

## St Mary the Virgin, Middleton-in-Teesdale

St Mary's parish church stands on rising ground on the north side of the small town of Middleton in Teesdale; the church is a totally Victorian building but the earlier detached belfry or bell-house stands on the north side of the churchyard, about 30 m north of its west end.

### Description

#### 1 The Church

##### The Exterior

The present church is a substantial building consisting of an aisled nave of four bays, with a south-west porch, and an unaisled three-bay chancel with a north vestry and organ chamber.

It is constructed of squared rough-faced stone laid in quite thin courses, with tooled-and-margined ashlar quoins and dressings, and Lakeland slate roofs. There is a chamfered plinth all round, with below it a series of small rectangular vents, and chamfered oversailing courses to the eaves. At the west end of the **Nave** a four-light window with cusped intersecting tracery is set high, above a moulded string course, and flanked by large stepped buttresses, and set beneath a steep-pitched coped gable with a finial cross; to either side the ends of the aisles have windows of two trefoil-headed light with a quatrefoil in the spandrels. All three windows in the west end have moulded hoods with turned-back ends.

The clerestory consists of four windows on each side, each of two trefoil-headed ogee lights, under square heads.

The **Aisles** each have windows of two cinquefoil-headed lights under a segmental-arched head, with an uncusped piercing to the spandrel, and no hoodmould; the east end of the south aisle has a three-light window with simple intersecting tracery. There is a stepped buttress at the east end of the north wall of the north aisle. The **South Porch** projects from the west bay of the south aisle; it has a tall battered plinth, and shallow paired buttresses at the southern angles, flanking a segmental-pointed arch with a triple hollow chamfer to the head, dying into the jambs, under a moulded hood with foliate stops. Above is a tall gable, its coping carrying a cross finial; although the porch eaves are well below those of the aisle, the ridge of its steeply-pitched roof comes almost to the top of the aisle roof.

The **Chancel** has three windows on the south, each of two trefoil-headed lights, with an uncusped opening in the spandrel, beneath a segmental-pointed arch; there is an outer chamfered frame, but no hood; below their sills is a moulded string, stepping up at the east end of the wall. At the west end of the wall, in the angle between chancel and south aisle, is a shallow buttress. The east end has a large five-light window with reticulated tracery, the string stepping up again beneath its sill; above is a coped gable with a foliate cross finial, containing a quatrefoil loop. The north wall is largely covered by the vestry and organ chamber, but to the east of these is a fourth two-light window of the same type as on the south. Immediately to the west, rising above the junction of the chancel and vestry walls, is a tall chimney stack with twin octagonal shafts.

The **Vestry/Organ Chamber** has a two-light window on the east above the stair that descends to the boiler room. The window resembles those in the aisles, except that its head has an almost semicircular arch; all its dressings look 19<sup>th</sup> century, although the 1878 faculty plan indicates this as one of two windows to be re-set from the old church. The second of these, on the north of the organ chamber, had much more weathered dressings and was more

clearly a medieval piece. This is now concealed externally by the late 20<sup>th</sup> century heating chamber.

### **The Interior**

Several steps lead up into the south porch, and others inside up the south door, which has a pointed arch of two chamfered orders, springing from moulded imposts; here is a moulded hood with carved stops. Above is a re-set medieval panel, which in the old church was set above the priest's door on the north of the chancel. This has a shield (evidently the arms of Beauchamp) within a quatrefoil.

The interior of the body of the church is plastered and whitewashed, except for exposed ashlar dressings. The four-bay arcades of the nave have segmental-pointed arches of two chamfered orders, on octagonal pier with moulded capitals and bases; the responds are semi-octagonal; shafts carried on corbels. The aisle windows have segmental-pointed rear arches with chamfered heads, and the main west window a rear arch with a hollow-chamfered head. The clerestory windows have chamfered internal lintels. At the east end of the north aisle is a chamfered pointed arch into the organ chamber.

The nave roof is of four bays; the trusses have king-posts, with short braces to a collar, and above that, further braces to the principals. There are intermediate collar beam trusses, with upper king-posts and braces like those of the main trusses. All the trusses are carried on short wall-posts which spring from shaped ashlar corbels.

