

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

LISTED BUILDING	Tower of Church of St. David and St. Cyfelach, Swansea Road, Llangyfelach, Swansea
Grade:-	II*
Date of Notification:-	28.02.02
National Grid Reference:-	SS 6463398933
O.S. 1:10,000 Sheet No.:-	SS 69 NW
CADW Reference No.:-	26236
C & C of S Reference No.:-	LB:466

Notes:-

Location:-

Situated just south of the churchyard near the centre of Llangyfelach.

History:-

Medieval tower of former church, the church itself rebuilt on new site lower down churchyard. The church was badly damaged in early 19th century when the belfry collapsed during a storm. In 1869, gravediggers are said to have found the foundation wall of the old church. The tower is probably of early date, from the massive scale and simple design, perhaps 14th century, but has no visible datable features. Said to originally have a saddle back roof, removed early 20th century, one of at least three distinct restorations. Top parapet and large part of the south face have been replaced perhaps in earlier 20th century.

Exterior:-

Detached church tower, square unbuttressed large tower of thin coursed rubble stone with dressed stone small quoins. Very small plain rectangular two light louvred bell opening to each face and some tiny openings lower down, one each face just above mid height, and one slightly lower down on north west and south faces. East face has low ashlar pointed arch, unmoulded with raised imposts, presumably to former nave, but no other sign of building survive. South side has rebuilt walling to post of the upper third. West side has no door. North side has inserted possible 17th century door with flat grey sandstone lintel and chamfered ashlar jambs. Plank door with wrought iron strap hinges. The lintel is reused early Christian stone and had an incised cross on it some thirty inches high, already much eroded in 19th century.

Rebuilt parapet has string course below and battlements with flat tops and outer face chamfered. Stone rainwater sports on north and south sides.

Interior:-

Not accessible.

Listed:-

Graded II* as substantial medieval tower, of imposing scale. One of only three towers detached from their churches in Wales; the others in Henllan, Clwyd and Bronllys, Powys.

Reference:-

J. Newman, Buildings of Wales: Glamorgan, 1995, page 386.

J. O. Westwood, Lapidarium Walliae, 1876-9, page 44.

www.com.glam.ac.uk/pages/staff/bjones/history/bells.htm.