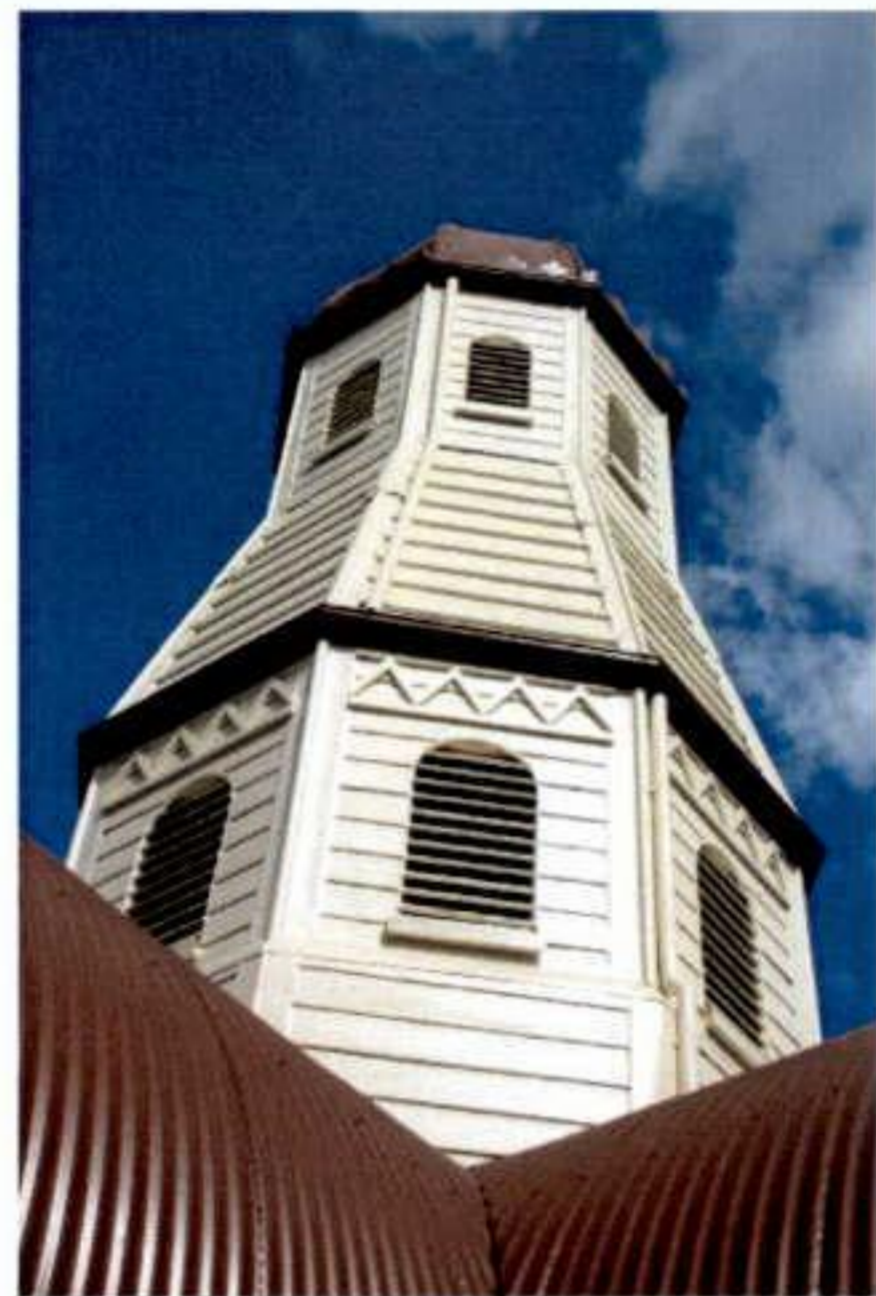


MORTUARY CHAPEL, MARYBOROUGH CEMETERY CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN



CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

MORTUARY CHAPEL
MARYBOROUGH CEMETERY
WALKER STREET
MARYBOROUGH

Prepared for Fraser Coast Regional Council
Funded by the Queensland Heritage Grant Program
December 2010

Final report

Job no: 0751

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*Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough Cemetery - Conservation Management Plan
(Final report December 2010)*

Quality Control

Checked and approved for issue :

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1.0 Executive Summary

This report was funded by a grant from the Qld Heritage Grant Program, “Living Buildings and Places” administered by the Qld Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM). It was commissioned by the Fraser Coast Regional Council to guide the future management and conservation of the Maryborough Mortuary Chapel.

The Chapel was erected in 1883 within the grounds of the Maryborough Cemetery (established on this site in 1873) to provide shelter for mourners. The whole cemetery site (the 1873 portion to the south of Walker Street and the lawn cemetery to the north) is listed in the State Heritage Register but it is the Mortuary Chapel which is the major focus of this report. The Chapel was designed by architect Willoughby Powell, whose work in the regional towns of south-east Qld (including Maryborough) was significant. The Mortuary Chapel is an important and highly idiosyncratic element within the formal gridded pattern of the 19th century cemetery landscape. Although drawing on the traditions of cemetery architecture, the timber chapel would also appear to be a highly unusual if not unique interpretation of it.

Generally the Chapel has been well maintained although given that in many ways it is more like a large ornament or object in the landscape rather than a small building, particular care needs to be taken in replacing new elements so as to match the detail of the original and retain the integrity of the Chapel. The Schedule of Priority Works (Chapter 6) identifies several items for attention in particular drainage issues and also recommends that advice be sought from a heritage engineer as to tie-down requirements.

Although the report considers the 1873 section of the cemetery in terms of providing the setting for the Mortuary Chapel, further research does need to be undertaken to more fully understand the significance of the cemetery, its landscape and its monuments.

Recommendations:

1. That this report be accepted and its recommendations adopted by Council including the following;
2. The Schedule of Priority Works be timetabled for action;
3. A search be undertaken for records associated with the management of the Maryborough Cemetery including the preparation of an inventory of all surviving records; the digitising of relevant material to be considered as a means of preserving the material as well as making it more accessible and a search for further records;
4. A Conservation Management Plan be completed for the Maryborough Cemetery as a whole;
5. Further research be undertaken to identify architect Willoughby Powell’s other Maryborough works;
6. The Entry in the State Heritage Register be revised including adding information related to the Maryborough Cemetery.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 MORTUARY CHAPEL, MARYBOROUGH CEMETERY

The Mortuary Chapel at the Maryborough Cemetery was constructed in 1883-4 to provide shelter for mourners attending graveside services; its design by Queensland architect Willoughby Powell is quite idiosyncratic. It combines both a pragmatic purpose (the four transepts are wide enough to accommodate both the funeral cortege and the attendant mourners) with architectural pretensions (its location at the intersection of the main entrance roadway with a crossroad combined with its height makes the chapel an important focal point within the flat and gridded cemetery landscape). The chapel is considered extremely unusual, if not unique, and these qualities associated with its status as a late nineteenth century timber folly have seen it entered in the State Heritage Register, the Register of the National Estate, the Register of the National Trust of Queensland as well as locally listed.¹

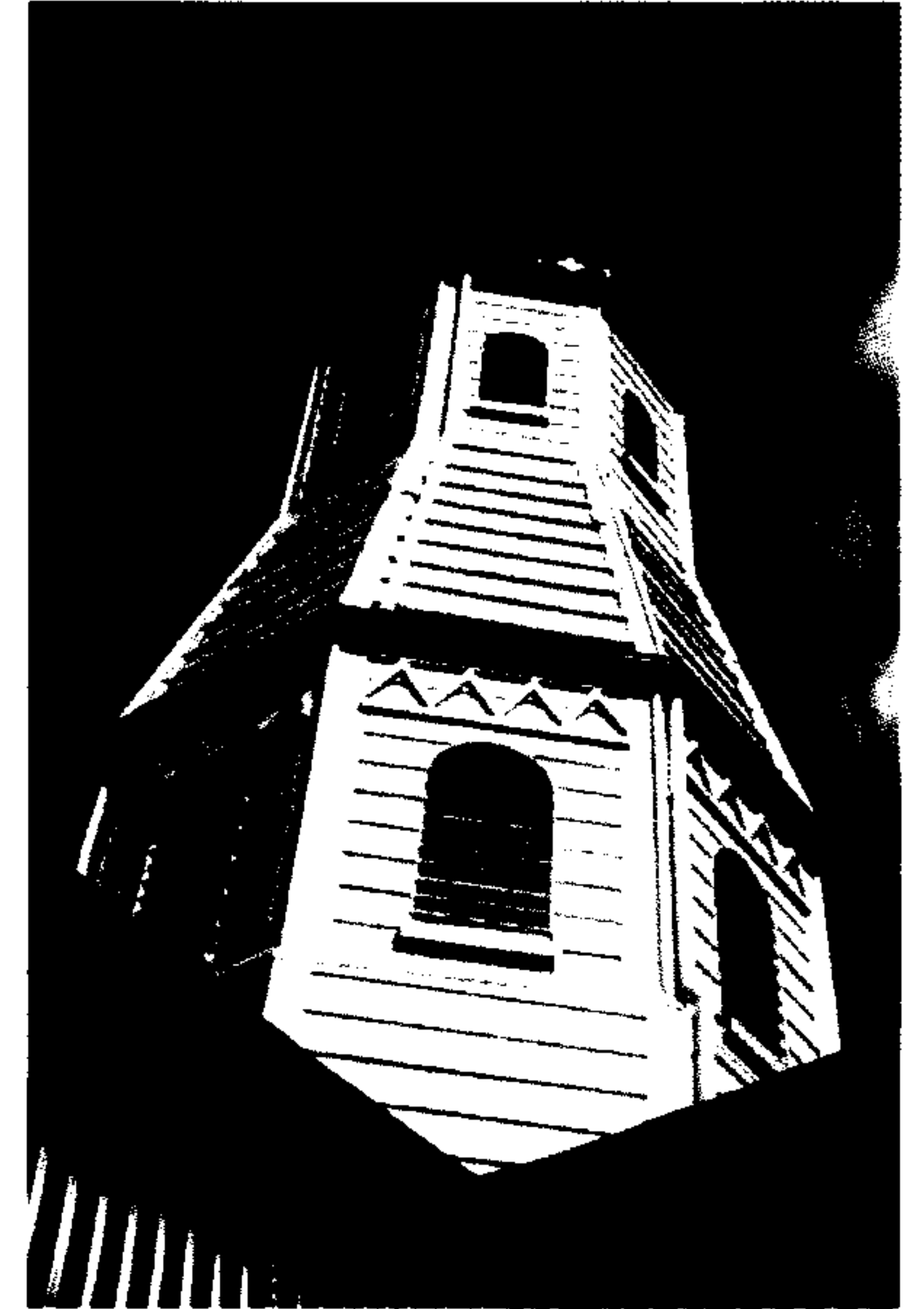
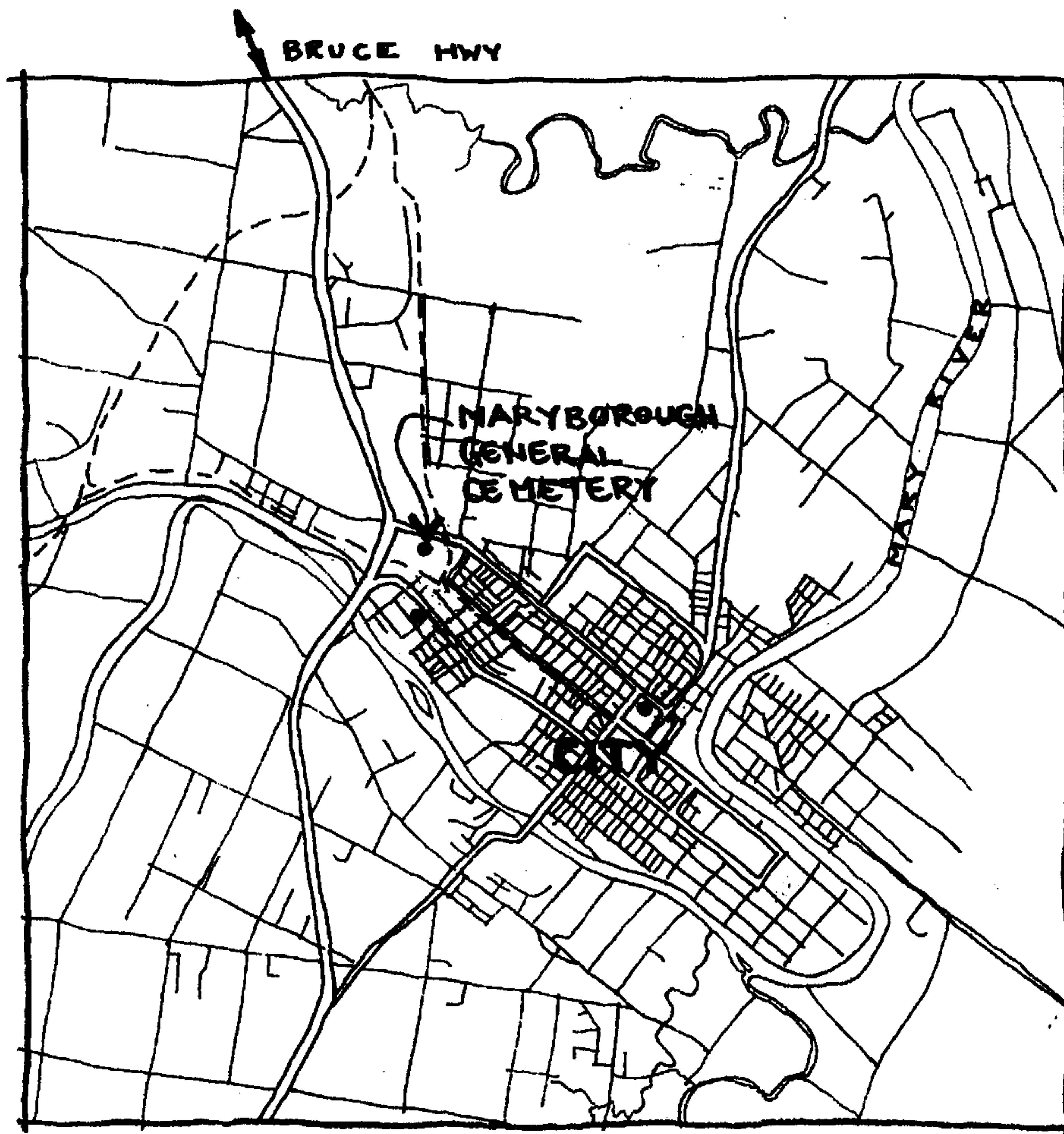


Figure 1. Mortuary Chapel – view of fleche. (2008)

Figure 2. The Mortuary Chapel is located within the Maryborough Cemetery located to the north of Maryborough's CBD – at the intersection of Walker Street, Kent Street and the Bruce Highway.

2.2 THE REPORT

This study was commissioned by the Maryborough City Council now part of the Fraser Coast Regional Council. It was prepared by Riddel Architecture and written by Susan Hill, Robert Riddel, Ronan Moss and Rose Kubatov; drawings by Ronan Moss and Rose Kubatov. The report was funded by a grant from the Queensland

¹ Entry in the Qld Heritage Register (QHR #600689; reproduced in Appendix 9.1); Australian Heritage Commission Place ID 008773, file no. 4/02/111/0013; National Trust of Qld (MARY 1/027)

The report was prepared in accordance with the *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of places of Cultural Heritage Significance* (the 'Burra Charter') and *The Conservation Plan: a guide to the preparation of conservation plans for places of European Cultural Significance*.³ It also took note of the guidelines provided by the DERM (part of the Schedule to the agreement between the Council and DERM).

The report includes an overview of the history (chapter 3). Some of this material has been previously in the Entry in the Heritage Register, however new material has been added primarily based on reports from the *Maryborough Chronicle* collected by the Maryborough District Family History Society and the Maryborough Wide Bay and Burnett Historical Society Inc and also a short history of Maryborough's cemeteries.⁴ A copy of the Maryborough City Council application and report related to a 1982 grant application has also provided a very useful record of the chapel at this time (including a number of photographs before and after the work was undertaken). Chapter 4 considers the physical evidence of the place itself; chapter 5 considers the significance of the place including updating the significance identified in the Entry in the Heritage Register. This chapter also includes a schedule of items of significance. Chapter 6 considers the condition of the fabric of the Mortuary Chapel in broad terms and includes a schedule of priority work (as required by the DERM guidelines). Chapter 7 contains the conservation policies and guidelines developed in the light of the identified significance of the place, the requirements of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* as well as the particular issues related to the Mortuary Chapel. The references are contained in chapter 8 and the appendices in chapter 9.

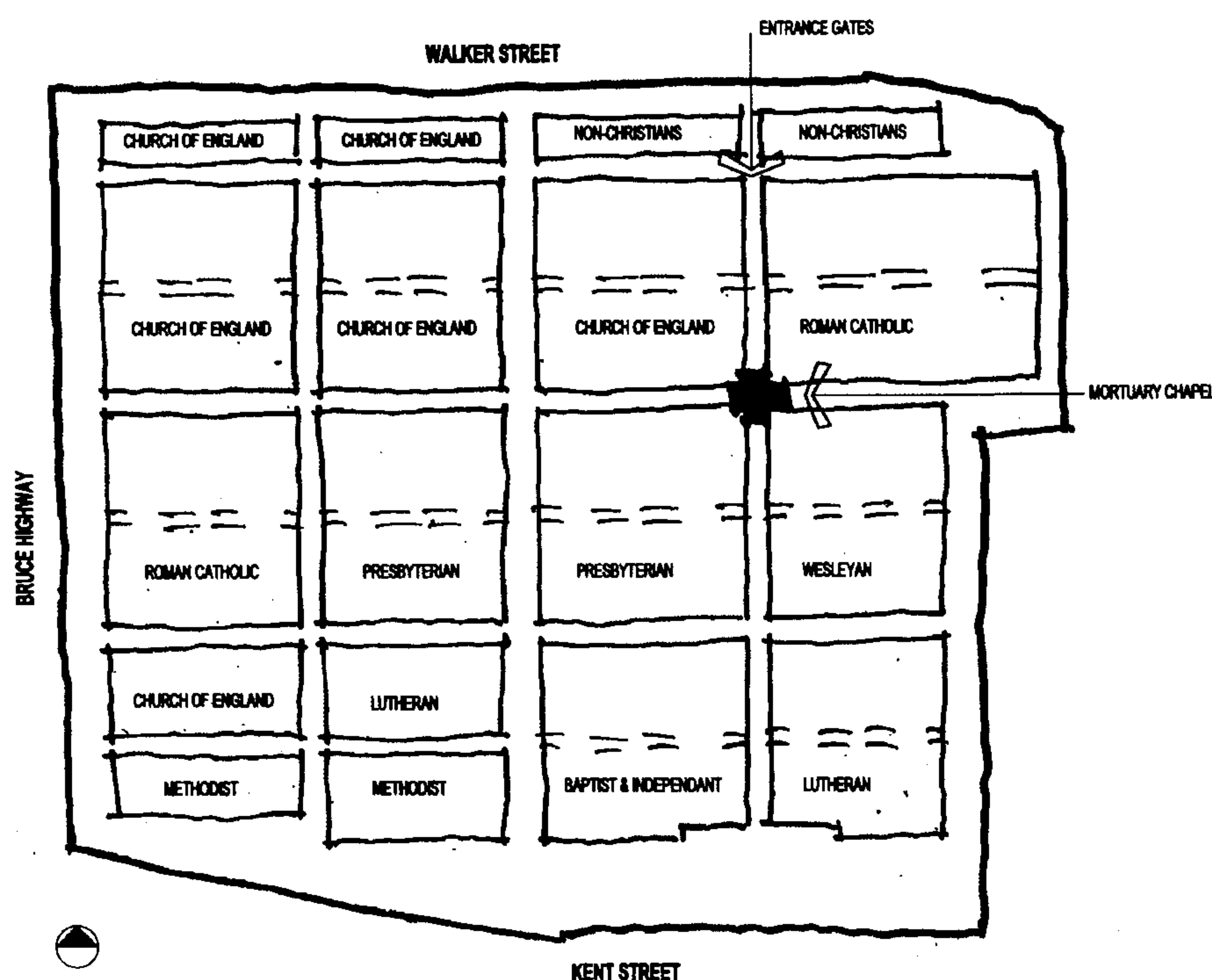


Figure 4. Site plan for the 1873 portion of the Maryborough Cemetery on the southern side of Walker Street. This section of the cemetery is laid out in a grid pattern and arranged by Christian denomination with small sections reserved for the non-Christian burials. Note the entrance gates from Walker Street leading up towards the mortuary chapel marked in red. (Based on plan held by cemetery)

³ *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of places of Cultural Heritage Significance* (the 'Burra Charter'; see www.aicomos.com.au); James Semple Kerr, *The Conservation Plan: a guide to the preparation of conservation plans for the places of European cultural significance*. 5th edition. Sydney: National Trust of Australia (NSW), 2000.

⁴ NE Buettel, "A Brief History of Maryborough Cemeteries." Unpublished manuscript dated 25 February 1985; refer also Section 2.3 – a note on cemetery records.

2.3 A NOTE ON THE CEMETERY RECORDS

The original records of the Cemetery Trust are believed to have been lost, however the Trust's proceedings were recorded in the *Maryborough Chronicle*. Some of those reports have been catalogued by the Maryborough District Family History Society and Maryborough Wide Bay and Burnett Historical Society Inc and were made available for use in this report. More recently however it has been discovered that the work of the Cemetery Trust can also be traced through Council meeting and correspondence records (held in Maryborough). Complete records of burials are held in the Burial Registers held at the Maryborough Cemetery and in the Maryborough Strongroom although these were not referred to in preparing this report. It is to be hoped that further material will become available over time related to both the Mortuary Chapel and the Maryborough Cemetery. (Refer also Policy 27)

2.4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Fraser Coast Regional Council (in particular to Toni Souvlis, Alison Beasley and Allan Feldman); the Maryborough District Family History Society and the Maryborough Wide Bay and Burnett Historical Society Inc for generous access to material held on the Mortuary Chapel and Maryborough Cemetery in particular early newspaper reports from the *Maryborough Chronicle*; Cultural Heritage Branch of the Department of Environment for access to the material held on the site file; John Oxley Library and Picture Australia for photos.

2.5 ABBREVIATIONS

DERM	Qld Department of Environment and Resource Management (formerly the Environmental Protection Agency)
JOL	John Oxley Library
MC	<i>Maryborough Chronicle</i>
MDFHS	Maryborough District Family History Society
MWB&BHS	Maryborough Wide Bay and Burnett Historical Society Inc
QHR	Queensland Heritage Register

3.0 Historical overview

3.1 A NOTE ON CEMETERIES AND MORTUARY CHAPELS

During the eighteenth and nineteenth century, there was considerable change in European cemetery practices with cemeteries established separately from churches and being located further from town for reasons of hygiene and health. Cemeteries such as Père Lachaise in Paris (1804) were very influential. In Great Britain a number of cemeteries were established by private companies. The planning of cemeteries became important. In Britain by the end of the 19th century the grid plan predominated although cemeteries located on sloping ground were often planned with rambling walks, those on flat ground tended to be much more symmetrical.⁵ In broad terms, these were the traditions which were drawn upon in colonial Australia when makeshift graveyards were replaced by more planned arrangements. In Queensland the *Cemetery Act 1865* provided for the establishment of general cemeteries under the control of local trustees – the model that would be used at Maryborough when establishing the Maryborough General Cemetery in which the Mortuary Chapel is located.