The chancel arch is of segmental pointed form, the chamfered outer order continuing to the ground, and the wave-moulded inner being carried on semi-octagonal corbels with elaborate moulded capitals, springing from head corbels.

The chancel windows, like their predecessors in the medieval chancel, have chamfered internal surrounds; that of the eastern window in the south wall is continued down to form a sedile. The east window has a moulded string below its sill, and an internal hoodmould with turned-back ends. On the north is a chamfered arch to the organ chamber, and a segmental-pointed arch and wave-moulded surrounds to the vestry door, which has a moulded hood with carved square stops.

The chancel has a boarded wagon roof, with a moulded wall-plate.

Towards the vestry the door has a chamfered rear arch; a doorway on the north (now concealed by the heating chamber) has a chamfered internal lintel. In the south-east corner is a small fireplace; below and to the north of the east window is a re-set medieval piscina with a cinquefoiled head and a semicircular sunk bowl. On the north of the organ chamber (actually of a passage behind the organ) is the internal recess of the re-set medieval window, now partly obscured by shelving.

### **Fittings and Furnishings**

The **Font**, at the west end of the nave, is probably of medieval date; Hodgson (1912, 260) saw it as 'possibly Dec' (later 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century). It is a peculiar piece with a heavy seventeen-sided bowl (perhaps re-cut) resting on a central octagonal shaft; spaced equally around it are three peculiar legs with chamfered angles and swept bases, that look almost like re-used pieces of late- or post-medieval window tracery.

The other fittings and furnishings are all of late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date, including the carved

oak reredos (the Good Shepherd) and the chancel screen of 1905. Of the Stained Glass, the east window is by Kempe; two windows on the south of the chancel are of 1995 and 1998 by Septimus Waugh, one in memory of Robert Wilson 1833-1891, the 'Teesdale Poet' and the other of Canon Thompson (incumbent 1951-1981)

### **Carved Stone**

Along with the cross slabs re-set in the north wall of the north aisle are two 12<sup>th</sup>-century fragments with chevron moulding.

### **Sepulchral Monuments**

The oldest monuments are a series of eighteen cross slabs (five complete) and slab fragments, most of which had been incorporated in the fabric of the medieval church. All are illustrated and described by Ryder (1985, 104-6 & plate 45) who comments 'the slabs show a number of characteristics one might expect in a largely rural parish, remote from other settlements and main roads in its Pennine valley, eg emblems such as the coulter and ploughshare (cf Hamsterley) and vernacular design elements not easily related to any one style. Slabs (1) and (7) may be 12<sup>th</sup>-century pieces, partially re-cut in the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The only other monument of interest is a brass on the north of the Sanctuary, which bears the inscription (here taken from Hodgkin 1913, 194)

IN PIAM MEMORIAM SIMONIS COMYN  
AR REGISTARII DECANI ET CAPITVLI  
DVNELM ET AVDITORIS EPISCOPATVS DVNEL  
AVDITORIS ETIAM ARCHIEPISCOPVS  
EBORACENSIS, TIMOTHEVS COMYN  
FILIVS SVVS HOC MONVMETV POSVIT  
QVI ANNO 1620 13 DIE APRILIS  
VITAM CVM MORTE COMMVTAVIT:

An accompanying plate bears the arms of the Comyn family, gules three sheaves or, with the addition of a chevron ermine.

## **1 The Bell House**

This is a small square structure of two storeys, gabled north and south, built of coursed rubble with cut sandstone quoins<sup>1</sup> and dressings, c 4.75 m square externally over walls c 0.95 m thick, with a shallow projection at the north end of the east wall containing the stair.

The ground floor has a plain square-headed doorway on the east, immediately to the south of the stair projection, and crude little slit windows in the north and east walls of the stair projection and set towards the west end of the south wall. The upper floor has a belfry opening in ch wall, each consisting of a plain square-headed window with a central stone mullion. The gables are coped, and have swept moulded kneelers.

Inside the bell house the ground floor has a ceiling of five heavy north-south beams, c 0.28 m

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<sup>1</sup> The quoining is a little unusual in that there is a second (elongate) squared block in line with each of the 'short blocks of the main quoin.

across; a plain square-headed opening gives onto a stone newel stair which rises to the belfry; the roof consists of rafter pairs, pegged at the apex, carried on two levels of purlins, the upper additionally supported by crude stone corbels.

