WELSH HISTORIC CHURCHES PROJECT

GLAMORGAN HISTORIC CHURCHES SURVEY

CHURCHES IN NORTH-WESTERN GLAMORGAN
(DIOCESE OF SWANSEA AND BRECON: DEANERY OF BRECON
DIOCESE OF LLANDAFF: ARCHDEACONRY OF MARGAM)

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

Report for Cadw

By E M Evans BA PhD MIFA
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust

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GLAMORGAN GWENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

HERITAGE IN BRITAIN AWARD

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CONTENTS

PRN		
m1106	Penderyn	St Cynoc
m0440	Vaynor	St Gwynno

KEY:

PRN	County Sites and Monuments Record Prime Record Number
NPRN	National Monuments Record National Prime Record Number
Archives:	GlRO = Glamorgan Record Office; NLW = National Library of Wales; NMR = National Monument Record
Wall covering types:	[P]laster [L]imewash [PO]inting [R]endering [PA]nelling [I]vy [O]ther
Wall visibility:	[1] Sufficient to make out the outline of the stones, and any fabric changes
	[2] Stone still visible but not sufficiently to discern any joints or fabric changes
	[3] Stonework completely covered

ST CYNOC'S CHURCH, PENDERYN

NGR: SN 9448 0855

PRN: m1106

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Hirwaun

DEANERY: Brecon

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: S604 5404

SUMMARY

It is possible that the church at Penderyn is a pre-Norman foundation, since it has a curved polygonal foundation and a Celtic dedication. The churchyard cross does not survive.

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, W tower, unusually large S porch, and vestry cum organ chamber built against the N side of the chancel. The internal batter of the long walls of the nave suggests an early date, but this is the only aspect of the building construction which can be dated with reasonable certainty to the Middle Ages; Newman (1995, 500) states that the bosses on the chancel ceiling are medieval, but The tower is probably more likely to be post-medieval. All the windows and doors are Victorian. Glynne (1986, 274) who visited the church in 1855 noted that the church 'has been much modernised', and 'the windows are most miserable, except that at the east end, which is doubtful; of two lights with a lozenge above'. Newman (1995, 500) notes that there was a partial rebuilding in 1843, repairs in 1876 and a complete restoration in 1895-96, architect E M Bruce Vaughan. The only feature mentioned by Glynne to survive restoration is the medieval bracket stoup in the porch, of an unusual chip-carved design, in the same style as the fonts of Llanharry, Llantrisant and Pyle and almost identical in detail to the Llantrisant font.

There are a few of 18th wall tablets in the chancel, and all the internal fittings are Victorian or later. There are two bells, one of which was reported in 1909 as being dated 1713 (Dawson 1909, 219)

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Glynne, S R, 1886, Notes on the older churches in the four Welsh dioceses *Archaeol Cambrensis* **5 ser 3** (274)
Newman, J, 1995, *The buildings of Wales: Glamorgan*, 499-500
Poole, E, 1886, *The illustrated history and biography of Brecknockshire*

Documentary and manuscript

NMR
Kay (various) 1 ser I 114

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Penderyn

Dedication: St Cynnog

PRN: m1106

Survey date: 20-02-98

Orientation nave: 90 Chancel: 90

A Nave [x]

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [x] External stair turret [ ]

K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs:

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [ ] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]

Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church	Penderyn	PRN	m1106	Element type	Nave	Code	A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int P3: Rather obscured by mortar; squared blocks carboniferous limestone, also red/brown sandstone and conglomerate laid in snecked courses; doesn't look rhythmical enough to be Victorian; quoined with squared blocks limestone. Yellow-grey sandstone moulded eaves cornice and kneeler at NW corner. At NE corner base of chimney at junction with vestry. Internal batter.

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings: 3 windows, all alike; rectangular, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights, pierced and cusped spandrels; yellow-grey sandstone, hollow chamfer.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int P3: What little is visible is sandstone rubble quoined in carboniferous limestone ashlar. Coping, cross.

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings: Chancel arch is nearly as tall and wide as chancel; 2-centred head; sandstone dressings, 2 orders of chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops; Victorian.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int P3: Rather obscured by mortar; squared blocks carboniferous limestone, also red/brown sandstone and conglomerate laid in snecked courses; probably mainly Victorian except at bottom; quoined ?carboniferous limestone ashlar. Yellow-grey sandstone moulded eaves cornice and kneeler. Internal batter.

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings: 2 windows, 1 door. Windows all alike; rectangular, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights, pierced and cusped spandrels; yellow-grey sandstone, hollow chamfer. Door, see porch N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int P3: Much obscured by mortar, but what is visible is roughly coursed rubble tending to random; to S of tower mainly in limestone including some large blocks (as tower); to N of tower much more regular and with a greater proportion of sandstone; quoins, see N and S walls. Coping

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings: Tower door low and very narrow (0.7m), pointed head; dressings painted, chamfered, pyramid stops; probably Victorian.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 4 bays; 5 trusses with collars, arched braces and purlins

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Brick, timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: SE window Victorian; NE window (1919+) pre-Raphaelite; NW (1963+) and SW 20th century

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Victorian; octagonal; plain bowl embellished only by cross; stem is compound pier with floral capitals

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; wooden, simply panelled with trefoils

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low panelled backs, plain ends

Other features of interest: Small early handbell displayed in glass case
Electric organ

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m1106 A

Element

Church: Penderyn | PRN: m1106 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric — Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble, almost entirely in irregular blocks carboniferous limestone; quoined with squared blocks. Yellow-grey sandstone moulded eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

1 window, 1 door, 1 arch. Window is single light, trefoiled inside semicircular head; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer. Vestry door has pointed head; chamfered, pyramid stops; Victorian. Arch for organ has 2-centred head, 2 orders of chamfer, inner dying into piers, outer with pyramid stops.

EAST WALL

Fabric — Int: P/PA 3

Rather obscured by mortar, but what can be seen is roughly coursed rubble, in irregular and squared blocks carboniferous limestone; quoined with squared blocks and thin ashlar blocks limestone. Coping, cross.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

E window has 2-centred head, 3 ogee/trefoiled lights, tracery Perpendicular variant; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; Victorian.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric — Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble, mainly in carboniferous limestone but with some red sandstone and conglomerate; quoined with thin ashlar blocks limestone. Yellow-grey sandstone moulded eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

1 window; single light, trefoiled inside semicircular head; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; Victorian.

WEST WALL

Fabric — Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers 3 bays; 4 trusses with collars, arched braces and purlins; foliage bosses, gilded

Ceiling Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type Encaustic tile, 1 step chancel arch, 1 step before vestry door, 1 step altar rail

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 4 x 18th century

Stained glass All windows: Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables Victorian or later

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen Wrought iron standards

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Low panelled backs, plain ends

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m1106 C

Element

Church: Penderyn | PRN: m1106 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble tending to random, mainly in limestone including some large blocks. Battered base. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Int: L2

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: 1 window; belfry has plain rectangular window, no dressings.

EAST WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble tending to random, mainly in limestone including some large blocks. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Int: P/L 2/3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 1 window, 1 door. Belfry has plain rectangular window, no dressings. Door, see nave W wall.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble tending to random, mainly in limestone including some large blocks. Battered base. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Int: L2

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: 1 window; belfry has plain rectangular window, no dressings.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble tending to random, mainly in limestone including some large blocks. Battered base. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Int: L2

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 3 windows. Belfry has plain rectangular window, no dressings. Slit window without dressings halfway up tower. Ground floor has similar window to belfry, but slightly larger.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK — Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

Type:

FLOOR — Burials known? ☐ Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Weathercock

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m1106 J

Element

Church	Penderyn	PRN	m1106	Element type	Porch	Code	L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has 2-centred head; dressings painted, double chamfer.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but what is visible is roughly coursed rubble, mainly in carboniferous limestone, some Pennant sandstone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks limestone.

Openings: 1 window; rectangular, single ogee/trefoiled light, pierced spandrels; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble, mainly in carboniferous limestone, some Pennant sandstone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks limestone. Patched with squared rockfaced blocks limestone and sandstone laid in snecked courses.

Openings: Door has 2-centred head; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, wave and hollow chamfer, pumpkin stops; Victorian

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble, mainly in carboniferous limestone, some Pennant sandstone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks limestone.

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Brick

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup: To E of inner door; half-octagonal bracket stoup with chip carved snowflake pattern on cardinal (wider) faces, and mutilated row of knobs on narrower faces and rim.

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m1106 L

Element

Church: Penderyn | PRN: m1106 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Organ chamber

NORTH WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Squared blocks carboniferous limestone, also red/brown sandstone and conglomerate laid in snecked courses; quoined with squared blocks limestone; similar to N wall nave, but difference in pointing make it difficult to compare the two. Coping, cross. Below present external ground level (visible in electricity trench open at time of site visit) straight joint c 1m from W corner); does not extend above ground level.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings
1 window; 2-centred head, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights, tracery; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops; Victorian.

EAST WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Squared blocks carboniferous limestone, also red/brown sandstone and conglomerate laid in snecked courses; quoined with squared blocks limestone; similar to N wall nave, but difference in pointing make it difficult to compare the two. Yellow-grey sandstone moulded eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric
Int: P3

Ext:

Openings
Door to chancel, see chancel

WEST WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Squared blocks carboniferous limestone, also red/brown sandstone and conglomerate laid in snecked courses; quoined with squared blocks limestone; similar to N wall nave, but difference in pointing make it difficult to compare the two. Yellow-grey sandstone moulded eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings
Door has square head; yellow-grey sandstone dressings, chamfered, dart-shaped stops; Victorian

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type Timber

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m1106 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Penderyn | Church PRN: m1106 | Survey date: 20-02-98

Shape, plan (present): Curved polygonal | First map type/date:

Shape, first map:

Shape, relief: Slopes up from S to N; N half terraced

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☒ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Drystone wall; internally embanked on E side

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: SE

Main entrance, description: Lychgate; walls in squared rockfaced blocks; roof metamorphic slate, parallel with direction of entry

Secondary entrances (if any): Double gate NE side (probably originally main entrance)
Stile E side

BURIALS

In use? ☒ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks: Internal terracing, see relief.

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot (dated 1895). Course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: In adjacent field to NE is site described as possible deserted medieval village: this is probably not a DMV but a small quarry.

ST GWYNNO'S CHURCH, VAYNOR

NGR: SO 0481 1029

PRN: m0440

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Vaynor

DEANERY: Brecon

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: S596 6491

SUMMARY

The church at Vaynor has a Celtic dedication and a partly curvilinear churchyard, though the latter may be because it is partially bounded by a stream than because it was deliberately intended. Kendall (nd, 1) quotes a series of suggested foundation dates (714, 844, 874) but does not give sources. The present church was built in an extension to the original churchyard (Kendall, nd, 3). The churchyard cross does not survive.

The original church lies at the lower end of the churchyard. Dawson (1909, 236) and Harris (1959, 15) quote a description of it at the beginning of the 19th century as standing completely alone and consisting of nave and chancel only, plus a small tower with two bells, and having an unceiled roof and earthen floor. Only the W gable end and tower, and the bottom of the S wall now survive, the building being constructed of roughly squared blocks of local limestone with no separate dressings. The S wall suggests that the nave and chancel were continuous. The battlemented tower was built within the W end of the nave, its W side having been added above the very steep nave gable; it was reached via a stair occupying the space between the N walls of the tower and nave, but it was not apparent whether the corresponding space on the S side was put to any use. There is a blocked W door with a semicircular head; neither this nor the door between the tower and nave have any clear indication of date, though the segmental head of the latter has been lowered by the insertion of what appear to be engineering bricks. A photograph from the SW published by Lewis (1958, 5) shows a slit window above the W door, a S porch with a square-headed door, a square-headed window in the S wall of the nave to the W of the porch and an oval wall-tablet affixed externally between this window and the NW corner. The tower also had a slit window in its W wall, and the photograph makes it clear that the battlements were on the E and W sides only, with an E-W saddleback roof between them.

The present church was constructed in 1870, architect G E Robinson (Newman 1995, 643). There is a large number of wall tablets, some of which, from the 18th century onwards, have been transferred from the old church. All the internal fittings are Victorian or later.

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Documentary and manuscript

Kendall, E, nd, Draft of guidebook to church

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Vaynor | Dedication: St Gwynno | PRN: m0440 | Survey date: 13-03-98

A Nave ☐ | Orientation nave: 0 | Chancel: 0

B Chancel, integral ☐ | Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

C Chancel, separate ☐ | Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

D North aisle ☐ Clerestory? ☐ | Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

E South aisle ☐ | Centuries: 12th ☐

F North transept ☐ | 13th ☐

G South transept ☐ | 13th/14th ☐

H Chapel, structurally separate ☐ | 14th ☐

I Crossing ☐ | 15th ☐

J Tower ☐ External stair turret ☐ | 15th/16th ☐

K Bellcote ☐ Position of tower/bellcote ☐ | 16th ☐

L Porch, structurally separate ☐ Position ☐ ☐ Upper storey to porch? ☐ | 17th ☐

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault ☐ Vault position ☐ | 18th ☐

N Gallery ☐ Gallery position ☐ | 19th ☒

O Organ chamber ☐ | 20th ☐

P Vestry, structurally separate ☐ | Appears completely rebuilt? ☒

Q Boiler house/sexton's store ☐ | Known to be rebuilt in different position? ☒

R Rood stairs/loft ☐ Position stairs ☐ | Screen survives? ☐ Loft survives? ☐

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary ☐ | Duplicated elements ☐ ☐ ☐

T Other ☐ Nature of other element ☐

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: ☐ Location(s) ☐

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: ☐ Location ☐

Medieval wall-painting? ☐ Post-medieval wall-painting? ☐ Location ☐

Medieval/post-medieval door?: ☐ Location(s) of door ☐

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ Georgian/neo-classical ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☒

Altar rails: Post-medieval ☐ Victorian ☐ Contemporary ☒

Fonts: Medieval ☐ 17/18th century ☐ Neo-classical ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval ☐ Jacobean: ☐ 18th/early 19th century box pews: ☐

Other early seating: ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Pulpit: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ 18th/early 19th century ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Dug-out chest: ☐ Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ Other early ☐

Other early none-structural woodwork: ☐ Nature of woodwork: ☐

ECM ☐ Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval ☐ Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval ☒

CHURCHYARD

Church: Vaynor | Church PRN: m0440 | Survey date: 13-03-98

Shape, plan (present): Partly curvilinear | First map type/date:

Shape, first map:

Shape, relief: Slopes down sharply from NE to SW (stream). Old church is on a terrace at bottom of churchyard, and new church on a terrace at the top of churchyard

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble wall; stream forms boundary to SW

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: E end N side

Main entrance, description: Double gates

Secondary entrances (if any): Gap in wall at SW corner near old church

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks: Terracing, see relief

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: The new church was built on an extension to the original churchyard (Kendall, nd, 3)

WELSH HISTORIC CHURCHES PROJECT

GLAMORGAN HISTORIC CHURCHES SURVEY

CHURCHES IN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF MARGAM

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

Report for Cadw

By E M Evans BA PhD MIFA
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust

April 1998

GLAMORGAN GWENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

HERITAGE IN BRITAIN AWARD

IFA
Registered Organisation

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PRN		
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m0494	Aberdare	St John Baptist
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m0152	Pyle	St James
m1755	Ystradyfodwg	St John Baptist

KEY:

PRN	County Sites and Monuments Record Prime Record Number
NPRN	National Monuments Record National Prime Record Number
Archives:	GlRO = Glamorgan Record Office; NLW = National Library of Wales; NMR = National Monument Record; WGAS = West Glamorgan Archive Service
Wall covering types:	[P]laster [L]imewash [PO]inting [R]endering [PA]nelling [I]vy [O]ther
Wall visibility:	[1] Sufficient to make out the outline of the stones, and any fabric changes
	[2] Stone still visible but not sufficiently to discern any joints or fabric changes
	[3] Stonework completely covered

ST MARY' CHURCH, ABERAVON

NGR: SS 7630 9013

PRN: w1163

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Aberavon

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L002 3790

SUMMARY

Aberavon church is first mentioned in 1254 (Lunt (ed) 1926, 323). It would appear to be a pre-Norman site, since an Early Christian monument of Class C (PRN 675w; RCAHMW 1979, 43 no 887) was found in the churchyard; it is now loose in the tower basement. The medieval dedication to the Virgin is confirmed by Merrick (1983, 107). The churchyard is quadrangular; the socket stone now in the churchyard is from the town cross, not the churchyard cross (*ex inf* Mr Raymond Prees). An 'old yew tree' in the churchyard was listed in a terrier of 1774 (O'Brien 1935, 69).

The present church consists of nave with aisles, separate chancel, SW tower, S porch, organ chamber and vestry. The tower replaces the W bay of the S aisle, and the organ chamber is partitioned off the E end of the N aisle. A boiler room has been added against the N side of the vestry. It appears that the earlier church was completely demolished in 1858; the only surviving fragment is the window reset at the W end of the N aisle. The church is shown on the tithe plan (WGAS P/68/2) as having a W tower and S porch. Copies of drawings in the NMR show the church as having the chancel narrower than the nave, but under a continuous roof; the tower had an E-W saddleback roof. Details of the windows show that the E window was rectangular with two ogee/trefoiled lights and tall recessed panels in the spandrels, and a S window (?in the tower) also rectangular, with two lights with Tudor heads; the S windows in the nave are shown as having semicircular heads, like that of the outer door of the porch. There was also a W gallery, accessible only from the outside. The church was limewashed, and roofed in stone slates (O'Brien 1935, 15). It had been extensively restored in the second half of the 18th century, having been described in 1766 as 'very ruinous the Roof and walls thereof being greatly decayed and in the utmost Danger of ffalling' (Richards 1956, 27).

The main part of the present building was constructed in 1858-59 by Prichard and Seddon on the site of the old church (O'Brien 1935, 14), and the N aisle was added in 1898 by G E Halliday (Newman 1995, 532). There are indications that the upper part of the tower was added later, visible externally as a slight change in the masonry, and more clearly internally; the tower suffered from structural problems and had to be overhauled when the N aisle was built (*ex inf* Mr Raymond Prees).

A piscina, dated to the 12th century (Richards 1925), was built into the S wall of the chancel in 1927 (NLW LL/F/11); this originally came with another ECM (PRN 723w; RCAHMW 1976, 42 no 884) from approximately SS 7633 8998, believed to be the site of a medieval chapel. There is a small early 18th century communion table in the N aisle, but otherwise all the internal fittings are Victorian or later. Only a few wall tablets have been retained from the earlier church. There are also two medieval cross slabs in the porch, in addition to the Early Christian monument noted above, and a well-preserved stone mortar brought from Llansawel church in the belief that it was a stoup (*ex inf* Mr Raymond Prees).

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Richards, A J, 1925, Ecclesiastical monuments at Port Talbot, *Archaeol Cambrensis* **80**, 424-8

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Documentary and manuscript

NLW		
LL/F/4	1890	Faculty: Improvement of chancel, stained glass window, reredos, pulpit, screen
LL/F/5	1898	Faculty: Repair and enlargement of church
LL/F/7	1912	Faculty: Brass cross
LL/F/8	1916	Faculty: Memorial window and tablet
LL/F/9	1920	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/10	1924	Faculty: Oak screen
LL/F/11	1927	Faculty: 12th century piscina
LL/F/12	1928	Faculty: Erection of wall as cemetery boundary
LL/F/13	1930	Faculty: Removal of communion rail, shortening of choir stalls, stained glass window
LL/F/14	1934	Faculty: Brass candlesticks
Parish record 1	1776-1823	Vestry minutes (to GlRO)
WGAS		
P/68/2	1841	Tithe map

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Aberavon | Dedication: St Mary | PRN: w1163 | Survey date: 04-06-97

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 100 | Chancel: 100

B Chancel, integral [ ] | Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

C Chancel, separate [x] | Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

D North aisle [x] | Clerestory? [ ] | Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

E South aisle [x] | Centuries: 12th [ ]

F North transept [ ] | 13th [ ]

G South transept [ ] | 13th/14th [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ] | 14th [ ]

I Crossing [ ] | 15th [ ]

J Tower [x] | External stair turret [x] | 15th/16th [ ]

K Belicote [ ] | Position of tower/belicote: SW | 16th [ ]

L Porch, structurally separate [x] | Position: S | Upper storey to porch? [ ] | 17th [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] | Vault position: | 18th [ ]

N Gallery [ ] | Gallery position: | 19th [x]

O Organ chamber [x] | 20th [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x] | Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [x] | Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] | Position stairs: | Screen survives? [ ] | Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] | Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]

T Other [ ] | Nature of other element:

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] | Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] | Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] | Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] | Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] | Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] | Jacobean [ ] | Georgian/neo-classical [x] | Victorian [x] | Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] | Victorian [ ] | Contemporary [x]

Fonts: Medieval [ ] | 17/18th century [ ] | Neo-classical [ ] | Victorian [ ] | Contemporary [x]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] | Jacobean: [ ] | 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]

Other early seating: [ ] | Victorian [x] | Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] | Jacobean [ ] | 18th/early 19th century [ ] | Victorian [x] | Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] | Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] | Jacobean [ ] | Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] | Nature of woodwork:

ECM [x] | Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [x] | Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Internally corbels to support roof timbers, alteratively high over apex of arches and low over piers.

Ext:

Openings: Arcade of 4 bays; pointed arches, 2 orders of chamfer; supported on compound piers, moulded capitals and bases between responds

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings: Chancel arch pointed, v tall; wave moulding

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Internally corbels to support roof timbers, alteratively high over apex of arches and low over piers.

Ext:

Openings: Tower arch; arcade. Arcade of 3 bays; pointed arches, double wave moulding with leaf carving at apex; supported on cylindrical piers, foliage capitals and moulded bases between responds; hoodmould with foliage stops. Tower arch pointed; supported on engaged piers with moulded capitals and bases.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Buttresses at junction between nave and aisles. Bath stone string course below level of windows. Coping.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, 1 door. Door has pointed head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, grooved quarter globe stops. Window has pointed head, 4 trefoiled lights, Decorated tracery; Bath stone dressings; hoodmould with cubical stops; relieving arch

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with aisle roofs but separate from them; metamorphic slate.

Roof and other structural timbers: Carved wall plates. In 8 bays, but most of structure concealed behind ceiling

Ceiling: Barrel; boaded

FLOOR

Type: Stone; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☒

FITTINGS

Monuments: W window as 1914-18 war memorial

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen: Low alabaster screen wall at chancel arch

Pulpit: Carved, pink alabaster; to match reredos

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low boarded backs

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 A

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

Fabric

Int: P3

Internally 4 corbels to support roof

Ext:

Openings

NORTH WALL

Door to vestry; arch to organ chamber. Door has pointed head; wave moulding, quarter globe stops. Arch largely concealed behind organ, but seems to be pointed with chamfer and wave mouldings and hollow stops

Fabric

Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Batter at extreme base. Buttress between chancel and vestry. Bath stone string course below level of windows. Coping.

Ext: PO1

Openings

EAST WALL

E window has pointed head, 5 trefoiled lights, Decorated tracery; hoodmould with cubical stops; Bath stone dressings, chamfer and roll moulding

Fabric

Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Bath stone string course below level of windows. Slight batter to base. Clasping buttress at E end. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. Internally 4 corbels to support roof.

Ext: PO1

Openings

SOUTH WALL

2 windows. E-most has pointed head, single ogee/trefoiled light; Bath stone dressings. W-most has pointed head, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights, Decorated tracery; Bath stone dressings

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

WEST WALL

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate.

Roof and other structural timbers: In 4 bays, but most of structure concealed behind ceiling

Ceiling: Barrel; boarded

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile, timber under seats, ?marble in E end (largely carpetted). 1 step at chancel arch, 2 at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: E window Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc: Carved pink alabaster with green marble shafts and white statuary, matches pulpit (1890). Carved wainscotting (1938)

Altars/ tables: Modern, carved stone

Font etc:

Piscina: Shallow square piscina in ?Sutton stone concealed behind panelling at E end of S wall

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern carved wooden

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Stalls have carved backs and desks, to match wainscotting

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 C

Element

Church	Aberavon	PRN	w1163	Element type	N aisle	Code	D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoins of same. 4 buttresses in Bath stone ashlar. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. Of one build with organ chamber N wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings

3 windows, 1 'blocked' window. 'Blocked window' at W end is reset; pointed head with mullion rising to apex dividing it into 2 lights; sandstone dressings, double chamfer; hoodmould with Sutton stone human head stops. Other windows all alike: pointed, 3 ogee/cinqefoiled heads, curvilinear tracery; Bath stone dressings, wave moulding and chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P01

Screen wall divides N aisle internally from organ chamber to just below eaves height; Bath stone ashlar; slightly offset parapet over string course, carving at top and bottom of parapet.

Ext: PO1

Openings

2 arches; 2-centred heads of two orders each with wave and roll moulding; supported on compound pier with foliage capitals peopled with birds and mice, and moulded bases, between responds; hoodmould with keeled stops.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Arcade, see nave N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoins of same. Buttresses at junction between nave and aisles. Bath stone string course below level of windows. Coping, cross socket.

Ext: PO1

Openings

3 windows. Main windows are both almost alike with only slight differences; each with pointed head, single ogee/trefoiled light, tracery; Bath stone dressings. Vescia-shaped window in gable; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with organ chamber roof, parallel with nave roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate.

Roof and other structural timbers: Battlemented wall plate

Ceiling: Barrel; boaded; continuous with organ chamber ceiling

FLOOR

Type: Stone; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 18th century (Latin); 1 x 19th century; 1 x 20th century (from Welsh church). 1 flat slab

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Carved wooden screen (1920) in arch to organ chamber

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low boarded backs

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 D

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade, see nave S wall; leaf carving and hoodmould on this side too.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Bath stone string course below level of window. Coping.

Openings: 1 window; pointed head, 3 ogee/trefoiled lights, intersecting tracery; Bath stone dressings, double wave moulding; hoodmould with cubical stops; relieving arch

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Batttered at base. Internally 7 corbels to support roof timber

Openings: 2 windows, 1 door. Windows both have pointed heads, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights; tracery differs between windows; both Bath stone dressings. Door, see porch N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Fabric:

Openings: Tower arch pointed, of two orders; outer wave moulding, hollow stop; inner chamfered, supported on short length of column

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with nave roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate.

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; boaded

FLOOR

Type: Stone; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: In all windows; SE modern, others Victorian style

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Small communion table with turned legs, dated 1704

Font etc: Octagonal, supported on multiple columns with moulded capitals and bases

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Openwork screen in tower arch

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low boarded backs

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 E

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Choir vestry

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Bath stone string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, with Bath stone panel with cross in central battlement; spouts at corners.

Ext: PO1

Openings

1 window: belfry has pair of trefoiled lights with transome, pierced at apex; Bath stone dressings; relieving arch.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Bath stone string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, with Bath stone panel with cross in central battlement; spouts at corners.

Ext: PO1

Openings

1 window: belfry has pair of trefoiled lights with transome, pierced at apex; Bath stone dressings; relieving arch.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Bath stone string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, with Bath stone panel with cross in central battlement; spouts at corners. Projecting octagonal stair turret in SW corner; square base, pyramid stops; top of turret in ashlar

Ext: PO1

Openings

3 windows. Belfry has pair of trefoiled lights with transome, pierced at apex; Bath stone dressings; relieving arch. Turret has 2 windows; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; upper (in ashlar section) has trefoiled head; lower small rectangular

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Bath stone string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, with Bath stone panel with cross in central battlement; spouts at corners. Stair turret, see S wall. Slight break in masonry visible below belfry window

Ext: PO1

Openings

6 windows. Belfry has pair of trefoiled lights with transome, pierced at apex; Bath stone dressings; relieving arch. Below it is a window with a pointed head, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights, tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; relieving arch. Turret has 4 small rectangular windows

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Wooden panelled

FLOOR

Type: Tile

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: ECM (PRN 675w) and well-preserved stone mortar loose in tower basement

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 J

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has pointed head; Bath stone dressings, wave moulding, quarter globe slips; hoodmould with plain stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Buttress of one build with W wall of nave.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Window is ogee/trefoiled lancet; Bath stone dressings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Coping, cross

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has pointed head; Bath stone dressings, wave moulding, quarter globe slips; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Buttress of one build with W wall of nave.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate.

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling:

Type: Concrete flagstone

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: See under 'other'

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Two medieval cross slabs (one of priest Thomas de Avene)

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 L

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: Organ chamber | Code: O

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoins of same. 4 buttresses in Bath stone ashlar. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. Of one build with N aisle N wall

Ext: PO1

Openings

1 window, 1 door. Window is rectangular, 3 trefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops. Door pointed; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, pyramid stops; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch.

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoins of same. 4 buttresses in Bath stone ashlar. Coping, cross.

Ext: P01

Openings

Cinquefoiled rose window without tracery; Bath stone dressings; hoodmould with plain stops.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Arch to chancel, see chancel N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings

Arch to N aisle, see N aisle E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuation of N aisle roof, parallel with nave roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate.

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; boaded; continuous with N aisle ceiling

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Organ

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 O

Element

Church: Aberavon | PRN: w1163 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Now concealed behind boiler room

Ext: PO1

Door is now sealed off by boiler room; rear arch segmental pointed

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Buttress see chancel. Bath stone string course below level of windows. Coping.

Ext: PO1

1 window; trefoiled lancet; Bath stone dressings; relieving arch

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Door, see chancel

Openings

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Lean-to

Roof, exterior appearance: Against N wall of chance; rmetamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1163 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Aberavon | Church PRN: w1163 | Survey date: 04-06-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date: Tithe/1841

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Flat

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description:

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: SW corner

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path leads round S side of church to S porch, W font and secondary entrance

Secondary entrances (if any): W side; double gate

BURIALS

In use?: ☐ | Clearance?: None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross?: ☒ | PRN: 674m | RCAHMW cross survey?: ☐

Cross description: Socket stone only; square/octagonal; much eroded - no details can be made out

Earthworks:

Yews?: ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: Churchyard cut in two by flyover

ST JOHN BAPTIST'S CHURCH, ABERDARE

NGR: SO 0000 0267

PRN: m0494

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 10848

COMMUNITY: Aberdare

DEANERY: Aberdare

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L004 3804

SUMMARY

St John's Aberdare was originally a chapel to Llantrisant; given the earliest datable architectural features it would appear that it is one of the chapels in the parish of Llantrisant mentioned in 1254 (Evans 1982, 25). The chapel possessed burial and christening rights (Green 107, 65). It appears first in the documentary sources in 1450, when the chancel was partly rereoofed with sandstone slates (Evans 1982, 29-31). The churchyard was enlarged in the 19th century, but has been taken over by the local authority and now functions largely as a public park, with a small area close to the church demarcated for the burial of cremations (Evans 1982, 52).

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, W end bellcote, and a vestry which is effectively a large S porch, though not now used as the congregation's entrance to the building. The building is constructed in the local Pennant sandstone; none of the medieval openings retain any dressings except for the door from the vestry/porch to the nave and this has been painted, making it impossible to see details of the stone, but Evans (1982, 27) gives it as Sutton stone.

The oldest parts of the church are the long walls of the nave and the S wall of the chancel, all of which have an internal batter. If the present S door of the nave is original, which is credible, the building will date to c 1300 (Newman 1995, 132-3). The W window and the chancel arch could be contemporary, but the method of construction is insufficiently distinctive to be able to assign either of them definitely to this period; the W window would also not be out of place in the 18th century. There is a slightly later trefoiled piscina on the S wall of the nave, presumably to a secondary altar. The church is reported to have a medieval roof behind the present ceiling (Newman 1995, 133). Much of the rest of the building is 18th century. The chancel is reported to have been rebuilt in 1777 (Evans 1982, 45; Newman 1995, 133), and retains the S door of this phase, which is very similar to the W door and the outer door of the vestry. The vestry has a datestone of 1795. It is impossible to determine the date of the bellcote, since it has no diagnostic features, and there are no parallels.

The main Victorian restoration was in 1871-6, after considerable damage had been caused by subsidence (Evans 1982, 48-9). This work involved enlargement of the chancel, the refenestration of the nave and chancel, reroofing, and the refitting of the interior. A further restoration took place in 1914, when the W window was unblocked.

There are a number of wall tablets from the 18th century onwards. The font is medieval, but the other internal fittings are Victorian or later; the wrought iron gates at the chancel arch were originally at the W door (Evans 1982, 65-6). There is one bell (Wright i 5) with an inscription reading:
X WILLIAM:MATHW:ESPVARXRT:WH:C:W:1637:1P

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/62/64	1847	Tithe plan
P/61/2	1843-1904	Vestry minutes
P/61/5	1819-43	Vestry minutes
P/19/CW/1-2	1914	Faculty: Improving churchyard; with correspondence
P/19/CW/3-5	1938	Faculty: Altar rail; with correspondence
P/19/CW/7	1896-7	Correspondence re churchyard wall
P/19/CW/15	1912-13	Correspondence re alteration of churchyard boundary
P/19/CW/17	1917	Correspndence re improvements to churchyard
P/19/CW/18	1915	Report on history and archaeology

NLW

LL/F/19	1881	Faculty: Use of portion of churchyard for street widening
LL/F/26	1914	Faculty: Improvement of churchyard
LL/F/32	1933	Faculty: Electric light

NMGW

Wright (various) i 5

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Aberdare | Dedication: St John Baptist | PRN: s0494 | Survey date: 13-03-98

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 95 | Chancel: 95

B Chancel, integral [ ] | Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

C Chancel, separate [x] | Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ] | Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

E South aisle [ ] | Centuries: 12th [ ]

F North transept [ ] | 13th [ ]

G South transept [ ] | 13th/14th [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ] | 14th [ ]

I Crossing [ ] | 15th [ ]

J Tower [ ] External stair turret [ ] | 15th/16th [ ]

K Belicote [x] Position of tower/belicote: W | 16th [ ]

L Porch, structurally separate [ ] Position [ ] [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ] | 17th [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position [ ] | 18th [x]

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position [ ] | 19th [x]

O Organ chamber [ ] | 20th [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x] | Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ] | Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs [ ] Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [x] Location(s): Reputed to be present, but concealed by ceilings

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location [ ]

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location [ ]

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door [ ]

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork: [ ]

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [x]

Element

Church: Aberdare | PRN: m0494 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in mixture of squared and irregular blocks sandstone and some small river boulders; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Battered base, apparently refaced. Internal batter. 14 internal brackets to support roof; Victorian.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

5 windows, 1 blocked door. Windows all alike; pair of lancets with ogee/trefoiled heads; sandstone dressings, chamfered; E-most and 2nd from W definitely inserted; others less clearly so. Blocked door visible below 2nd door from W; represented by 2 straight joints partly quoined with squared blocks Sutton stone, including what appears to be springing on W side; joints do not extend below top of batter.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in mixture of squared and irregular blocks sandstone and some small river boulders; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Battered base.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

Chancel arch pointed; dressings (if any) concealed by plaster. Slit in gable; no dressings.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in mixture of squared and irregular blocks sandstone and some small river boulders; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Battered base. Sundial. Internal batter. 14 internal brackets to support roof; Victorian.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

4 windows; 1 door; 1 possible blocked window. Windows all alike; pair of lancets with ogee/trefoiled heads; sandstone dressings, chamfered. Door, see N wall vestry. Possible blocked window (?to gallery) in upper half of W end wall, represented by straight joints and appears to have been square.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble in mixture of squared and irregular blocks sandstone and some small river boulders; blocks seem to be more irregular and with larger joins than on other walls of nave, but this may be caused by pointing; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Partly rebuilt under roof. Irregular joint with bellcote at top of gable.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

1 window, 1 door. Door has semicircular head turned in ashlar voussoirs, springers blocks and keystone project slightly; sandstone ashlar jambs. Above is lancet with semicircilar head turned in rubble voussoirs and with rubble dressings; segmental head to rear arch.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK — **Roof type:** Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W small flat ceramic tiles

Roof and other structural timbers: Appears to be 13 bays with 14 trusses, of which only carved braces appear below ceiling level. Battlemented wall plate.

Ceiling: Barrel; angled, panelled and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Brick; woodblock under pews. Slightly higher than threshold of door from vestry, so lower step around doorway to allow door to open.

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 5 x 18th century; 1 x 18th- 19th century; 8 x 19th century.

Stained glass: All windows have Victorian figures reset in clear glass surround, except for W window which is modern (1984+)

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Octagonal; roll round lip and double roll at shoulder; thick octagonal stem and diminutive foot.

Piscina: At E end S wall; trefoiled head, small circular basin, dressings painted.

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Wrought iron gates at chancel arch.

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries: Small rectangular opening ?for aumbry at E end N wall.