There is also a long history of funerary architecture. In the case of a ‘mortuary chapel’ the most common use of this term as defined in the *Oxford Dictionary of Architecture* is a chapel attached to a church. The second definition refers to a “chapel in a cemetery, or attached to a building where coffined bodies briefly lie before disposal”.⁶ It is this second definition that is most appropriate to the Maryborough Mortuary Chapel in that the building was apparently intended to provide shelter to funeral parties and the cortege.

3.2 MARYBOROUGH’S EARLY CEMETERIES

The Maryborough Cemetery is actually the third cemetery established in the town. The first Maryborough cemetery was established as part of the original Maryborough township occupied between 1848 and 1855 to the north-west of the current city centre. The cemetery was located on high ground behind the old township. The remnant ‘pioneer graves’ form part of the State Heritage listing of the old town site, which is now a tourist attraction.⁷

⁵ JC Loudon, *On the Laying Out, Planting, and Managing of Cemeteries and on the Improvement of Churchyards*. London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans 1843.

⁶ “Mortuary Chapel” is defined in the *Oxford Dictionary of Architecture* as:

1. Chapel, free-standing or attached to a church, under which is a sepulchre or tomb, often built and used for interment by one family.
2. Chapel in a cemetery, or attached to a building (eg a hospital), where coffined bodies briefly lie before disposal.

(James Stevens Curl, *A Dictionary of Architecture and Landscape Architecture*. 2nd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006, p506)

⁷ QHR #602393. The cemetery is located near what is now the intersection of Alice and Aldridge Streets. According to the Entry:

The extent of the cemetery is not known but the grass-covered park on the northwestern side of Aldridge Street contains the marked graves of George Furber and Joseph Wilmshurst. The park contains at least one other identified grave, now marked only by a headstone plinth. Numerous other depressions in the ground are suggestive of several unmarked graves. Two more marked graves are located on the opposite side of Aldridge Street.

Other physical indications of the original townsite include sawpits, stone building foundations, bridge remnants and archaeological material.

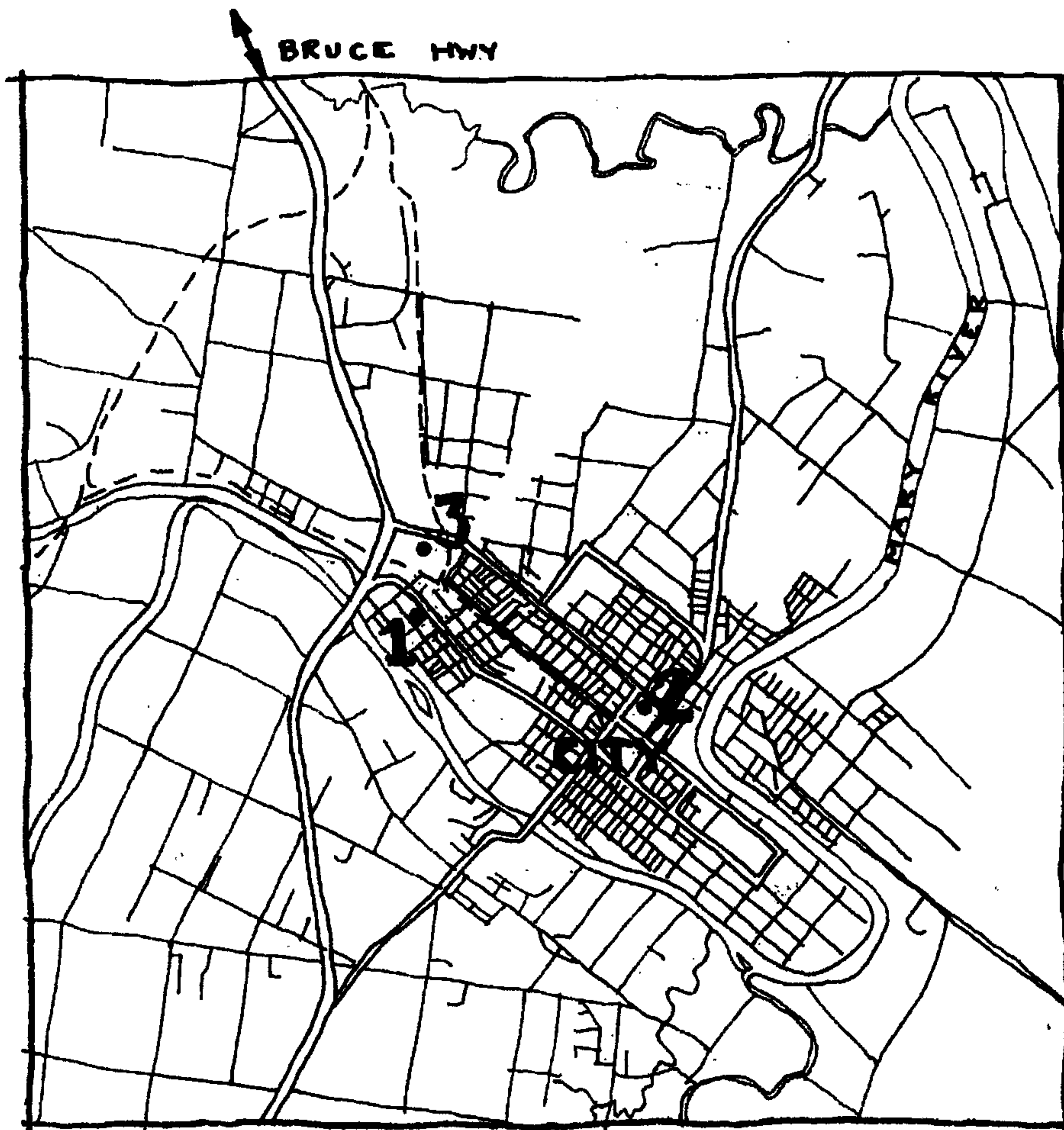


Figure 5. Maryborough's first cemetery was established at the site of the original Maryborough township (marked 1). Following the relocation of the town a new cemetery was established (now Elizabeth Park marked 2). The Mortuary Chapel is located within the grounds of the third cemetery (marked 3) which was a larger site further from the CBD.

Following the relocation of the Maryborough township in the 1850s, the original cemetery became inconvenient and the second cemetery was established within the bounds of the 'new' town in Kent Street. By the 1860s the cemetery location in was being described as unsuitable with a motion moved in the Council:

That in consequence of the close proximity of the present graveyard to the town, and the injurious effects likely to arise therefrom, it is desirable that a site should be selected in a more suitable location. The present site was on a rocky ridge and a very unpleasant odour arose in hot weather.

Motion supported by another Councillor who noted that the "they should imitate the practice now being adopted in England of removing cemeteries out of town".⁸

As the town developed the cemetery was surrounded by cottages and an alternative cemetery site was again sought somewhat further from the town centre. The last burial was held at the cemetery in 1873. In 1907 the Trustees of the Cemetery announced that any person who had friends or relatives in the old cemetery in Kent Street and desired to remove headstones, railings etc for re-erection in the General Cemetery, would be given a plot of ground free of charge. In 1921, the old cemetery was handed over to the Council on condition that it became a park. It is now known as Elizabeth Park.⁹

⁸ MC 4 July 1861 (MWBBHS)

⁹ It is not known when the Kent Street cemetery was opened. According to "A Brief History of Maryborough Cemeteries" (Buettel), it was registered in 1871 however it seems this date refers to the formal establishment of the third cemetery. Part of the confusion may arise in both cemeteries being located on Kent Street, although the third and current cemetery is now more usually described as on Walker Street. The last burial was held at the second cemetery in 1873; according to Buettel this was in October however an advertisement placed in the *Chronicle* advises of the final closing of the cemetery on 7 June 1873. (MC 9 June 1873)

3.3 THE MARYBOROUGH GENERAL CEMETERY

A “cheerful and well kept garden”

Maryborough’s third cemetery was not opened until 1873 however the site appears to have been under consideration since the 1860s. In 1863 the Maryborough Council wrote to the State Lands Department requesting that 100 acres “near the Gayndah Road ... about two miles from the Court House” (some of which had not yet apparently been surveyed) be placed at their disposal for the purpose of establishing a cemetery.¹⁰ The *Maryborough Chronicle* described the new site which was apparently considered to balance the qualities of both sufficient proximity and also distance from the town as well as good drainage and suitable soil:

*The spot is beautifully situated, embracing as it does both sides of the hill and having a regular fall north and south, while the soils have been proved under inspection by Town Surveyor etc ... The distance being about 2½miles from the Court house ... One of the great problems of the present cemetery was that they could not go deep enough ...*¹¹

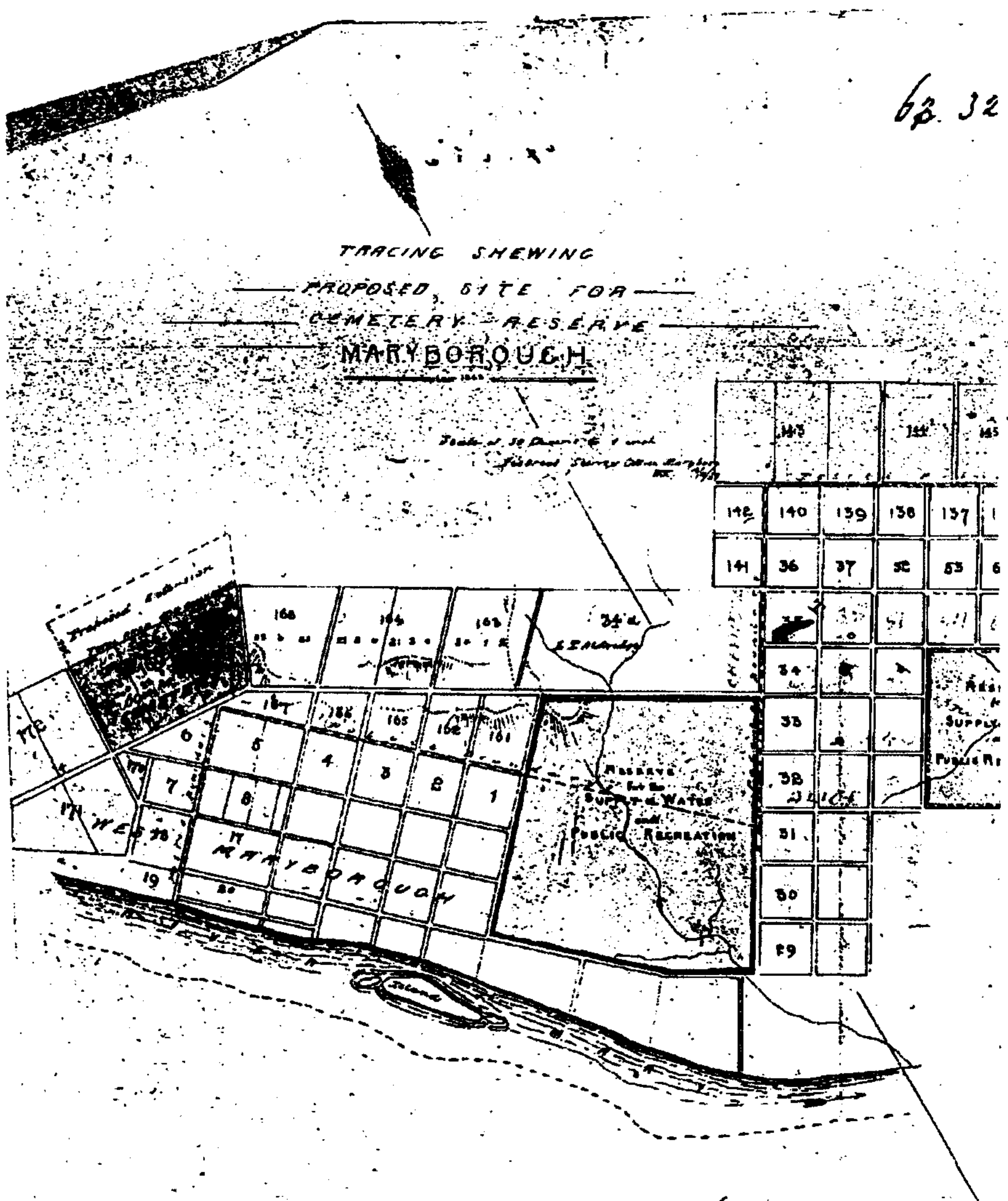


Figure 6. Plan of proposed cemetery site submitted with letter from Maryborough Council 12 October 1863 to the Lands Department requesting that the site be available for cemetery purposes. Not until 1871 however was the site actually acquired. The site was described as being on the northern side of Kent Street some 2½ miles from the Court House. At this time Walker Street has not been apparently been surveyed. (MDFHS Collection)

¹⁰ MC 9 June 1873

¹¹ MC 12 October 1863 (MDFHS)

There was apparently some delay as the site was not acquired until 1871.¹² The first burial at the new cemetery is recorded on 2 June 1873 (of a young girl, Ada Purser, whose father John had been one of the chief advocates of the new cemetery). A report in the *Maryborough Chronicle* in 1875 gives a description of the cemetery just two years after its opening. By that time there had already been some 500 burials. The cemetery itself was enclosed by a “sightly and substantial fence” with hedge plants along the fence line. The entrance was by “an ornamental gate” inside which was a sexton’s cottage.¹³ The cemetery was laid out in a grid pattern with a “straight broad and neatly graveled path” dividing the “whole reserve longitudinally into two equal parts” and was “flanked on either side by a plantation of different varieties of shade trees, including all those which are proved to be most effective in our climate”. Not all landscaping was apparently completed with spaces left at “regular distances ... for cross-walks to run at right angles to the principal one”. Overall it reportedly gave the impression of a “cheerful and well kept garden”:

*We find, on application to the Secretary of the Cemetery Board that the total number of burials in the new Cemetery, from its first use in 1873 to the end of last month has been 505. This number sufficiently proves the necessity that existed for closing the old cemetery, near the 90 acre reserve, and proclaiming one at a greater, though perhaps inconvenient distance from the town. We may here mention that we had occasion, a few days ago to be out in that direction, and that we took the opportunity of inspecting the condition of the new resting place for our dead. It is such as to reflect the highest credit on the gentlemen who have charge of it. The whole is surrounded by a sightly and substantial fence, along part of which various hedge plants have been set, which, on growing up will do much to mitigate the somewhat desolate appearance of the reserve. The entrance is by an ornamental gate, inside which is the sexton’s cottage, which with its pretty flower beds and homelike aspect strongly resembles a park-keeper’s lodge in some rural county of old England. A straight broad and neatly graveled path divides the whole reserve longitudinally into two equal parts, and is flanked on either side by a plantation of different varieties of shade trees, including all those which are proved to be most effective in our climate. At regular distances space has been left for cross-walks to run at right angles to the principal one, and flanking the several alphabetical divisions into which the reserve is parceled out. The graves are all neatly aligned, and owing, probably to the paucity of monuments, there is an entire absence of that gloomy grotesqueness that fancy is wont to associate with the forest of tombstones, urns, broken columns, crosses and other emblems of mortality which are wont to throng older cemeteries. Altogether, the place conveys the impression rather of a cheerful and well kept garden, somewhat new and crude indeed in its surroundings, but giving promise of abundant beauties as the years roll on and tree life flourishes in maturer and more vigorous growth over the last homes of the “silent majority”.*¹⁴

Just three years later lack of maintenance due to lack of funds was already an issue. In January 1876 it was reported that the annual grant to the Cemetery Trust from the Queensland government had been refused but later that year £100 had been reinstated to be spent on “the extensive improvements now in progress ... reclaiming our lonely ‘city of the dead’ from utter wilderness and disorder, to a condition more in harmony with its solemn purpose”.¹⁵ By August 1876, things appeared to be improving with more clearing completed, the cutting of a water-race

¹² *Maryborough Chronicle* 1 February 1871

¹³ It appears from later descriptions that the main entrance was moved in 1883. It is not known where the original main entrance was located although it was apparently not located in Walker Street. Similarly nothing more is known on this first sexton’s cottage.

¹⁴ MC 26 October 1875 (MDFHS)

¹⁵ MC 15 January 1876 (MDFHS)

along the north-west boundary and the forming of walks. Further planting was also anticipated. Again the *Chronicle* gave a very descriptive report:

The improvements at the cemetery are still being carried on; the six additional laborers are still at work, and will be for another week. Clearing and grubbing have been completed; a water-race has been cut along the whole length of the NW sides and all the walks are being formed, by which a considerable amount of surface drainage will be obtained and space prepared for trees and flowers along the borders. These improvements will cost about £99. It will be seen by an advertisement in another column that the Trustees make an appeal to the public for donations of trees. Plants, &c to ornament the cemetery, and as the planting season is rapidly drawing to a close we would urge all who can help to do so quickly. The ornamentation of the cemetery is a subject of general interest, as all must love to associate thoughts of umbrageous and well-tended solitude with the "last home" where their friends or themselves are destined to repose. We are informed by the Secretary that the interments last month were only nine in number, while in the corresponding month of last year they reached twenty-two; of these nine, six were children, two of whom came to their deaths by accident – one being drowned and the other burned – and one was stillborn. Of the three adults, one was a South Sea Islander who died in the Hospital. The health of the town, therefore, could scarcely be in a more satisfactory condition.¹⁶

Building the Mortuary Chapel

In the early 1880s changes to the *Cemetery Act* enabled Cemetery Trustees to sell off part of the cemetery reserve to raise revenue for improvements. In March 1883 it was reported that the Maryborough Cemetery Trustees:

have in accordance with the Bill recently passed decided on immediate cutting up of vacant land belong to cemetery reserve for building sites ... it is probably that 16 allotments will be available to the public and as the land is in one of the best positions found in Maryborough it is pretty certain that when the sale takes place there will be a lively competition for possession."¹⁷

In May 1883, the local paper was calling for the erection of a mortuary chapel as both a shelter from the elements and an ornament to the cemetery:

The cemetery trustees are doubtless aware of the necessity which exists for a mortuary chapel in the cemetery grounds, and considering the extent of our population and the unfortunate frequency of visits to God's acre in all sorts of weather, it is time the idea found practical expression. The exposure to rain and other elements, which mourners occasionally have to submit to, is calculated to impair health, and we dare say more than one death could be traced to this cause. The erection of a chapel would obviate the discomfort and the building would be a fitting ornament to the ground, which we feel sure if the trustees moved in the matter they would command extensive pecuniary support amongst our citizens.¹⁸

In August it was further reported that the Trustees "can now make a chapel from proceeds of sale of old cemetery reserve, also a grant of 4 acres opposite the cemetery gate in Walker Street for visitors horses and buggies".¹⁹ Just one month

¹⁶ MC 5 August 1876 (MDFHS)

¹⁷ MC 21 March 1883 (MFDHS). The allotments are believed to have been on the eastern side of the cemetery site.

¹⁸ MC 31 May 1883 (MDFHS)

¹⁹ MC 27 August 1883 (MDFHS). The additional land across Walker Street now apparently forms part of the Lawn Cemetery on the northern side of Walker Street.

later architect Willoughby Powell called tenders on behalf of the Trustees of the Maryborough Cemetery for the erection of a "Mortuary Chapel and Sexton's cottage" in September 1883; to close 9 October 1883.²⁰ The building of the Mortuary Chapel appears to have involved some re-planning of the cemetery as in October 1883 it was reported that the Trustees intended to make Walker Street the main entrance and had requested the Council that the street be made passable.²¹ This may well have been in response to the siting of the chapel, not along the original main axis as might have been expected, but rather on a secondary intersection. The reason for this is not recorded but it did have the advantage of sitting in the centre of the four major Christian denominations which in practical terms were also likely to be the most populated and most used sections of the cemetery.

The successful contractor for the new mortuary chapel was Clement & Son. The tender of £534 included the erection of the chapel (somewhat prosaically described local paper as the "erection of a covered structure under which a burial service can be read") and also for a Sexton's cottage.²² By November work had started:

*The cemetery authorities have already commenced the erection of a mortuary chapel on their sacred domain. It will be seen by visitors that this much needed structure will be placed over the main avenue in the centre of the grounds. Some of the material is at the site, and the foundations are opened, so that before the severely hot weather arrives, the building will be ready to shelter mourners from a blazing sun during the customary solemnities at the grave yard. The excellent management of the trustees of our cemetery is shown in the garden like beauty and grandly kept walks in God's acre.*²³

The Mortuary Chapel commissioned by the Trustees of the Maryborough Cemetery was a highly idiosyncratic structure. It was an intricate single storey timber framed structure, cruciform in plan (two intersecting barrel vaults creating four transepts) with a domed tower (known as a fleche) at the centre. The tall rocket form of the fleche stood as a highly unusual folly in the generally flat cemetery grounds. The Chapel straddled the intersection of two internal cemetery roadways. Arched openings of the transepts were large enough for a hearse and mourners to move inside the building.²⁴ Each transept in elevation was treated similarly, although there is a slight differentiation between the north/south and east/west elevations, therefore greeting all orientations of approach, from each denomination, apparently equally. Timber fascias on the barrel vaulted, semi-circular arched openings and a horizontal band on the fleche were decorated with repetitive Gothic patterning and carving. Walls were generally clad in chamferboards.²⁵

²⁰ MC 29 Sept 1883. The sexton's cottage is no longer located on the site. At this stage, nothing further is known of it.

²¹ MC 10 October 1883? Nothing more is known of this re-planning however further research may uncover more of the original planning of the cemetery and the 1883 changes.

²² MC 10 October 1883 (MWBBHS).

²³ MC 23 November 1883 (MWBBHS)

²⁴ Funeral services have also apparently "traditionally been held in the Chapel when inclement weather has made graveside committal services inconvenient, and other funerals at which mourners have preferred not to witness interment". Along the walls of the structure are low timber benches. According to a 2001 article, the seating was built close to the ground as only children were allowed to sit down during burial services (MC? 6 October 2001) however it is not known if the seating was in fact original or installed later possibly as a device to hide any shortening of the screen behind potentially caused by water damage.

²⁵ Weatherboards may also have been used on some parts – possibly the sloping surfaces of the fleche and below the window sills on the main walls.

3.4 THE CHAPEL'S ARCHITECT²⁶

Willoughby Powell (c1848-1920) was a young English born architect who migrated to Queensland in the early 1870s. He first worked with Brisbane architect Richard Gailey before joining the Queensland Public Works Department in 1874. Following his win in a design competition for the Toowoomba Grammar School, Powell established his own practice in Toowoomba in 1875. He later claimed to have erected "the majority of the principal buildings" there and in the surrounding district. Powell's Toowoomba work included several substantial houses (including *Gabbinbar* for Rev William Lambie Nelson, Toowoomba 1876, QHR #600840; two villas for Hon James Taylor c1876 as well as additions to Taylor's own home *Clifford House* c1877, QHR #600857) and homesteads (*Goomburra Station* for Edward Weinholt c1877, *Rosewood Station* for Kent and Weinholt c1877) as well as religious buildings (Jewish Synagogue, Toowoomba 1875-6; second St John's Church of England, Dalby 1876; Wesleyan Church, Toowoomba 1877, QHR #601695). In 1878 Powell rejoined the Works Department but soon after returned to England. In 1879 Powell was back in Queensland again working with Gailey.