The Bell Frames are long-headed and consist of three parallel pits, the bells swinging east-west (Pickford layout type 3.1), and have trusses with straight braces from the sill to the central post (Pickford type 5A) with type 1 king-posts (parallel sides, even thickness); there are end posts with jowelled heads and (except for that at the south-east corner) feet. The ends of the truss heads are bolted to the heads of the end frames, which each have a central king-post and braces like those of the trusses. A number of the timbers have sockets and mortices, apparently indicating their re-use, and various members have been added at different periods to improve the structural stability of the frame; a significant amount of timber has been renewed in the recent restoration of the frames; the three bells are hung on modern metal headstocks for swing chiming.

The three bells are inscribed:

1 TELL ONE KNELL WHEN AT HIS ENDIG AND FOR HIS SOUL SAY ONE  
PATERNOSTER AND ONE AVE: ANO DNI 1557

This is the one survivor of the three bells of 1557 mentioned in the will of William Bell; the inscription is in late medieval black letter.

1 GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1697

Also with the initials of the churchwardens W A R T and L A C P  
CHURCHWARDENS and a decorate border made up of the badge of the York  
foundry of Samuel Smith 'S S Ebor'.

1 MARK SHERLOCK & JOSEPH SPENCE CHURCHWARDENS PACK &  
CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT 1780.

The churchwardens' names are an addition, have been cut with a chisel rather than cast.

## Historical Notes

1170 The earliest record of a church at Middleton, which was part of the possessions of the monastery of St Mary at York; it would appear to have been a chapel within the parish of Gainford.

1558 A 'bell house' in the churchyard was constructed in accordance with instructions in the will of Rev William Bell D.D., who bequeathed three bells, and twenty trees to be used in the construction of the bell frame. He also asked for an aisle to be added to the church, but it would appear this was never constructed..

c1787 The first of the Durham historians, Hutchinson (1823 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, III, 336-7) writes that 'the church and rectory house stand on an elevated situation, on the north of the town. The chancel is in length eleven paces, and in width near five paces, and is lighted by four windows, one to the east, and three to the south, under pointed arches. The nave is fifteen paces in length, and, with an aisle or porch to the south, is eleven paces in width. It is lighted by a west window, and two windows to the north, and three irregular windows to the

south, with one in the aisle to the east. The aisle or porch is formed by one wide arch, rising from a heavy square pillar, and two narrow arches, supported on a round pillar, in height, from the base to the top of the capital, five feet six inches; by the uncouth architecture, one may conjecture this fabric was built before the time of Barnard Baliol, who, it is said, gave the church to St Mary's of York....

To the west is a tower, separated from the church several yards, in which the bells are hung.

1834 Mackenzie and Ross (II, 253) also give a useful description: 'The church is an antique structure; and a small square tower, containing three bells, stands at some yards distance. The principal entrance is by a south porch, under a pointed arch. An aisle on the south side of the nave is formed by two circular arches and a wide elliptical one; the first pillar being cylindrical, and the second oblong, of massy dimensions. The chancel is entered by an elliptical arch. The east window and three on the south side of the chancel are under pointed arches; but the lights of the nave and aisle are irregular. The font is a basin cut in the top of an upright cylinder. There is a niche under a pointed arch on the south side of the altar-table, and a piscina within the door which opens from the chancel to the north. Above the entrance into the vestry is a large stone, sculptured with a sword, an ornamented cross, & c; there is a nearly similar stone over the south entrance of the church.'

1857 Fordyce (II, 63) prints virtually the same description as Mackenzie and Ross, but

correctly locates bell house a few yards distant to the north of the church, and adds that 'at the entrance to the churchyard stands an ancient cross, consisting of a small round stone pillar, surmounted by a sun dial, and rising from the centre of a square base, on each side of which are three or four steps. The preservation of this neat and interesting relic is much endangered by the mouldering of the lime or cement used in joining the steps; but this may easily be remedied by a little timely attention.