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low matchboarded backs; plain ends

Other features of interest: Tablet recording rebuilding of church 'to its original design in 1871 and 1872', after subsidence damage.
Tablet recording benefaction of early 20th century
Electric organ

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☒ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐
18th ☒ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0494 A

Element

Church: Aberdare | PRN: m0494 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in mixture of squared and irregular blocks sandstone and some small river boulders; quoined sandstone ashlar. 4 brackets to support roof.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

Single lancets with ogee/trefoiled head; sandstone dressings, chamfered

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble; seems to be generally in smaller blocks sandstone and river boulders than those used in other walls, but so obscured by mortar that it is difficult to be sure; quoined sandstone ashlar. Rebuilt under roof. Wall tablet of 18th century type built into outer wall face (part of inscription including date has spalled away). A number of headstones arranged against outside of wall. Internal batter.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

Triplet of graded lancets with ogee/trefoiled heads; sandstone dressings, chamfered

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in mixture of squared and irregular blocks sandstone and some small river boulders; E end rebuilt as E wall in smaller blocks sandstone and river boulders; quoined sandstone ashlar.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

1 door, with semicircular head turned in ashlar voussoirs, sandstone ashlar jambs.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave W wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W small flat ceramic tiles

Roof and other structural timbers Appears to be 3 bays with 4 trusses, of which only carved braces appear below ceiling level.
Battlemented wall plate.

Ceiling Barrel (angled) boarded

FLOOR

Type Carpetted; 1 step at chancel arch, 1 step altar rail, 1 step E end.

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 1 x 19th century; 1 x 19th century.

Stained glass All windows have Victorian figures reset in clear glass surround,

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables Victorian or later.

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen Victorian style altar rails with wrought iron standards (1938)
Wrought iron gate over rear arch to priest's door.

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐
18th ☒ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0494 C

Element

Church: Aberdare | PRN: m0494 | Element type: Bellcote | Code: K

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Small neatly squared blocks laid in snecked courses; lower part as offset plinth crowned with chamfer.

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Small neatly squared blocks laid in snecked courses; lower part as offset plinth crowned with chamfer; upper part squared off at top with no further architectural detail.

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings: Bell openings, see W wall

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Small neatly squared blocks laid in snecked courses; lower part as offset plinth crowned with chamfer.

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric: Small neatly squared blocks laid in snecked courses; lower part as offset plinth crowned with chamfer; upper part squared off at top with no further architectural detail.

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings: 2 bell openings; plain rectangular holes with no architectural treatment.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: None

Roof, exterior appearance:

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling:

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: 2 bells

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0494 K

Element

Church: Aberdare | PRN: m0494 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has 2-centred head; 2 orders of continuous roll moulding; dressings painted.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: Door has semicircular head turned with ashlar voussoirs, mainly in sandstone but with a couple in Bath stone; jambs quoined with less neatly squared sandstone blocks.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: Window consists of pair of lights with depressed ogee heads turned in small rubble blocks; jambs also quoined with small rubble blocks.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance N-S; small flat ceramic tiles

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Boarded

Type Carpetted

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☒ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0494 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Aberdare | Church PRN: m0494 | Survey date: 13-03-98

Shape, plan (present): Partly curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1847

Shape, first map: ?Polygonal (GIRO map copy damaged at this point)

Shape, relief: Flat

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☒

Description: At S and W sides coursed rubble wall topped by railing and hedge; at N and E grassed area of churchyard open to pavement. A smaller area in the immediate vicinity of the church now enclosed by low coursed rubble wall

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W end S wall

Main entrance, description: Double gates; paths to W door and S porch

Secondary entrances (if any):

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: Churchyard seems to have been enlarged in 19th century; now mainly cleared and laid out as park, with small area around N, E and part of S of church enclosed by low wall.

ST CADOC'S CHURCH, ABERPERGWM

NGR: SN 8699 0615

PRN: w1877

NPRN: 28; 54235

CADW REFERENCE: 11867

COMMUNITY: Glynneath

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L502 4365

SUMMARY

Aberpergwm is first mentioned in 1294 as a 'grangia' to Neath Abbey (Clark 1910, 1678). The exact site of the grange is unknown but it is probable that the present church is the successor to the grange chapel, as a Crynant, with the other buildings immediately to the W (RCAHMW 1982, 253). The first documentary reference (as Capel Aberpergwm) is on Saxton's map of Glamorgan of 1576-7; and although it is not mentioned by Leland in the 1530s (Belcher 1994, 3-4), a document of 1593 notes that the 'inhabitants of Aberpergwm and Glyn Neath ucha have time out of mind of man erected made and maintained a church or chapel there called Aberpergwm where they always doe resort to have Divine service and where they doe burie and Christen with all other manner of Rights and services as a pish church', implying that the chapel antedated the Reformation (Taylor 1933, 5-6). Aberpergwm church continued to be a chapel-of-ease to Cadoxton-juxta-Neath until the second half of the 19th century. The churchyard is shown on the tithe map of 1841 (WGAS P/71/3) as horseshoe-shaped and hardly bigger than the church.

The church consists of nave, added chancel following the same wall lines but of separate build; two N porches, one to the nave and the other to the chancel; and a w bellcote which at the time of survey had largely been taken down and was in store in the nave. It is constructed in local sandstone, with Bath stone dressings in the chancel and dressings of bright red sandstone to the openings of the nave.

The shell of the nave appears to be medieval from the internal batter of the long walls, and probably was the grange chapel, retained after the Reformation as a chapel of ease. There are indications that its entrance was in the middle of the N wall. It was reconstructed in 1840, architect possibly P F Robinson (Belcham 1994, 5-7); the chancel with its elaborate internal decoration and separate entrance was added at this time to provide seating for the local squire, the Williams family of Aberpergwm House. The bellcote was also probably of 1840. From documentary sources it is possible to determine that it had a W gallery. In 1883 this was removed, the nave was refenestrated and provided wih a new N porch and the W door was blocked. The bellcote appears on photographs in the NMR as having a shouldered arch at each side above a moulded plinth, a supoorting a conical roof.

The church has a medieval font bowl on a stem probably dating to 1840. The altar rails (around three sides of the sanctuary) appear to be post-medieval, but they could, like the altar, be part of the 1840 furnishings of the chancel, which have survived well, including the seating (similar to that at Cadoxton-juxta-Neath. These include two medieval effigies, said to be French (Belcham 1994, 7)), and an array of Williams family memorials, some dating to before the construction of the chancel. The E window contains Flemish glass.

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Taylor, G A, 1933, A Cadoxton-Aberpergwm dispute of 16th century, *Trans Neath Antiq Soc*, **2 ser 3**, 5-7

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NLW

LL/F/42	1926	Faculty: Memorial organ

WGAS

D/D X 252/2	1980	Photograph of St Cadoc's churchyard
P/71/3	1841	Tithe map (parish of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath)

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Aberpergwm | Dedication: St Cadoc | PRN: w1877 | Survey date: 13-05-97

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 85 | Chancel: 85

B Chancel, integral [ ] | Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

C Chancel, separate [x] | Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ] | Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

E South aisle [ ] | Centuries: 12th [ ]

F North transept [ ] | 13th [ ]

G South transept [ ] | 13th/14th [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ] | 14th [ ]

I Crossing [ ] | 15th [ ]

J Tower [ ] External stair turret [ ] | 15th/16th [ ]

K Bellcote [x] Position of tower/bellcote: W | 16th [ ]

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: N N Upper storey to porch? [ ] | 17th [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position: | 18th [ ]

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position: | 19th [x]

O Organ chamber [ ] | 20th [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x] | Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ] | Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: | Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] | Duplicated elements: L

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [x] Location: E window

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [x] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [x] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Aberpergwm | PRN: w1877 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Irregular blocks local sandstone, some quite large, roughly coursed; no separate quoins. 2 added buttresses in squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone, one between first and second windows from E, other (diagonal) at NW corner. Slight batter internally.

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

3 windows, 1 door, 1 blocked door. Windows all alike; rectangular, 3 trefoiled lights, pierced and cusped spandrels; bright red sandstone dressings, quarter round-mouldings with fillets; hoodmoulds in same stone with plain stops; rear arches have segmental heads with quarter-round mouldings; Victorian. Door has near-semicircular head; bright red sandstone dressings, cavetto; rear arch has segmental pointed head with deep cavetto; Victorian. Blocked door represented by two straight joints under middle window.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch has semicircular head rising from plain impost bands with angel busts above on inner surface, head decorated with multiple zig-zags; head (tragedy mask type) above apex

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Blocks local sandstone, generally smaller than those of N wall, roughly coursed; no separate quoins. Added diagonal buttress in squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone at SW corner. Slight batter internally.

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. Windows all alike; rectangular, 3 trefoiled lights, pierced and cusped spandrels; bright red sandstone dressings, quarter round-mouldings with fillets; hoodmoulds in same stone with plain stops; rear arches have segmental heads with quarter-round mouldings; Victorian. Door to vestry has segmental head.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Blocks local sandstone, generally smaller than those of N wall, roughly coursed; no separate quoins. Buttresses see N and S walls. Internally centre of wall occupied by massive pier of rectangular section, through which W window is cut; presumably to carry bellcote

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

1 window, 1 blocked door. Window high in wall; pointed, 2 cinquefoiled lights, tracery; bright red sandstone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould; rear arch has segmental-pointed head with quarter-round moulding; Victorian. Blocked door represented by 2 straight joints below window; between them stones of masonry bear fewer traces of limewash than on rest of wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with chancel roof; asbestos slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; plain plaster of segmental profile

FLOOR

Type: Stone down middle, concrete under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: 6 memorial brasses on walls, three 19th century and three 20th century

Stained glass: In middle N window; Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Small octagonal sandstone bowl, mounted on large square stem, one of whose sides is carved with simple panel design, small square chamfered foot; stone of stem and base appears to be same as 'altar-tombs' in chancel

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; panelled, carved and grained

Lectern/ reading desk: Wooden eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Benches with upright backs and open arms

Other features of interest: Small organ

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1877 A

Element

Church: Aberpergwm | PRN: w1877 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Neatly squared blocks local sandstone with pecked surfaces, laid in courses; no separate quoins. Buttress at junction with nave and another (diagonal) at NE corner), both with finials resembling chimney pots. Small lamb and flag plaque built into top of wall outer surface at W end; small eroded ?shield towards E end

Ext: PO1

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Neatly squared blocks local sandstone with pecked surfaces, laid in courses; no separate quoins. Small shields built into exterior face of wall, one at either side. Internally wall hollowed into 'tomb recesses', one either side of altar; appearing externally as slight projections topped by weathing supported on corbels; relieving arches over. Buttresses see N and S walls. Trefoiled niche in apex of gable with image of St Cadoc. Coping, cross.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

E window has 2-centred pointed head; divided horizonally by transom and each half into two lights, upper with cusped Y-tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; crocketted hoodmould with oversized human headstops in same style as mask over chancel arch, all in same sandstone as masonry

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Neatly squared blocks local sandstone with pecked surfaces, laid in courses; no separate quoins. Buttress at junction with nave and another (diagonal) at NE corner), both with finials resembling chimney pots. Two 18th century memorial tablets (Welsh) built into ouer surface.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with nave roof; asbestos slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; plaster, ribbed and ornamented with leaves where crossways ribs join rib down apex; also lantern-shaped pendant in middle, and busts of angles with shields in lower corners

FLOOR

Type: Stone tiles; 1 step at chancel arch

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Large number of wall tablets to members of Williams family, from 18th century to early 20th century

Stained glass: E window set with 4 lage panels of Flemish glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: Wall below E window carved and painted to form reredos

Panelling, carving etc: Each 'tomb recess' has medieval monumental effigy (knight to S, lady to N) mounted on carved 'altar tomb' of grey stone

Altars/ tables: Stone; supported on 2 short columns with moulded captalas and bases; all of one piece

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen: Altar rail round three sides; turned balusters, grained; ?early 19th century

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Benches along N and S walls, each sitting divided from neigbours by arms, and with tall triangular-pointed backs; grained (cf Cadoxton-juxta-Neath)

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1877 C

Element

Church: Aberpergwm | PRN: w1877 | Element type: Bellcote | Code: K

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Now reduced to octagonal plinth with moulding at top; in similar small blocks to chancel

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Now reduced to octagonal plinth with moulding at top; in similar small blocks to chancel

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Now reduced to octagonal plinth with moulding at top; in similar small blocks to chancel

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric: Now reduced to octagonal plinth with moulding at top; in similar small blocks to chancel. W side is longer than others, since NW and SW sides have been shortened; carried on large stone bracket rising from W gable of nave

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Taken down and in store at time of field visit

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling:

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Elements of upper part bellcote now in store at back of nave; difficult to make out much detail apart from knob-shaped finial.
1 bell, dated 1693

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w1877 K

Element

Church: Aberpergwm | PRN: w1877 | Element type: Porch (to nave) | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int:
Formed by ends of E and W sill walls; above two standards either side, supporting cross-bar at eaves height

Ext:

Openings:
Head of door in timber; 4-centred, with carving in spandrels

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: PO1
Sill wall in squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone, as buttresses of nave; plinth crowned by string-course in bright red sandstone; bright red sandstone quoins and weathering at top of wall. Above sill wall open timber structure with 4 standards

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO1
See nave N wall

Ext:

Openings:
For door see nave N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO1
Sill wall in squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone, as buttresses of nave; plinth crowned by string-course in bright red sandstone; bright red sandstone quoins and weathering at top of wall. Above sill wall open timber structure with 4 standards

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Single bay, 2 trusses of principals and tie beam only

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Concrete

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1877 L

Element

Church: Aberpergwm | PRN: w1877 | Element type: Porch (to chancel) | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Local sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked surfaces, but rather larger than those in chancel walls

Openings

NORTH WALL

Door has 2-centred pointed head, dressings in one with ashlar of wall, chamfered

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Neatly squared blocks local sandstone with pecked surfaces, laid in courses, as chancel; quoined by same ashlar as N wall.

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Door to chancel, see chancel N

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Neatly squared blocks local sandstone with pecked surfaces, laid in courses, as chancel; quoined by same ashlar as N wall. Of one build with buttress at junction between nave and chancel

Openings

WEST WALL

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; large sandstone slabs; finial with globular knob at apex over door

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plastered

FLOOR

Type: Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1877 L

Element

Church: Aberpergwm | PRN: w1877 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone; diagonal buttress at SE corner

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Mainly narrow blocks of local sandstone, laid in courses. Buttresses see E and W walls

Openings: 1 window consisting of pair of pointed lancets sharing a central mullion; Bath stone dressings, hollow chamfer, hoodmould follows shape of heads; scroll-shaped stops. Lower half of window blocked

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: V irregular squared blocks local sandstone roughly laid in snecked courses

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

Type: Stone

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1877 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Aberpergwm | Church PRN: w1877 | Survey date: 13-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Polygonal | First map type/date: Tithe/1841

Shape, first map: Largely curvilinear

Shape, relief: Flat; area to S is a couple of steps higher than churchyard

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Largely coursed rubble, but at SE corner built in similar masonry to chancel and ornamented with blind arches between piers; rest of E wall sill wall and railings

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: NE corner

Main entrance, description: Rought iron double gates; path alongside N side of church to main porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Single gate towards W end of S wall
Steps in middle of S wall

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest: Elaborate 4-sided monument at NW corner of church, designed as a vista from Aberpergwm house

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent. Concrete gully at base of N and W walls and round vesty and E end chancel

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any: Not known

Other remarks:

ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH, BAGLAN

NGR: SS 7528 9222

PRN: w3253

NPRN: 174

CADW REFERENCE: 14171

COMMUNITY: Baglan

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L008 0638

SUMMARY

The church of St Catherine at Baglan is a Victorian building constructed in the churchyard of the medieval St Baglan's church (PRN 860), which was retained as a separate building until its destruction by fire in 1954 (Newman 1995, 143). It is a pre-Norman foundation; two Early Christian monuments of Classes C and G are known from the site (PRN 670w, 672w; RCAHMW 1976, 43 no 886, 64 no 961), and the dedication of the original church is Celtic. The socket stone of the churchyard cross survives.

The remains of St Baglan's church are ruinous and overgrown, making assessment difficult. It is single-celled with a continuous nave/chancel and a W gable-end bellcote; no porch survives. The E window has a two-centred head, three ogee/trefoiled lights and Perpendicular tracery, and as far as can be seen is medieval. The 16th century SE window is rectangular and has three lights with segmental heads and recessed spandrels; the hoodmould, unusually for a window of this type, has human heads as stops. The two other windows on this wall have no distinguishing characteristics. The W front appears to be post-medieval with a semicircular head to the door and the window above, and triangular heads to the two openings of the bellcote. A beam embedded in the N wall at the W end may be the remains of a W gallery. The church was apparently limewashed inside and out (O'Brien 1926, 116). The NMR holds a number of photographs, taken before the present extensive growth of vegetation and when some plaster survived on the internal walls, showing that there was a barrel roof over the body of the church, Proposals are currently being considered to restore the building

The present church was built in 1875-82 by John Pritchard, and preserves an unusually fine interior of the period. It contains a medieval tub font (not in use) from the old church, one of the Early Christian monuments (PRN 670w), now built into the inner face of the N wall of the choir vestry, and a benefactions board in the clergy vestry. The bells date to 1882 and 1889 (Davies (ed) 1982, 7).

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Newman, J, 1995, *The buildings of Wales: Glamorgan*, 143
O'Brien, J, 1926, *Old Afan and Margam*, 115-7
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Documentary and manuscript

NLW

LL/F/49	1913	Faculty: Alteration to sittings
LL/F/51	1927	Faculty: Gradine and cross
LL/F/52	1932	Faculty: Litany desk, carpet, altar frontal, oak press

WGAS

P/69/1	1846	Tithe map

NMR

Kay (various)	2 ser II, 246

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Baglan | Dedication: St Catherine | PRN: w3253 | Survey date: 04-06-97

Orientation nave: | Chancel:

A Nave ☐

B Chancel, integral ☐

C Chancel, separate ☐

D North aisle ☐ Clerestory? ☐

E South aisle ☐

F North transept ☐

G South transept ☐

H Chapel, structurally separate ☐

I Crossing ☐

J Tower ☐ External stair turret ☐

K Belicote ☐ Position of tower/belicote:

L Porch, structurally separate ☐ Position: Upper storey to porch? ☐

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault ☐ Vault position:

N Gallery ☐ Gallery position:

O Organ chamber ☐

P Vestry, structurally separate ☐

Q Boiler house/sexton's store ☐

R Rood stairs/loft ☐ Position stairs:

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary ☐

T Other ☐ Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Centuries: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Appears completely rebuilt? ☒

Known to be rebuilt in different position? ☒

Screen survives? ☐ Loft survives? ☐

Duplicated elements:

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: ☐ Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: ☐ Location:

Medieval wall-painting? ☐ Post-medieval wall-painting? ☐ Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: ☐ Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ Georgian/neo-classical ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Altar rails: Post-medieval ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Fonts: Medieval ☒ 17/18th century ☐ Neo-classical ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval ☐ Jacobean: ☐ 18th/early 19th century box pews: ☐ Other early seating: ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Pulpit: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ 18th/early 19th century ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Dug-out chest: ☐ Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ Other early ☐

Other early none-structural woodwork: ☐ Nature of woodwork:

ECM ☒ Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval ☐ Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval ☐

CHURCHYARD

Church: Baglan | Church PRN: w3253 | Survey date: 04-06-97

Shape, plan (present): Partly curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1846

Shape, first map: Partly curvilinear

Shape, relief: Stops up markedly form W to E and from S to N; landscaped in terraces

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Stone wall topped by railings

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W end S side

Main entrance, description: Double gates; bridge over stream; path to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any):

BURIALS

In use?: ☒ | Clearance?: Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross?: ☒ | PRN: 671w | RCAHMW cross survey?: ☐

Cross description: Socket stone only; square/octagonal, chamfered top, pyramid stops, square socket

Earthworks:

Yews?: ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: Curvilinear shape of churchyard is caused by stream which bounds it to the S

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BRITON FERRY (LLANSAWEL)

NGR: SS 7357 9424

PRN: w0645

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Briton Ferry

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L537 4486

SUMMARY

Briton Ferry church may be first mentioned in the documentary sources in 1254, as *Ponte* (Lunt (ed) 1926, 323). The churchyard is largely quadrangular though with two rounded corners, and the only possible evidence for a pre-Norman foundation is the name of Llansawel. The socket stone for the churchyard cross survives.

The church consists of nave with continuous chancel, N aisle and short S aisle, S porch and S tower. The tower lies roughly halfway along the nave with the porch immediately to its E; the S aisle extends only as far as the E wall of the tower. The W end of the nave and N aisle have been partitioned off to form a parish room. In terms of the overall structure of the building, the chancel is short, but in terms of the internal layout, its floor area has been doubled by the incorporation of the E-most bay of the nave as the choir, reflected by the treatment of the ceiling; the flanking E bays of the N and S aisles are separated off to form organ chamber and vestry respectively. The church appears on a number of early 19th century drawings: a view from the E engraved by T Baxter in 1818 shows a large Perpendicular E window with for lights and tracery, and a view of the church and churchyard from the S by T Hornor shows a S door in the nave with no porch or only a rudimenatary one, flanked to its E by a large multiple light window with a shaped head and tracery or a transom; there is a similar window in the S wall of the chancel (Jenkíns 1974, plate 6 and colour plate 14).

The tower is the only surviving part of the earlier church, with the exception of a 17th century door reset in the S tall of the nave and two corbels reset inside in the porch. It was originally a W tower, as attested by the crease on its S wall for the former nave roof. From the presence of a window from the tower to what was previously the nave with a deep splay on the E side, it would appear that the tower was a later addition, and the lower part of the E wall of the tower may therefore be the earliest part of the building. There are few datable features about it and none needs to be earlier than the 17th century, as the belfry has plain rectangular windows; Butler (1971, 404) suggests a 16th century date for the battlements which are similar to those at Llangyfelach, but there too they are combined with 17th century windows and the later date seems on balance more likely. There is what appears to be a blocked opening on the E side just above the present roof line; if this was the entrance to a gallery, the roof of the earlier nave must have been higher than the present S aisle roof. The remainder of the church was pulled down and rebuilt in 1891-92, at a cost of £1,800 (Humphreys 1898, 13) in a style reminiscent of a turn-of the-century mission hall. The architect was H Francis Clarke of Briton Ferry under the supervision of J P Seddon (Newman 1995, 263).

There is a medieval font, but the other fittings are Victorian or later, and no memorials have been preserved from the earlier church.

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Documentary and manuscript

P/70/CW/32	1903	Faculty: stained glass window
P/70/CW/33	1925	Faculty: erection of new altar
P/70/CW/34	1933	Faculty: memorial windows
P/70/CW/35	1939	Faculty: reredos
P/70/CW/36	1942	Faculty: reredos and panelling
P/70/CW/37	1945	Faculty: stained glass window, with correspondence
P/70/CW/38	1951	Citatory decree: priest's desk and choir stalls
P/70/CW/40	1961	Citatory decree: stained glass window
P/70/CW/41	1946	Archdeacon's certificate: gas heating boiler, with correspondence
P/70/CW/42	1920-25	PCC minute book

NLW

LL/F/84	1891	Faculty: Demolition of St Mary's; erection of new church
LL/F/455	1922	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/456	1929	Faculty: Reredos
LL/F/457	1933	Faculty: Altar rail and removal of choir stalls

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | Dedication: St Mary | PRN: w0645 | Survey date: 03-06-97

Orientation nave: 95 | Chancel: 95

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [X]
C Chancel, separate [ ]
D North aisle [X] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [X]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [X] External stair turret [ ]
K Belicote [ ] Position of tower/belicote: S
L Porch, structurally separate [X] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [ ]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs:
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [X]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [X]
18th [ ]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]

Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | PRN: w0645 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): E-most bay is choir; 2 x W-most bays parish room

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Fabric Ext:

Openings: Timber 'colonnade': row of 6 wooden posts of square section, each with a capital formed by a short baulk of timber with cusped underside, supporting a longitudinal beam; raking struts between each post and beam.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int:

Fabric Ext:

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/R3 — Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Internally corbels for roof timbers set against section of wall formed by N wall of tower.

Fabric Ext: PO1

Openings: 2 windows, 1 door, timber 'colonnade'. Window to W of tower is pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill. Window to tower is single large rectangular light with Bath stone dressings, chamfered. Door has triangular head; Sutton stone dressings, sunk chamfer and wave moulding, run-out stops; brick rear arch. Colonnade: row of 3 wooden posts of square section, each with a capital formed by a short baulk of timber with cusped underside, supporting a longitudinal beam; raking struts between each post and beam.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Fabric Ext: PO1

Openings: Triplet of lancets, middle one tallest; brick dressings and Bath stone sill.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: Continuous with chancel roof; concrete tile

Roof and other structural timbers: 7 bays; tie beam, collar, vertical struts, straight braces

Ceiling: Plaster over rafters; E-most bay continuation of chancel ceiling

FLOOR

Type: Concrete; timber under pews; 1 step up to choir, between the two E-most posts

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Cylindrical bowl with chamfered underside, 2 roll moulding at rim and 3 smaller ones at change of angle; wide cylindrical stem, chamfered base.

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Boarded partition half height of nave/aisle continuous across nave and N aisle screening off 2 x W-most bays

Pulpit: Victorian, carved wooden

Lectern/ reading desk: Carved wooden

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Backed benches; simply carved stalls in choir

Other features of interest: Parish room created by screening off two W-most bays

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0645 A

Element

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | PRN: w0645 | Element type: Chancel | Code: B

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric — Int: P3 — Ext: PO/1 1/3

Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Openings

Pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill

EAST WALL

Fabric — Int: P3 — Ext: PO/1 1/3

Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Openings

E window is triplet of lancets, middle one tallest; brick dressings and Bath stone sill. Slit with Bath stone dressings in gable.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric — Int: — Ext:

Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked couses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Openings

Pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill

WEST WALL

Fabric — Int: P3 — Ext: PO1

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: Continuous with nave roof; concrete tile

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel, of trefoil section; boarded.

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; 1 step at altar rail, 2 in sanctuary (one of these designed to be under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablet: 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: E window; 1922 but Victorian style

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern (1934)

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0645 B

Element

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | PRN: w0645 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): E bay organ chamber; 2 x W-most bays parish room

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

5 windows, W-most pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill, other four each triplet of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

Pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext:

Openings:

See N wall nave

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Of one build with nave W wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

Pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continuation of nave roof; concrete tile

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster over rafters

FLOOR

Type: Continuous with nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: In central light of second triplet from W, 20th century

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Boarded partition half height of nave/aisle continuous across nave and aisle screening off 2 x W-most bays

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Continuous with nave

Other features of interest: Parish room created by screening off two W-most bays
2-manual organ, Liddiatt and Sons

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w0645 D

Element

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | PRN: w0645 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): E-most bay vestry

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: See nave S wall

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked couses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Int:

Ext:

Openings: Pair of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked couses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Datestone of 1891 near base of wall

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 3 windows, 2 door. W-most window is single lancet, other two triplets of lancets with brick dressings and Bath stone sill. Vestry door has pointed head turbed in brick. Door to porch, see porch N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked couses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Of one build with nave W wall.

Int: R3

Ext:

Openings: Square window to tower with deep splay on this side. Door to tower has semicircular head turned in voussoirs with central narrow projecting keystone

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continuation of nave roof; concrete tile

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster over rafters

Type: Continuous with nave

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablet: 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: 20th century glass in all windows except those of vestry

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Continuous with nave

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference w0645 E

Element

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | PRN: w0645 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Store

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Not visible from ground externally; internally plaster is beginning to come away, but not enough to provide detail of structure

Ext: ?PO

Openings

2 windows (plus any in belfry not visible from ground). Window to nave, see nave. Slit at bottom of wall.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in narrow blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins. Slight continuous batter. Battlemented parapet jettied out slightly over narrow triple offset; battlements have upper, backward-tilted section above string course. Crease for roof of now-vanished nave.

Ext: PO1

Openings

2 windows, 1 door, 1 blocked opening. Belfry has large rectangular single light; Bath stone (or Sutton stone) dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops. Window and door to S aisle, see S aisle W wall. Blocked opening visible externally just over roof crease as patch of large blocks with straight joint at S side.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in narrow blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins. Patched. Slight continuous batter. Slightly offset plinth with more strongly marked batter crowned by narrow double offset. Battlemented parapet jettied out slightly over narrow triple offset; battlements have upper, backward-tilted section above string course.

Ext: PO1

Openings

3 windows. Belfry has large rectangular single light; Bath stone (or Sutton stone) dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops. Beneath it are 2 slits, one below the other; no dressings.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in narrow blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins. Slight continuous batter. Slightly offset plinth with more strongly marked batter crowned by narrow double offset. Battlemented parapet jettied out slightly over narrow triple offset; battlements have upper, backward-tilted section above string course.

Ext: PO1

Openings

2 windows, 1 door. Belfry has large rectangular single light; Bath stone (or Sutton stone) dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops. Beneath is slit; no dressings. Door has segmental head turned in voussoirs; no dressings; gap in plinth for door is c 0.3m wider than door at either side.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

FLOOR

Type: Concrete; 5 steps down from nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w0645 J

Element

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | PRN: w0645 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses.

Int: PO1

Ext:

Openings: Door has segmental head turned in double row of bricks, brick jambs, continuous chamfer.

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Internally 2 reset moulded Sutton stone corbels.

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has segmental head turned in double row of bricks, brick jambs, continuous chamfer.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks laid in snecked courses; quoined by sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Internally datestone recording building of all churches in parish (St Mary is 1892).

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continuation of S aisle roof; concrete tile

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

FLOOR

Type: Concrete; flight of 5 steps up to nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0645 L

CHURCHYARD

Church: Briton Ferry (Llansawel) | Church PRN: w0645 | Survey date: 03-06-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date:

Shape, first map:

Shape, relief: Mainly flat, but slopes up slightly to N of church

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble; Rebuilt as concrete blocks with railings on S side.

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: SE corner

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path leads along S boundary, then turns through 90 degrees to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any):

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☒ | PRN: 643w | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description: Socket stone square/octagonal; grooved stops

Earthworks:

Yews? ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: NE and SE corners of churchyard rounded

ST CATWG'S CHURCH, CADOXTON-JUXTA-NEATH

NGR: SS 7560 9857

PRN: w0630

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 11767

COMMUNITY: Blaenhondda

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L016 3837

SUMMARY

The church of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath is first recorded in 1254 (Lunt (ed) 1926, 323), though the dedication to St Cadoc, which is confirmed by Merrick (ed James 1983, 108), may be an indication of a pre-Norman foundation, as may the largely curvilinear shape of the churchyard revealed on the tithe map of 1841 (WGAS P/71/3).

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, N aisle, W tower-porch and vestry against the N side of the chancel, with a boiler room against its E side. There originally seems to have been a rood loft, as evidenced by the fact that the wallplates in the nave stop short of the E end. The building is constructed from the local Pennant sandstone, with Sutton stone dressings to the remaining medieval openings, and Bath stone dressings to the Victorian parts of the church.

Only the tower obviously retains masonry from the Middle Ages, the nave and chancel showing all the signs of having been rebuilt in the Victorian period, but since the nave roof predates the 19th century, it seems reasonable to suppose that the walls of the nave at least has been refaced rather than rebuilt. The earliest feature in the tower is the Early English W door; the Decorated window above has clearly is inserted, and probably goes with the windows of the upper stage, though it is doubtful whether this should be taken as indicating that the upper stage is an addition. An interesting feature of this tower is the form of the lower stage of the W facade, which has a recessed panel with the door and window between what are in effect two battered buttresses. This is also found in the neighbouring parishes of Cilybebyll and Llantwit-juxta-Neath. A document of 1593 mentions 'the steeple' (Taylor 1933, 6), but this does not necessarily imply that there was ever a spire.

Major campaigns of rebuilding took place in 1843-44 and 1871. When Glynne (1801, 247) visited the church in 1869, he noted that it was 'almost completely modernised, save the tower', with 'a spacious nave and chancel, but no aisles. However, there is evidence to indicate that the N aisle was added in 1843-4, and it may be that he was referring to its medieval form as being aisleless. The church was in need of repair by 1842, in which year a faculty (NLW LL/F/98) was sought to demolish the church completely, on the grounds that it was impracticable to repair it, and to rebuild in early 19th century simplified gothic style with two aisles, galleries, a short chancel and W tower-porch. There was considerable opposition however from some of the congregation who maintained not only that the church was in a much better structural condition than was alleged by the promoters of total rebuilding scheme and was not a drain on the resources of the parish (rebuilding estimated at a minimum of £2,000 and repair at £350-500), but also that it was 'worthy of preservation as a Monument of Ecclesiastical Architecture' and should not be demolished 'unless under some stringent and overriding necessity the existence of which [was] entirely denied in the present instance'. It would appear that this faculty was not granted, since in the following year another faculty (NLW LL/F/99) was issued to allow the medieval building 'to be put into complete repair and enlarged by the erection of an additional aisle'. This is borne out by the structural evidence. Examination of its outer walls of the church shows that there are two phases in the fenestration, with the single Y-traceried window in the N wall of the aisle (the same as those in the S wall of the nave) as the earlier type, and that there seems originally to have been a door in the W wall of the aisle, and possibly also a N door in the second bay from the W in its N wall; one or both of these doors may have been for the gallery which was removed in 1872. Newman (1995, 165) dates the E window stylistically to around 1860, and most of the windows, the chancel arch and probably the arcade of the N aisle to 1871. The organ chamber was enlarged in 1883 (Tucker, nd, 171)

There is a medieval cross slab mounted on the N wall of the chancel. There is also a large collection of wall tablets of dates ranging from the 17th to the 20th centuries. Of these the most interesting are the three in the vestry, one an 18th century brass with a long genealogical inscription (Anon, 1866), and the other two painted on boards, one dating to the 17th century and the other to the 18th; the chancel has a couple of heraldic plaques on its S wall. Otherwise the internal fittings are Victorian or later. Raven (1878, 266) and Taylor (1937, 4) noted three bells of 1770 by Thomas Bayley of Bridgwater; a further three were added in 1898 (Tucker, nd, 171).

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GlRO

P/71/CW/1-2	1841	Case for the opinion of Dr Howard Elphinstone that vestry meeting held 18th Oct 1841, for purpose of levying rate for rebuilding and enlarging of parish church, was invalid
P/71/CW/3	1841	Vestry meeting, at which it was agreed that parish church could be enlarged and repaired for £500
P/71/CW/4	1841	Appeal for enlargement and repair of parish church, with list of subscribers
P/71/CW/5	1841	Notices in press on application for faculty to take down and rebuild
P/71/CW/6	1842	Statement of objections to faculty.

NLW

LL/F/98	1842	Faculty: Demolition of church and erection of new church
LL/F/99	1843	Faculty: Repair of church and addition of aisle
LL/F/101	1872	Faculty: Reflooring and reseating and other alterations
LL/F/101X	1872	Faculty: Reflooring and reseating and other alterations
LL/F/102	1882	Faculty: Alteration of organ chamber
LL/F/102X	1882	Faculty: Alteration of organ chamber
LL/F/103	1928	Faculty: Choir stalls and panelling
LL/F/104	1929	Faculty: Children's corner

WGAS

D/DZ 114/1	1991	*History of St Catwg's Church, Cadoxton-juxta-Neath, the oldest church in the Vale of Neath* (K Tucker)
P/71/3	1841	Tithe map

NMR

Kay (various)	1 ser II, 212, 259: 2 ser II, 359; IV 743-5

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Cadoxton-juxta-Neath

Dedication: St Catwg

PRN: w0630

Survey date: 12-05-97

Orientation nave: 80 Chancel: 80

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [ ]
C Chancel, separate [X]
D North aisle [X] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [ ]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [X] External stair turret [X]
K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [ ] Position [ ] [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position [ ]
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position [ ]
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [X]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [X]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs [ ]
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [X]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element [ ]

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [X]
13th/14th [X]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [X] Location(s): Nave
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location: [ ]
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location: [ ]
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door: [ ]

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Fonts: Medieval [ ] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]
Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork: [ ]
CM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [X] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Cadoxton-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0630 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade of 4 bays; 2-centred arches with 2 orders of chamfer; supported on octagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, similar respond to W, E respond is composite pier with moulded capital and shaft ring standing on octagonal plinth; hoodmould with foliage stops over piers, at E end linked to short length of cornice on cobels

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PO 1/3 — Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses. Coping. Internally lower half of wall in sandstone ashlar

Ext: PO/R 1/3

Openings: Chancel arch is flanked by 2 arches; ? blocked oculus in gable. Chancel arch has 2-centred head supported on engaged shafts with moulded capitals and bases, polygonal plinths. Flanked on N by full-length pointed arch, continuous hoodmould with foliage stops round both arches. Flanked on S by truncated arch forming a window to chancel, with segmental head

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3 — Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish which stands on offset foundation course of narrow rubble blocks. 5 buttresses in pecked sandstone ashlar stand on offset. Kneelers

Ext: PO1

Openings: 4 windows, all alike; 2-centred pointed heads, 2 lights, Y-tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch in pecked sandstone voussoirs

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3 — Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses. Buttress at junction with N aisle. Coping

Ext: PO1

Openings: Tower arch has 2-centred head of 2 chamfered orders, inner terminating at spring of arch with lobe-shaped pendents/corbels

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel to N aisle roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, collars and arched braces; wall plates battlemented but with series of blank areas ?for applied shields, stops short just W of apex of E-most arch of arcade and is replaced by a tall board with a roughly chamfered underside; medieval or early post-medieval

Ceiling: Now boarded behind rafters, but has ribs as for barrel roof, sawn off at ends above blank spots on wallplate. Plain dome-shaped bosses

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets 7 x 19th century, 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: In 3 windows, all Victorian syle, though one is 20th century date

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Elaborately carved stone with text in Welsh, on short marble stem

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Plain ends, low matchboarded backs

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference w0630 A

Element

Church: Cadoxton-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0630 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Clapsing buttress in sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Kneeler

Ext: R3

Openings: Vestry door has 2-centred head; roll moulding. Arch for organ appears to have segmental head, but so little visible it is difficult to tell

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish which stands on offset foundation course of narrow rubble blocks. Clasping buttress in sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Coping.

