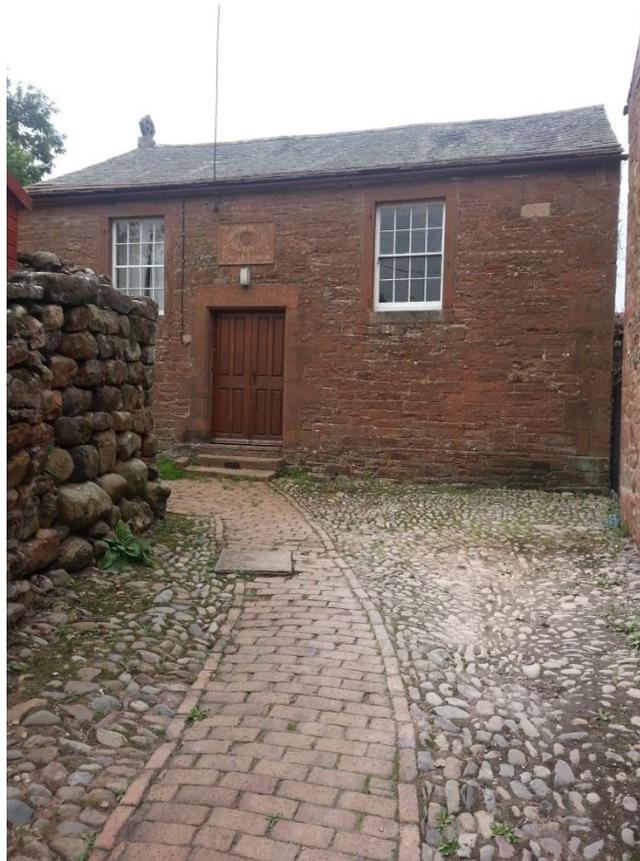


HERITAGE STATEMENT

Project Ref: 1213.58

Proposed Conversion
of
Culgaith Methodist Chapel to Dwelling
for
Kirkoswald Methodist Circuit



Principal elevation from highway

The proposal is to convert this redundant disused Methodist chapel to a dwelling.

Below is a listing for the subject property.

List entry Number: 1119590

Grade: II

Date first listed: 14-May-1984

Asset Groupings

This list entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping.

Details

NY 62 NW CULGAITH B6412, CULGAITH (North side)

18/92 Methodist Chapel G.V. II Chapel, dated 1830. Squared, snecked rubble with margined quoins on plinth course. Graduated slate roof with stone-flagged eaves; apex cross to west. Symmetrical single-storey, 3-bay front has central vertically split panelled door in chamfered surround; single window with glazing bars in stone surround to either side and 2 similar in west wall. Above door is panel with moulded frame and inscription: Wesleyan Methodist CHAPEL Erected AD 1830. C20 lean-to shed adjoining west end is not included.

Listing NGR: NY6093829701

National Grid Reference: NY 60938 29701

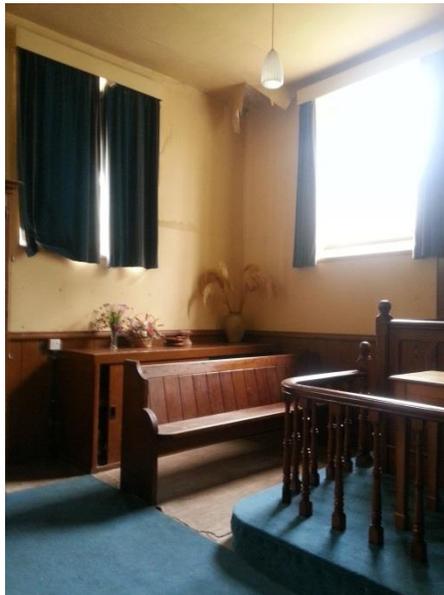


Side elevation on Western side showing shed to be removed

Consideration of the significance of the listing is held primarily in the buildings small scale and simple construction being the epitome of Methodist architecture. As observed by R.W Brunskill in his book, "Traditional Buildings of Cumbria" many of these "very modest buildings" are now disused, and in "recent years attendance has declined and many have closed, some have been demolished, but others converted to domestic use, perhaps with little alteration to the external appearance but inevitably with loss of internal arrangements."

This is one such building that needs to either be found a viable use to retain it as a living building, or fall into eventual decline. The weight of evidence for the listing surrounds the external fabric, which is undergoing minimal intervention, the internal arrangements must be compromised to define a new sustainable future.

When considering the extent of the fabric that holds interest, as can be seen from the above listing description the asset lies in the external appearance only. The internal fittings of the building are for disposal by means of private sale, being in the main loose fittings. The pulpit is a relatively simple unadorned structure that will require dismantling.



internal aspect of the proposal with high level windows

In consideration of the level of importance of the interest in the listing of this building, the inescapable conclusion is that the asset is a relatively common, plain simple building nestled discretely off the main highway. It is of intrinsic interest in and of itself, but is not of any larger significance locally, regionally or nationally.

Numerous other examples of similarly treated buildings exist, for example in the adjoining village of Langwathby. The relatively small scale of the building is of some interest and significance. As an example of non-conformist ecclesiastical architecture it has its own merit, this fact and the diminutive scale of the building is being respected in the proposals developed.

The works primarily encompass internal alterations and seek to exploit the volumetric capacity of the interior and as such are not impinging in any way on the essential nature of the listing criteria established. The internal alterations proposed seek to provide modern levels of amenity and sanitary privacy, which nonetheless seek to respect the built volume whilst making the intelligent and contemporaneous use of

modern building materials and techniques to form the gallery space. In this way there will remain a clearly defined break between the old and the new.

Externally a new stone faced shed for storage is proposed to replace the unlisted C20 addition, a rather ugly lean-to which is proposed for removal.

On the North roofslope there is a proposal to insert three linked conservation rooflights into the roofline so as to provide top lighting to the staircase reaching the living space in the upper level, and provide a discrete view north over open fields. This will not be normally visible.

- The statement will describe the asset, and in more detail, any particular part or aspect of it which the proposal will impact upon. The importance of the asset will also need to be evaluated and defined.
- The proposed works or development should be listed item by item, or in terms of which aspects of the heritage asset(s) are individually affected.
- The impact of the proposal on the heritage asset – positive or negative, should be described and evaluated. The more significant the heritage asset and the more substantial the extent of works, will need to be reflected in more thorough evaluation and robust justification.



Gable elevation showing change in level surrounding the chapel, and invasive self-seeded trees

Lee Page,
Space Designed Solutions Ltd
7th February 2014