18.... Another useful description of the old church is found in an MS volume 'Durham Churches' (Mitchison MS, Dean & Chapter Library). Dedication:- St Mary

Ground plan:- Nave with side aisles and S porch; chancel, detached bell tower of late date. The church is devoid of buttresses: the lead-covered chancel roof is surmounted by a plain parapet. The S porch opens under a Dec: arch springing from plain corbels: above it is a small blocked pointed window: its gable has once had a cross. The nave is entered by a pointed door with octagonal shafts. N of the chancel is the priest's door, pointed, with rectangular stoup sunk in the wall on the left hand entering. Above the door outside is a small 4-foil panel containing a shield with arms of ..... The nave has three bays, the arches plain Norm:, the western respond is keeled with a square cap; the next pillar, a cylinder with round cap. The shape of the two others is obliterated by enveloping masonry to prevent collapse. The font, on two steps, is a polygonal basin on octagonal stem, with three plain Norm: shafts disposed around it. The nave seats are plain open benches.

The W window is Perp: of three lights under a segmental dripstone: On the S a Norm: window filled with later tracery: at its sill is a scoop with a drain, serving as a piscina. To the E of the S aisle is a Dec: window of three 3-foiled lights with tracery.

The chancel is raised on four steps. The E window has been clumsily restored. The three S windows are late Dec: or Perp: of two lights: the westernmost contains a shield (checky or and azure with chevron arm:). The soffit of the easternmost has been coloured: traces of foliations in red remain: Its sill produced downwards forms a sedile. The altar is raised on two steps: S of it with a pointed 5-foil recess are the piscina and aumbry (or credence?). The vestry door is pointed. A coffin lid with cross sword and battle-axe serves as lintel inside, and another obliterated one for step. In the sacrarium is a brass of one Comyn, date 1620, Registrar to the Dean and Chapter of Durham and Secretary to the Sees of Durham and York.

1866 Another account is provided by Sir Stephen Glynne (reproduced in Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle vol III, series iii, 222-3). He too saw the western arches of the arcade as Norman; he refers to a window at the east end of the south wall of the aisle with a small rude piscina in its sill, and an oblong recess (an aumbry?) At the east end of the aisle; he saw the west window of the nave as 'poor perpendicular' and the three-light window on the north of the nave as 'ordinary perpendicular'. The outer opening of the south porch was a 'rather straight arch on octagonal pillars' with a plain niche above, and the inner 'Early English, plain with impost mouldings and a hood on corbel heads'.

1878 The date of the faculty for the rebuilding of the church.

1880 A final account <sup>2</sup> of the old church is provided by the Rev J L Low (1880, 147-57). He sees the south arcade as the oldest feature of the building, although he thought that the wider eastern arch was 'of recent construction'<sup>3</sup> and saw the chancel arch as recent, having 'conversed with persons who remember its erection'. The gallery he thought 'most hideous'. Uncomfortable and unwholesome'. Rebuilding was obviously being contemplated when he wrote; he advocated retention of the old building, with the possible additions of a north aisle and a tower.

c1880 The old church was 'wantonly and promiscuously destroyed down the ground' (Hodgson 1912, 228). The actual dates of the demolition of the old building, and of the opening of the new, are not quite clear. The church guidebook gives 1876 (which seems unlikely), Pevsner & Williamson (1983, 363) give '1878' for the new church, whilst Hodgkin (1913, 193) gives 1880 for the new church.

**Faculties and Other Records of Structural Work**

Date	Faculty No.	Works
1878	3/233	Pulling down and rebuilding church. The drawings are by Ross & Lamb of Darlington; the overall form and dimensions of the church are as built, although the lofty tower over the porch was never constructed. There are other detail differences, eg the clerestory windows are shown as quatrefoils. Pevsner & Williamson

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2 The writer has also seen an account of the old building in a local newspaper article, dated ?1880, but this has failed to relocate this.

3 Although he admits that Canon Greenwell disagreed with him, thinking that this arch was an original part of the building.

(1983, 362) cite C.Hodgson Fowler as the architect.

12 Apr 1898	396/9	Carved oak reredos
10 Oct. 1905	470/1	Oak screen
4 Apr 1924	2057	Stone tablet and oak panelling.
15 May 1959	4124	Repairs to church and heating installation
26 May 1964	4677	Repairs to the roof of the church
26 Sep 1968	5081	Installation of oil-fired warm air heating (this presumably dates the addition on the north of the vestry/organ chamber.
30 Jan 1984	6155	Removal of headstones and levelling of mounds
15 Apr 1988	6708	Removal of kerbs, levelling of mounds, straightening of headstones in churchyard.
2 Dec 1988	6828	Replacement of central heating system.
1 Feb 1990	7025	Lease of extension of churchyard as an Open Space to the local authority.
12 July 1994	7881	Double iron gates of main south porch entrance.
6 December 1999	8808	To remove, repair and return the three bells to the detached bell house ... for swing chiming.