Ext: PO1

Openings: E window has pointed head, 3 shouldered pointed lights, intersecting tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould in sandstone with shell-shaped stops; relieving arch in sandstone; internally framed by engaged shafts with moulded capitals and bases

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish which stands on offset foundation course of narrow rubble blocks. Clapsing buttress in sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Kneeler

Ext: PO1

Openings: Pointed lancet with single trefoiled light; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with foliage stops

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext: PO1

Openings: 3 arches, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel to vestry roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel, plastered, plaster cornice

Type: Ceramic tile; steps at chancel arch and altar rail

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Medieval cross slab mounted on N wall. Wall tablets 4 x 18th century (plus another illegible one which stylistically looks 18th century) 11 x 19th century, 2 x 20th century. 2 post-medieval heraldic plaques

Stained glass: In both windows, Victorian syle

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: 2 oil paintings

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Brass, Victorian or later

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk: Modern carved wooden

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Stalls carved, Victorian or later; also sanctuary chairs with tall triangular backs, as benches in porch.

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0630 C

Element

Church	Cadoxton-juxta-Neath	PRN	w0630	Element type	N aisle	Code	D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): E-most bay Lady Chapel

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish. 4 buttresses plus clasping buttress at W end in pecked sandstone ashlar

Ext: PO1

Openings:

4 windows; all with 2-centred pointed heads, 2 lights; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with human head and foliage stops. All except E-most window have trefoiled heads to lights and tracery; E-most window has Y-tracery, as S wall of nave. All except 2nd window from W have relieving arch in pecked sandstone voussoirs; 2nd window from E has infill between window head and relieving arch. 2nd window from W has straight joint under its E side, does not extend to ground level

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

Organ arch v tall and narrow but does not extend down as far as floor; 2-centred head, 2 orders of hollow chamfer; hoodmould with foliage stops, also foliage stop at bottom of arch

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

Arcade, see nave S; no hoodmould on this side, but cornice on corbel table at E end

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish half buried below ground level. Coping. Buttresses see N aisle N wall and nave W wall

Ext: PO1

Openings:

1 window, 1 possible blocked door. Window has pointed head, 3 cinquefoiled lights, reticulated tracery; Bath stone dressings, roll and chamfer; hoodmould with human head stops; inserted; internally rear arch has keel moulding supported on engaged shafts with foliage capitals and moulded bases; Victorian. Blocked door represented by straight joint under S side of window and more uneven joint under N side; masonry filling between them uses slightly taller blocks than main part of wall.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK — Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with vestry roof, and parallel to nave roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel, panelled and plastered; rins and wallplate/cornice plastered

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Large number of wall tablets, some concealed behind floral arrangements, but appear to be 3 x 18th century, 15 x 19th century, 7 x 20th century

Stained glass: NE window 20th century, others all Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Modern wooden panelled

Font etc: Octagonal; carved in white and red marble, Victorian style but 1909; carved wooden cover of same date

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern wooden screen partitions of E-most bay to form Lady Chapel

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Plain ends, low matchboarded backs

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0630 D

Element

Church: Cadoxton-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0630 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Porch

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Mainly small narrow irregular blocks local sandstone, laid as roughly coursed rubble tending to random; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Battered base. Divided into 2 stages by slight offset and plain string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, gargoyles in corners. Internally quoin visible in NE corner (with nave).

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows, 1 blocked window. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has single trefoiled light, Bath stone dressing, chamfered. Below it is slit with sandstone and ?Bath stone dressings, chamfered. LOWER STAGE: small blocked window (partly behind notice board) represented by relieving arch and some evidence for jambs

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Mainly small narrow irregular blocks local sandstone, laid as roughly coursed rubble tending to random; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, gargoyles in corners. Internally completely open to nave at ground floor level

Ext:

Openings:

1 window, arch. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has single trefoiled light, reddish stone dressing, chamfered. LOWER STAGE: arch to nave takes up all E side at ground floor level.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Mainly small narrow irregular blocks local sandstone, laid as roughly coursed rubble tending to random; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Divided into 2 stages by slight offset and plain string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, gargoyles in corners. Polygonal turret extends up to 1st stage. Internally quoin visible in SE corner (with nave).

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows, door to turret. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has single trefoiled light, Sutton stone dressing, chamfered. LOWER STAGE: Internal door to stair turret has pointed head; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered, reliving arch. TURRET: small square window with no real dressings

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Mainly small narrow irregular blocks local sandstone, laid as roughly coursed rubble tending to random; quoined squared blocks sandstone. Battered base. Divided into 2 stages by slight offset and plain string course. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table, gargoyles in corners. Lower stage consists of a battered buttress under string course at either side of W door; between them wall is vertical, with slightly higher string course, halfway up main W window.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

4 windows, 1 door. UPPER STAGE: Belfry window has triangular head, ?Bath stone dressing, ?hollow chamfer. Below it is slit with sandstone and dressings, chamfered. Below that trefoiled lancet: ?sandstone dressings partly replaced in Bath stone, eroded. LOWER STAGE: Door has 2-centred pointed head; Sutton stone dressings, 2 orders of keel moulding, outer on moulded bases; hoodmould. Window has 2-centred head, 2 trefoiled lights, tracery; Sutton stone dresssing, chamfered; inserted; hoodmould with human head stops, and human head corbel over apex.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Matchboarded

FLOOR

Type: woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: Main W window; Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen: Screen in lower half of arch to nave is panelled and carved, with glass insets

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Wooden benches, each sitting divided from neigbours by arms, and with tall triangular-pointed backs, as sanctuary chairs (cf Aberpergwm chancel)

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☒ 13th/14th ☒ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w0630 J

Element

Church: Cadoxton-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0630 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Organ chamber

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish which stands on offset foundation course of narrow rubble blocks (below ground level at W end).

Ext: PO1

Openings:

1 window; 2-centred pointed head, 2 lights, Y-tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch in pecked sandstone voussoirs

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in narrow snecked courses, above a plinth of 1 course sandstone ashlar blocks with pecked finish which stands on offset foundation course of narrow rubble blocks. Coping

Ext: PO/R 1/3

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Opening to chancel, see chancel

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W, continuous with N aisle roof, and parallel to chancel roof but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Low plaster ceiling

FLOOR

Type Carpetted

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 1 x 17th century, painted on board; 2 x 118th century (one brass, one painted on board)

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference w0630 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Cadoxton-juxta-Neath | Church PRN: w0630 | Survey date: 12-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Partly curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1841

Shape, first map: Largely curvilinear

Shape, relief: Upper section around church is flat, and then slopes away down to the south in the extension

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Sill wall with iron railing

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path to W tower-porch, and another round N side of church to secondary gate

Secondary entrances (if any): E side, opposite main entrance; double gates

BURIALS

In use? ☒ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparant. Soakaway at base of wall on S side

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST'S CHURCH, CILYBEBYLL

NGR: SN 7439 0471

PRN: w0515

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Cilybebyll

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L052 3952

SUMMARY

The church of Cilybebyll is first recorded in 1129 (Green 1907, 74-5). The churchyard is now a curved polygon, but the tithe map of 1838 (WGAS P/73/1) shows it as a rectangle. The churchyard cross survives on the S side of the church.

The church consists of nave, short separate chancel, W tower with outshot stair turret, S porch, and a vestry added to the nave, with the sexton's store on its W. The building is constructed in local Pennant sandstone, with dressings mainly of Bath stone, though those in the tower are of sandstone.

Only the tower remains of the medieval church. This is of the usual battered type with battlemented parapet carried on a corbel table, contains no readily datable features beyond the inserted Victorian window in the lower stage. Its W facade is of the same design as Cadoxton-juxta-Neath and Llantwit-juxta-Neath, with a central vertical panel in the bottom stage flanked by battered sections which have the appearance of buttresses. The rest of the church was rebuilt in 1868 (NLW LL/F/229&229X). Newman (1995, 322) thinks that two of the windows in the present church may date to 1837; if this is the case they will have been reset. Comparison of the plan deposited with the faculty showing the church before restoration with that showing the proposed rebuilding shows that it is unlikely that any of medieval fabric will have survived above ground in either the nave or the chancel, though the foundations of the S wall of the nave may have been reused. The medieval church had a continuous nave and chancel without a chancel arch, and was slightly shorter and narrower, with the N wall of the nave on the same line as the N wall of the tower, and the E wall just inside the line of the present E wall. The old porch had its E wall on the same line as the E wall of the present porch but was slightly shorter and narrow. A structure of uncertain nature is shown as built up against the E wall of the old chancel, but there was an E window; there was also a single N window, and three windows in the S wall, of which one lay within the chancel area. The interior detail indicates that the pulpit was on the N wall, immediately E of the N window, and there was a rail on three sides of the communion table.

There are a few 18th and 19th century wall tablets. The internal fittings are all Victorian or later, but two bells with the initials TG are noted by Wright (1941, 56), who attributes them to Thomas Gefferies, active in the middle of the first half of the 16th century.

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/73/CW/14	1937	Faculty: installation of electric light

NLW

LL/F/229	1868	Faculty: Demolition and rebuilding of church
LL/F/229X	1868	Faculty: Demolition and rebuilding of church (with plan)

WGAS

P/73/1	1838	Tithe map

NMR

Kay (various)	3 ser X, 865-7

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Cilybebyll | Dedication: St John the Evangelist | PRN: w0515 | Survey date: 12-05-97

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 100 | Chancel: 100

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [x] External stair turret [x]

K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [x]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: | Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Centuries: 12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Cilybebyll | PRN: w0515 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttress in NW corner; short buttress in middle of wall. Internally 4 moulded corbels for wall pieces of roof.

Ext: PO/I 1

Openings

2 windows, 1 door. E-most window has pointed head, 2 lights and Y-tracery; W-most window single pointed lancet; otherwise both alike, with Bath stone dressings, chamfered, and relieving arch in rockfaced sandstone of one build with wall. Door to vestry has pointed head.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Buttresses, see N and S walls. Cross socket set above bargeboards

Ext: PO1

Openings

Chancel arch tall, wide, pointed; dressings (if any) covered in plaster, narrow chamfer

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttress in NW corner; short buttress in middle of wall. Internally 4 moulded corbels for wall pieces of roof.

Ext: PO/I 1

Openings

2 windows, 1 door. E-most window has pointed head, 2 lights and Y-tracery; W-most window single pointed lancet; otherwise both alike, with Bath stone dressings, chamfered, and relieving arch in rockfaced sandstone of one build with wall. Door, see porch

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Buttresses, see N and S walls

Ext: PO/I 1

Openings

Tower door has pointed head

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 5 bays, 4 scissors-braced trusses, but braces are curved and support a king post; long wall pieces; 2 purlins either side and narrow moulded wall plate

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Stone, with grave slab as threshold of tower door; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Group of related 19th century wall tablets

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Small octagonal, sides carved with quatrefoils, on moulded stem with small moulded base; Victorian

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; plain wooden panelled

Lectern/ reading desk: Victorian; carved wooden

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Victorian; plain wheel cross carved on ends; low matchboarded backs

Other features of interest: Electric organ

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0515 A

Element

Church: Cilybebyll | PRN: w0515 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttress in NE corner

Ext: PO1

Openings:

1 window; single pointed lancet; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, and relieving arch in rockfaced sandstone of one build with wall.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges; plinth. Of one build with vestry E walll. Buttresses, see N and S walls. Stone cross above bargeboards

Ext: PO1

Openings:

E window pointed head, 3 v pointed cinquefoiled lights; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, and relieving arch in rockfaced sandstone of one build with wall.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttress in SW corner

Ext: PO1

Openings:

1 window; single pointed lancet; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, and relieving arch in rockfaced sandstone of one build with wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Common rafter

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Covered in carpet. I step at chancel arch, 1 at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: 2 wall tablets, one 18th century and other early 19th century

Stained glass: E window dated 1914; Victorian style

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Victorian; wooden

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0515 C

Element

Church: Cilybebyll | PRN: w0515 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Rougly coursed rubble in narrow blocks sandstone with no separate quoins. Divided into 2 stages by slight offset and massive square-cut string course, probably renewed; lower stage is battered. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Against E half of wall is shallow stair turret, raising not much beyond top of lower stage; of rectangular plan at ground level, but upper part of W end extends to curve back towards main tower wall; this part corbelled out on a slab set into the wall.

Ext: PO/I 1/2

Openings:

2 windows, door. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has square window with head of narrow voussoirs and chamfered monolithic sandstone jambs. LOWER STAGE: Internal door to stair turret has pointed head. STAIR TURRET has slit window at W end of upper part

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Rougly coursed rubble in narrow blocks sandstone with no separate quoins. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 window, 1 door, 1 blocked arch. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has square window with head of narrow voussoirs and chamfered monolithic sandstone jambs. LOWER STAGE: Door, see nave, is set at W side of blocked arch with near triangular head; arch's N jamb and N half of head have shallow chamfer

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Rougly coursed rubble in narrow blocks sandstone with no separate quoins. Divided into 2 stages by slight offset and massive square-cut string course, probably renewed; lower stage is battered. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

2 windows: UPPER STAGE: Belfry has slit with sandstone dressings; below is slit with arched head and ?Sutton stone dressings

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Rougly coursed rubble in narrow blocks sandstone with no separate quoins. Divided into 2 stages by slight offset and massive square-cut string course, probably renewed; lower stage is battered at either side of door, but door itself and window above are in a central bay with vertical wall. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

3 windows. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has slit with sandstone dressings; below is similar slit; both apparently renewed. LOWER STAGE: Door has segmental head turned in voussoirs. Window is single light with 2-centred pointed head; grey sandstone dressings, rebate and chamfer; Victorian; segmental rear arch

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling

Type: Stone; 3 steps up to nave

Burials known?

FLOOR

Underfloor heating?

FITTINGS

Monuments: 3 definitely 18th century wall tablets and another probably of similar date but too eroded for date to be read; 1 19th century wall tablet; tablet with details of Herbert charity of 1740

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc: Plain octagonal font basin in corner (not in use)

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w0515 J

Element

Church: Cilybebyll | PRN: w0515 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext:

Door has pointed head

Openings

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Much covered in ivy, but what is visible appears as squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttress in SE corner

Ext: PO/I 1/3

Window is near triangular in shaped; sandstone dressings, chamfered

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. For buttresses see E and W walls

Ext: PO1

Door has pointed head, sandstone dressings, chamfered, pyramid stops

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttress in SW corner

Ext: PO/I 1

Window is near triangular in shaped; sandstone dressings, chamfered

Openings

WEST WALL

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone, continuous with nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0515 L

Element

Church: Cilybebyll | PRN: w0515 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Ext: PO1

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges. Plinth. Short diagonal buttresses in NE and NW corners

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Ext: PO1

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges; plinth. Of one build with nave E wall. For buttresses see E and W walls

Openings:

Door has pointed head, rockfaced sandstone dressings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Ext:

Openings:

Door to chancel, see chancel

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Ext: PO1

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses; quoined by squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with drafted edges; plinth. For buttresses see E and W walls

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Common rafter

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Covered in vinyl

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0515 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Cilybebyll | Church PRN: w0515 | Survey date: 12-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Curved polygonal | First map type/date: Tithe/1838

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Flat; terraced above surrounding area on W side

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☒ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Mainly stone wall, internally embanked to E of church. Fence on N side

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W end S side

Main entrance, description: Gate: path along W boundary to S porch and W tower

Secondary entrances (if any): Stile S side

BURIALS

In use? ☒ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☒ | PRN: 514w | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description: 3 steps in rubble, probably reconstructed; socket stone square, chamfered upper and lower edges, square socket; shaft does not survive

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparant. Shallow concrete gully at base of walls

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

CRYNANT CHAPEL OF REST

NGR: SN 7942 0477

PRN: w0525

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Crynant

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE:

SUMMARY

Crynant is first mentioned in 1294 as a 'grangia' to Neath Abbey (Clark 1910, 1678). Two chapels of ease to Cadoxton-juxta-Neath, Creunant Isaf and Creunant Uchaf, were noted by Merrick in the last quarter of the 16th century (Merrick ed James 1983, 109). The tithe map of 1841 shows that the surviving chapel was located in a quadrangular churchyard (WGAS P/71/3). At the time when the Royal Commission was compiling the volume of the Glamorgan inventory which included granges, the site of neither had been established, and two alternative locations were favoured (RCAHMW 1982, 252). However more recent work, carried out in 1994 for RCAHMW by H J Thomas while Crynant chapel was being refurbished, established that it must be one of the grange chapels. It was replaced in 1909 by St Margaret's, built alongside as the new parish church. The chapel , although still belonging to the Church in Wales, has been leased by the local authority as a Chapel of Rest, though the only burials now taking place in the attached churchyard are those in existing graves.

The chapel is single-celled with continuous nave/chancel, a W bellcote and a W porch. The building is constructed from local sandstone rubble, but has now been replastered on the inside and largely covered in render on the outside. However, Thomas's account, compiled while the walls were stripped (Thomas 1994), shows that it was originally shorter, with an entrance at the W end of the S wall; Thomas suggests a 13th century date for this door from the form of its head. The chapel appears to have been lengthened towards the E and refenestrated in 1809, the date cut into a stone in the S wall; the fairly large windows with wide pointed heads, and Y-tracery introduced in the window frames, are in accordance with this date..

Few fittings are left *in situ*, and these are mostly Victorian or later, with the exception of the neo-classical font which may date to the 1809 rebuilding; the bowl of this is very similar to that of the font at St Thomas's, Neath.

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Documentary and manuscript

WGAS

P/71/3	1841	Tithe map (parish of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath)

NMR

RCAHMW	Two typescript surveys by H J Thomas: original dated 1991, revised 1994

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Crynant Chapel of Rest

Dedication:

PRN: w0525

Survey date: 13-05-97

A Nave [x]

Orientation nave: 80 Chancel: 80

B Chancel, integral [x]

C Chancel, separate [ ]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [ ] External stair turret [ ]

K Belicote [x] Position of tower/belicote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: W Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [ ]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:

12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [ ] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [x] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]

Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Crynant Chapel of Rest | PRN: w0525 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in narrow blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins. Rebuilt under eaves. Slight batter to base. Straight joint in lower part of wall to E of window; no change in masonry at this point. At W end square patch immediately under eaves appears too small to be window to gallery.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 window; head turned in narrow voussoirs; Y-tracery formed by frame

EAST WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext:

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Completely covered in render except for arch to blocked door and relieving arches over windows. Base battered, more markedly to W of line of straight joint visible on N wall

Ext: PO/R 1/3

Openings:

2 windows, blocked door. Windows both alike; head turned in narrow voussoirs; Y-tracery formed by frame. Blocked door arch has round-headed stilted arch

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

To S of door deep rectangular recess rising nearly to height of roof

Ext: R3

Openings:

Door, see porch E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with chancel roof; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Vaulted; centre of ceiling panelled and boarded, haunches plaster; continuous with chancel

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: 2 x 19th century memorial tablets

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Neo-classical; hemispherical bowl with wide ribs; stem is short column with moulded capital and base; original wooden cover

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; wooden, panelled

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Plain backed benches

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century

12th ☐ 13th ☒ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0525 A

Element

Church: Crynant Chapel of Rest | PRN: w0525 | Element type: Chancel | Code: B

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Coursed rubble in narrow blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins. Rebuilt under eaves. Slight batter to base

Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Battered base. Coping, cross

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: E window has head turned in narrow voussoirs; 3 lights and intersecting tracery formed by frame

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Completely covered in render except for voussoirs of near-flat relieving arch at E end

Int: P3

Ext: PO/R 1/3

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int:

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with nave roof; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Vaulted; centre of ceiling panelled and boarded, haunches plaster; continuous with nave

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; 1 step at altar rail

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Victorian; wrought iron standards

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0525 B

Element

Church: Crynant Chapel of Rest | PRN: w0525 | Element type: Bellcote | Code: K

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

Fabric		Sandstone ashlar
Int		
Ext	PO1	
Openings		
NORTH WALL		

Fabric		Sandstone ashlar
Int		
Ext	PO1	
Openings		Opening, see W wall
EAST WALL		

Fabric		Sandstone ashlar
Int		
Ext	PO1	
Openings		
SOUTH WALL		

Fabric		Rendered up to bottom of bell opening; sandstone ashlar above
Int		
Ext	PO/R 1/3	
Openings		Single opening with triangular head
WEST WALL		

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Coping

Roof, exterior appearance:

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling:

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: 1 bell

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w0525 K

Element

Church: Crynant Chapel of Rest | PRN: w0525 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Simple kneeler.

Ext: R3

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has square head

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Simple kneeler.

Ext: R3

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Sandstone ashlar to eaves, then smaller, slightly more irregular blocks of same stone. Patch of render under opening

Ext: R3

Openings: Door has pointed head turned in sandstone ashlar voussoirs

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

Type: Ceramic tile

FLOOR:

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0525 L

CHURCHYARD

Church: Crynant Chapel of Rest | Church PRN: w0525 | Survey date: 13-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date: 1841

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Mainly flat, but slopes down sharply at S side

BOUNDARY Stone/brick wall: ☒ Earth/stone bank: ☐ Hedge: ☐ Fence/railing: ☐ Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble

ENTRANCES Main entrance, position: SW corner

Main entrance, description: Double gates. Path leads along W boundary to adjoining St Margaret's church, with smaller path running of at right angles to W porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Gap at W end N boundary wall to St Margaret's church

BURIALS In use? ☐ Clearance?: None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES Cross? ☐ PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparant. Soakaway at base of wall on S side

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any: Not known

Other remarks:

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH, CWMAVON

NGR: SS 7803 9196

PRN: w1872

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Cwmavon

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L088 4059

SUMMARY

The parish now known as Cwmavon was originally known as Llanmihangel Ynysafan or Michaelstone-super-Avon, and is first mentioned in the documentary sources in 1537 (Clarke 1901, 1905); the church itself first appears in 1574, but reference is made in this document to an earlier deed of 1519 (Clark 1910, 2080-2). Margam Abbey had a grange at Ynysafan (PRN 903w, RCAHMW 1982, 276 no MG24) and it is possible, but by no means certain, that the church may have had its origin in the grange chapel, like Crynant, though it had its own tithes by 1519. The churchyard is quadrangular, and there is no evidence for a pre-Norman foundation. The churchyard cross does not survive.

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, N aisle, W tower and S porch. Apart from the tower, the church was rebuilt in 1850-51, architect J P Seddon (Newman 1995, 337), and there is no visible evidence that any of the earlier fabric was retained, except in the W wall of the nave to the S of the tower. The church is shown on the tithe plan of 1841 (WGAS P/75/1) as a simple rectangle, but this may be a conventional representation rather than an actual plan.

There is insufficient evidence to show when the tower was actually built, but from the change in masonry it appears to have been heightened in the 17th century when the belfry was added; Newman (1995, 337) quotes a date of 1660, and he suggests a mid 18th century date for the addition of the spire. The Victorian parts of the church are in fairly conventional Victorian Perpendicular, apart from the unusual wooden posts which separate the nave and N aisle and are joined by timberwork resembling moulded doorframes.

The church contains an altar made from a 16th century altar tomb, and there is a medieval tub font (not in use), but otherwise the fittings are all Victorian or later. There are a few wall tablets.

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RCAHMW, 1982, *The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales. Glamorgan Vol III: Medieval secular monuments. Part II: Non-defensive*

Documentary and manuscript

NLW

LL/F/547	1931	Faculty: Altar

WGAS

P/75/1	1841	Tithe map

NMR

Kay (various)	2 ser VI 1234; IX 1711

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Cwmavon | Dedication: St Michael | PRN: w1872 | Survey date: 04-06-97

Orientation nave: 100 | Chancel: 100

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [ ]
C Chancel, separate [X]
D North aisle [X] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [ ]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [X] External stair turret [ ]
K Belfcote [ ] Position of tower/belfcote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [X] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [ ]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs:
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [X]
18th [X]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [X] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]

Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [X]

Element

Church: Cwmavon | PRN: w1872 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext:

Openings: Division between nave and N aisle formed by heavily moulded posts of lozenge-shaped section joined by timberwork resembling moulded doorframes; 5 openings

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Only return of SE quoin and coping visible from outside.

Chancel arch has 2-centred head, 2 orders of chamfer, inner dying into piers, straight cut stops

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice. Down middle of wall to E of porch is what looks rather like a carefully bonded joint, but this is probably an artefact of settlement. Crease for porch roof

3 windows, 1 door. Windows all alike apart from number of lights (E-most 2 lights, central 3 lights, W of door single light); rectangular; lights have ogee/cinquefoiled heads, pierced quatrefoils in spandrels; Bath stone dressings, hollow chamfer; segmental pointed rear arch. Door, see porch N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: P1

Openings: Mostly in squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Upper half of wall to S of tower is in more irregularly coursed rubble blocks same stone.

Tower arch tall, pointed, 2 orders of chamfer, inner dying into piers, straight cut stops

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with N aisle but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 5 bays; 6 trusses with collars, curved Y-shaped struts, curved braces; head corbels at ends of principals

Ceiling: Plastered in front of rafters

FLOOR

Type: Vinyl tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 19th century; 1 x 20th century

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Octagonal carved bowl on octagonal carved pedestal; Victorian

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; wooden panelled, grained

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low matchboarded backs, grained

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1872 A

Element

Church: Cwmavon | PRN: w1872 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

Vestry door tall, narrow, pointed head, chamfered, square cut stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Coping, cross

Ext: PO1

Openings:

E window has pointed head, 3 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows, both alike; triangula head, 2 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, wave and hollow chamfer

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays; 3 trusses with collars, curved Y-shaped struts, curved braces

Ceiling: Plastered in front of rafters

FLOOR

Type: E end encaustic tile, remainder carpetted; 1 step at chancel arch, 2 at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 18th century; 2 x 19th century; 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: E window Victorian; S windows both modern

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc: White marble reredos, plainly carved. Carved wooden panelling around E end

Altars/ tables: Base formed by 16th century altar-tomb with 12 named weepers; top of marble, in one with reredos.

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern, wooden

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Electric organ

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1872 C

Element

Church: Cwmavon | PRN: w1872 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings

2 windows, both alike; rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; segmental pointed rear arch

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Coping, coss

Ext: PO1

Openings

Main window has pointed head, 3 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch. Slit in gable with Bath stone dressings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext:

Openings

See nave N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Of one build with nave W wall. Coping

Ext: PO1

Openings

Main window has pointed head, 2 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch. Slit in gable with Bath stone dressings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with nave but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 5 bays; 6 trusses with collars, curved Y-shaped struts, curved braces

Ceiling: Plastered in front of rafters

FLOOR

Type: Vinyl tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: Victorian stained glass in E window

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Modern stone altar

Font etc: Cylindrical tub font

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low matchboarded backs, grained

Other features of interest: NW corner divided off by marchboarded partition short of eaves to form vestry

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century

12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1872 D

Element

Church: Cwmavon | PRN: w1872 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Mainly in coursed rubble in generally rather rounded blocks local sandstone; quoined by squared blocks same stone. Upper part of tower (belfry) in rather larger blocks yellow/brown sandstone with quoins of same. Jettied battlemented parapet in yellow brick

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 window (belfry) rectangular, 2 pointed lights; yellowish sandstone dressings, chamfered.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Mainly in coursed rubble in generally rather rounded blocks local sandstone; quoined by squared blocks same stone. Upper part of tower (belfry) in rather larger blocks yellow/brown sandstone with quoins of same. Jettied battlemented parapet in yellow brick

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Arch, see nave

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Mainly in coursed rubble in generally rather rounded blocks local sandstone; quoined by squared blocks same stone. Upper part of tower (belfry) in rather larger blocks yellow/brown sandstone with quoins of same. Jettied battlemented parapet in yellow brick

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 window (belfry) rectangular, 2 pointed lights; yellowish sandstone dressings, chamfered, partly renewed.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Mainly in coursed rubble in generally rather rounded blocks local sandstone; quoined by squared blocks same stone. Upper part of tower (belfry) in rather larger blocks yellow/brown sandstone with quoins of same. Jettied battlemented parapet in yellow brick

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 windows, 1 blocked door. Belfry has rectangular window, 2 pointed lights; yellowish sandstone dressings, chamfered. Door has pointed head, yellow sandstone dressings, chamfered. Window above is inserted; rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Spire

Roof, exterior appearance: Octagonal broach spire in yellow brick, divided into 3 stages by offset and string course; small pointed window on alternate sides of two lower stages

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

FLOOR

Type: Raised timber

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1872 J

Element

Church: Cwmavon | PRN: w1872 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has pointed head; dressings (if any) concealed behind plaster, chamfered, straight cut stops; hoodmould with plain stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Slit window with Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Coping, cross

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has pointed head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, straight cut stops; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Slit window with Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays; 3 trusses with collars, curved Y-shaped struts, curved braces

Ceiling: Plastered in front of rafters

FLOOR

Type: Encaustic tile

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Wooden benches against walls

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1872 L

Element

Church: Cwmavon | PRN: w1872 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has pointed head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Single light with pointed cinquefoiled head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings: Door, see chancel N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, not as regular as is usual with this type of masonry; quoined with sandstone ashlar with pecked finish.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Lean-to

Roof, exterior appearance: Against N wall of chancel; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

FLOOR

Type: Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1872 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Cwmavon | Church PRN: w1872 | Survey date: 04-06-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date: Tithe/1841

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Flat

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Mainly coused rubble, with railings in SE corner

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: S end E side

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path leads through graveyard parallel with S side church, then turns through 90 degrees opposite porch.

Secondary entrances (if any):

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Eavesdrip

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST JOHN BAPTIST'S CHURCH, GLYNCORRWG

NGR: SS 8742 9930

PRN: w0701

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Glyncorrwg

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L700 4538

SUMMARY

Glyncorrwg first appears in the documentary sources in 1574, but reference is made in this document to an earlier deed of 1519 in which the Abbot of Margam, as rector of Glyncorrwg leased out the tithes, altar dues and other emoluments (Clark 1910, 2080-2). Rees (1932, SE sheet) marks a chapel at Glyncorrwg, but as usual his sources are untraceable. The dedication is confirmed by Merrick (ed James 1983, 107). The churchyard is now irregular in shape with some curved boundaries, but appeared on the tithe map of 1847 as quadrangular (WGAS P/72/1); there is no real evidence to support a Norman foundation (*pace* Brown 1982, 14-5). The is no surviving churchyard cross.

The medieval church of Glyncorrwg had a continuous nave and chancel, with a W tower and S porch. There was a chancel arch, allegedly of 13th century date, and the chancel appears from a drawing apparently made before the roof was renewed in 1864 from the S and reproduced by Brown to have been roofed separately (cf Llangua, Gwent). This drawing shows a S porch, with a semicircular head to the door, between two windows, the eastern one with a shaped head beneath a square label and the western one, like the chancel window, a rectangular window of two lights with arched heads; the priest's door also had an arched head. By this date the church had lost its superstructure and was roofed continuously with the nave (Brown 1982, 13, 48, 65, 100). The repairs of 1864 involved the replacement of the roof, the addition of a vestry, the erection of a W gable-end bellcote and the replacement of some of the windows in Bath stone (Brown 1982, 96).

The church was completely rebuilt in 1905 on a much larger scale with a N aisle, and was nearly twice the length and width of the old church; Brown (1982, 48) reproduces a plan showing the two churches superimposed. The architect was E M Bruce Vaughan (Brown 1982, 101). The E window font and stoup were the only elements retained. The 16th century style window (incorrectly described as being of 15th century date: Brown 1982, 13, 105) was reset as the E window of the new vestry. The only medieval fittings retained are the font and a shallow and badly weathered stone bowl, believed to be the basin of a holy water stoup and now reset in a recess in the E wall of the porch.

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/72/CW/4	1813-93	Register of burials, with sketch of Glyncorrwg church c 1863
P/72/CW/71/1-32	nd (?c1906)	Architectural plans for rebuilding of Glyncorrwg church (consecrated 1907) (architect E M Bruce Vaughan FRIBA of Llandaff)

NLW

LL/F/333	1905	Faculty: Demolition of old church and erection of new and larger church
LL/F/335	1909	Faculty: New organ (confirmation)
LL/F/336	1909	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/337	1916	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/338	1928	Faculty: Stained glass window
Parish record 1	1754-1819	Churchwardens' accounts (to GlRO)

WGAS

P/72/1	1847	Tithe map
P/72/CW/1	1928	Terrier
P/72/CW/2	1953	Terrier
P/72/CW/3	1905	Citatory decree for rebuilding
P/72/CW/4-5	1909	Citatory decree and faculty for memorial stained glass window
P/72/CW/6	1916	Citatory decree and faculty for memorial stained glass window

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Glyncorrwg | Dedication: St John Baptist | PRN: w701 | Survey date: 15-05-97

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 115 | Chancel: +03

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [x]

D North aisle [x] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [ ] External stair turret [ ]

K Belicote [x] Position of tower/belicote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [x]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [x]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries: 12th [ ] 13th [ ] 13th/14th [ ] 14th [ ] 15th [ ] 15th/16th [ ] 16th [x] 17th [ ] 18th [ ] 19th [ ] 20th [x]

Appears completely rebuilt? [x]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade of 4 bays; 4-centred arches of 2 chamfered orders, supported on hexagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, between responds

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Coping, cross

Openings: Chancel arch wide and tall; 2-centred head around which 2 roll mouldings with fillets, supported on engaged shafts with moulded capitals and bases; Bath stone dressings, hoodmoulds with human head stops.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Buttress, continuation of E wall, has plinth crowned by Bath stone string course

Openings: 3 windows, 1 door. Windows all alike, except in details of tracery: pointed, 2 cinquefoiled lights, tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmoulds with human head stops. Door, see porch N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Central buttress; part way up wall, flanking outer edge of both windows, is a shallow pilaster in same masonry as rest of wall, crowned by block of Bath stone cut into a gable with a finial; moulded string course in Bath stone runs across pilasters, linking with hoodmoulds of windows and extending round buttress; at base pliasters linked by chamfered Bath stone sting course which runs under windows and around buttress, wall offset beneath this, and similar arrangement outside pilasters but slightly lower. In gable are two Bath stone pilasters on moulded corbels, linked by bands of Bath stone ashlar, and supporting bellcote.

Openings: 2 windows, both alike; pointed, 2 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmoulds with human head stops.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Battlemented wall plates

Ceiling: Barrel; panelled in angled profile and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Modern

Font etc: Medieval tub font; octagonal, with fillet around rim and another halfway down bowl, which is chamfered in below it; chamfered square foot

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian-style carved and panelled, but probably more recent

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low matchboared backs, plain ends

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference w0701 A

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Ext: PO1

Openings

1 window; 1 door; arch. Window high on external wall is rectangular with 1 cinquefoiled light and tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with cubical stops; rear arch has near-triangular head with hollow chamfer, elongated at bottom to near floor level. Organ arch pointed, chamfer and wave moulding; vestry door pointed with hollow chamfer; hoodmould of both join, and have human head stops at outer ends.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Datestone of 1905 mounted low on wall externally.

Ext: PO1

Openings

E window has 2-centred head with 3 cinquefoiled lights, middle one taller than others, tracery; Bath stone dressings, hoodmoulds with human head stops. Bath stone quatrefoil in gable

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Ext: PO1

Openings

2 windows, both alike; rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights, tracery; Bath stone dressings, hoodmoulds with human head stops; rear arch has near-triangular head with hollow chamfer.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Chancel arch, see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Battlemented wall plates

Ceiling: Barrel; panelled in angled profile and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile with inset glazed and encustic tiles; 2 steps at chancel arch, now concealed behind wooden dais projecting into nave, 2 sucessive steps at altar rail and 3 in E end

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: 3 wall tablets from earlier church, one 18th century, two 19th century

Stained glass: Victorian style, in E window dated 1906+, in N window 1924+

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc: Panelled reredos

Altars/ tables: Modern, panelled and carved

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Victorian; wrought iron standards

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: On S wall triple sedilia with cinquefoiled head to each seating. Stalls have carved backs and desk

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: w0701 C

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings: 4 windows, 1 door. Two middle windows each have 3 lights, and two outer windows have 2 lights, otherwise all alike: rectangular, trefoiled heads to lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmoulds with with plain stops; Door at W end has 2-centred head; Bath stone dressings, wave moulding; hoodmould with cubical stops

EAST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Wide archway to organ chamber has near-triangular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

SOUTH WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade, see nave

WEST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, pointed, 2 cinquefoiled lights, tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmoulds with cubical stops.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues N slope of roof; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 8 bays; principals have wall pieces and struts

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup: .

