THAMES VALLEY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

SERVICES

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire

Building Recording

by Genni Elliott

Site Code: IPC14/44

(SP 9432 1610)

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire

Building Recording

for Mr. Paul O'Hare

by Genni Elliott

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code IPC 14/44

Summary

Site name: Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire

Grid reference: SP 9432 1610

Site activity: Building Recording

Date and duration of project: 3rd April 2014

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site code: IPC 14/44

Summary of results: The chapel was built in the Italianate style in 1865. The chapel and Sunday School were of a single build, which may have included the office and kitchen leanto. It is likely that the first floor accommodation and entrance lobby were a slightly later addition, but constructed prior to 1879. The stalls within the chapel were also probably a later addition.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Buckinghamshire Museum Service in due course.

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 17.04.14

Steve Preston ✓ 16.04.14

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire Building Recording

by Genni Elliott

Report 14/44

Introduction

This report documents the results of building recording at Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 9432 1610) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Edward Hunt of Edward Hunt and Co., Rowans, 22 Hill View, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 1S on behalf of Mr. Paul O'Hare, Little Meadows, Horseblock Lane, Heath End, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 3UF.

Planning consent (appln no. 13/02717/APP) has been granted by Aylesbury Vale District Council for the conversion of the chapel into three residential units, which requires the demolition and rebuilding of the lean-to single- and two-storey extensions. The consent is subject to a condition (3) which requires a programme of recording prior to the alterations.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the District's policies on historic buildings. The fieldwork was undertaken by Genni Elliott on 3rd April 2014 and the site code is IPC 14/44.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited Buckinghamshire Museum Service and a copy sent to the National Monuments Record in due course.

Location, topography and geology

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel is located on the south side of the High Street (B489), to the west of its junction with Yewtree Close, Ivinghoe (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 111m above Ordnance Datum and the underlying geology is Lower Chalk (BGS 1990).

Historical Background

The chapel was formerly known as the Wesleyan Chapel and built 1865–6, replacing an earlier structure (1837). It was funded by the Hawkins family of Pitstone Green (BCC n.d., 43). Pevsner's first edition (1960) did not comment on it and his revisers (Pevsner *et al.* 2000, 417) merely noted it as 'Methodist Chapel, W of the church. 1865. Simple Italiante with arched windows and polychrome stripes.'

A range of Ordnance Survey maps of the area were consulted to show the development of the site. The earliest map to show the chapel is the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1879 (Fig. 3). The Chapel and Sunday School are shown, along with the west side entrance. At the rear are two extensions; one at the west end and the other in the centre. The chapel is labelled; Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan). By the Second Edition of 1899 (Fig. 4) the south-westernmost part of the rear extension has been demolished and a small structure erected in the far south-west corner of the site. Nothing has changed by 1925. The next available large scale map is from 1972 (Fig. 5) which shows significant change immediately to the south and east of the chapel with the construction of Yew Tree Close and several houses. To the chapel itself, the lean-to extension at the rear has been extended slightly to the east. No further changes can be seen.

Methodology

The building survey was carried out in accordance with guidelines set out by the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments for a level 2 record. The survey comprised a photographic survey, paying attention to the methods of construction, chronological development and alterations, and features of special interest. The building has been recorded photographically both digitally and on 35mm format using colour print and black and white media which are catalogued (Appendix 1).

Description

Exterior

The complex of buildings consisted of a Chapel, Sunday School room with associated lean-to extensions, a side entrance lobby and first floor accommodation. The ground originally sloped from east to west, but had been levelled prior to the construction of the buildings. The Chapel and Sunday School were brick built in yellow bricks with decorative bands and window arches embellished with red bricks. The yellow bricks were laid in Flemish bond, bonded in lime mortar and measured 223mm x 110mm x 67mm (9" x 4 ³/₈" x 2 ⁵/₈"); the red bricks were similar but slightly thinner (64mm (2 ½")). Around the west and north façades was a brick plinth which was at ground level along the eastern façade due to the slope of the land. The main buildings had gable-end roofs covered in slate, the lean-to was a half gable-end roof, also covered in slate and the side entrance had a flat roof.

Along the High Street frontage were cast iron railings, containing a main gate in the centre and a smaller gate at the west end. The railings were set onto a low wall and consisted of hoop-and-arrow style panels with trefoil finials at each intersection.

The north façade of the chapel (Fig. 6) could be split into two sections; the main chapel (Pl. 1) and the set back side entrance lobby at the west end (Pl. 2). The side entrance was built in the same style as the chapel with yellow bricks, laid in Flemish bond with red brick detailing. The bricks however were slightly smaller, measuring, 225mm x 110mm x 70mm (8¾ x 4⅓ x 2¾"). Within the façade was a large double width door under a curved flat arch with a similarly curved window under a flat arch on the first floor. The door was accessed up two stone steps. The door itself was of wooden construction with vertical central panels. Filling the gap between the door and the curved arch was a wooden-framed window. The first floor window was tall and narrow, probably of wooden construction and divided into three panes.