### **Structural History**

Since the medieval church was demolished c 1880, there is little relevance in attempting to reconstruct its structural history in any detail, although the surviving descriptions (see 'Historical Records section' (to which can be added the 'at present' plans and elevations from the 1878 faculty and an earlier 19<sup>th</sup>-century plan from Archdeacon Thorp's plan book <sup>4</sup>(Dean 7 Chapter Library) allow a tentative interpretation.

The south arcade would appear to indicate that by the 12<sup>th</sup> century that church already had a nave and south aisle. The aisle would appear to have been remodelled at least twice; Glynne's description of the south door suggests that it was of 13<sup>th</sup> century date, whilst its fenestration seems at least in part to have been of 14<sup>th</sup> century date. Low also mentions that there was clear evidence that the aisle had been heightened.

The chancel appears to have either been remodelled or perhaps completely rebuilt in the 14<sup>th</sup> century; possibly by the Beauchamp family, to judge from the armorial panel formerly over its north door, and now-re-set inside the south porch. The south and east windows had the typically 14<sup>th</sup>-century feature of their glass line being set in the centre of the all, with symmetrical splays and chamfers to their surrounds inside and out.

Further alterations took place in the 15<sup>th</sup> or even early 16<sup>th</sup> century, to judge from the 'Perpendicular' windows in the nave.

The church appears to have been subject to various post-medieval changes. The large gallery in the nave may have been of early 18<sup>th</sup> century date; the clerestory windows (which incidentally appear very similar to those of the belfry openings of the bell house) may have been contemporary with it. There were other windows of the same type on the north of the nave, and in the vestry, which may have been an 18<sup>th</sup> century addition, although several churches in the area (Barnard Castle, Stanhope, Staindrop, Gainford, High Coniscliffe do have late medieval vestries). Low's evidence seems to show that the chancel arch had been replaced in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the east window also seems to have been remodelled or interfered with. Two windows in the south wall look as they were of medieval origin, but had lost their tracery at some post-medieval date.

The c1880 rebuilding obviously occasioned some antiquarian controversy, as witnessed by the Rev Hodgson's comments; it was late in the century for a substantial medieval church to have been totally rebuilt. The architect of the new building, whether Ross & Lamb or Hodgson Fowler, seems to have shown some twinges of conscience in his concern to replicate some elements of the old design, ie the fenestration of the south wall of the chancel, and perhaps the south door. He produced a substantial Gothic building of some quality; perhaps the principal criticism of his work is that the building would have been equally at home in a London suburb, and suppressed all evidence of both the vernacular elements appropriate to a Pennine dale, and the slow development of a church over the centuries, both of which had been so evident in the building he 'wantonly and promiscuously destroyed'.

One or two structural relics of the old church were preserved. The most obvious is the three-light window that now stands by the churchyard gate, reconstructed here in the 1960s? after being initially re-sited in the rectory garden. This is usually referred to as the east window of the old church, and ascribed a 13th-century date. However the evidence of the drawings of the old church suggest that it is much more likely to be the 'Perpendicular' window from the north wall of the old nave. The only two windows in the old church to have had hoodmoulds were this and the west window, which was of rather different form.

The 1878 faculty drawings show that two two-light windows from the old church were to be re-used in the new vestry/organ chamber, on the north and east. That on the north (now concealed by the heating chamber) looks very like the window from the east end of the south wall of the south aisle<sup>5</sup>. That on the east is very similar, but looks all 19<sup>th</sup>-century; the piscina re-set below it on the internal face of the wall is from the old chancel.

Turning to the bell house, this has generally been accepted, without query, as a building of 1557, on the strength of William Bell's will, and the date of the oldest bell. However, even a brief consideration of the evidence shows that this dating is hard to defend, on the following grounds:

- A The overall character of the bell house, the plain square-section surrounds to its openings, its gable coping and swept kneelers, is of 18<sup>th</sup> century character; close parallels can be found in many secular buildings in and around Middleton.