Rails/screen: Wooden panelled screen fills arch to organ chamber

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: No fixed furnishings
End of aisle partitioned off in line with W respond to form cupboard

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: w0701 D

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: Bellcote | Code: K

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Bath stone ashlar, with buttress, and moulded eaves cornice

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Bath stone ashlar, as upper part W side

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings: See W

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Bath stone ashlar, with buttress, and moulded eaves cornice

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric: Supported on either side by Bath stone ashlar pilasters with ogee-shaped gablets, rising from W gable of nave; a third, central pilaster rises from Bath stone ashlar band just below the moulded Bath stone string course marking division of nave from bellcote. Between pilaster filled in with same sandstone masonry as walls up to bottom of bell-openings. Above openings all in Bath stone ashlar, with moulding running in segmental arch between gablets, with crest at centre. Quatrefoil piered between heads of bell-openings

Int:

Ext: PO1

Openings: 2 openings defined at sides by pilasters; flattened ogee/tefoiled heads

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Hipped

Roof, exterior appearance: Tall hipped roof in Bath stone; metal cross

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling:

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: 2 bells

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: w0701 K

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses

Int: PO1

Ext:

Openings: Door has pointed head; Bath stone dressings, 2 orders of cavetto; hoodmould with foliage stops

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins; plinth crowned by Bath stone string course; Bath stone chamfered eaves cornice. Buttresses see S wall

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, rectangular, single cinquefoiled light, elongated pierced spandrels; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins; plinth crowned by Bath stone string course; Bath stone chamfered eaves cornice. Diagonal buttresses. Coping, cross. Blind quatrefoil in apex.

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has 2-centred head; Bath stone dressings, 2 orders of wave moulding round head, dying at sping of arch into single chamfer of jambs, pumpkin stops; hoodmould with foliage stops

WEST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins; plinth crowned by Bath stone string course; Bath stone chamfered eaves cornice. Buttresses see S wall

Int: PO1

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, rectangular, single cinquefoiled light, elongated pierced spandrels; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, sissors braced

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Tile

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup: At N end of E wall triangular opening left in wall; irregular shallow worn stoup basin mounted in base

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: w0701 L

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: Organ chamber | Code: O

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, pointed, 2 cinquefoiled lights, tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmoulds with human head stops

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Only very small section visible externally

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door to vestry has square head

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Brickwork visible at top, where plaster has come away

Int: PO/P 1-3

Ext:

Openings: Arch to chancel, see chancel N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric: Outer face in squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins (only very small section wall visible externally. Section visible internally where plaster has come away is in coursed rubble,

Int: PO/P 1-3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Arch to N aisle, see N aisle E

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; panelled in angled profile and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Organ

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: w0701 | O

Element

Church: Glyncorrwg | PRN: w0701 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window; rectangular; trefoiled heads to lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmoulds with plain stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, 2 doors. Window is 16th century, reset; rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred heads, recessed spandrels; grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; relieving arch. Door at vestry level has Caernarvon arch head, elaborated with carving; Bath stone dressings, chamfered. Basement door has segmental-pointed head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings: Door to chancel, see chancel

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues E slope of organ chamber roof; meatomorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☒ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: w0701 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Glyncorrwg | Church PRN: w0701 | Survey date: 15-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Irregular | First map type/date: Tithe/1847

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Slopes up from S to N

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: SW corner

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Single gate at w end from schoolroom site

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance?: None apparent

Burials, points of interest: No burials noted to N of church (no room between church and stream)

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparant. Soakaway around base of walls

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: To W of church is old schoolroom site on higher level; now used as car park

ST TYFODWG'S CHURCH, LLANDYFODWG

NGR: SS 9565 8722

PRN: m0923

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Ogmore Valley

DEANERY: Rhondda

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L062 3983

SUMMARY

The church of Llandyfodwg appears in the documentary sources in 1291 (Green 1907, 73), but it has a Celtic dedication to St Tyfodwg, confirmed by Merrick (ed James1983, 100), and may have been associated with a trackway used in the Early Christian period; a pre-Norman foundation is therefore likely (RCAHMW, 1976, 4), especially since the churchyard is partly curvilinear. To judge from its appearance on the map, the present churchyard is probably only the eastern half of an originally larger enclosure.

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, W tower with a staircase in the thickness of the N wall, S porch, and a rood stair in the corner of the nave and chancel on the N side of the building. The main fabric of the walls is in Pennant sandstone; pale grey limestone and sandstone were used for the dressings of the remaining pre-Victorian openings, as far as can be ascertained (most of them are well above head height), with Bath stone used for the dressings of the openings in the first campaign of Victorian restoration, and a very coarse gritty light grey limestone freestone in the second.

The walls of the nave and porch are basically medieval, with an internal batter in the nave; the use of excess mortar on the walls of the chancel make these difficult to assess, but they are probably also medieval. The only surviving medieval architectural feature visible at the time of the survey was the lower rood stair door, which is canted across the NW corner of the chancel. No other evidence, either structural or documentary, survives for a loft, apart from a small blocked window at the E end of the S wall of the nave which is set in the lower half of the wall; no traces survive of the corresponding window in the upper half of the wall to the loft, but the wall at this point has been completely rebuilt. Headroom for a loft would not have been generous, but lofts are known in even more cramped situations (eg Llangovan, Gwent). The N wall of the chancel appears to have had an opening (?a door) with a deep internal splay on its W side, immediately to the E of the rood stair, but not enough of this can be seen to allow for further comment. Since the survey was carried out, restoration works on the tower have revealed the original arched head to the W doorway with two cushion capitals, dated by the architect, Mr Bird of Caroe and Partners, to c 1190 (*ex inf* incumbent).

The door and datable windows in the tower are of 16th century type; it is not clear whether the tower itself is of earlier date, since none of the dressings of its original archway to the nave are visible, and the irregular semicircular head does not provide any useful information. The SW chancel window is 17th century. The church is shown on the tithe map of 1842 (GlRO P/94/2) as being cruciform, possibly indicating a vestry to the N of the nave, but it is not certain whether this is a conventional representation rather than a true plan. There were two major Victorian restorations (Newman 1995, 381). The nave walls were partially rebuilt or refaced and all its openings renewed in the 1870s (architect John Prichard). Most of the openings in the chancel date to the restoration of 1893-4 (architect G E Halliday); they closely resemble those of the neighbouring church at Llangeinor, restored at the same time by the same architect for the same patron (Miss Olive Talbot), particularly the priest's door which is almost identical, but it is difficult to determine how much of the fabric of the walls was rebuilt or refaced. Restoration work was carried out on the tower at the same time (NLW LL/F 401), but this was less intrusive.

The most striking object in the church is a bas-relief carved slab of a pilgrim, generally dated to the 14th century and unusually embellished with symbols of pilgimages to Jerusalem, Rome and Santiago; Butler (1971, 400) considers it to be the product of a local craftsman. Merrick (ed James 1983, 100) records a tradition that the person commemorated was one Dafydd ap Fychan. The font is also medieval, but the other internal fittings are Victorian or later, with the possible exception of a table now in the nave which may have served as a communion table.

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/94/2	1842	Tithe map

NLW

LL/F 400	1823	Faculty: Stopping up entrance to churchyard
LL/F 401	1892	Faculty: Reconstruction of chancel and tower
LL/F 402	1934	Faculty: Reredos and panelling

NMR

Kay (various dates) 4 ser IX 115-6

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Llandyfodwg | Dedication: St Tyfodwg | PRN: m0923 | Survey date: 14-07-97

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 90 | Chancel: 90

B Chancel, integral [ ] | Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

C Chancel, separate [x] | Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ] | Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

E South aisle [ ] | Centuries: 12th [ ]

F North transept [ ] | 13th [ ]

G South transept [ ] | 13th/14th [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ] | 14th [ ]

I Crossing [ ] | 15th [ ]

J Tower [x] External stair turret [ ] | 15th/16th [ ]

K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W | 16th [x]

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ] | 17th [x]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position: | 18th [ ]

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position: | 19th [x]

O Organ chamber [ ] | 20th [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [ ] | Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ] | Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [x] Position stairs: N of chancel | Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] | Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [x] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church	Llandyfodwg	PRN	m0923	Element type	Nave	Code	A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Vestry at W end

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Lower two-thirds of wall in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone, no seqparate quoins. Upper one-third and around all windows in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Slight, irregular batter at base. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. Internal batter.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

3 windows, all alike, Victorian; pairs of trefoiled lancets; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Lower half of wall to S of chancel in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins. Rest of wall in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Coping, cross

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

Chancel arch fairly low and narrow, pointed head; dressings painted, chamfered, run-out stops; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Lower part of wall to W of porch, increasing E of porch to roughly two-thirds at SW corner, in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins; includes high proportion of narrow blocks to W of porch. Upper part of wall and around all windows in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone, with larger square blocks at intervals, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. At W end two memorials have been built into external face of wall, 1 x 18th century, other probably contemporary but has lost most of its surface. Slight internal batter.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

3 windows, 1 blocked window, 1 door. Windows all alike, except that E-most and W-most are pairs of trefoiled lancets and cental window is a triplet of trefoiled lancets; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; all Victorian. Blocked window to E of present windows, small, set fairly low in wall; no dressings survive except for sill (which seems to have been reused since it has two small square mortices on outer face), but shape indicates pointed head; blocked by same narrow squared blocks as used in upper part of wall. Door, see porch N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Lower half of wall to N of tower in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins. All of rest of wall in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Slight, irregular batter at base. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. Internal batter.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

Door to tower has pointed head; dressing painted, chamfered

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples with collars and no braces

Ceiling: Boarded at level of collars

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile, timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 2 x 17th-18th century; 1 x 19th century; 3 x 20th century. Flat slab in floor

Stained glass: Middle N window; 1971+

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: ?early 19th century table by door ?previously used as communion table

Font etc: Octagonal font with roll moulding at lip and another at junction between vertical side and chamfered underside; splayed stem with pyramid stops

Piscina:

Stoup: Small modern stoup mounted on wall to W of door

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; wooden, panelled and carved

Lectern/ reading desk: Wooden eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Backed benches

Other features of interest: W end partitioned off by panelled wooden and glass partition not rising as far as eaves, 1929+. Organ in SE corner, 2 pianos, harmonium

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0923 A

Element

Church: Llandyfodwg | PRN: m0923 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Much obscured by mortar - walls coursed rubble, but it is not possible to determine anything else; small amount of rebuilding in narrow squared blocks sandstone at eaves. Bath stone kneeler. Straight joint to visible externally to E of rood stair projection - this may be connected with recess of triangular plan visible internally to E of rood stair door, which looks as though it is the W spay to an opening terminating against ?a blocking the full thickness of the wall at its E side. Internally NW corner canted for rood stair. 3 corbels for roof.

Ext: PO2

Openings:

Lower rood stair door has pointed head; fine-grained grey ?limestone dressings, chamfered, bullnosed stops; uper half of jambs recut with rebate

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed narrow blocks Penant sandstone; batter at base appears to have been intended to have been below ground level. Coping, cross. Internally tall thin niche for statue at N side

Ext: PO2

Openings:

E window has 2-centred pointed head, 3 ogee/cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; coarse pale grey limestone dressings, hollow chamfer, cavetto frame; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Wall in coursed narrow blocks of Pennat sandstone; upper part of wall appears to have been rebuilt, but too obscured by mortar to determine any detail. Internally 3 corbels for roof

Ext: PO2

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. E-most window rectangular, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights; coarse pale grey limestone dressings, hollow chamfer; Victorian. W-most window rectangular, 2 rectangular lights; fine-grained grey sandstone dressings, chamfered; Victorian relieving arch; segmental rear arch. Door has pointed head; coarse pale grey limestone dressings, 2 continuous orders separated by cavetto, hollow chamfer outer order, ovalo and hollow chamfer inner order; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch, segmental pointed rear arch.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate (small thick hand-cut type)

Roof and other structural timbers: 3 bays; 3 trusses with collars and curved braces

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including flat slabs; 1 step at chancel arch, 3 at altar rails

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 18th century, 1 x 19th century. Flat slabs include medieval carved slab 'pilgrim stone' with low relief effigy

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later; wooden panelled

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Victorian; wrought iron standards

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Marchboarded backs, carved ends

Other features of interest: Monumental scupture: Medieval 'pilgrim stone' in floor

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0923 C

Element

Church: Llandyfodwg | PRN: m0923 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

Fabric

Int: R3

Coursed rubble in irregular, mainly narrow, blocks Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins; much obscured by mortar. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table; rebuilt in narrow squared blocks sandstone

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

NORTH WALL

1 window, 1 door. Belfry window is rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped semicircular heads, recessed spandrels; grey dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops; louvres. Internal door to stair has segmental head; dressings, if any, concealed behind render of walls

Fabric

Int: R3

Coursed rubble in irregular, mainly narrow, blocks Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins; much obscured by mortar. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table; rebuilt in narrow squared blocks sandstone

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

EAST WALL

1 window, arch. Belfry window is rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped semicircular heads, recessed spandrels; grey dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops; louvres. Arch to nave on this side (nave door is built into E side of arch) has irregular near-semicircular head; dressings, if any, concealed behind render of walls

Fabric

Int: R3

Coursed rubble in irregular, mainly narrow, blocks Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins. Patched, especially from lowest window to top of window above - this part has been refaced using generally larger blocks in body of wall and SW quoin. At W end of wall is an area of facing separated from main body of wall by straight joint at W side (just E of W corner) and less regular joint at E side, just W of slit window; this seems more likely to be refacing than blocked door. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table; rebuilt in narrow squared blocks sandstone

Ext: PO1

Openings

SOUTH WALL

4 windows. Belfry window is rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped semicircular heads, recessed spandrels; grey dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops; louvre to one light, other glazed. Below this is single square light with similar grey dressings, chamfered. Below is window of same type as belfry: rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped semicircular heads, recessed spandrels; grey dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops. At bottom is slit; similar grey dressings, chamfered.

Fabric

Int: R3

Coursed rubble in irregular, mainly narrow, blocks Pennant sandstone, no separate quoins. Patched. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table; rebuilt in narrow squared blocks sandstone

Ext: PO1

Openings

WEST WALL

1 window, 1 door. Belfry window is rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped semicircular heads, recessed spandrels; grey dressings, hollow chamfer; louvred; hoodmould with cross on stops. Door has triangular head and rounded haunches; grey sandstone dressings, chamfered.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Saddleback

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

FLOOR

Type: Concrete; 1 step down from nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: 3 bells

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☒ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0923 J

Element

Church: Llandyfodwg | PRN: m0923 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO/L 1/2

Mainly in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone with occasional larger squared blocks, as upper part S wall of nave. Small section at either end in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone.

Ext:

Openings

Door has 2-centred head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, square-cut stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Largely obscured by mortar, but lower part appears to be in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone, with two courses of larger blocks at top; upper part under eaves in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone; quoined with squared blocks. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Lower part of wall in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone; upper part in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone; quoined with squared blocks. Slight, irregular batter at base. Coping, cross.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

Door tall, pointed; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, run-out stops

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Largely obscured by mortar, but lower part appears to be in roughly coursed rubble in Pennant sandstone; upper part under eaves in neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone; quoined with squared blocks. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile with central stone section

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Sloup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest: Sundial over external door

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0923 L

Element

Church: Llandyfodwg | PRN: m0923 | Element type: Rood stair | Code: R

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar.

Int: PO2

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Neatly coursed narrow squared blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar.

Int: PO2

Ext: PO2

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Internally in coursed rubble.

Int: PO2

Ext:

Openings: Door, see chancel N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric: Internally in coursed rubble.

Int: PO2

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continuation of N side chancel roof; metamorphic slate (small thick hand-cut type)

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Corbelled

Type: Stone

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0923 R

CHURCHYARD

Church: Llandyfodwg | Church PRN: m0923 | Survey date: 14-07-97

Shape, plan (present): Partly cuvilinear | First map type/date: 1842

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Slopes up slightly from SW to NE

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☒ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble wall, partly embanked internally on S and E sides and part of N

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: E

Main entrance, description: Single gate; path directly to secondary entrance with branch to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any): W side; double gates

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; drains run E-W along N side of church and N-S just W of tower. Drains were being renewed during site visit; nothing of archaeological interest was noted in cuttings

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: Churchyard has now been extended into area to S of original churchyard, to which boundaries remain in situ.

ST CYNWYD'S CHURCH, LLANGYNWYD

NGR: SS 8575 8884

PRN: m0910

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 11243

COMMUNITY: Llangynwd Middle

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L067 3987

SUMMARY

Llangynwyd church first appears in the documentary sources in 1173 as a chapel belonging to Tewkesbury Abbey (Crouch 1988, 28-31), but the placename probably indicates a pre-Norman site, though the dedication is not confirmed by Merrick, who describes it only as 'a parish church of that name [Llangynwyd]' (Merrick ed James 1983, 102). Less certain as an indication of early date is Early Christian monument of Class G which survives in the porch, since this type has a date-range of 9th-12th century (PRN120m; RCAHMW 1976, 68 no 988). The churchyard is now partly curvilinear and forms an island separated from the adjoining area by streets (cf Llanelli, Gwent), but it is shown on the tithe map of 1842 (GlRO P/82/27) as quadrangular; an extension across the road to the E was added in 1859, and this has subsequently been enlarged (Richards 1982, 72-3). The churchyard cross does not survive. Holy wells, Ffynnon Fair and Ffynnon Gynwyd (PRN 121m) are reported, the former lying some 300m from the church and the latter to the NE (Jones 1954, 182, 183).

The church consists of nave with no windows in the N wall, separate chancel, W tower with vaulted basement and an outshot stair turret, S porch, and rood stairs against the N side of the nave; the rood loft does not survive. Most of its exterior is built, or possibly refaced, in local sandstone mainly, though with a little limestone, with the blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses, in a less refined version of the technique which is similar to that used in the majority of Victorian churches in the area, but is not possible to determine whether it dates to this period. The tower with its stair turret, and an addition to the W end of the nave, are in coursed rubble of narrow blocks of the same sandstone. The dressings of the medieval openings are in Sutton stone except for the W door and possibly the belfry lights; a pale-coloured sandstone was used for the Victorian dressings.

The tithe map shows the church as being of cruciform shape, with the addition of a S porch. Possibly there may have been a vestry room built on the S side opposite the rood stair to form the other arm of the cross, but a painting on glass made before the restoration in 1891-3 shows no sign of such a structure. The earliest surviving feature is the Early English priest's door; another fragment of Early English moulding survives, now built into the wall of the porch but not necessarily from there originally. The N and S windows of the chancel are of 14th century date, and the unusual circular cusped windows on either side of the chancel arch probably also belong to this date; it is possible that their unusual elaboration is connected with the important shrine of the rood known to have existed at Llangynwyd (Cowley 1971, 164). There is little to date the tower, but it is unlikely to be significantly earlier, if the W door is original. To judge from the position of the original door and the difference in batter between the E and W ends of the S wall of the nave, the nave was lengthened before it was added. The tower itself is of unusual form, with one main stage, but two narrow stages at the top above the level of the belfry lights, and a double plinth.

The painting of the unrestored church from the S shows three windows in the nave to the E of the porch as now, but that they were of plain rectangular form, presumably of the 17th or early 18th century. A large E window is shown in the chancel but not with sufficient clarity to provide any detail. The porch is shown with an unusual cross roof, and there was some sort of structure to the W of the tower. The main restoration, in 1891-3 (architect G E Halliday: Newman, 387), provided new windows to the nave, a new chancel arch, new E window in the chancel and W window in the tower, with other minor modifications to existing openings. Other campaigns of restoration took place in 1913 and 1931 (NLW LL/F/416, 420).

The church retains its medieval font, and some unusual massive early settle-type pews. There is also a large collection of post-medieval wall tablets. Otherwise all the internal fittings are Victorian or later, though there

is a late 17th century sundial on the nave wall. There are six bells, four of 1730 and two of 1786 (Richards 1982, 76-7).

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO		
P/82/27	1842	Tithe map
P/82/CW/7/1-2	nd (c ?1920)	Graveyard surveys: 'old churchyard' (1) graves c 1776-1920; 'new churchyard' (2) c 1859-c1920
P/82/CW/8	nd	Indices to graveyard surveys
NLW		
LL/F/416	1913	Faculty: Restoration and rebuilding of church
LL/F/420	1931	Faculty: Restoration and repair of church
Parish record 1	1826-90	Churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes
WGAS		
D/D Ma 261/1-4	1842	Tithe map

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Llangynwyd | Dedication: St Cynwyd | PRN: m0910 | Survey date: 15-05-97

Orientation nave: 90 | Chancel: 90

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [ ]
C Chancel, separate [X]
D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [ ]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [X] External stair turret [X]
K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [X] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [ ]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]
R Rood stairs/loft [X] Position stairs: N of nave
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [X]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [X]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [X]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [X]
18th [ ]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]
Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [X] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]
Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]
Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:
ECM [X] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Llangynwyd | PRN: m0910 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses; at W end extension by tower (to W of kneeler, which is a plain trapezoidal block) all in narrow blocks, no quoins at this end, except for a few isolated blocks sandstone; at NE corner quoined in squared blocks ?Sutton stone, with moulded kneeler. Internally slight batter. 7 brackets, with shields, to support roof timbers.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

2 windows, 2 rood stair doors (both between windows). Windows both have ogee/trefoiled lancet; segmenatl-pointed head to rear arch, chamfered; E-most has Sutton stone dressings head and sill renewed in sandstone; W-most dressings sandstone ?all renewed. Lower rood stair door has 2-centred head, chamfered, straight-cut stops, dressings partly renewed. Upper door is plain rectangular opening with ?ashlar quoins, renewed stone lintel and sill

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses. Coping, cross. Chimney with moulded octagonal pot above N side of gable.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Chancel arch, 2 windows. Chancel arch has v wide 2-centred almost semicircular head, 2 orders of wave moulding round head, inner supported on brackets consisting of colonettes with foliage capitals carried on human head corbels; outer order continous chamfer with pyramid stops; Victorian. On either side of head is a circlet inscibed with a quatrefoil, now somewhat mutilated.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses; quoined (both ends) with squared blocks Sutton stone; kneelers as N wall. To E of porch battered base, interrupted by blocked door; to W of porch slight continuous batter. W end of wall of one build with stair turret. Internally 7 brackets, with shields, to support roof timbers. Sundial dated 1686 set between windows to W of porch.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

5 windows, 1 door, 1 blocked door. To E are door are 3 rectangular windows; middle with 3 lights, outer ones with 2; lights of all windows have ogee/trefoiled heads, elaborately cusped pierced spandrels; fawn sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with human head stops; segmental-pointed rear arches with foliage carving; Victorian. To W of door 2 windows both alike; cinquefoiled lancet; fawn sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with human head stops; cavetto round head of rear arch. Door, see porch. Blocked door represented by interruption of batter, which is quoined on W jamb by squared blocks Sutton stone and on E by sandstone.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Tower arch, door. Tower arch is tall; 2-centred head with 2 orders of chamfer. Door to turret at S has near triangular head and rounded haunches; chamfered, ?bullnosed stops (rather eroded, could possibly be keeled stops)

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 6 bays, 7 trusses with kingposts and slightly curved collars, curved braces, long wall pieces, bosses

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone; woodblock under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☒

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 2 x 17th century, 2 x 18th century, 4 x 19th century, 6 x 20th century. Also two large cross slabs mounted on W wall, v similar in style to one of the 17th century wall tablets.

Stained glass: SE window 20th century; other windows have simple painted motifs

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Octagonal tub font standing on square base with straight-cut stops

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Low wrought-iron screen at chancel arch, matching altar rail

Pulpit: Victorian; carved wooden

Lectern/ reading desk: Victorian; brass and wrought iron

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: At rear of church are 3 early pews (not box-type) with plain square ends constructed from single thick planks with simple fillet around edges; appear cut down. Other pews are Victorian type backed benches.

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☒ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0910 A

Element

Church: Llangynwyd | PRN: m0910 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Moulded kneeler. Internally cornice with foliage carving. Low on wall is larged carved bracket ?for use as credence table.

Ext: L/PO 1

Openings

1 window, rectangular, 2 lights with entirely renewed ogee trefoiled heads with recessed spandrels; sandstone dressing, partly renewed; Victorian rear arch with cavetto round head.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Coping, cross. 4 corbels support roof.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings

E window has 2-centred head, 3 ogee/cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; sandstone dressings, roll mouldings, cavetto round frame; hoodmould with human head stops, relieving arch

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses; no separate quoins. Battered base. Moulded kneeler. Memorial stone in Welsh set into external face. Internally cornice with foliage carving.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings

2 windows, 1 door. E-most window consists of pair of ogee/trefoiled lancets; dressings mainly grey sandstone but with a block of Sutton stone in one jamb, chamfer; Victorian rear arch with cavetto round head. W-most window is single ogee/trefoiled lancet; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered, hollw chamfer on outer face; shape of head partly renewed in cement. Priest's door has 2-centred head, continous roll moulding with fillet: Sutton stone corbel over head, but too eroded to tell details

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Chancel arch, see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 3 bays, trusses have kingposts and slightly curved collars, curved braces, long wall pieces, bosses

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters except for E end, which has barrel ceiling

FLOOR

Type: Encaustic tile, woodblock under seats. 1 step at chancel arch, 1 step at altar rail, 3 steps in E end.

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 19th century. Floor has one reset 18th century flat slab (Maid of Cefn Ydfa), and two small brass plaques commemorating 18th century burials, but probably inserted when floor relaid in 19th century

Stained glass: E window, Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc: carved and panelled reredos

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina: Little marble pillar piscina with foliage capital - not original

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Victorian; wrought iron standards

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Matchboarded backs

Other features of interest: two pieces of loose sculpture (wheel cross and trefoil finial); Victorian

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☒ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☒ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0910 C

Element

Church: Llangynwyd | PRN: m0910 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2

Coursed rubble, mainly in narrow blocks local sandstone; quoined to height equivalent to springing of W window with squared blocks Sutton stone; no separate quoins above this level, or to lower plinth. Double plinth at base of wall, lower section battered with sandstone chamfered string course at top, upper vertical and crowned by wave-moulded sandstone string course. Above plinth, main part of tower forms single stage to a point above belfry windows, then top of tower has 2 additional narrow stages each defined by offset and plain string course, upper stage forming battlemented parapet. Carved and crocketted corner pinnacles.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

2 windows. Belfry has pair of lights with blind trefoiled heads; ?sandstone dressings, relieving arch. Below is slit with Bath stone dressings.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2

Coursed rubble, mainly in narrow blocks local sandstone; quoined to height equivalent to springing of W window with squared blocks Sutton stone; no separate quoins above this level. Mainly single stage to a point above belfry windows, then top of tower has 2 additional narrow stages each defined by offset and plain string course, upper stage forming battlemented parapet. Carved and crocketted corner pinnacles.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

1 window, arch. Belfry has pair of lights with blind trefoiled heads; ?sandstone dressings, relieving arch. Arch to nave, see nave W wall.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2

Coursed rubble, mainly in narrow blocks local sandstone; quoined to height equivalent to springing of W window with squared blocks Sutton stone; no separate quoins above this level, or to lower plinth. Double plinth at base of wall, lower section battered with sandstone chamfered string course at top, upper vertical and crowned by wave-moulded sandstone string course. Above plinth, main part of tower forms single stage to a point above belfry windows, then top of tower has 2 additional narrow stages each defined by offset and plain string course, upper stage forming battlemented parapet. Carved and crocketted corner pinnacles. Outshot turret W end continuous with nave wall to nave eaves, above which reduced in plan by weathering.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

5 windows. Belfry has pair of lights with blind trefoiled heads; ?sandstone dressings, relieving arch. Below is slit with Bath stone dressings. Below this, just above plinth, is rectangular window with pair of rectangular lights; sandstone dressings. TURRET has two slits; sandstone dressings.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2

Coursed rubble, mainly in narrow blocks local sandstone; quoined to height equivalent to springing of W window with squared blocks Sutton stone; no separate quoins above this level, or to lower plinth. Double plinth at base of wall, lower section battered with sandstone chamfered string course at top, upper vertical and crowned by wave-moulded sandstone string course. Above plinth, main part of tower forms single stage to a point above belfry windows, then top of tower has 2 additional narrow stages each defined by offset and plain string course, upper stage forming battlemented parapet. Carved and crocketted corner pinnacles.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

2 windows. Belfry has pair of lights with blind trefoiled heads; ?sandstone dressings, relieving arch. Door has 2-centred head, ?sandstone dressings, wave moulding, grooved countersunk stops; hoodmould with plain stops. Window above has 2-centred head, 4 cinquefoiled lights, tracery; sandstone dressings, chamfered; human head stops; relieving arch; Victorian

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers: Segmental vault (E-W). large oculus in middle with Sutton stone dressings.

Ceiling: Unplastered

Type: Stone; 5 steps above nave

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 5 x 18th century, 2 x 19th century, 1 illegible, and 4 mounted too high to read from ground level.

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest: 6 bells

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☒ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0910 J

Element

Church: Llangynwyd | PRN: m0910 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric — Int: L/PO 1/2; Ext:

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses. Battered base.

Openings

Door has wide 2-centred head; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered, bullnosed stops.

EAST WALL

Fabric — Int: L/PO 1/2; Ext: L/PO 1/2

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses. Buttress, see S wall. Kneeler with foliage carving. Built into outer face of wall is wall tablet, now illegible. Built into inner surface of wall is a nich containing a sandstone column base; ECM clamped to inner surface

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric — Int: L/PO 1/2; Ext: L/PO 1/2

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses. Diagonal buttresses quoined with pale grey/fawn sandstone; string course of same sandstone at top. Over door niche with nodding ogee head, base formed by foliage bracket supported by crest of hoodmould.

Openings

Door has 2-centred head of 3 orders (wave, roll/fillet, cavetto with carved foliage and shields); pale grey/fawn sandstone dressings; crocketed hoodmould with foliage stops, crest at apex supports niche.

WEST WALL

Fabric — Int: L/PO 1/2; Ext: L/PO 1/2

Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses. Buttress, see S wall. Kneeler with foliage carving. 3 architectural fragments built into inner surface of wall: roll moulding with fillet, from ?base of door; bullnosed stop; base of arrow loop

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays, 3 trusses with collars and arched braces

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

Type: Stone

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats: Benches built into walls

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0910 L

Element

Church: Llangynwyd | PRN: m0910 | Element type: Rood stair | Code: R

Different/additional use (previous use in bracket(s)):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2 — Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses, quoined large squared blocks Sutton stone.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2 — Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses, quoined large squared blocks Sutton stone.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2

Ext:

Openings: 2 doors, see nave N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: L/PO 1/2 — Local sandstone rubble, with a little limestone mainly in larger blocks, blocks crudely squared and laid in snecked courses, quoined large squared blocks Sutton stone.

Ext: L/PO 1/2

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues nave roof, N slope; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Continues nave timbers

Ceiling: None

Type: Concrete

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Straight flight of stairs from W to E

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0910 R

CHURCHYARD

Church: Llangynwyd | Church PRN: m0910 | Survey date: 15-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Partly curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1842

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Slopes down from N to S

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: Double gates

Main entrance, description: S side; path directly to church

Secondary entrances (if any): Double gates middle of E side
Narrow opening NW corner

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent. Deep trench round N side

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: 'Island' site. Now appears full; burials being made in extension to E on other side of road.

CHURCH OF SS ILLTYD, GWYNNO AND DYFODWG, LLANTRISANT

NGR: ST 0465 8342

PRN: m0607

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Llantrisant

DEANERY: Pontypridd

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L074 4008

SUMMARY

The church at Llantrisant is a pre-Norman foundation, and has produced an Early Christian grave slab of Class C (PRN 608m) dated to 7th-9th centuries, which was formerly built into the walls (RCAHMW 1976, 43 no 888). It appears in the documentary sources in 1254 (Lunt (ed) 1926, 316). The churchyard is largely curvilinear. The churchyard cross does not survive

The church consists of nave; separate, weeping chancel; N and S aisles; W tower; N and S porches; and a vestry added in the angle between the chancel and the N aisle, accessible from the latter. There is no evidence for a rood loft. The building is constructed from Pennant sandstone.

Before its restoration in 1874, the church is known to have arcades of semicircular arches turned in voussoirs, rising from cylindrical piers with narrow abaci, and a chancel arch described by Glynne as being 'low but rather acutely Pointed' (Anon, 1871, 38; Glynne 1901, 268); the chancel arch however appears as low and obtuse-angled on two drawings, made before restoration and now displayed in the church, one of which is reproduced by Lewis (1966, 20). Now only the long walls of the chancel and the outer wall of the N aisle, all of which are battered internally, retain any evidence that the church predated the Perpendicular period. The tower has the same combination of uncusped Tudor windows in the belfry with a single large pyramid stop between two orders on the chancel arch as appears in the belfry lights and W door at Newcastle. The outer door of the S porch suggests a 17th date for the building or rebuilding of this porch, and if the treatment of the lower part of the wall of the S nave, which is provided with a similar plinth to the porch, can be used to suggest that they were built at the same time (the masonry on this side of the church is too obscured by mortar to assess the junction), the S aisle may also have been constructed in the 17th century, particularly since Glynne (1902, 270) noted that 'the windows are mostly debased'. The inner door is also of a form not inconsistent with this hypothesis. The aisle in fact appears to postdate the tower entirely since not only does the aisle's W wall abut the quoin of SE buttress of the tower, but the N half of this wall internally is canted, as though the buttress has been used as the W end of the aisle. This suggests either that the S aisle was originally shorter, or that the Norman church had only a N aisle, and that the S aisle was added to match in the 17th century.

The two major phases of Victorian restoration took place in 1874, architect J Pritchard, and in 1894, architects Seddon and Carter (Newman 1995, 401). The former consisted of the reconstruction of the nave arcades and the refenestration of nave, aisles and chancel, the latter of work on the tower, including the insertion of a new W door, and possibly also the rebuilding of the N porch, since the stone used for its dressings is the same as that in the W door. All the roofs, with the exception of that of the S porch, were replaced at some time in the 19th century, and the vestry was added.

Besides the Early Christian monument noted above, the church contains a weathered medieval effigy of a man, believed to be one of the lords of Meisgyn, now mounted on the outer wall of the N aisle; before the 1874 restoration it lay in a recumbent position to the E of the altar. There are also a number of wall tablets from the 18th century onwards. The font is medieval, with chip-carving on the bowl like that on the fonts of Llanharry and Pyle, but in overall design as well as technique it is most closely akin to the stoup of Penderyn church; this font is dated by Butler (1971, 392-4) to the 13th century and by Newman (1995, 401) to the 15th century. The other internal fittings are Victorian or later. Brandwood (1990, 431) describes an immersion baptistry under the tower; this was not apparent at the time of the field visit; presumably the timber section of the floor (concealed under a carpet) forms its cover. There is a ring of eight bells. Six of these are dated 1718 (Wright i 63; 1941b, 182) with inscriptions as follows:

1. PROSPERITY TO THOSE THAT LOVE GOOD BELLS :EE🔔 1718
2. GLORIA DEO IN EXCELSIS PAX IN TERRIS :EE🔔 1718
3. FLOREAT ECCLESIA ANGLICANA CONTRA PAP:ET FANATICOS:EE🔔 1718 (RECAST 1893)
4. MORGAN DAVID EVAN MORGAN CH:WARDENS :EE🔔 1718
5. IACOBVS HARRIES SACER.THEOLOG.BACC.VIC :EE🔔 1718
6. RICHARDVS IENKINS DE HENSOL ARMIGER :EE🔔 ANNO DOMINI 1718

These are known to have been cast on the spot, since parts of the furnace used in their casting was found in 1894 below the floor of the tower (presumably when the immersion baptistry was being dug), together with debris from the casting, which included the mould of one of the present bells and another of more cylindrical shape; there was also a burial in this area (Antiquary 1894, 323). Two further bells were added in 1926 (Lewis 1966, 21).

