

FORMER METHODIST CHAPEL AT CHY-AN-GWYTH, SCORRIER, CHACEWATER, CORNWALL,

NGR SW 7240 4423

Results of historic building recording

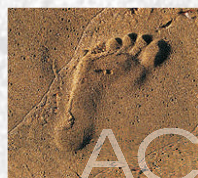
Prepared by
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with contributions from
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On behalf of:
Mr Brendon Davey

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archaeology

FORMER METHODIST CHAPEL AT CHY-AN-GWYTH, SCORRIER, CHACEWATER, CORNWALL, TR16 5BS

(SW 7240 4423)

Results of historic building recording

Condition 5 of Cornwall Council planning consent PA11/03390

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Summary

Historic building recording of a disused Methodist chapel in the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, Scorrier, Redruth, Cornwall, was carried out by AC Archaeology during October 2011. The recording was undertaken in advance of the conversion of the currently derelict structure into a single dwelling.

The chapel was constructed in the late 18th or early 19th century, and in typical Methodist style comprised a single space with a small porch (now removed). In the mid-19th century galleries were added at first-floor level. The walls of the chapel were raised to accommodate these galleries and the existing window openings were altered to provide further light. A vestry was added to the northwest side of the chapel.

The principal function of the chapel may have been in decline by the latter part of the 19th century due to the construction of a neighbouring larger Methodist Hall some 100m to the west. From 1907 the building was used as a Sunday School, and further alterations to the window and door openings took place. The chapel appears to have been abandoned sometime during the mid-20th century, and no internal fittings survive.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** This report presents the results of an historic building recording undertaken by AC archaeology during October 2011, prior to the redevelopment of the former Methodist Chapel in the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, Scorrier, Chacewater, Cornwall, TR16 5BS, (SW 7240 4423; Figures 1 and 2).
- 1.2** The historic building recording was commissioned by Derek Bray on behalf of Mr Brendon Davey, and was undertaken in order to inform planning/conservation decisions regarding the conversion of the chapel to residential use (Conditions 3, 4, 9 and 10 of Cornwall Council planning consent PA11/03390), and to discharge Condition 5 of the planning consent, as advised by the Cornwall Council Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (hereafter HEPAO).
- 1.3** The former disused Methodist Chapel in an undesignated structure that lies in the historic centre of Scorrier on the northwest edge of one of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Sites. Despite its ruinous condition, the chapel remains are considered to make a valuable contribution towards the 'Outstanding Universal Value' of the area (Ratcliffe 2011).
- 1.4** The chapel is situated within the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, a modern bungalow, at the end of a small lane adjacent to the London to Penzance railway line. It lies at a height of 109m aOD, with the underlying geology for the area generally comprising undifferentiated mudstones, siltstones and sandstones from the Middle Devon Formation (British Geological Survey website).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Historic background (Appendix 1: Maps 1-4; see also Appendix 4)

The chapel in the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth is thought to be associated with the Great Revival period of Cornish Methodism, which occurred between 1799 and 1814 (Ratcliffe 2011). Introduced to the county in 1743 Methodism spread throughout the area and 'their chapels form an essential feature of the landscape' (Stell 1991, 21;

see also Cornwall Council 2004, 149-150 for a history within the county). By 1851, Cornwall had a higher proportion of Methodist members and chapel-goers than any other part of England (Cornwall Council 2004, 43).

Current research maps the development of the site from the second decade of the 19th century through to collapse of the building during the 20th century. The exact date for the construction of the chapel is unknown. The chapel is not shown on a mining plan of 1791 (Figure 3, cf Rogers 2011), and is first depicted on a mining map dated 1819 where it is described as a '*Meeting Ho*' (Figure 4). At this date the site lay within the East Wheal Chance sett. The 1841 Gwennap tithe map (Figure 5) describes the building as a *Wesleyan Chapel*, and the building is also recorded as a '*Chapel*' on a boundary plan of 1865 (Figure 6). This map depicts the chapel situated within its own enclosure, and also shows the vestry added to its west side. The north side of the site was bounded by the West Cornwall Railway.

The former Methodist chapel is recorded on the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (hereafter C&SHER) as a Wesleyan chapel (C&SHER ref. no. 176393), which became a Sunday School in 1907, when the new chapel (C&SHER ref. no. 139215) was built to the north. The 1908 Ordnance Survey mapping records the building as a '*Sunday School*'.

2.2 Archaeological background

Post-medieval chapels have been identified by Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service (hereafter HES) as heritage assets of at least local significance on the basis of their archaeological, architectural and historical significance. They make a unique contribution to the historic character of the county (cf Stell 1991, 21, who comments on the particular importance of Methodist chapels. Methodist chapels such as the one in the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, provide information on building techniques, architectural styles as well as information about the changing social and economic nature of Cornish life (Ratcliffe 2011). The position of this former Methodist chapel on the edge of one of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Sites further underwrites its intrinsic association with the development of the area during this very important period in Cornish history.

3. AIMS

3.1 The general aim of the investigation was to understand the history and development of the building.

3.2 Given that the proposed development will constitute a permanent and irreversible change to the buildings significance, more specific aims, as set out in the brief, were to:-

- Provide an archive standard record of the remains of the former chapel in its current condition;
- Advance current understanding of this particular building in its typological context;
- Add to the evidence base for future planning decisions;
- Provide a detailed assessment of the significance of the former structure (in accordance with Policy HE12.3, Planning Policy Statement 5 *Planning for the Historic Environment*) making use of existing research already undertaken;
- Make an adequate drawn, written and photographic record of the structure;
- Prepare and deposit an adequate archive; and,
- Report, in appropriate format(s), on the results of the above.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The historic building recording and assessment was undertaken in accordance with a brief prepared by the Cornwall Council HEPAO (Ratcliffe 2011, reproduced as Appendix 1), and a Written Scheme of Investigation subsequently prepared by AC archaeology (James 2011, reproduced as Appendix 2). The recording was also undertaken with reference to specifications applicable to a Level 2/3 historic building assessment as defined by English Heritage (2006) in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practices*.

4.2 The recording took the form of manuscript notes, which have formed the basis of this report, together with a detailed photographic record in digital format, (see Appendix 3). The recording considered the following:

- Site layout and organisation;
- Building type and function;
- Architects style of design;
- Materials, method of construction;
- Façade treatment and fenestration;
- Internal arrangements and interiors, particularly fixtures and fittings and internal arrangements;
- Original and subsequent fixtures and fittings;
- Date/period of construction and subsequent alterations;
- Associated structures and subsidiary features such as machinery, ephemera, decoration;
- Historical significance;
- Source materials; and,
- The setting of the building in the landscape.

5. THE METHODIST CHAPEL

5.1 General description

The chapel at Chy-an-Gwyth was constructed in the late 18th or early 19th century to an architecturally plain design. Now disused and derelict, none of the former hipped roof structure survives. It is rectangular in plan, measuring 15.50m by 9.65m externally, with a vestry extension on the west side measuring 4.30m by 8.50m. It is constructed of roughly-coursed granite and local siltstones with dressed granite surrounds to all the openings and quoins. Here is evidence to indicate that the walls of the chapel have been heightened, using thinner stone and smaller quoins and jambs. A photograph taken in 1965 (Rogers 2011, photograph 3) also appears to show secondary masonry towards the tops of the walls. Safety concerns over unstable masonry meant that these areas could not be investigated in detail.

5.2 The external elevations (Figures 7 and 8 and Plates 1-5)

The southeast elevation (Figure 8b and Plate 1)

The principal former southeast elevation is very decayed but there is evidence for the main off-set doorway, with dressed jambs, and jambs along one side of a high-set window to the left. This window probably had a flat-headed arch, and may have been one of a pair. Evidence of a later rudimentary porch or canopy added to the entrance is indicated by vertical mortar spreads either side of the doorway.

The northwest elevation (Figure 8d and Plates 2-3)

This elevation incorporates the remains of two primary, tall, square-headed window openings. These are presumed to have flanked the original site of the pulpit. The lower portion of the west window was blocked when the vestry was added during the mid-19th century (Plate 2). Part of the eastern window was utilised as a doorway into the vestry. This has subsequently been blocked. The window opening above remains open and was probably reinstated during the use as a Sunday School (Plate 3). The elevation incorporates a further opening – a small low level ‘squint’ window inserted when the vestry was added.

Abutting the elevation are the northeast and southwest wall of the vestry. The scar of the roofline of the vestry can also be seen on the elevation.

Northeast and southwest elevations (Figures 8a and 8c, and plates 4 and 5)

Both the northeast and southwest elevations incorporate pairs of tall windows (Plate 4) all formerly provided with segmental arches as evidenced by a single springer remaining within the uppermost coursing of the northwest window of the southwest elevation. Below three of these windows are smaller segmental-arched window openings (Plate 5). There is evidence in the southwest elevation that the lower windows were inserted into the original, taller openings, creating two windows in each opening, and that bricks were used in this masonry. The context for this appears to be the insertion of the galleries at first floor level. If this were the case then the north gallery would have extended across the windows. This need not be an issue since this arrangement is known at other chapels in Cornwall (Stell 1991). An alternative, and perhaps less plausible explanation, is that these alterations occurred when the building was used as a Sunday School and the galleries went out of use (?and were removed), and the new windows, possibly with ventilation, were added for convenience.

The only other features are two iron ties in the southwest elevation. The majority of the northeast elevation is obscured by invasive plant growth and no other features were visible.

5.3 The interior (Figures 7 and 9 and plates 6-8)

The interior of the chapel is now open in plan and infilled with demolition material measuring up to c.1.50m deep, the majority of which appears to be derived from the collapse of the building. No features or evidence for floor surfaces is currently visible.

Areas of rendered mortar survive throughout all the walls and partially within the window recesses; the mortar scarring here indicating the base of the windows were splayed. This mortar also displays evidence for three first-floor galleries (Plates 6-7). The rear (south) gallery above the entrance appears to have been approached by a now lost staircase in the south corner as indicated by angled scarring to the render (Plate 8.). The mortar scars indicate that the seating was stepped. No indication of former access to both the northeast and southwest galleries was observed inferring the gallery was continuous to three sides of the building. Both of these former longitudinal galleries would have cut across the pairs of windows within the side walls. It is not uncommon, and can be paralleled in other chapels across the Southwest (Stell 1991). Again, the seats in these galleries would have been stepped, and there is also evidence for metal fittings above the top of the galleries. The mortar also includes scars associated with the ground- floor seats and associated panelling.

5.4 The vestry (Plates 9 and 10)

The northwest vestry is a single storey extension constructed of coursed rubble that was been attached to the northwest side of the chapel (Plate 9). The roof structure does not survive but its former roof line indicates it had a single-pitch. The building was entered via a doorway from the chapel. The only architectural features are a pair of blocked slightly splayed windows in the northwest elevation (Plate 10). The interior is open in plan and is infilled with collapsed building material. The floor surface is not visible.

6. DISCUSSION

6.1 Phase I: Late 18th or early 19th century

The chapel was initially constructed as a simple single-celled building, along with many others in the county, in response to the rapid expansion of Wesleyan Methodism during the second half of the 18th century (Stell 1991, 21). There are no datable architectural features in its construction and historic mapping provides a broad date range of between 1791 and 1819. Its relatively small size is consistent with the design of later 18th-century Methodist chapels in Cornwall (Stell 1991, 21).

The original fenestration appears to have included pairs of tall, narrow windows in the side and northwest elevations, with further high-level windows in the southeast elevation. While there are no apparent surviving (or at least visible) remains to indicate the building's ground floor internal arrangement it may be possible to infer its provisional layout on the basis of the near uniformity of other existing Methodist Chapels. Many comprise a prominent pulpit to one end of the building flanked and surrounded by fixed seating to the ground floor. At Chy-an-Gwyth the pulpit was almost certainly located at the north end of the building facing the entrance. The chapel's floor surface and outline of any fixed seating may still exist beneath the rubble.

6.2 Phase II: By 1865

The rise of Wesleyan Methodism in Cornwall continued into the 19th century and many chapels were rebuilt or enlarged (Stell 1991, 21).

At Chy-an-Gwyth a phase of prominent alteration and re-fitting of the chapel, with the inclusion of galleries and the enlargement to include an attached vestry on its northwest side, took place before 1865. The heightening of the chapels walls probably also attests to this phase, and was required to accommodate the galleries. Although no refenestration occurs throughout the elevations, the window openings located on the northeast and southwest side walls were heightened and now provided with small segmental-arched windows at ground-floor level. The addition of the vestry during this period resulted in the partial blocking in of the lowermost levels of both the tall windows in the northwest elevation and the creation of the narrow doorway and single squint window.