The gable end of the chapel fronted onto the street. The shape was further emphasized with raised brickwork following the line of the gable end. Within the façade was a central doorway with a pair of windows either side, above which was a large central window flanked by a smaller window either side. Above the door and all the windows was a curved flat arch, embellished with red bricks in the Italianate style. Above the brick arches was a curved hood and where the ends met was a floral carving. The windows themselves were wooden, of six panes with a fanlight above to create the curved design, and with sandstone sills. The doorway consisted of a pair of simple timber plank doors stained brown with a curved window above. Immediately to the west of the entrance was the date stone (Pl. 3) inscribed: 'This stone was laid by T. Chamberlain ESQ of Windsor Sept brown 14th 1865.' Between each of the openings were different carved foliage capitals (Pls 4–8) which included fairly standard designs of ivy with berries, acorns and oak leaves, grape vines, mixed foliage, and probably geraniums, all sprouting from similar stems. Around the eaves was a decorated bargeboard with trefoil shaped cut-outs.

The east façade (Fig. 7) contained the chapel at the north end, the Sunday School in the centre and at the far east end the lean-to extension. Within the chapel area (Pl. 9) were five double height, curved windows of the same design as those on the north façade. The windows were divided into twelve panes with a fanlight above. Within the centre of the building was a cast iron hopper and down pipe. A second hopper and down pipe was also located at the junction between the chapel and Sunday School buildings. The gable end of the Sunday School (Pl. 10) fronted this façade and was much lower than the chapel. Within the wall were three windows on the ground floor with a single central window in the apex of the roof. The windows were of the same style as those within the chapel but on a smaller scale and without the hoods above the flat arches. To the east the roof

had been continued down to form a single-storey extension. A scar could be seen within the wall where the brickwork did not quite match and one of the red brick bands had not been extended across. Rising above the Sunday School was the first floor accommodation area which was also the gable end. It contained two windows, of which the southernmost one followed the angle of the Sunday School roof line. Above the windows were three iron wall ties. It was rendered in cement mortar, made to look like ashlar.

The south façade (Fig. 6; Pl. 11) consisted of the lean-to extensions on the ground floor, the first floor accommodation area and the rear of the chapel. The lean-to extensions were of plain brick with no openings within it. At the east end were three skylights. The rear of the accommodation area contained two, two-over-two-pane wooden sash windows and a chimney stack in the south-west corner. The rear of the chapel had also been rendered in the same cement mortar made to look like ashlar. The bargeboard was plain.

The west façade (Fig. 7) contained the chapel, the west side entrance, the Sunday School and the first floor accommodation. Only the chapel façade was visible as it was set back from the site boundary. Within the chapel façade were four tall windows, similar to those on the east face. However due to the slope of the ground these windows were set higher within the wall above a brick plinth.

The Chapel (Figs 8 and 9)

The chapel was accessed via a set of double doors in the north wall, giving access to a small wood-panelled lobby (Pl. 12). On either side of the entrance was a set of stairs with a half landing giving access to the stalls and beside the stairs was a door giving access to the main room of the chapel. The stairs partially obscured one of the tall windows on either side. They were constructed of pine wood and at the top of the stairs was a pair of wooden panelled doors (Pl. 13). The stalls themselves were entirely constructed of pine and consisted of three rows of pews and a central lectern with a simple wooden cross on the back (Pl. 14). The stalls themselves were supported on a pair of cast iron columns with a 90mm (3½") diameter (Pl. 18).

The main room within the chapel was a large rectangular space, open to the height of the raised collar. The pulpit was located within the centre of the south wall (Pl. 16), directly opposite the main entrance. The pulpit was set on a raised dais, in a half octagon shape, around which the altar rail was located. The rail itself (Pl. 17) was predominantly wooden with a turned newel post at either end and turned balusters at the corners. Between the wooden supports were decorative cast iron twisted balusters with flower (daisy?) supports. The pulpit itself was the same shape as the dais and accessed via a set of steps on either side (Pl. 18). It was of stained pine construction with plain, tongue-and-groove type panelling at the bottom and panels with curved heads above.

The lectern was of plain wood supported on two braces. Behind the pulpit was a wooden bench. Set within the wall behind the pulpit was a set of three openings, the same shape as the windows, but without glass. The arched openings were supported on foliage capitals and had a moulded hood above. Above the openings was a large moulded semi-circle, supported on corbels and framing the pulpit and doors either side giving access to the Sunday School. A shadow on the wall showed where the cross had once hung within the centre of the semi-circle above the pulpit.

Within the east wall (Pl. 19) were four tall windows and within the west wall were three with a further window on either side partially obscured by the stalls. Each of the windows had a moulded hood above and beneath the windows was wooden plank panelling. In the north wall, partially obscured by the stalls, were three windows each with a moulded hood above.

