

Heritage Statement

Former St Mary's Church, Ellel Grange



November 2017

Heritage Statement

Former St Mary's Church at Ellel Grange

For Ellel Ministries

by

Marion Barter Associates

November 2017

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report was commissioned by Vicky Saunders of BTP Architects on behalf of Ellel Ministries in 2017. Ellel Ministries, the owner of the building, is exploring the potential to repair the church and bring it back into use for worship and other activities related to the work of the Ministries. This report summarises the historical background to the church and assesses its heritage significance and value. It will be used to inform discussions about the future of the building. The assessment was undertaken using online research combined with a visit to the site in summer 2017. The report was written by Marion Barter BA MA IHBC.

The church was built in 1869-1873, to a design by architects W & G Audsley of Liverpool, for the owner of Ellel Grange, Alderman William Preston, a distiller and merchant. By the late 20th century the building had become redundant as a place of worship, and gradually deteriorated. The pews, liturgical fittings, stained glass, tiled floor and internal joinery had been removed by late 20th century. Historic photographs show the building interior before the losses.

The building is a Grade II* listed building; this reflects its outstanding national importance as a fine example of a Victorian gothic revival church, built for an estate by well-regarded architects. The church has high significance for architectural and historic value but this significance is at risk due to the poor condition of the building. Its architectural value has been damaged by the loss of the internal fittings and the stained glass, but the building still has a strong presence. Communal value is medium as the building is on private land and is not accessible or in use, although it may be important to people who once worshipped here. Evidential value is low; the HER for Lancashire was consulted but contains no information about the site, apart from the listing and at risk entries.

The Building is currently on the Historic England At Risk Register, in the highest category A. The building needs a full programme of repair, funded by a viable new use to ensure its survival and the protection of its significance.

The Ellel Ministries proposed to undertake some minor alterations to provide new building services and facilities to support the use of the building for worship. The internal form would not be altered. A draft proposal plan has been prepared by BTP Architects and a schedule of works drawn up. In the interim, before full funding and planning agreements are in place, some emergency measures will be needed to prevent the loss of the decorative painted ceilings, the last remaining interior features of quality. Ceilings are being damaged by water ingress due to slipped slates and blocked gutters. The rainwater gutters and external gulleys all need to be cleared of vegetation and made operational, to prevent water accumulating in the fabric in the church. Interim roof repairs may also be required, and the ongoing security of the building needs attention.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Marion Barter was commissioned to provide a heritage statement for the former St Mary's Church at Ellel Grange in 2017, by Vicky Saunders of BTP Architects on behalf of the Ellel Ministries, the owner of the building.

The statement is required to inform discussion about the future of the building which is on the national Heritage At Risk Heritage. The church is listed Grade II*.

The building is also known as Kings Lee Chapel; the postal address is Ellel Grange, Lancashire, LA2 0HN. The grid reference is SD 4817 5358. The local authority is Lancaster City Council.

The report was prepared by Marion Barter, BA MA IHBC, informed by a site visit on 21 September 2017 and research into the building and its context. The author is grateful to Peter Iles for checking the Historic Environment Record for Lancashire, and for assistance with research from the community library section in Lancaster Library.

1.2 Copyright

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2 HISTORY & CONTEXT

2.1 Summary history of St Mary's Church, Ellel Grange

Ellel Grange is situated about 5 miles south of Lancaster, on the west side of the A6 and the Lancaster Canal. The nearest community is Galgate, 1.5 miles to the north. Historically, Ellel was a township in the parish of Cockerham, with a chapel from the mid 12th century. A short summary of the history of Ellel is given in the Victoria County History for Lancashire (Vol.8, 1914). This indicates that there has been a gentry house at Ellel Grange since at least the 17th century when the Preston family of Ellel Grange was the principal landowner; the Prestons were associated with a 'Grange' at Ellel from the mid 16th century but it is not known when they first built a house. Before the Dissolution of the monasteries in the 1530s, Cockersand Abbey had a grange (a farm) at Ellel; the abbey's land was acquired by Thomas Holt from Henry VIII, but according to the VCH, the Prestons also held land at Ellel 'of the king' (Farrer and Brownbill, Vol 8, pp 96-101). Other religious houses held land here, too, including Burscough Priory, Furness Abbey and Conishead Priory. It is not known whether there were any pre-Dissolution buildings were on the site of the present Ellel Grange, or if the grange was elsewhere in the area.