There is evidence for galleries along the northeast, southwest and southeast sides of the chapel, although this is incomplete. It is not clear whether there were three separate galleries or a single gallery around three sides of the building. In typical fashion the galleries would have had tiered rows of seating, and were probably panelled. There is evidence for a staircase adjacent to the entrance doorway. The obscured chapel floor surface may preserve scars of timber or iron plinths of columns supporting the former galleries.

6.3 Phase III: 20th century)

The demise of the chapel may have been initiated by a response from the congregation that they had outgrown the building during the later 19th century. In 1885 a new larger, more architecturally robust chapel that lies to the west of the site, on the other side of the railway, was constructed. After 1907 the former chapel was used as a Sunday School.

A few further alterations took place before the chapel closed in the middle 19th century. These included the blocking of the squint window and doorway in the northwest wall of the chapel, and the blocking of the windows in the vestry. The date of these alterations is unknown, but a likely context is the conversion of the chapel to a Sunday school in 1907.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, by Andrew Passmore

- 7.1 The chapel is situated within the Gwennap area of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site, and can therefore be considered as a significant heritage asset in an international context. The *World Heritage Site Management Plan 2005-2010* (which has not been updated) states that:

Methodist chapels were a conspicuous component of these developments. They remain a highly visible manifestation of nineteenth-century industrial society and both their character and distribution are often closely related to the development of mining in the region (section C4, page 17).

The chapel does not appear to be of significant merit to be mentioned or illustrated within the Plan, although the HES see the building "as contributing towards the Outstanding Universal Value of the [World Heritage] site" (Ratcliffe 2011). This can be taken further and the association of Methodism with mineral mining has seen chapel architecture contributing to other distinctive industrial landscapes worldwide (Lake *et.al.* 2001, 106).

- 7.2 At a national level 'the architectural and historical importance of non-conformist buildings' is recognised by English Heritage (forward by Park of Monmouth in Stell 1991). The chapel at Chy-an-Gwyth is not however protected by any statutory designations; it is not for example a listed building of special architectural or historical interest, and in its current condition would not meet the English Heritage criteria for listing a place of worship.
- 7.3 As noted in section 2.2, at a local level, post-medieval chapels have been identified by the HES as heritage assets of at least local significance on the basis of their archaeological, architectural and historical significance. The rise of Methodism in Cornwall in the second half of the 18th century and into the 19th century is inexorably linked to the tin and copper industry.
- 7.4 The potentially early date (late 18th or early 19th century) raises the *historical* significance of the building above later chapels. Lake, Cox and Berry (2001, 106) have identified that the earliest phase of Methodism is not represented in the surviving chapels, and little remains before the nineteenth century.

The execution of its design is similar to other early examples, being plain, austere, and utilitarian (*ibid.*, 83), which is emphasised when compared to many of the later more architecturally-distinctive meeting houses (including its replacement at

Scorrier), or other earlier and contemporary non-conformist chapels (ibid., 83, 89-103). Lake *et. al.* (2001, 106) have identified that the architecture of chapels can trace the fortunes of an individual Methodist society. This can be seen at Chy-an-Gwyth, with the early 19th-century alterations to the building and its subsequent closure with relocation to a new chapel both reflecting the expansion of the local society.

- 7.5** Lake *et. al.* (2001, 107) recommend that the significance and rarity of chapels should take into account their preservation, plan form and architectural treatment. The preservation (or at least partial survival) of Chy-an-Gwyth as an early chapel has been noted, and gives the building some historic significance. It would have conformed to the basic utilitarian plan form, probably without any significant architectural details, and from the visible architectural evidence, probably without expansive internal fittings. The most interesting features – the window openings – have been altered by the phase II expansion of the building.
- 7.6** The lack of any interior and fenestration fittings (either original or dating from the phase II expansion clearly has a detrimental impact on the chapel's overall significance (cf Lake *et. al.* 2001, 108 where the presence and range of fittings in relation to assessing a chapel is discussed).
- 7.7** The building was originally situated on the edge of Scorrier in a landscape of small house plots, mining remains and fields (cf Figure 5). This landscape was significantly altered in the mid 19th century when the West Cornwall Railway was constructed (passing immediately west of the chapel), dividing the village into two. The post-war expansion of Scorrier, including the construction of the bungalow Chy-an-Gwyth has further compromised the setting of the chapel.

8. FURTHER RESEARCH

- 8.1** The interior of both the chapel and vestry are covered with rubble that obscures any surviving evidence for floor surfaces. Removal of the rubble from within the chapel may expose evidence of the original floor and any associated fittings such as seats, as well as evidence for columns supporting the later galleries.

9. ARCHIVE

- 9.1** The paper and digital archive is held at the offices of AC archaeology, at 4 Halthaies Workshops, Bradninch, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ under the site code ACD376. It will be deposited in the Cornwall Record Office (CRO), Truro, under the relevant accession number allocated by the CRO after deposition. A list of the contents will be supplied separately to the Cornwall Council HEPAO.
- 9.2** The OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS) number for this project is 114507.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1** The project was commissioned by Derek Bray on behalf of Mr Brendon Davey. The historic building recording and assessment was undertaken by Paul Jones and the illustrations for this report were prepared by Cain Hegarty. The advice and collaboration of Dan Ratcliffe, Cornwall Council Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer is duly acknowledged.

11. SOURCES CONSULTED

Unpublished Sources

Cornish Studies Library

1819 Geological Map of Cornwall between Camborne and Chasewater

1841 Gwennap Tithe Map

1865 Plan of the Boundaries between the Blanchland and St day Manors

James, T., 2011, *Written Scheme of Investigation for Recording of a Disused Methodist Chapel at Chy an Gwyth, Scorrier, Cornwall*, AC archaeology Document ACD375/1/0

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Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record

139215 and 176393

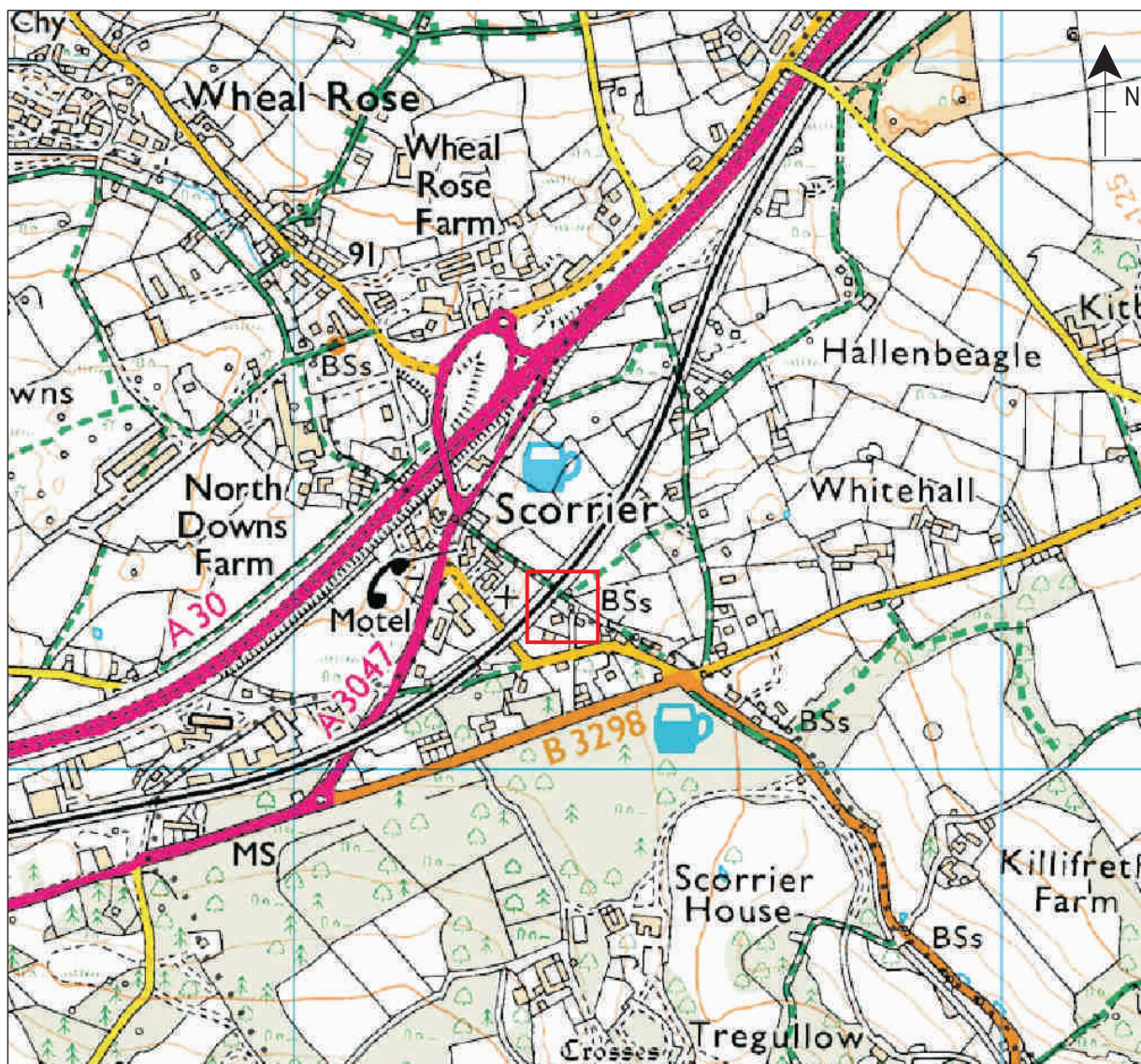
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Cornwall Council, 2004, *Nomination of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape for inclusion on the World Heritage List*

Cornwall Council, undated, *Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan 2005-2010*

Lake, J., Cox, J., and Berry, E., 2001, *Diversity & Vitality: The Methodist and Nonconformist Chapels of Cornwall* (Cornwall Archaeological unit)

Stell, C., 1991, *An Inventory of Nonconformist Chapels and Meeting-Houses in South-West England* (HMSO)



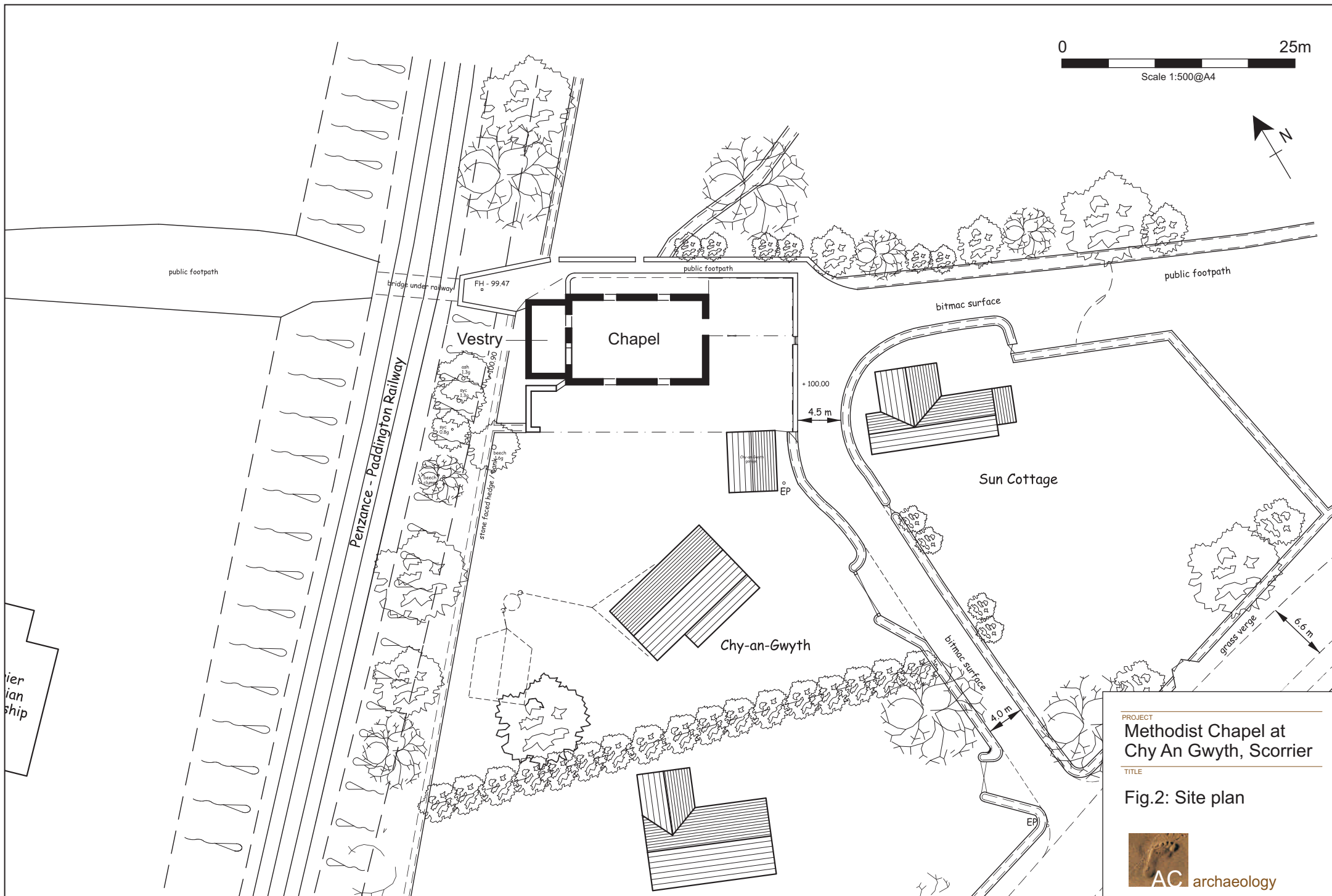
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PROJECT