There were four roof trusses located between each of the windows. The trusses (Pl. 20) were of pine construction with a raised collar supported on three posts with additional half-turned posts on either side for decoration. The principal rafters supported two purlins on either side. The truss was chamfered and supported on braces which rested upon corbels set into the walls. The corbels were relief-decorated with foliage (Pl. 21).

Side Entrance Lobby

The lobby was a small, square room with access to the Sunday School and a set of open-well stairs giving access to the first floor accommodation (Pl. 22). Beneath the stairs was access to the area beneath the floorboards of the Sunday School. The stairs were constructed of pine and were of closed string type with a plain newel post and plain, square balusters. Within the west wall was a narrow blocked window of the same style as that within the north façade. Within the east wall (part of the chapel) was a blocked window of the same style as those within the western façade. The stairs were built into the blocked window. There was no access to the first floor accommodation due to the stairs being rotten.

Sunday School

The Sunday School consisted of a single room behind the chapel and side entrance lobby. It was accessed from the side entrance lobby or via two doors from the chapel, one on either side of the pulpit. Within each of the gable ends was a set of three windows. Those in the west wall (Pl. 23) were the same as those described in the east façade. Between the two doors to the chapel was a set of three openings that had been shuttered off with five wooden panels (Pl. 24). The floor was of pine floorboards and the walls were of painted brick. A ceiling had

been inserted at the west end to accommodate the first floor accommodation. This was supported on a lintel, the supports for which partially blocked the opening behind the pulpit. The eastern end of the Sunday School was open to the roof; a single truss was present of king strut type (Pl. 25). Within the southern wall were a number of doorways giving access to the rooms within the lean-to. From east to west these consisted of the gents toilet and the ladies toilet (Pl. 26), both at a slightly higher level with a concrete floor, the kitchen (Pl. 27), an office and a door to a small courtyard. Above the toilets and the external door was a side sash style window. Within the office was a blocked fireplace in the corner and a side-hung sash window in the west wall (Pl. 28). Above each of the doors, except those to the ladies and gents toilets, was a curved brick flat arch.

Interpretation

The historic maps show little in the way of development of the building, with only minor alterations shown after 1879 to the lean-to. The original building is likely to have consisted of the Chapel with the Sunday School behind, and possibly the lean-to section which included the kitchen and office. The wall structure within the Sunday School suggests that all the door openings are contemporary except those to the toilets which are later, as demonstrated by the map evidence. The first floor accommodation is probably a later addition, evidenced by the protruding brick pillar and pillar of unknown material obstructing the openings behind the pulpit to support the lintel. This can also be supported by the entrance lobby, containing the stairs, which does not appear to be bonded into the chapel wall and was built using slightly smaller bricks. Furthermore the stairs and entrance lobby necessitated the blocking of one of the tall windows in the west façade. These additions would have taken place between 1865 and 1879. Internally the raised stalls and separate lobby were also likely a later addition that obscured windows.

Conclusion

The chapel was built in the Italianate style in 1865. The chapel and Sunday School were of a single build, which may have included the office and kitchen lean-to. It is likely that the first floor accommodation and entrance lobby were a slightly later addition, but constructed prior to 1879. The stalls within the chapel were also probably a later addition.

References

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RCHME, 1996, *Recording Historic Buildings: a descriptive specification*, 3rd edn, Roy Comm Hist Monuments (England), London

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Catalogue A .Digital images

Cat. No.	Comments (cut, deposit, trench, or	test pit no., c	lescription, scale,	etc.)
1	Exterior – Front elevation of church	[Pl. 1]	1x2m	looking south
2	Exterior – West elevation		1x1m; 1x2m	looking southeast
3	Exterior – Door North elevation at rear	[Pl. 2]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
4	Exterior – East elevation, North end	[Pl. 9]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking southwest
5	Exterior – East elevation, South end	[Pl. 10]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking northwest
6	Exterior – South elevation (rear)	[Pl. 11]		looking north
7	Exterior – Windows South end, East eleva	tion	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
8	Exterior - Tall window, East elevation		1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
9	Exterior – Floral decoration, West end	[Pl. 4]		looking south
10	Exterior – Floral decoration, West end	[Pl. 5]		looking south
11	Exterior – Floral decoration, Central	[Pl. 6]		looking south
12	Exterior – Floral decoration, Central	[Pl. 7]		looking south
13	Exterior – Floral decoration, East end	[Pl. 8]		looking south
14	Exterior – Floral decoration, East end			looking south
15	Exterior – Date stone, West side front door	r [Pl. 3]		looking southwest
16	Chapel – General shot	[Pl. 19]	1x2m	looking northeast
17	Chapel – General shot		1x1m; 1x2m	looking southwest
18	Chapel – Stalls		1x1m; 1x2m	looking north
19	Chapel – Pulpit		1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
20	Chapel – Looking through trusses			looking southeast
21	Chapel – Truss support detail	[Pl. 21]		looking west
22	Chapel – Looking along pews in stalls	[Pl. 14]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
23	Chapel – Stairs		1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
24	Chapel – Front corridor	[Pl. 12]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
25	Chapel – Detail of alter rail	[Pl. 17]	1x1m	looking east
26	Chapel – Detail of pulpit	[Pl. 18]	1x2m	looking west
27	Chapel – Detail of pulpit			looking south
28	Chapel – Roof trusses	[Pl. 20]		looking north
29	Lean-to – Gents toilet		1x1m; 2x1m	looking south
30	Lean-to – Ladies toilet	[Pl. 26]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
31	Lean-to – Kitchen	[Pl. 27]	1x1m; 2x2m	looking south
32	Lean-to - Office window	[Pl. 28]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
33	Sunday School – General view	[Pl. 23]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
34	Sunday School - Truss	[Pl. 25]	·	looking east
35	Sunday School – General view		1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
36	Sunday School – General view	[Pl. 24]		looking northeast
37	Entrance lobby – Entrance lobby stairs	[Pl. 22]	1x1m; 1x2m	looking southwest

