Former Methodist Chapel
Grange Road
Knolton
Flint
(Wrexham Maelor)
NGR: SJ 37842 38971

A
Photographic
Survey

Text
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Mercian Heritage Series No.2307

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1. Introduction

Listed building consent has recently been granted for works to and a change of use of a former Methodist chapel on Grange Road, Knolton, in Wrexham Maelor (.P/2023/0299 and P/2023/0578).

This Consultancy had, as part of the application, produced a heritage impact assessment of the proposals, outlining the history of the chapel and including a description of it and its development (Mercian Heritage Series No.2081).

One of the conditions of the listed building consent was that:

> *No part of the development shall commence until an appropriate photographic survey (equivalent to an Historic England Level 2 Photographic Survey - Understanding Historic Buildings, 2016, 5.5, p.27) of the existing building/s has been carried out by an archaeological contractor, in accordance with details to be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. The resulting digital photographs shall be forwarded on appropriate digital media to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist (Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, Coed y Dinas, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RP. Email: neil.bayliss@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670 / 552045). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the photographs should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust, Coed Y Dinas, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RP for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record and an archive copy should be lodged with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW.*

1.1 Recording Levels

This Consultancy was commissioned to undertake a photographic record of the building prior to demolition to ensure an appropriate degree of 'preservation by record'. A Level 2 survey, as per the guidelines of Historic England (2016) was stipulated.

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This includes sections 1-2 and 4 of the categories outlined elsewhere in that document, *viz*:

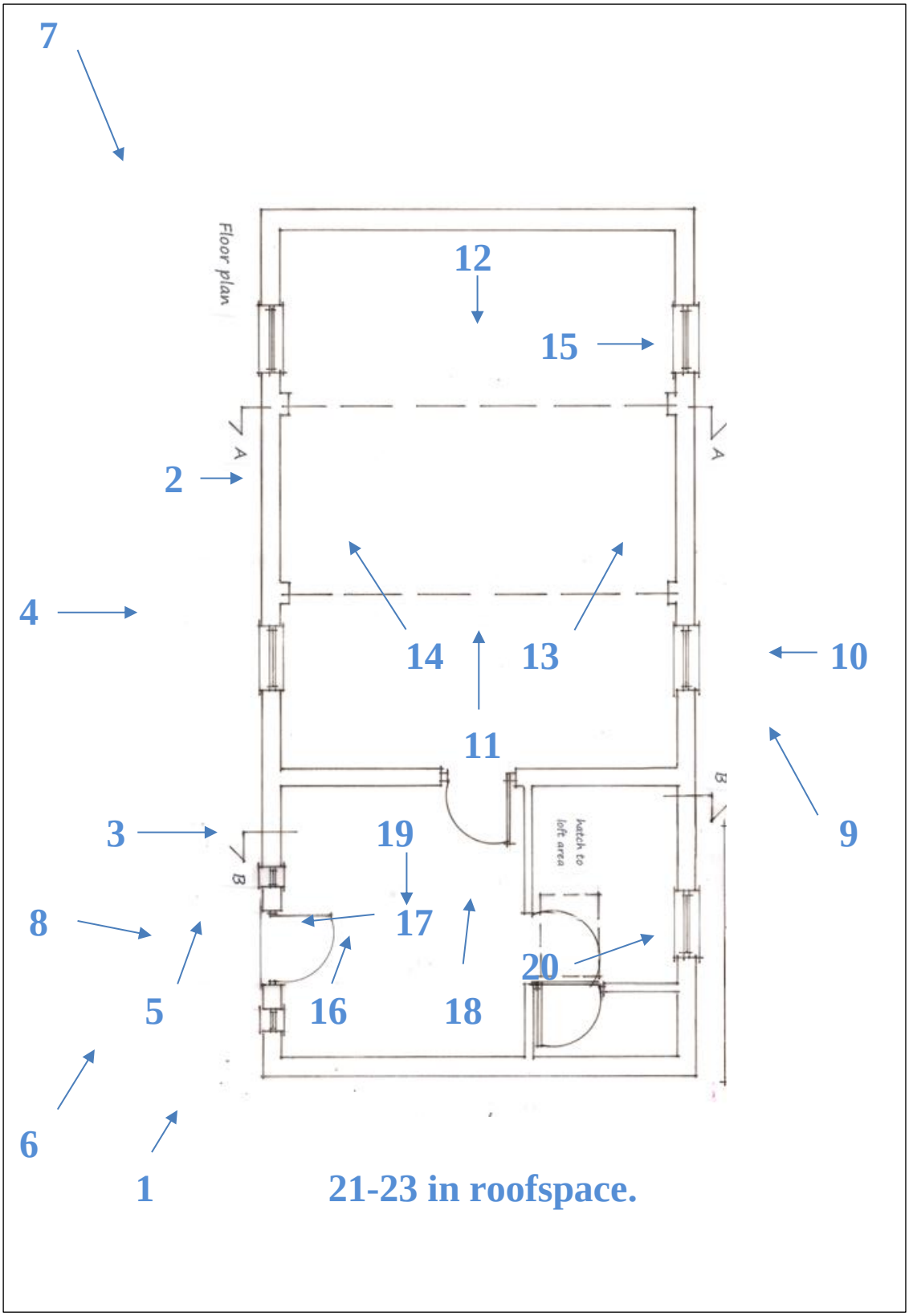
> *1. A general view or views of the building (in its wider setting or landscape if 2 (below) is also to be adopted).*
>
> *2. The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building, and give an overall impression of its size and shape. Where individual elevations include complex historical information it may also be appropriate to take views at right-angles to the plane of the elevation.*
>
> *4. The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas. The approach will be similar to that outlined in 2.*[1]