Powell was only in Maryborough for a short time (April 1882-1884/5), however this coincided with a building boom during which he received a number of substantial commissions and "a range of work from industrial sheds to a mansion for the town's wealthiest resident [*Baddow House* for Edgar Thomas Aldridge; QHR #600690]. While practicing in Maryborough he seems to have also been a local draftsman for the Public Works Department." In addition to the Mortuary Chapel and sexton's cottage, Powell's other public work included the Grandstand and stables for Maryborough Turf Club (1884). His residential commissions (in addition to *Baddow House*) included *Riversleigh* for John Walker corner North and Elizabeth Streets (1882), *Philadelphia Villa* for Philip Heckscher corner Lennox and North Streets (1884), also possibly two timber house in North Street (see figures 9 & 10) and a parsonage, Lennox Street (1884). His commercial work included several hotels (Royal Exchange Hotel, corner Ellena and Adelaide Streets (1882-5); Tattersall's Hotel, Richmond Street (1884), Café Royal (later Federal) Hotel, Kent Street (1884)) as well as TT Woodrow and Son's grocery shop in Bazaar Street (1883) and a shed for Dalkeith Sawmills Co, Kent Street (1883), retort house and coal sheds for Maryborough Gas and Coke Co (1883).

In 1885, Powell returned to Brisbane where he maintained his practice until 1889, after which he was employed variously by Gailey and Works Department although there were also substantial periods of unemployment. Powell died of old age on 16 April 1920, by which time "his considerable architectural career had been forgotten". This has been somewhat remedied by the work of Watson and McKay with their research on Powell revealing his architectural career was indeed considerable including Powell's remarkable success in architectural competitions which resulted in several substantial works. In addition to Toowoomba Grammar School (1875; QHR #600850), Powell was placed second in the competition for the Warwick Town Hall, however it was his design that was ultimately built (1885-8; QHR #600961); he won the competition for the new Presbyterian Church, Wickham Terrace, Brisbane (1886-7; alterations 1889; demolished) and for the new (third) Town Hall in Toowoomba (1899-1900; QHR #600865)



Figures 7-11. Willoughby Powell in Maryborough. (from top) *Baddow House* for ET Aldridge and 3 timber houses in North Street and (below) Store for Woodrow & Son, Bazaar Street (1883). (JOL, Watson McKay, RA)



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Apart from Burial Registers, no original records have been located related to the Mortuary Chapel or the cemetery. As a result there is a gap in their known history. Further records may well come to light however two photos have been located – one an early image (currently un-sourced, undated and of very poor quality but nevertheless a valuable part of the record). It shows the chapel set amongst a number of plantings (including pines and palm trees - no longer extant) and also what appears to be a weather vane or other decorative element atop the fleche.²⁷ Although very grainy the photo also shows the contrasting colour scheme employed at the chapel.



Figure 12. View of the chapel believed to date from c1900 apparently published in a newspaper or other publication. To date the image is un-sourced and not authoritatively dated however from the maturity of the trees and costume of the people photographed it is believed to be from c1900. Note what appears to be a weather vane or decorative element at the top of the fleche. (Copy held Fraser Coast Regional Council)

²⁷ Thanks to Allan Feldman of the Fraser Coast Regional Council for locating and passing on this image.

An aerial photograph held at the Cemetery believed to date from c1950 has also been located.²⁸ The c1950 aerial photo shows the whole of the 1873 cemetery. By this time although a number of trees are visible (around the perimeter and along the internal roads), the trees shown close to the chapel in the earlier photo are no longer in existence.

In November 1923 the Cemetery Trustees handed over control to the Maryborough Council and in April 1959 approval was given to construct a new cemetery (the Maryborough Garden of Rest Lawn Cemetery) on the northern side of Walker Street. In 1973, a crematorium was erected on land excised from the cemetery reserve.²⁹

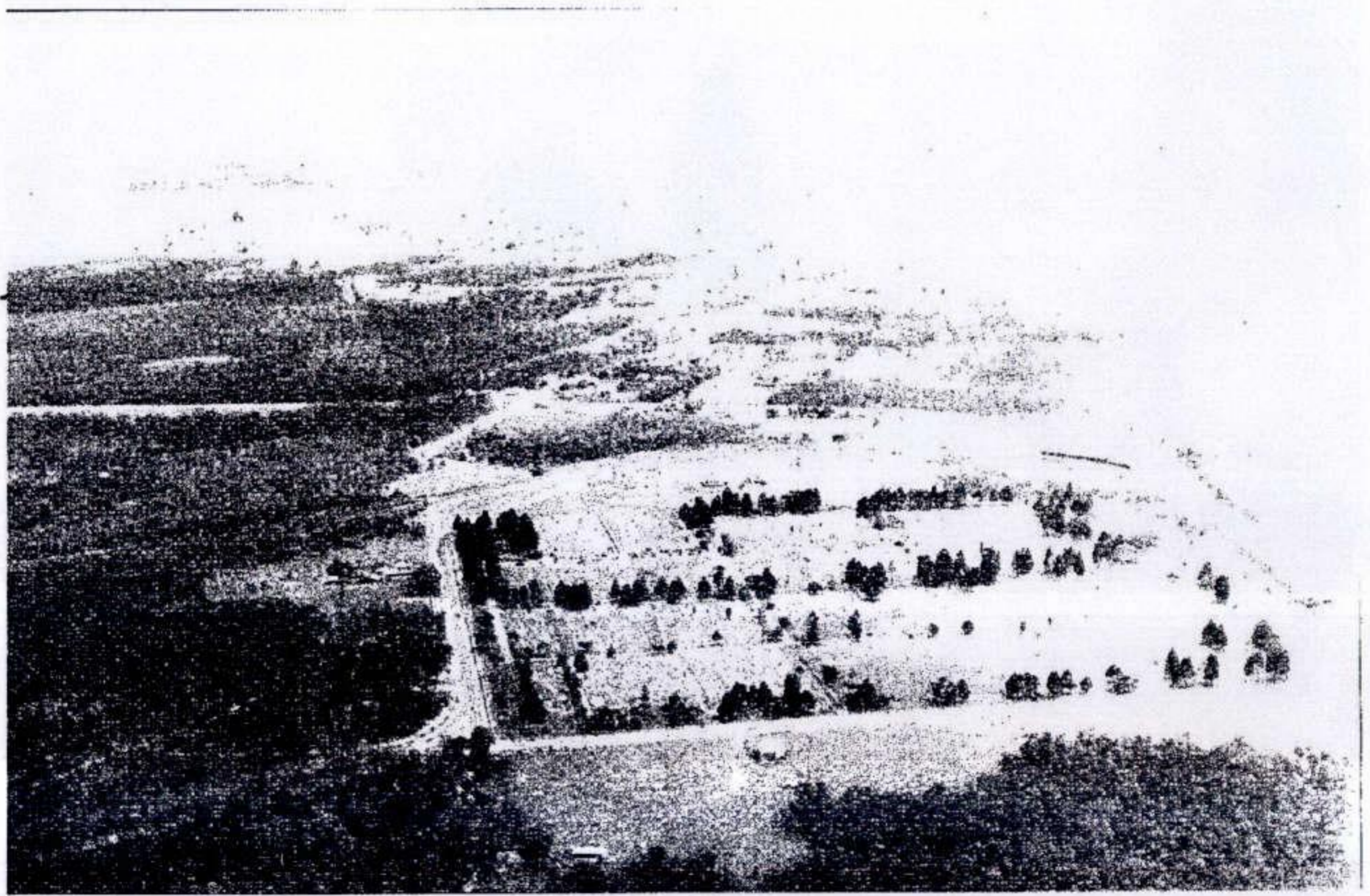


Figure 13. Aerial view of the chapel c1950.
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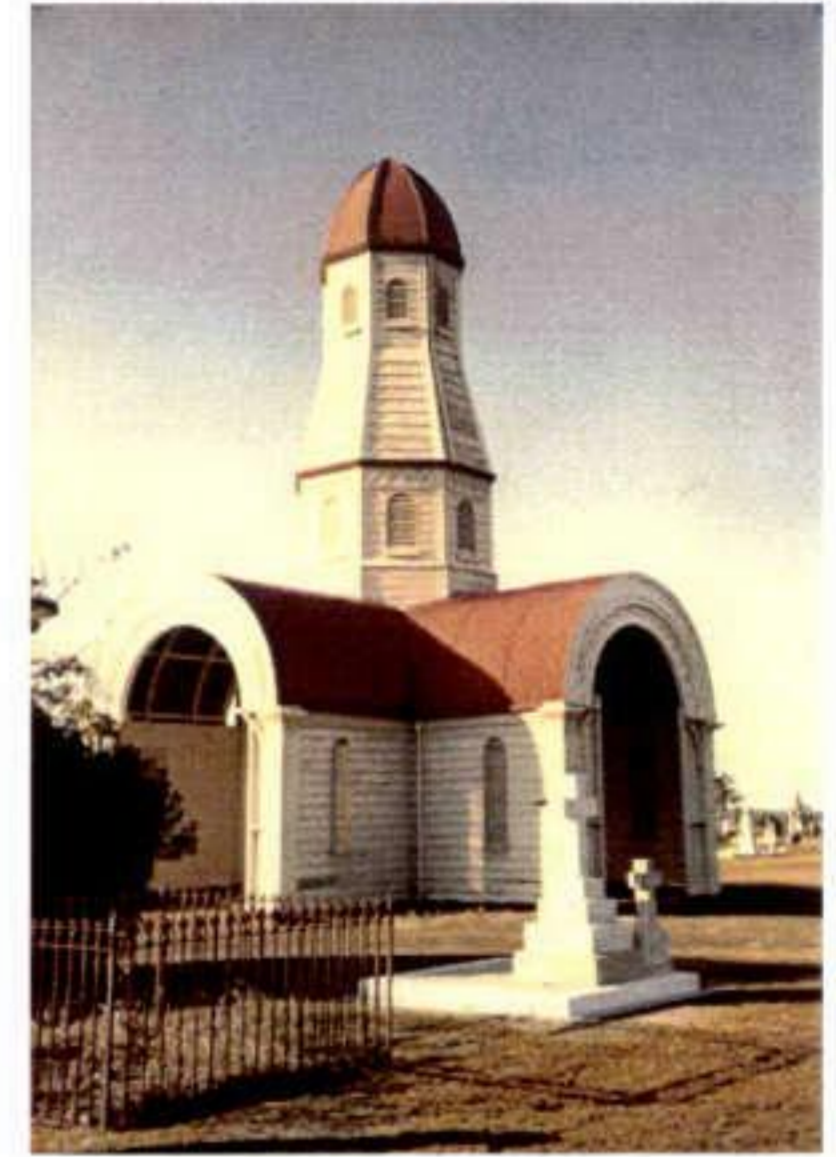
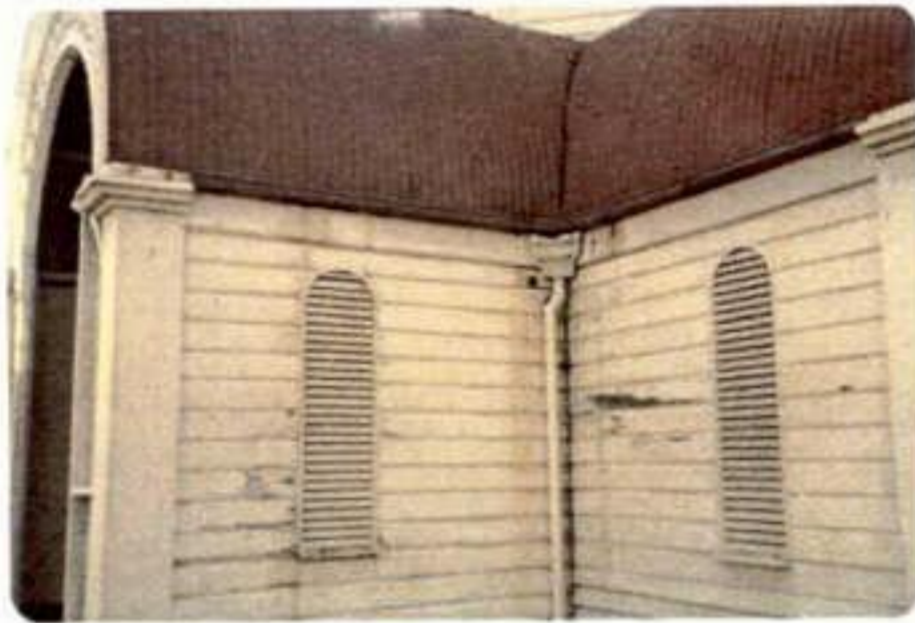
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3.6 THE CHAPEL IN 1982-3

Not until the 1980s is a better picture obtained. In 1983 (the Chapel's centenary year) the Maryborough City Council received a grant of \$15,000 under National Estate Programme to restore the Mortuary Chapel. The Council's funding application of 1982 provides a snapshot of the building at this time including several photos attesting to the poor condition of the Chapel:

The deteriorated roofing and non-functional drainage has allowed the elements access to the timber frame of the building. Water penetration has caused extensive deterioration of the frame, external cladding, and internal lining. Much of the louvre joinery and adornment is deteriorated. The tower's ceiling has fallen out, exposing its frame.³⁰

Structural timbers at this time are recorded as in acceptable condition with some dry rotted and deteriorated sections – mainly due to water damage. Pine timbers of the barrel vaults (all rounded and curved timbers of keyed lengths) were recorded as being in poor condition.³¹



Figures 14-16. Mortuary Chapel 1983. Photos taken to accompany grant application to undertaken works.

The work was principally carried out by local building contractor JE Watson (who undertook carpentry, plumbing and painting). Pest control and work to the floor was undertaken by Maryborough City Council staff. The work commenced on 14 April 1983 and was completed on 25 July. The report prepared for the grants body on the completion of the project (which includes a number of photos) outlines the extent of the work:

- Removal of tower roof and vault roofs to expose purlins, beams and lead roof valleys;
- Portion of external cladding, timber mouldings and sills and decorative ironwork removed for use as templates;
- Sampling of interior and exterior paintwork.³²

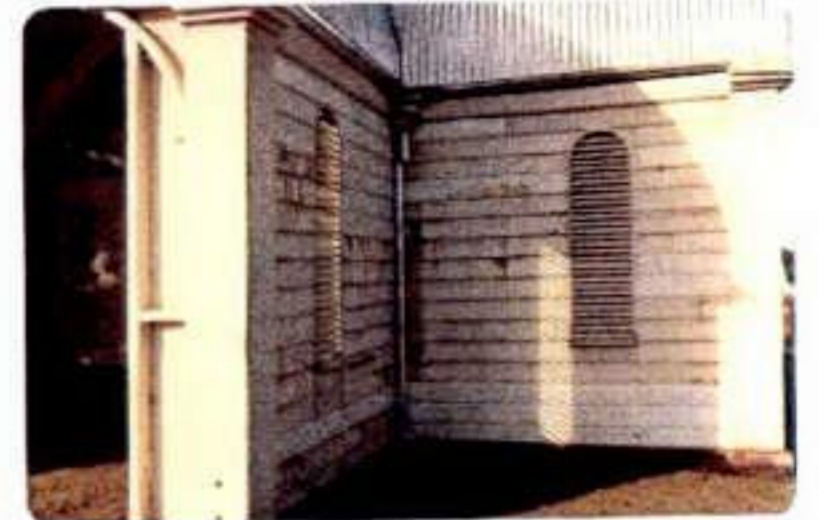
³⁰ Maryborough City Council, "Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough, Qld". Application for funding c1982 p2. (Fraser Coast Regional Council)

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³² Maryborough City Council, "Report. Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough, Qld". Report on completion of project c1983

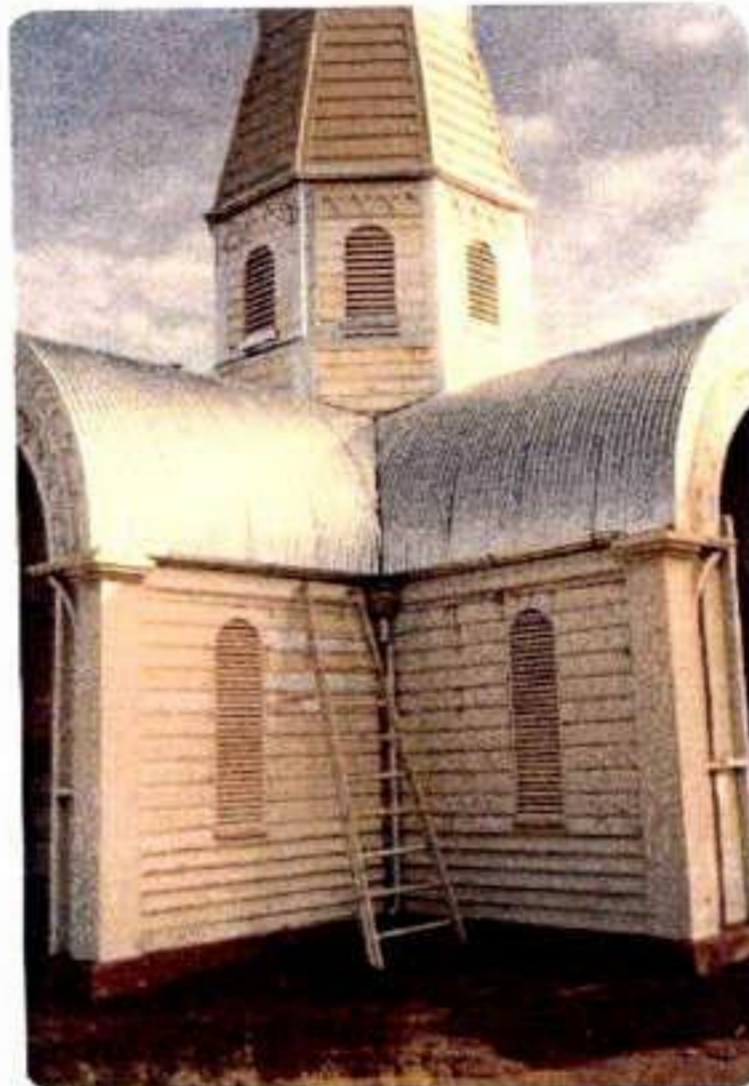
Carpentry work included:

- Replacing dressed pine frame and cone-shaped frame of tower dome;
- Replacing deteriorated window mouldings and louvre blades (approx 15%); pine timber used;
- Replacing deteriorated pine purlins and beams (approx 40%); no top wall plates and braces required replacement;
- Bracing approximately 5% of studs; portion of external cladding removed;
- Replacing deteriorated and missing T&G internal wall linings and exterior chamfer-board cladding. Old templates used by City joinery firm, Fairlie's Wide Bay Joinery to mill new timber;
- Refurbishing and filling transept entrance jambs;
- Replacing tower ceiling with new tongue and groove lining. Ceiling joists installed to compensate for downward bowing of original frame.



Plumbing work included:

- Replacing tower dome with flat galvanised sheet; original decoration replaced after straightening and galvanising;
- Refurbishing lead flashings and valleys; straightening re-backing and re-soldering required;
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- Replacing quad guttering, OG guttering, rain heads and down-pipes (all fabricated locally);
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Painting included priming all new timber and plumbing work; re-priming all new decorative plumbing work; coating all surfaces with two coats acrylic paint. Pest treatment included treatment of structure and floor which included removal of the "earthen floor" to a depth of 100mm, residual insecticide applied and floor re-filled with finely crushed rock.

Figures 17-21. Mortuary Chapel 1983. Photos taken whilst undertaking grant funded works. (Fraser Coast Regional Council)

The "Mortuary Chapel's traditional use for Committal Services recommenced on 23rd June, prior to the project's completion".

3.7 THE CHAPEL NOW

Funerals are still conducted in the cemetery (a total of 13 were held between July and December 2009 - 8 burials 5 ashes burials). The Mortuary Chapel itself is still used now and then mostly during very wet weather. A maintenance program is in place as well as regular pest inspections. The cemetery is also now a tourist attraction – including forming part of Maryborough's 'ghost tours'.