B. Colour Prints

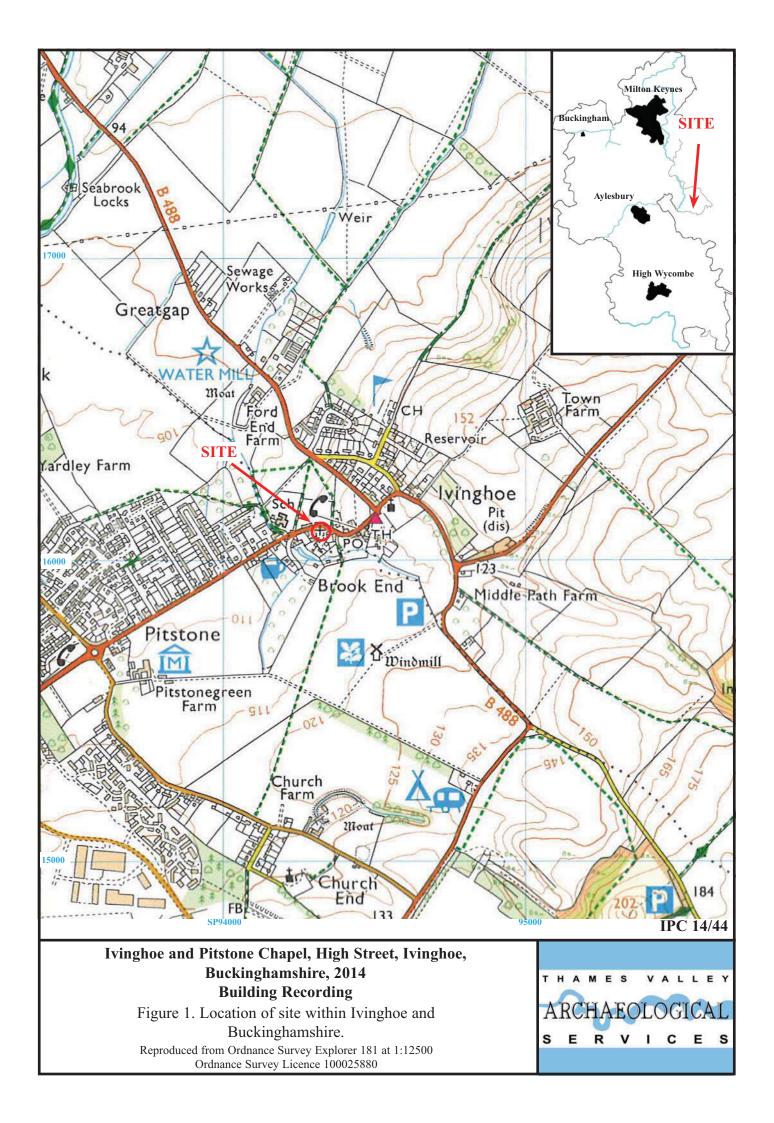
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7	Exterior – Windows South end, East elevation	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
8	Exterior - Tall window, East elevation	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
9	Exterior – Floral decoration, West end		looking south
10	Exterior – Floral decoration, West end		looking south
11	Exterior – Floral decoration, Central		looking south