Methodist Chapel at Chy An Gwyth, Scorrier

TITLE

Fig.1: Location of site



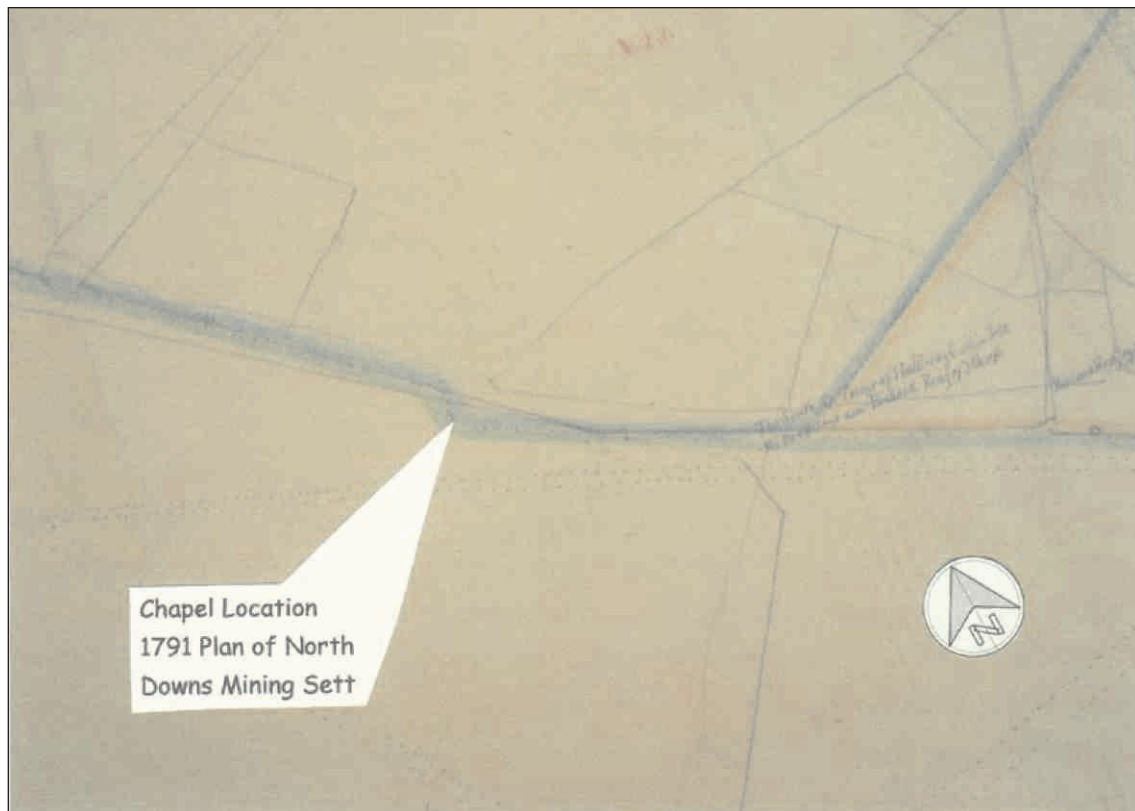


Figure 3: Extract from the 1791 plan of North Downs Mining Sett



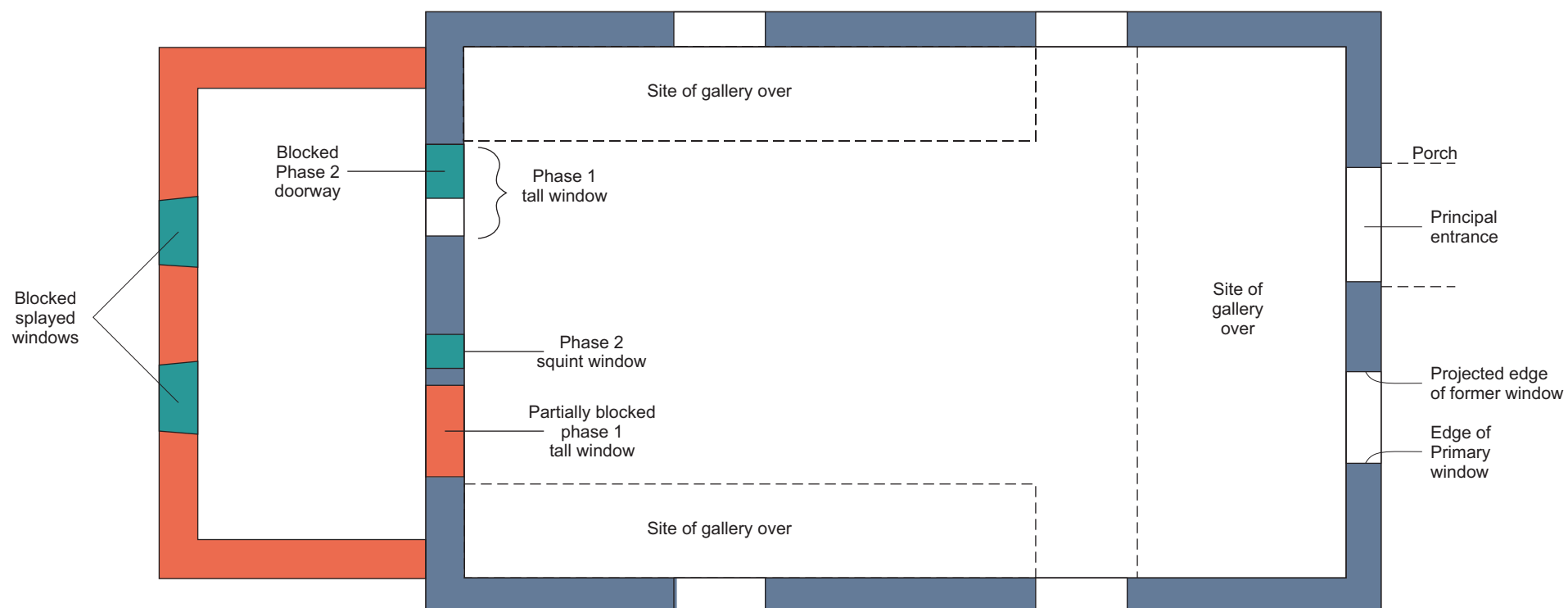
Figure 4: Extract from the 1819 Geological Map of Cornwall between Camborne and Chasewater



Figure 5: Extract from the 1841 Gwennap Tithe Map



Figure 6: Extract from the 1865 Plan of the Boundaries between the Manors of Blanchland and St Day



- Phase 1: Late 18th century
- Phase 2: by 1865
- Phase 3: 20th century

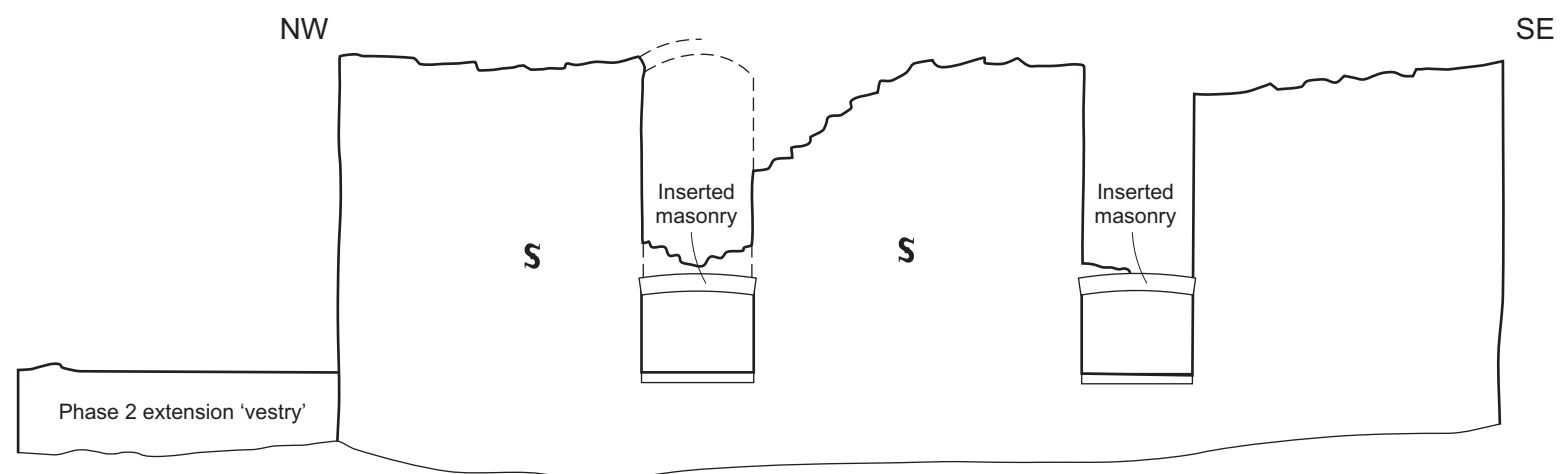
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Methodist Chapel at
Chy An Gwyth, Scorrier

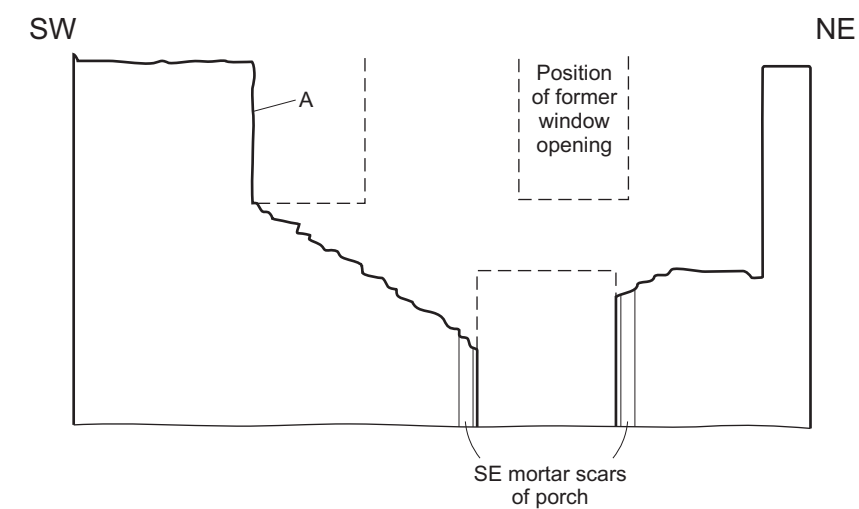
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Fig.7: Ground floor plan
showing phasing



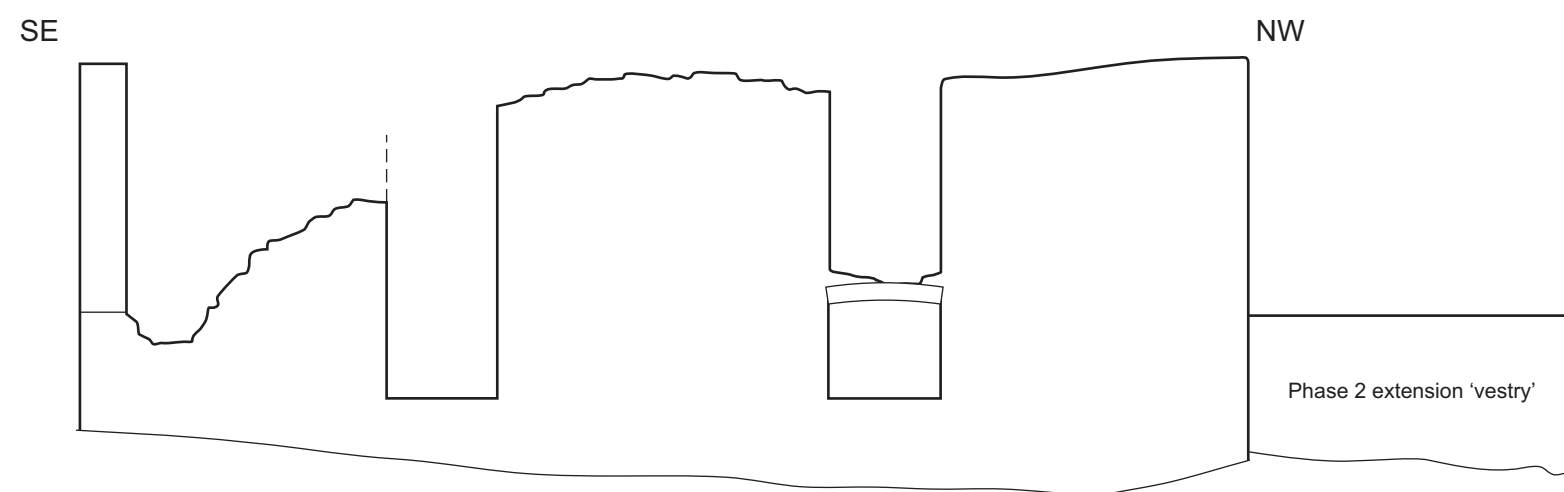
a) Southwest elevation



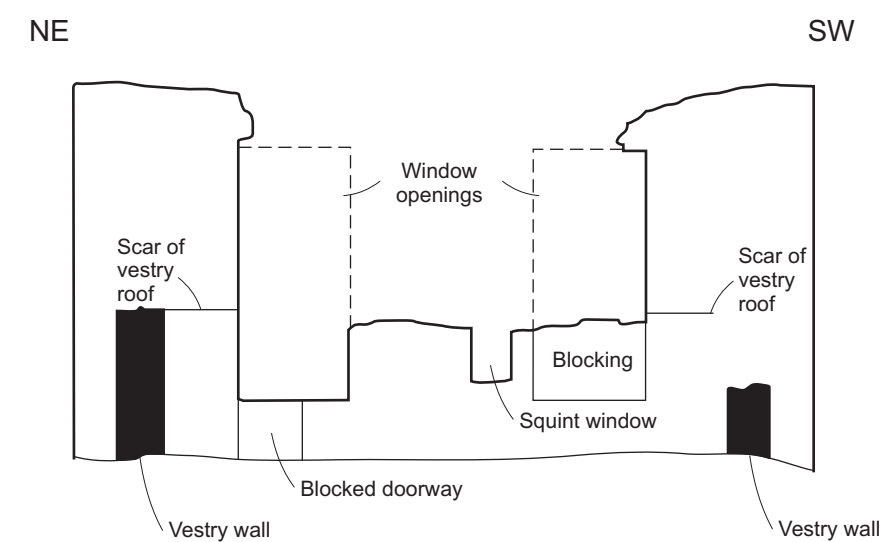
b) Southeast elevation



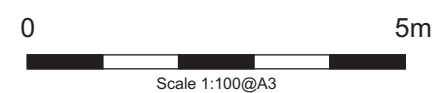
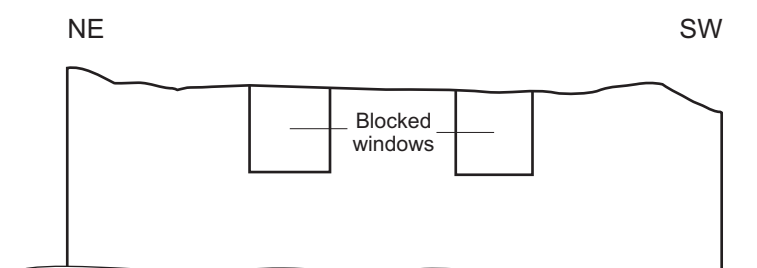
c) Northeast elevation



d) Northwest elevation



e) Northwest elevation of phase 2 extension 'vestry'

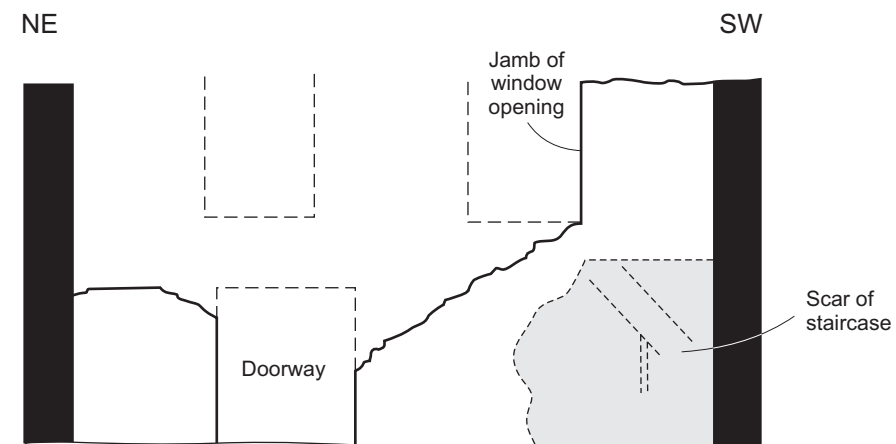


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Methodist Chapel at
Chy An Gwyth, Scorrier

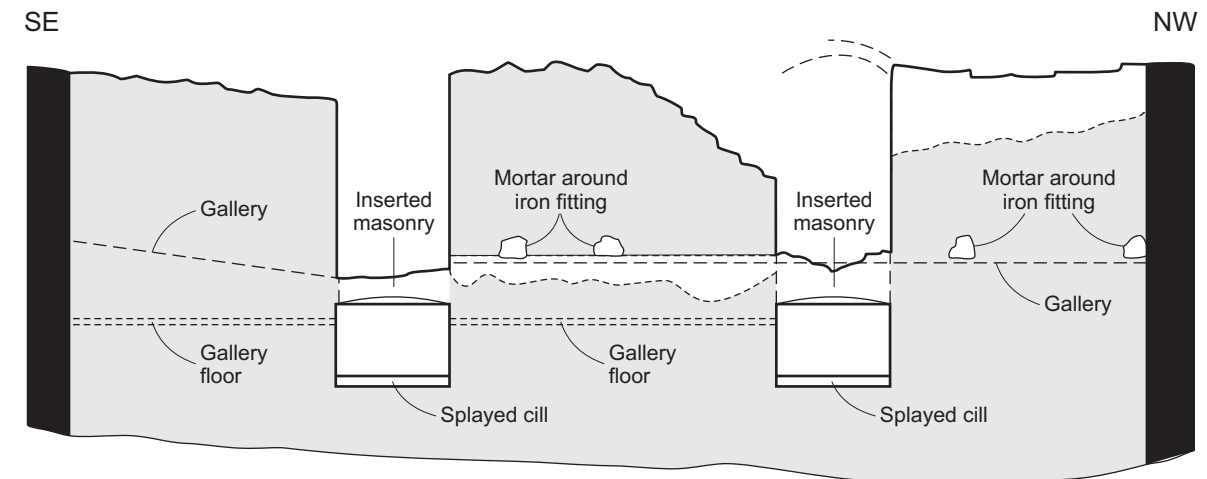
TITLE
Fig.8: External elevations



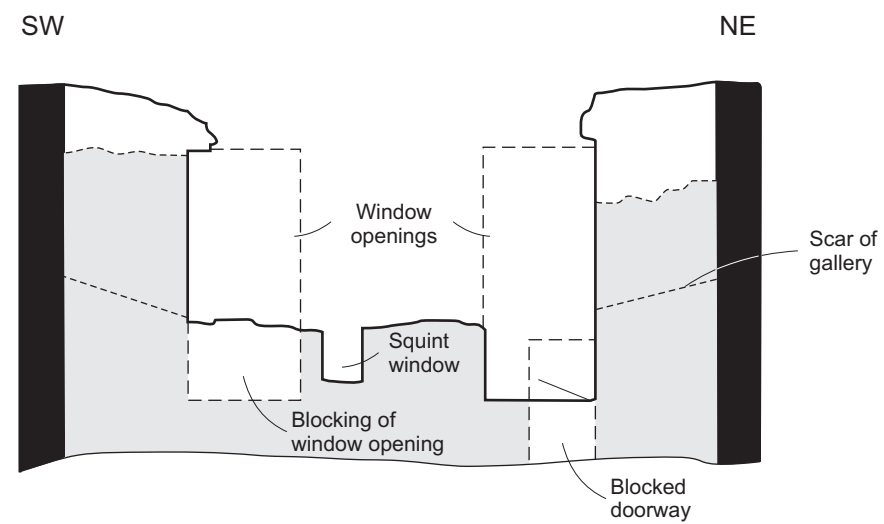
a) Southeast elevation



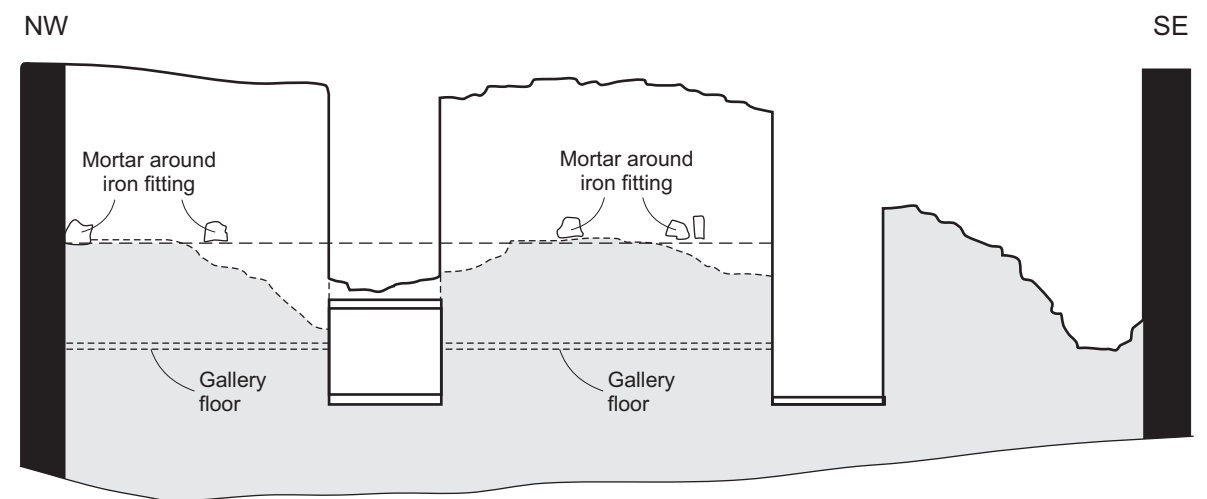
b) Southwest elevation



c) Northwest elevation



d) Northeast elevation



 Mortar

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Scale 1:100@A3

PROJECT
Methodist Chapel at
Chy An Gwyth, Scorrier

TITLE
Fig.9: Internal elevations



Plate 1: Chapel entrance within southeast elevation, view from east. 1m scale



Plate 2: Partial blocking of primary tall window within northwest elevation, view from north. (Scale 1m)



Plate 3: Remains of blocked phase 2 doorway in northwest wall of chapel showing primary window opening above, view from west. (Scale 1m)



Plate 4: Southwest elevation, view from south



Plate 5: Window opening within southeast elevation, view from southwest



Plate 6: Southwest elevation, internal face showing scars of galleries in mortar, view from west



Plate 7: Northeast elevation showing sockets and scars in mortar associated with galleries, view from west.



Plate 8: South corner of chapel showing scars of galleries and associated staircase, view from south



Plate 9: North corner of chapel with later vestry to right, view from the west



Plate 10: blocked splayed windows in northwest wall of vestry, view from east (Scale 1m)

Appendix 1

Brief for recording of a disused Methodist Chapel at Chy-an-Gwyth, Scorrier

Brief for recording of a disused Methodist chapel at Chy an Gwyth, Scorrier

Date: 13/07/2011
Address: Chy An Gwyth, Scorrier, Redruth, Cornwall, TR16 5BS
Applicant: Miss M Rogers
Agent: Mr D Bray

Historic Environment Advisor (Archaeology): Dan Ratcliffe, Cornwall Council,
Historic Environment Service, 39 Penwinnick Road, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 5DR.
Tel. 01726 223463 E-mail. dratcliffe@cornwall.gov.uk

Local Planning Authority Officer:

This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEAA) should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation (WSI) resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their WSI as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

No works on site shall take place until the HEAA and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) have approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

1 Introduction

This brief has been written by the HEA and sets out the minimum requirements for the production of an appropriate archaeological record and basic analysis of the structure. Such a record falls somewhere between Levels 2 and 3 as defined by English Heritage in *Understanding Historic Building: A guide to good recording practice* (2006). The record will provide an archive quality record of a building in its current state, and a straightforward analysis of the evidence gathered by a detailed survey allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail leading to a fuller assessment of its significance and an indication of its potential for further research. A Level 3 record and analysis is typically appropriate in cases where the whole fabric of an undesignated building is at threat or for informing decision making on designated buildings where an incomplete understanding of a building's development and significance requires enhancing. In this case the building, whilst itself undesignated falls within the Devon and Cornwall Mining World Heritage Site and is seen as contributing towards the Outstanding Universal Value of the site. As such HES has advised the Local Planning Authority that it is subject to policies covering designated historic assets within PPS5 and should be treated as such.

In this instance a record is required in order to both provide information in order to inform planning / conservation decisions on the building in question and is required in order to discharge condition 5 of planning consent PA11/03390.

2 Site Location

The chapel is located close to the historic centre of Scorrier at OS grid reference SW 7240 4423. The chapel lies at the end of a small lane adjacent to the railway.

3 Planning Background

Further information is required about the historic significance of the building in question in order to inform on conservation and planning decisions. HES has recommended that the recording and study of this building should inform the making of decisions regarding the detailing of this project secured by conditions 3, 4, 9 and 10. This is required in order to ensure that these details safeguard the quality of the final product and are compliant with the requirements of the authority of developments within the World Heritage Site to safeguard the authenticity and integrity of the designated areas.

PPS5 *Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010) states that where the Local Planning Authority decides that a loss of significance is justified by the merits of a scheme requiring consent, then planning obligations should be imposed to *record and advance understanding of the heritage asset*. The LPA has therefore imposed the following condition-

“No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist”

The applicant, their agents and any subcontractors should note that where there are other conditions requiring satisfaction in advance of the commencement of works on site; it is the responsibility of the applicant to liaise with the planning officer concerned to ensure that the timetabling of these works is managed .

4 Site Background

Impressive and high quality archive research has already been undertaken by the applicant. This work has demonstrated the mapping of the site in 1819, which would allow for the development of the site as part of ‘Great Revival’ period of Cornish Methodism between 1799 and 1814. The work (available from the applicant and the ‘Online Planning Register’ traces the subsequent development of the setting of the site and the subsequent collapse of the building during the mid 20th century. The applicants now have permission to restore the building externally whilst providing domestic accommodation internally, taking account of evidence of its previous external appearance. The planning authority, taking advice from HES, have consented to this application subject to conditions for archaeological recording and approval of design details.

5 Requirement for Work

Post medieval methodist chapels have been identified by HES as heritage assets of at least local significance for their archaeological, historic and architectural significance in addition to their contribution to the unique historic character of the county. They provide information on building techniques, architectural styles and on the changing social and economic nature of Cornish life. The proposed changes will constitute a significant and irreversible change to the building’s significance. A record is required in order

to inform these changes; to advance our understanding of the building type and of this example in particular; and to add to the evidence base for future planning decisions.

Aim of the work.

To provide a detailed, written, measured/drawn and photographic record of the building concerned at an appropriate scale and level of detail to permit a full proper understanding of its present state, in particular where significant elements are at threat.

This recording needs to be directed by a specialist who will 'read' the structure and record the important details. This person will be expected to produce a detailed survey or to adapt one produced by a capable building surveyor. Where only limited losses of significance are proposed, recording should be concentrated on what will be removed or changed, where demolition is proposed the record should be more comprehensive throughout.

The report should demonstrate an understanding of the building in its typological context, produce a detailed statement of its significance, an understanding of its development and use which in this case should make use of research already undertaken by the applicant. This analysis will make reference to the evidence on which its conclusions are based, allowing for the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail.

6 General Methodology

- 6.1 All stages of the investigation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation (WSI).
- 6.2 The archaeological or historic building contractor is expected to follow appropriate codes of practice – i.e. those of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) / Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC).
- 6.3 Details including the name, qualifications and experience of the site director and all other personnel (including specialist staff) shall be included within the WSI.
- 6.4 All of the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.
- 6.5 The IfA's Standards and Guidance should be used for additional guidance in the production of the WSI, the content of the report and the general execution of the project.
- 6.6 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.
- 6.7 Documentary research will be undertaken before the commencement of fieldwork and will establish the nature and extent of existing records and understanding of the assets involved. Research will include consultation of historic Ordnance Survey and Tithe mapping, the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record, the Cornwall Record Office, relevant Local Studies Libraries and other relevant collections.

7 Site Recording Methodology

- 7.1 The drawn record should include

- measured plans of all floors at 1:50 or 1:100 as appropriate
- a site plan at 1:500
- Measured elevations shall be required, where these are necessary to an understanding of a building's design, development or function and are not more readily obtained by photography.
- a phased plan, and
- a plan annotated to show the location, shot number and direction of all photographs.
- copies where available of earlier drawings / maps throwing light on the building's history

In some cases it may be appropriate to use a diagrammatic sketch not necessarily to scale to demonstrate features not apparent on measured drawings or photography

Plans may be based on existing architectural survey data where this exists but these must be checked on site to ensure acceptable accuracy and detail and should be recast where necessary to standard EH conventions as illustrated in *Understanding Historic Buildings* as being appropriate to Level 2 surveys. All plans must be tied to the OS grid, show a north point and be accompanied by suitable labelling and naming of parts.

- 7.2 The photographic record shall be comprehensive, taking note of all items listed 1-9 in *Understanding Historic Buildings* at section 4.4.7

The photographs will be taken with black and white 35mm or medium format film producing archive quality prints and negatives. Colour photography may be utilised for general shots and where it is appropriate for detail shots. For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included.

- 7.4 The written record shall include items 1-10 as set out in *Understanding Historic Buildings* section 4.5.2 and include a detailed account of the evidence from documentary research and field survey stages. The following may act as a useful *aide memoire* to the details required.

- Building type and function
- Date of construction and any subsequent alteration
- Architect / style of design
- Materials, method of construction
- Plan form
- Façade treatment and fenestration
- Interiors, particularly fixtures and fittings and internal arrangements
- Subsidiary features such eg. machinery, ephemera. decoration
- Historical significance
- Source materials
- The setting of the building in the landscape / townscape

The account should demonstrate a clear understanding of the building's development and use and include a discussion of the evidence on which these conclusions are based, utilising and correctly referencing other written

and archive sources. Each space within the building should be separately described. The analysis should discuss the building's significance and the significance of its setting within its national, regional and local context. An assessment of the potential for further research should be included.

8 Results

- 8.1 The full report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and the historic building contractor, Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Service and the Cornwall Records Office. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.
- 8.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ads online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).
- 8.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.
- 8.4 The report must contain:
 - A table of contents.
 - The building's precise location in National Grid and address form.
 - A brief history of the site.
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
 - The date of the record, name of recorder(s) and the location and contents of the deposited archive.
 - A location map, copies of any plans/drawings and copies of such photographs as necessary to illustrate the written description with appropriate annotation.
 - A written description of the building and its structure, materials and layout.
 - A full bibliography where external sources have been used.
 - A copy of the brief and approved written scheme of investigation (WSI) will be included as an appendix.
 - A digital copy of all photographs (in .TIFF format) making up the archive record to be bound into the rear cover of the HER / HEAA copy of the report on CDR or DVDR.

9 Archive Deposition

- 9.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006* upon completion of the project. The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Royal Cornwall Museum. Please check the accessioning and deposition information on the Royal Cornwall Museum website and fill in the 'Notification of Fieldwork' form. Once this has been accepted an accession number will be provided by the museum.

<http://www.royalcornwallmuseum.org.uk/policies/>

- 9.2 The archive including a copy of the written report, all drawn materials and all archive quality photographic prints and negatives shall be deposited with the

appropriate organisation within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEAA.

- 9.3 Documentary archives will normally be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office. Photographic archives are normally deposited with the Cornwall Museum.
- 9.4 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.
- 9.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEAA.
- 9.6 Only on completion of 9.1 to 9.4 (inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological recording condition.

10 Monitoring

- 10.1 The HEAA will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
- 10.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the HEAA at least one week in advance of its commencement.
- 10.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEAA, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.

Appendix 2

The written scheme of investigation

FORMER METHODIST CHAPEL AT CHY-AN-GWYTH, SCORRIER, CHACEWATER, CORNWALL, TR16 5BS (SW 7240 4423)

Written Scheme of Investigation for historic building recording,

Condition 5 of Planning Application PA11/03390

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document sets out the methodology for undertaking historic building recording prior to the redevelopment of the former Methodist Chapel in the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, Scorrier, Chacewater, Cornwall, TR16 5BS (SW 7240 4423).
- 1.2 It represents the Written Scheme of Investigation required by Cornwall Council as per Condition 5 of planning application PA11/03390, and as advised by the Cornwall Council Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (hereafter HEPAO). It is to be submitted to the Cornwall Council Planning Authority for approval before site works commence.
- 1.3 The historic building recording, which will be carried out by AC archaeology, has been commissioned by Derek Bray on behalf of Mr Brendon Davey.
- 1.4 The former disused Methodist Chapel in an undesignated structure, which lies in the historic centre of Scorrier on the northwest edge of one of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Sites. Despite its ruinous condition, the chapel remains are considered to make a valuable contribution towards the '*Outstanding Universal Value*' of the area (Ratcliffe 2011).
- 1.5 The chapel is situated within the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, a modern bungalow, at the end of a small lane adjacent to the railway. It lies at 109mOD with the underlying geology for the area generally comprising undifferentiated mudstones, siltstones and sandstones from the Middle Devon Formation (British Geological Survey online 2011).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Historic building background

Detailed research of the former Methodist chapel has previously been undertaken by the applicant. As a result the chapel is thought to be associated with the Great Revival period of Cornish Methodism, which occurred between 1799 and 1814. Current research maps the development of the site from its first record on a map of 1819 Geological Map of Cornwall and traces the subsequent collapse of the building during the 20th century.

- 2.2 Post Medieval chapels have been identified by Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service (hereafter HES) as heritage assets of at least local significance on the basis of their archaeological, architectural and historical significance. They make a unique contribution to the historic character of

the county. Methodist chapels such as the one in the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, provide information on building techniques, architectural styles as well as information about the changing social and economic nature of Cornish life (Ratcliffe, 2011). The position of this former Methodist chapel on the edge of one of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Sites further underwrites its intrinsic association with the development of the area during this very important period in Cornish history.

2.3 Archaeological background

The former Methodist chapel is recorded on the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Register (hereafter C&SHER) as a Wesleyan chapel (C&SHER ref. no. 176393), which became a Sunday School in 1907, when the new chapel (C&SHER ref. no. 139215) was built to the north. The assumption is that any burials associated with the earlier chapel were removed to the new chapel location.

3. AIMS OF THE WORK

3.1 As the proposed development will constitute a permanent and irreversible change to the buildings significance, the principal aims of the historic building recording are to:-

- Provide an archive standard record of the remains of the former chapel in its current condition;
- Advance current understanding of this particular building in its typological context;
- Add to the evidence base for future planning decisions;
- Provide a detailed assessment of the significance of the former structure (in accordance with Policy HE12.3, Planning Policy Statement 5 *Planning for the Historic Environment*) making use of existing research already undertaken;
- Make an adequate drawn, written and photographic record of the structure;
- Prepare and deposit an adequate archive; and,
- Report, in appropriate format(s), on the results of the above.

4. METHODOLOGY: HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING AND ASSESSMENT

4.1 The work will be undertaken in accordance with a brief prepared by the Cornwall Council HEPAO (Ratcliffe, 2011) and with reference to specifications applicable to Level 2 and Level 3 as set out in the English Heritage publication (2006) *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practices*. The Level 2 recording (descriptive record) will be undertaken of all the structures directly affected by the works or demolition and Level 3 recording (analytical record) will be made of all the affected areas in the main house.

4.2 Additional documentary research will also be undertaken prior to the commencement of the fieldwork to establish the nature and extent of existing records and to assist with understanding the heritage asset involved. Sources will include a review of all historic mapping, the C&SHER, the Cornwall Records Office (hereafter CRO), Truro, and the Cornish Studies Library at Redruth together with any other relevant collections.

4.3 The written record will be compiled with reference to items 1-10 as set out in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practices*, Section 4.5.2 and will include a detailed account of the

evidence from documentary research and field survey stages. The recording will consider the following:

- Site layout and organisation;
- Building type and function;
- Architects style of design;
- Materials, method of construction;
- Façade treatment and fenestration;
- Internal arrangements and interiors, particularly fixtures and fittings and internal arrangements;
- Original and subsequent fixtures and fittings;
- Evidence for use and status;
- Date/period of construction and subsequent alterations;
- Associated structures and subsidiary features such as machinery, ephemera, decoration;
- Historical significance;
- Source materials; and,
- The setting of the building in the landscape.

4.4 In accordance with the brief the assessment will provide *a clear understanding of the building's development and use and include a discussion of the evidence on which these conclusions are based, utilising and correctly referencing other written and archive sources. Each space within the building (will) be separately described. The analysis (will) discuss the building's significance and the significance of its setting within its national, regional and local context. An assessment of the potential for further research (will) be included'* (Ratcliffe, 2011).

4.5 The drawn record will include the following:-

- A site plan at 1:500;
- Measured plans of all floors at 1:50 or 1:100 as appropriate;
- Measured elevations where necessary, to provide an understanding of the building's design, development and/or function if not more readily obtained by photography;
- A phased plan;
- An annotated plan to showing the location, shot number and direction of all photographs; and,
- Copies where available of earlier drawings / maps throwing light on the building's history

4.6 In accordance with the Brief, plans will be based on the existing architectural survey data (where this exists), however these will be checked on-site to ensure acceptable accuracy and detail, and will be recast where necessary to standard EH conventions as illustrated in *Understanding Historic Buildings a guide to good recording practices* as being appropriate to Level 2 surveys. All plans will be tied to the OS grid, show a north arrow and be accompanied by suitable labelling and naming of parts. In accordance with the brief, diagrammatic sketches not necessarily to scale may be produced to demonstrate features not apparent on measured drawings or photography (Ratcliffe 2011).

4.7 The photographic record will provide a comprehensive record, both internally and externally, using B/W 35mm print to produce archive quality prints and negatives. Colour photography will be used for general shots and where appropriate, for detail shots. A comprehensive photographic register taking

note of all items set out under items 1-9 in *Understanding Historic Buildings a guide to good recording practice*, Section 4.4.7, will be compiled. An appropriate scale shall be used for all photographs.

5. REPORTING

5.1 An illustrated summary report will be prepared within six weeks of completion on site and, if requested, wider publication will be undertaken. The contents of the report will vary depending on the findings, but as a minimum will contain:

- A table of contents;
- The building's precise location in National Grid and address form;
- A brief history of the site;
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results;
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation;
- The date of the record, name of recorder(s) and the location and contents of the deposited archive;
- A location map, copies of any plans/drawings and copies of such photographs as necessary to illustrate the written description with appropriate annotation;
- A written description of the building and its structure, materials and layout;
- A full bibliography where external sources have been used;
- A copy of the brief and approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), included as an appendix; and,
- A digital copy of all photographs (in .TIFF format) comprising the archive record, bound into the rear cover of the Cornwall Council HES/HEPAO copy of the report on CD-ROM or DVDR.

5.2 A draft copy of the report will be submitted to the Cornwall Council HEPAO for comment. Once its content and format are agreed, the report will be submitted in paper and digital (.pdf on a CD-ROM) formats to Cornwall Council HES/HEPAO, the CRO and client, within three months of the date of completion of site works. A copy of the report will also be supplied to the National Monuments Record, Swindon.

5.3 Details of the project will be submitted to the OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological investigationS) database, along with a digital version of the completed report.

5.4 Should particularly significant historic fabric or architectural features be encountered, then these, because of their importance, may merit wider publication, in line with government planning guidance. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements - including any further analysis that may be necessary, will be confirmed by the Cornwall County HEPAO.

6. THE PROJECT ARCHIVE

6.1 A fully integrated site archive will be prepared with reference to the English Heritage 2006 document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE). This will be deposited under an accession number to be obtained from the Royal Cornwall Museum (photographic archive) and the

CRO (documentary archive), within one year of the date of completion of the site work and confirmed in writing with the Cornwall County HEPAO.

- 6.2 Subject to appropriate acknowledgement, the archive may be copied for *bona fide* research or in relation to local authority development control activities without infringement of copyright or need for permission from the originator.

7. HEALTH & SAFETY

- 7.1 Archaeological staff will operate under AC archaeology's Health and Safety Policy and any other additional requirements set out by main site contractor. All works will also be carried out in accordance with current Health and Safety legislation, to include (but not exclusively rely upon) the *Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974*, the *Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992* and the *Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2007*.
- 7.2 In accordance with the provisions of the AC archaeology Health and Safety Policy, the AC archaeology site representative will be responsible for ensuring that operations under his/her control are carried out in accordance with the procedures outlined in 7.1 and in the site-specific risk assessment.
- 7.3 Archaeological staff will not work in unsafe or unhealthy conditions; even where not to do so will result in the possible under-recording of the archaeological resource.
- 7.4 All site staff carry *Construction Skills Certification Scheme* (CSCS) cards and senior members have up to date first aid qualifications.

8. PERSONNEL AND PROGRAMME

- 8.1 The building recording project will be managed by Tanya James MA MIfA, Project Manager for AC archaeology Ltd. The building recording will be undertaken by Andrew Passmore, BSc MIfA, who has undertaken many similar recording projects throughout Cornwall and Devon.
- 8.2 It is anticipated that the photographic recording will be undertaken during October 2011, and will take one day to complete.
- 8.3 The project will be monitored by the Cornwall Council HEPAO. Any variations to this document shall be agreed with the HEPAO before they are carried out.

9. MONITORING

- 9.1 Notice of the commencement of the historic building recording will be given to the Cornwall County HEPAO in writing at least one week in advance of the commencement of the building recording.

- 9.2 The HEPAO will monitor the work and will be kept regularly informed of progress. Any variations to this document shall be agreed with the HEPAO, preferably in writing, before they are carried out.

10. INSURANCE

- 10.1 AC archaeology carries Public Liability Insurance cover to £5,000,000, Employers Liability to £10,000,000 and Professional Indemnity cover to £1,000,000.

11. SOURCES CONSULTED

Published sources

Department of Communities and Local Government, 2010, *Planning for the Historic Environment Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5*

Ratcliffe, D., 2011, *Brief for recording a disused Methodist chapel at Chy an Gwyth, Scorrier*

Internet sources

British geological survey online 2011

Tanya James MA MIfA
Project Manager
AC archaeology Ltd
3rd October 2011

Appendix 3

Digital photographic Index and location of photographs

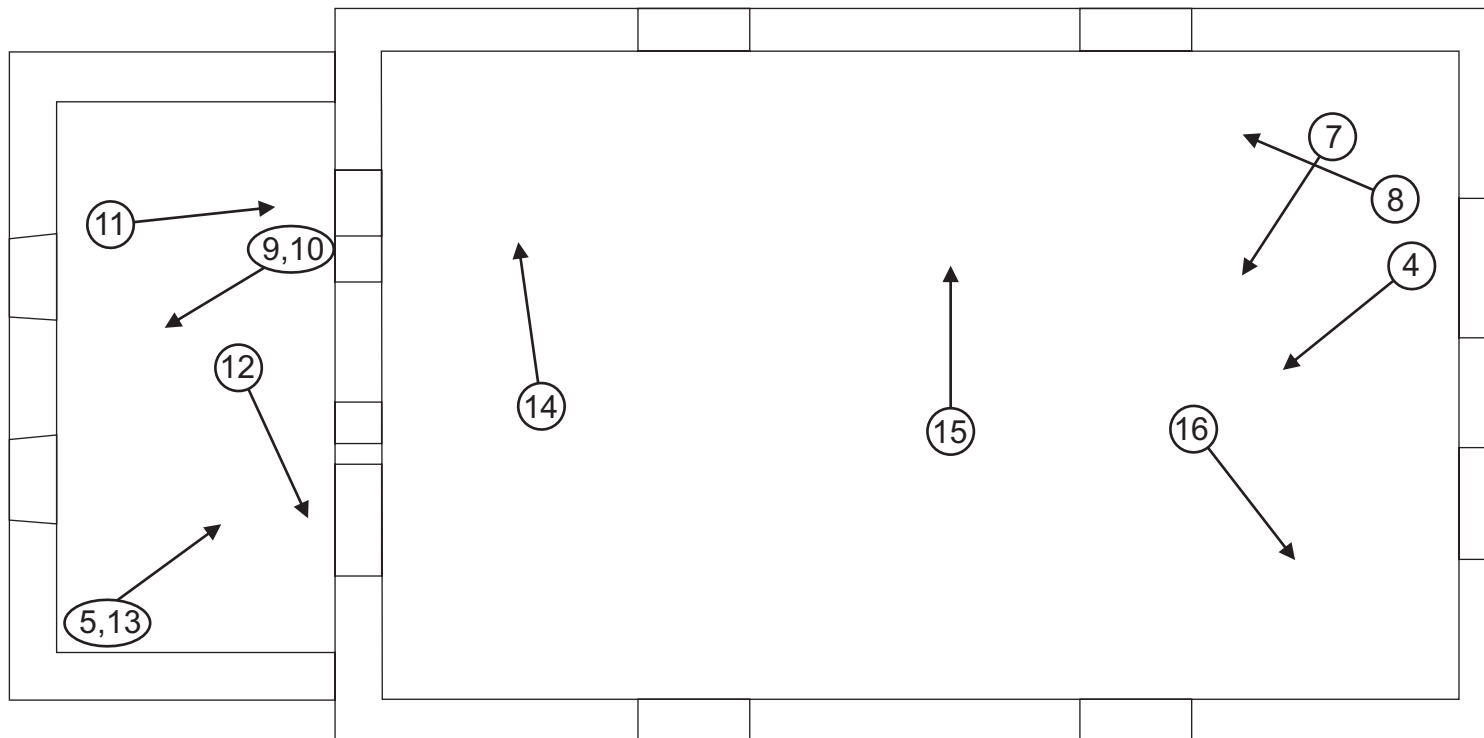
2011

Archive No	Site Photo No	Description	Scale	View from	Photo by	Date
0001	0001	Southeast elevation		South	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0002	0002	Southwest elevation		South	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0003	0003	Window opening within southeast elevation		Southwest	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0004	0004	Southwest elevation, internal face		West	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0005	0005	Lower courses of northwest elevation (with northeast elevation, internal face to rear)		West	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0006	0006	North corner of chapel with later vestry to right		Southeast	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0007	0007	Southwest elevation, internal face showing scars of galleries in mortar		West	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0008	0008	Northeast elevation, internal face showing scars of galleries in mortar		North	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0009	0009	Blocked splayed windows in northwest wall of vestry	1m	East	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0010	0010	Blocked splayed windows in northwest wall of vestry	1m	East	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0011	0011	Remains of blocked Phase 2 doorway in northwest wall of chapel showing primary window opening above	1m	West	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0012	0012	Partial blocking of primary tall window within northwest elevation	1m	North	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0013	0013	Northwest elevation showing northeast elevation in background		West	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0014	0014	Northeast elevation showing sockets and scars in mortar associated with galleries		North	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0015	0015	Southwest elevation showing sockets and scars in mortar associated with galleries		Northeast	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0016	0016	South corner of chapel showing scars of galleries and associated staircase		South	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0017	0017	Wall-tie within southwest elevation		Northeast	Paul Jones	25 October 2011
0018	0018	Chapel entrance within southeast elevation	1m	East	Paul Jones	25 October 2011

Date downloaded to office: 26 October 2011

Received by: Paul Jones

6



0 5m
Scale 1:100@A4

3

17

2

1

PROJECT
Methodist Chapel at
Chy An Gwyth, Scorrier

TITLE
Appendix 3: Location of
photographs



AC archaeology

Appendix 4

The Design and Access Statement

THE CHAPEL
CHY-AN-GWYTH
SCORRIER
REDRUTH

Application for Planning Permission
For
Renovation of Derelict Chapel and
Change of Use to Dwelling

DESIGN & ACCESS
STATEMENT

Marion Rogers

April 2011

1 ASSESSMENT

1.1 Physical

1.1.1 This derelict building, the forerunner of the current Scorrier Christian Fellowship Church, sits within the grounds of Chy-an-Gwyth, Scorrier, a four bedroom detached house built in 1973 on land situated between the Fox and Hounds public house and the main Penzance – Paddington railway.

1.1.2 A reference is made to the chapel in the County Historical Environment Record but takes its evidence from Ordnance Survey maps only. The applicant has carried out her own investigations into the history of the building and has uncovered some useful earlier documents.

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< Back to Cornwall & Scilly HER Results

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Cornwall & Scilly HER

For important guidance on the use of this record, please click [here](#).

If you have any comments or new information about this record, please [email us](#).

HER Number: 176393
Name: SCORRIER - Post Medieval sunday school, Post Medieval nonconformist chapel

Summary - not yet available

Grid Reference: SW 7240 4423
Parish: Chacewater, Carrick, Cornwall
Map: [Show location on Google Maps](#)

Protected Status: None recorded

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded

Monument Types
[NONCONFORMIST CHAPEL](#) (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)
[SUNDAY SCHOOL](#) (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)

Full description
A Wesleyan Methodist chapel is recorded on the 1st Edition 1:2500 1880 OS Map at Scorrier to the south of the railway line. By 1907 this building had become the Sunday school a new chapel 139215 being constructed to the north which is still in use. According to the current Mastermap and the 2005 Aerialimagery the chapel is now a roofless ruin and overgrown with trees.

Associated Finds: none recorded

Associated Events: none recorded

Related records: none recorded

Search results generated by the HBSMR Gateway from [eneGeIS SCM Ltd](#)

IHBC INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL BUILDING CONSERVATION

ENGLISH HERITAGE

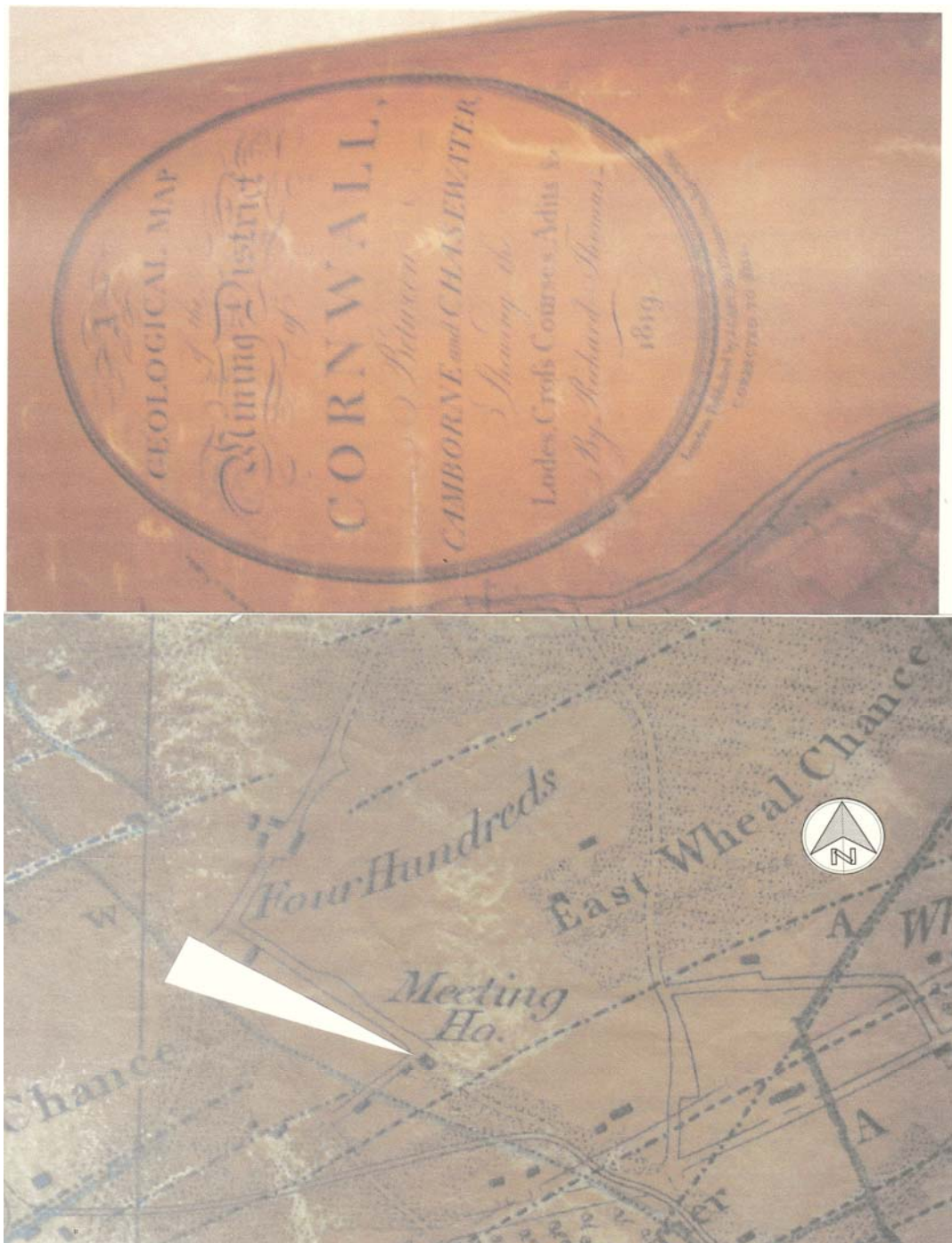
ALSO-England

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1.1.3 The earliest map found of the site is one attached to the 1791 plan of North Downs Mining Sett on which the building is not shown, it is likely that only the buildings associated with mining were shown on these plans so the chapel may have been in existence at that time but not shown.

Revivals of 1799 and 1814 and that many of the chapels in west Cornwall were built around this time.

- 1.1.5 The earliest map found that included this chapel at Scorrier was the 1819 Geological Map of Cornwall between Camborne and Chasewater where it is labelled as a "Meeting House". The Portreath – Devoran Mineral Tram Road which opened in 1812 is also shown on this map.



- 1.1.6 The 1841 Gwennap Tithe Map (Map 3) describes the building as a “Wesleyan Chapel”. Chy-an-Gwyth now occupies the eastern part of the land parcel numbered 1136.

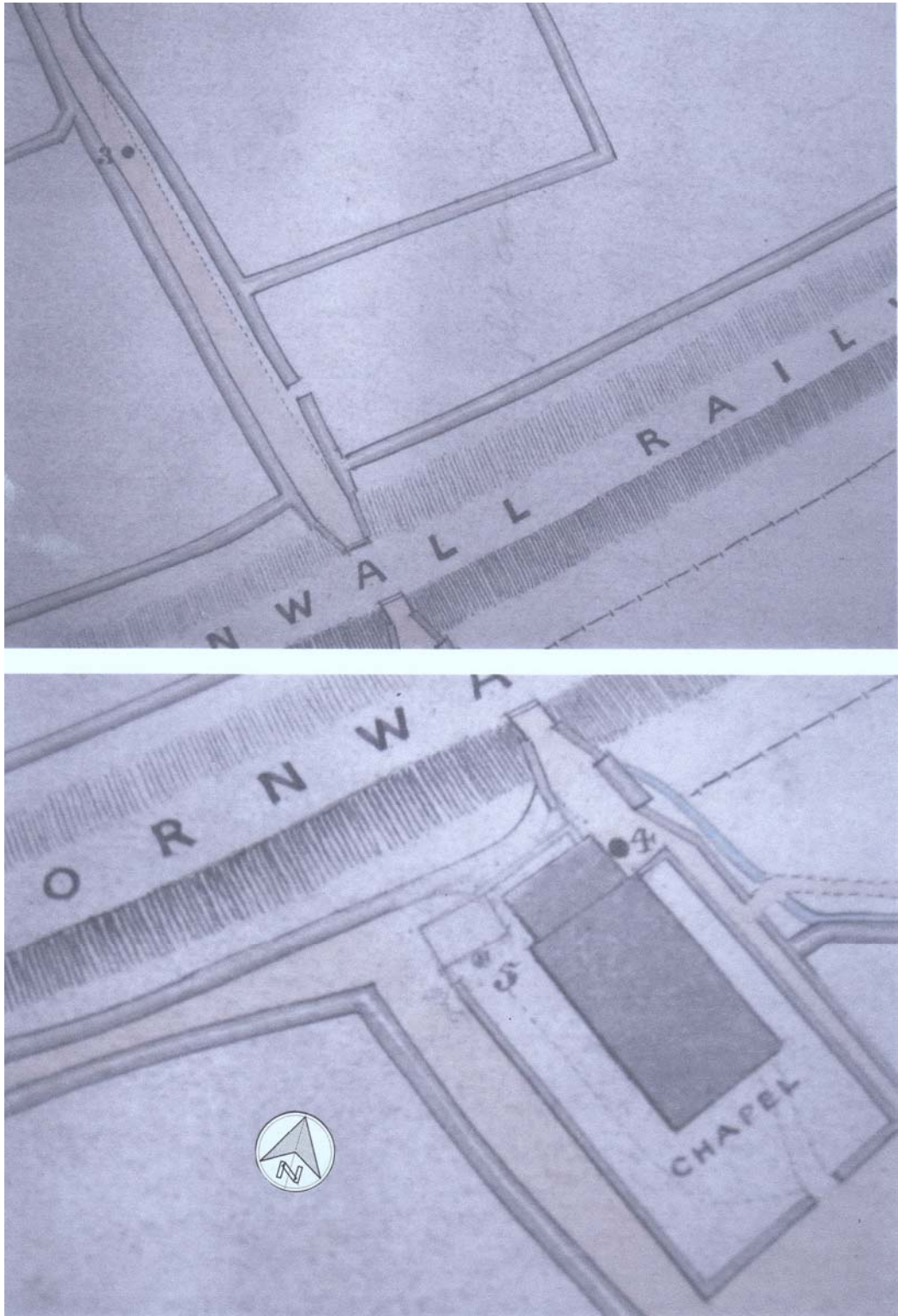


- 1.1.7 Extracts from the 1865 Plan of the Boundaries between the Blanchland and St Day Manors show the West Cornwall Railway now in existence and labels the building as a “Chapel”. The plans clearly show the main building with its annexe on its north-western end, the walls enclosing the chapel grounds, all of which still exist apart from that on the south-west side, the rectangular building at the western corner of the annexe, see Photographs 14 & 15, the pedestrian gateway which still exists, and the footpath along the north-east boundary. The numbered dots refer to

marker stones and delineate the boundary between the Manors. The existing neighbouring “Sun Cottage” is shown as is the “Hare and Hounds”, now the Fox & Hounds, public house but the building adjacent to the railway below the word “WEST” has long since been demolished as have some of the Cornish hedges to the south and west of the chapel.



Blanchland and St Day Manors Boundary Plan



Blanchland and St Day Manors Boundary Plan

- 1.1.8 The 1880 Ordnance Survey plan labels the building as “Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan)” and the 1908 O.S. plan calls it a “Sunday School”.

- 1.1.9 A number of aerial photographs of the area have been taken over the years and it is clear from Photograph 1 taken on 12 July 1946 that the roof was still intact at that time and was a fully hipped roof. The shadows indicate that when the photo was taken the sun was shining from the south-east, and a few degrees to the north of the main ridge line of the chapel. The south-eastern hip is just distinguishable by being slightly lighter than the north-eastern and south-western roof slopes, however, the north-western hip is clearly defined as a dark triangular area. Sun Cottage is clearly visible with its fully gabled roof.



Photograph 1

- 1.1.10 The chapel image in Photograph 2 taken on 12 May 1951 is more difficult to interpret with regard to the roof but the darker triangle at the north-western end of the building still suggests the existence of a hipped roof.



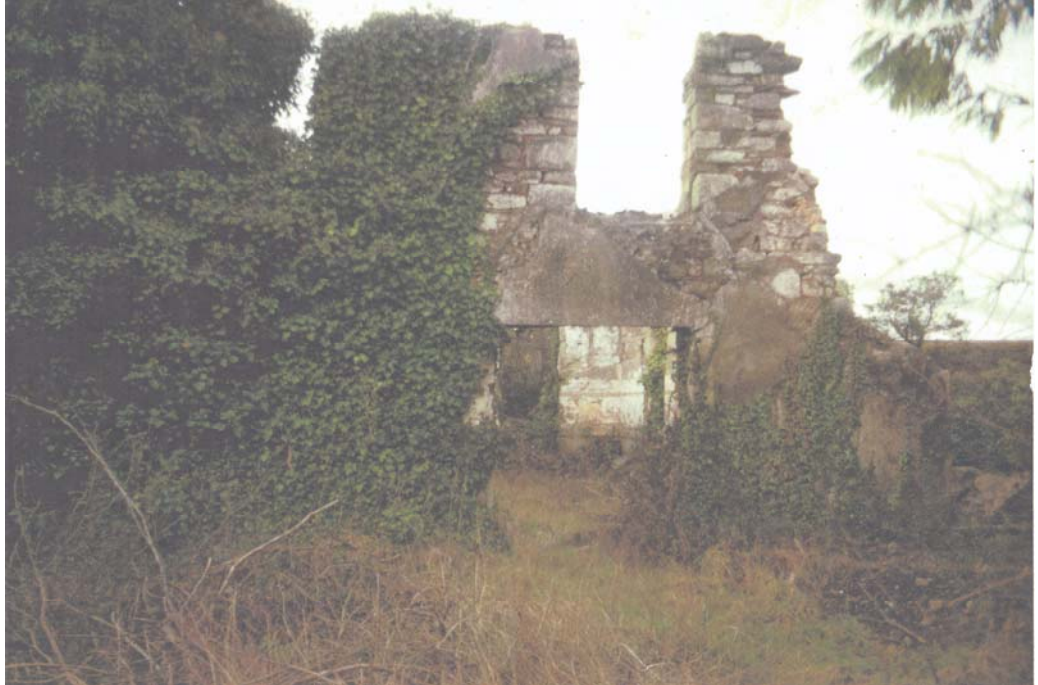
Photograph 2

- 1.1.11 An aerial photograph taken on 2 July 1964 at a high altitude gives little information, showing the building as a small dark rectangle partially obscured by clouds, however, three ground level photographs taken the following year, 1965, show the following :



Photograph 3

Photograph 3 – taken from the field to the north-east shows the north-eastern wall to be in a similar condition to now, it shows that there has been very little deterioration over the last 46 years.



Photograph 4 – taken from the pedestrian gate in the south-eastern boundary wall shows the doorway and the window opening above. The right hand section of this wall has since collapsed to about 1.5 metres high.



Photograph 5

Photograph 5 – taken from inside the building looking at the north-western wall. That wall was still at full height in 1965 with its rectangular openings and lintels still intact. The centre section has since collapsed but the remaining walls show little deterioration over the period.

- 1.1.12 It is clear from photographs and the existing structure that the annexe roof was tied into the main building but the arrangement between the roof and the full height openings shown in Photograph 5 is difficult to determine. The annexe stonework is not tied into the main chapel wall which, although shown on the 1865 manors plan, suggests it was a later addition. The lead flashing, parts of which remain and can be seen in photographs 6 & 7, between the chapel and the annexe roof must have spanned the openings and it is therefore reasonable to assume that these openings had been partially in-filled as can be seen for the opening on the western side in the 1965 and current photographs.



Photograph 6



Photograph 7

- 1.1.13 Two further aerial photos, one taken in 1989 and the other on 8 May 1996 show the building as being overgrown.
- 1.1.14 A structural assessment has been carried out by Messrs. MLJ Consulting Engineers which includes details of the fabric of the building.
- 1.1.15 Full plans and elevations of the existing site and building are shown on scheme drawing Nos. 134101, 134102 and 134103.
- 1.1.16 The main building has a footprint area of 149 m² and the annexe 36 m². The original chapel enclosure covered an area of 0.0515 ha.
- 1.1.17 The site is currently bounded on the north-eastern and south-eastern sides by the original stone masonry walls varying between 1.2 m and 1.6 m high but where this wall runs between the chapel building itself and the public footpath it has collapsed to about 500 mm high with most of the stone lying on the ground in the area between the wall remnants and the building. On the north-western side the boundary is a stone faced hedge / retaining bank at the toe of the railway embankment. The

gap between this and the building annexe is currently filled with debris and stone from the remains of the original boundary wall and the upper wall parts of the annexe. The south-western boundary is not currently delineated as the chapel is to all intents and purposes located within the garden of Chy-an-Gwyth.

1.2 **Social & Economic**

- 1.2.1 The remains of this former chapel are within 3 metres of a public footpath and in full view of users. Whilst at one time it was a building of some character in a semi-rural location it is now a substantial ruin within the village of Scorrier and its renovation and return to useful life would considerably enhance the character and visual amenities of the locality for residents and walkers alike.
- 1.2.2 Its conversion to a dwelling will have no significant detrimental effect on the people or the economy of the locality.

1.3 **Planning Policy**

- 1.3.1 Although the building is neither listed nor within a conservation area it does lie within the World Heritage Site and should be considered as a heritage asset. The policies contained in Planning Policy Statement 5, specifically Policies HE9, HE10 and HE11, are therefore relevant.

HE9 This policy gives guidance on how a heritage asset should be protected from development that may cause harm and how finding a viable use for a building can enable its conservation.

Methodist chapels are an inherent part of the distinctive social landscape associated with the mining heritage and enough remains of this building for it to be saved, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the walls are still at or close to their full original height and the remainder are at least 1.5 metres high. Evidence has been gathered as to the original roof shape and

much of the boundary walls are still intact. Photographic and on-site evidence is also available to establish the main original features.

HE10 This policy states that local planning authorities should treat favourably applications that preserve and enhance the setting of heritage assets and that such enhancements should be considered as a public benefit and part of the process of place-shaping.

HE11 Requires local planning authorities to assess whether the benefits of an application for enabling development to secure the future conservation of a heritage asset outweigh the disbenefits of departing from the development plan or national policies.

The proposed conversion to a fully residential dwelling house will secure the long term future of the asset and is considered the minimum necessary to secure its future conservation.

Bearing in mind the recommendations in the PPS5 Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide the restoration of this building to its original condition would be much preferred to works to simply preserve and protect the remains. In reality, funding will not be available in the foreseeable future for preservation works, should it be deemed necessary, and if restoration works are not carried out then the building will become a complete ruin and not worthy of retention.

2 INVOLVEMENT AND EVALUATION

2.1 The chapel surrounds has been part of Chy-an-Gwyth gardens for the last 38 years and although the applicant, who has lived at Chy-an-Gwyth with her parents since 1993, has often considered renovating the chapel it was not until recently that a family friend showed interest in buying it to carry out renovation works and create a dwelling for him and his family.

- 2.2 The applicant has discussed the proposals with the Council and back in December received a letter from Laura Fox giving some guidance and advice on the possibility of restoration and conversion to a dwelling.

3 **DESIGN**

- 3.1 In designing the restoration and conversion works full consideration has been given to retaining and duplicating the existing architectural features.
- 3.2 The original building was of simple design externally with all walls of granite masonry with cut quoins to corners and openings. Window and door openings had slightly arched brickwork lintels, three of which still remain, with timber doors and windows and the roof will have been small natural slate covered and fully hipped. All these features will be maintained and reproduced in the renovated building.
- 3.3 Internally, plaster remains indicate that there were at some time small, low, raised congregation tiers. Holes in the walls at the top of the lower rendering show where the timbers supporting the tiers were positioned and some steel ties remain at these locations. The original building will have been fully plastered inside and painted.
- 3.4 Photographs show piles of stone inside against the north-western wall, in the eastern corner and the annexe where wall sections have collapsed, This stone will be recovered and re-used in the renovation works.
- 3.5 Some photographs, Nos 29 to 32 of similar buildings in the locality have been used to establish and reinforce the design decisions taken on fascias, windows, doors, roof, etc.
- 3.6 The stonework to the annexe on the north-western end of the chapel is different to that of the main building and is in poor condition, it is therefore proposed that this be demolished and replaced with painted and rendered cavity blockwork with granite quoins.

- 3.7 It is proposed to construct a single garage in the western corner of the site to replace the original building at that location which is believed to have been the boiler room for the heating of the chapel. The new garage will be of painted and rendered cavity blockwork with granite quoins. The driveway and turning space is to be laid out as per drawing 134101.
- 3.8 Internally the ground floor will be one open plan room with a multi-fuel burner and stairs leading to the first floor. The annexe will be used as a utility room with shower and toilet facilities in accordance with Building Regulation requirements and as shown on drawing 134104. The first floor will be arranged with four bedrooms, two with en-suite facilities and a bathroom as shown on drawing 134105.
- 3.9 To satisfy the requirements of the Building Regulations new insulated floors will be constructed, existing walls will be insulated and dry lined and roofs insulated. All appliances and equipment will be energy efficient to meet the latest performance standards and the necessary water efficiency levels.

USE

- 4.1 The boundary between Chy-an-Gwyth and the chapel is the line of the original south-western boundary wall of the chapel enclosure but when Chy-an-Gwyth was purchased from its former owners in 1993 the chapel surrounds were already included as part of the dwelling gardens.
- 4.2 Regardless of its last use designation it is proposed that the use of the chapel and its surrounds be changed to residential.

5 AMOUNT & SCALE

- 5.1 The footprint areas of the main chapel building and annexe will remain as existing at 149 m² and 36 m² respectively. The garage will have a footprint area of 25.4 m². The site curtilage area will remain at its existing 0.0515 ha.

6 LAYOUT

- 6.1 Drawing No 134101 shows the layout of the site, the access and the surrounding features.

7 **LANDSCAPING**

- 7.1 The existing site boundary walls are to be reinstated to their original heights and a new boundary close boarded timber fence is to be erected between the site and Chy-an-Gwyth. The driveway and turning area are to be laid in paved and the remainder laid to lawns with flower borders.

8 **APPEARANCE**

- 8.1 It is intended that every effort be made to restore the chapel to its former condition and by siting the garage in the western corner the appearance of the chapel from the footpath and access road will be much the same as it was originally.
- 8.2 Renovation and rebuilding of the main walls will be carried out with stone recovered from the collapsed walls and following whatever grouting is found to be necessary the masonry work will be carried out using lime putty mortar with Doble sand. The choice of door and window patterns has been guided by inspection of other similar chapels in the locality.

9 **ACCESS**

- 9.1 The existing access currently serves three dwellings and being a minimum of 4.0 metres wide and 45 metres long will satisfy the requirements of the Building Regulations for fire engine access.
- 9.2 Gradients for the access road and driveway are less than 1 in 20 and the development will therefore comply with the requirements of Section 6 of Part M of the Building Regulations for access by disabled people

- 9.3 The site layout provides for the parking and turning of two cars and access to and from the site will be in forward gear.
- 9.4 Where the access road meets the Class III public highway the Cornwall Council requirements for visibility splays for private drives are a minor road distance of 2.0 metres and a major road distance, within a 30 mph zone, of 33 metres as viewed from a lowest eye height of 1.05 metres above the main carriageway. These visibility requirements will be met by the existing access as can be seen in photographs 23 and 24 taken at the 2.0 metres back and 1.05 metres high point, however, visibility to the west is intermittently interrupted by an electricity pole and a mineral tramways guide stone.

10 BUILDING REGULATIONS

- 10.1 The renovation and all relevant building works will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Building Regulations.



8 Chapel remains as seen from the footpath approach from the south-east.

Original wall and pedestrian gate access shown in the foreground.



9 Public footpath on north-eastern side with railway and tunnel in background.



10 View from the field to the north-east. Shows comparison between it and the view from a similar place shown in photograph 3 taken in 1965



11. The footpath and chapel remains as seen from the railway tunnel.



12. The public footpath as seen looking towards the south-east.



13. The south-western and south-eastern walls as seen from the south corner of the site.



14. The remains of the original outbuilding in the western corner of the site. These remains to be removed and the garage located here.



15. Existing western corner. Shows the remains of the outbuilding, Chy-an-Gwyth garage and Sun Cottage in the background.



16. Upper quoin stone of south-eastern opening in south-western wall showing angled seating for upper brick arch.



17. The south-eastern wall as seen from the eastern corner of the site. Ground levels in this area will be lowered by about 300 mm back to approximately what would have been the the ground level of the pedestrian approach to the original chapel.



18. View of the inside of the north-eastern and south-eastern walls.



19. View of the inside of the north-western and north-eastern walls. Shows existing condition in comparison with 1965 photograph 5.



20. The inside of the south-western corner showing the lines of the upper congregation tiers, support beam sockets and brick arch.



21 The inside of the annexe on the north-western end of the building. Shows some of the stones from the collapse of the central section of the north-western wall of the chapel.



22. View of Access road from proposed site entrance to Class III County Highway. Sun Cottage is on the left and Chy-an-Gwyth entrance on the right.



23. Visibility to the west at the junction of the access road with the Class III road. Full standard visibility will be achieved once the electricity pole is moved.



24. Full standard visibility to the east at the junction of the access road with the Class III road.



25 Access road, looking over the Class III county highway from the Fox & Hounds access.



26. Proposed site entrance point off the existing access road.



27. Class III Road. Entrance to access road is on the left just past the Mineral Tramways stone marker post. The Fox & Hounds inn is on the right hand side.



28. Class III Road. Entrance to access road is on the right just before the electricity pole. The first entrance on the right is the pedestrian gated access to Sun Cottage. The Fox & Hounds inn is on the left hand side behind the vehicle in the lay-by.



29 Former Quaker Meeting House at Church Lane, Redruth. Built in 1819.



30 – Billy Bray's Three Eyes Chapel at Kerley Downs, Chacewater. Originally built in 1835.



31 – Highway Methodist Chapel at Redruth Highway Lane. Built c 1860, now used as flats.



32. Voguebeloth Chapel. Built in 1866

11 **BATS & OWLS**

- 11.1 As can be readily seen from the photographs, these remains are totally unsuitable as habitats for bats and owls, the walls contain no suitable roosting places for either species and would provide no protection from the elements.

12 **TREES**

- 12.1 There are a number of trees in the vicinity of the chapel and details of their species and trunk girth are given on the block plans. The nearest to the chapel itself is a 1.3 m girth ash tree at 6.0 m distance part way up the railway embankment.

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