Early stone emplacement in three Scottish ecclesiastical national monuments

John Potter (Author)

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St Margaret’s Chapel, Edinburgh Castle, Restenneth Priory, St Rule’s Tower, St Andrew's Cathedral, arch jamb

LOCATION(S):
Edinburgh; Angus; St Andrews; Fife; Scotland; UK

PERIOD(S):
Anglo-Saxon

ABSTRACT

The stonework at three well-known Scottish ecclesiastical buildings has been examined in detail. In each, the orientation of the bedding layers in individual stones in certain quoins and arch jambs, and in two instances the wall faces, indicate when these buildings were first erected. In England, the period of construction would have been described as Anglo-Saxon; in this paper the work is referred to as being of 'Patterned' style. On this evidence each building is ascribed to a particularly early origin.
Rectangular pillar stone with a vertical Latin inscription in three lines on one face, and an Ogham inscription along the left and top edges. Dimensions: $1.78 \times 0.36 \times 0.20 \text{ m}$. "The suggestion that there are traces of Ogam cannot be maintained" (Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales 1976 p.36). References: CISP TIRPH/1 Macalister 1945 #404 Nash-Williams 1950 270. Early Modern Ecclesiastical History, Early medieval stone sculpture. 'A pillar curiously engraven; with some inscription upon it': what is the Ruthwell Cross. This paper presents a fresh reading of a significant early medieval recumbent stone monument from West Kirby, Merseyside (formerly Cheshire). Rather than being a single-phased hogback, later subject to damage, it is argued that West Kirby more. This paper presents a fresh reading of a significant early medieval recumbent stone monument from West Kirby, Merseyside (formerly Cheshire). Rather than being a single-phased hogback, later subject to damage, it is argued that West Kirby 4 might have been carved in successive phases, possibly by different hands.