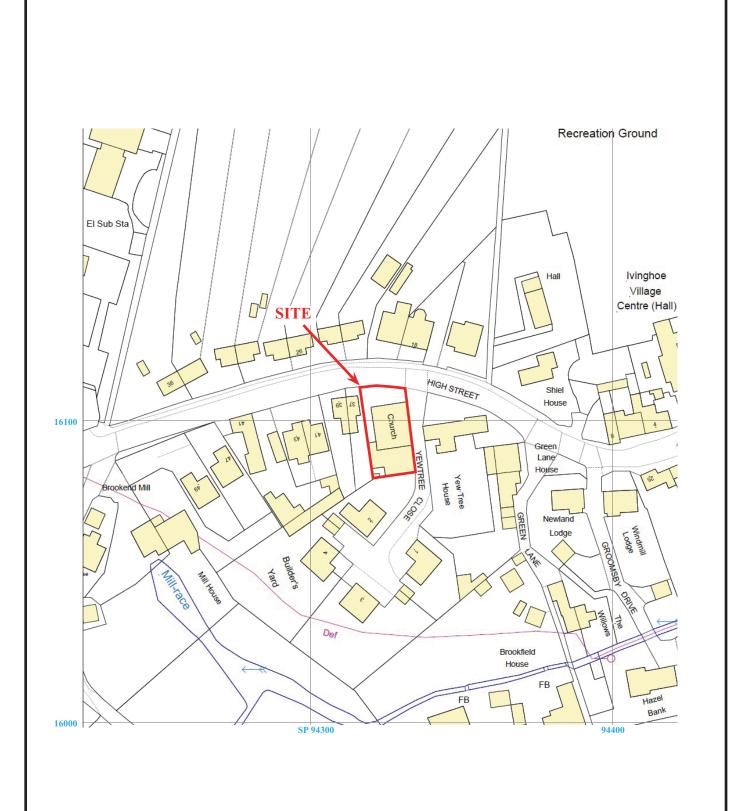
Cat. No.	Comments (cut, deposit, trench, or test pit n	no., description, scale,	etc.)
12	Exterior – Floral decoration, Central		looking south
13	Exterior – Floral decoration, East end		looking south
14	Exterior – Floral decoration, East end		looking south
15	Exterior – Date stone, West side front door		looking southwest
16	Chapel – General shot	1x2m	looking northeast
17	Chapel – General shot	1x1m; 1x2m	looking southwest
18	Chapel – Stalls	1x1m; 1x2m	looking north
19	Chapel – Pulpit	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
20	Chapel – Looking through trusses		looking southeast
21	Chapel – Truss support detail		looking west
22	Chapel – Looking along pews in stalls	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
23	Chapel – Stairs	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
24	Chapel – Front corridor	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
25	Chapel – Detail of alter rail	1x1m	looking east
26	Chapel – Detail of pulpit	1x2m	looking west
27	Chapel – Detail of pulpit		looking south
28	Chapel – Roof trusses		looking north
29	Lean-to – Gents toilet	1x1m; 2x1m	looking south
30	Lean-to – Ladies toilet	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
31	Lean-to – Kitchen	1x1m; 2x2m	looking south
32	Lean-to - Office window	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
33	Sunday School – General view	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
34	Sunday School - Truss		looking east
35	Sunday School – General view	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
36	Sunday School – General view		looking northeast
37	Entrance lobby – Entrance lobby stairs	1x1m; 1x2m	looking southwest

C. Monochrome Images

Cat. No.	Comments (cut, deposit, trench, or test pit no	o., description, scale,	etc.)
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21	Chapel – Truss support detail		looking west
22	Chapel – Looking along pews in stalls	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
23	Chapel – Stairs	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
24	Chapel – Front corridor	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
25	Chapel – Detail of alter rail	1x1m	looking east

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27	Chapel – Detail of pulpit		looking south
28	Chapel – Roof trusses		looking north
29	Lean-to – Gents toilet	1x1m; 2x1m	looking south
30	Lean-to – Ladies toilet	1x1m; 1x2m	looking south
31	Lean-to – Kitchen	1x1m; 2x2m	looking south
32	Lean-to - Office window	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
33	Sunday School – General view	1x1m; 1x2m	looking west
34	Sunday School - Truss		looking east
35	Sunday School – General view	1x1m; 1x2m	looking east
36	Sunday School – General view		looking northeast
37	Entrance lobby – Entrance lobby stairs	1x1m; 1x2m	looking southwest





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Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Figure 2. Detailed location of site off the High Street.