Figure 22. Mortuary Chapel 1983 after works completed. (Fraser Coast Regional Council)

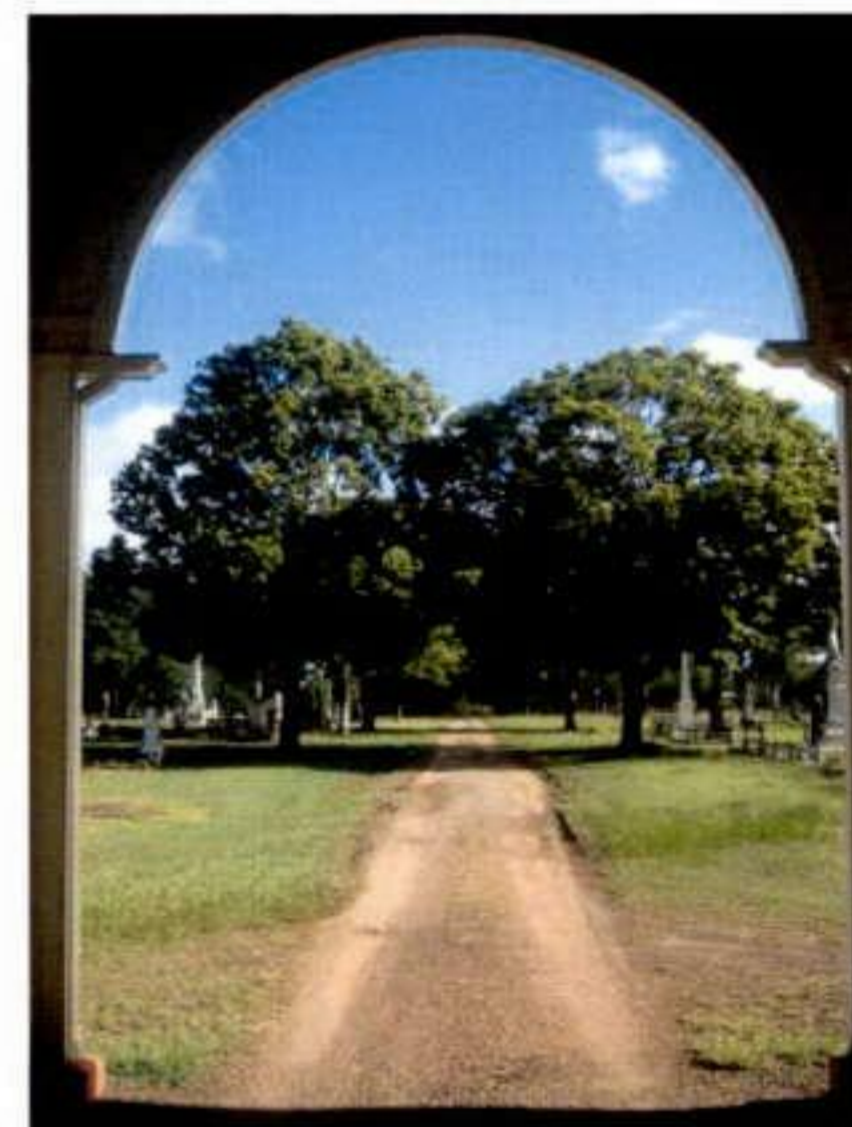
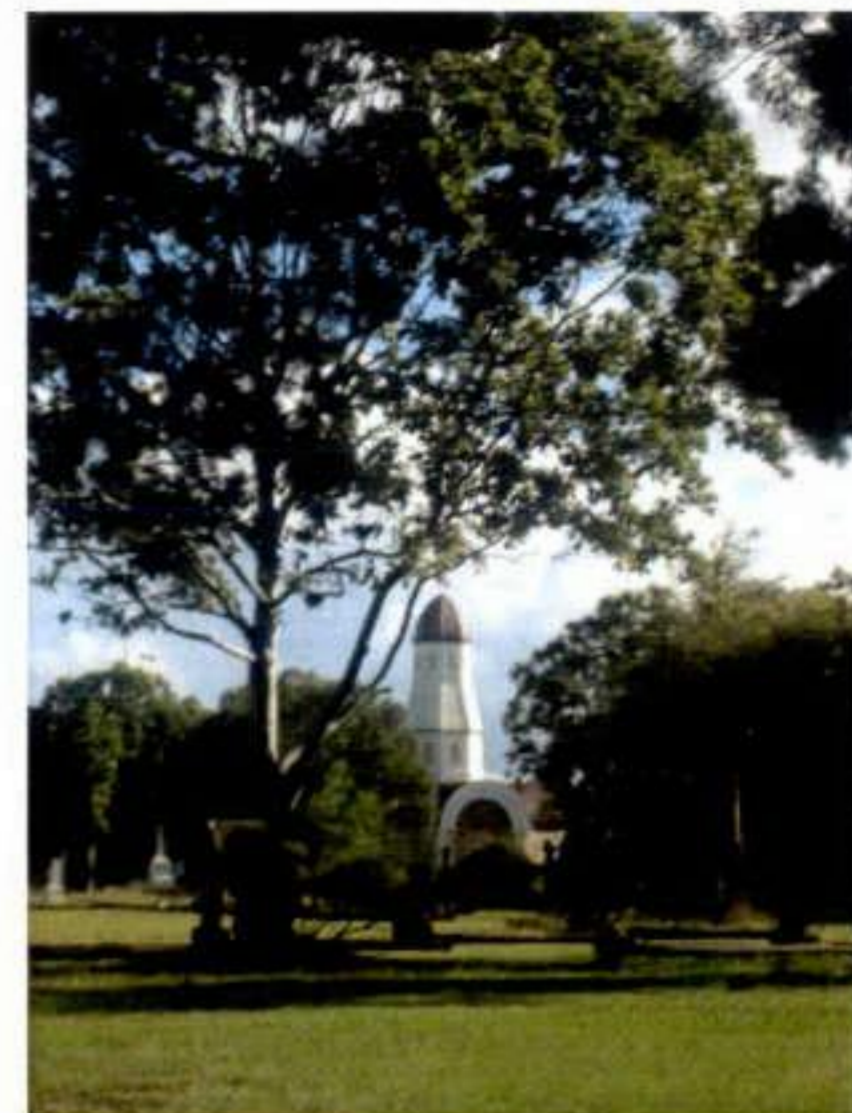
4.0 Physical evidence

This chapter provides a brief account of the existing fabric of the building which when read with the previous chapter will aid in the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of the Mortuary Chapel. The Chapel was inspected for the purposes of this report on 16th April 2008.³³ The main focus of the inspections was to identify the extent to which the original fabric otherwise significant fabric has survived. As noted earlier the focus of this report is the Mortuary Chapel itself although some recording of the 1873 cemetery is also included in this chapter in so far as relates to providing the setting of the Chapel. Refer Appendix 9.4 for photos.

4.1 IDENTIFICATION OF EXISTING FABRIC

The site

The Mortuary Chapel is located within the southern section of the Maryborough General Cemetery on the outskirts of Maryborough at the corner of Walker Street, Kent Street and Bright Street. The main entry to the site is from Walker Street via decorative metal gates supported on substantial (early) timber posts. This section of the cemetery itself is a grid layout with different areas of the site allocated to various religious denominations with a small non-Christian section. (see figure 25) The Mortuary Chapel is positioned on the entry axis at the intersection of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Wesleyan sections of the cemetery. The Mortuary chapel's cruciform plan form allows the different denominations to approach the chapel from different sides of the site, making it equally accessible to all parts of the cemetery. The lanes of the cemetery are lined with established trees and other trees and plantings are found within the burial sections dating from both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



Figures 23 -24. Mortuary Chapel – views. (RA 2010)

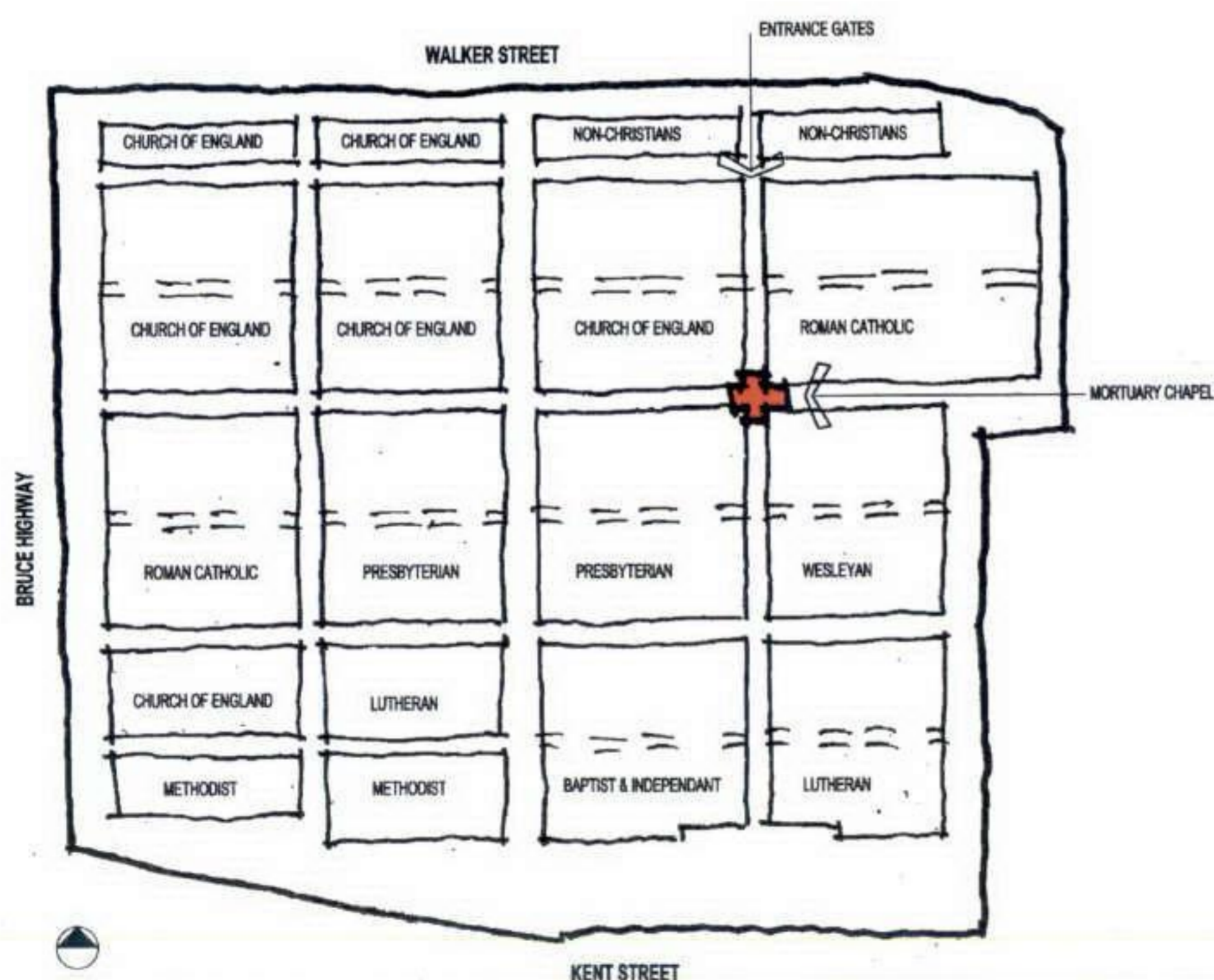


Figure 25. Site plan showing southern section of the Maryborough General Cemetery. (Based on plan held by Maryborough Cemetery)

³³ The 'manhole' was not available for access at the time of the inspection and hence the internal section of the upper part of the structure was not inspected.

Exterior

The Mortuary Chapel comprises two intersecting barrel vaults, producing four identical round arched entrances at the ends of the vaults. A typical elevation of the chapel with a fabric analysis is illustrated below.

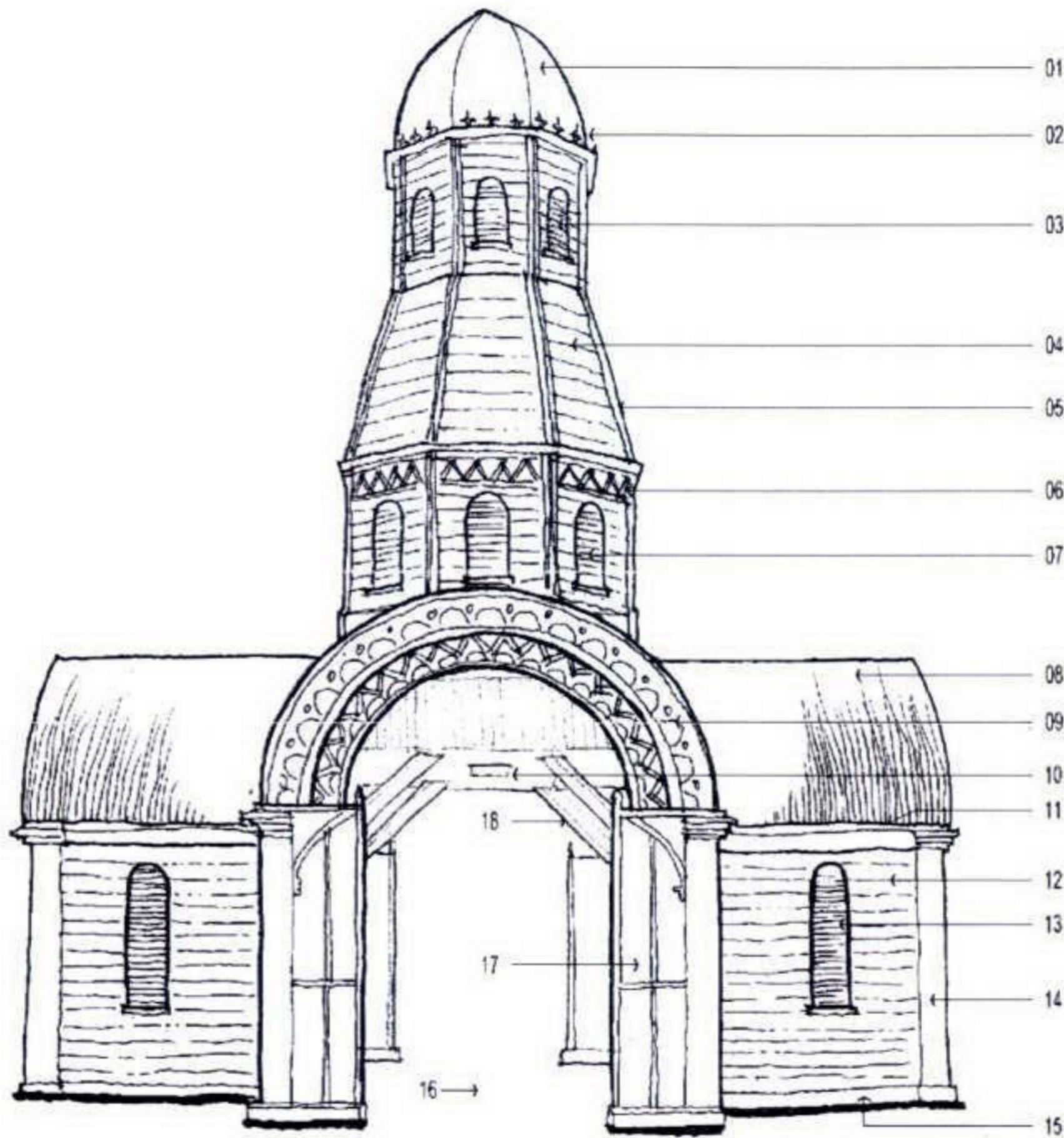


Figure 26. Sketch exterior – breakdown of elements.

Elemental Breakdown of Exterior

01. The Cupola roof is clad with painted sheet metal (possibly flat galvanised metal sheet). It has painted profiled and curved lead ridge cappings. During the 1983 restoration the metal roof sheeting and cappings were replaced, including the replacement of the timber substrate frame.

02. The painted galvanised steel ‘ogee’ profile gutter has an integral cut-out metal frieze. The gutter was replaced during the 1983 restoration and the decorative frieze was retained and reinstated after straightening and galvanising.

03. Timber framed arched openings with fixed timber louvres and timber sills appear on all faces of the chapel walls and cupola. Some of the window mouldings and louver blades were replaced during the 1983 restoration. The louver windows have a paint finish.

04. Vertical surfaces of the fleche (tower) are clad in chamfer board in a paint finish. Some damaged / missing boards and the pine substrate frame were replaced during the 1983 restoration. Sloping surfaces of the tower are clad with weatherboards. Photographic evidence prior to the 1983 restoration verifies that these weatherboards existed then also. It is a curious choice of material for a cladding surface so exposed to the weather. Often sheet metal, timber shingles or weatherboards with nicks cut out to resemble shingles were used in this situation.

05. The corners of the octagonal fleche are capped with folded sheet metal (most probably flat galvanised sheet). A galvanised steel down pipe attached to the upper gutter is discreetly placed on a corner of the fleche. The rainwater from this down pipe is distributed to the gutter below. All elements are in a paint finish and were

later architect Willoughby Powell called tenders on behalf of the Trustees of the Maryborough Cemetery for the erection of a "Mortuary Chapel and Sexton's cottage" in September 1883; to close 9 October 1883.²⁰ The building of the Mortuary Chapel appears to have involved some re-planning of the cemetery as in October 1883 it was reported that the Trustees intended to make Walker Street the main entrance and had requested the Council that the street be made passable.²¹ This may well have been in response to the siting of the chapel, not along the original main axis as might have been expected, but rather on a secondary intersection. The reason for this is not recorded but it did have the advantage of sitting in the centre of the four major Christian denominations which in practical terms were also likely to be the most populated and most used sections of the cemetery.

The successful contractor for the new mortuary chapel was Clement & Son. The tender of £534 included the erection of the chapel (somewhat prosaically described local paper as the "erection of a covered structure under which a burial service can be read") and also for a Sexton's cottage.²² By November work had started:

*The cemetery authorities have already commenced the erection of a mortuary chapel on their sacred domain. It will be seen by visitors that this much needed structure will be placed over the main avenue in the centre of the grounds. Some of the material is at the site, and the foundations are opened, so that before the severely hot weather arrives, the building will be ready to shelter mourners from a blazing sun during the customary solemnities at the grave yard. The excellent management of the trustees of our cemetery is shown in the garden like beauty and grandly kept walks in God's acre.*²³

The Mortuary Chapel commissioned by the Trustees of the Maryborough Cemetery was a highly idiosyncratic structure. It was an intricate single storey timber framed structure, cruciform in plan (two intersecting barrel vaults creating four transepts) with a domed tower (known as a fleche) at the centre. The tall rocket form of the fleche stood as a highly unusual folly in the generally flat cemetery grounds. The Chapel straddled the intersection of two internal cemetery roadways. Arched openings of the transepts were large enough for a hearse and mourners to move inside the building.²⁴ Each transept in elevation was treated similarly, although there is a slight differentiation between the north/south and east/west elevations, therefore greeting all orientations of approach, from each denomination, apparently equally. Timber fascias on the barrel vaulted, semi-circular arched openings and a horizontal band on the fleche were decorated with repetitive Gothic patterning and carving. Walls were generally clad in chamferboards.²⁵

²⁰ MC 29 Sept 1883. The sexton's cottage is no longer located on the site. At this stage, nothing further is known of it.

²¹ MC 10 October 1883? Nothing more is known of this re-planning however further research may uncover more of the original planning of the cemetery and the 1883 changes.

²² MC 10 October 1883 (MWBBHS).

²³ MC 23 November 1883 (MWBBHS)

²⁴ Funeral services have also apparently "traditionally been held in the Chapel when inclement weather has made graveside committal services inconvenient, and other funerals at which mourners have preferred not to witness interment". Along the walls of the structure are low timber benches. According to a 2001 article, the seating was built close to the ground as only children were allowed to sit down during burial services (MC? 6 October 2001) however it is not known if the seating was in fact original or installed later possibly as a device to hide any shortening of the screen behind potentially caused by water damage.

²⁵ Weatherboards may also have been used on some parts – possibly the sloping surfaces of the fleche and below the window sills on the main walls.

3.4 THE CHAPEL'S ARCHITECT²⁶

Willoughby Powell (c1848-1920) was a young English born architect who migrated to Queensland in the early 1870s. He first worked with Brisbane architect Richard Gailey before joining the Queensland Public Works Department in 1874. Following his win in a design competition for the Toowoomba Grammar School, Powell established his own practice in Toowoomba in 1875. He later claimed to have erected "the majority of the principal buildings" there and in the surrounding district. Powell's Toowoomba work included several substantial houses (including *Gabbinbar* for Rev William Lambie Nelson, Toowoomba 1876, QHR #600840; two villas for Hon James Taylor c1876 as well as additions to Taylor's own home *Clifford House* c1877, QHR #600857) and homesteads (*Goomburra Station* for Edward Weinholt c1877, *Rosewood Station* for Kent and Weinholt c1877) as well as religious buildings (Jewish Synagogue, Toowoomba 1875-6; second St John's Church of England, Dalby 1876; Wesleyan Church, Toowoomba 1877, QHR #601695). In 1878 Powell rejoined the Works Department but soon after returned to England. In 1879 Powell was back in Queensland again working with Gailey.

Powell was only in Maryborough for a short time (April 1882-1884/5), however this coincided with a building boom during which he received a number of substantial commissions and "a range of work from industrial sheds to a mansion for the town's wealthiest resident [*Baddow House* for Edgar Thomas Aldridge; QHR #600690]. While practicing in Maryborough he seems to have also been a local draftsman for the Public Works Department." In addition to the Mortuary Chapel and sexton's cottage, Powell's other public work included the Grandstand and stables for Maryborough Turf Club (1884). His residential commissions (in addition to *Baddow House*) included *Riversleigh* for John Walker corner North and Elizabeth Streets (1882), *Philadelphia Villa* for Philip Heckscher corner Lennox and North Streets (1884), also possibly two timber house in North Street (see figures 9 & 10) and a parsonage, Lennox Street (1884). His commercial work included several hotels (Royal Exchange Hotel, corner Ellena and Adelaide Streets (1882-5); Tattersall's Hotel, Richmond Street (1884), Café Royal (later Federal) Hotel, Kent Street (1884)) as well as TT Woodrow and Son's grocery shop in Bazaar Street (1883) and a shed for Dalkeith Sawmills Co, Kent Street (1883), retort house and coal sheds for Maryborough Gas and Coke Co (1883).

In 1885, Powell returned to Brisbane where he maintained his practice until 1889, after which he was employed variously by Gailey and Works Department although there were also substantial periods of unemployment. Powell died of old age on 16 April 1920, by which time "his considerable architectural career had been forgotten". This has been somewhat remedied by the work of Watson and McKay with their research on Powell revealing his architectural career was indeed considerable including Powell's remarkable success in architectural competitions which resulted in several substantial works. In addition to Toowoomba Grammar School (1875; QHR #600850), Powell was placed second in the competition for the Warwick Town Hall, however it was his design that was ultimately built (1885-8; QHR #600961); he won the competition for the new Presbyterian Church, Wickham Terrace, Brisbane (1886-7; alterations 1889; demolished) and for the new (third) Town Hall in Toowoomba (1899-1900; QHR #600865)



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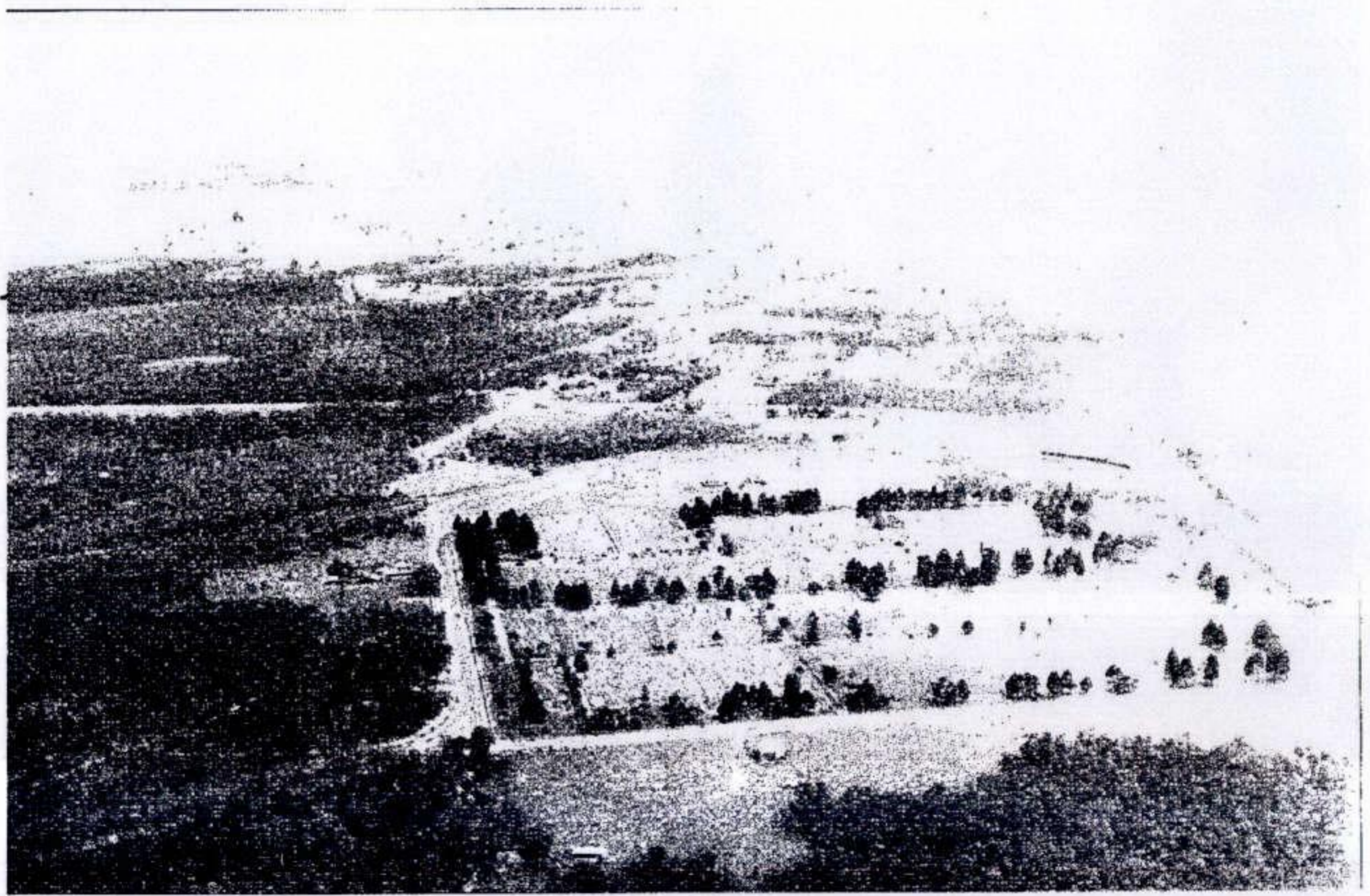