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

D/DX/i	nd	Photographs
P/62/1	1825-68	Churchwardens' accounts
P/62/2	1866, 1868	Details of church repairs
P/62/3	1759-72/1781	Vestry minutes and account
P/62/4-7	1771-1815; 1861-97	Vestry minutes
P/62/8/1-4	1862	Draft vestry minutes
P/62/9	1872-3/1879/1921	Vestry correspondence
P/62/64	1840	Tithe plan

NLW

LL/F/463	1892	Faculty: Restoration of tower and improvements in church
LL/F/465	1920	Faculty: Reredos and panelling
Parish record 3	1862-1953	Vestry minutes

NMR

Kay (various) 1 ser II 250-3, 256-8; 2 ser IV 773-5; V 961

NMGW

Wright (various) i 63

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Llantrisant | Dedication: SS Illtyd, Gwynno and Dyfodwg | PRN: m0607 | Survey date: 12-03-98

A Nave [x] | Orientation nave: 80 | Chancel: 85

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [ ]

D North aisle [x] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [x]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [x] External stair turret [x]

K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: N S Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: | Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] Duplicated elements: L

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [x]
16th [x]
17th [x]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [x] Location(s): S porch

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade of 5 bays; arches pointed, 2 double chamfer; rise form alternately cylinidrical and octagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, between similar responds; Bath stone; Victorian.

EAST WALL

Fabric: What little visible is in coursed rubble in sandstone.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Chancel arch tall, wide, pointed head; 2 orders of chamfer; outer continuous down S pier and dying into pier at N side, piers have pyramid stops at bottom, lower half N pier chamfered with leaf shaped stop at top; inner carried on compound piers with stiff-leaved capitals and moulded bases to shafts

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: Arcade of 5 bays; arches pointed, double chamfer; rise form alternately cylinidrical and octagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, between similar responds; Bath stone; Victorian.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Tower arch has 4-centred head of 2 orders, outer cavetto, inner cavetto and wave, single pyramid stop either side

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 10 bays; trusses have collars and arched braces, with tie-beam every 3rd truss; 2 purlins either side, 3 tiers windbraces

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone, timber under pews; 1 step at W end just to E of tower

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Octagonal; bowl has snowflake pattern in chip carving on each face, row of bosses around rim carved in one with short stem; pyramid stops rise from base to underside of basin.

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Modern panelled wooden

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Backed benches

Other features of interest: Organ
Brass candelabrum dated 1787

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century

12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0607 A

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Brackets to support gutter. Internal batter. 4 internal brackets for roof timbers.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Ext: PO/I 1/2

Openings:

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. E of window externally is tall shallow square-headed recess - looks as though it was intended for placement of memorial tablet.

E window has pointed head, 3 trefoiled lights, intersecting tracery; red and yellow sandstone dressings, chamfer and roll; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Obscured by mortar, but in coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. 2 x 18th wall tablets built into external facing. Brackets to support gutter. Internal batter. 4 internal brackets for roof timbers.

2 window, both alike; single trefoiled lancet; red and yellow sandstone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch; Victorian

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 3 bays; 4 trusses with collars and arched braces; collar purlin

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters; barrel ceilure over E end

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; under pews floor partly raised timber; 1 step at chancel arch, 3 at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 6 x 18th century; 4 x 19th century

Stained glass: Victorian style stained glass in all windows

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc: Carved and panelled reredos, 20th century

Altars/ tables: Wooden panelled; Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern; plain wooden

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Boarded backs, plain ends

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0607 C

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Wall divided into 5 bays by 4 buttresses and porch. Brackets to support gutter. Internal batter.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

4 windows, 1 door. Windows all alike; segmental head, 3 trefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; red and yellow sandstone dressings, chamfered, ovalo round head; relieving arch; rear arch has 2 orders of roll and fillet; Victorian. Door, see N porch S wall.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Top rebuilt in one with E wall of nave.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Door to vestry has pointed head, dressings in coarse shelly cream-coloured limestone, chamfered, pyramid stops; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Arcade, see nave N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Straight joint with stair turret of tower above its plinth, but a few cm to the N of the present S end of the wall.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues N side nave roof with break in slope; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Principal rafters follow on from trusses of nave

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including grave slabs worn to illegibility; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Effigy: worn male figure mounted against outer wall. Wall tablets: 3 x 18th century; 3 x 19th century.

Stained glass: Victorian style stained glass (1932+) in second window from E, others grisaille

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: Hatchment

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0607 D

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade, see nave S wall

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Top rebuilt in one with E wall of nave. Internally tall wide recess with segmental head.

Openings: 1 blocked window, represented by 2 straight joints, with irregular joint to N of N-most of the two, suggesting that the window was inserted.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but as far as can be seen built of coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Wall divided into 5 bays by 4 buttresses and porch. Brackets to support gutter. Internal batter.

Openings: 4 windows, 1 door. Windows all alike; segmental head, 3 trefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; red and yellow sandstone dressings, chamfered, ovalo round head; relieving arch; rear arch has 2 orders of roll and fillet; Victorian. Door, see S porch N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Abuts tower buttress. Internally N half of wall canted - ?line of tower SE buttress.

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK | **Roof type** Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance Continues S side nave roof with break in slope; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers Principal rafters follow on from trusses of nave

Ceiling Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR **Type** Stone, including grave slabs worn to illegibility; timber under pews | **Burials known?** ☐ | **Underfloor heating?** ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Early Christian monument (PRN 608m) loose in E end. Wall tablets: 1 x 18th century; 4 x 19th century

Stained glass Victorian style stained glass SE window (1871) and in second window from E (1914-18 war memorial), others grisaille

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒
18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0607 E

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar in cream/grey. Double offset plinth, lower part crowned with chamfer, upper with bolection moulding. Similar string courses divides tower into 2 stages and define battlemented parapet. Diagonal buttress at NW corner. Gargoyles and pinnacles. At E end polygonal stair turret; plinth and string coures continue from N wall tower, and there is an extra string course dividing upper stage into two; relationship between turret and N wall obscured by remains of limewash. Internally 4 Victorian corbels to support joists.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

4 windows, 1 door. UPPER STAGE: Belfry window rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred head, recessed spandrels; cream-coloured dressings, ?chamfered (very eroded). LOWER STAGE: Turret door (internal) has Tudor head, chamfered, diagonal stops. TURRET: 3 slits, one in bottom stage, two in middle.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with sandstone ashlar in cream/grey. String courses divides tower into 2 stages and define battlemented parapet. Offest near top of wall part-way up belfry window. Crease for nave roof. Buttress, see S walls. Gargoyles and pinnacles.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 window, arch. UPPER STAGE: Belfry window rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred head, recessed spandrels; cream-coloured dressings, ?chamfered (very eroded). LOWER STAGE: Arch, see nave W wall, but on this side mouldings replaced by chamfer and diagonal stops.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, more narrow blocks than N and E walls; quoined with sandstone ashlar in cream/grey. Double offset plinth, lower part crowned with chamfer, upper with bolection moulding. Similar string courses divides tower into 2 stages and define battlemented parapet. Diagonal buttresses at corners. Gargoyles and pinnacles. 4 rows of putlocks in lower stage and one in upper plinth. Internally 4 Victorian corbels to support joists.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

2 windows. UPPER STAGE: Belfry window rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred head, recessed spandrels; cream-coloured dressings, partly renewed, ?chamfered (very eroded). Below it is small square window with grey dressings, chamfered.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, more narrow blocks than N and E walls; quoined with sandstone ashlar in cream/grey. Double offset plinth, lower part crowned with chamfer, upper with bolection moulding. Similar string courses divides tower into 2 stages and define battlemented parapet. Buttresses, see N and S walls. Gargoyles and pinnacles. 4 rows of putlocks in lower stage.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. UPPER STAGE: Belfry window rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred head, recessed spandrels; cream-coloured dressings, double hollow chamfer. LOWER STAGE: Door head equilateral triangle with rounded haunches; dressings in coarse shelly cream-coloured sandstone, triple hollow chamfer; Victorian; inserted. Window above rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred head, recessed spandrels; cream-coloured dressings (very eroded), renewed with chamfer; hoodmould without stops.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

FLOOR

Type: Part stone, part timber, slopes up from W to E; iron grille

Burials known? ☒

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc: Immersion baptistry reported (Brandwood 1990, 431), presumably under timber section of floor.

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen: Tower screen (half height of opening) has panelled wooden dado, cinquefoiled panels filled with glass above, dated 1894.

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☒ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0607 J

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: N porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Narrow squared rockfaced blocks Pennnant sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

Door has pointed head; coarse yellow shelly limestone dressings, chamfered, straight cut stops; relieving arch; Victorian.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Narrow squared rockfaced blocks Pennnant sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

Window has pointed head; coarse yellow shelly limestone dressings, chamfered; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Door has semicircular head; narrow chamfer, v eroded ?bullnosed dressings; looks as though something may have been cut away at springing of head

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Narrow squared rockfaced blocks Pennnant sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with sandstone ashlar. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

Window has pointed head; coarse yellow shelly limestone dressings, chamfered; Victorian

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays; 3 trusses with collars and arched braces

Ceiling: Plastered behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Benches built into walls

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0607 L

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: S porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has segmental head turned in ashlar voussoirs, ashlar jambs, continuous chamfer, bar stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Brackets to support gutter.

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Largely obscured by mortar and ribbon pointing to imitate ashlar, but what can be seen is in coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Square niche over door.

Openings: Door has semicircular head in coarse gritty white limestone dressings with wave moulding; jambs are in same rubble blocks as body of wall but with rounded profile; hoodmould with plain stops, rather incongruously perched over door.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone, quoined with squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone. Offset plinth crowned with chamfer. Brackets to support gutter.

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance N-S; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers 2 bays; 3 trusses with slightly arched collars; appears to be early.

Ceiling Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type Stone; 2 steps below nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☒

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Benched built into walls

Other features of interest Board recording Incorporated Society grant of £35 in 1873

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference m0607 L

Element

Church: Llantrisant | PRN: m0607 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Narrow squared blocks with fairly neatly worked faces; quoined with sandstone ashlar; brackets to support gutter.

Int:

Ext:

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Narrow squared blocks with fairly neatly worked faces; quoined with sandstone ashlar.

Int:

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 1 window; single pointed light; sandstone dressings, chamfer

SOUTH WALL

Fabric:

Int:

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int:

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues N side chancel roof; green metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling:

Type:

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0607 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Llantrisant | Church PRN: m0607 | Survey date: 12-03-98

Shape, plan (present): Largely curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1840

Shape, first map: Largely curvilinear

Shape, relief: On E-W ridge, rising from W to E

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble, as retaining wall at W; house at E side

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: N end W wall

Main entrance, description: Double gates

Secondary entrances (if any): Double gate E side
Single gate W side

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance?: None apparent

Burials, points of interest: Churchyard full

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST ILLTYD'S CHURCH, LLANTWIT FARDRE

NGR: ST 0815 8662

PRN: m0599

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Llantwit Fardre

DEANERY: Pontypridd

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L078 4025

SUMMARY

Llantwit Fardre church does not appear in the documentary sources until 1535, when it is described as a chapel of Llantrisant in the *Valor Ecclesiaticus*. However, the placename suggests that it, like the other Llantwits, was a pre-Norman site, with a dedication to St Illtyd. The churchyard is partly curvilinear, and the churchyard cross does not survive.

Until 1974, the church consisted of nave, separate chancel, W tower, and S porch; but it was then extended to the S by a new block, which consisted of an aisle linked to the nave by three narrow arches knocked through the wall, a transept opening to the chancel , and two vestries with WC facilities. In the course of this work the porch and a door and window in the S wall of the nave were destroyed, together with partof the S wall of the chancel (Spurgeon and Thomas 1974, 35; Spurgeon and Thomas 1978, 17). The building is constructed from the local Pennant sandstone, and Sutton stone was used for the surviving or documented medieval openings.

It is probable that the long walls of the nave and at least the S wall of the chancel are relatively early, perhaps of the 13th century, given the internal batter to these walls and the presence of a pointed window with Sutton stone dressings in the N wall of the nave, now blocked. This chancel arch is undatable, but not inconsistent with such a date. The original S door of the church, which also had Sutton stone dressings, may have been of similar date. This was noted by RCAHMW when it was destroyed to make way for the new aisle; the published note (Spurgeon and Thomas 1978, 17) also refers to 'a blocked window in the south wall of the nave [which] is arched with dressed voussoirs of Sutton stone, but from the use of the present tense, it seems that this may be a misplaced reference to the blocked window in the N wall. The only other early window is the surviving one in the S wall of the nave, which is of Tudor form; Newman (1995, 405) reports a tradition that the nave and chancel were built *c* 1525, which may refer, if correct, to a refenestration, though the window could easily be as late as the construction of the tower, which can be assigned by its datestone to 1636. The present tower doors date to 1974 but replaced an earlier W door (*ex inf* H J Thomas).

Work on the church in the 19th century is poorly documented, apart from a repaving which took place in 1818 (GlRO P/63/3). The NE and central N windows of the nave are probably of early 19th century date, the NE one possibly being provided with dressings at a later date, the other being divided into lights by its wooden frame. There appears to be no record of a Victorian restoration, but the chancel windows and roof are of Victorian construction. A considerable alteration to the appearance of the church was made with the addition of the aisle, transept and vestries in 1974. This also involved the partial rebuilding of the S wall of the nave and the provision of a new NW window in its N wall, as well as the insertion of the present doors in the tower and the repaving of the floor.

The interior of the church contains a number of memorials, dating from the 17th century onwards. There are at present two sets of internal fittings, those from a now demolished subsidiary church within the parish being at present kept in the aisle, partly in use. Both sets are mainly modern, and neither contains anything earlier than Victorian; the church had a plain 15th century octagonal font in 1974 (*ex inf* H J Thomas), but is no longer there. There is one bell; when Wright (i 64) visited the church in 1917 he recorded it as being of 1851, but by 1946 it was blank and modern.

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Green, C A H, 1906-7, *Notes on churches in the diocese of Llandaff*, 64-5
Newman, J, 1995, *The buildings of Wales: Glamorgan*, 405
Spurgeon, J and Thomas, H J, 1974, Llantwit Fardre, *Archaeol Wales*, **14**, 35 no 63
Spurgeon, J and Thomas, H J, 1978, Medieval Glamorgan: an interim report on recent fieldwork, *Morgannwg* **22**, 14-20 (17)

Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/63/1	1736-86	Churchwardens' accounts, with vestry minutes 1775-86
P/63/2	1788-1815	Churchwardens' accounts
P/63/3	1818	(In bundle of misc papers) measurements of paving floor of church
P/63/9-11	1848-93	Vestry minutes
P/63/19	nd	Tithe plan

NLW

LL/F/472	1914	Faculty: 2 windows in chancel
LL/F/473	1919	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/474	1924	Faculty: New communion table, memorial tablet, removal of oil lamps, rearrangement of font

NMR

Kay (various) 1 ser II 252-3, 256-8

NMGW

Wright (various) i 64

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Llantwit Fardre | Dedication: St Illtyd | PRN: m0599 | Survey date: 12-03-98

Orientation nave: 105 | Chancel: 105

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [ ]
C Chancel, separate [X]
D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [X]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [X]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [X] External stair turret [X]
K Belicote [ ] Position of tower/belicote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [ ] Position [ ] [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [X]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [X]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [X]
17th [X]
18th [ ]
19th [X]
20th [X]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s)
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [X]
Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]
Fonts: Medieval [ ] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]
Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]
Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]
Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]
Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:
ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Llantwit Fardre | PRN: m0599 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Rather obscured by mortar, but roughly coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone; no separate quoins. Continuous batter. Internal batter. Internally three shallow recesses, one under each window, for radiators.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

3 windows, 1 blocked window. E-most window pointed, 1 lights, Y-tracery; grey/yellow sandstone dressings. Middle window pointed, head turned in narrow voussoirs with small keystone; divided into 2 lights/Y-tracery by wooden frame. W-most window has segmental head; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century. Blocked window, to E of W-most window, has pointed head, Sutton stone dressings.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone; no separate quoins. Gable rebuilt/refaced. Line of chancel roof followed by series of narrow rubble blocks which project from face of wall.

Ext: PO/L /R 1-3

Openings

2 arches. Chancel arch has irregular 2-centred head; dressings (if any) concealed behind plaster. Arch to transept of door size with shallow segmental head.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Internal batter. Series of putlocks.

Ext:

Openings

Arcade, 1 window (now opening to choir vestry). Arcade to S aisle consists of 3 adjoining arches with segmental heads pierced through walls. Window (at E end) rectangular, 3 pointed lights, recessed spandrels; dressings painted, chamfered; segmental head to rear arch.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Wall to S of tower has marked batter at base; it is not possible to determine whether this is also the case to the N of the tower as the ground level is very much higher.

Ext: R3

Openings

Door to tower, see tower E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel to nave roof, but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plain plastered barrel vault

FLOOR

Type: Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 18th century (probably originating as flat slabs); 1 x 19th century; 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: In all windows; Victorian style glass in NE and SE windows, 20th century in NW and middle N windows

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Small octagonal bowl, ribbed; stone, on wooden stand

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Carved panelled wooden

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low panelled backs, plain ends, set as choir stalls at E end

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☒ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☒

Reference: m0599 A

Element

Church: Llantwit Fardre | PRN: m0599 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone; quoins have some squared blocks, but otherwise as body of wall. Continuous batter. Internally shallow recess at E end for radiator.

Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: 1 window; rectangular, 2 lights with 4-centred/ogee/trefoiled heads; sandstone dressings, chamfered; Victorian.

EAST WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble in irregular and narrow blocks Pennant sandstone; NE quoin as N wall; SE quoin mainly in squared blocks sandstone and ?Sutton stone.

Int: P/PA 3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: E window pointed, 2 pointed lights, simple geometric tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Hardly anything visible externally except for SE corner (see S wall). Internal batter. Internally shallow recess under window for radiator.

Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings: 1 window (now opening to clergy vestry); opening to transept. Window rectangular, 2 lights with 4-centred/ogee/trefoiled heads; sandstone dressings, chamfered; Victorian. Opening to transept has straight lintel as head.

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Chancel arch, see nave E wall.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers 3 bays; 2 trusses with collars and arched braces

Ceiling Boaded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type Stone; 2 steps at chancel arch, 1 at altar rail

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 1 x 18th century

Stained glass In all windows; Victorian glass in E window, 20th century in N and S windows

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables Panelled wooden, Victorian or later

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen Modern turned balusters

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☒

Reference m0599 C

Element

Church: Llantwit Fardre | PRN: m0599 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Wall (previously external S wall of nave) has battered base on either side of arcade; between piers of arcade there is no batter, suggesting that wall has been rebuilt at this point.

Ext:

Arcade, see nave

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners. Coping.

Ext: PO1

Door to choir vestry has square head.

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners.

Ext: PO1

3 windows, all alike; 3 rectangular lights; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

Openings

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners. Coping.

Ext: PO1

1 window, 1 door. Both of them have semicircular head; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W, parallel to nave roof, but separate from it. ?Lead

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Plain plastered barrel vault

FLOOR

Type Stone, continuous with nave.

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass 20th century stained glass in all windows

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables 2 altars, both 20th century. Altar at E end plain stone. Altar against S wall at W end (from other church) carved and panelled wooden.

Font etc Circular bowl on tubular leg; stainless steel; from other church and apparently not in use

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest Tablets commemorating enlargement of church in 1974, and details of graves disturbed by extension.

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference m0599 E

Element

Church: Llantwit Fardre | PRN: m0599 | Element type: S transept | Code: G

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Clergy vestry

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Window and opening to chancel, see chancel S wall.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners. Flat top to wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, 1 door. Window rectangular, 2 rectangular lights; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century. Door has square head; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners. Flat top to wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 3 windows, all rectangular; W-most (to WC) has two rectangular lights, others (to clergy vestry and transept) have 3 rectangular lights; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door to choir vestry has square head.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Flat plaster

Type: Stone

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Divided into 3 sections, outer sections accessible from middle one which is a transept opening to S side of chancel; E-most section is clergy vestry; W-most section is WC and short corridor forming part of choir vestry

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: m0599 G

Element

Church: Llantwit Fardre | PRN: m0599 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: E-most two-thirds occupied by rectangular projecting stair turret

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: 2 windows, 1 door, all to turret. Windows both alike; slit, dressings (if any) concealed behind render. Door (internal) has triangular head; dressings (if any) concealed behind render.

EAST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: 2 windows, 1 door; Windows just under gable; both alike ; slit, dressings (if any) concealed behind render. Door has semicircular head; grey ?congomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Battered base.

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: 3 windows, all alike except that upper (to belfry) rather larger and seems originally to have been louvred; slit, dressings (if any) concealed behind render.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Battered base. Datestone over door: THIS STEE/PLE WAS/MADE AM/DOM 1636/THOMAS ROBT/[?]David...

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: Door has semicircular head; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Saddleback

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Flat boarded

FLOOR

Type Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments 17th century memorial slab mounted on N wall, probably intended as flat slab.

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest 1 bell

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference m0599 J

Element

Church: Llantwit Fardre | PRN: m0599 | Element type: Choir vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Wall (previously external S wall of nave) has battered base.

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Window, see nave S wall; on this side (previously external) dressings partly plastered as well as painted; hoodmould with stops removed

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners. Flat top to wall.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, quoined with slightly larger similar blocks drafted at corners. Flat top to wall. Internally wall cupboard inserted into what is externally SE corner of aisle

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, rectangular, 2 rectangular lights; grey ?conglomerate dressings, chamfered; 20th century.

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door to aisle, see aisle E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling: Flat plaster

Type: stone

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☒ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: m0599 P

CHURCHYARD

Church Llantwit Fardre | **Church PRN** m0599 | **Survey date** 12-03-98

Shape, plan (present) Partly curvilinear | **First map type/date** Tithe/nd

Shape, first map Partly curvilinear

Shape, relief: Slopes down markedly from N to S

BOUNDARY Stone/brick wall ☒ Earth/stone bank ☐ Hedge ☐ Fence/railing ☐ Other ☐

Description Coursed rubble wall, partly ruinous on E side

ENTRANCES **Main entrance, position** NE corner

Main entrance, description Double gates

Secondary entrances (if any)

BURIALS In use? ☒ **Clearance?** Partial

Burials, points of interest: Nearly full. A high proportion of Welsh inscriptions.

CHURCHYARD FEATURES Cross? ☐ **PRN** **RCAHMW cross survey?** ☐

Cross description

Earthworks A mound is reported to have stood to the SE of the chancel, but this has now been cleared and the area used for cremations.

Yews? ☐

Other feature

Church drainage Gutter and gully pot (one of downpipes dated 1870); course of drains not apparent. Deep trench round N side of church.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any

Other remarks:

ST ILLTYD'S CHURCH, LLANTWIT-JUXTA-NEATH

NGR: SS 7620 9803

PRN: w0628

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 11797

COMMUNITY: Neath

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L094 4078

SUMMARY

The first documentary reference to the church at Llantwit-juxta-Neath is from the beginning of the 13th century in a charter of King John to Neath Abbey, known from a confirmation of Edward II made c 1336, which refers to St Illtyd's church (Clark 1901, 1205).). The site is however probably pre-Norman, since a Class D Early Christian monument of late 9th-early 10th century date (PRN 625w) was found c 1920 built into the boundary, but is now in St Thomas's church, Neath (RCAHMW 1976, 52 no 915). The churchyard, which is partly curvilinear, is shown on the tithe map of 1846 as a quarter-circle. The churchyard cross does not survive. Possible foundations are to be seen in the churchyard, to the E of chancel, but are too overgrown to interpret. They do not however appear to be an eastward continuation of the chancel, but may be a building constructed against the E end of the church, as Glynne noted in 1849 that the E window had been blocked (Glynne 1901, 262).

The church consists of nave; separate chancel; W tower, with a stair turret which is a continuation of the N side of the nave; S porch; and a large vestry room built against the N side of the nave. The vestry predates the Victorian restoration, and was obviously constructed for parish meetings or as a schoolroom rather than just for the use of the priest. What appears to be a blocked gallery door is visible at the S end of the W wall of the nave, its sill at the same level as two large joist holes; if this is the case, the gallery will have been reached by an outside staircase. The building is constructed in the local Pennant sandstone; a softer fawn sandstone and Sutton stone are used for the dressings to the openings which predate the Victorian restoration, and Bath stone for the later ones.

Drawings of the church before restoration (GlRO D/D V/55/1-9) show the S wall of the nave with two square-headed windows, one either side of the porch and both having two lights with shaped but apparently uncusped heads and recessed spandrels; the dark-coloured rectangles continuing the lines of the windows at either side presumably represent shutters. The externally placed wall tablets were in approximately the same position as they now occupy, but at a lower level, and there appears to be another wall tablet at the top of the E end of the S wall. The chancel is shown with the priest's door outlined and presumably blocked, flanked to the E by a single-light window with a pointed and trefoiled head. The porch has a continuous batter to the N and S walls and a round-headed outer door with a square sundial over. The tower is shown as being of the same form as it is now.

Only a limited number of openings remain in their original form. Given the lowness and small size of the chancel arch, which is similar to the one at Penrice, it is probably of Norman date. The internal batter of the chancel walls also suggests an early date. Otherwise the only clearly medieval feature remaining is the probably Perpendicular niche cut into the inner face of the E wall of the chancel. This is of unknown function, and it is possible that it may not originally have been a niche but is the 'trefoil-headed lancet' noted by Glynne (1901, 262) in the S wall of the chancel before the 1859 restoration and shown there in the 1857 drawing (GlRO D/D V/54/1), reset here when the window was replaced by a larger one. The priest's door (not a window *pace* Thomas nd 7; it is of the wrong proportions) does not retain its dressings. Although the tower with its vaulted basement (cf Llanrhidian) is probably medieval in origin, none of its remaining openings is likely to be earlier than the latter part of the 16th century. However, the fact that the W door and window 'cut into the batter of the lower walls' (Newman, 1995, 457), appears to be a stylistic feature of the Neath area rather than merely because they were inserted; this type of W facade occurs also at Cilybebyll and in the 13th century tower at Cadoxton-juxta-Neath. Glynne notes that 'the belfry windows are square-headed', but this is probably an error, as today only the N belfry window is of this shape, and none of the others look as though they are replacements. It is suggested by Thomas (nd, 8) that the window from the upper level of the tower to

the nave was designed to enable the bells to be inserted, as none of the other openings to this part of the tower is large enough.

The restoration of 1859 (recorded in an inscription on the tympanum of the main door) was responsible for demolition and rebuilding of the S wall of the nave, reconstruction of the porch, the refenestration of the nave, and the provision of new doors to the nave and vestry. The heightening of the remaining walls, the roof, the refurbishment of them, the roof and the interior, and the provision of a suspended timber floor (on dwarf walls) were also included in the schedule of works, which was to be carried out a cost of £338 6s (Thomas nd, 5-6), the report made in 1857 on the church also recommeded the replacement of the tower parapet (GlRO D/D V/55/1). Thomas (nd, 5-6) notes that the architect was a Mr Vaughan and the contractor Henry Bowen, but the drawings of the church in the Glamorgan Record Office are stamped 'Egbert Moxham' (D/D V/54/1). The chancel was reroofed and refenestrated, and its walls refurbished, in 1875 at a cost of £97 10s (Thomas, nd, 7)

There is a fine Norman tub font of unusual D-shaped plan (Barnwell, 1880, 215), which was returned to the church after having been used as a horse trough, when a rebate had been cut into the back (*ex inf* P Evans, churchwarden). Newman (1995, 458) dates the turned altar rails to c 1700, and the altar has a Victorian top on Jacobean bulbous legs. The pulpit, with its lower attached seat and reading desk, is of two-decker type. There is a board recording a benefaction of 1743 and a Victorian royal arms (RCAHMW 1981), and also a large collection of memorials, some mounted on the external walls of the church where they are suffering from erosion. There a two bells, one of which (not two as noted by Wright 1941, 56) has the initials RT who was active *c* 1480-1510 and the other of which is dated 1678 (Taylor 1936, 3; Thomas nd, 8).

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Wright, A, 1941, The church bells of Monmouthshire vii: Summary and chronology, *Archaeol Cambrensis*, **96**, 49-68

Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

D/D V/54/1-3	1857	Llantwit-juxta-Neath Church: Report and plan of present state, by Egbert Moxham
D/D V/55/1-9	1856	Llantwit-juxta-Neath Church: Specifications and plans for alterations

NLW

(The following records are catalogued under the benefice of Neath with Llantwit, and it is not certain which church is intended)

LL/F/571	1786	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/573	1909	Faculty: Stained glass window (confirmation)
LL/F/577	1921	Faculty: Reredos

WGAS

D/D xnf 3	nd	Illustration of font
P/74/2-7	nd	Tithe map
P/76/CW/22	nd,	*A history of the churches in the parish of Neath with Llantwit* (ed Rev W P Thomas)

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Llantwit-juxta-Neath Dedication: St Illtyd PRN: w0628

Survey date: 28-05-97

A Nave [x] Orientation nave: 90 Chancel: 90

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [x] External stair turret [x]

K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs:

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Centuries:
12th [x]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [x]
16th [x]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [x] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [x] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [x] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Llantwit-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0628 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins; obscured by heavy pointing over edges of stones with superimposed ribbon pointing imitating ashlar. W end, although continuous with rest of nave wall and of same height, clasps tower and forms its stair turret. Patched. Not straight in plan: there is a concavity towards W end; slight continuous batter to W of this, and to E of vestry. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneelers

Ext: PO/L /R 1-3

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. Windows both alike; large, semicircular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered. Vestry door is tall with shouldered lintel under semicircular arch, tympanum in Bath stone ashlar; chamfered, pyramid stops.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: PO/R 2

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone. Coping. Clasping buttress at SE corner, see S wall. Internally possibly slight traces of an earlier, lower roof line at S side (c0.6m below present eaves height); also patch in gable to S of chancel arch ?possible blocked rood loft window

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

Chancel arch low and narrow; semicircular head wider than lower part of opening and rising from plain heavy impost bands; dressings (if any) concealed under render which is limited to around arch only

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses. Clasping buttresses of one build with wall at either corner. E of porch, at either side of SE window is a shallow projection in same masonry, with sandstone weathering at top, into which have been set 17th and 18th century memorials (mainly flat slabs, but at least one wall tablet), in the form of cross in the more westerly of the 2 projections. Bath stone eaves cornice and foliage-carved kneelers

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. Windows both alike; large, semicircular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch. Door, see porch N wall (rear arch as same form as front)

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

To N of tower (stair turret) in roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins; to S of tower in squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses, up to eaves occuped by clasping buttress of SW corner, see S wall. Coping. Internally all in coursed rubble, with canted NW corner to allow room for stair turret. Large joist hole at either side, above level of tower arch but at about same level as sill of blocked door; 2 further socket-holes cut into jambs of arch just below springing of head.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

Arch; 1 window; 1 blocked window; 1 door; 1 blocked door. Arch (semicircular head) extends full width of tower; double relieving arch in narrow blocks of sandstone. Internal window above arch to ringing chamber is square, with flat arch of narrow voussoirs. Blocked widow external (to stair turret) is slit with sandstone dressings, chamfered. Turret door has irregular arched head turned in narrow voussoirs. Blocked door (?to former W gallery) at extreme S end wall at high level.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling: Diagonally boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: In addition to memorials mounted on exterior face of S wall, there are 2 x 18th century and 9 x 19th century wall tablets

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: Royal coat of arms over chancel arch

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Tub font of D-shaped plan in polished Sutton stone, plain except for cable moulding round lip; wide rebate cut into straight sides and corners. Mounted on 2 sandstone steps

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Wooden, panelled and grained, with attatched reading desk (2-decker)

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Backed benches

Other features of interest: American organ (harmonium)

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century 12th ☒ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0628 A

Element

Church	Llantwit-juxta-Neath	PRN	w0628	Element type	Chancel	Code	C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone with high proportion of narrow blocks; no separate quoins. Internal batter.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

1 window; smaller than nave, semicircular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; square embrasure.

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone, more irregular and rounded than those of N wall; no separate quoins. At S end 2 x 18th century grave slabs have been built into external face, which has been refaced around them with narrow blocks sandstone; vent with iron grille immedialy above memorials. Coping. Internally tall narrow ogee/trefoiled (shouldered) niche to N of window

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

1 window; tall and narrow, semicircular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; head of rear arch turned in housebricks

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone, no separate quoins; obscured by heavy pointing over edges of stones with superimposed ribbon pointing imitating ashlar. Internal batter.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

1 window; blocked door. Window smaller than nave, semicircular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; square embrasure. Blocked door (at extreme W end) has semi-circular head turned in narrow voussoirs

WEST WALL

Fabric

Int: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble in local sandstone; obscured by mortar

Ext:

Openings

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling: Diagonally boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile. 2 steps at chancel arch, 1 at altar rail

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Altar has Jacobean bulbous legs, but top is Victorian

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Turned balusters 18th century

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0628 C

Element

Church: Llantwit-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0628 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble in local sandstone, with high proportion of narrow blocks; quoined with larger squared blocks. 2 stages, divided by plain string course; lower stage with marked batter, upper also with batter, but less marked. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

1 window. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has small rectangular window with sandstone dressings, renewed in concrete

EAST WALL

Fabric Int:

Roughly coursed rubble in local sandstone, with high proportion of narrow blocks; quoined with larger squared blocks. Battered. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Lower stage completely open to nave.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

2 windows; arch. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has single-light window with semicircular head cut from single block yellow/fawn ?sandstone, jambs mainly Sutton stone, chamfered. LOWER STAGE: Arch and window to nave, see nave W wall.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble in local sandstone, with high proportion of narrow blocks; quoined with larger squared blocks. 2 stages, divided by plain string course; lower stage with marked batter, upper also with batter, but less marked. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Ext: PO2

Openings:

2 windows. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has single-light window with semicircular head cut from single block yellow/fawn ?sandstone, jambs mainly Sutton stone, chamfered. Lower down same stage is slit, with Sutton stone dressings.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Roughly coursed rubble in local sandstone, with high proportion of narrow blocks; quoined with larger squared blocks. 2 stages, divided by plain string course; lower stage with marked batter, except in the midle where door and window set into vertical panel of walling between battered section on either side; upper stage also with batter, but less marked. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

3 windows, 1 door. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has single-light window with semicircular head cut from single block yellow/fawn ?sandstone, jambs mainly Sutton stone, chamfered. Lower down same stage is slit, with Sutton stone dressings. LOWER STAGE Door has segmental head, 2 orders of chamfer, yellow/fawn ?sandstone dressings; hoodmould with upturned plain stops. Window above is rectangular; 2 lights with segmental heads cut from single block yellow/fawn ?sandstone, with carved medallion above each light; jambs and mullion Sutton stone, chamfered; internally heads of lights come immediately below below vault of tower basement.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground level

Roof and other structural timbers: E-W barrel vault

Ceiling: None

FLOOR

Type: Stone, continuation of nave floor

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: 2 pews

Other features of interest: 2 bells

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☒ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w0628 J

Element

Church: Llantwit-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0628 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door is tall with shouldered lintel under semicircular arch, typanum in Bath stone ashlar; chamfered, hollow pyramid stops. Details and date of 1859 rebuilding carved on tympanum (in Welsh)

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; buttress, see S wall. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneelers

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses. Clasping buttresses of one build with wall. Coping, cross.

Door has semicircular head; Bath stone dressings of 2 orders, outer chamfer and inner roll; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Squared rockfaced blocks local sandstone laid in snecked courses; buttress, see S wall. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneelers

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples, scissors braced

Ceiling: Diagonally boarded behind rafters

Type: Stone

Burials known? ☐

FLOOR

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats: Wooden benches

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0628 L

Element

Church: Llantwit-juxta-Neath | PRN: w0628 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone and stome housebricks; quoined large blocks sandstone and Sutton stone. Coping, cross

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

Window has semicircular head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone and stome housebricks; quoined large blocks sandstone and Sutton stone. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

Door has square head with flat arch af narrow voussoirs

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Door to nave, see nave S door

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble in irregular blocks local sandstone and stome housebricks; quoined large blocks sandstone and Sutton stone. Bath stone eaves cornice and kneeler. Internally shallow flat projection; probably chimney breast

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; boarded

Type: Ceramic tile

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries: Wall cupboard cut into S wall, previously for safe

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0628 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Llantwit-juxta-Neath | Church PRN: w0628 | Survey date: 28-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Partly curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1846

Shape, first map: Partly curvilinear

Shape, relief: Slopes down from N to S

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☒ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☒

Description: On S side (with road), boundary is low stone wall with railings; E and W sides boundaries v overgrown, but appear to be largely hedges, through there is a stone wall at N end W side. N boundary formed by canal.

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: S

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path leads directly to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any):

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent. Deep trench around N side nave and vestry

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: Possible foundations to be seen in churchyard to E of chancel, but are too overgrown to interpret. They do not appear to be an E-ward continuation of the chancel.

