



The restoration of an historic grade II* listed Chapel
at Langley Court Beckenham



The Chapel, Langley Court

The Grade II* Listed Chapel probably dates from the 18th century and was acquired by Morgan Restoration as one of the retained historic buildings of the former Glaxo Wellcome site at Langley Court. Whilst the most important historic building on the site its future use was not determined as part of the main planning consent for the re-use of the rest of the site.

For many years the Chapel has been used as the Estate Managers office with the rear part being used effectively as the gardener's shed. Following discussion with the conservation team in Bromley, Morgan Restoration submitted an application to convert the property into a residential unit, which was quickly approved by the local authority.

Having been awarded the Sevenoaks Design Award for Conservation in 1997 for the conversion to residential of a group of four individually listed grade II* farm buildings near Farningham, including one unit that was thatched, Morgan Restoration were ideally placed for the conversion of this important timber framed building.

The work was a little unusual in that after consultation it was decided that the whole of the interior should remain so the work was carried out from the outside in to bring the property up to current day building regulations.



THE CHAPEL, FORMERLEY THE OLD SUMMER HOUSE



THE CHAPEL BEFORE RESTORATION



THE CHAPEL AFTER RESTORATION



13 SEPTEMBER 1999



28 SEPTEMBER 1999



11 AUGUST 1999



11 AUGUST 1999



11 AUGUST 1999



28 SEPTEMBER 1999



27 AUGUST 1999



13 SEPTEMBER 1999



Work in progress

The building was stripped of its roof covering and external walls, a physical damp proof course was inserted and new brickwork underneath the sole plates. A new concrete floor with integral damp proof membrane was inserted along with floor insulation to allow for the provision of under-floor heating to avoid the need for any radiators inside. The whole timber frame was sprayed to prevent rot and beetle attack and new insulation was inserted. The building was then ply sheathed to ensure structural stability, the necessary weather-proofing membranes were then installed and the building was re-clad and re-thatched.

To the rear the gardeners shed was re-built and now incorporates the bedroom, utility room and bathroom. A lead clad dormer was inserted to the rear to allow for sufficient head height to allow access via the staircase to the gallery that now overlooks the main living area and gives access to the clock mechanism. Windows were sourced for this rear elevation to closely match the originals to the front elevation.

This redundant building is now fully restored to meet modern day building regulations for its new residential occupiers and the future of this important building is now assured.















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