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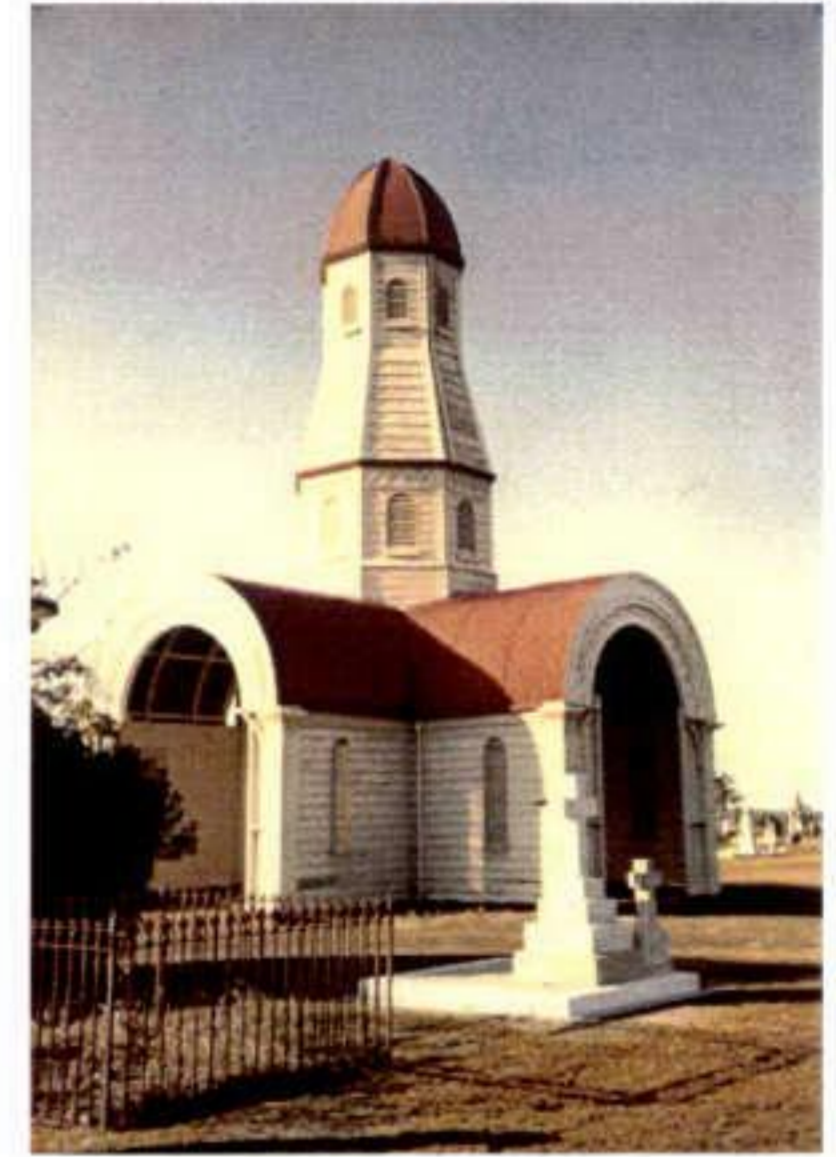
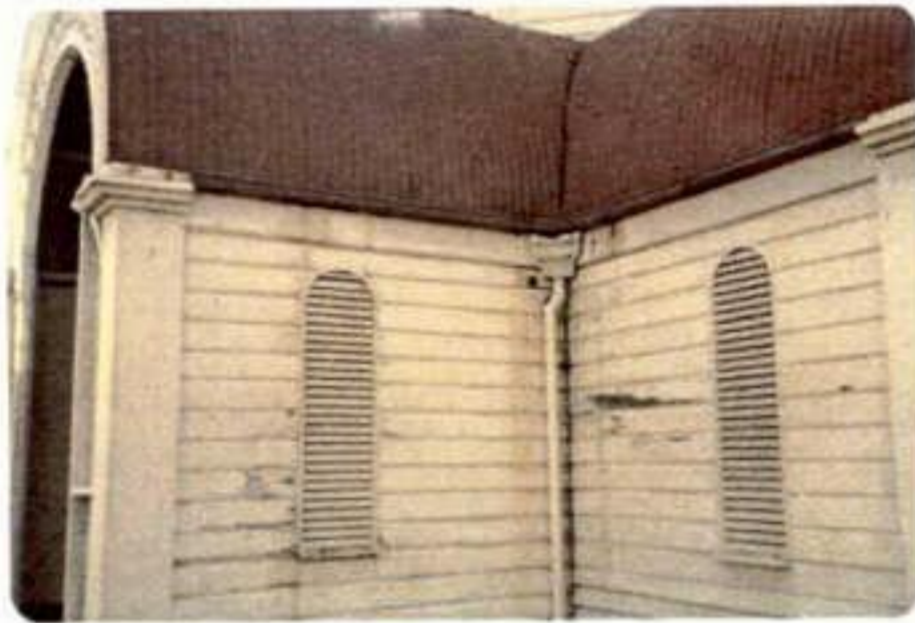
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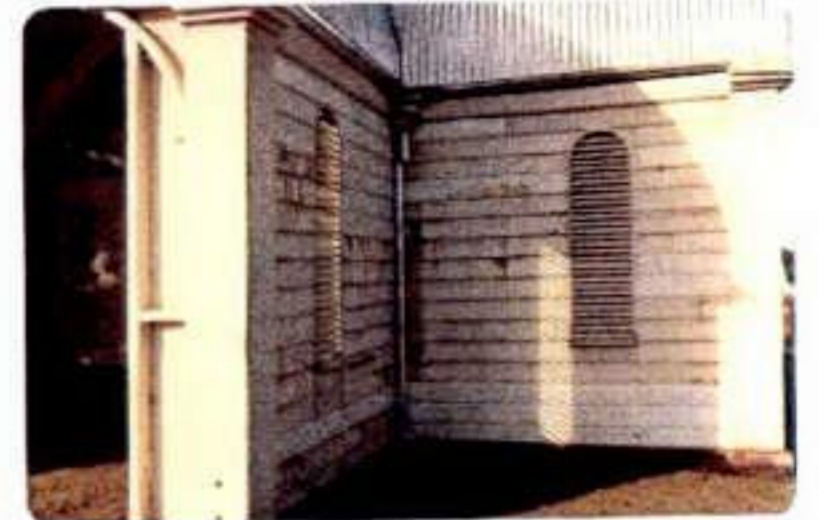
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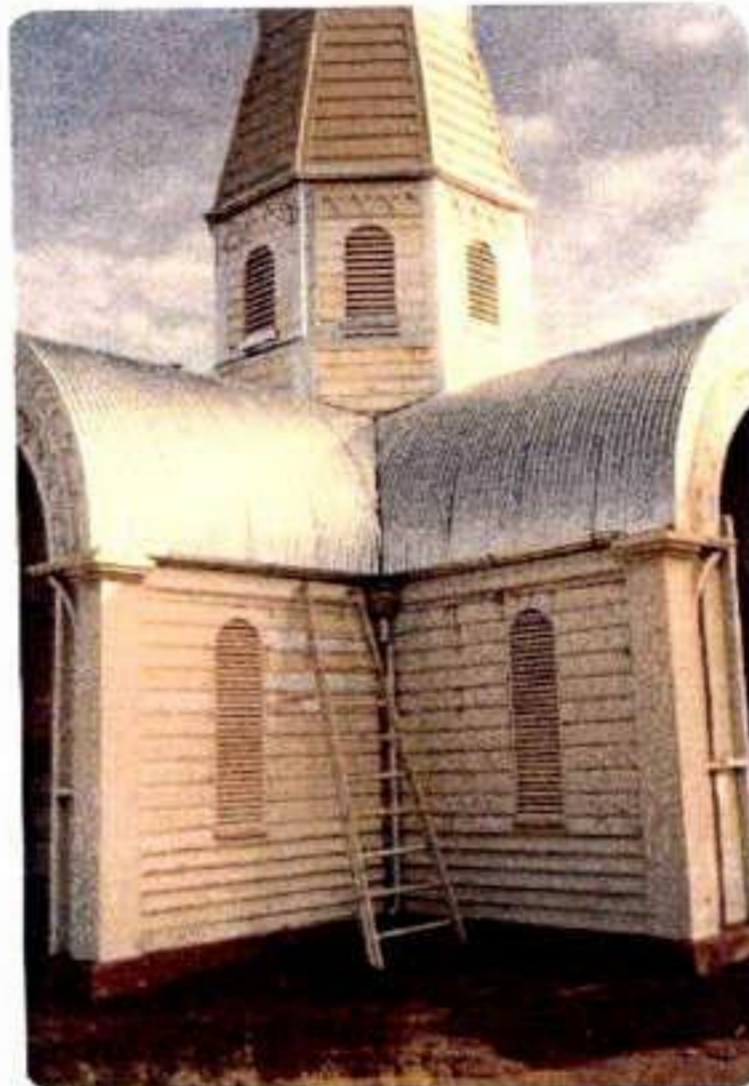
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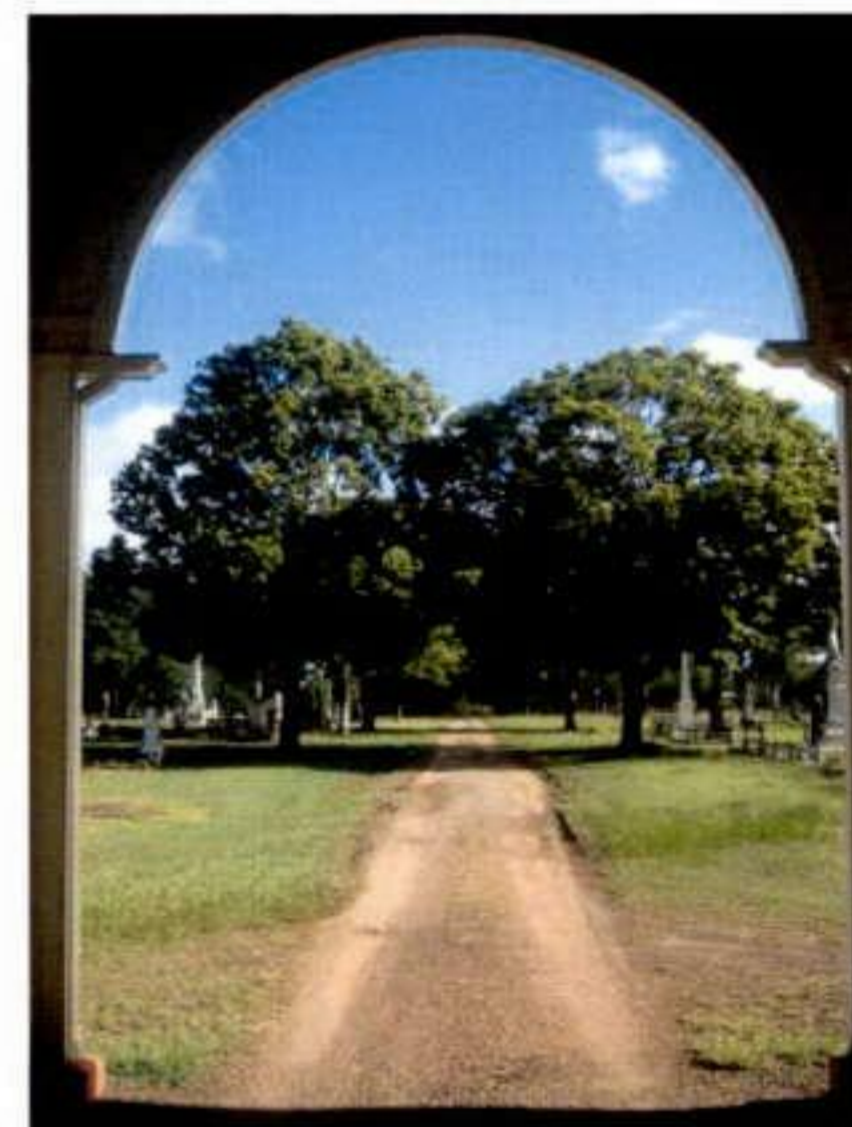
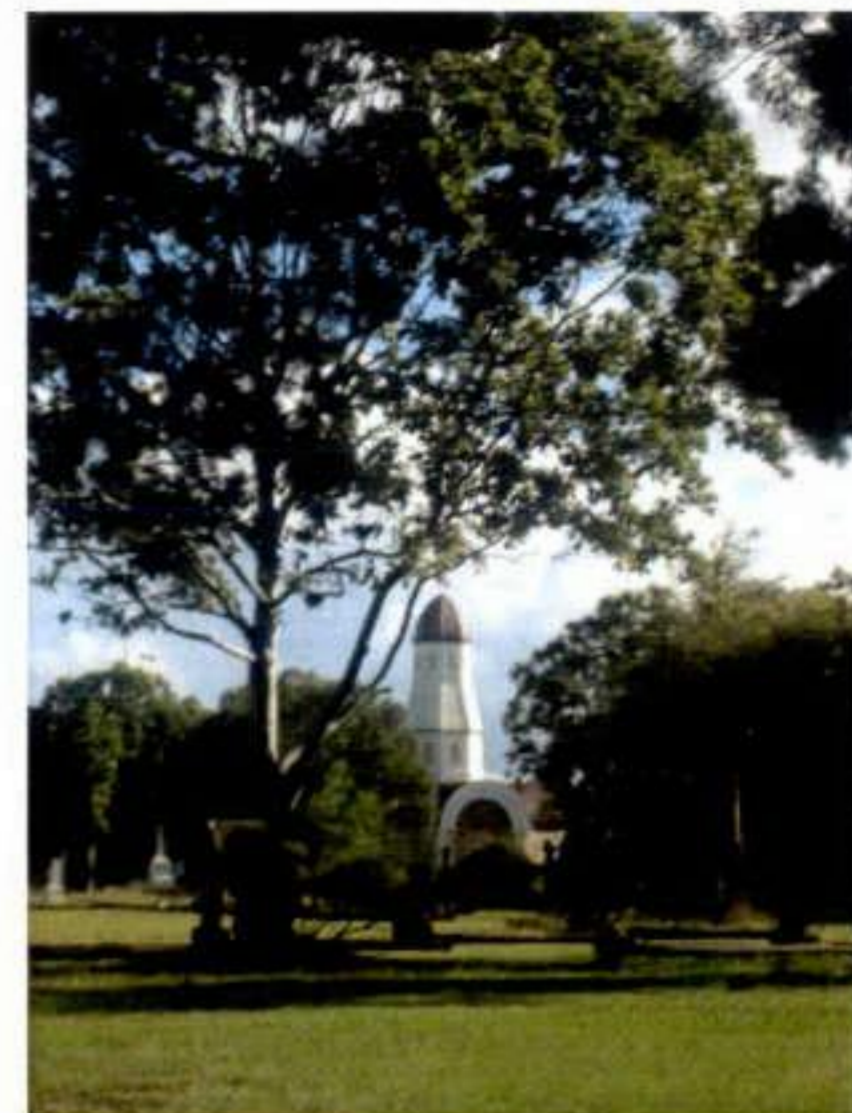
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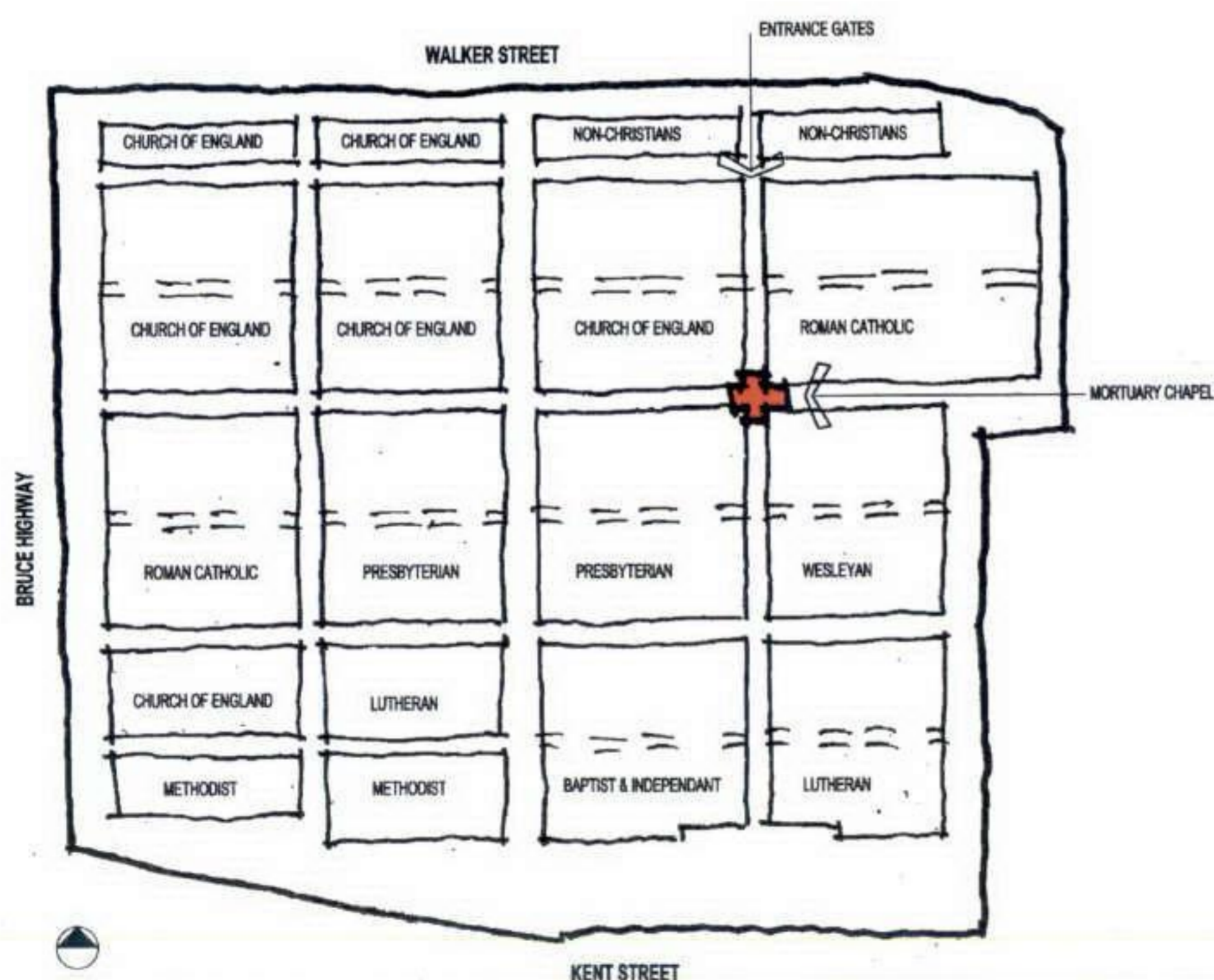


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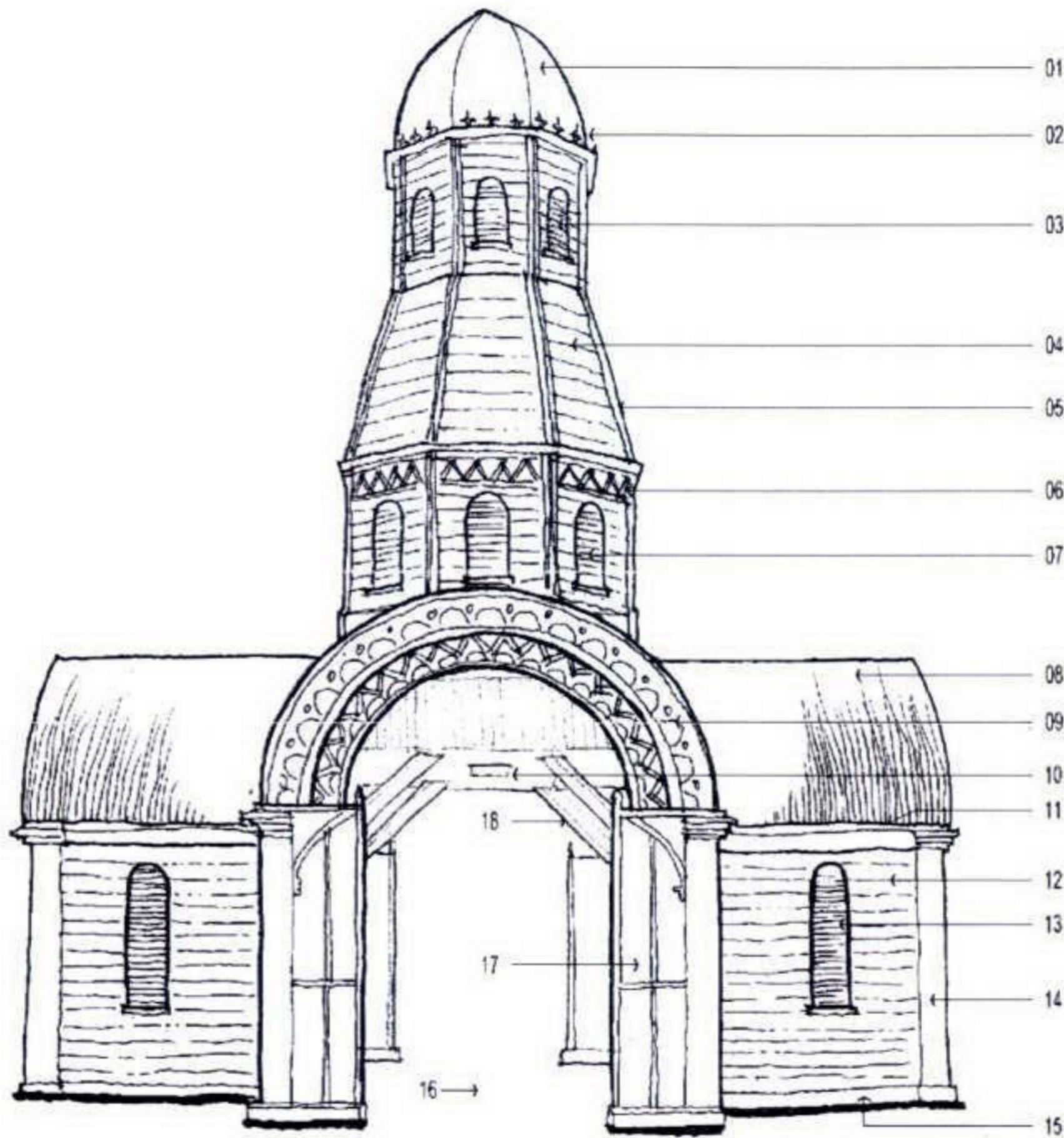


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01. The Cupola roof is clad with painted sheet metal (possibly flat galvanised metal sheet). It has painted profiled and curved lead ridge cappings. During the 1983 restoration the metal roof sheeting and cappings were replaced, including the replacement of the timber substrate frame.