ST GWYNNO'S CHURCH, LLANWYNNO

NGR: ST 0300 9561

PRN: m0946

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Ynysybwl

DEANERY: Pontypridd

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L080 4035

SUMMARY

Llanwynno is a pre-Norman, site, possibly the *Guinna* of Llandaff Charter no 209a (Davies 1979, 118). Parts of two Class C Early Christian grave slabs, one of 7th-9th century date found during repairs to the church in the late 19th century, and the other 7th-8th century built into the side of a niche on the S wall of the nave to the E of the door, presumably intended as a piscina (PRNs 544m, 546) (RCAHMW 1976, 43, no 889; 44 no 890). The church's first mention in the documentary sources, however, is in 1450, when the chancel was retiled (Evans 1982, 30-2); it was at this time a chapelry to Llantrisant. The churchyard is now irregular in shape, but has been much enlarged from 1842 when it appears on the tithe map (GlRO P/64/6-7) as curvilinear. The surviving sections of the churchyard cross are a plain square socket stone of standard Glamorgan type with chamfered upper surface, and the lower part of an unusual shaft, square in section at the bottom with vertical roll mouldings at the corners, and octagonal in section above. A holy well (PRN 543; Jones 1954, 182) is recorded beyond the road to the S of the church (now the grounds of the Brynfynnon Hotel), but nothing of it now remains.

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, W bellcote, S porch, and vestry with boiler house underneath built against the N side of the chancel. The door to the rood loft still survives on the N side of the chancel arch, and there are traces of another opening on the S, suggesting that the church may originally have had two rood stairs, as at Llangibby. Before restoration, the floor level of the nave was some 0.75m (2' 6") higher than that of the chancel, the difference in level being made up by a mass grave, which according to local tradition was that of the victims of a Civil War skirmish (Halliday 1902). The building is constructed from local Pennant sandstone; the only surviving medieval dressings, on the S door of the porch, are a fine-grained stone not readily identifiable but possibly carboniferous limestone, and a coarse gritty limestone used for the dressings of the Victorian openings and for the quoins of the rebuilt sections of walling. There is documentary evidence that sandstone slates were used on the roof in the later Middle Ages (Butler 1971, 380).

No distinctive features survive from the Middle Ages. The walls of the nave, chancel and porch (external face) appear to be medieval, along with the chancel, upper rood stair door, and probably the door between the nave and porch, but none is sufficiently distinctive to provide a date, other than that they are no earlier than the beginning of the 13th century. Post-medieval developments are represented by what appear to be the traces of a gallery window at the W end of the N wall. All the current fenestration of the church is Victorian, dating to the restoration of 1893, architects Halliday and Anderson (Newman 1995, 413); this also involved the construction of the present bellcote, which is of quasi-tower form, carried as it is on piers beyond the W wall of the nave, addition of the vestry, reroofing, and refitting of the interior.

There are a number of post-medieval memorials on the walls, though many of them probably originated as floor slabs. There is a medieval font of Early English style, found during restoration buried under the nave floor; the matching piscina (Halliday 1902, 308) does not seem to be preserved. Otherwise the internal fittings are Victorian or later. There are two bells, recorded in 1947 by Wright (various, i 68) as:
1. '1767 with Rudhall's vine ornament'
2. RICH^{D}:AND THO^{S}:HALE:1787

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Newman, J, 1995, *The buildings of Wales: Glamorgan*, 413

RCAHMW, 1976, *An inventory of the ancient monuments in Glamorgan. Vol i part iii: The Early Christian period*

Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

D/DX 66/1	nd	Photograph of church interior
P/64/6-7	1842	Tithe plan

NLW

NB: These faculties are listed as Llanwonno w Ynysybwl, and some may therefore not be for St Gwynno

LL/F/488	1881	Faculty: Repairs and alterations to church
LL/F/488X	1881	Faculty: Repairs and alterations to church
LL/F/489	1885	Faculty: New organ, alterations to seating
LL/F/489X	1885	Faculty: New organ, alterations to seating
LL/F/492	1893	Faculty: Restoration and rebuilding of church
LL/F/493	1897	Faculty: Enlargement and rebuilding of church
LL/F/494	1913	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/495	1916	Faculty: Stained glass window and heating apparatus

NMR

Kay (various) 2 ser X 1253

NMGW

Wright (various) i 68

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Llanwynno | Dedication: St Gwynno | PRN: m0946 | Survey date: 23-02-98

Orientation nave: 120 | Chancel: 120

A Nave [x]
B Chancel, integral [ ]
C Chancel, separate [x]
D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [ ]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [ ] External stair turret [ ]
K Bellcote [x] Position of tower/bellcote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [x]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [x]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs:
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [x]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]
Centuries: 12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]
Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s):
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]
Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [x]
Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]
Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]
Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]
Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]
Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:
ECM [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church	Llanwynno	PRN	m0946	Element type	Nave	Code	A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Battered base. Internally 5 corbels to support roof timbers.

Ext PO 1/2

Openings

4 window; 1 possible blocked window. Present windows are all rectangular with cinquefoiled lights (alternately 3 lights and 2 lights) and and cusped lights of differing designs in spandrels; coarse gritty limestone dressings, hollow chamfer and roll moulding, wave round frame; hoodmould mainly with plain stops but one example with octagonal stops; rear arches have segmental head with foliage carving; all inserted, all Victorian. Possible blocked window (?for gallery) over W-most of present windows, marked by patch and straight joint which probably formed its E jamb.

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins. Coping, cross. Chimney at N side (over junction with vestry); square plinth in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone quoined with ashlar in coarse gritty limestone; tall cylindrical pot in coarse gritty limestone ashlar. Internally to S of chancel arch 2 straight joints at same height as rood stair door.

Ext PO 1/2

Openings

Chancel arch; upper door of rood stair (possibly two). Chancel arch pointed, head turned in narrow rubble voussiors, jambs of same. Rood stair door (at N) has 2-centred head turned in narrow rubble voussiors, jambs of same; rather short - possibly bottom has not fully be opened out. At S side of chancel arch in corresponding position two straight joints rather further apart, possibly another door?

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Int PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Battered base. Internally 5 corbels to support roof timbers.

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings

3 windows, 1 door. Windows all Victorian, all pointed with 2 cinquefoiled lights, geometric tracery of various designs; coarse gritty limestone dressings, chamfer and roll with fillet, wave round frame; hoodmould with foliage stops (W-most) or human head stops (others); relieving arch; rear arch has roll moulding , internal hoodmould with foliage stops.

WEST WALL

Fabric

Int PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble n narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins. Between piers of bellcote wall rebuilt or refaced in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone. Coping.

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings

1 window, 1 door. window is large trefoiled lancet; coarse gritty limestone dressings, chamfer and roll with fillet; hoodmould with foliage stops; relieving arch; Victorian. Door has 2-centred head of multiple roll mouldings with fillets, supported on red sandstone shafts with moulded capitals and bases; hoodmould with foliage stops; all in coarse gritty limestone except for shafts; Victorian.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers Battlemented wall plate

Ceiling Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type Stone, including grave slabs; woodblock under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 8 x 3th century. Also a number of 18th century monuments, possibly mainly originally flat slabs, but now mounted on walls.

Stained glass Victorian glass in all windows

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc Cup-shaped font with medieval bowl carved with roll mouldings round rim, at shoulder and half way up bowl; renewed stem and renewed moulded base

Piscina

Stoup Square recess in S wall to E of door, presumably for stoup, but neither basin nor head survives

Rails/screen

Pulpit Victorian carved wooden

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Backed benches

Other features of interest 2 ECMs, one (PRN 546m) built into side of stup recess, other (PRN 544m) affixed to wall just beneath it.
Tablet commemorating restoration of 1894
Harmonium and piano

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐
18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0946 A

Element

Church: Llanwynno | PRN: m0946 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Continuous batter.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

Vestry door has pointed head, wave moulding, quarter-globe stops; hoodmould with plain stops; Victorian.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Coping, cross.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

E window pointed, 3 ogree/cinquefoiled lights, middle taller, curvilinear tracery; coarse gritty limestone dressings, cavetto, chamfer and roll moulding with fillet; hoodmould with human head stops; relieving arch; rear arch moulded with ballflower ornament, supported on cluster of shafts with foliage capitals and moulded bases; internal hoodmould with human head stops. Also slit with trefoiled head in gable; coarse gritty limestone dressings. All Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. 18th century wall tablet built into outer face. Internal batter.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

1 window, 1 door. Window pointed, single ogee/cinquefoiled light, tracery; coarse gritty limestone dressings, chamfer and roll moulding; hoodmould with foliage stops; relieving arch; rear arch has moulded head and internal hoodmould with foliage stops; all Victorian. Priest's door has 2-centred pointed head; fine-grained ?carboniferous limestone dressings, chamfer, square-cut stops.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Internal batter, especially marked at bottom

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with vestry but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Battlemented wall plate

Ceiling: Barrel, panelled and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Stone including grave slabs; 1 step at chancel arch, 2 in E end

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 3th century; 1 x 20th century. Also a number of 18th century monuments, possibly originally flat slabs, but now mounted on walls.

Stained glass: In E window, Victorian; grisaille in S window.

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Plain wooden, modern

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern; wrough iron standards

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0946 C

Element

Church: Llanwynno | PRN: m0946 | Element type: Bellcote | Code: K

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Extends beyond line of W wall of nave, where it is carried on pier projecting from nave wall. Mainly in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with ashlar in coarse gritty limestone, except for belfry stage which is all in limestone ashlar, recessed panel framed by two pilasters joined at top by eaves cornice carried on corbel table. Pier has clasping buttress, and string couse just above level of lower arch on W wall.

Openings: Belfry has 4 slits arranged in 2 rows of 2, upper pair with trefoiled heads, lower pair with chamfered lintels and sills.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Mainly in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with ashlar in coarse gritty limestone.

Openings: 3 windows, all Victorian. At belfry stage two trefoiled louvred lancets; coarse gritty limestone dressings, double chamfer; hoodmoulds linked in middle and with human head stops at outer sides. In gable quatrefoil coarse gritty limestone dressings with multiple mouldings.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Extends beyond line of W wall of nave, where it is carried on pier projecting from nave wall. Mainly in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with ashlar in coarse gritty limestone, except for belfry stage which is all in limestone ashlar, recessed panel framed by two pilasters joined at top by eaves cornice carried on corbel table. Pier has clasping buttress, and string couse just above level of lower arch on W wall.

Openings: Belfry has 4 slits arranged in 2 rows of 2, upper pair with trefoiled heads, lower pair with chamfered lintels and sills.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Extends beyond line of W wall of nave, where it is carried on piers at E and W sides. Between piers are two shallow 2-centred arches in coarse gritty limestone. Lower arch at height of W door; above it is frieze with knots of foliage above which is pent roof in limestone between piers, protecting nave W door. Upper arch is just below belfry windows; above it belfry corbelled out slightly on small cinquefoiled arcade carried on animal and grotesque head corbels. Mainly in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with ashlar in coarse gritty limestone.

Openings: 3 windows, all Victorian. At belfry stage two trefoiled louvred lancets, taller than on E side; coarse gritty limestone dressings, double chamfer; hoodmoulds linked in middle and with human head stops at outer sides. In gable quatrefoil coarse gritty limestone dressings with multiple mouldings.

Extra

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: Limestone, cut to imitate slates. Cross on middle of ridge.

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling:

FLOOR

Type:

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0946 K

Element

Church	Llanwynno	PRN	m0946	Element type	Porch	Code	L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

	Fabric	Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone.
Int	PO/L 1/2	
Ext		Door head is 2-centred, approaching triangular; fine-grained dressings (?carboniferous sandstone), chamfered, diagonal stops
Openings		
NORTH WALL		

	Fabric	Much obscured by mortar externally, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Wall tablet fastended by clamps to outer surface. Internal face in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses. Battered base externally.
Int	PO1	
Ext	PO/L 1/2	
Openings		
EAST WALL		

	Fabric	Much obscured by mortar externally, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Internal face in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses. Externally at bottom of wall either corner is short length of batter, no wider than thickness of E and W walls. Over door is image niche with nodding ogee/trefoiled head, Victorian; containing Victorian statuette
Int	PO1	
Ext	PO/L 1/2	Door has 2-centred head of 3 orders; inner continuous chamfer and wave moulding; middle multiple roll mouldings with fillets, supported on red sandstone shafts with foliage capitals and moulded bases; outer continuous roll moulding with fillet; hoodmould with human head stops; all in coarse gritty limestone except for shafts; Victorian.
Openings		
SOUTH WALL		

	Fabric	Much obscured by mortar externally, but can be seen to be coursed rubble mainly in narrow blocks sandstone with occasional squared blocks; no separate quoins, except that a few squared blocks have been used in places. Internal face in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses. Battered base externally.
Int	PO1	
Ext	PO/L 1/2	
Openings		
WEST WALL		

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Benches built into walls, faced with same masonry as outer faces of walls

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☒ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0946 L

Element

Church: Llanwynno | PRN: m0946 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric — Int: PO 1/2 — Ext: PO1

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with larger squared rockfaced blocks sandstone. Battered base.

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric — Int: PO 1/2 — Ext: PO1

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with larger squared rockfaced blocks sandstone. Battered base. Coping, cross.

Openings

1 window, 1 door; both Victorian. Window at vestry level is lancet with single ogee/trefoiled lancels with recesses behind cusps; coarse gritty limestone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch. Door underneath to boiler room had no separate quoins, head formed by coase gritty limestone lintel with chamfer.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric — Int: PO 1/2 — Ext: PO1

Internally SW corner canted for chimney.

Openings

Door to chancel, see chancel

WEST WALL

Fabric — Int: PO 1/2 — Ext: PO1

Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone laid in snecked courses, quoined with larger squared rockfaced blocks sandstone. Battered base. Coping.

Openings

Door has pointed head; coarse gritty limestone dressings, wave moulding, quarter-globe stops; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch; Victorian.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with chancel but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays; truss has collar only

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Concrete

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: 1 x 17th century wall tablet loose

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Benefactions board

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0946 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Llanwynno | Church PRN: m0946 | Survey date: 23-02-98

Shape, plan (present): Irregular | First map type/date: Tithe/1842

Shape, first map: Largely curvilinear

Shape, relief: Slopes down very steeply to E and to a lesser extent to S

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Drystone wall

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W

Main entrance, description: Double gates immediately outside W door; path round SW corner of church to W porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Double gates to S (not now in use)

BURIALS

In use? ☒ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☒ | PRN: 545m | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description: On modern rubble plinth. Socket stone square, with chamfered upper half, large square socket. Shaft is square in section at bottom, with a vertical length of roll moulding at each corner, above which shaft is octagonal

Earthworks: Hollow way runs N-wards from secondary gate.

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot. Course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST MARY'S CHURCH, MARGAM

NGR: SS 8016 8630

PRN: w0770

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 14148

COMMUNITY: Margam

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L083 4041

SUMMARY

Margam appears to have been a pre-Norman monastic site (RCAHMW 1976, 16 no 825), to judge from the Early Christian monuments found in the vicinity (PRN 771w, RCAHMW 1976, 16, no 825; PRN 362w, RCAHMW 1976, 44 no 901; PRN 767w, RCAHMW 1976, 46-8 no 907; PRN 778w, RCAHMW 1976, 48-9 no 908; PRN 808w, RCAHMW 1976, 49 no 909; PRN 768, RCAHMW 1976, 49 no 910). In 1147 a Cistercian abbey (PRN 771w) was founded by Robert Consul, Earl of Gloucester (Williams 1984, 4). After its dissolution (in 1536), the abbey church continued in parish use under the charge of a perpetual curate (Evans 1996, 103). The churchyard lies mostly to the N of the church and thus outside the abbey precincts. There is no churchyard cross.

The only surviving parts of the abbey church are the nave and aisles, but for liturgical purposes the end three bays are used as a chancel, and for the purposes of database recording has been classed as a nave with continuous chancel. Repairs are noted to the monks' chancel in 1539 and possibly also in 1552, but it may have been abandoned by 1612 when it was noted that 'one part of the church is covered' (Williams 1984, 116, 122). A crease for a roof in the lower stage of the W front of the nave indicates that at some stage there was a forebuilding of some description, but it is not known what form this took, or at what date it was erected. There are also three corbels on this wall, not contemporary with the crease, and Evans (1996, 27) suggests that they were for a lean-to narthex to the abbey church. It is not known when the tower fell or was demolished; the belfry was 're-edified' in 1612 (Williams 1984, 116, 122), but no tower or bellcote is shown on the earliest depiction of the church , in 1684 by Dineley (1888, 317). Dineley's sketch of the W front shows it with the gable of the roof so low and steep that the W windows are partially included within it and omits the string course under them. He shows the S aisle as partly ruinous, and the N aisle with its eaves at the same height as the nave and a small W door above which is a window with an arched head and then a small rectangular window. A drawing by Carter, made in 1803 from the NW and reproduced by Evans (1996, Plate viiia), shows the same gable line, but with a small square bellcote at the apex above a second string course; the westernmost bay of the N aisle is two-storied, accounting for the three levels of opening shown by Dineley whilst the rest of the aisle, which does not extend as far as the E end of the church, is of a single storey with small windows and door all with semicircular heads.

The W front attained its present form in 1810, when the E side of the church was rebuilt, and the aisles were reconstructed and heightened, the N aisle reaching its present length. The shafts framing the W door seem to have been renewed (Newman 1995, 425), since they are shown without shaft rings on the early drawings, unlike the windows of the W front. The new parts of the W facade were built in Bath stone so that the ashlar W front has a uniform appearance, but otherwise sandstone was used; coming from Pyle (Evans 1996, 28). The N aisle was completely rebuilt or refaced and provided with new windows in its N and W walls. The S aisle is identical, except that its S wall in the same Sutton stone ashlar as the W front, patched with sandstone, and for this reason may well be the original medieval wall since there seems no reason why, if it had been completely reconstructed, it should not have been faced in sandstone like the N wall. A second restoration took place in 1872-3 (Evans 1996, 28, 117) but seems to have been largely confined to the internal fittings. The E ends of the aisles have been partitioned off with screens to form mortuary chapels; that in the S aisle would appear from Dineley's account to have already been in existence at by the end of the 17th century (Dineley 1888, 317). The N aisle is now used as a vestry.

The font in use is probably of 1806-09 (Evans 1996, 116); there are the remains of three earlier fonts, but otherwise all the internal fittings are Victorian or later. There are four fine altar tombs of members of the Mansel family with recumbent figures in the E end of the S aisle, all dating to the first half of the 17th century;

these and the other memorials in the church are published by Evans (1996, 118-22). Evans (1996, 115) notes two bells, dated 1672 and 1811; the NW turret forms the belfry.

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

D/D X410/58	nd	Margam Church interior, to E

NLW

LL/F/508	1904	Faculty: Reaseating, memorial tablet
LL/F/512	1933	Removal of ancient monuments in parish church to schoolroom in churchyard and constitution of schoolroom as museum

WGAS

D/D/xnf 1	1684	Illustration of church (copy)
D/D Ma 137	1771-99	Parish account book of Hopkin Llewellyn

NMR

Kay (various)	2 ser I 17, 22; VIII 1289; XI 1711-2, 1743-4

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Margam | Dedication: St Mary | PRN: w0770 | Survey date: 16-06-97

Orientation nave: 90 | Chancel: 90

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [X]
C Chancel, separate [ ]
D North aisle [X] Clerestory? [X]
E South aisle [X]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [ ] External stair turret [ ]
K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote [ ]
L Porch, structurally separate [ ] Position [ ] [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position [ ]
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position [ ]
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [ ]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs [ ]
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element [ ]

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [X]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s) [ ]
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location [ ]
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location [ ]
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door [ ]

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]
Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]
Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork: [ ]
ECM [X] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [X]

Element

Church: Margam | PRN: w0770 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PO 1/3

Internally ashlar to healfway up head of arcade; above this rebuilt in squared rockfaced blocks apparently of same stone laid in snecked courses. Division between nave and chancel marked by pair of slender giant shafts with foliage capitals and moulded bases on a tall plinth, ?Bath stone.

Ext: R3

Openings

Arcade; 3 blocked triforium openings. Arcade of 4 bays (continuous with chancel = 6 bays between responds in total); arches have semicircular heads of two orders without mouldings, rising from chamfered impost bands at the top of rectangular piers, also of two orders without moulding; v short chamfered bases. Blocked triforium openings or clerestorey windows over 3 W arches (plaster in situ in comparable position over 4th arch), represented by jambs only - heads do not survive.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext:

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PO 1/3

Internally ashlar to healfway up head of arcade; above this rebuilt in squared rockfaced blocks apparently of same stone laid in snecked courses. Division between nave and chancel marked by pair of slender giant shafts with foliage capitals and moulded bases on a tall plinth, ?Bath stone.

Ext: R3

Openings

Arcade of 4 bays (continuous with chancel = 6 bays between responds in total); arches have semicircular heads of two orders without mouldings, rising from chamfered impost bands at the top of rectangular piers, also of two orders without moulding; v short chamfered bases. Plastered over at height of N arcade triforium/clerestorey.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Sutton stone ashlar, with occasional replacement blocks of greenish-yellow sandstone. Nave W front framed by massive piers which rise above roof-line and terminate in blind arcading with semicircular arches, carried on corbel table. Divided into 2 stages by narrow string course at height of window sills. Upper stage has coping carried on foliage corbels and string course joining hoodmoulds of windows. Lower stage has crease for roof occupying entire width between piers; at this point piers are somewhat wider, extensions terminating with weathering just below string course; 3 large plain corbels just below string course, centre one in gable of crease.

Ext: PO1

Openings

Oculus in gable; 3 windows; 1 door. UPPER STAGE: Oculus framed by rose of 4 interlocking circles in relief, within outer circle. Windows all alike: semicircular heads of 2 orders (outer roll with recessed groove, inner hollow chamfer; narrow impost bands carried on pairs of engaged shafts with scalloped capitals, plain bases and multiple bulbous shaft rings; hoodmoulds; internally framed by roll moulding. LOWER STAGE: Door has semicircular head of 3 orders (outer double roll moulding, middle roll with fine spiral fluting, inner single plain roll; carried on 3 shafts with scalloped variation or foliage capitals (all different), moulded bases and multiple bulbous shaft rings; hoodmould linking into impost bands; relieving arch.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with chancel roof; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Wooden panelled; continuous with chancel

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including large number of flat slabs; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 19th century; flat slabs, see above

Stained glass: In all W windows; modern

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Low screen in wrought iron between nave and chancel

Pulpit: Victorian; carved Bath stone, with coloured marble embellishments

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: backed benches

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☒ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0770 A

Element

Church: Margam | PRN: w0770 | Element type: Chancel | Code: B

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PO 1/3

Internally ashlar to healfway head of arcade; above this rebuilt in squared rockfaced blocks apparently of same stone laid in snecked courses.

Ext: PO1

Openings

Arcade of 2 bays (continuous with nave = 6 bays between responds in total); arches have semicircular heads of two orders without mouldings, rising from chamfered impost bands at the top of rectangular piers, also of two orders without moulding; v short chamfered bases. Plastered over at height of triforium/clerestory openings further W

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ashlar in greeish-yellow sandstone. Coping carried on foliage corbels, cross. Internally lower part of wall blind arcading with semicircular arches carried on red marble shafts with Norman-type capitals, against red marble background

Ext: PO1

Openings

Oculus in gable; 3 windows. Oculus framed by rose of 4 interlocking circles in relief, within outer circle. Windows all alike except that central one is tallest; semicircular heads of 2 orders (outer roll with recessed groove, inner hollow chamfer; narrow impost bands carried on pairs of engaged shafts with scalloped capitals, plain bases and multiple bulbous shaft rings; hoodmoulds; internally framed by roll moulding.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PO 1/3

Internally ashlar to healfway head of arcade; above this rebuilt in squared rockfaced blocks apparently of same stone laid in snecked courses.

Ext: PO1

Openings

Arcade of 2 bays (continuous with nave = 6 bays between responds in total); arches have semicircular heads of two orders without mouldings, rising from chamfered impost bands at the top of rectangular piers, also of two orders without moulding; v short chamfered bases. Plastered over at height of N arcade triforium/clerestorey.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int:

Ext:

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with nave roof; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Wooden panelled; continuous with nave

FLOOR

Type: Stone; 1 step at nave/chancel division; 1 at chancel rail; 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: In all E windows; Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina: Piscina/credence (19th century) table at E end of S wall; semicircular arched opening of 2 orders

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Altar rail has wrought iron standards, as chancel screen; Victorian. Chapels at either side partioned off with wooden and glass screens of interlocking arcading

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☒ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0770 B

Element

Church: Margam | PRN: w0770 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): 2 E bays = Talbot chapel (vestry); W bay = chapel

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Ashlar in greenish-yellow sandstone; parapet coninues from W wall. W end has arge blind arch of same size and shape of window openings. Internally wide pilasters opposite arcade piers, to support vault

Openings: 5 windows, all alike; outer opening has semicircular head framing pair lights with semicircular head and plate tracery; outer opening with 2 orders (outer roll with recessed groove, inner hollow chamfer; narrow impost bands carried on pairs of engaged shafts with scalloped capitals, plain bases and multiple bulbous shaft rings, similar shaft between lights; greenish-yellow sandstone dressings; hoodmoulds; internally framed by roll moulding.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Yellow sandstone ashlar; blind 'window' formed by roll moulding, hoodmould with plain stops

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Fabric:

Openings: Arcade, see nave and chancel N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Fabric: Sutton stone ashlar, with occasional replacement blocks of greenish-yellow sandstone. String course continues from nave, but wider, forming bottom of plain parapet with another string course at top

Openings: 1 window; semicircular head, inner chamfer; surrounded by roll-moulded frame; Sutton stone; string course without stops; internally framed by roll mouldings.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Lean-to

Roof, exterior appearance: Against N wall of nave; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Cross vault

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including large number of flat slabs; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Mansel tablet covers most of E wall internally. Wall tablets: 2 x 19th century. Altar tomb with effigy and canopy: 1x 19th century

Stained glass: W window: modern

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: W-most bay partioned off by building arch between 1st arcade pier and correponding pilaster on N wall, to form chapel.
Organ (2 manual) in 3rd bay from E

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☒ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0770 D

Element

Church: Margam | PRN: w0770 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade, see nave/chancel S wall

EAST WALL

Fabric: Yellow sandstone ashlar; blind 'window' formed by roll moulding, hoodmould with plain stops

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Ashlar in Sutton stone with occasional replacement blocks in greenish-yellow sandstone; parapet coninues from W wall. Internally wide pilasters opposite arcade piers, to support vault

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 6 windows, Door. windows all alike; outer opening has semicircular head framing pair lights with semicircular head and plate tracery; outer opening with 2 orders (outer roll with recessed groove, inner hollow chamfer; narrow impost bands carried on pairs of engaged shafts with scalloped capitals, plain bases and multiple bulbous shaft rings, similar shaft between lights; greenish yellow sandstone dressings; hoodmoulds; internally framed by roll moulding.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Sutton stone ashlar, with occasional replacement blocks of greenish-yellow sandstone. String course continues from nave, but wider, forming bottom of plain parapet with another string course at top

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window; semicircular head, inner chamfer; surrounded by roll-moulded frame; Sutton stone; string course without stops; internally framed by roll mouldings.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK — Roof type: Lean-to

Roof, exterior appearance: Against S wall of nave; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Cross vault

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including large number of flat slabs; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: In chapel Mansel family memorials - wall tablets: 5 x 17-18th century; altar tombs: 5 Elizabethan/Jacobean with pairs of effigies and weepers
In rest of aisle: 1 x18th century; 3 x 19th century; 1 x 20th century

Stained glass: W window; Victorian

Wall paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Altar at W end made up of top of table tomb from churchyard on 2 architectural fragments

Font etc: Font in use is Victorian; circular, coloured marble, carved. Also part of medieval font with octagonal bowl, part of another with cylindrical bowl, wide v shallow ?font from Stormy chapel

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☒ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w0770 E

CHURCHYARD

Church: Margam | Church PRN: w0770 | Survey date: 16-06-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date:

Shape, first map:

Shape, relief: Slopes up slightly to N

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W

Main entrance, description: Double gates between ashlar piers; path directly to W door

Secondary entrances (if any): NW corner; single gate

BURIALS

In use? ☒ | Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☒

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any: Rest of abbey church (E end of nave, crossing, transepts and nave lie to N of parish church, and conventual buildings lie to S, both outside area of churchyard

Other remarks:

ST MARY MAGDELENE'S CHURCH, MAWDLAM

NGR: SS 8065 8195

PRN: m1150

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 11248

COMMUNITY: Cynffig

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L111 4155

SUMMARY

The church at Mawdlam is first mentioned as the chapel of St Mary Magdelene in a deed of the mid 13th century; the precise date cannot be determined but three of the witnesses are known to have been active between 1245 and 1282, with an attested overlap 1254-1262 (Grey 1909, 89-90). It is not mentioned in the Valuation of Norwich of 1254 (Lunt (ed) 1926, 323-4), but this is not proof that it was not in existence by this date. The churchyard is largely curvilinear and is raised above the level of the surrounding area. The socket stone of the churchyard cross survives, but is not necessarily *in situ*.

The church has nave, separate chancel, W tower with short outshot stair turret, W porch unusually placed beyond the tower, and a vestry cum organ chamber added to the N side of the chancel. There are no windows in the N wall. It is constructed from cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone (more properly a siltstone) which weathers to a grey colour, with occasional pieces of limestone and red mudstone conglomerate. There is very little that is datable about the church in general, the chancel having been rebuilt, together with the chancel arch (*contra* Crossley and Ridgway 1959, 73), and the windows of the nave renewed. This leaves only the tower and porch. The tower arch was described by Glynne (1901, 254), who visited it in 1848 as 'low and plain, rude, and misshapen, of very obtuse form upon coarse imposts', and whilst this description agrees in most details with what is visible today, there are no imposts. Newman suggests that this arch may date to c 1300; he dates the outer door of the porch to the 15th century (Newman 1995, 368); but the door between the tower and porch, also with a semicircular head , has a brick relieving arch and could convincingly be attributed to the 18th century. The porch certainly post-dates the tower, as it conceals a small square W window identical with those in the S wall of the tower which could well be post-medieval. It is possible that the porch was added in the 18th century and the original W door of the tower was moved out to form the new outer door; its relieving arch, a segmental arch in brick, would certainly fit such a date. Only one set of pre-Victorian roof timbers survives, in the nave. By analogy with the domestic architecture of the area, the trusses of this roof should be of 17th century date (RCAHMW 1988, 125).

The nave was restored in 1878 (architect Prichard) at c cost of approximately £550; some alterations were made to the porch and possibly to the chancel, and drains were laid around the outside of the church(NLW LL/F/696&696X). The nave was refenestrated, reroofed (although the trusses were retained), and refitted to provide space for another 28 worshippers, the whole church was repointed and plastered. Comparison between the plans accompanying the faculty showing the church before (A) and after restoration (B) shows that the three windows in the S wall of the nave have been replaced in the same openings but with new dressings and rear arches; the originals are shown each as single-light apertures. The doorway in the S wall of the porch, which had previously been blocked, appears to have been reopened for the purpose of renewing the blocking. A window is shown at the W end of the N wall of the chancel in plan A has been edited out of plan B, but since the chancel seems to have been largely excluded from the restoration works, this probably represents a drafting error. In 1894 the chancel was completely rebuilt on a larger scale and the vestry was added (architects Waller and Son of Gloucester). There is no obvious reason for the presence of a projecting bay on the S side of the chancel

A collection of post-medieval memorial tablets remain on the walls. The church contains a fine carved Norman tub font, and two enormous blocks of stone in the porch are alleged to be medieval *mensae*, otherwise the internal fittings are Victorian or later. The bell is dated 1664 (Evans nd, 56).

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GlRO

P/87/11	1847	
P/87/CW/15/1-2	1904-05	Inventories of Pyle and Kenfig churches
P/87/CW/35	1900-37	St Mary Magdelene, Kenfig, churchwardens' accounts
P/87/CW/36	1943-46	Income and expenditure account, parish of Pyle and Kenfig
P/87/CW/51	1880	List of subscribers to church restoration fund
P/87/CW/52	1916	Fire insurance policy
P/87/CW/55/1-2	1941	Letter and specification re rewiring
P/87/CW/56	1945-48	Correpondence, accounts and other papers re new lectern
P/87/CW/57	1946	Estimate and specifications re heating apparatus
P/87/CW/58	1948-51	Correspondence and list of tenders re repairs to tower and porch
P/87/CW/59	1951	Letter re fire insurance
P/87/CW/72	1944	Rough notes on vestry meeting, parish of Pyle and Kenfig
P/87/CW/98	1955	Programme of services and events to celebrate 700th anniversary, including outline history of church

NLW

LL/F/696	1878	Faculty: Repair and improvements in church
LL/F/696X	1878	Faculty: Repair and improvements in church
LL/F/698	1894	Faculty: Repair of chancel, organ chamber and vestry
LL/F/701	1922	Faculty: Stained glass window

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Mawdlam

Dedication: St Mary Magdelene

PRN: m1150

Survey date: 16-05-97

Orientation nave: 115 Chancel: 115

A Nave [X]

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [X]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [X] External stair turret [X]

K Belicote [ ] Position of tower/belicote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [X] Position: W Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [X]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [X] Duplicated elements:

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [X]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:

12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [X]
18th [X]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [X] Location(s): Nave

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [X] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]

Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Mawdlam | PRN: m1150 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone, but some larger and squared; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Patched. Continuous batter. Possible straight joint, towards W end, but looks more like a crack caused by ground movement

Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Sandstone rubble. Coping, cross. Internally short flat buttress either side of chancel arch

Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: Chancel arch wide, 2-centred head, 2 chamfered orders of which inner supported on foliage bracket; hoodmould with foliage stops; Victorian

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Much obscured by mortar, but can be seen to be same coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone, but some larger and squared, as N wall; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Battered base. At E end buttress quoined with Bath stone, and Bath stone kneeler

Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: 3 windows, all alike; pairs of trefoiled lancets; grey sandstone dressings entirely renewed, chamfered; 2-centred heads to rear arches.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone, but some larger and squared; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone.

Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings: Tower arch, 1 window. Arch fairly low with semicular head; ?Sutton stone or Bath stone, continuous chamfer, run-out stops. Window is small pointed lancet above S side of arch

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 4 bays, 3 trusses, each with collar and arched braces; chamfered, with diagonal-cut stops; post-medieval. Wall plates are Victorian or later

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 17th century, 4 x 18th century, 1 x 19th century

Stained glass: In central window (nd, Victorian style) and SE window (modern)

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; wooden panelled

Lectern/ reading desk: Carved wooden

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Backed benches

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒

18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m1150 A

Element

Church: Mawdlam | PRN: m1150 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in bracket(s)):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in snecked courses, quoined in sandstone ashlar. Bath stone kneeler

Int: P/PA 3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Organ arch has triangular head; 2 orders of chamfer, inner dying into piers, outer with pyramid stops.

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in snecked courses, quoined in sandstone ashlar. Coping, cross

Int: P/PA 3

Ext: PO1

Openings: E window graded triplet of trefoiled lancets; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with foliage stops, relieving arch

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in snecked courses, quoined in sandstone ashlar. W end of wall forms projecting bay. Bath stone kneeler

Int: P/PA 3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window; triplet of lancets with trefoiled heads; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; rear arch in form of full-length arch matching organ arch opposite; triangular head; 2 orders of chamfer, inner dying into piers, outer with pyramid stops.

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Chancel arch, see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 3 bays, 2 trusses, each with collar and arched braces; wall plates, all Victorian or later

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile, 2 steps at chancel arch, 1 at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 2 x 16th century, 3 x 17th century, 1 x 19th century

Stained glass: E window, as 1914-18 war memorial

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Modern, panelled and carved

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Modern, wrought iron standards

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Seats have matchboarded backs, front desk matches altar rail

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m1150 C

Element

Church: Mawdlam | PRN: m1150 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Baptistry

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Internally Bath stone ?fireplace with 2-centred head, chamfered, pyramid stops

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

1 window; slit in belfry, ?sandstone and Sutton stone dressings, no mouldings

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Battlemented parapet flush with wall, apex of roof gable in middle. 2 spouts

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

2 windows; arch. Window visible externally is slit in belfry, ?sandstone and Sutton stone dressings, no mouldings. Other window and arch, see nave W

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Outshot stair turret against E half of wall rises at its E end for roughly half height of tower finishing with steep lean-to roof in ashlar against side of tower; its W end, though of one build is lower, with separate ashlar lean-to roof against W side of E end

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

4 windows, 1 door, 1 blocked door. Belfry has square window; ?sandstone and Sutton stone dressings, rebate and chamfer. Another similar window lower down, level with top of turret roof; dressings all Sutton stone. TURRET 2 slits, upper with sandstone and Sutton stone dressings, chamfered; lower with Sutton stone dressings, chamfer and rebate. Internally turret door has pointed head; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered. Blocked door at 1st floor level from turret ?to former gallery marked by straight joints and wooden lintel

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Battlemented parapet flush with wall, apex of roof gable in middle.

Ext: PO/L 1

Openings:

2 window; 1 door. Window visible externally is slit in belfry, ?sandstone and Sutton stone dressings, no mouldings. Door has semicircular head and narrow chamfer on tower side with deeply-splayed embrasure to window over - further details see porch E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Saddleback

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

Type: Ceramic tile

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Tub font with carved scale pattern; cable moulding around rim, moulded base

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Clock
1 bell

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☒ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m1150 J

Element

Church: Mawdlam | PRN: m1150 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

1 window, square; sandstone dressings, chamfered

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone.