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5 It may be worth checking to see if the simple piscina in its internal sill was moved with it.

- B William Bell's will makes mention of twenty oak trees being used to make the frame. This is obviously much more than would be required for the present frame. A more plausible explanation is that the original 'frame' was more of a wooden belfry or bell tower (of a type more common further south). In the Northern Pennine climate, such a timber structure might not have a life of more than a century or two.
- C The present bell frames are not really of 16<sup>th</sup> century character. Dr John C Eisel<sup>6</sup> saw them as 'perhaps late 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century.... clearly the frame was not made by a specialist in this type of construction and so dating by construction features is very much hit or miss'.

## **The Churchyard**

The churchyard, before 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century extensions, seems to have been roughly rectangular, with the church standing towards the centre of its north side and the bell house a little east of the north-west corner. A slight bank on the east seems to mark the old boundary, beyond which is a major extension that would appear to be of 19<sup>th</sup>-century date; there is a more recent extension (earliest monuments in the 1920s) to the north of this, producing an overall L-plan today.

The principal entrance into the churchyard is a gateway on the west, between cylindrical piers with simple domed caps, of late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century character. Just within the gate on the south stands a re-erected window from the medieval church (see p.8-9 above); it is of three two-centred lights under a segmental pointed arch, within a hollow-chamfered frame, under a casement-moulded hood with turned-back ends. Whilst its overall form might correlate with a date of c1300 other features, notably the section of the hoodmould, suggest a 15<sup>th</sup> century date is more likely.

The monuments in the churchyard seem to have been thinned and tidied up in some areas (see faculties); they include quite a number of relatively well-preserved 18<sup>th</sup>-century headstones, showing the usual symbols. The earliest monuments are a series of very small upright blocks and moulded grave markers<sup>7</sup>; some are simply numbered.

## **Archaeological Assessment**

In a building that has had an existence of little more than a century, there is relatively little that can be classed as of 'archaeological interest', although all alterations and modifications of a church fabric merit proper recording as part of an ongoing story, whatever its length.

The medieval cross slabs and fragments re-set in the north aisle wall appear to be in reasonable condition, and make up one of the best collections of material of this type within the County.

The other re-set relics of the old church are also of interest; it is unfortunate that the medieval window on the north of the Organ Chamber has been so effectively concealed, inside and out, by 20<sup>th</sup>-century changes.

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6 In a letter to the Council for the care of Churches, dated 8 February 2000.

7 There is a good example inscribed 'E.D.1745' close to the wall of the south aisle.

It is possible that some remains of the old church and its sub-floor stratigraphy survive beneath the present building. The exact relationship between the present building and its predecessor remains a little unclear. The 1878 faculty plan shows that it was intended to place the new church directly upon the 'footprint' of its predecessor; the only part of the old building outside the perimeter of the new was the eastern part of the vestry, on the north of the east end of the chancel. The same plans show that it was intended to create a 'basement' under the new building; what is not clear is the level of this, and of the new floors, and whether the stratigraphy within the old building (which would doubtless include a large number of burials) was to be cut away. It is clear that there is a heating system beneath the present church floor, which will have occasioned some disturbance of surviving deposits.

Summing up, there is a possibility of the survival of significant archaeological deposits under the present floors. Any works that entail a significant disturbance of the floors and ground beneath should be accompanied by an archaeological 'watching brief', as would usually be the case in a medieval church.

The bell house, although of interest, can hardly be classed a structure of great archaeological potential. During the recent (1999) renovation of the building and its bell frames archaeological recording was requested, and a video made by the contractors. Whilst this is of some interest and value, repair works to a historic bell frame, that entailed the renewal of some of its elements, should have been accompanied by the preparation of a series of measured drawings of the frame and, hopefully, of sampling the removed timbers for dendrochronological analysis.

Peter F Ryder June 2001

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# **St Mary the Virgin, Middleton-in-Teesdale**

**An Archaeological Assessment**

**June 2001**

**The old church (demolished c1880) with the bell house to the left, from an old postcard**

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# St Mary the Virgin, Middleton in Teesdale

## An Archaeological Assessment

June 2001

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