02. The painted galvanised steel ‘ogee’ profile gutter has an integral cut-out metal frieze. The gutter was replaced during the 1983 restoration and the decorative frieze was retained and reinstated after straightening and galvanising.

03. Timber framed arched openings with fixed timber louvres and timber sills appear on all faces of the chapel walls and cupola. Some of the window mouldings and louver blades were replaced during the 1983 restoration. The louver windows have a paint finish.

04. Vertical surfaces of the fleche (tower) are clad in chamfer board in a paint finish. Some damaged / missing boards and the pine substrate frame were replaced during the 1983 restoration. Sloping surfaces of the tower are clad with weatherboards. Photographic evidence prior to the 1983 restoration verifies that these weatherboards existed then also. It is a curious choice of material for a cladding surface so exposed to the weather. Often sheet metal, timber shingles or weatherboards with nicks cut out to resemble shingles were used in this situation.

05. The corners of the octagonal fleche are capped with folded sheet metal (most probably flat galvanised sheet). A galvanised steel down pipe attached to the upper gutter is discreetly placed on a corner of the fleche. The rainwater from this down pipe is distributed to the gutter below. All elements are in a paint finish and were

replaced during the 1983 restoration.

06. Galvanised steel ogee profile gutter with a decorative timber frieze below, all in a paint finish. This gutter collects water from the fleche body and the gutter above and distributes it to the lower intersecting barrel vault roof below.

07. Timber framed arched openings with fixed timber louvres and timber sills appear on all sides of the chapel. Some of the window mouldings and louvre blades were replaced during the 1983 restoration. The louvre windows have a paint finish.

08. The roof plan to lower building comprises of two intersecting barrel vault roofs with corrugated galvanised steel roof sheeting. The corrugated roof sheeting and parts of the timber substrate frame were replaced during the 1983 chapel restoration. All are in a paint finish. Lead flashings were refurbished by “straightening, re-backing and re-soldering”.³⁴ Damaged lead flashings at roof valleys may have contributed to much of the damage from water ingress before the 1983 restoration.

09. The Mortuary Chapel comprises two intersecting barrel vaults, producing four almost identical round arched entrances at the ends of the vaults. Each entry is expressed by a wide carved timber fascia supported on hardwood columns with folded metal capitals and masonry bases. Other details to the entries include profiled structural curved brackets, stop chamfered timber posts with Gothic motifs (to the north/south axis) and expressed imposts on brackets (to the east/west axis).

10. A manhole, approximately 300x400mm in the centre of the VJ tongue and groove ceiling to the chapels interior. This ceiling, which would have originally been clad in beaded board tongue and groove, was clad in VJ tongue and groove boarding as part of the restoration in 1983. The Report on the 1983 Restoration Project indicates that ceiling joists were installed to compensate for downward bowing of the original frame.

11. Galvanised steel ogee gutter profile with gutter spikes. The rainwater from the upper and lower gutters to the Fleche above is diverted through galvanised steel down pipes to the lower barrel vaulted roofs and collected by their gutters. Galvanised steel rainwater heads and down pipes then shed the water from the building. The rainwater is currently shed against the wall of the chapel creating issues with damp.

12. The main body of the lower building is clad in chamfer boards in a paint finish. Two walls have a narrow width weatherboard skirt. If it is original, we may assume other walls lost their weatherboards due to water and/or pest damage. During the 1983 chapel restoration other external boards and missing boards were replaced using the old template. Some of the bracing studs were also replaced during the restoration work.

13. Timber framed arched openings with fixed timber louvres and timber sills appear on all sides of the chapel. Some of the window mouldings and louvre blades were replaced during the 1983 restoration. The louvre windows have a paint finish.

14. Hardwood columns with folded metal capitals and masonry bases which frame the four entries to the chapel. The folded metal was probably introduced prior to the 1983 restoration as a technique to protect the original timber fabric below.

15. A painted masonry base runs around the perimeter of the building.

16. The finished ground level in the Mortuary Chapel has risen at some stage. 1983 works report that 100mm of earth was removed to enable the application of low pressure / high volume pesticide before laying finely crushed rock. This has shortened the height of the perimeter masonry plinth, the corner post masonry plinth, and the timber bench seats lining the interior of the chapel.

17. Single skin nibbed walls including stop chamfered posts, noggings and imposts are broader in the east/west axis than the north/south axis. Both forms appear early although detailed fabric investigation would confirm if both are original. Some

³⁴ Maryborough City Council, “Report. Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough Qld.” c1983

nibbed walls are lined with sheet material and some are lined with original / early solid timber vertical boarding. Areas of sheet infill were probably introduced as part of the 1983 work although it is not itemised in report. All in paint finish.

18. Grooved and profiled timber struts to support bearers carrying the fleche over (see interior).

Interior

The interior of the Mortuary Chapel is simply set out with identical internal wall treatments to each axis of the building. A typical interior perspective with a fabric analysis is illustrated below.

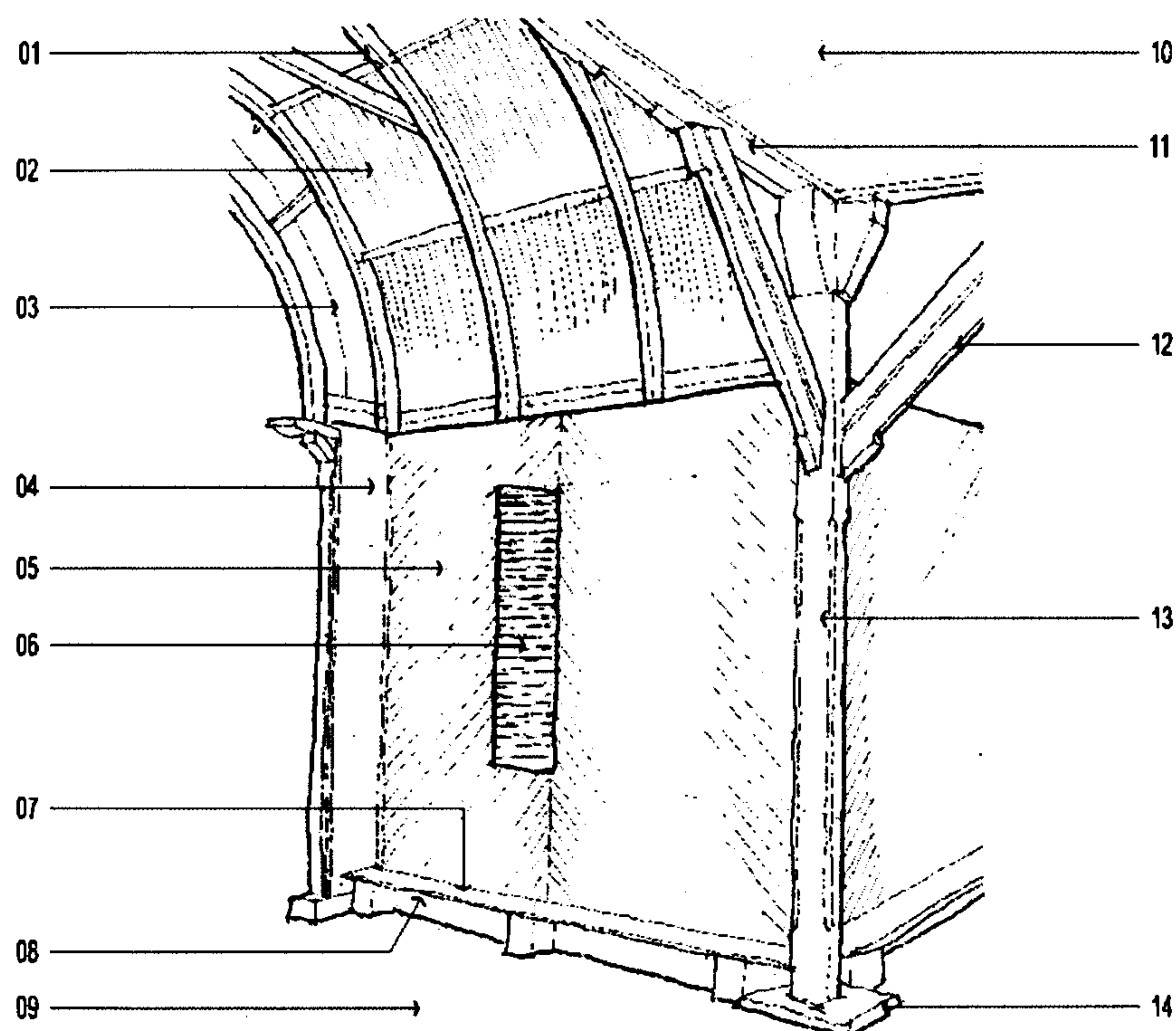


Figure 27. Sketch interior – breakdown of elements.

Elemental Breakdown of Interior

01. Exposed vaulted timber rafters support roof battens and corrugated galvanised steel sheeting to form the intersecting vaults of the chapel. The vaulted rafters are structurally strengthened by timber collar-ties. Portions of the timber structure to the vaulted roofs and the corrugated steel roof sheeting was replaced during the 1983 chapel restoration. All parts are in a paint finish.

02. Exposed and unpainted corrugated galvanised steel roof sheeting to the intersecting barrel vaulted roofs was replaced during the 1983 restoration.

03. The undecorated rear view of the carved timber fascia to the four entries of the chapel. All in a paint finish.

04. Refer exterior point 17.

05. Diagonally laid beaded board tongue and groove cladding lines the internal walls of the chapel. The diagonal cladding changes direction at the louvre window junctions. Missing and damaged parts of the original wall lining was replaced during the 1983 restoration. NB: windows are arched on the exterior and not on the interior.

06. Timber framed window with fixed timber louvres appear on all internal walls to the chapel. Some of the window mouldings and louvre blades were replaced during the 1983 restoration. The louver windows have a paint finish.

07. Approximately 250mm high timber bench seats with a bull nose edge are

supported by three masonry blocks. The timber seats which line the four entries to the chapel would have been higher in their original configuration but appear lowered with the introduction of the raised ground level to the chapel. The seats and masonry bases are in a paint finish. It is not clear if the seats are original, but appear to be at least early.

08. Above the masonry plinth under the seats there is an air gap to allow the wall cavities to be vented.

09. The gravel ground cover which was introduced during the 1983 restoration has appeared to raise the finished ground level of the chapel, shortening the height of the exterior perimeter concrete plinth and the bench seats which line the interior of the chapel. With reference to photos in the 1983 National Estate Grant Application, it is possible to deduce an increase in the internal floor level in recent times. As indicated in the photo below, the existing internal ground level is flush with the top of the masonry bases of timber posts supporting the fleche tower. While the quality of 1983 photographs is less than desired, it is possible to deduce the ground level to be below the level of masonry post bases at the time of restoration. Therefore the increase in ground level has occurred since the restoration works, possibly as a means of achieving better drainage in the Mortuary Chapel itself.

10. The ceiling which conceals the structure of the fleche above is clad in VJ tongue and groove cladding. A manhole, approximately 300x400mm is located in the centre of the ceiling. This ceiling, which would have originally been clad in beaded board tongue and groove, was clad in VJ tongue and groove boarding as part of the restoration in 1983. Other changes recorded during the restoration included the installation of ceiling joists to compensate for downward bowing of the original frame, and the replacement of missing and damaged boards to the surrounding ceiling bulkhead. The finished ceiling height is 3850mm and is in a paint finish.

11. Profiled timber bearers in a paint finish support the fleche structure over.

12. Profiled and grooved timber struts in a paint finish brace the bearers supporting the fleche over.

13. Stop chamfered timber corner posts with attached solid profiled brackets support the bearers and struts to the fleche structure over. All in a paint finish.

14. The posts attachment to the ground appears to have been altered a few times, probably to try to deter water damage and rot. Wrought iron shoes/brackets and concrete plinths under the posts have been utilized to address damage issues. Past images of the concrete plinths assist in gauging the altered ground level within the pavilion. One of the posts still shows signs of weather damage due to its close proximity to the ground.

4.2 ANALYSIS

The Mortuary Chapel is generally reasonably intact. A number of timber and corrugated elements have been replaced over time – notably as part of the 1983 work, but possibly also at other times. Generally chamfer board is used as cladding but on some parts, in particular on the sloping surfaces of the fleche below the upper vents and on two faces of the main walls, weatherboard has been used. It is not clear if the use of weatherboard is original in these areas (although it now appears as if the main walls are merely patched) or if subsequently used, was to deal with water shedding.

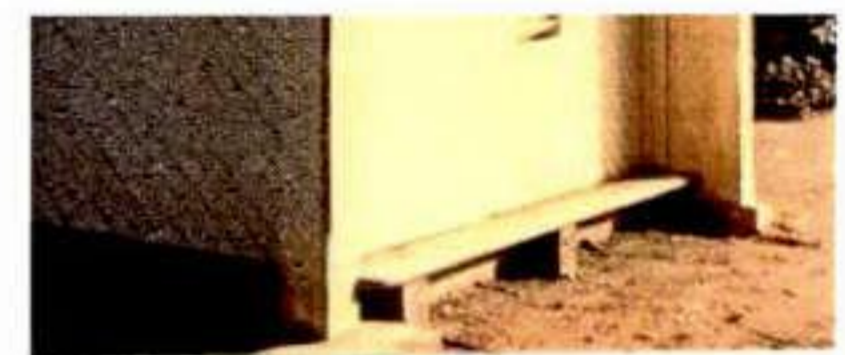


Figure 28. (top) Existing masonry base of timber post in relation to internal ground level.

Figure 29. Although difficult to see in this reproduction the 1983 photos show the ground level at below masonry base with the timber seats at a correspondingly greater height. (1983 report)

5.0 The significance of the Mortuary Chapel

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter outlines the cultural heritage significance of the Mortuary Chapel. It includes the statement of significance from the Entry in the State Heritage Register and also makes some recommendations for broadening and amending that statement.

Cultural heritage significance is essentially the term used to describe what is important about a place. It is formally defined in the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* in section 3:

cultural heritage significance, of a place or object, includes its aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social or technological significance to the present generation or past or future generations.

The ‘aesthetic significance’, of a place or object, is defined to include its “visual merit or interest”.

As outlined in the Burra Charter, cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups. Section 34 of the Heritage Act outlines particular criteria to be considered in assessing the cultural heritage significance of a place:

- (a) the place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland’s history*
- (b) the place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of Queensland’s cultural heritage*
- (c) the place has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Queensland’s history*
- (d) the place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural places*
- (e) the place is important because of its aesthetic significance*
- (f) the place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period*
- (g) the place has as strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons*
- (h) the place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organization of importance in Queensland’s history*

In this instance the ‘place’ is the Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough Cemetery meaning the building and site located at Walker Street (corner Kent Street and Bruce Highway) Maryborough described as (part of) lot 290 SP170657 County March Parish Maryborough. In discussing significance however the greater cemetery site is also considered in this chapter and in chapter 5 in the sense that it is an integral part of the setting for the Mortuary Chapel.³⁵

³⁵ As noted in the Introduction however, the formal scope of this report is limited to the Mortuary Chapel although the State Heritage listing is much wider including both the 1873 cemetery (and Mortuary Chapel) on the southern side of Walker Street and the Garden of Rest section on the northern side of Walker Street (ie both lots 290 and 291 SP170657; refer figure 3).

5.2 QUEENSLAND HERITAGE REGISTER STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The entry in the Queensland Heritage Register for the Mortuary Chapel contains the following statement of significance, which relies on criteria A, B, E, G and H:

The Mortuary Chapel at the Maryborough Cemetery by its size and quality demonstrates the growth of Maryborough in the late nineteenth century. The building provides evidence of nineteenth century burial practice, with mourners using burial sections segregated according to religious denomination able to access the building from each of its four sides.

The building is a rare example of a mortuary chapel with four entrances, in an unusual building form.

The mortuary chapel forms a strong focal point within the Maryborough Cemetery, combining this landmark quality with considerable visual appeal in the cemetery landscape

The cemetery and chapel have importance to the local community as the principal place of public burial in Maryborough for over 120 years.

It also has a strong association with the life and work of Queensland architect, Willoughby Powell.

5.3 OTHER COMMENTS RE SIGNIFICANCE

The cemetery setting

As noted in the Queensland Heritage Register for Dutton Park Cemetery:

Although Christian burials in Europe were traditionally clustered around churches, following the rise of urban populations in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, churchyards became inadequate for the numbers of burials required. After the example set by France, towns in Britain, and in Australia, set aside land on the outskirts of settlement as public cemeteries. This was thought to be healthier and provided a spacious, landscaped environment where monuments and plantings could be attractively set out.³⁶

In Queensland, Brisbane's first public cemetery of this type was established at Milton in the 1840s (though it has since been built over); Nundah cemetery was established in 1846, Moggill in 1855, land at Toowong was set aside in 1861 (although not built on until the 1870s), the South Brisbane (now Dutton Park) cemetery was established in 1866.³⁷ The establishment of the Maryborough Cemetery (the town's third) was very much part of this tradition and the grid layout of its large flat site was consistent with the design principles current at that time.³⁸ More work needs to be done to understand the significance of the cemetery itself including its layout, plantings and memorials however it is apparent that it fits within the pattern of 19th century cemetery practices in Australia and Great Britain at that time and that the grid layout including pathways and plantings are significant.

The siting of the Mortuary Chapel as a marker within the gridded layout of the cemetery is important. Within the relatively flat cemetery grounds it is a landmark structure and focal point. Moreover its siting at the junction of four of the major Christian denominations was no doubt a practical response to maximise usage of the



Figure 30. The cemetery. (RA 2010)

³⁶ QHR #602406 (Dutton Park Cemetery)

³⁷ QHR #601773 (Toowong Cemetery) and QHR #602406

³⁸ See for example JC Loudon's work on cemeteries published in 1843 (*On the Laying Out, Planting, and Managing of Cemeteries and on the Improvement of Churchyards*. London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans 1843).

structure but also has considerable symbolic value. Further research needs to be undertaken however it appears that the siting of the Chapel on axis with the entrance from Walker Street was part of some re-planning of the cemetery undertaken in 1883 which apparently involved a new major entrance being placed in Walker Street.

Mortuary chapels

As noted in Chapter 3, ‘mortuary chapels’ are most commonly chapels associated with tombs located in a church however it is also the term used to describe a cemetery chapel or other structure where “coffined bodies briefly lie before disposal”. As a building type this form of mortuary chapel is relatively rare. In Sydney, the mortuary stations associated with Rookwood Cemetery (at Rookwood Cemetery itself and at Redfern) had ‘mortuary chapels’ although these went somewhat beyond the definition in that funeral services were conducted at the chapels on a regular basis. In some cemeteries, the mortuary chapel is located at the entrance to the cemetery grounds and is more typically a chapel although the structure often also served as the vehicular access point.

At Maryborough, although services were sometimes conducted in the Chapel, the predominant purpose was to provide shelter to funeral parties and the cortege and its location in the centre of the grounds (rather than at the entrance) would support this. The Maryborough Mortuary Chapel would appear to be quite particular however there are some examples of cemetery architecture elsewhere which share some of its characteristics. In some cemeteries, structures erected for similar purposes are more prosaically known as shelter sheds. The William Mitchner Shelter Shed at the Warwick General Cemetery, although quite a different style of building, shares some similarities with Maryborough. The octagonal structure is a single storey brick and cement building designed with bell tower and seating accommodation. It was erected in 1926 and funded under a bequest from Mitchner. The architects for the Shelter Shed were Dornbusch & Connolly who had a large practice in Warwick. The firm had also prepared an earlier scheme in 1914 with openings on the four points of the compass.³⁹ At Kandina in South Australia, the cemetery is laid out on a grid plan with a 19th century mortuary chapel similarly located on axis, although it does not have the landmark qualities of the Chapel at Maryborough.⁴⁰

The Maryborough Mortuary Chapel appears to be unique in taking this further where vehicular access predetermines the plan form of the building. In common with much cemetery architecture, it is designed to be a significant built element within the cemetery which is both a planted landscape but also considerably ‘built up’ albeit with structures of a smaller scale. The Maryborough Mortuary Chapel even within this particular sub-set of mortuary chapels, appears to be very particular, if not unique – its design as a 19th century timber folly is quite idiosyncratic and it is a fine and intact, if somewhat, quirky example of a 19th century tradition using vernacular materials.

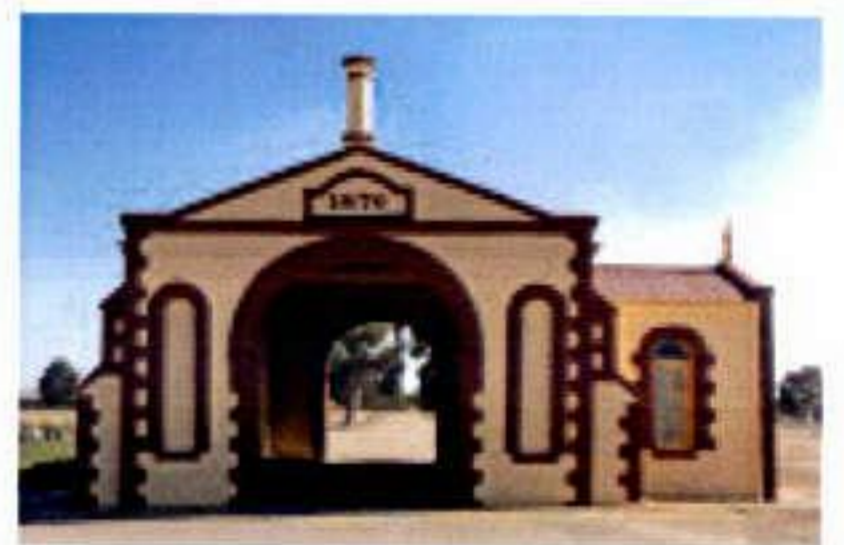


Figure 31. (from top) Redfern Mortuary Terminal, Sydney – the Mortuary Chapel is visible at right. The chapel was erected in the 1860s as part of the planned railway connection to the newly established Rookwood Cemetery. A second chapel was also erected at the cemetery (since relocated to Canberra). (Picture Australia)

Figure 32. The William Mitchner Shelter Shed in the Warwick General Cemetery. (DERM)

Figures 33-34. Kandina Mortuary Chapel, South Australia. (RNE)

³⁹ QHR #602152 (Warwick General Cemetery)

⁴⁰ Mortuary and Cemetery, Drain Rd, Kadina, SA, Australia; RNE #17736

The work of Willoughby Powell

Willoughby Powell is a significant 19th century Queensland architect, particularly associated with the regional towns and districts of south-east Queensland and the Mortuary Chapel is a fine, if idiosyncratic, example of his work. Although Powell only briefly worked in Maryborough, this coincided with a building boom within the town and hence a number of commissions for a wide range of work including residences for the town's major businessmen, ET Aldridge and John Walker, as well as designing a number of other houses and commercial buildings erected in the city centre. Much of Powell's practice was conducted during times of economic upheaval and as a result he was unable to sustain his private practice. Nevertheless he was responsible for a remarkable number of substantial buildings in the major regional towns of south-east Queensland. In addition to Maryborough, Powell had significant commissions in Toowoomba and Warwick as well as homesteads at Goomburra and Rosewood Stations. When looking for parallels with the Mortuary Chapel, some connections can be seen in Powell's decorative use of timber in both his masonry and timber buildings however the Chapel is very much a 'one-off' – a highly idiosyncratic example of his work. Powell is also believed to have designed a sexton's house for the Maryborough Cemetery and may also have been responsible for the design of the gates to Walker Street, however no further information about these works is currently available.