Ext:

Openings:

1 window, 1 door, see tower E wall; window on this side (external to tower) has same rebate and chamfer as windows on S wall of tower; door has relieving arch of bricks

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone, some narrow blocks red mudstone conglomerate; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone.

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Openings:

Blocked door in middle of wall represented by 2 straight joints.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: PO 1/2

Coursed rubble mainly in irregular blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone; quoined blocks same stone and Sutton stone. Coping

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings:

1 door; semicircular head; ?Sutton stone dressings, continuous hollow chamfer, straight cut stops; rear arch has segmental head in brick

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK — Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

Type: Stone, including flat slabs — Burials known? ☐

FLOOR: — Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS: See floor

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: 2 enormous stone slabs loose against wall, allegedly mensae, but consecration crosses not readily visible

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Stone banches built into walls

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☒ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m1150 L

Element

Church: Mawdlam | PRN: m1150 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Organ chamber

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in snecked courses, quoined in sandstone ashlar.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, 1 door. Window is triplet of trefoiled lancets; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; rear arch has triangular head. Door has Caernarvon head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, run-out stops

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in snecked courses, quoined in sandstone ashlar.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window consisting of pair of of trefoiled lancets; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; rear arch has triangular head

SOUTH WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arch, see chancel N wall; contains organ, but has gap on one side to allow access t between chancel and vestry

WEST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in snecked courses, quoined in sandstone ashlar.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues N side of chancel roof, with hips over E and W sides of vestry; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Boaded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Chamber organ

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m1150 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Mawdlam | Church PRN: m1105 | Survey date: 16-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Largely curvilinear | First map type/date: Tithe/1847

Shape, first map: Largely curvilinear

Shape, relief: Fairly flat; raised above surrounding area

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble, acts as retaining wall

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path directly to porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Possible blocked door at E end S side represented by straight joints - lower than churchyard level inside - either churchyard level has been made up since door was blocked or it originally had steps inside (cf Port Eynon)

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? None apparent

Burials, points of interest: Coffin-shaped grave markers, as in W area

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☒ | PRN: 2568m | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description: Socket stone octagonal, much weathered, but possibly with double wave moulding on its upper surface, square socket. Now half below ground level on slight rise in ground, possibly steps

Earthworks:

Yews? ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent. Deep trench around S side of church and E and N side chancel and vestry.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST TYDFIL'S CHURCH, MERTHYR TYDFIL

NGR: SO 0495 0585

PRN: m0457

NPRN: 394

CADW REFERENCE: 11449

COMMUNITY: Town

DEANERY: Merthyr Tydfil

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L334 0684

SUMMARY

Merthyr Tydfil is a pre-Norman foundation, attested by the *merthyr* placename and the presence of a Class B pillar stone (PRN 454m) of 8th or 9th century date (RCAHMW 1976, 40), no displayed in the N aisle. A second monument displayed alongside the first came from Abercar in Brecknockshire; when this was first brought to Merthyr it stood in the churchyard. A further fragment of inscribed stone is recorded as having also been moved from Abercar to Merthyr Tydfil churchyard, but now appears to be lost (Anon 1901, 60-2). The church first appears in the documentary sources in 1119 (Clark 1910, 50). The churchyard is shown on the tithe map of 1850 (GlRO P/4) as curved polygonal. The churchyard cross does not survive.

The church consists of nave with N and S aisles, separate apsidal chancel, N and S transepts, W tower, S porch, and two interconnected vestries N of the chancel and N transept. As it appears now, the church is largely the product of a rebuilding of 1891-1901, architect J L Pearson (Newman 1995, 435). This incorporates part of the structure of its early 19th predecessor, dated variously to 1804 (Wilkins 1867, 290), 1807-08 (Watkins 1981, 171) and 1820 (Newman 1995, 435). This was described shortly after its demolition as consisting only of W tower nave and chancel (Anon 1901, 60), but appears on the tithe map of 1850 as having projections to the N and S of the nave (GlRO P/4), and from examination of the joint between the masonry of the N aisle and N transept, it appears that the N transept has been retained from the earlier church, as well as the nave and tower. The lower part of the W wall of the S aisle also appears to be of differing masonry from both the 19th century rebuilds, and may perhaps be part of the predecessor to the Regency church. This was described as 'Norman', though given the loose use of this term by Victorian antiquaries (Freeman 1850, 42), it was not necessarily of 12th century date. The tower is the only part of the early 19th structure which largely retains its original appearance. A stone coffin was found during the demolition of this church in the foundations

Besides the Early Christian monuments noted above, there are a number of wall tablets from the 18th century onwards. Parts of the font are early, but the rest of the internal fittings are Victorian or later. In 1918 Wright (i 71) noted a ring of eight bells of 1893 by Taylor of Loughborough.

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

D/DD704	1702	Lease of property in churchyard
P/4/2	1799-1833	Vestry minutes
P/4/3	1833-90	Vestry minutes
P/4/4	1897-1919	Vestry minutes
P/4	1850	Tithe plan
P/4/CW/1	1921-66	Churchwardens' accounts

NLW

LL/F/528	1754	Faculty: Reseating of church
LL/F/529	1817	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/530	1817	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/531	1827	Faculty: Rebuilding of steeple
LL/F/532	1828	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/533	1828	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/534	1828	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/537	1897	Faculty: Restoration and extension of church; disturbance of graves
LL/F/538	1898	Faculty: Purchase of part of churchyard for road widening
LL/F/540	1910	Faculty: Purchase of part of churchyard for road widening and recreation
LL/F/543	1924	Faculty: Heating apparatus and new organ

NMGW

Wright (various) i 71

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | Dedication: St Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Survey date: 20-02-98

A Nave [X] | Orientation nave: 110 | Chancel: 110

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [X]

D North aisle [X] | Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [X]

F North transept [X]

G South transept [X]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [X] | External stair turret [X]

K Bellcote [ ] | Position of tower/bellcote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [X] | Position: S | Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] | Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] | Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [ ]

P Vestry, structurally separate [X]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]

R Rood stairs/loft [ ] | Position stairs:

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ] | Duplicated elements: P

T Other [ ] | Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries: 12th [ ] 13th [ ] 13th/14th [ ] 14th [ ] 15th [ ] 15th/16th [ ] 16th [ ] 17th [ ] 18th [ ] 19th [X] 20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] | Location(s):

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] | Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] | Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] | Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] | Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]

Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [X]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [X]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [X] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade of 4 bays; piers in Bath stone of square section between similar responds, applied pilasters on each face, those facing nave taller, floral capitals (differing beween piers) and moulded bases; semicircular arches.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Coping, cross

Chancel arch has semicircular head supported either side by pair of Bath stone half-columns with floral capitals.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade of 4 bays; piers in Bath stone of square section between similar responds, applied pilasters on each face, those facing nave taller, floral capitals (differing beween piers) and moulded bases; semicircular arches.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Tower arch has semicircular head rising from impost bands which extend round three orders; head has no mouldings on any of orders; on piers outer order has roll moulding, middle no moulding, inner half-columns with floral capitals and moulded bases

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers Internally divided into 4 bays by semicircular arches (like head of chancel arch) spanning between facing piers

Ceiling Flat plaster between arches

FLOOR

Type Stone; woodblock under seats

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit Victorian; cylindrical, carved in trefoiled panels

Lectern/ reading desk Brass eagle

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Chairs

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0457 A

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Apsidal - can only be divided roughly into N, E and S. Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses. Bath stone string course under windows, and Bath stone arcaded eaves cornice. Internally chancel continues W-wards to flank transepts; embellished by moulded string course under windows and 2 pilaster with floral capitals (as nave piers), one on either side of W-most window.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows (of 7 arranged evenly round apse), 1 door, 1 arch. Windows all alike; tall, narrow, semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings with zigzag carving and roll round head. Door to vestry has semicircular head with multiple roll moulding and hollow chamfer siding from square piers with plain capitals. Arch to transept has semicircular head rising from impost bands.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Apsidal - can only be divided roughly into N, E and S. Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses. Bath stone string course under windows, and Bath stone arcaded eaves cornice. Internally moulded string course under windows.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

3 windows (of 7 arranged evenly round apse), all alike; tall, narrow, semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings with zigzag carving and roll round head.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Apsidal - can only be divided roughly into N, E and S. Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses. Bath stone string course under windows, and Bath stone arcaded eaves cornice. Internally chancel continues W-wards to flank transepts; embellished by moulded string course under windows and 2 pilaster with floral capitals (as nave piers), one on either side of W-most window.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows (of 7 arranged evenly round apse), 1 arch. Windows all alike; tall, narrow, semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings with zigzag carving and roll round head. Arch to transept has semicircular head rising from impost bands.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

Chancel arch, see nave

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Hipped

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate; cross at either end

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Plaster

FLOOR

Type Carpetted; 2 steps chancel arch, 1 at altar rail, 2 in E end

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 1 x 18th century

Stained glass Victorian glass in 3 E-most windows

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables Modern, panelled and carved

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen Modern; wooden standards

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Stalls have low backs and lightly carved ends

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0457 C

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses; NW corner quoined in sandstone ashlar and E end keyed into N transept. Bath stone string course under windows, and another linking hoodmoulds of windows; Bath stone eaves cornice. Internally 3 half-columns with floral capitals between windows; moulded string course under windows.

Ext: PO1

Openings

4 windows; all alike; semicircular head; Bath stone dressings of two orders; hoodmould linked by string course

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Arch to transept has pointed head rising from Bath stone impost pands; dressings (if any) concealed behind plaster.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Arcade, see nave N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses; quoined in sandstone ashlar. Bath stone string courses continue from N wall. Coping. Internal string course also continues from N wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues N side of nave roof with break in slope; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 3-bay groin vault with pointed arches between nave piers and half-columns on outer wall.

Ceiling: Plaster

FLOOR

Type: Stone; woodblock under seats

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Early Christian Monument x 2: one is PRN 454m; the other originally from Abercar, Brecon. Wall tablets: 2 x 18th century; 7 x 19th century

Stained glass: Victorian stained glass in E-most window

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0457 D

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade, see nave N wall

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arch to transept has pointed head rising from Bath stone impost pands; dressings (if any) concealed behind plaster.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 3 windows; 1 door. Windows all alike; semicircular head; Bath stone dressings of two orders

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses; SW corner quoined in sandstone ashlar. Bath stone string course under windows; Bath stone eaves cornice. Internally 3 half-columns with floral capitals between windows; moulded string course under windows.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

Fabric: Bath stone string course continues from S wall. Wall below lower string course in roughly coursed rubble of irregular blocks Pennant sandstone and small river boulders. Above string course wall in squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses; quoined in sandstone ashlar. Coping. Internal string course also continues from N wall.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance Continues S side of nave roof with break in slope; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers 3-bay groin vault with pointed arches between nave piers and half-columns on outer wall.

Ceiling Plaster

FLOOR

Type Stone; woodblock under seats

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments Wall tablets: 2 x 18th century; 3 x 19th century

Stained glass Victorian stained glass in E-most window

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0457 E

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: N transept | Code: F

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins; blocks rather smaller and narrower than those of N wall N aisle, into which it is keyed at W end. Coping. Square chimney at NE corner

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, 1 door. Circular window half-way into gable, visible externally only (above ceiling); Bath stone dressings. Door to vestry has semicircular head; Bath stone dressings.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins. Bath stone eaves cornice. External lobby to vestry against lower half; in same construction, crowned by parapet with string course above and below.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door and window to lobby. Door has semicircular head; Bath stone dressings. Window small, square

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings: Arch to chancel, see chancel N wall.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext: PO1

Openings: Arch to aisle, see N aisle E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Flat; panelled and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Carpetted; 2 steps above aisle

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Electric organ

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0457 F

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: S transept | Code: G

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arch to chancel, see chancel S wall.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window; lancet, of two orders; Bath stone dressings, outer order has shallow zigzag carving round head.

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses. Bath stone string course below that of chancel, but connected to it by short vertical. Internally string course below windows.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 3 windows. On main level 2 lancets, both alike; of two orders; Bath stone dressings. Above is circular window inscribed with 5-petalled flower, half-way into gable and visible externally only (above ceiling); Bath stone dressings.

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses. Bath stone string course continues from E wall, and from S wall of aisle. Coping. Internally string course below windows; impost band at S side of arch from aisle continues as short length of string course, and then resumes on other side of window.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arch to aisle, see S aisle E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

FLOOR

Type: Carpetted; 2 steps above aisle, also 2 steps under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 18th-19th century; 1 x 19th century

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Modern; carved and panelled

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sfoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0457 G

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: 4 stages. Lowest stage is in ashlar of grey fine-grained ?carboniferous limestone with occasional blocks sandstone, quoined with rusticated blocks limestone; tall blind arch occupies most of stage; divided from stage above by slightly projecting band of ashlar. Masonry above all in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, with parapet of same (in same plane); stages separated by string courses, parapet string course has small shallow corbels below. Stair turret (in angle between tower and N aisle) is quarter-cylinder rising nearly to top 2nd stage; squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, joint between tower and turret obscured by band of Bath stone.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 8 windows, 1 door. TOP STAGE: Belfry has 2 windows with semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings of two orders; hoodmoulds linked by string course. SECOND STAGE: single window semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings, chamfered. TURRET: 3 windows in lower stage, all with semicircular heads; upper stage has pair of similar lights, and small circular window; all with Bath stone dresings. At ground floor exterior is door with Caernarvon arch head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: 3 upper stages only; all in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, with parapet of same (in same plane); stages separated by string courses, parapet string course has small shallow corbels below.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 2 window, arch. TOP STAGE: Belfry has 2 windows with semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings of two orders; hoodmoulds linked by string course. BOTTOM STAGE: Arch, see W wall nave.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: 4 stages. Lowest stage is in ashlar of grey fine-grained ?carboniferous limestone with occasional blocks sandstone, quoined with rusticated blocks limestone; tall blind arch occupies most of stage; divided from stage above by slightly projecting band of ashlar. Masonry above all in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, with parapet of same (in same plane); stages separated by string courses, parapet string course has small shallow corbels below.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 3 windows. TOP STAGE: Belfry has 2 windows with semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings of two orders; hoodmoulds linked by string course. SECOND STAGE: single window semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings, chamfered.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: 4 stages. Lowest stage is in ashlar of grey fine-grained ?carboniferous limestone with occasional blocks sandstone, quoined with rusticated blocks limestone; tall blind arch occupies most of stage; divided from stage above by slightly projecting band of ashlar. Masonry above all in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, with parapet of same (in same plane); stages separated by string courses, parapet string course has small shallow corbels below.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 5 windows. TOP STAGE: Belfry has 2 windows with semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings of two orders; hoodmoulds linked by string course. THIRD STAGE: 2 windows semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings, chamfered (as second stage window on N and S walls but smaller). BOTTOM STAGE: (within blind arch) single window with semicircular head; Bath stone dressings f two orders.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Underside upper floor

FLOOR

Type: Carpetted; same level as nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 19th century

Stained glass: In W wall ground floor; Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Octagonal sandstone bowl with ?renewed pecked finish, mounted on square stem with very worn run-out stops

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Clock face on all sides.

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0457 J

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses.

Ext:

Openings: Door head is Caernavon arch variant; Bath stone with fillet and chamfer; under semicircular tympanum with roll and fillet around top

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Two carved Bath stone string courses, lower with rosettes, upper with leaf scroll. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int:

Fabric: String courses continue from E and W walls. Below lower string course in Bath stone ashlar; above in squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, Bath stone ashlar quoins. Corners of upper 2 stages embellished with engaged shafts with moulded bases; lower shafts terminate at upper string course; upper shafts have separate foliage capitals. In top stage (upper storey) is 4-bay blind arcade of semicircular arches; 3 shafts with foliage capitals between responds. Eaves cornice of E and W walls continues round gable to form coping, cross.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has semicircular head of 3 orders rising from impost bands formed by continuation of lower string course, outer billetted, midddle roll, inner zig-zag with pellets; inner and outer are engaged shafts with floral capitals, moulded bases and shaft rings; all Bath stone

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses; Bath stone ashlar quoins. Two carved Bath stone string courses, lower with rosettes, upper with leaf scroll. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling N-S plaster barrel vault

Type Stone

FLOOR

Burials known?

Underfloor heating?

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats Cantilevered stone benches built into walls

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:**

Century 12th 13th 13th/14th 14th 15th 15th/16th 16th 17th 18th 19th [x] 20th

Reference m0457 L

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: Vestry 1 | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Kitchen

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins; of one build with vestry 2. Coping.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Triplet of lancets with semicircular heads; Bath stone dressings, of 2 orders.

EAST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door to vestry 2 has semicircular head; Bath stone dressings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: 2 doors. Door to transept see N transept N wall. Door to lobby has semicircular head.

WEST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins. Bath stone eaves cornice.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel; angled, panelled and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Carpetted

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0457 P

Element

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | PRN: m0457 | Element type: Vestry 2 | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins. Coping.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 2 windows, both alike; semicircular heads; bath stone dressings, of 2 orders; hoodmoulds without stops

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Squared rockfaced blocks Pennant sandstone, laid in snecked courses, no separate quoins.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric: SW corner canted for fireplace.

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type Double pitched

Roof, exterior appearance E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling Barrel; angled, panelled and boarded

FLOOR

Type Carpetted

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference m0457 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Merthyr Tydfil | Church PRN: m0457 | Survey date: 20-02-98

Shape, plan (present): Polygonal | First map type/date: Tithe/1850

Shape, first map: Curved polygonal

Shape, relief: Slopes up slightly from S to N; raised above surrounding level

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Low stone wall with railings

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: S

Main entrance, description: Double gates with masonry of gateposts matching that of church. Directly outside S porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Double gates E side

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH, NEATH

NGR: SS 7531 9766

PRN: w1754

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 11776

COMMUNITY: Neath

DEANERY: Neath

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L094 4080

SUMMARY

The church of St Thomas within the borough of Neath was a chapel-of-ease to St Illtyd's at Llantwit until the 16th century (Carter 1974, 51). This makes identification of the borough church in the documentary sources somewhat problematical, since references to a church at Neath (eg Lunt (ed) 1926, 323), are more likely to be to St Illtyd's if not to the abbey church of St Mary (see Clark *passim*). However a charter of King John (1199 1216) to Neath Abbey, known from a confirmation of Edward II made c 1336, refers to St Illtyd's church with one chapel, and this chapel is probably St Thomas (Clark 1901, 1205); Taylor (1932, 60) states that the church of St Thomas the martyr is referred to in a deed of 1298, but gives no source. There is no reason to suppose that the church predates the town which was a Norman foundation; an Early Christian monument (PRN 625w: RCAHMW 1976, 52 no 915) now displayed in the nave, was found at the church of St Illtyd's. Any connection with the castle (eg Soulsby 1983, 191) is conjectural and *ipse facto* unlikely. Not only it was unusual for townspeople to share a castle chapel (Morris 1989, 262), but the castle already had its own chapel by 1129 (Clark 1901, 75) and while the castle was still in regular use there is no reason why its chapel would have been replaced by one outside the defences.

The churchyard is quadrangular, occupying the whole of one block within the town, though earlier plans show that it was surrounded by houses (WGAS D/DZ 287/2). The churchyard cross does not survive.

The church consists of nave with continuous chancel, N and S aisles, W tower porch and a vestry with a basement added against the S side of the chancel. The present appearance of the church is largely owing to its reconstruction in 1731 (architect a Mr Plymer, possibly of Sherbourne: Taylor 1932, 64), when the aisles were added. Since the whole building, with the exception of the tower and vestry, is rendered outside and plastered within, it is impossible to determine whether this was a complete rebuilding, or whether parts of the medieval fabric were retained; building materials seem to have been reused, since a recommendation was made that reused freestone was to be employed for the quoins (Taylor 1932, 63). Only the lower half of the tower definitely predates the late 17th century. Dineley's drawing of the church from the N (Dineley 1888, 311), made in 1684, shows a separate nave and chancel with corner buttresses, the chancel having one window in the N wall and a NE buttress, and the nave, which appears to be of approximately the same width as the tower with four large round-headed windows and three dormers on the N wall, and a large N porch to their W with a round-headed door and corner buttresses. Documentary evidence indicates that there was also a s porch (Taylor 1932, 65). The tower as shown by Dineley is squat and is divided into three stages, the lower two blind and the upper with a large rectangular window. There are four corner buttresses extending as far as the battlemented parapet. These are probably not the same buttresses as the present ones since Dineley shows them in three stages and the NE and SE buttresses as diagonal whereas they now project at right angles from the N and S walls, but his perspective is uncertain; the present ones are certainly not of the same build as the lower part of the tower. Shortly after this drawing was made, the height of the tower was raised using Sutton stone blocks brought from the abbey, some of which bear mouldings recognisably from the abbey; reference to the churchwardens' accounts allows this work to be dated to 1691 (Taylor 1932, 62). The masonry technique changes again in the top stage of the tower, but there is insufficient evidence to determine whether this represents a second phase of heightening, or whether there proved to be insufficient Sutton stone to raise the tower to the full height desired. The tower windows and doors are all Victorian, and there is therefore little to provide a date for the lower section, though Newman suggests a late 15th century date from the corner buttresses.

Little Victorian work is to be seen in the church. A vestry was added to the S side of the chancel in 1839 (Taylor 1932, 66), and at the same time the W gallery, originally inserted in 1758, was replaced. The tower

was restored in 1874, new dressings were provided for the nave windows in 1874, the gallery was removed, and the church was reroofed and refitted (Newman 1995, 456; Taylor 1932, 66; Thomas nd, 17). A considerable number of the earlier fittings have however survived. The altar rails are of 1731, though they have been rearranged from the original rectangular plan with the communion table in the middle; the communion table of the same date is now in the N aisle. The neo-classical font in the N aisle is probably of the same date; its bowl is identical with the font at Crynant Chapel, though the form of the stem is different. The other font, in the S aisle is a mutilated tub font, not a cross socket (*pace* Thomas, nd, 20). There is a royal coat of arms dated 1731, a collection of hatchments and a number of wall tablets of the 18th and 19th centuries. There are six bells, all by Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester, dated 1720 (Taylor 1936, 3-4).

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Documentary and manuscript

NLW

LL/F/570	1758	Faculty: Erection and appropriation of gallery
LL/F/572	1908	Faculty: Restoration of church; heating apparatus

(The following records are catalogued under the benefice of Neath with Llantwit, and it is not certain which church is intended)

LL/F/571	1786	Faculty: Appropriation of pew
LL/F/573	1909	Faculty: Stained glass window (confirmation)
LL/F/577	1921	Faculty: Reredos

WGAS

D/DZ 287/2	1710	Plan of town and port of Neath
D/D/xnf 1	1684	Illustration of church
P/76/CW/22	nd,	*A history of the churches in the parish of Neath with Llantwit* (ed Rev W P Thomas)

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Neath | Dedication: St Thomas | PRN: w1754 | Survey date: 28-05-97

Orientation nave: 100 | Chancel: 100

A Nave [X]
B Chancel, integral [X]
C Chancel, separate [ ]
D North aisle [X] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [X]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [X] External stair turret [X]
K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [ ] Position [ ] [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position [ ]
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position [ ]
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [X]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [X]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs [ ]
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element [ ]

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [X]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:
12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [X]
18th [X]
19th [X]
20th [ ]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]
Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [ ] Location(s) [ ]
Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location [ ]
Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location [ ]
Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door [ ]

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [X] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]
Altar rails: Post-medieval [X] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]
Fonts: Medieval [X] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [X] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]
Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [X] Contemporary [ ]
Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]
Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork: [ ]
ECM [X] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Neath | PRN: w1754 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

Fabric

Int

Ext: R3

Arcade of 5 bays; semicircular arches supported on plain square piers with narrow moulded imposts, between responds; keystones in stucco

Openings

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int

Ext

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int

Ext: R3

Arcade of 5 bays; semicircular arches supported on plain square piers with narrow moulded imposts, between responds; keystones in stucco

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Marks on plaster form rectangle framing head of arch and running horizontally to N and S walls at height of arcade imposts; ?marks of organ and W gallery

Int

Ext: R3

Tower arch, door. Arch tall and pointed, no mouldings. Turret door has irregular arched head, no moulding

Openings

WEST WALL

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with chancel roof and parallel with aisle roofs but separate from them; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Continuous with chancel; only part of roof structure visible; collars and arched braces; wallplates are battlemented, with fretted board forming frieze beneath

Ceiling: Continuous with chancel; boaded behind collars and over lower part of rafters

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☒

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 2 x 18th century, 2 x 19th century

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sioup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Wooden, panelled and carved; Victorian

Lectern/ reading desk: Brass

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Backed benches

Other features of interest: ECM (PRN 625w) displayed at back of church

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☒ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w1754 A

Element

Church: Neath | PRN: w1754 | Element type: Chancel | Code: B

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: Venetian window; Bath stone dressings, cyma reversa; internal hoodmould

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: Vestry door has square head

WEST WALL

Fabric

Int:

Ext:

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, continuous with nave roof and parallel with aisle roofs but separate from them; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Continuous with chancel; only part of roof structure visible; collars and arched braces; wallplates are battlemented, with fretted board forming frieze beneath

Ceiling: Continuous with chancel; boaded behind collars and over lower part of rafters

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile, 2 steps at end of aisles, 1 at E end originally for altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: 2 x 18th century, 1 x 19th century

Stained glass: E window; Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: 4 hatchments

Panelling, carving etc: Carved and painted stone reredos

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen: Turned balusters; later brass plate gives date of 1731

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Chairs Victorian or later (including bardic chair)

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☒ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w1754 B

Element

Church: Neath | PRN: w1754 | Element type: N aisle | Code: D

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings: 4 windows, 1 door. Windows, all alike, have semicircular heads, 2 lights with semicircular heads, simple tracery based on circlet; Bath stone dressings, chamfer and hollow chamfer. Door has square head with heavy keystone in middle; square doorcase in render has cornice supported by moulded corbel at either end.

EAST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Arcade, see nave N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric

Int: P3

Ext: R3

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with nave roofs but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Flat plaster

FLOOR

Type: Concrete, ceramic tile and stone; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 18th century

Stained glass: Modern stained glass in all windows except E-most

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: Royal arms dated 1731.
Board of benefactions

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Neo-classical; hemispherical bowl with wide ribs; moulded pedestal is urn-shaped

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: E bay partitioned off to form vestry by panelled wooden screen, does not rise full height of aisle

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century

12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☒ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w1754 D

Element

Church: Neath | PRN: w1754 | Element type: S aisle | Code: E

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Ext:

Arcade, see nave S wall

Openings

EAST WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Ext: R3

Fireplace at N end wall

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Ext: R3

4 windows, 1 door. Windows, all alike, have semicircular heads, 2 lights with semicircular heads, simple tracery based on circlet; Bath stone dressings, chamfer and hollow chamfer. Door has square head with heavy keystone in middle; square doorcase in render has cornice supported by moulded corbel at either end.

Openings

WEST WALL

Fabric
Int: P3
Ext: R3

Small patch of wall where render missing reveals coursed rubble

Openings

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W, parallel with nave roofs but separate from it; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Flat plaster

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile; raised timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 7 x 18th century, 3 x 19th century, 1 x 20th century (plus another partly concealed behind bookcase for which date cannot be read)

Stained glass: Victorian stained glass in all windows except E-most

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: 3 hatchments

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Lower part of worn tub font with tall pyramid stops, now mounted on masonry base

Piscina:

Sloup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: E bay partitioned off to form organ chamber by panelled wooden screen, does not rise full height of aisle. Organ

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☒ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: w1754 E

Element

Church: Neath | PRN: w1754 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Mostly in coursed sandstone rubble, except for a wide band of coursed squared blocks of a white stone (?Sutton stone) occupying upper part of middle stage and bottom of top stage; rubble blocks above this in top stage are narrower than those at bottom of tower, quoined Sutton stone. Offset plinth. Buttresses at corners (see W wall) to top of middle stage, not of one build with walls; same narrow blocks as top stage quoined with Sutton stone. Divided into 3 stages by offset and chamfered string course (bottom/middle stages); offset and simply moulded string course (middle/top stages). Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table.

Openings:

1 window. TOP STAGE: Belfry light rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, ?hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Only middle and upper stages visible externally divided by offset and simply moulded string course (middle/top stages). Lower part of middle stage in coursed sandstone rubble, upper part in coursed squared blocks of a white stone (?Sutton stone), continuing into bottom of top stage; rubble blocks above this in top stage are narrower than those in middle stage, quoined Sutton stone. Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Gargoyles set diagonally in corners.

Openings:

2 windows. 1 arch. TOP STAGE: Belfry light rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, ?hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops. MIDDLE STAGE: large square window to S of nave roof (not visible from ground, but can be seen on photographs in church showing restoration). BOTTOM STAGE: arch, see nave W wall

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Mostly in coursed sandstone rubble, except for a wide band of coursed squared blocks of a white stone (?Sutton stone) occupying upper part of middle stage and bottom of top stage; rubble blocks above this in top stage are narrower than those at bottom of tower, quoined Sutton stone. Offset plinth. Buttresses at corners (see W wall) to top of middle stage, not of one build with walls; same narrow blocks as top stage quoined with Sutton stone. Divided into 3 stages by offset and chamfered string course (bottom/middle stages; continues round turret); offset and simply moulded string course (middle/top stages). Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Stair turret E end to part way up middle stage - rubble as lower tower, quoined Bath stone.

Openings:

1 window. TOP STAGE: Belfry light rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, ?hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Mostly in coursed sandstone rubble, except for a wide band of coursed squared blocks of a white stone (?Sutton stone) occupying upper part of middle stage and bottom of top stage; rubble blocks above this in top stage are narrower than those at bottom of tower, quoined Sutton stone. Offset plinth. Diagonal buttresses. Divided into 3 stages by offset and chamfered string course (bottom/middle stages), and offset and simply moulded string course (middle/top stages). Battlemented parapet carried on corbel table. Gargoyles set diagonally in corners.

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. TOP STAGE: Belfry light rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, ?hollow chamfer; hoodmould with cross on stops. MIDDLE/BOTTOM STAGE: Main W window has 2-centred head, divided by transom into 2 rows of 4 lights, upper cinquefiled, lower uncusped, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, cavetto and roll; hoodmould with plain stops, relieving arch; Victorian. BOTTOM STAGE: Door has near triangular head with rounded haunches; square doorcase with plain panels in spandrels; Bath stone dressings, roll and two cavettos; hoodmould; Victorian.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type:

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plaster

Type: Ceramic tile; 3 steps below nave

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass: IN W window; Victorian

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Wooden panelled lobby with integral ceiling protects W door internally; does not extend over main W window
Clock

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☒ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1754 J

Element

Church: Neath | PRN: w1754 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door to chancel, see chancel

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in fairly narrow courses; quoined by larger ashlar blocks sandstone with pecked surfaces.

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window, 1 door. Window v large, rectagular, with flat arch in in same blocks as wall. Door has semicircular head turned in similar voussoirs.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Squared rockfaced blocks sandstone, laid in fairly narrow courses; quoined by larger ashlar blocks sandstone with pecked surfaces.

Ext: PO1

Openings: Blocked opening (present height 0.85m) occupies bottom of wall, apart from 0.9m at E end; jamb as quoin of wall, lintel iron girder; apparently to basement; blocking similar to main body of wall, but using larger blocks

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3 — Internally both corners canted, SW corner to provide space for small walk-in cupboard (now a washroom), NW one probably a chimney breast (fireplace of S nave E wall backs onto it.

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Hipped

Roof, exterior appearance: Metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Plastered

FLOOR

Type: Now covered in carpet; 4 steps above level of chancel

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: w1754 P

CHURCHYARD

Church: Neath | Church PRN: w1754 | Survey date: 28-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date: Town plan/1710

Shape, first map: Quadrangular

Shape, relief: Flat

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: [x] Earth/stone bank: [ ] Hedge: [ ] Fence/railing: [x] Other: [ ]

Description: Low stone wall with iron railings

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: W end S side

Main entrance, description: Double gates between square pillars in squared rockfaced blocks sandstone with battlemented Bath stone copings

Secondary entrances (if any): Gap in wall W end N side

BURIALS

In use? [ ] Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? [ ] PRN: RCAHMW cross survey? [ ]

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? [ ]

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks:

ST JOHN BAPTIST'S CHURCH, NEWTON NOTTAGE

NGR: SS 8366 7748

PRN: m0215

NPRN: 96086

CADW REFERENCE: 11214

COMMUNITY: Porthcawl

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L096 4093

SUMMARY

The surviving medieval church in the parish of Newton Nottage is St John Baptist at Newton; Pearce (nd, 11) reports a tradition that it was earlier dedicated to St David. It seems to have been in existence by c 1200, when a *presbitero* or *sacerdos* of *nova villa* signs as witness to two documents (Clark 1901, 250, 2334). The churchyard has a curved NW corner, but otherwise is quadrangular; the churchyard cross survives. A copy of a full, indexed churchyard survey is held by the church. A well close to the church (PRN 217m) is now known as St John's Well, but since this was earlier called Sandford's Well it is not necessarily a holy well associated with the church, though Pearce (nd, 11) records that it was also called after St David.

The medieval part of the church consists of nave; separate, weeping chancel; W tower of defensive character with an unusual internally projecting stair turret; S porch; and rood stair constructed against the N wall of the nave. A Victorian organ chamber was built against the N side of the chancel and a vestry against the N side of the rood stair, concealing the latter from view externally; the vestry accommodation was extended in 1992 by the construction of an L-shaped choir vestry at right angles to the old vestry, joined to the nave by a boiler house, the whole of the ancillary buildings now being around three sides of a small court with the N wall of the nave as the fourth side. The recent choir vestry/boiler house does not have a separate entry in the database 'Elements' table. The church is constructed from fine-grained pale grey Carboniferous limestone and conglomerate with sandstone dressings to most of the medieval openings, though Sutton stone and fine-grained limestone are also used. Removal of part of the plaster of the N wall of the nave in 1996 indicated that this wall at least may have a clay bonding (Sell 1996, 4).

The presence of an internal batter suggests that the fabric is of early origin. Halliday (1904, 137) suggests that the scalloped pier bases of the outer door of the porch may be reused Norman capitals, but this seems unlikely, as they are in the same stone as the rest of this door and the same style as the capitals of the engaged shafts attached to them, neither do they show any greater signs of wear. The rear arch to the inner door, however is semicircular and destined for a taller door; this could be Norman in date. Another possible early feature is the stoup in the porch of 13th century type (Butler 1971, 392), which has however been extensively restored. The head of the chancel arch does not correspond to its piers, one of which retains the springing of a much lower and flatter arch, or possibly triple arch. It is not possible to determine whether the present head is from an earlier chancel arch which was subsequently opened up when the lower arch or arches were removed (date unknown), or whether it was newly built. Most of the surviving architectural features do not predate the 15th century. Butler (1971, 399, 405, 408-9) dates the pinnacled diagonal buttresses to the chancel and the tower doorway to the early 15th century, and the porch to around this date; the priest's door and the N and S windows of the chancel are of 16th century type. Newman (1995, 473) however would date the entire church to c 1500.

The other windows date to the Victorian period, when they replaced the 'modern' windows noted by Glynne (1901, 265) in 1847. A vestry was added in 1829 and an organ chamber in 1885. The porch was reroofed and the church refloored in 1926-7 (Leonard 1968, 85-6).

The church is remarkable for the survival of its medieval pulpit, which is reached by a short staircase branching from the rood stair in the thickness of the N wall of the nave; both the pulpit and the head of the door which give access from the staircase are embellished with carved figures. Butler (1971, 407) dates this to the mid 15th century. The font basin is also medieval, but it lacks a stem and the base is a replacement. There is patch of medieval painted plaster on the N wall of the nave under the upper rood stair door; its shape.

indicates that it had been protected by a wall tablet. There is also a patch of red paint around the head of the lower rood stair door. Knight (1853, 173) notes that there was previously a painting on the S wall of the nave. There are six bells, two dated 1622, two 1689 and the other two added in 1905 (information from booklet produced by the church).

