

# Historic Wales Report

<b>Dataset</b>	<b>Cadw Listed Buildings</b>
Title	Church of St Michael
Type	Listed Building
Dataset UID	15871
Community	Y Ferwig

## Location

Situated near a minor road 200m S of A487 at Tremain.

Date Listed	3/6/1995
Last Amendment	12/2/2009
Grade	II*

## History

Built 1846-48 on an old site. Architect was John Jones (1810-69), also known as the bard 'Talhaiarn', an assistant architect with Scott and Moffatt in London from 1843. In 1846 Jones and WL Moffat were employed by Rev. Robert Miles of The Priory, Cardigan for the design and construction of the Gothic revival styled Cardigan National School. Miles was also the patron for St Michael's. He was from a family in Bristol bankers and a progressive local landowner eager to introduce the ideals of the new ecclesiastical movement to West Wales. John Jones would later assist Sir Joseph Paxton in the construction of the Crystal Palace and oversee the building of two mansions in France for the Rothschilds. He is however better known in Wales for his compositions of verse and songs.

## Reason for Listing

Listed as one of the first Gothic churches in Wales, constructed to a high standard of correctness and form in line with the ideals of the ecclesiastical movement and surviving with a largely intact interior and without later alterations. It is also significant for its connections to John Jones and is the only building designed exclusively by him.

## History

Letter from John Jones, the architect Carmarthen Journal 8 Sept 1848.

The buildings of Wales: Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion. Lloyd et al., 2006.

## Interior

The interior has survived remarkably intact and displays a simplicity and sparseness correct to its design. The walls are rendered, the ceilings high and open and the windows are recessed with pointed stone arches. The Nave has 5 arch braced collar trusses, stained plain pine pews and pulpit, 5 oil wall lamps, 3 to the north and 2 to the south, and two large iron and brass gothic cornices (six candles), one in nave and one in chancel. Square grey stone scalloped C13 font from the earlier church on thick cylindrical shaft and square stepped base similar to font at Church of the Holy Cross, Mwnt. Stained pine screen, 2m high with half height column shafts, separated nave and N aisle under octagonal centre pier with half-pier responds. N aisle has a plain collar truss roof and stained pine pews of a smaller scale than those within the nave possibly indicating the use of the N aisle as a schoolroom. Pointed chancel arch with half column shafts. Chancel windows all have stamped quarries. Stained pine choir stalls with large poppyheads. Step to sanctuary and pine alter rails.

Exterior

1846-48 Anglican parish church. Exterior: tooled squared local Pwntan stone quarried at nearby Tan-y-Groes, laid to close joints in an ashlar fashion with little decay or erosion. Nave, chancel, S porch, and N nave aisle all separately roofed in slate. Coped shouldered gables with cross finials. Lancet style with plinth and string course.

Three windows nave S side with two-step clasping buttresses, W end has two-step clasping buttresses, two tall lights with three step mid-butress, and stepped bellcote with single pointed arch and coped gable. N side has two windows and set back two window aisle with two-step clasping butress on NW. W end of N aisle has single light, door to right and small NW octagonal turret. Two window chancel with two-step clasping buttresses and 3-light window to E end. Porch to left with chamfered doorway, shafted with hood mould and carved head stops. Chamfered inner doorway with boarded door.