Figures 35-36. (left) Willoughby Powell's Toowoomba Grammar School (1875; photo c1885 LE Polak) and (above) Warwick Town Hall. (1885-8; photo c1906) (JOL)



5.4 SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT ELEMENTS

- A Significance
- B Minimal or no significance
- In Intrusive

Location	Element	Significance
Exterior	Freestanding setting within the cemetery	A
	Galvanised cupola	A
	Galvanised barrel vault roofs	A
	Lead flashings on cupola and fleche tower	A

Galvanised gutters, rainwater heads and downpipes	A
Folded metal capitals [possibly not original?]	A
Walls -Chamferboards	A
Walls – Weatherboards (fleche – sloping walls)	A?
Weatherboards (main walls)	A?
Arched timber framed louvred windows	A
Window sills	A
Arched open doorways	A
Decorative timberwork, including frieze and fascias	A
All timber studs, posts, columns	A
Nibbed wall framing and imposts	A
Solid timber lining (nibbed walls)	A
Sheet infill (nibbed walls)	Int
Masonry perimeter edge	A
Axial paths leading to Mortuary Chapel	A
Existing levels of paths and chapel	B

Interior

Unpainted galvanised soffit	A
Vaulted timber rafters, collar ties, roof battens	A
VJ T&G ceiling under tower (replaced)	B
Profiled timbers supporting tower over	A
Undecorated timber fascia (inside face)	A
Nibbed wall framing and imposts	A
Solid timber lining (nibbed walls)	A
Sheet infill (nibbed walls)	Int
Diagonal beaded t&g lining	A
Timber framed fixed louvre windows –straight head	A
Timber bench seating with bullnose edge	A
Masonry bench supports	A
Masonry strip along perimeter walls	A
Masonry post base	A ⁴¹
Air gap at bottom of internal face of wall	A
Earth floor	A
Crushed rock floor as existing	B

⁴¹ Not clear if the 'base' is original or could be introduced later as a maintenance measure.

6.0 Condition

6.1 GENERAL STATEMENT OF CONDITION

The Mortuary Chapel is generally in good condition and well maintained. The only threats to its ongoing conservation are water penetration and termites and possible damage from falling trees or hoons driving through at high speed. Issues requiring attention are identified in the Schedule of Priority Works below.

6.2 SCHEDULE OF PRIORITY WORKS

Drainage – Drainage of water away from the building is an issue with downpipes depositing water onto ground and splashing back causing damage to timber cladding from rainwater. (Refer Policy 21)

Pest control – Previous chemical treatments are recorded. Installation of an ant cap as a physical barrier above the perimeter masonry plinth would be invasive. The existing masonry base to the perimeter provides a visible and effective inspection barrier to termites. However the junction detail of masonry bases to timber posts may offer access to termites. This potential weakness should be investigated on a regular basis. (Refer Policy 9)

Water control – Maintenance of flashings and painting will decrease the chance of water damage. More efficient removal of water from down-pipes away from the building will reduce damage in this area. However the detail of the bottom timber chamferboard / weatherboard to masonry plinth may be a cause for concern and further consideration. (Refer Policies 17 and 21)

Cladding – Further investigation (eg paint scrape) to establish the age of weatherboards on the main walls. Depending of evidence, consider altering cladding accordingly at an appropriate time. (Refer Policy 18)

Lining - If appropriate, replace ceiling VJs from 1983 restoration works with beaded VJs as used diagonally on internal walls. When suitable, replace sheet material (subject to appropriate care if asbestos) to some nibbed walls with wide timber vertical boards (as existing elsewhere). (Refer Policy 18)

Maintenance and inspections – Regular inspections (including access through manhole). Next inspection to include report as to whether evidence of water ingress to ceiling. (Refer Policy 9)

Tie down - Report from a heritage engineer should be commissioned. (Refer Policy 24)

Further research - Continue search for documentary material including cemetery records, historic photos and / or descriptions of chapel and cemetery. An inventory of the surviving records of the cemetery should be undertaken and digitising of relevant material considered as a means of preserving the material as well as making it more accessible. (Refer Policy 27)

7.0 Conservation policies and guidelines

This chapter contains conservation policies developed to guide the future management of the Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough Cemetery. These are based on an understanding of the cultural heritage significance of the place (as outlined in chapter 4) as well as a consideration of other factors affecting the future of a place including its physical condition (discussed in chapter 5); the owners' needs; external constraints including its inclusion in the Queensland Heritage Register and so subject to the provisions of the Queensland Heritage Act 1992. Although the focus of this report is the Mortuary Chapel, some policies are related to the greater cemetery site in so far as it provides the setting for the chapel. The policies all have their roots in good conservation practice as laid out by the Burra Charter which should be read in conjunction with this chapter. It can be viewed at www.aicomos.com.au.

7.1 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are taken from Article 1 of the *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of places of Cultural Heritage Significance* (the 'Burra Charter'):

'Place' means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

'Fabric' means all the physical material of the place including components, fixtures, contents, and objects.

'Conservation' means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance.

'Maintenance' means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair.

'Repair' involves restoration or reconstruction.

'Preservation' means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

'Restoration' means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

'Reconstruction' means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric.

'Adaptation' means modifying a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use.

7.2 POLICIES

The Burra Charter

In Australia, the *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the conservation of places of cultural significance* is the widely accepted and adopted standard for heritage conservation practice. The Charter, known as the *Burra Charter*, was prepared by the national organisation, Australia ICOMOS (the Australia National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites). The Charter sets out the principles and processes of conservation, with an emphasis on a logical and disciplined approach to the conservation of places.

The basic principles of the Charter are:

- the place is important
- understand the significance of the place
- understand the fabric

- significance should guide decisions
- do as much as necessary, as little as possible
- keep records
- do everything in a logical order

This conservation management plan is part of the process and the above principles should form the basis for the ongoing management of the Mortuary Chapel.

Policy 1: Burra Charter

The conservation and management of the Mortuary Chapel Maryborough Cemetery is undertaken in accordance with the principles of the Burra Charter.

The Queensland Heritage Register and *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*

The Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough Cemetery is entered in the State Heritage Register (QHR #600689). The *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* contains certain procedures relating to the development of a place entered in the Heritage Register. These procedures are linked with the provisions of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* (SPA), but may be additional to other local planning requirements. Broadly speaking, under IPA, applications for major development will be made to the Fraser Coast Council, which in turn will refer the application to the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), which administers the *Heritage Act*.

Some works to State listed places can be dealt with directly by the Department of Environment by the granting of exemption certificates. An exemption certificate may be issued for development that:

- is permitted under a heritage agreement; or
- will not have a detrimental impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place.

There are also classes of development which have been defined as 'general exemptions'. These are listed at www.derm.qld.gov.au/cultural-heritage/owning-a-heritage-place/general-exemptions. No application is necessary for these works, which includes for example maintenance work and work of a minor nature providing they are carried out in accordance with the departmental guidelines.

Policy 2: Queensland Heritage Act 1992

The conservation and management of the Mortuary Chapel Maryborough Cemetery is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Queensland Heritage Act 1992 and the Sustainable Planning Act 2009.

Since the Entry in the Heritage Register was prepared other information regarding the Mortuary Chapel has come to light. The Heritage Register boundary for the Chapel also extends to the cemetery (both to the north and south of Walker Street) however the Entry contains little information regarding the cemetery.

Policy 3: Amendments to Entry in the Heritage Register

That the statement of significance, history and description sections of the Entry in the Heritage Register be amended to take account of the new information regarding the Mortuary Chapel and to include further information regarding the Maryborough Cemetery.

Retaining the significance of the place

As discussed in Chapter 5, the Mortuary Chapel Maryborough Cemetery is significant for various reasons. It is important not simply to acknowledge that the place is significant but also that action should be taken to maintain and where appropriate enhance that significance.

Policy 4: Retaining the significance of the place

The significance of the Mortuary Chapel should be retained and enhanced by ensuring:

- *that the building and fabric contained in the Schedule of Significant Elements together with the grounds and setting of the Mortuary Chapel are conserved in accordance with the 'Burra Charter'. In general terms, elements identified in the Schedule as of significance should be retained and conserved, while elements of minimal or no significance may be altered. Elements which are intrusive could be removed and replaced with more appropriate elements based on research;*
- *that any development or changes to the place do not diminish the significance of the place.*

Continuity of use

The Mortuary Chapel was built to provide shelter for mourners attending graveside services at the cemetery. It is also an important built element in the cemetery landscape and together with the cemetery has more recently become a tourist site.

Policy 5: Continuity of use

The use of the Mortuary Chapel as an integral facility for services and shelter within the Maryborough Cemetery should be maintained and respected as should its role as a focal point in the cemetery landscape.

Interpretation

The interpretation of places of significance is an important part of the conservation process. At the entrance to the cemetery, signage incorporates a useful plan of the cemetery layout and some information. A small plaque on the Chapel records the 1983 grant funded works. There is potential to develop further interpretative material although care would need to be taken with introducing new elements such as further signage on the site. Increasing the legibility of the site itself is often the best form of interpretation – in this case maintaining the chapel and cemetery in good condition (including fences, gates, paths, plantings and monuments).

Policy 6: Interpretation

Appropriate means of interpreting the place should be further developed.

Review of and access to the Conservation Management Plan

Policy 7: Review of and access to this report

This Conservation Management Plan should be reviewed every ten years or sooner if a substantial change has occurred or is planned. A copy of the report should be lodged with the Cultural Heritage Branch of the Department of Environment and Resource Management, the John Oxley Library and the Maryborough branch of the Fraser Coast Regional Council Library. Copies should also be lodged with the local historical societies and be available online on the Council or library website.

Qualified personnel

The repair of significant fabric frequently demands specialist skills and experience. Inappropriate work to fabric can not only result in damage, but also create greater problems in the long term. Equally important, the design of new elements requires special skills to ensure compatibility and that they are distinct from earlier fabric.

Policy 8: Qualified personnel

Work undertaken to the historic fabric should be done by persons with relevant training and experience. The design of any contemporary elements should be undertaken by persons with the appropriate experience and skills.

Maintenance and repair

The importance of regular maintenance to the building cannot be underestimated. A lack of maintenance and attention to potential threats can quickly result in deterioration of the fabric. Water penetration and white ant damage are common problems in timber structures such as the Mortuary Chapel. Regular maintenance and inspection of the building should continue to be a priority to ensure that damage and deterioration to existing fabric, particularly significant fabric, is minimised.

Policy 9: Maintenance program

A regular inspection and maintenance program should be adopted for the building and grounds. This should include annual termite inspection and control (bait box program; checking masonry perimeter for evidence of activity), maintenance of painting, flashings and drainage and inspection of ceiling via manhole.

Materials and methods of repair

In the repair of the building, the use of correct materials is important to retain the significance of the Mortuary Chapel, and is also often the most cost effective in the long term. The use of inappropriate materials and incorrect methods of repair can result in irreversible damage to fabric and additional expense.

Policy 10: Specification of materials and methods of repair

When materials are required for repair to significant fabric, they should be the same or similar to that used in the construction of the building. Expert advice should be sought as to the correct specification of materials and methods of repair.

Removal of fabric / elements

The removal of significant fabric or elements may be necessary for several reasons. The situation may arise where the replacement or repair of a damaged item of value is not immediately possible. An option is the removal of the item and the insertion of a temporary replacement. The existing item should be stored and properly catalogued.

Policy 11: Removal of fabric / elements

When significant fabric / elements are removed, they should be stored in a secure location preferably on site and catalogued.

Conserving the setting

The cemetery has a flat topography peppered with mature trees in which the Mortuary Chapel provides a feature as an architectural folly. The layout of the cemetery with its grid arrangement of paths and plantings is an integral part of its significance and the siting of the Chapel at the intersection of two major cross paths an important part of that. The Chapel sits on axis with the entrance from Walker

Street, which was apparently established as the main entrance at the time of building the chapel (1873). Whilst the cemetery setting is clearly significant, more work needs to be done to better understand the significance of those elements and their relationship with the Chapel.

Policy 12: Preserving the setting

Preserve the cemetery setting including the grid layout, paths, fences, gates, plantings, monuments and axial relationships within the landscape (of which the Mortuary Chapel is an important component).

Preserve the connection of the Chapel with the main entrance to Walker Street (with which historically linked).

Further research should be undertaken. Refer also Policy 26 - a conservation management plan for the Cemetery.

Policy 13: New buildings and amenities

No plans are believed to be current for erecting new structures in the cemetery however should this occur care needs to be taken when considering the location for new buildings and amenities. The chapel is intended as a focal point and needs to be respected.

Policy 14: Landscaping

Existing mature trees provide a comparable and pleasing scale to the Mortuary Chapel. Vegetation should remain a comfortable distance from the Chapel as is the existing condition. Tree management should be considered as part of the conservation management plan for the Cemetery.

Conserving the views

The views to and from the Mortuary Chapel within the cemetery are an important part of its significance as are the views from beyond the cemetery.

Policy 15: Views within the cemetery

Subject to growth of vegetation, views including axial views along paths of the Mortuary Chapel should be maintained from all parts of the cemetery.

Policy 16: Views from beyond the cemetery

The white picket fence with large ball-topped entry posts and decorative gates frame a picturesque vista from the Walker Street entrance to the Mortuary Chapel in the distance. The streetscape value of this vista to the Mortuary Chapel and its grounds should be protected. Other views, notably from Walker Street (including from the northern section of the cemetery, Bright Street and Kent Street are also significant and should be respected.

Conserving the building

Roof and rainwater goods

These include fleche dome, vaulted roofs, gutters and down-pipes and rainwater heads. All were replaced in 1983 although it appears that lead flashings to the dome were re-instated although they may have been somewhat modified after repair (eg the horizontal band of flashing on the broad lower section of the fleche tower appears to have been slightly altered in profile and now appears to be more streamlined). A number of segmented flashings were re-used / replaced 1983. Valley flashings require vigilance as they are particularly vulnerable. Down-pipes currently



Figure 37. Mortuary Chapel – view (RA 2010)

shed directly onto the ground. (refer Policy 21 re drainage) An early photo appears to show a weather vane / decorative element on the top of the dome roof.

Policy 17: Roof and rainwater goods

Regular inspections of lead and galvanised rainwater goods should be continued. Where damage arises, repairs should be properly investigated and documented in accordance with best conservation practice. Where appropriate, new elements should be matched with composition and profile of originals. Particular care needs to be taken when repairing and or replacing that details and profiles of original elements are matched. Refer also Policy 21 re drainage.

Further research should be undertaken regarding early (possibly original) weather vane / decorative element on roof of chapel. If sufficient evidence, element should be re-instated.



Figure 38. c1900 image of Chapel shows decorative element on the apex of the dome roof. Note also the plantings visible in the photo.

Timber elements

Timber elements include structural members, cladding (chamfer board and weatherboard), decoration, louvred windows, ceiling and internal walls (diagonally laid and beaded). Some of these elements have been replaced over time including replacement of weatherboards and chamferboards externally (some areas appear mismatched) and internally the ceiling which was most likely originally beaded VJ but no longer. Two forms of the nibbed walls to openings exist. It is not clear if both are original. There is sheeting infill to some panels, which is later. Timber seats are not believed to be original but may have been introduced for both practical and aesthetic reasons (to hide the gap between the walls and floor level). Early correspondence suggests there were issues with water ingress through high level louvred openings onto the ceiling.

Policy 18: Timber elements

Regular inspections of structural and other timbers should be continued. Where damage arises, repairs should be properly investigated and documented in accordance with best conservation practice. Where appropriate, new elements should be matched with composition and profile of originals.

In future, the beaded VJ should be re-instated when replacement of ceiling is required. Ceiling space should be investigated re water ingress from louvred openings in fleche and to confirm whether louvred openings are open or sealed. If action required, there should be a balance between water-proofing and natural ventilation.

The use of chamferboard and weatherboard requires further investigation. Further evidence may become available (for example early photos of the chapel or scraping of timbers) however it is not currently clear if the use of weatherboards on part of the fleche and on some external walls below the sills is original or not. In any event weatherboard may have been selected for its water shedding qualities. If investigation does not yield a definitive answer, then consistency of treatment is recommended.

Further investigation may reveal whether both forms of the nibbed walls to openings are original. Both are at least early and without contrary evidence retained. Later sheet lining to nibbed walls should be replaced with broad solid timber vertical boards based on evidence..

Seating is not believed to be original but should be retained.

Folded Sheet Steel Column Capitals

These may have been introduced to protect columns.

Policy 19: Folded Sheet Steel Column Capitals

Although not original, they are believed to have been introduced to protect columns and should be retained for that purpose.

Perimeter masonry base

The bell end appears original. The base is functional providing structural support and enabling visual inspection for termites.

Policy 20: Perimeter masonry base

Retain perimeter masonry base.

Drainage

Damage to timber cladding from rainwater splashing onto the ground from down-pipes and back onto adjacent walls has been repaired in the past, without resolving the cause of the problem.

Policy 21: Drainage

Drainage of rainwater away from the building is important and should be assessed for improvements. Investigate the installation of below ground agricultural drains to carry rainwater from down-pipes effectively away from the building or alternatively dispersal into rubble pits may be more effective.

Drainage within the Mortuary Chapel is also an issue in part related to the raised floor levels and should be assessed. Refer Policy 22 - Floor levels.

Levels - ground levels at pathways, external walls and internal floor levels

There have been various changes to ground levels within the Mortuary Chapel and its immediate surrounds. The increased ground level within the Chapel may have occurred as a means of overcoming problematic water issues.

Policy 22: Levels

The various changes to ground levels within the Mortuary Chapel and its immediate surrounds require overall assessment. If drainage in and around the building could be improved (see Policy 21 - Drainage), levels could be re-assessed.

Painting

To date, the earliest located photo of the Mortuary Chapel is believed to date from c1900. It appears to show a more contrasting colour scheme than presently used.

Policy 23: Painting

The Mortuary Chapel should be painted in its original colour scheme. A full analysis should be undertaken.

Tie down

Policy 24: Tie-down

The structure should be assessed by a heritage engineer.

Security

The cemetery is in a relatively isolated spot although vandalism has been rare. Until 2009 the Sexton and Assistant Sexton lived onsite giving a measure of security, however these houses are now privately rented. Twice nightly security patrols are about to commence.

Policy 25: Security

Security arrangements need to be regularly reviewed. An on-site staff presence is ideal and re-instating this practice should be considered.

Conservation plan for the cemetery

The whole of the Maryborough Cemetery (lots 290 & 291 SP170657 to the north and south of Walker Street) is included in the State Heritage Listing Boundary. This report has focused on the Mortuary Chapel but the cemetery itself (notably the 1873 section including the landscape and monuments) is significant. Further research will undoubtedly contribute to a better understanding of the values of the cemetery and assist with management issues.

Policy 26: A conservation plan for the cemetery

A conservation management plan should be prepared for the Maryborough Cemetery.

Cemetery records

The original records of the Cemetery Trust are believed to have been lost, however the Trust's proceedings were recorded in the *Maryborough Chronicle* and correspondence with Maryborough Council can also be traced through Council meeting and correspondence records (held in Maryborough). Records related to the cemetery following the assumption of responsibility by the Council are held the Fraser Coast Regional Council in Maryborough. Complete records of burials are held in the Burial Registers held at the Maryborough Cemetery and in the Maryborough Strongroom.

Policy 27: Cemetery records

It is recommended that an inventory of the surviving records of the cemetery be undertaken and that digitising of relevant material be considered as a means of preserving the material as well as making it more accessible. The search for further records should be continued.

8.0 References

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"Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough, Qld". Application for funding c1982

Letter from Deputy Co-ordinator Department of the Arts, National Parks and Sport to City Administrator Maryborough City Council 17 December 1982

"Report. Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough, Qld". Report on completion of project c1983

Material from MARYBOROUGH DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY including:

Maryborough City Council, "Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough General Cemetery"

Extracts from *Maryborough Chronicle* 12 October 1863; 21 November 1866; 2 October 1882; 21 March 1883; 31 May 1883; 3 July 1883; 27 August 1883; 29 September 1883; 3 & 10 October 1883; 23 November 1883

Material from MARYBOROUGH WIDE BAY & BURNETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC including:

Extracts from the *Maryborough Chronicle* 4 July 1861; 12 August 1870; 13,17, 24 September 1870, 11 February 1871; 9 May 1871; 3 August 1871; 9 June 1873; 30 November 1874; 26 October 1875; 15 January 1876; 5 August 1876; 10 November 1883; 23 November 1883; 6 October 2001

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Rules and Regulations of the Maryborough Cemetery 1870

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National Trust of Queensland file no MARY 1/027 and citation

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www.derm.qld.gov.au

9.0 Appendices

9.1 EXTRACT FROM ENTRY IN THE HERITAGE REGISTER 600689

Significance

The Mortuary Chapel at the Maryborough Cemetery by its size and quality demonstrates the growth of Maryborough in the late nineteenth century. The building provides evidence of nineteenth century burial practice, with mourners using burial sections segregated according to religious denomination able to access the building from each of its four sides.

The building is a rare example of a mortuary chapel with four entrances, in an unusual building form.

The mortuary chapel forms a strong focal point within the Maryborough Cemetery, combining this landmark quality with considerable visual appeal in the cemetery landscape.

The cemetery and chapel have importance to the local community as the principal place of public burial in Maryborough for over 120 years.

It also has a strong association with the life and work of Queensland architect, Willoughby Powell.