1.2 The Photographic Survey

The photographic survey was undertaken using 12mp and 15mp professional DSLR and lenses using both JPEG and NEFF formats to suit whichever archiving is required by the LPA. The location of the individual photographic viewpoints are shown on the relevant floor plans below.

[1] Historic England, 2016, *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*

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Pl.1: General view along the main road with the Chapel to the right.



Pl.2: The 1868 datestone.



Pl.3: The 1904 datestone.

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Pl.4: The front elevation of the Chapel.



Pl.5: Detail of junction between the front elevations of the original build (left) and extension.

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Pl.6: General street view of the chapel from the south-west.



Pl.7: The chapel from the north.

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Pl.8: Detail of gate and railings on the front elevation.



Pl.9: The rear elevation of the original Chapel.

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Pl.10: The rear elevation of the chapel, with the extension to the left.



Pl.11: The interior of the original part of the Chapel, looking north.

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Pl.12: The interior, looking south; note difference in glazing on either side.



Pl.13: Inside of the rear elevation.

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Pl.14: Inside of the front elevation.



Pl.15: Detail of inside of surviving original window on the rear elevation.

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Pl.16: The interior of the extension, looking through to the original Chapel.



Pl.17: The interior of the entrance into the extension.

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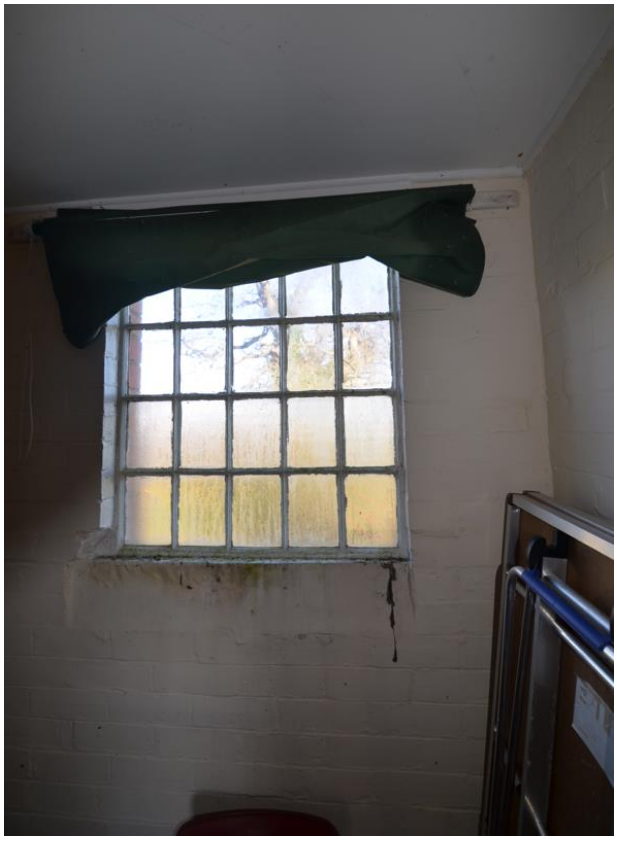