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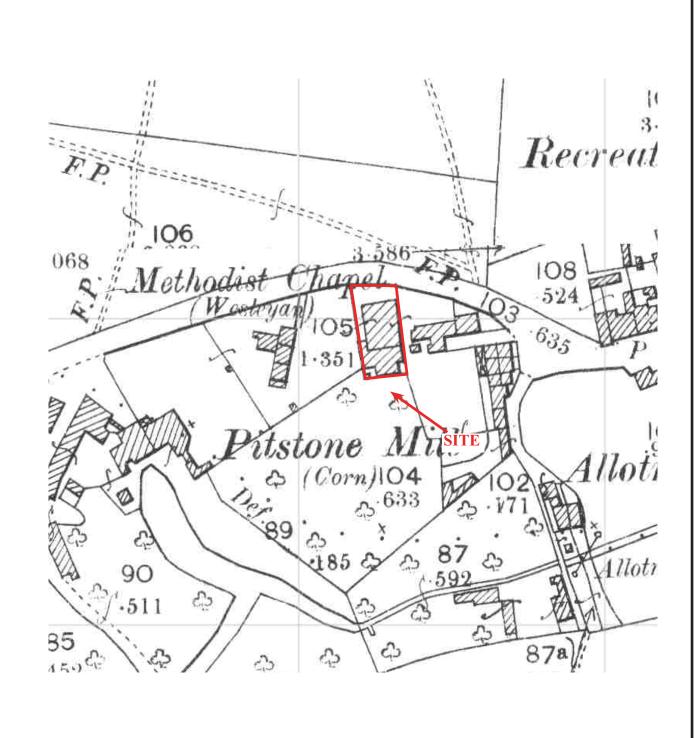




N | Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Figure 3. First Edition Ordnance Survey, 1879.

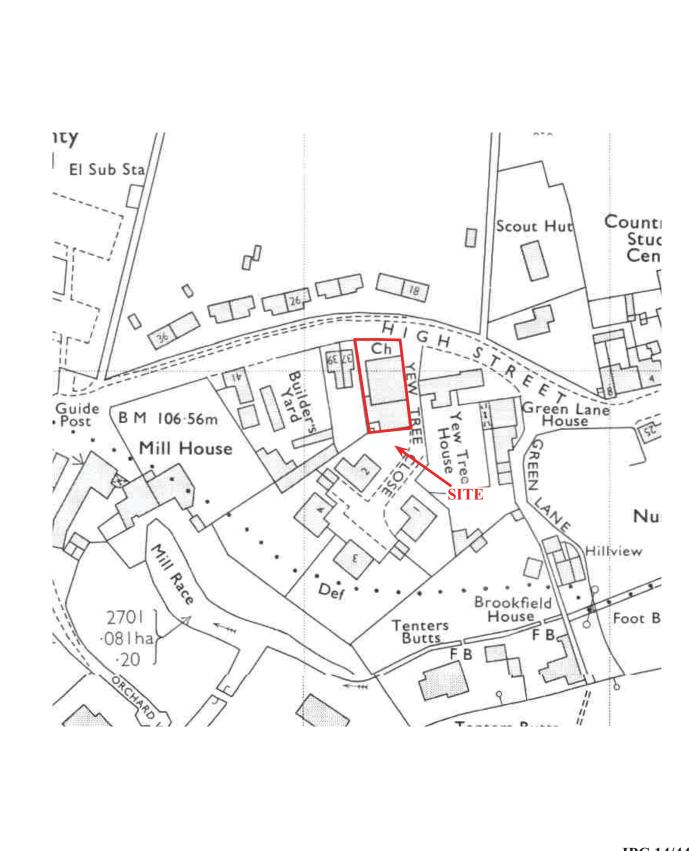




N | Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Figure 4. Second Edition Ordnance Survey, 1899.