Fig.1: Ellel Grange before the house was rebuilt for William Preston (1844-45 6 inch OS map, Reproduced by permission of the National Library of Scotland)

The Prestons were Catholic recusants and suffered persecution for their faith; William Preston's Ellel estate was sequestered in 1650 but in 1653 he was able to reclaim it on payment of a hefty fine. After the decline of the Preston family's financial standing, the estate changed hands several times; in 1805 it belonged to Edmund Rigby, and soon afterwards Richard Worswick, a Lancaster banker, bought it. Mrs Worswick leased the house to Richard Gillow (1734-1811), son of Robert Gillow the architect and cabinet maker. In 1823, the estate was purchased by Richard Atkinson, for £11,480.

In 1856 the Ellel Grange estate was bought by Alderman William Preston (1805-1871), a Liverpool distiller and merchant. No relation of the earlier Preston family, Preston lived at Rock House, Liverpool and was the nephew of distiller Robert Preston whose company of the same name he managed on Vauxhall Road, Liverpool. Preston was involved in Liverpool political life and became mayor in 1858.

William Preston commissioned a Liverpool architect, John Weightman, to design a new house on a new site to the south-east of the existing house, built in 1857-9. The new house was built in fashionable Italianate style, following the trend set by Osborne House, built for Queen Victoria and Prince Albert on the Isle of Wight (1845-51). Preston also built a new stable block and other estate buildings and landscaped the grounds.



Fig.2: Ellel Grange, built 1857-59 for Alderman William Preston, by John Weightman

When William Preston died in 1871, the church and nearby mausoleum had already been commissioned by him; the church was started in 1869 but was not completed until 1873, under the supervision of his widow. Preston's choice of the architects W & G Audsley was related to his Liverpool connections; George Audsley had worked with Weightman in Liverpool, before setting up a partnership with his brother William in 1863. The church was illustrated in the contemporary architectural press in 1874, with a short article published to mark the consecration on 22 May 1873 (*Architect and Building News*, Vol 11, 1874, p150). There were also accounts of the consecration service in May 1873 in the local press (*Liverpool Mercury* and *Lancaster Guardian* 24 May 1873). The 1874 *Architect and Building News* article describes the church but does not name the craftsmen and contractors; the *Lancaster Guardian* article mentions that the work was largely done by 'Liverpool tradesmen'. The stained glass and internal decorative design were probably designed by the Audsleys themselves but the makers and suppliers are not known; the Audsleys probably used contractors involved on their Liverpool churches and synagogues such as the Liverpool sculptor Alfred Norbury and the Manchester stained glass makers R.B.Edmundson & Son. The church was reported to have cost over £7000, a substantial figure at the time. The first curate was the Rev G.L.Blake.

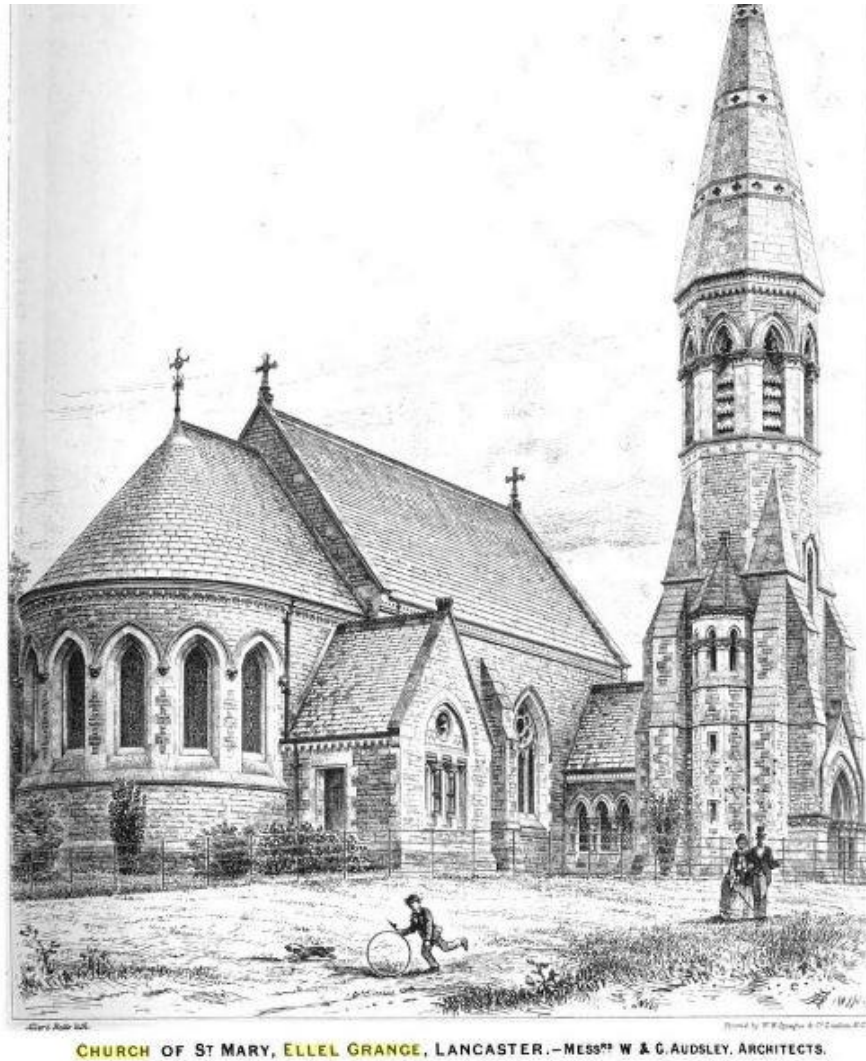


Fig.3: the church as illustrated in 1874 (Architect & Building News, Vol 11, 1874, p150)

The new house, St Mary's church and the mausoleum were first shown on the OS map for 1890 (1:2500). An historic photograph on Flickr also shows the church soon after it was constructed; the photographer is now known (Fig.5).

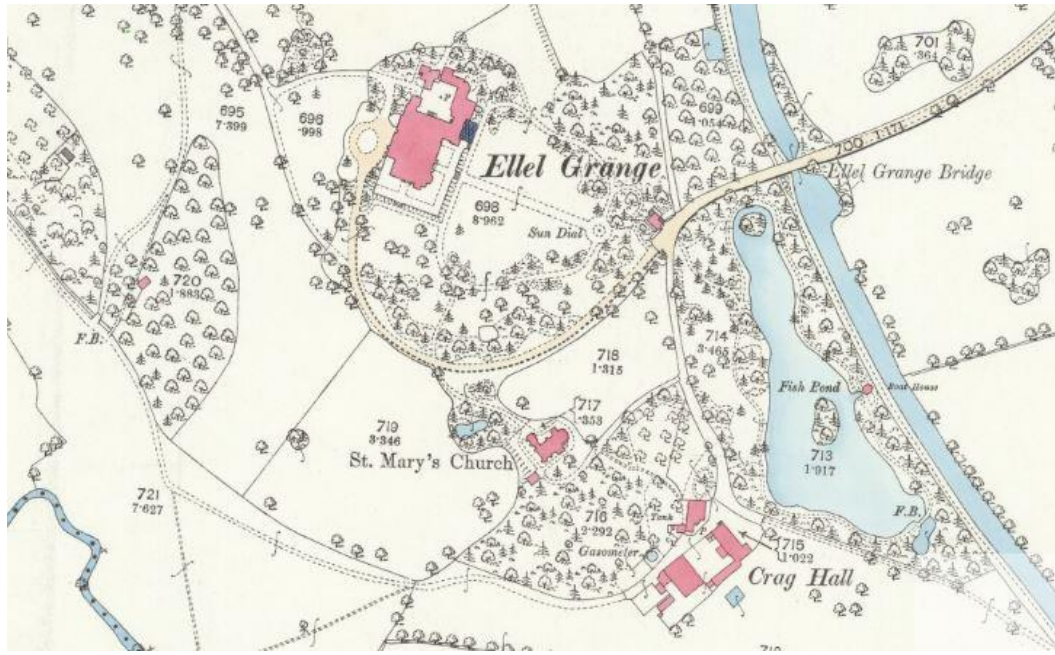


Fig.4: OS map 1890, 25 inch (Reproduced by permission of the National Library of Scotland)



Fig.5: undated photograph of the church soon after construction (Flickr)

The 20th century history of the church is not well documented, although it continued to be used as a private chapel for Ellel Grange into the mid 20th century. Descendants of the Prestons lived at the house; the last resident member of the family was T.N.P.G.Sandeman, of the port dynasty. His mother was the grand-daughter of William Preston. After Sandeman's death in 1979, the estate was fragmented and the contents of the house sold (including a collection of Gillow furniture); the farmland remained in the family but land containing the house, drive and church were separately sold.

The house was initially used as a hotel/spa but this use ceased in less than ten years and Ellel Grange, along with the church, were acquired by the present owner in 1986.

By 1969, when the first Pevsner volume for North Lancashire was first published, the church was closed. The decline of the building is mentioned in articles in the local press; on 15 January 1982, the Lancaster Guardian reported that plans were being discussed to convert the church in flats, with a photograph of intact stained glass. An article in the Lancaster Guardian for 9 November 1984 refers to the church 'being deconsecrated' and that it had been bought by a Mr H.Stirzaker, a building contractor, from the Diocesan Board of Finance. This suggests that the Diocese had until recently owned the redundant church, not the estate. During the 1980s, the church suffered from increasing vandalism and the removal of architectural features; the 9/11/1984 Lancaster Guardian article referred to the theft of stained glass valued at £3750 and the prosecution of the thief. It is anecdotally reported that some fittings were sold to American buyers, but this has not been confirmed.

2.2 Historic Design

The original design of the church is recorded in an engraving published in the *Architect and Building News* 1874 (Vol 11, p150), and the accompanying short article records the interior as it was first built. The original drawings have not been located; they may not survive. In 1981, record photographs were taken of the house and church by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME), prior to alterations to the interior of the house and the removal of fittings from the church. The RCHM photographs provide a valuable record of the interior before it was stripped; the photographs are held in the Historic England Red Box collection at Swindon, also available online [https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places/gallery/6565?place=Ellel%2c+LANCASHIRE+\(Parish\)&terms=ellel&searchtype=englandsplaces&i=1&wm=1&bc=2|3](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places/gallery/6565?place=Ellel%2c+LANCASHIRE+(Parish)&terms=ellel&searchtype=englandsplaces&i=1&wm=1&bc=2|3)

Two RCHME interior photographs (Historic England card refs.2600_017 and 2600_019) show the nave walls lined with banded ashlar, above a timber dado of arcaded panelling to the north, west and south walls (latter missing). The chancel was separated from the nave by steps and a wrought iron and brass screen on a marble plinth, with a carved gothic pulpit made of Caen stone and marble on the north side of the chancel arch. In 1981, the chancel retained liturgical furniture such as a lectern and a central altar with reredos. The organ loft was separated from the nave by a low timber panelled screen, and at that time the organ case seems to have been in situ. The pews were simple open-backed benches, made of oak and similar to those popular in Catholic churches, with one open arcaded section, probably once at the front of the nave. The plinth to the marble font at the west end of the church was in situ in 1981, but the bowl was missing by then. The maker of the stained glass is not known, but the subjects were noted in the 1874 article: the west window depicted scenes from the life of the Virgin, the north and south windows depicted the miracles and parables. The ceiling was painted with half-length figures of the Evangelists and Apostles. The windows in the apse contained scenes from the life of Christ, with Christ in Glory painted on the ceiling, with angels. The tower was fitted with a peal of five bells, rung by 'Warner's chiming apparatus'.

The list description was amended in 1985, recorded the existence of some in situ liturgical fittings such as the pulpit and reredos, floor tiles, the arcaded wall panelling and stained glass. At an unknown date after 1985, the glass, wall panelling and furnishings were removed; it is not known whether listed building consent was sought nor whether this was due to theft. Ellel Ministries acquired Ellel Grange, with the church, in October 1986.

2.3 Context: the gothic revival in English church architecture

There were two main factors in the revival of gothic as a style for church architecture in England: the scholarly interest in English gothic architecture promoted by architects such as Pugin and Rickman
Former St Mary's Church, Ellel Grange: Heritage Statement, MBA November 2017

from the 1840s and a return to a pre-Reformation liturgy promoted by high Anglicanism. This liturgical change strongly influenced the design and layout of Victorian churches and their interiors. From around the 1830s, there was a campaign to revive a pre-Reformation liturgy and return to Medieval church layouts, partly in reaction to Georgian 'preaching boxes' where the emphasis was on sermons preached from a central pulpit rather than a liturgy focussed on the high altar. Groups such as the Cambridge Camden Society, founded in 1839, influenced Victorian church design and liturgy by promoting church plans that broadly followed a medieval layout. The key elements were a long chancel with steps up to the altar and space for choir seating with a pipe organ nearby, a pulpit at the chancel arch, a baptismal font towards the west end and fixed nave pews to give unrestricted views of the high altar. The galleries and box pews that had proliferated in the 18th century were removed from existing churches and not used in new Victorian interiors.

In terms of the overall architectural form, Victorian architects provided a chancel that was clearly differentiated from the nave, gabled projections for the vestry, organ loft and porches and a spire or tower was usually provided, if the budget allowed. Architects chose from Early English or Decorated styles, also depending on the budget, the latter requiring more lavish window tracery. Attention to accurate and authentic details included designing stone mouldings and carved details, based on the scholarly recording of medieval patterns, available in published books and journals.

Inside churches, Victorian designers and craftsmen emulated the polychrome decoration of Medieval gothic church interiors in which every surface was decorated in colour, using tiled floors, painted walls and ceilings and stained glass windows. Numerous firms sprang up to supply the market for church decoration, ranging from high quality hand-drawn and crafted wall decoration and stained glass windows to mass-produced pews and liturgical fittings. Heating was provided by coal-fired boilers, with hot water pipes running round the walls or below cast-iron floor grilles. Lighting was initially provided by oil lamps and later by gas.

2.4 Context: The architects, W & G Audsley

George Audsley and his brother William were born in Elgin, Scotland (1838 and 1833, respectively). They were both apprenticed to architects Alexander and William Reid of Elgin. After George's training ended, in 1856, he moved to Liverpool and initially worked with the City Surveyor John Weightman. Weightman designed William Preston's Italianate house at Ellel Grange, a commission that was probably due to the men's Liverpool connections. George Audsley was also known to have worked for John Cunningham in Liverpool.

In 1863, the Audley brothers set up in partnership in Liverpool. They designed numerous buildings in and around the city and are most well-known for the Old Hebrew Synagogue on Princes Road (1871-74). At the time of the commission for the Ellel Grange church the firm's office was at 14 Cook Street, Liverpool. The Audsleys' Liverpool work is referred to in a summary of their work published by the Walker Gallery, available online at <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/walker/exhibitions/audsleys/worship.aspx>

The Audsleys also published many books and pamphlets on aspects of architecture and design, such as a *Handbook of Christian Symbolism* (1865), *Practical Hints for Amateur Organ Builders* (1876), *Polychromatic Decoration as applied to buildings in medieval styles* (1882), and *Outlines of Ornament in Leading Styles* (1882-4). Some of their pattern books have been reprinted and are available online, with colour illustrations of decorative designs. George Audsley's eclectic interests included stained glass design, Japanese art and organ building. The brothers were admitted to the RIBA in 1876, and in 1881 they opened a London office. The Audsleys' career reflects Victorian ambition and mobility in response to new opportunities; in 1882 they visited New York which led to a commission to design an art gallery in Milwaukee later in the 1880s. In 1892 the brothers moved their architectural office to

New York and were involved in high rise buildings such as the Bowling Green Building on 3-11 Broadway (1895). George died in New Jersey in 1925 and William in 1907.

Given their scholarly interest in decorative design and comparison with surviving buildings such as the Princes Road synagogue in Liverpool, it is probable that the decorative interior of the church at Ellel Grange was designed by the Audsleys themselves, including the organ, painted wall decoration and stained glass.

William Preston also commissioned W & G Audsley to design St Margaret's Church in Anfield, Liverpool, a large gothic revival church completed in 1873, after Preston's death. This was destroyed by fire in 1961.

3 ELLEL GRANGE CHURCH TODAY

3.1 Short description of the church

The church is aligned roughly south-west to north-east (the chancel is at the north-east end), but in this description liturgical compass points will be used.



Fig.6: the church from the north-west

The church is built of local sandstone, finished internally in Bath stone with bands of blue Burnley and red stone, according to the 1874 report in the Architect and Building News. The roof is laid with Cumbrian slate in diminishing courses, with clay ridges and cast-iron rainwater goods. The building was designed in the Decorated gothic revival style that was fashionable in the third quarter of the 19th century, with an unusual semi-detached tower over the porch that Hartwell and Pevsner describe as ‘rogueish’ (Hartwell and Pevsner, p285). The exterior is almost unaltered and retains key elements associated with typical gothic revival church buildings: the church has an apsidal chancel, nave under a taller roof and north porch below a partly detached octagonal tower with spire. The organ chamber is to the south side of the nave with a gabled vestry to the north side of the chancel. The masonry is very high quality and there is little sign of structural movement or surface erosion. The only missing external features are the stained glass windows and the wrought-iron gates to the outer porch doorway.



Fig.7: detail of north porch entrance



Fig.8: apsidal chancel and vestry from the north-east

Inside, the porch in the base of the tower has the remains of a tiled floor and the arcaded side windows and inner doorway have polished green marble columns. The inner doors are missing, the current security doors are a temporary measure. The carved coat of arms on the east wall probably relate to the Preston family but this is not confirmed. Above the porch, there is a view up into the tower, as the floors are partly missing. The vestry to the north-east was not accessible, but a boarded vaulted ceiling can be seen through the broken window.



Fig.9: the porch side windows

The nave originally had a tiled central aisle, with timber pew platforms either side and walls partly lined with blind arcaded panelling. Some of the cast-iron heating grilles are in situ on the floor, but almost all the tiling has been removed. The chancel tiled floor and the low wall and railings at the chancel steps have also been lost along with all liturgical fittings.



Fig.10: central aisle with heating grilles (left) and tiling around removed pulpit, in nave (right)

The main interior feature that has survived is the painted decoration to the plaster ceilings of the nave, the chancel and organ loft; these ceilings are part of a polychrome decorative scheme for the whole interior that originally included the tiled floors and stained glass windows. The painted ceilings are almost intact with the original colours and designs, including gold stars on a blue background and stencilled and painted floral motifs and depictions of angels, the saints and Christ in Glory. There are areas of loss and deterioration caused by water ingress, largely due to the failure of the rainwater goods. A full assessment will be needed to assess the condition of the decoration and potential for restoration. It is not known who executed the ceiling paintings, but they are likely to have been

designed by the Audsleys who excelled at decorative design and published pattern books of their designs in the late 19th century.



Fig.11: painted nave ceiling

The painted decorative scheme in the chancel covers the cusped timber truss, as well as the plasterwork. A substantial section on the south side is missing, exposing the underlying timber structure.

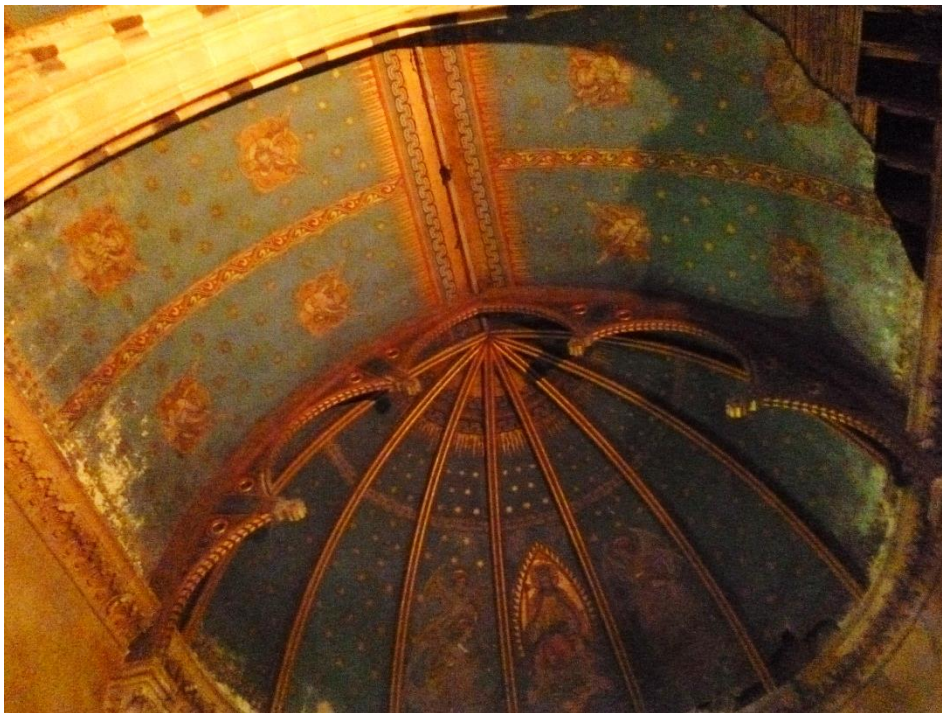


Fig.12: painted decoration in the chancel

3.2 The Setting

Setting is defined in the NPPF as the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. The church stands on a levelled hill-top site on the south side of the private drive up to Ellel Grange, which is situated on a higher ridge to the north. The ground falls away to the west, east and south, giving the church some prominence in the rural landscape. To the south is a densely wooded area, containing the line of an old drive (overgrown) and there are pasture fields of parkland character to the north-west.

Historic maps (Fig.4) show a subsidiary drive leading to the church from the main drive to the house, and paths around the church, but these are now grassed over. The church is separated from Ellel Grange itself by the topography and by mature trees, so there is no inter-visibility, but the two buildings have an important historic relationship; each contributes to the setting and significance of the other. Ellel Grange is grade II listed (List Entry No. 1317896), and has a designed landscape setting, with mature trees and lawns, now partly altered for parking. The approach from the A6 is via an historic drive, over an attractive canal bridge which is listed Grade II (List Entry No. 1317881). The drive passes a Victorian lodge which is not listed, but part of the historic estate.

To the west of the church is a gothic mausoleum built for the Preston family, designed in the same style as the church, and also by the Audsleys. This is Grade II listed (List Entry No.1071799).

The setting of the church has been maintained; the grass is cut and access is possible round all sides of the building. Although some aspects have deteriorated, the landscape setting contributes strongly to the significance of the church.



Fig.13: Preston Family mausoleum to the west of the church

4 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Assessing significance

Assessing the relative heritage significance of heritage assets is now a fundamental part of conservation and decision-making in relation to historic churches and their interiors. Significance is defined as 'the value of a heritage asset (in this case the church) to this and future generations because of its heritage interest' (NPPF). For the Ellel Grange Church significance is under threat due to the impact of ongoing neglect and decay. Historic England (previously English Heritage) has provided some guidance on the four main types of heritage value: evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal (Conservation Principles, 2008). Significance can also be defined in relation to level:

- **Exceptional** – an asset important at the highest national or international levels, including scheduled ancient monuments, Grade I and II* listed buildings and World Heritage Sites.
- **High** – a designated asset important at a regional level and also at a national level, including Grade II listed buildings and conservation areas.
- **Medium** – an undesignated asset important at a local to regional level, including local (non-statutory) listed buildings or those that make a positive contribution to the setting of a listed building or to a conservation area. May include less significant parts of listed buildings. Buildings and parts of structures in this category should be retained where possible, although there is usually scope for adaptation.
- **Low** – structure or feature of very limited heritage or other cultural value and not defined as a heritage asset. May include insignificant interventions to listed buildings, and buildings that do not contribute positively to a conservation area. The removal or adaptation of structures in this category is usually acceptable where the work will enhance a related heritage asset.
- **Negative** – structure or feature that harms the value of a heritage asset. Wherever practicable, removal of negative features should be considered, taking account of setting and opportunities for enhancement.

4.2 Statement of Significance

The Ellel Grange Church is of high significance as a good example of a gothic revival church built on a private estate by a well-regarded firm of Liverpool architects, G & A Audsley.

The interior has high significance for the polychromatic decoration designed by the Audsleys, which survives on the ceilings and in the masonry. However, the significance of the interior has been reduced by the loss of fittings, finishes and features including stained glass, floor tiling, marble liturgical fittings and all the seating. The interior is primarily significant for its overall spatial character, plan-form and the remaining architectural features such as the chancel arch, columns, roofs and ceilings with painted and stencilled ceilings.

The church building has overall high significance for its aesthetic, architectural and historical value. It is also significant part of an ensemble of heritage assets on the Ellel Grange estate, developed in phases by different owners. Its communal and religious value is medium as it is closed to the public, in poor condition and not in use, although it may be important to people who worshipped here and to the descendants of the Preston and Sandeman families. The evidential/archaeological value is probably medium; this relates to the potential for the fabric to yield information about the past. There is no known archaeology on this site, according to the HER, but analysis of the pigments and composition of the wall paintings before further decay would enable them to be restored in the future.

There is great potential for religious, spiritual and communal values to be enhanced after the building is repaired and is in use for worship, once again.

4.3 Designation

The church is a designated heritage asset, listed Grade II*, which reflects its outstanding national importance. Buildings listed at Grade II* constitute 5.8% of all listed buildings in England (over 90 % are listed Grade II and 2.5 % are Grade I).

The church is within the setting of Ellel Grange, a Grade II listed building. The associated designed landscape is not designated on the national heritage register, but the grounds of Ellel Grange are referred to on the Parks and Gardens UK website (record ID 5371), which provides a database of designed landscapes of regional and local interest.

5 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The building is a Grade II* listed building; this reflects its outstanding national importance as a fine example of a Victorian gothic revival church, built for an estate by well-regarded architects. The church has high significance for architectural and historic value but this significance is at risk due to the poor condition of the building. Its architectural and religious value has been damaged by the loss of the internal fittings and the stained glass, but the building still has a strong presence. There is great potential for its heritage significance and values to be enhanced.

It is recommended that a scheme to restore the church and bring it back into use is investigated. Ellel Ministries are the most likely user subject to funding, for the capital project and long-term maintenance and use. Some minor alterations to provide improved access, new building services and some facilities such as WCs and a kitchen will be required but these are justified to enable a scheme.

It is strongly recommended that emergency repairs are carried out to clear the rainwater goods and gullies, to ensure the building fabric does not deteriorate further. There are signs that water ingress is affecting the roof and walls this will lead to the loss of the fine painted ceiling decoration – the last surviving element of the gothic interior design. Specialist advice will be required to secure the ceiling plaster during roof repairs. Break-ins and vandalism are ongoing concerns, and security should also be reviewed.

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Historic Mapping (courtesy of National Libraries Scotland)

1844-45 OS (6 inch)

1890 OS (25inch)

Historic Photographs

Historic England Red Box Collection, 1981

[https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places/gallery/6565?place=Ellel%2c+LANCASHIRE+\(Parish\)&terms=ellel&searchtype=englandsplaces&i=1&wm=1&bc=2](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places/gallery/6565?place=Ellel%2c+LANCASHIRE+(Parish)&terms=ellel&searchtype=englandsplaces&i=1&wm=1&bc=2) | 3 [last accessed 8 November 2017]

Websites

G & W Audsley – Walker Art Gallery

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/walker/exhibitions/audsleys/buildings.aspx> (accessed [last accessed 20 September 2017])

G & W Audsley – Scottish Architects

http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=200176 [last accessed 20 September 2017]

Preston Mausoleum – The Mausolea and Monuments Trust

http://www.mmtrust.org.uk/mausolea/view/96/Preston_Mausoleum [last accessed 8 November 2017]

G & W Audsley – decorative design

<http://www.victorianweb.org/art/design/audsley/index.html> [last accessed 15 November 2017]

APPENDIX 1 – LISTING ENTRY

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: KINGS LEE CHAPEL

List entry Number: 1317926

Location

KINGS LEE CHAPEL, ELLEL

County: Lancashire

District: Lancaster

District Type: District Authority

Parish: Ellel

Grade: II*

Date first listed: 07-Jun-1979

Date of most recent amendment: 07-Mar-1985

List entry Description

Summary of Building

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Reasons for Designation

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

This list entry was subject to a Minor Amendment on 04/11/2014

SD 45 SE 12/76

ELLEL Kings Lee Chapel (Formerly listed as Church of St. Mary, previously listed as Chapel of St.Mary in the grounds of Ellel Grange)

7.6.1979

GV II* Church, built in 1873 by W. & G. Audsley on Ellel Grange (q.v.) estate. Now disused.

Former St Mary's Church, Ellel Grange: Heritage Statement, MBA November 2017

Coursed rock-faced sandstone with steep slate roof. High Victorian Gothic style. Comprises a nave, lower apsidal chancel, north porch with tower, north vestry, and south organ chamber. Porch tower of square plan with angle buttresses, broached to an octagon with trefoiled lancet bell openings and with a stone spire with 2 pierced bands of red sandstone. Doorway has 2 moulded orders whose red granite angle shafts have capitals whose foliation continues as an impost band, and a trefoiled inner arch. Windows have geometric tracery of various designs. West wall has angle buttresses and a window of 4 lights. South nave wall has 2 bays separated by a buttress and windows of 3 lights. North nave wall also has 2 bays with 3-light windows. Apse has lancets. Interior. Porch has arcading with marble shafts. Interior walls of sandstone ashlar with polychrome banding. Nave has wagon roof with paintings on panels. Around the walls is low timber arcaded panelling. On the south side an arch opens into the organ chamber, with the organ remaining. The inner order of the pointed chancel arch is carried on corbelled marble shafts with foliated capitals. Below are wrought iron railings on a marble base. On the north side is a carved stone pulpit. The chancel roof is decorated by painting and gilding. A cusped carved rib carried on marble shafts separates the main roof from the apsidal end, which has radiating ribs. The lancet windows form a moulded arcade, the arches separated by attached square marble piers with foliated capitals. Above and below the openings are foliated bands. The reredos is of carved alabaster. The original floor tiles remain. Each window has finely-detailed stained glass, although the glass to some of the windows in the apse has been badly damaged by vandals.

National Grid Reference: SD 48170 53585

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