Pl.18: Detail of the interior of the entrance, looking into the chapel,



Pl.19: Detail of the entrance, looking south.

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Pl.20: Detail of window on rear wall bisected by the ceiling.



Pl.21: The roof-space of the extension, showing ceiling bisecting the rear window.

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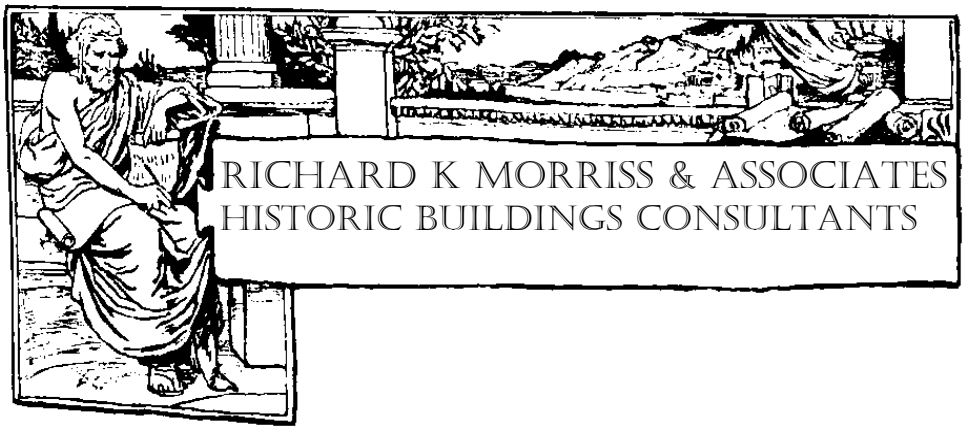


Pl.22: Detail of the roof space, roof structure and cross-wall.



Pl.23: Detail of roof space and inner face of the gable.

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The Consultancy

Richard K Morriss founded this Consultancy in 1995 after previously working for English Heritage and the Ironbridge Institute of the University of Birmingham and spending eight years as Assistant Director of the Hereford Archaeology Unit. Although Shropshire-based the Consultancy works throughout the UK on a wide variety of historic buildings for clients that include the National Trust, the Landmark Trust, English Heritage, the Crown Estates, owners, architects, local authorities, planning consultants and developers. It specialises in the archaeological and architectural analysis of historic buildings of all periods and planning advice related to them. It also undertakes heritage impact assessments and broader area appraisals and Conservation Management Plans.

Richard Morriss is a former Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and of the Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists, currently archaeological advisor to four cathedrals and author of many academic papers and of 20 books, mainly on architecture and archaeology, including The Archaeology of Buildings (Tempus 2000), The Archaeology of Railways (Tempus 1999); Roads: Archaeology & Architecture (Tempus 2006) and ten in the Buildings of series: Bath, Chester, Ludlow, Salisbury, Shrewsbury, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, Winchester, Windsor, Worcester (Sutton 1993-1994). The latest work is an Historic England funded monograph on the Houses of Hereford (Oxbow 2018).

He was a member of the project teams responsible for the restoration of Astley Castle, Warwickshire, winner of the 2013 RIBA Stirling Prize; the restoration of the Old Market House, Shrewsbury, winner of a 2004 RIBA Conservation Award; and Llwyn Celyn, Monmouthshire, winner of the RICS Conservation Project of the Year 2019. He has also been involved in several projects that have won, or been short-listed for, other awards including those of the Georgian Group for Mostyn House, Denbigh; St. Helen's House, Derby; Radbourne Hall, Derbyshire and Cusgarne Manor, Cornwall.



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