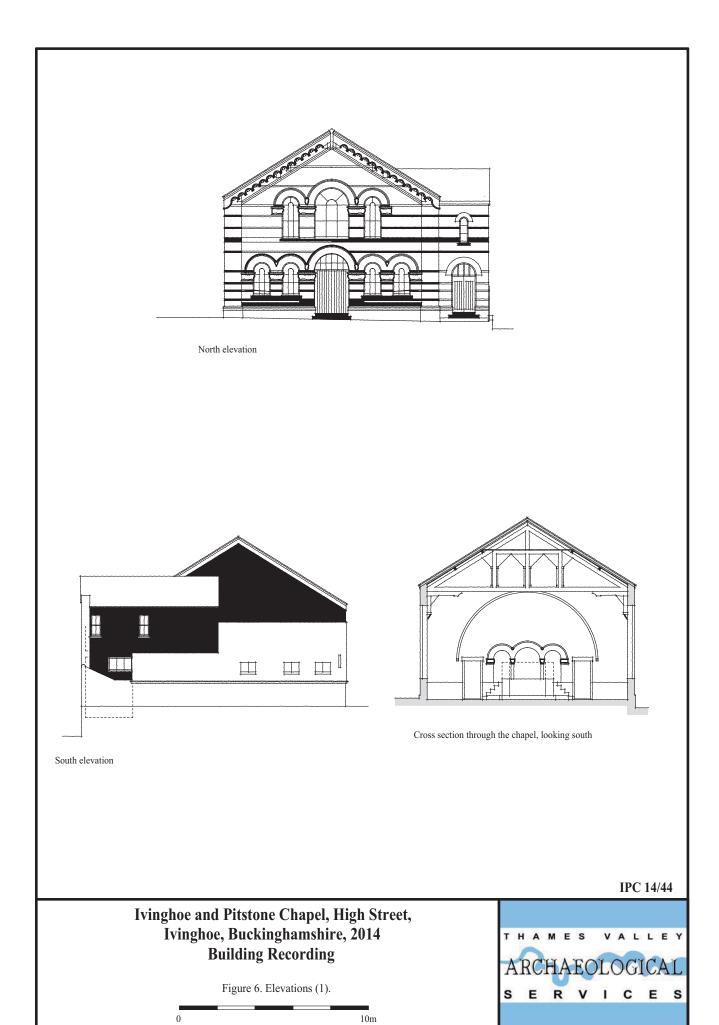


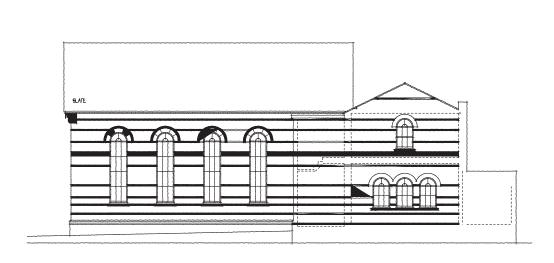


N † Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

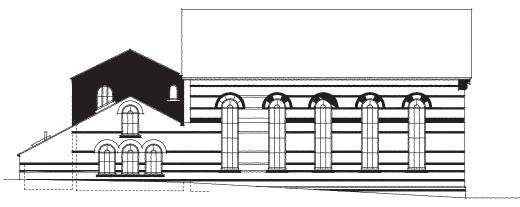
Figure 5. Ordnance Survey, 1972.







West elevation



East elevation

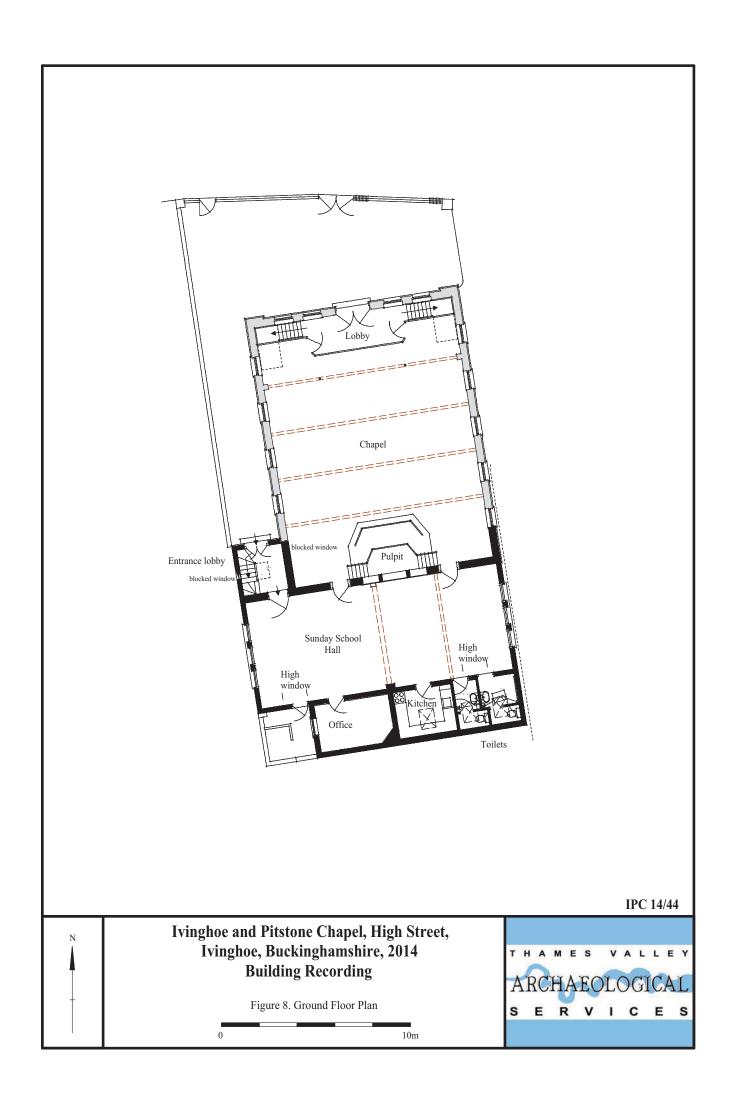
IPC 14/44

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Figure 7. Elevations (2).

10m





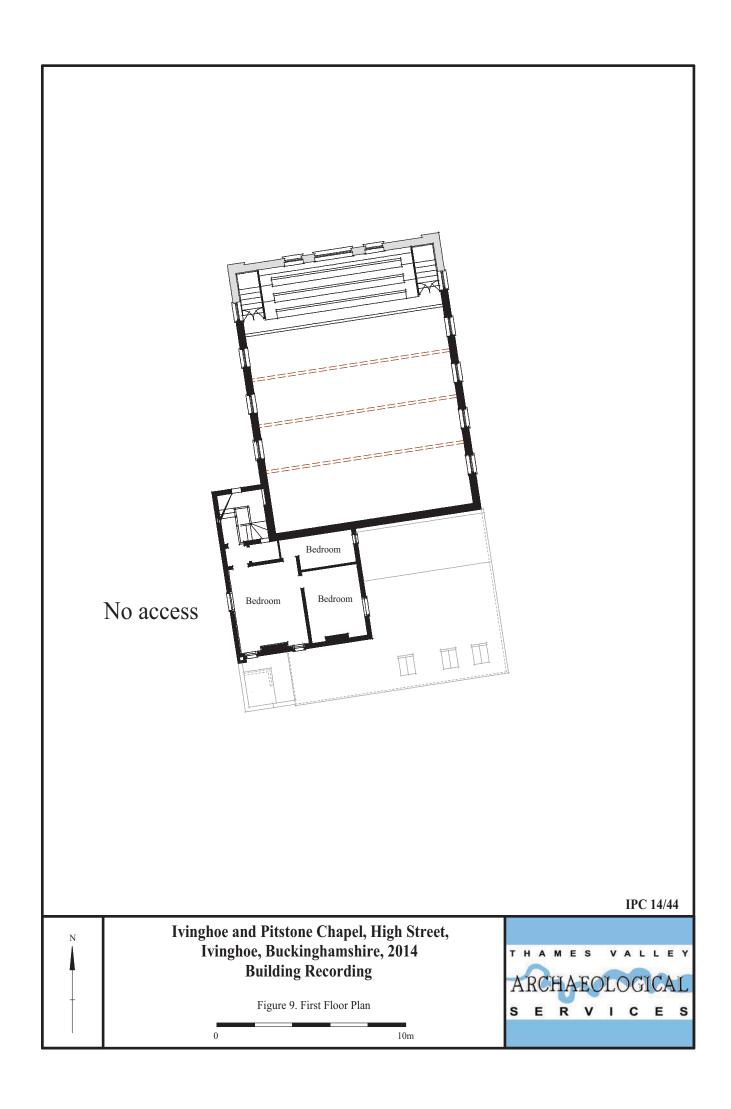




Plate 1. Exterior, front elevation, looking south, Scale 2m.



Plate 2. Exterior, door on front elevation, looking south, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 3. Exterior, date stone on west side of front door.



Plate 4. Exterior, foliage detail, west end.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Plates 1 - 4.





Plate 5. Exterior, foliage detail, west end.



Plate 6. Exterior, foliage detail, centre.



Plate 7. Exterior, foliage detail, centre.



Plate 8. Exterior, foliage detail, east end.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street,
Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014
Building Recording

Plates 5 - 8.





Plate 9. Exterior, East elevation, north end.



Plate 10. Exterior, East elevation, south end.



Plate 11. Exterior, rear elevation, looking north.



Plate 12. Interior, front entrance lobby, looking east, Scales: 2m and 1m.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Plates 9 - 12.





Plate 13. Interior, lobby door at top of stairs, looking south, Scales: 2m and 1m.

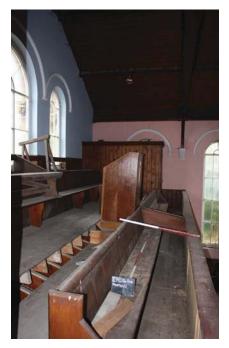


Plate 14. Interior, pews in balcony, looking east, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 15. Chapel, rear looking at balcony, looking north, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 16. Chapel, pulpit from balcony, looking south, Scale: 2m.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Plates 13 - 16.





Plate 17. Chapel, detail of altar rail, looking east, Scale: 1m.



Plate 18. Chapel, stairs of pulpit, looking west, Scale: 2m



Plate 19. Chapel, east wall, Scale: 2m.



Plate 20. Chapel, roof trusses, looking north.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street,
Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014
Building Recording

Plates 17 - 20.





Plate 21. Chapel, truss support detail, west wall.



Plate 22. Entrance lobby stairs, looking south, Scale: 2m



Plate 23. Sunday School hall, looking west, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 24. Sunday School hall, looking north east.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Plates 21 - 24.





Plate 25. Sunday School, roof truss, looking east.



Plate 26. Ladies and gents toilets from hall, looking south, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 27. Kitchen, looking south, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 28. Office, looking west, Scales: 2m and 1m.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Chapel, High Street, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, 2014 Building Recording

Plates 25 - 28.



TIME CHART

Calendar Years

Modern	AD 1901
Victorian	AD 1837
Post Medieval	AD 1500
Medieval	AD 1066
Saxon	AD 410
Roman Iron Age	BC/AD
Bronze Age: Late	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC
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