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Documentary and manuscript

GIRO

P/85/1,2	1846	Tithe map

NLW

LL/F/599X	1885	Faculty: New organ and organ chamber
LL/F/600	1920	Faculty: Reredos, panelling
LL/F/601	1920	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/602	1920	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/603	1920	Faculty: Restoration of churchyard cross
LL/F/606	1927	Faculty: Repair and restoration of church
Parish record 3	1928-54	PCC minutes
Parish record 7	1954-60	PCC minutes

NMR

Kay (various)	1 ser II 268-70: 2 ser VIII 1298

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Newton Nottage

Dedication: St John Baptist

PRN: m0215

Survey date: 16-06-97

Orientation nave: 110 Chancel: 100

A Nave [x]

B Chancel, integral [ ]

C Chancel, separate [x]

D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]

E South aisle [ ]

F North transept [ ]

G South transept [ ]

H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]

I Crossing [ ]

J Tower [x] External stair turret [ ]

K Belfcote [ ] Position of tower/belfcote: W

L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:

N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:

O Organ chamber [x]

P Vestry, structurally separate [x]

Q Boiler house/sexton's store [x]

R Rood stairs/loft [x] Position stairs: N of nave

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [ ]

T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [x]

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]

Centuries:

12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [ ]
15th/16th [x]
16th [x]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [x]

Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]

Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]

Duplicated elements [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [x] Location(s): Nave (part); chancel

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [x] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [x] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [x] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [x]

Element

Church: Newton Nottage | PRN: m0215 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/L 1/2

Random rubble, tending to rough coursing, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate. At top of wall towards W end (E of W-most window) is slight projecting, externally visible but not v well defined, internally can be seen to be offset flue. Internal batter

Openings

2 windows, 3 doors. W-most window v high (?for gallery), rectangular, 2 lights with uncusped segmental lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops. E-most window pointed, 2 ogee/trefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with lozenge-shaped stops; relieving arch. Lower rood stair door has 4-centred head, chamfered, diagonal stops. Upper rood stair door has shouldered lintel, chamfered, diagonal stops. Pulpit door, see pulpit

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext: PO/R 2/3

Gable rendered, with coping and cross. Rest of wall - only E corner visible, see S wall. Internally deep ledge for rood loft.

Openings

Chancel arch; 2 windows. Head of chancel arch does not appear to correspond to piers; head of arch tall, relatively narrow, 2-centred pointed turned in two rows of voussoirs, outer not complete; piers have hollow chamfer dying into half-octagonal capitals at top, and large pyramid stops at bottom, c 1m above floor level; at S side above capital is springing of arch much lower and flatter than present arch. Windows, one on either side of arch, have square opening and splay on this side

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P/PO 1/3

Ext: PO 1/2

Much obscured by mortar to E of porch, but otherwise appears to be random rubble, tending to rough coursing, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks. Internally rear arches, left unplastered, are in roughly coursed rubbles. Internal batter

Openings

2 windows, 1 door. Windows both alike, Victorian, but rear arches are medieval, E-most with mutilated niche on E reveal; wide 2-centred head, almost semicircular; 3 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch; W-most window inserted. Rear arch of door has semicircular head turned in voussoirs.

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Tower arch; door to stair turret. Tower arch has half-cylindrical piers; pointed head of two orders, inner wave dying into piers, outer ?chamfer. Door to turret has 4-centred head rising from moulded impost band; jambs have chamfer, diagonal stops

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK — Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 6 bays; 5 trusses with collars and arched braces, flat plaques with low-relief foliage carving where braces meet wall; difficult to see detail of roof because of lighting, but appears to be original

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Stone; woodblock under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 1 x 17th century; 4 x 18th century; 1 illegible, but of late 17th/early 18th century type

Stained glass: In all windows: NW (1994) and SW (1980) modern; others all Victorian style

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings: Patch of medieval painting on white ground under upper rood stair, and a small patch of red paint round head of lower rood stair door

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc: Octagonal, chamfered underside with roll at bottom; stands directly on renewed square base - no stem

Piscina: Lowest proper quoin of E reveal SE window (below this corner constructed in rubble) has ogee head cut out of its lower part, as for a piscina; there is no trace of bowl

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Semi-cylindrical, jettied out from N wall; relief carved; main field with Flagellation; rim hollow chamfered, vine carving; stair door has shallow triangular head with hollow chamfer and foliage, angels on vertical surface.

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries: Victorian carved wooden

Pews/stalls/ seats: Low, with matchboarded backs

Other features of interest: Three carved architectural fragments on ledge of E wall

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0215 A

Element

Church	Newton Nottage	PRN	m0215	Element type	Chancel	Code	C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Random rubble, tending to rough coursing, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate. Low irregular offset at base. Buttress see E wall.

Int: P/PO 1/3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 1 window; opening to organ chamber. Window rectangular; 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred heads, recessed spandrels; dressing grey sandstone and some Sutton stone, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with no stops. Opening to organ chamber rises to wall plate and extends to W wall chancel; jamb at E in Bath stone, chamfer, pyramid stop

EAST WALL

Fabric: Much obscured by mortar but appears to be random rubble, tending to rough coursing, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate. Diagonal buttresses largely in grey sandstone ashlar, with crocketted pinnacles rising from human head gargoyles which face N and S (latter eroded). Sutton stone panel carved with Maltese cross on gable. Coping, cross

Int: P3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: E window has wide 2-centred head, almost semicircular; 3 trefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; dressings renewed in Bath stone, chamfered, but surround in grey sandstone; hoodmould has elongated stops with spurs.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate. Offset plinth with chamfer at top. Buttress see E wall. Double wall tablet built into outer face of wall; surface eroded

Int: P/PO 1/3

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 2 windows, 1 door. E-most window has wide 2-centred head, almost semicircular; 3 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; Bath stone dressings, chamfered, but surround in grey sandstone; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch. W-most window rectangular like window of N wall but taller; 2 lights with uncusped 4-centred heads, recessed spandrels; grey sandstone dressings partly renewed in Bath stone, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with plain stop at W end; at E end side continues downward to join up with priest's door hoodmould which is cut in one with it. Priest's door has near triangular head inscibed in a square, with recessed panels carved with cusping in spandrels; grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer, run-out stops at level of top of plinth; hoodmould with angel supporters as stops

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Chancel arch; 2 windows. Chancel arch, see nave E wall. Windows have semicircular heads on this side; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples with collars and arched braces. Original moulded wall plate at S wall

Ceiling: Now boarded behind rafters, but with ribs and bosses for barrel ceiling

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including flat slabs, woodblock under pews, ceramic tile in E end; 2 steps at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 18th century; 3 x 19th century. Flat slabs, see floor

Stained glass: All Victorian style: NE 18876, SE 1919, SW 1881

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc: Wooden panelled reredos

Altars/ tables: ?Medieval mensa supported on rubblework base

Font etc:

Piscina: At E end S wall; probably originally piscina/aumbrey; triangular head, Sutton stone, rebate; Victorian flat base with lobed basin

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Victorian, carved wooden

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: 20th century; carved wooden ends and desks

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☒ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☒ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0215 C

Element

Church	Newton Nottage	PRN	m0215	Element type	Tower	Code	J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int P/PO 1/3

Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks of same. Short flat buttresses at corners (NW clasping). Battlemented parapet carried on Sutton stone corbel table; narrow plain sting course halfway up parapet, with row of putlock holes immediately above.

Ext PO/L 1/2

Openings

3 windows. Belfry and ground floor level each has large slit window with Sutton stone dressings, chamfered. Between them is small square window with Sutton stone dressings, chamfered; this window and ground floor window have deeply spayed rear arches with segmental heads turned in voussoirs.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int

Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks of same. Most of upper part of tower occuped by gable with coping and cross socket, but short length of battlemented parapet at either side, of one build with gable. Relieving arch over nave roof. Row of large corbels at level of base of upper door.

Ext PO 1/2

Openings

Arch, 1 door. Door at top of wall, well above level of nave roof, has Caernarvon arched head; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered. Arch, see nave W wall.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int P/PO 1/3

Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks of same. Short flat buttresses at corners (SW clasping). Battlemented parapet carried on Sutton stone corbel table; narrow plain sting course halfway up parapet, with row of putlock holes immediately above. Internally turret projects into SE corner tower basement, quoined with squared blocks; lower stage polygonal, crowned by string course, upper stage quarter cylinder

Ext PO 1/2

Openings

6 windows. Belfry and ground floor level each has large slit window with Sutton stone dressings, chamfered; similar window below belfry. 2nd window from bottom is trefoiled lancet; Sutton stone dressings, chamfered; this window and ground floor window have deeply spayed rear arches with segmental heads turned in voussoirs. TURRET: 2 internal windows, 1 slit in each stage

WEST WALL

Fabric Int P/PO 1/3

Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks of same. Short flat clasping buttresses at corners. Most of upper part of tower occuped by gable with coping and weathercock, but short length of battlemented parapet at either side, of one build with gable. At base of wall wide offset plinth with bench top in grey sandstone, String course between door and window. Sutton stone head corbel in gable. Stoup to S of door, see below.

Ext PO 1/2

Openings

4 window, 1 door. Belfry has small square window with Sutton stone dressings, chamfered. windows. Below this is large slit window with Sutton stone dressings, chamfered. Ground floor has 2-centred pointed head of 2 orders, hollow chamfer and roll, carried on engaged shafts with moulded bases and rising from offset plinth; grey sandstone dresssings; ogee crocketted hoodmould with central crest and corner pinnacles. Window above has 2-centred head, 3 trefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; grey sandstone dresssings, partly renewed, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Saddleback

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Flat; diagonally boarded

FLOOR

Type: Stone; woodblock under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup: On exterior of W wall, to S of door, small, plain semicircular head, bowl broken away flush with wall surface; Sutton stone

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: Clock (W face)

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0215 J

Element

Church	Newton Nottage	PRN	m0215	Element type	Porch	Code	L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets)

	Fabric	Random rubble, tending to rough coursing, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate.
Int	PO/L 1/2	
Ext		1 door, 1 ?blocked door. Present door has near triangular head; grey sandstone dressings, roll moulding with fillet and hollow chamfer, thick bar stops; inserted. Possible earlier door is represented by two squared blocks ?quoin above W side head of present door.
	Openings	
	NORTH WALL	

	Fabric	Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks. Plain kneeler.
Int	PO/L 1/2	
Ext	PO/L 1/2	
	Openings	
	EAST WALL	

	Fabric	Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks. Plinth crowned by moulded string course. Coping, cross socket. Sundial in gable; below it is tablet which has lost all of surface to erosion
Int	PO/L 1/2	
Ext	PO/L 1/2	Door has semicircular head; fine-grained cream-coloured limestone dressings, mouldings largely eroded, but inner roll is carried on spindly shafts with scalloped capitals and moulded bases and shaft rings carved in low relief on piers which also have scalloped bases; large keystone with foliage carving rises through hoodmould.
	Openings	
	SOUTH WALL	

	Fabric	Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; quoined with squared blocks. Plain kneeler.
Int	PO/L 1/2	
Ext	PO/L 1/2	
	Openings	
	WEST WALL	

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays; 1 truss with collar and arched braces

Ceiling: Boarded behind rafters

FLOOR

Type: Stone

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablet: 1 x 18th century. Flat slabs: 1 x 18th century; 1 x 19th century; both now propped up against wall

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup: Bracket stoup built into N wall to E of door; lower part original in Sutton stone; foliage capital renewed in Bath stone

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Stone benches

Other features of interest: Floriated cross slab

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0215 L

Element

Church: Newton Nottage | PRN: m0215 | Element type: Organ chamber | Code: O

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate. Straight joint with vestry

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

1 window; rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights, recessed spandrels; Bath stone dressing, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops; relieving arch

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate. Bath stone kneeler

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Opening to chancel, see chancel N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Door to vestry has square head

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-pitched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Barrel, boarded

FLOOR

Type: Concrete

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest: 2 manual organ

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0215 O

Element

Church: Newton Nottage | PRN: m0215 | Element type: Vestry | Code: P

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; grey sandstone ashlar quoin. Straight joint with organ chamber

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 1 door; pointed head; Bath stone dressings, chamfered

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings: Door to organ chamber, see organ chamber

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric:

Ext:

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Fabric: Roughly coursed rubble, tending to random, in fine-grained pale grey limestone and conglomerate; grey sandstone ashlar quoin.

Ext: PO 1/2

Openings: 1 window, rectangular, grey sandstone dressings, chamfered; hoodmould with plain stops

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Catslide

Roof, exterior appearance: Continues W side organ chamber roof; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Woodblock

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☒

Reference: m0215 P

Element

Church: Newton Nottage | PRN: m0215 | Element type: Rood stair | Code: R

Different/additional use (previous use in bracket/s): Cupboard

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Rubble, but not enough visible to provide further information

Int: P/W 2/3

Ext:

Openings:

EAST WALL

Fabric: Rubble, but not enough visible to provide further information

Int: W2

Ext:

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric: Rubble, but not enough visible to provide further information

Int: P/W 2/3

Ext:

Openings:

WEST WALL

Fabric:

Int:

Ext:

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance

Roof and other structural timbers

Ceiling: Corbelled

Type: Stone steps

FLOOR

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments

Stained glass

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings

Panelling, carving etc

Altars/ tables

Font etc

Piscina

Stoup

Rails/screen

Pulpit

Lectern/ reading desk

Chests/cupboards /aumbries

Pews/stalls/ seats

Other features of interest

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☒ 16th ☐ 17th ☐

18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0215 R

CHURCHYARD

Church Newton Nottage **Church PRN** m0215 **Survey date** 16-06-97

Shape, plan (present) Partly curvilinear **First map type/date** Tithe/1846

Shape, first map Partly curvilinear

Shape, relief: Flat; slightly raised above surrounding level to S

BOUNDARY **Stone/brick wall** ☒ **Earth/stone bank** ☐ **Hedge** ☐ **Fence/railing** ☐ **Other** ☐

Description Coursed rubble

ENTRANCES **Main entrance, position** W

Main entrance, description Lych gate: sill walls support a short 2-bay timber superstructure; roof of meatmorphic slate at right-angles to direction of entry.

Secondary entrances (if any)

BURIALS **In use?** ☐ **Clearance?** None apparent

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES **Cross?** ☒ **PRN** 216m **RCAHMW cross survey?** ☐

Cross description 4 steps; socket stone octagonal/square, shallow with moulded top and leaf-shaped keeled stops. Modern shaft and head

Earthworks

Yews? ☐

Other feature

Church drainage Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent. Shallow concrete gully except on E side

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any

Other remarks:

ST JAMES'S CHURCH, PYLE

NGR: SS 8255 8264

PRN: m0152

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE: 11227

COMMUNITY: Cynffig

DEANERY: Margam

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L111 4154

SUMMARY

The parish church of Pyle seems to have been constructed to replace the church within the besanded borough of Kenfig, also dedicated to St James, and first appears in the documentary sources in 1483, when it is described as '*noviter situate*' (Clark 1910, 1915-18). There seems no reason therefore to question the date of 1471 carved on the remaining medieval wall plate in the nave, although neither of the antiquaries who have looked at the church in the last 150 years makes mention of it (Glynne 1901, Gray 1909, 95-6); the fact that it is in arabic numerals need by this date be no bar to accepting that it is genuine (Morris 1989, 360). An Early Christian monument of Class F is known from a site approximately 0.5km from the church (PRN 141m; RCAHMW 1976, 65 no 971). The churchyard is now quadrangular, though the tithe map of 1847 shows the E side as curved; this side has probably been subsequently straightened as the result of road-widening. The steps and socket stone of the medieval churchyard cross survive.

The church consists of nave, separate chancel, W tower with projecting stair turret, S porch, and an organ chamber built against the N wall of the chancel. It originally had a rood-loft, of which a window survives in the E wall of the nave, presumably to afford a view of the chancel from the loft, as at Bettws Newydd, Gwent, rather than the result of the raising of the chancel roof. Glynne (1901, 311) noted in 1848 that the projection for the rood stairs could still be seen on the N side of the chancel, and it can be seen on plan A of the 1892 faculty (NLW LL/F/697)as a slight rounded projection externally, though the stairs seem to have been largely accommodated within the thickness of the wall; this plan also shows a blocked door from the stair recess to the nave, probably the door, now blocked, which leads from the chancel to the pulpit. This door may have been designed to provide access to the loft, though this is unlikely as it is set too low for this purpose, and would have precluded a NW nave window of anything like its present form; it may have been reset at a lower level. The church is constructed from a cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone which weathers to a grey colour; the dressings to the openings are in the same material. Most of the walls are in ashlar, but the N wall of the nave was built with less carefully cut blocks. A number of different sizes of ashlar blocks are present, the most marked being the use of narrower blocks in the lower half of the S wall of the nave and tower than in the upper half. This may be an indication that building stone was being recycled from a number of different sources within the besanded borough, but it also points to the possibility that the building history of the church is more complex than just a consideration of its stylistic features would suggest; it is possible that the 1471 church may not have been a completely new building but was a reconstruction and enlargement of an earlier chapel of which some structural elements may remain (cf Gower; Toft 1975).

Most of the datable elements of the church clearly belong to the end of the 15th century, though the windows of the nave have all been renewed making full assessment difficult. There is a stylistic divide between the windows of the chancel, which lack refinement, and the much more accomplished central window in the S wall of the nave, but this could be explained as the result of different builders' have been brought in through differing patronage. The church was restored in 1877, but a second campaign of works took place in 1891 (architect F W Waller), when the organ chamber was added, the chancel reroofed, its walls and windows overhauled and the E gable partly rebuilt with a slit window in the apex, a drainage trench dug round the outside of the walls (NLW LL/F/697), and the priest's door was blocked (Evans nd, 52).

The font is medieval, judged by Newman (1995, 535) to be contemporary with the church and similar to the fonts at Llanharry and Llantrisant, and a medieval *mensa* has been reused as the threshold of the door to the stair turret. Some 17th century wall tablets survive in the chancel. Otherwise all the internal fittings are Victorian or later. There is one bell dated 1677 (Evans nd, 52)

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Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/87/11	1847	Tithe map
P/87/CW/15/1-2	1904-05	Inventories of Pyle and Kenfig churches
P/87/CW/34	1944	St James, Pyle, churchwardens' receipts and payments
P/87/CW/36	1943-46	Income and expenditure account, parish of Pyle and Kenfig
P/87/CW/37	1920	Faculty: erection of new pulpit
P/87/CW/38	1921	Faculty: stained glass memorial window and tablet
P/87/CW/39/1	1924	Faculty: restoration of churchyard cross
P/87/CW/39/2-3	1927-29	Faculty: stained glass windows
P/87/CW/39/4	1950	Faculty: stained glass window, with correspondence
P/87/CW/48	1916	Fire insurance policy
P/87/CW/50	nd (c 1920)	Organ fund and list of subscribers
P/87/CW/60/1-2	1952	Conveyance of land adjoining churchyard from Pyle PC to Representative Body of Church in Wales
P/87/CW/61	nd	Plan of graves
P/87/CW/72	1944	Rough notes on vestry meeting, parish of Pyle and Kenfig
P/87/CW/99	1971	Programme of services and events to celebrate 500th anniversary, including outline history of church

NLW

LL/F/697	1891	Faculty: Organ chamber and removal of organ; repair and improvements
LL/F/699	1920	Faculty: New pulpit
LL/F/700	1921	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/702	1924	Faculty: restoration of churchyard cross
LL/F/703	1927	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/704	1929	Faculty: Stained glass window
LL/F/705	1930	Faculty: Reredos and memorial tablet
LL/F/706	1933	Faculty: Clergy desks, choir stalls and screen

NMR

Welsh School of Architecture	nd	10 sheets plan and elevation drawings

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Pyle | Dedication: St James | PRN: m0152 | Survey date: 16-05-97

Orientation nave: 90 | Chancel: 90

A Nave [x]
B Chancel, integral [ ]
C Chancel, separate [x]
D North aisle [ ] Clerestory? [ ]
E South aisle [ ]
F North transept [ ]
G South transept [ ]
H Chapel, structurally separate [ ]
I Crossing [ ]
J Tower [x] External stair turret [ ]
K Bellcote [ ] Position of tower/bellcote: W
L Porch, structurally separate [x] Position: S [ ] Upper storey to porch? [ ]
M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault [ ] Vault position:
N Gallery [ ] Gallery position:
O Organ chamber [ ]
P Vestry, structurally separate [x]
Q Boiler house/sexton's store [ ]
R Rood stairs/loft [ ] Position stairs: | Screen survives? [ ] Loft survives? [ ]
S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary [x] Duplicated elements: [ ] [ ] [ ]
T Other [ ] Nature of other element:

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]
Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: [ ]
Centuries: 12th [ ]
13th [ ]
13th/14th [ ]
14th [ ]
15th [x]
15th/16th [ ]
16th [ ]
17th [ ]
18th [ ]
19th [x]
20th [ ]
Appears completely rebuilt? [ ]
Known to be rebuilt in different position? [ ]

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: [x] Location(s): Nave

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: [ ] Location:

Medieval wall-painting? [ ] Post-medieval wall-painting? [ ] Location:

Medieval/post-medieval door?: [ ] Location(s) of door:

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval [x] Jacobean [ ] Georgian/neo-classical [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Altar rails: Post-medieval [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Fonts: Medieval [x] 17/18th century [ ] Neo-classical [ ] Victorian [ ] Contemporary [ ]

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval [ ] Jacobean: [ ] 18th/early 19th century box pews: [ ]
Other early seating: [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Pulpit: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] 18th/early 19th century [ ] Victorian [x] Contemporary [ ]

Dug-out chest: [ ] Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval [ ] Jacobean [ ] Other early [ ]

Other early none-structural woodwork: [ ] Nature of woodwork:

ECM [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval [ ] Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval [ ]

Element

Church: Pyle | PRN: m0152 | Element type: Nave | Code: A

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Reasonably well squared blocks grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone, coursed; quoined with massive ashlar blocks same sandstone. Battered base. Possible straight joint halfway along wall. Internally 2 corbels, one just above W jamb window, other between E jamb window and NE corner.

Ext: PO1

Openings

1 window, at E end; rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights with recessed spandrels; dressings in same stone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer, hoodmould with plain stops; hoodmould with plain stops; all but the hoodmould is Victorian

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; in lower half of wall courses appreciably narrower than in upper half. Internally moulded cornice at eaves height, running round reveals of rood loft window

Ext: PO1

Openings

Chancel arch, rood-loft window, door to organ chamber. Arch has 2-centred head, 2 orders of wave-mouldings, both inner dying into piers, relieving arch. Window is square, with deep splay to N. Door has near-triangular head

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; in lower half of wall courses appreciably narrower than in upper half. Internally corbel just above W SE jamb window

Ext: PO1

Openings

3 windows, 1 door. SE and SW windows both alike: rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights with recessed spandrels; dressings in same stone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer, hoodmould with plain stops; hoodmould with plain stops; Victorian. Middle window has 2-centred head, 3 cinquefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery, dressings in same stone as wall, double hollow chamfer; hoodmould with plain stops. Door, see porch N wall

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

To N of tower as N wall - reasonably well squared blocks, coursed. To S as S wall - grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; in lower half of wall courses appreciably narrower than in upper half.

Ext: PO1

Openings

Tower arch, door. Arch has 2-centred head, 2 orders of chamfer, both inner dying into piers, relieving arch. Door has 4-centred head, chamfer, diagonal stops.

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-piched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: Close couples with collars and arched braces. Wall plate on N side carved with alternate heads and shields, one of which dated 1471. S wallplate renewed, carved in similar manner but different style

Ceiling: Now boarded behind rafters. Moulded ribs run lengthwise ?poss original; bosses renewed

FLOOR

Type: Stone, including flat slabs; timber under pews

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 19th century. Flat slabs in floor

Stained glass: NE window 1922 (Victorian style). SW window 1929 (Pre-Raphaelite manner)

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Cut-down mensa used as threshold to stair turret door

Font etc: Octagonal bowl, sides decorated alternately with chip-carved medallions and 3 trees/crosses with upward stretching arms; octagonal/square stem with chip-carved medallions and pyramid stops; square base

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit: Victorian; carved pink and cream alabaster and sepentine.

Lectern/ reading desk: Carved wooden angel as supporter; dated 1917+

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Benches with matchboarded backs

Other features of interest: Large modern crucifix over chancel arch

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☒ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0152 A

Element

Church: Pyle | PRN: m0152 | Element type: Chancel | Code: C

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar. Slightly battered base. Buttress see E wall. Internally small facetted bracket half-way up wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings

Arch to organ chamber has 2-centred head, 2 orders of chamfer, inner dying into piers, pyramid stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P/PA 3

Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar. Slightly battered base. Diagonal buttreses of one build with walls. Coping, cross

Ext: PO1

Openings

E window has 2-centred head, 3 trefoiled lights, Perpendicular tracery; dressings in same stone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with square stops. Slit in gable

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar. Slightly battered base. Buttress see E wall. Internally small facetted bracket half-way up wall.

Ext: PO1

Openings

2 windows, 1 blocked door. SE window rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights with recessed spandrels; dressings in same stone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with square stops; SW window the same, except that it has a single light only. Blocked priest's door has wide 2 centred, almost semicircular head; dressings in same sandstone, two orders of chamfer; grooved stops; blocking in same ashlar as main fabric of walls

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings

Chancel arch, see nave E wall

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-piched

Roof, exterior appearance: E-W; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers: 2 bays, 3 trusses of which only curved braces visible below ceiling

Ceiling: Barrel; angled, panelled and boarded

FLOOR

Type: Ceramic tile with encaustic insets; 1 step at chancel arch, 2 steps at altar rail, 1 under altar

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments: Wall tablets: 3 x 17th century

Stained glass: E window Victorian; SE window dated 1950, traditional style

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables: Victorian or later

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Brass, Victorian

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Victorian, carved and grained, modern desks

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: **Medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐ **Post-medieval, not otherwise datable:** ☐

Century 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☒ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0152 C

Element

Church: Pyle | PRN: m0152 | Element type: Tower | Code: J

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets): Vestry

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Body of wall in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; quoined with ashlar blocks same sandstone of approximately twice the size. Offset plinth stands on a second offset with chamfered top; plinth in large ashlar blocks, crowned by string course with wave and roll moulding. Above tower divided into 2 stages by offset and string course. Battlemented parapet on corbel table.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

UPPER STAGE: Belfry has rectangular light with dressings in same sandstone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer.

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Body of wall in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; quoined with ashlar blocks same sandstone of approximately twice the size. Divided into 2 stages by offset and string course. Battlemented parapet on corbel table.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

UPPER STAGE: Belfry has rectangular light with dressings in same sandstone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer.
LOWER STAGE: Arch, see nave W wall

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Body of wall in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; quoined with ashlar blocks same sandstone of approximately twice the size; in lower half of wall courses appreciably narrower than in upper half (three to each quoin instead of two). Offset plinth stands on a second offset with chamfered top; plinth in large ashlar blocks, crowned by string course with wave and roll moulding. Above tower divided into 2 stages by offset and string course. Battlemented parapet on corbel table.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

3 windows. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has rectangular light with dressings in same sandstone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer. LOWER STAGE: Similar window. STAIR TURRET: slit window, chamfered

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Body of wall in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; quoined with ashlar blocks same sandstone of approximately twice the size. Offset plinth stands on a second offset with chamfered top; plinth in large ashlar blocks, crowned by string course with wave and roll moulding. Above tower divided into 2 stages by offset and string course. Battlemented parapet on corbel table.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

2 windows, 1 door. UPPER STAGE: Belfry has rectangular light with dressings in same sandstone as fabric of wall, hollow chamfer. LOWER STAGE: Door has wide 2 centred, almost semicircular head; dressings in same sandstone, wave and hollow chamfer; segmental rear arch. Window above rectangular, 2 cinquefoiled lights with recessed spandrels; dressings in same sandstone , hollow chamfer, hoodmould with plain stops

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type

Roof, exterior appearance: Not visible from ground

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Stone; same level as nave, 5 steps down from W door

Burials known?

Underfloor heating?

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen: Panelled screen fills lower half of arch to nave

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☒ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0152 J

Element

Church: Pyle | PRN: m0152 | Element type: Porch | Code: L

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3

Ext:

Openings: Door has wide 2 centred, almost semicircular head; dressings in same sandstone, sunk convex chamfer and hollow chamfer; keeeled stops

EAST WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; blocks quite large.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

SOUTH WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; blocks mainly quite large, but those in gable are smaller. Coping, cross

Ext: PO1

Openings: Door has wide 2 centred, almost semicircular head; dressings in same sandstone, chamfer, diagonal stops; segmental rear arch

WEST WALL

Fabric Int: P3: Grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone ashlar; blocks quite large.

Ext: PO1

Openings:

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-piched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Stone; 1 step down from outside, 2 steps down to nave

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats: Benches built into walls

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from: Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐ Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☒ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☐ 20th ☐

Reference: m0152 L

Element

Church: Pyle | PRN: m0152 | Element type: Organ chamber | Code: O

Different/additional use (previous use in brackets):

NORTH WALL

Fabric: Ashlar in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone and coase dark grey sandstone.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 window; cinquefoiled lancet; dark grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer; hoodmould with foliage stops

EAST WALL

Fabric: Ashlar in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone and coase dark grey sandstone.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: Rectangular window with 1 cinquefoiled light, recessed spandrels; dark grey sandstone dressings, hollow chamfer. Slit in gable.

SOUTH WALL

Fabric:

Int:

Ext:

Openings: Arch to chancel, see chancel

WEST WALL

Fabric: Ashlar in grey/cream/fawn fine-grained sandstone and coase dark grey sandstone.

Int: P3

Ext: PO1

Openings: 1 door; wide 2-centred head; dark grey sandstone dressings, double chamfer, grooved stops

ROOF AND OTHER STRUCTURAL TIMBERWORK

Roof type: Double-piched

Roof, exterior appearance: N-S; metamorphic slate

Roof and other structural timbers:

Ceiling: Boarded

FLOOR

Type: Carpeted

Burials known? ☐

Underfloor heating? ☐

FITTINGS

Monuments:

Stained glass:

Wall-paintings and panel/easel paintings:

Panelling, carving etc:

Altars/ tables:

Font etc:

Piscina:

Stoup:

Rails/screen:

Pulpit:

Lectern/ reading desk:

Chests/cupboards /aumbries:

Pews/stalls/ seats:

Other features of interest:

Fabric survives from:

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Century: 12th ☐ 13th ☐ 13th/14th ☐ 14th ☐ 15th ☐ 15th/16th ☐ 16th ☐ 17th ☐ 18th ☐ 19th ☒ 20th ☐

Reference: m0152 O

CHURCHYARD

Church: Pyle | Church PRN: m0152 | Survey date: 16-05-97

Shape, plan (present): Quadrangular | First map type/date: Tithe/1847

Shape, first map: Quadrangular, 1 side curved

Shape, relief: Flat

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☐ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: E side

Main entrance, description: Path along S side of church to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any):

BURIALS

In use?: ☒ | Clearance?: None apparent

Burials, points of interest: Coffin-shaped grave markers, as in W area

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross?: ☒ | PRN: m2569 | RCAHMW cross survey?: ☐

Cross description: 4 steps, lowest of which has chamfered underside. Socket stone square with slighly recessed plain frieze running round middle; zones above and below it chamfered. Restored shaft and head

Earthworks:

Yews?: ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot; course of drains not apparent. Soakway around S and W sides of nave and tower, and shallow paved gully round S and N sides chancel and vestry.

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: On tithe map E side shown as curvilinear, and rest of boundary is quadrangular; presumably change caused by widening of road

ST JOHN BAPTIST'S CHURCH, YSTRADYFODWG

NGR: SS 9714 9542

PRN: m1755

NPRN:

CADW REFERENCE:

COMMUNITY: Pentre

DEANERY: Rhondda

CHURCH IN WALES REFERENCE: L143 4264

The parish church of Ystadyfodwg is first mentioned in 1535 (Green 1907, 64). The churchyard is polygonal and the churchyard cross does not survive.

Nothing survives of the medieval church. The present church was completely rebuilt in 1987 (reconsecration date), on the same site as its Victorian predecessor but slightly smaller in size, and reusing the external facing stones. The Victorian church was itself constructed in 1893-94 (Newman 1995, 649); a drawing displayed in the church shows it as having a nave with W gable-end bellcote, separate chancel with vestry to the N, and S porch. Manuscript notes in the County SMR, drawn from documentary sources (not referenced in detail) indicate that its predecessor was of similar plan and had until the beginning of the 19th century a beaten earth floor; the level of the floor of the old church (and its churchyard) was some 1.5m below that of the 1893-94 church, and the old walls were reused as the footings for the new building (Parkinson 1996, 154). A detached vestry with stabling was built in the NE of the churchyard in 1830

No memorials are preserved in the present church from its predecessors; the fittings, part of which are drawn partly from the previous church and another part from the now demolished Victorian church of St David, are all Victorian or later. In 1946 Wright (ii 185) recorded St John's as having two bells, one blank and modern, and the other dated 1706. The bell which now hangs in the porch is reported to be neither of these, which were sold, but the one from St David's; it is blank.

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Published and printed

Green, C A H, 1906-7, *Notes on churches in the diocese of Llandaff*,
Newman, J, 1995, *The buildings of Wales: Glamorgan*, 649
Parkinson, A J, 1996, Reformation, restoration and revival: Churches and chapels in Wales 1600-1900, in J Blair and C Pyrah (eds), *Church archaeology: Research directions for the future (CBA Res Rep* **104**), 144-58

Documentary and manuscript

GlRO

P/67/4-5	1847	Tithe map
P/67/CW/88	1893-95	Reference book giving details of tombstones and inscriptions to accompany no 92
P/67/CW/89	1750-78	Churchwardens' accounts
P/67/CW/90	1778-1817	Churchwardens' accounts , with resolutions of vestry meeting 1797-98, 1806-07, 1809, 1836
P/67/CW/91	1817-35	Churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes
P/67/CW/92	1893-95	Plan of churchyard showing graves
P/67/CW/115	1931-79	Churchwardens' accounts

NLW

LL/F/860	1893	Faculty: Repair and extension of church
LL/F/861	1906	Faculty: New organ (confirmation)
LL/F/864	1927	Faculty: Screen

NMGW

Wright (various) ii 185

SUMMARY

Cross indicates presence

Church: Ystradyfodwg

Dedication: St John Baptist

PRN: m1755

Survey date: 23-02-98

Orientation nave: 0 Chancel: 0

A Nave ☐

B Chancel, integral ☐

C Chancel, separate ☐

D North aisle ☐ Clerestory? ☐

E South aisle ☐

F North transept ☐

G South transept ☐

H Chapel, structurally separate ☐

I Crossing ☐

J Tower ☐ External stair turret ☐

K Bellcote ☐ Position of tower/bellcote ☐

L Porch, structurally separate ☐ Position ☐ ☐ Upper storey to porch? ☐

M Crypt/vault/evidence for vault ☐ Vault position ☐

N Gallery ☐ Gallery position ☐

O Organ chamber ☐

P Vestry, structurally separate ☐

Q Boiler house/sexton's store ☐

R Rood stairs/loft ☐ Position stairs ☐

S Evidence for former rood loft/stairs, including documentary ☐

T Other ☐ Nature of other element ☐

Dates from which there are visible surviving structures

Medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Post-medieval, not otherwise datable: ☐

Centuries:
12th ☐
13th ☐
13th/14th ☐
14th ☐
15th ☐
15th/16th ☐
16th ☐
17th ☐
18th ☐
19th ☐
20th ☒

Appears completely rebuilt? ☒

Known to be rebuilt in different position? ☐

Screen survives? ☐ Loft survives? ☐

Duplicated elements ☐ ☐ ☐

Fittings:

Medieval/post-medieval roof?: ☐ Location(s) ☐

Medieval/post-medieval stained glass: ☐ Location ☐

Medieval wall-painting? ☐ Post-medieval wall-painting? ☐ Location ☐

Medieval/post-medieval door?: ☐ Location(s) of door ☐

Furnishings

Altars: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ Georgian/neo-classical ☐ Victorian ☐ Contemporary ☒

Altar rails: Post-medieval ☐ Victorian ☐ Contemporary ☒

Fonts: Medieval ☐ 17/18th century ☐ Neo-classical ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☐

Pews/stalls/seats: Medieval ☐ Jacobean: ☐ 18th/early 19th century box pews: ☐

Other early seating: ☐ Victorian ☒ Contemporary ☒

Pulpit: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ 18th/early 19th century ☐ Victorian ☐ Contemporary ☒

Dug-out chest: ☐ Early framed chest/cupboard: Medieval ☐ Jacobean ☐ Other early ☐

Other early none-structural woodwork: ☐ Nature of woodwork: ☐

ECM ☐ Monumental sculpture/brass, medieval ☐ Monumental sculpture/brass, post-medieval ☐

CHURCHYARD

Church: Ystradyfodwg | Church PRN: m1755 | Survey date: 23-02-98

Shape, plan (present): Curved polygonal | First map type/date: Tithe/1847

Shape, first map: Polygonal

Shape, relief: Flat

BOUNDARY

Stone/brick wall: ☒ | Earth/stone bank: ☐ | Hedge: ☐ | Fence/railing: ☒ | Other: ☐

Description: Coursed rubble wall surmounted by railing

ENTRANCES

Main entrance, position: S

Main entrance, description: Double gates; path directly to S porch

Secondary entrances (if any): Double gates to W

BURIALS

In use? ☐ | Clearance? Partial

Burials, points of interest:

CHURCHYARD FEATURES

Cross? ☐ | PRN: | RCAHMW cross survey? ☐

Cross description:

Earthworks:

Yews? ☐

Other feature:

Church drainage: Gutter and gully pot. Course of drains not apparent

Relationship to previous monastic complex, if any:

Other remarks: