorials were noted at the following churches:

6902	ABERERCH	(Cross-slab of c. 1400)
6942	LLANBEBLIG	(Remains of 5 cross-slabs of c. 1400; Effigy of 14 th century; Alabaster tomb 1587)
6958	LLANDEGAI	(Alabaster tomb of two effigies, c. 1490)

Post-reformation building

There is very little surviving post-reformation building in this area, excluding 19th century building. The building of private chapels onto existing parish churches was not common in Caernarfonshire, although an example remains at Llanbeblig, where the Vaynol chapel was built in the late 16th century; the same family were also responsible for building a private chapel in the grounds of their estate in 1560-80. Rhiw church is largely of 18th century date, but is not included in this study. The south chapel at Llanfaglan is c. 1600 in date.

Post-reformation fittings

The majority of the fittings and seating in the churches is of the 19th century or later, and was not specifically recorded. However, there are 18th century box pews at Llanfaglan and Llanaelhaearn. Ynyscynhaearn church retains its early 19th century fittings.

CONWY VALLEY CHURCHES

The nature of the resource

The churches described in this section are those within or adjacent to the Conwy Valley, which are within the post-1974 county of Gwynedd. This area includes the east portion of the Deanery of Arllechwedd in the Diocese of Bangor, and the west side of the deanery of Llanrwst in the Diocese of St Asaph. The churches within this area will also be discussed in the forthcoming Clwyd report, to be produced by the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust.

This area includes 20 churches of medieval date, all of which meet the criteria for inclusion within this project, namely churches of medieval origin which are still owned by the Church in Wales. Ecclesiastical buildings not included within the study are the two Post-reformation chapels at Gwydir Uchaf and Penrhyn, both of which are scheduled ancient monuments.

The following is an alphabetical list of churches which were included within the present study; the number on the left is the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust's Primary Record Number (PRN).

6908	BETWS Y COED PARISH CHURCH
6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH
6918	CAPEL CURIG PARISH CHURCH
6963	CAPEL GARMON PARISH CHURCH
6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH
6932	EGLWYS-RHOS PARISH CHURCH
6964	EGLWYSFACH PARISH CHURCH
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH
6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH
6965	LLANDDOGED PARISH CHURCH
6961	LLANDUDNO PARISH CHURCH
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7019	LLANGWSTENIN PARISH CHURCH
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH
7034	LLANRWST PARISH CHURCH
7081	LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWY
7053	PENMACHNO PARISH CHURCH
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH
7080	YSBYTY IFAN CHURCH

Churches of particular merit

Of the churches included, the following were considered to contain medieval remains of particular merit (i.e. to the value of very good (01) or good (02), as defined in the introduction to this report).

6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH	01
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH	01
6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH	02
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH	02
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH	02
6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH	02
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)	02
7034	LLANRWST PARISH CHURCH	02

Churches at risk

Of the churches which contained upstanding medieval masonry two are now redundant, and therefore considered to be at risk. The survival of medieval architecture at these two sites was classed as medium, and no churches considered to be of particular merit were closed.

6908	BETWS Y COED PARISH CHURCH	03
6918	CAPEL CURIG PARISH CHURCH	03

The following churches are only occasionally used (i.e. less than once per month), and so are also considered to be at risk:

7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)	02
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH	01

Churches rebuilt or restored

A very high number of churches (9 out of 20) in this area were either rebuilt or completely restored in the 19th century. This may reflect the relatively poor standard of original building, particularly in the early part of the medieval period.

The following churches were all restored or rebuilt in the 19th century:

6963	CAPEL GARMON PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt off site 1789 and 1862
6932	EGLWYS-RHOS PARISH CHURCH	restored 1865
6964	EGLWYSFACH PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt on site 1782, restored 1874
6965	LLANDDOGED PARISH CHURCH	restored 1838
7019	LLANGWSTENIN PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt 1843 on site
7081	LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWY	rebuilt 1839 on site
7053	PENMACHNO PARISH CHURCH	rebuilt 1862 on site
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH	restored 19th century
7080	YSBYTY IFAN CHURCH	rebuilt 1861 on site

Only the church at Capel Garmon was built to one side of the earlier medieval one, and it therefore has good archaeological potential. However, there was formerly a second church at Penmachno for which archaeological evidence may remain.

Architectural analysis

The churches in this area bear certain similar characteristics to those further east. There is more evidence for Pre-conquest work than those further west, and some of them have the characteristic double nave of the Denbighshire churches.

The typical church is still the continuous nave and chancel with a south door, and there is usually some evidence for an eastern extension in late medieval times, often combined with the construction of a chapel or aisle.

Pre-conquest (i.e. pre 1283) architecture

Although there is no carved romanesque architecture, in the style of that at Penmon, simple architecture utilising the round arch is found at Caerhun, Llandudno and Llanrhychwyn.

The arrival of the pointed arch, as elsewhere, is typified by monastic work, and one of the best examples is the former Cistercian church at Conwy. Although largely dating from the 14th century, the west end of this church with its three lancet windows, is of 12th century date.

The following churches are thought to contain work of 12th or 13th century date:

6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH
6918	CAPEL CURIG PARISH CHURCH
6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH

6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH
6961	LLANDUDNO PARISH CHURCH
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH
7053	PENMACHNO PARISH CHURCH (font only)
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH

Post-conquest (i.e. post 1283) architecture

Of the immediate post-conquest architecture, Conwy is the prime example, as is typical with the other Edwardian Boroughs, and the only other example of work of this date is the north door and roof at Betws y Coed.

Late Medieval church building

The late medieval period, from 1450 to the reformation, witnessed a dramatic increase in church building, and, with the exception of Conwy, it is from this period that the best quality work is to be found. This includes Dolwyddelan church, which was built on its present site in the early 16th century, the rebuilding of Llanrwst church in the 15th century, the construction of the three double naves at Llanddoged, Llanrhychwyn and Trefriw, and the chancels at Caerhun and Llangelyn. The following churches contain substantial work of this date:

6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH
6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH
6932	EGLWYS-RHOS PARISH CHURCH
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH
6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH
6961	LLANDUDNO PARISH CHURCH
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH
7034	LLANRWST PARISH CHURCH
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH

Towers

There are no medieval towers within this area.

Aisles, transepts and chapels

Typical of this period is the construction of additional internal space, either by the addition of one or two chapels or an aisle. In some cases, a chapel would be increased in length to form an aisle. Churches with aisles and arcades of this period are:

6965	LLANDDOGED PARISH CHURCH
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH

Churches with either one or two chapels or transepts of this period are:

6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH
6918	CAPEL CURIG PARISH CHURCH
6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH
6932	EGLWYS-RHOS PARISH CHURCH
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH
6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)

Roofs

A number of medieval roofs survive, often only the trusses, which are usually arch-braced collar-beam trusses of 15th or 16th century date, some with cusped struts and/or windbraces. Some also with chamfered soffits. The arch-braced collar-beam roof had a very long life, at least from the late 14th century through to the late 16th century, and close dating by roof type is not yet possible. The painted ceiling panels at Gyffin are of particular importance.

6908	BETWS Y COED PARISH CHURCH
6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH
6918	CAPEL CURIG PARISH CHURCH
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH
6932	EGLWYS-RHOS PARISH CHURCH
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH
6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH
6961	LLANDUDNO PARISH CHURCH
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH

Rood screens

This area is relatively rich in screens, of which Conwy is a particularly fine example, although that at Llanrwst and Dolwyddelan are also of note. The parclose screen at Gyffin is also of interest. The following churches contain complete or partial remains of screens:

6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH
6961	LLANDUDNO PARISH CHURCH
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (CRN)
7034	LLANRWST PARISH CHURCH

Seating

Remains of medieval seating survives at Conwy.

Glass

The following churches retain medieval glass:

6908	BETWS Y COED PARISH CHURCH
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH
7019	LLANGWSTENIN PARISH CHURCH
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH
7081	LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWY

Memorials

This area is relatively rich in 12th to 14th century graveslabs. The collections at Conwy and Ysbyty Ifan are of particular note. There are also a number of effigies of later date, including the one of Gruffydd ap Dafydd Goch at Betws y Coed, and that of Howel Coetmor at Llanrwst.

Medieval memorials were noted at the following churches:

6908	BETWS Y COED PARISH CHURCH	(14th century effigy)
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6924	CONWAY PARISH CHURCH	(6 cross-slabs; 15th century effigy and other fragments)
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH	(Brass dated 1525)
6934	GYFFIN PARISH CHURCH	(2 14th century graveslabs)
6961	LLANDUDNO PARISH CHURCH	(2 14th century graveslabs)
7034	LLANRWST PARISH CHURCH	(13th century coffin; effigy of 1440)
7080	YSBYTY IFAN CHURCH	(remains of 3 14th century graveslabs; 3 15 th century effigies).

Post-reformation building

The two principal buildings which fall into this category, namely the chapels at Gwydir Uchaf and Penrhyn, do not fall within the remit of this study. However, the chapel at Llanrwst is included, and is a fine example of a private chapel of the 17th century.

Post-reformation fittings

The majority of the fittings and seating in the churches is of the 19th century or later, and was not specifically recorded. However the following churches were noted as containing features of interest:

6908	BETWS Y COED PARISH CHURCH	(pulpit and reading desk of 1697)
6916	CAERHUN PARISH CHURCH	(16th century chest)
6929	DOLWYDDELAN PARISH CHURCH	(17th century communion table; 18th century pews)
6945	LLANBEDR Y CENNIN PARISH CHURCH	(18 th century pulpit, reading desk and pews)
6965	LLANDDOGED PARISH CHURCH	(19th century box pews and three decker pulpit)
7012	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH(CRN)	(18th century pulpit)
7031	LLANRHYCHWYN PARISH CHURCH	(17th century communion rails and pulpit)
7074	TREFRIW PARISH CHURCH	(17th century pulpit; 18th century communion table and benches)

MEIRIONNYDD CHURCHES

The nature of the resource

The churches described in this section are those within the pre-1974 of Merioneth, but excluding those on the east which were transferred to Clwyd in 1974. This includes the present deaneries of Ardudwy, and Ystumaner in the Diocese of Bangor, and the Deanery of Penllyn in the Diocese of St Asaph.

This area includes 28 churches of medieval date, all of which met the criteria for inclusion within this project, namely churches of medieval origin which are still owned by the Church in Wales.

The following is an alphabetical list of churches which were included within the present study; the number on the left is the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust's Primary Record Number (PRN).

6928	DOLGELLAU PARISH CHURCH
6933	FFESTINIOG PARISH CHURCH
6936	LLANABER PARISH CHURCH
6943	LLANBEDR PARISH CHURCH
6949	LLANDANWG PARISH CHURCH
6952	LLANDDERFEL PARISH CHURCH
6955	LLANDDWYWE PARISH CHURCH
6957	LLANDECWYN PARISH CHURCH
6971	LLANEGRYN PARISH CHURCH
6973	LLANELLYD PARISH CHURCH
6974	LLANENDDWYN PARISH CHURCH
6979	LLANFACHRETH PARISH CHURCH
6985	LLANFAIR PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7001	LLANFIHANGEL Y PENNANT PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7003	LLANFIHANGEL Y TRAETHAU PARISH CHURCH
7005	LLANFOR PARISH CHURCH
7006	LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH
7013	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7016	LLANGOWER PARISH CHURCH
7037	LLANUWCHLLYN PARISH CHURCH
7040	LLANYCIL PARISH CHURCH
7041	LLANYMAWDDWY PARISH CHURCH
7082	MAENTWROG PARISH CHURCH
7048	MALLWYD PARISH CHURCH
7057	PENNAL PARISH CHURCH
7070	TAL Y LLYN PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7071	TRAWSFYNYDD PARISH CHURCH
7078	TYWYN PARISH CHURCH

Churches of particular merit

Of the churches included, the following were considered to contain medieval remains of particular merit (i.e. to the value of very good (01) or good (02), as defined in the introduction to this report).

6936	LLANABER PARISH CHURCH	01
6952	LLANDDERFEL PARISH CHURCH	02
7006	LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH	02
7013	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (MER)	02
7048	MALLWYD PARISH CHURCH	02
7078	TYWYN PARISH CHURCH	01

Churches at risk

Of the churches which contained upstanding medieval masonry one is now closed (Llanfrothen) and another only occasionally opened, and these two churches are therefore considered to be at risk. The survival of medieval architecture at these two sites was classed as good.

7006	LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH	02
7013	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (MER)	02

Churches rebuilt or restored

A very high number of churches (16 out of 28) in this area were either rebuilt or completely restored in the 19th century. This may reflect the relatively poor standard of original building, particularly in the early part of the medieval period.

The following churches were all restored or rebuilt in the 19th century:

6928	DOLGELLAU PARISH CHURCH	18 th century church
6933	FFESTINIOG PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1843 off site
6957	LLANDECWYN PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1880 off site
6973	LLANELLYD PARISH CHURCH	Restored 1899
6974	LLANENDDWYN PARISH CHURCH	Restored 1883
6979	LLANFACHRETH PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1874 on site
7003	LLANFIHANGEL Y TRAETHAU PARISH CHURCH	Restored 1884
7005	LLANFOR PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1875 on site
7016	LLANGOWER PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1871 on site
7037	LLANUWCHLLYN PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1873 on site
7040	LLANYCIL PARISH CHURCH	Restored 1881
7041	LLANYMAWDDWY PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt in 19 th century on site
7082	MAENTWROG PARISH CHURCH	Rebuilt 1896 on site
7057	PENNAL PARISH CHURCH	18 th century church
7070	TAL Y LLYN PARISH CHURCH (MER)	Restored 1876
7071	TRAWSFYNYDD PARISH CHURCH	Restored 1854

The following churches, therefore, retain the site of a medieval church within the cemetery which is now occupied by a later church, and therefore have a high archaeological potential:

6933	FFESTINIOG PARISH CHURCH
6957	LLANDECWYN PARISH CHURCH

Architectural analysis

The medieval ecclesiastical architecture of Meirionnydd is variable in quality, although much was undoubtedly of a fairly low standard to warrant the large amount of rebuilding that was undertaken in late medieval and post-medieval times. The typical church, as in Caernarfon, is of a continuous nave and chancel, with a south door and west bell-cote. There were often no windows in the north or west walls, and occasionally the only light would appear to have come from the door and an east window. Few of the churches, with the exception of Llanaber, have chancel arches. Most naves and chancels would, however, have been separated by a screen, and a number of these survive.

Pre-conquest (*i.e.* post 1283) architecture

The pre-conquest architecture of this area is dominated by two churches, one in the Romanesque style, the other in the Early English style. The first church is that at Tywyn, which is the only church in Gwynedd to have arcades of 12th century date, and although much of this church has been rebuilt it still remains of particular interest. Also from this period is the possible 12th century tower which formerly existed at Llanfor, and the font at Llanfihangel y Pennant. The stone at Llanfihangel y Traethu recording the construction of a church at this period is interesting, although the church there has been restored, and retains no obvious material of this date.

The second church of particular note is Llanaber, a remarkable church with aisles and chancel arch all in the Early English style. This church has also been restored, and some of its walls rebuilt, but nonetheless it remains the best example of a church of this style in Gwynedd. Also of this date, however, is the church of Llanfrothen with its triple lancet window of the same style as those on Lleyn.

The following churches are thought to contain work of 12th or 13th century date:

6936	LLANABER PARISH CHURCH
6949	LLANDANWG PARISH CHURCH
6974	LLANENDDWYN PARISH CHURCH
6985	LLANFAIR PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7001	LLANFIHANGEL Y PENNANT PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7003	LLANFIHANGEL Y TRAETHAU PARISH CHURCH
7005	LLANFOR PARISH CHURCH
7006	LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH
7013	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7078	TYWYN PARISH CHURCH

Post-conquest (*i.e.* post 1283) Architecture

There is very little immediate post-conquest architecture surviving in this area, the principal reason being the lack of an Edwardian Borough, which provides nearly the sole examples from the remainder of Gwynedd. There is a 14th century font at Llanymawddwy, and Llanegryn may date from this period.

Late Medieval church building

As in the remainder of Gwynedd, Meirionnydd witnessed an increase in church rebuilding at this time, although there is no major example in the style of Clynnog or Llaneilian.

Churches with work of this period are:

6943	LLANBEDR PARISH CHURCH
6949	LLANDANWG PARISH CHURCH
6952	LLANDDERFEL PARISH CHURCH
6955	LLANDDWYWE PARISH CHURCH
6971	LLANEGRYN PARISH CHURCH
6973	LLANELLYD PARISH CHURCH
6974	LLANENDDWYN PARISH CHURCH
6985	LLANFAIR PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7001	LLANFIHANGEL Y PENNANT PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7006	LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH
7013	LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (MER)
7070	TAL Y LLYN PARISH CHURCH (MER)

Towers

There are no medieval towers surviving in this area, although there was formerly one at Llanfor.

Aisles, transepts and chapels

Typical of this period is the construction of additional internal space, either by the addition of one or two chapels or an aisle. However this area is unusual in not containing any aisles, although a number of chapels were constructed. Llanfair and Llanfor churches formerly had a north chapel, but these were demolished in the last century.

Churches with either one or two chapels or transepts of this period are:

- 6974 LLANENDDWYN PARISH CHURCH
- 7001 LLANFIHANGEL Y PENNANT PARISH CHURCH (MER)
- 7070 TAL Y LLYN PARISH CHURCH (MER)

Roofs

A number of medieval roofs survive, often only the trusses, which are usually arch-braced collar-beam trusses of 15th or 16th century date, some with cusped struts and/or windbraces. Some also with chamfered soffits. The arch-braced collar-beam roof had a very long life, at least from the late 14th century through to the late 16th century, and close dating by roof type is not yet possible. Of particular interest in this area is the painted ceiling at Tal y Llyn.

Churches with roofs of late medieval date are:

- 6936 LLANABER PARISH CHURCH
- 6943 LLANBEDR PARISH CHURCH
- 6949 LLANDANWG PARISH CHURCH
- 6955 LLANDDWYWE PARISH CHURCH
- 6971 LLANEGRYN PARISH CHURCH
- 6973 LLANELLYD PARISH CHURCH
- 6974 LLANENDDWYN PARISH CHURCH
- 6985 LLANFAIR PARISH CHURCH (MER)
- 7006 LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH
- 7048 MALLWYD PARISH CHURCH
- 7057 PENNAL PARISH CHURCH
- 7070 TAL Y LLYN PARISH CHURCH (MER)
- 7071 TRAWSFYNYDD PARISH CHURCH

Rood screens

Rood screens are relatively common in this area, and bear some resemblance to those in Western Caernarfonshire. The screen at Llanegryn is a particularly fine example.

The following churches contain part or complete rood screens:

- 6936 LLANABER PARISH CHURCH
- 6949 LLANDANWG PARISH CHURCH
- 6952 LLANDDERFEL PARISH CHURCH
- 6955 LLANDDWYWE PARISH CHURCH
- 6971 LLANEGRYN PARISH CHURCH
- 6985 LLANFAIR PARISH CHURCH (MER)
- 7006 LLANFROTHEN PARISH CHURCH
- 7013 LLANGELYNIN PARISH CHURCH (MER)
- 7070 TAL Y LLYN PARISH CHURCH (MER)

Seating

No remains of medieval seating were noted in this area.

Glass

No medieval stained glass was noted in this area.

Memorials

There are two inscribed stones of the 12th century of particular interest, the one at Llanfair, noting the erection of a church, and the one at Llanelltyd which contains the footprint of Denyric. There are four 14th century

effigies, two at Tywyn, and one at both Dolgellau and Llanuwchllyn. Although not strictly a memorial, of interest is the effigy of Dderfil's horse at Llandderfel.

Medieval memorials were noted at the following churches:

6928	DOLGELLAU PARISH CHURCH	Effigy of Meurig ap Ynyr Fychan, c. 1345
6936	LLANABER PARISH CHURCH	Graveslab of 13th century
6952	LLANDDERFEL PARISH CHURCH	St Dderfil's horse – wooden effigy
6957	LLANDECWYN PARISH CHURCH	Inscribed stone of 11 th century
6971	LLANEGRYN PARISH CHURCH	Cross inscribed stone of 11 th century
6973	LLANELLYD PARISH CHURCH	Inscribed stone of 12 th century
7037	LLANUWCHLLYN PARISH CHURCH	Effigy of Ieuan ap Gruffydd, 1395
7078	TYWYN PARISH CHURCH	Two 14th century effigies

Post-reformation building

This area is unusual in containing interesting remains of both 17th century and 18th century date. From the earlier century the church of Mallwyd is a remarkable example, and it appears that the work here can be connected with the Rev. John Davies. Also of interest is the north chapel with its screen at Llanddwywe, carried out by the Vaughan's of Corsygedol in the early 17th century.

Dolgellau and Pennal are two 18th century churches, the former of which is a particularly fine example. The only other church built in pre-Victorian style in Gwynedd is that at Amlwch, Anglesey, built in 1800.

Post-reformation fittings

The majority of the fittings and seating in the churches are of the 19th century or later, and were not specifically recorded. At Llanelltyd early 17th century pew timbers have been re-used to panel the walls. Some early 19th century fittings remain at Llanfihangel y Pennant. There are fonts of Post-reformation date at Llanbedr and Pennal.

