Ward Mausoleum, Isle of Wight

A very unusual design for a tower, but one which displays the austere monumentality typical of Greek Revival mausolea built in the early 19th century. There are acroteria at the corners of the parapet and the walls are pierced by sharply cut rectangular openings with small Doric columns to either side.

Architect(s)
John Nash

Listing
Grade II* (England and Wales)

Year Created
1815

Style
Greek Revival

History
In 1811 the early 17th century church at West Cowes was extended to the east. Then in 1815 George Ward of Northwood House commissioned John Nash to design a tower to be built at the west end of the church. This was intended as a mausoleum, and the base of the tower contains memorial tablets commemorating members of the Ward family. Finally, in 1867, the main body of the church was demolished and rebuilt, the tower being the only part of the earlier structure to remain.

Condition
Good, recently restored (2003).

Sources
BoE: Hants (1967), 740;

Location
Church of St Mary,
West Cowes,
Isle of Wight.
PO31 7QU