History

The Mortuary Chapel at the Maryborough Cemetery was constructed in 1883-4, several years after the establishment of the cemetery, to shelter mourners attending graveside services. This unusual building was designed by Queensland architect Willoughby Powell. The original township of Maryborough was situated, not in its current place, but on the north of the Mary River, after wharves were established in 1847-8 providing transport for wool from sheep stations on the Burnett River. In 1850 Surveyor, HR Labatt, arrived in Maryborough with instructions to "examine the River Mary ... to suggest ... the best site or sites for the laying out of the town, having regard to the convenience of shipping on one hand and internal communication on the other...also...point out the spots desirable as reserves for public building, church, quay and for places for public recreation." The site recommended by Labatt was not where settlement was established but further east and from the early 1850s this is where the growing town developed. The present Maryborough Cemetery was established in the mid 1870s, and was the third cemetery site in the town. As Maryborough grew previous cemetery sites became inappropriately close to the centre of town. The site of the first cemetery is unknown and the second site was in Kent Street and was registered in October 1871. Development surrounded this site and by 1873 it was closed and the current cemetery site was established. In the early twentieth century families were given the option of having headstones removed from the second cemetery site to the present site. Like most nineteenth century cemeteries, the Maryborough Cemetery was designed on a grid plan with burial areas used by various religious denominations separated by lanes and walkways. At the intersection of two principal tree-lined lanes, a mortuary chapel was placed to provide shelter for family and friends of the deceased attending grave side services. It was constructed by Bundaberg firm Clement and Sons at a cost of £534. Occasionally mortuary chapels were constructed for one denomination and placed in their section of the cemetery, but this centrally placed chapel served all denominations, the four entrances ensuring that each of the surrounding religious sections had equal access and ownership of the small chapel. The entrances are large to permit entry of a horse-drawn hearse. Its position at the intersection of the cemetery lanes and

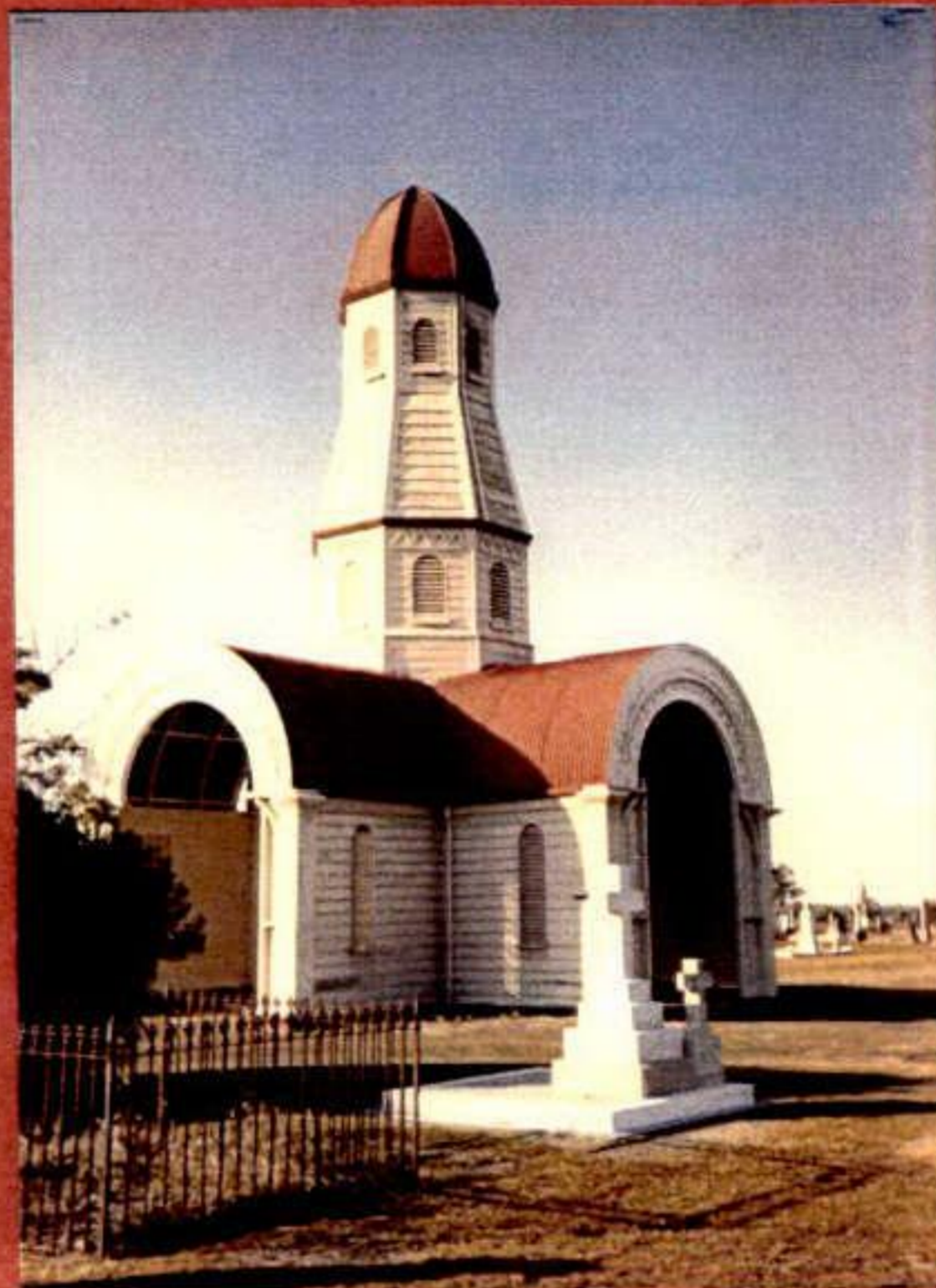
its height make it a landmark and its tower form has caused it to be locally known as 'the rocket'. The architect, Willoughby Powell, was born in Cheltenham, England in about 1848 and was articled to the Cheltenham City Architect before emigrating to Queensland where he worked for Richard Gailey. He joined the Public Works Department as a draftsman in June 1874 but won a competition for the Toowoomba Grammar School and left his government position to supervise the construction works in 1875. He maintained a practice in Toowoomba until 1878 before returning to practice in Brisbane in 1879 and then to Maryborough in about 1882. During his time in Maryborough he designed many important buildings including Baddow House, the Royal Exchange Hotel, shops, the grandstand and stables at the Maryborough Turf Club, Tattersall's Hotel, Cafe Royal Hotel and a parsonage in Lennox Street. Powell again returned to practice in Brisbane and designed the Warwick Town Hall and the third Toowoomba Town Hall and was again appointed to the Works Department where he remained until 1902. Powell designed many fine buildings throughout Queensland and the Mortuary Chapel was one of the most unusual.

Description

The Mortuary Chapel is prominently sited within the Maryborough Cemetery at the intersection of two principle axes. The Cemetery is laid out on a simple grid plan with a series of intersecting lanes and walkways separating the denominational sections. The lanes are lined with established trees and other trees and plantings are found within the burial sections. The cemetery contains representational examples of memorials from the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The timber building comprises two intersecting barrel vaults, producing four identical round arched entrances at the ends of the vaults. Surmounting the point of intersection of the vaults is a tall fleche, in the form of a tower and dome, which doubles the full height of the building. The vaulted sections of the building are constructed with timber framed walls clad externally with horizontal chamfered timber boards and internally with diagonally laid tongue and groove boarding. The curved roofs of the vaults are formed with corrugated iron. The entrances, through the vaulted ends of these sections, have a wide carved timber fascia boards which rest visually on timber piers flanking the entrances. Internally the ceiling space is lined with regularly spaced timber trusses in the vaulted sections, and lined with timber boarding over the intersection. The timber fleche is supported on heavy timber beams with brackets, found inside the chapel at the four corners of the central internal space under the fleche. The fleche has a rocket like quality, as it tapers from an octagonal base to a more narrow octagonal drum surmounted by an octagonal domed roof, clad with painted sheet metal, possibly zinc. On each face of the octagonal base and drum are round arched openings infilled with small fixed timber louvres. Other narrow round arched openings, like lancets, on the face of the buildings are also infilled with similar louvres.

9.2 NATIONAL ESTATE PROGRAMME GRANT 1983

“Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough, Qld”. Application for funding c1982 (Fraser Coast Regional Council file)



RESTORATION PROJECT

MORTUARY CHAPEL
MARYBOROUGH GENERAL CEMETERY
MARYBOROUGH, QLD.



MARYBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL, MARYBOROUGH, QUEENSLAND.

BOX 110 P.O., MARYBOROUGH, 4650.
TELEPHONE (071) 21 2431

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

PROJECT: Restoration of the Mortuary Chapel
Maryborough General Cemetery
Walker Street,
MARYBOROUGH, Q. 4650

TRUSTEES: Maryborough City Council
City Hall,
388 Kent Street,
MARYBOROUGH, Q. 4650

Liason Officer - N.D. Harvey, City Health Surveyor
(071) 21 2431

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

It is desired to restore the Mortuary Chapel to its original appearance so that it may continue to be used as a Chapel.

THE BUILDING:

The Mortuary Chapel is sited in the centre of the Maryborough General Cemetery, and is located at the junction of the main internal roadways of the Cemetery, which actually run through the building.

The Mortuary Chapel is thought to have been erected about 1883. The building is an intricate timber-framed tower structure. The ground floor plan is cruciform with four identical transepts which form the body of the Chapel. Each transept has chamferboard walls, diagonal tongue-and groove board lining, a large doorway surmounted by a wooden arch, and a barrel-shaped iron roof. Wooden louvre windows are situated in the walls of the transepts and at two levels in the tower. The octagonal tower is capped with a pointed octagonal iron-roofed dome.

The building is adorned with Norman style motif. It has been suggested that this motif illustrates a Monotheistic faith, without expressing a Trinitarian view which would commit the building to being suitable only for Christian use. The Monotheistic adornment would allow use by all faiths.

The large areas of the transepts permit a hearse and mourners to move inside the building. Funeral services have traditionally been held in the Chapel when inclement weather has made graveside committal services inconvenient, and other funerals at which mourners have preferred not to witness interment.

The Mortuary Chapel illustrates nineteenth century funeral customs and usages. It is part of the social history of the City, not just by its architectural interest, but also by its traditional use.

NATIONAL TRUST LISTING:

The building was listed by the National Trust in November, 1979. The reasons for listing are as follows:-

1. Architectural interest, as an attempt to create a Norman building in vernacular materials.
2. Social History, illustrative of nineteenth burial customs.

RESTORATION:

The deteriorated roofing and non-functional drainage has allowed the elements access to the timber frame of the building. Water penetration has caused extensive deterioration of the frame, external cladding, and internal lining. Much of the louvre joinery and adornment is deteriorated. The tower's ceiling has fallen out, exposing its frame.

Continued water penetration into the building's frame and linings necessitates urgent attention, so that the building may be preserved. Restoration of the deteriorated components and exclusion of the elements is desired, not only to prevent further deterioration of the building, but also to preserve it.

The building's restoration needs have been assessed, and costed. It is desired to carry out the carpentry, plumbing and painting progressively over a period of nine weeks.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK:

Carpentry - Replacement of deteriorated frame members, external cladding, internal lining, louvre windows and joinery.

Plumbing - Replacement of the deteriorated roof, guttering, and flashings.

Painting - Painting of the new work, and re-painting of the whole structure.

COST ESTIMATES:

<u>Carpentry</u> -	(a) Labour	-	\$ 2,385	
	(b) Materials	-	\$ 2,100	
	(c) Scaffolding	-	\$ 300	\$ 4,785
<u>Plumbing</u> -	(a) Labour	-	\$ 3,110	
	(b) Materials	-	\$ 2,180	
	(c) Scaffolding	-	\$ 200	\$ 5,490
<u>Painter</u> -	(a) Labour	-	\$ 3,855	
	(b) Materials	-	\$ 495	
	(c) Scaffolding	-	\$ 400	\$ 4,750
<u>Total Project Estimate</u> -				\$15,025

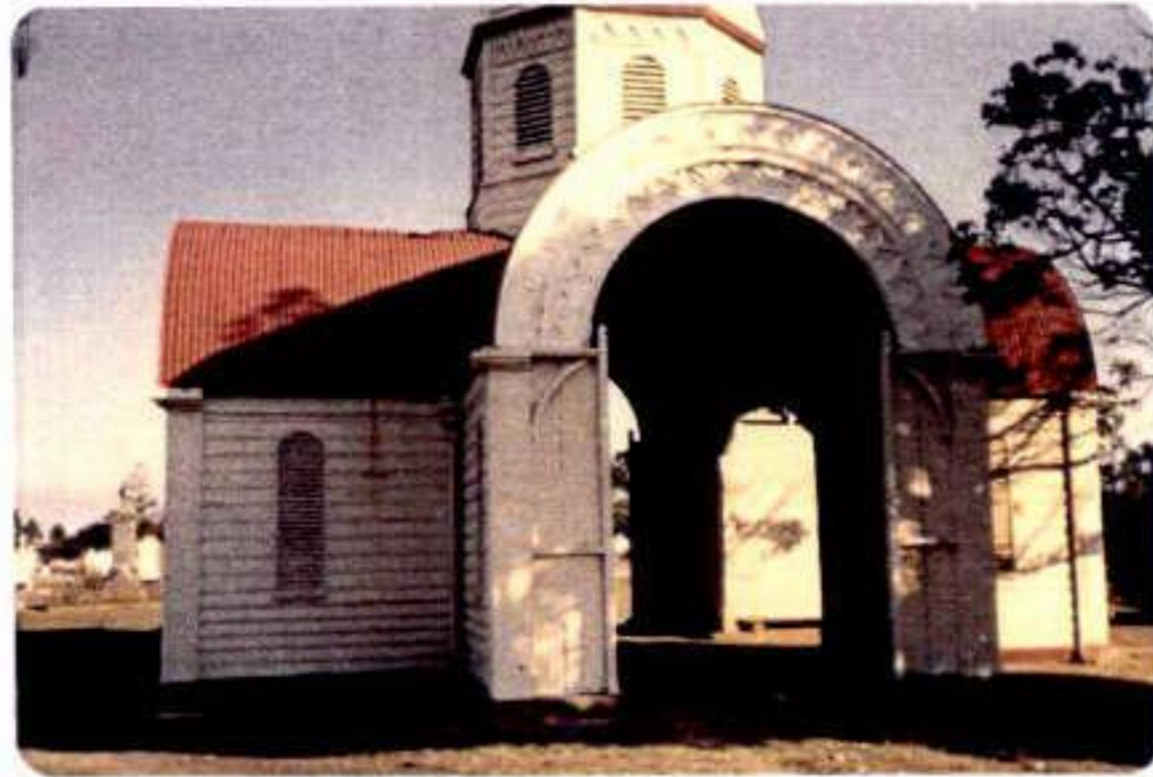
- 3 -

FUNDING:

Funding for this project has not previously been sought from any source. Funds from within Council's own resources are not available.

CONCLUSION:

Funding for this project is sought for a building which is worthy of preservation, not only because of its architecture and historical social role, but also the continuation of its traditional social role.



- TOP - View Illustrating Transept Entrance.
CENTRE - Exterior Junction of Transepts and Barrel Rooves.
BOTTOM - Interior Junction of the Transepts.

Letter from Deputy Co-ordinator Department of the Arts, National Parks and Sport to City Administrator Maryborough City Council 17 December 1982 (Fraser Coast Regional Council file)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS,
NATIONAL PARKS AND SPORT



P.O. BOX 156
NORTH QUAY, Q. 4000

1701

17th December 1982
MARYBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL
20 DEC 82 10 18 0
MARYBOROUGH

Dear Mr Farr,

NATIONAL ESTATE PROGRAMME 1982/83

I have to advise that the Honourable the Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts and the relevant Commonwealth Minister, under an agreement between the State and Commonwealth have approved the allocation of a grant of \$15,000 to your organisation under the approved programme for the purpose of:-

<u>Project</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Conservation of the Mortuary Chapel, Maryborough	1982/83	\$15,000

This grant is made subject to the project concerned being commenced before the end of the current financial year but spending will be permitted to extend beyond that date. However, it is desired to have as much as possible of the programme funds expended by the end of the financial year. If for any reason it is not possible to commence a programme, early advice to that effect is required so that funds may be redirected to other areas. Similarly, if advances have already been made and the project for some reason cannot proceed, then the advances must be refunded promptly.

This Department will administer the current programme and I set out hereunder the procedures and conditions that are to apply. Unless special circumstances can be shown payment to recipients will be made by way of advances, the first advance to be based on an estimate of funds which could be expended by the end of June 1983. All such estimates will need to be authenticated and supported with written advice from an architect, builder or suitable competent authority. Further advances for each project will be made on a similar basis.

Following the expenditure of advances and the completion of the project, recipients must forward copies of authorising vouchers, reconciliation statements and any other accounting documents required.

In addition, at the end of each financial year each recipient will be required to produce a certificate completed by the organisation's Auditor certifying that expenditure during the period was incurred within the terms of the programme. The form of this certificate is prescribed and examples will be forwarded to each body at the appropriate time.

All restoration work under the programme is to be carried out in accordance with the Venice Principles of Icomos. I would also advise that where the grant is to be spent on council or Statutory Trust owned properties, a resolution that the properties will remain in public ownership should be passed by the body concerned.

If you have any queries about any requirements in relation to this programme, do not hesitate to contact Mr A. Wilson of this Department by telephoning 227 6187

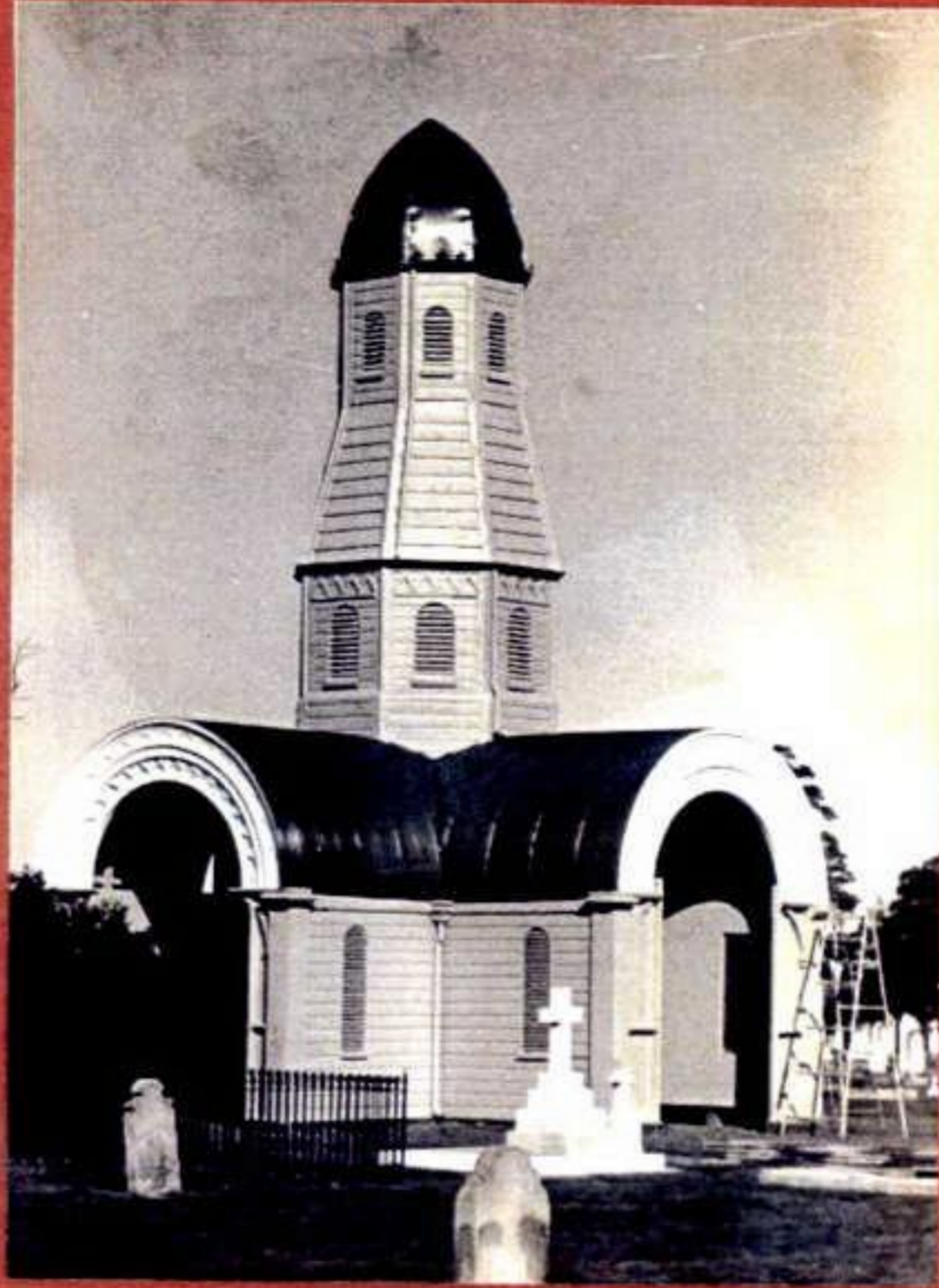
Yours sincerely,

Allen Callaghan,
Deputy Co-ordinator

Mr J.R. Farr,
City Administrator,
Maryborough City Council,
P.O. Box 110,
MARYBOROUGH. 4650

OFFICER	INITIALS
L. J. BROWN	
D. J. WILSON	2
	1
	3 W/S

“Report. Restoration Project. Mortuary Chapel Maryborough General Cemetery, Maryborough, Qld”. Report on completion of project c1983. (Fraser Coast Regional Council file)



REPORT
RESTORATION PROJECT
MORTUARY CHAPEL
MARYBOROUGH GENERAL CEMETERY
MARYBOROUGH, QLD.

REPORT - RESTORATION PROJECT

MORTUARY CHAPEL

MARYBOROUGH GENERAL CEMETERY

MARYBOROUGH

Restoration work commenced on the 14th April, 1983, and was completed on the 25th July. Carpentry, Plumbing and Painting of the structure was carried out by J.E. Watson, Building Contractor, Maryborough. Pest control treatment and crushed rock floor treatment was undertaken by Maryborough City Council staff. Engagement of a single contractor allowed co-ordination of the use of a single set of scaffolding continuously throughout the structure's restoration, and contributed to the project being completed substantially under estimate. The project report is divided into five parts, as follows:-

A. ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION

erection of the scaffolding allowed thorough assessment of materials' dimensions and quantities. Commencing 18th April, the Tower roof and Vault rooves were removed, thus exposing the purlins, beams and lead roof valleys. Portions of external cladding, timber mouldings and sills, and decorative ironwork were removed for use as templates in the preparation of new materials. Sampling of the interior and exterior paintwork was carried out to determine the nature of the materials originally applied to the structure. The structural timbers were found to be in an acceptable condition, other than for dry rotted and deteriorated sections. Water damage appears to have been the main source of structural deterioration. All rounded and curved timbers were found to be dressed pine, comprising a number of keyed lengths, so as to achieve the desired shape. Pine timbers were found to be in poor condition.

B. CARPENTRY RESTORATION

- (i) Replaced - Dressed pine frame and cone-shaped frame of the Tower Dome.
- (ii) Replaced - Deteriorated window mouldings and louvre blades. Pine timber was used. Approximately 15% replaced.

...../2

B. CARPENTRY RESTORATION (Continued):

- (iii) Replaced - Deteriorated pine purlins and beams. Approximately 40% replaced. No top wall plates, and braces required replacement.
- (iv) Braced - Approximately 5% of studs required bracing, whilst portions of the external cladding were removed. White Ant infestation appeared to have been checked at some previous period.
- (v) Replaced - Deteriorated and missing T & G internal wall linings and exterior chamber-board cladding. Notably, old templates were used by the City joinery firm, Fairlie's Wide Bay Joinery to mill the new timber.
- (vi) Refurbished and Filled - Transept entrance jambs.
- (vii) Replaced - Tower ceiling with new tongue and groove lining. Ceiling joists were installed to compensate for the downward bowing of the original frame.

C. PLUMBING RESTORATION

- (i) Replaced - Tower dome with flat galvanized sheet. The original decoration was replaced after straightening and galvanizing.
- (ii) Refurbished - Lead flashings and valleys. Straightening, re-backing and re-soldering was required.
- (iii) Replaced - Transept rooves with 24 Gauge "Blue Orb" corrugated iron.
- (iv) Replaced - Quad guttering, O.G. guttering, rain heads and down-pipes. All work fabricated locally.
- (v) Refurbished - All decorative work, straightened, primed and re-installed.

...../3

D. PAINTING

- (i) Primed - All new timberwork and plumbing-work.
- (ii) Re-primed - All new decorative plumbing-work.
- (iii) Coated - All surfaces coated with two coats of acrylic paint after preparation.

E. PEST CONTROL

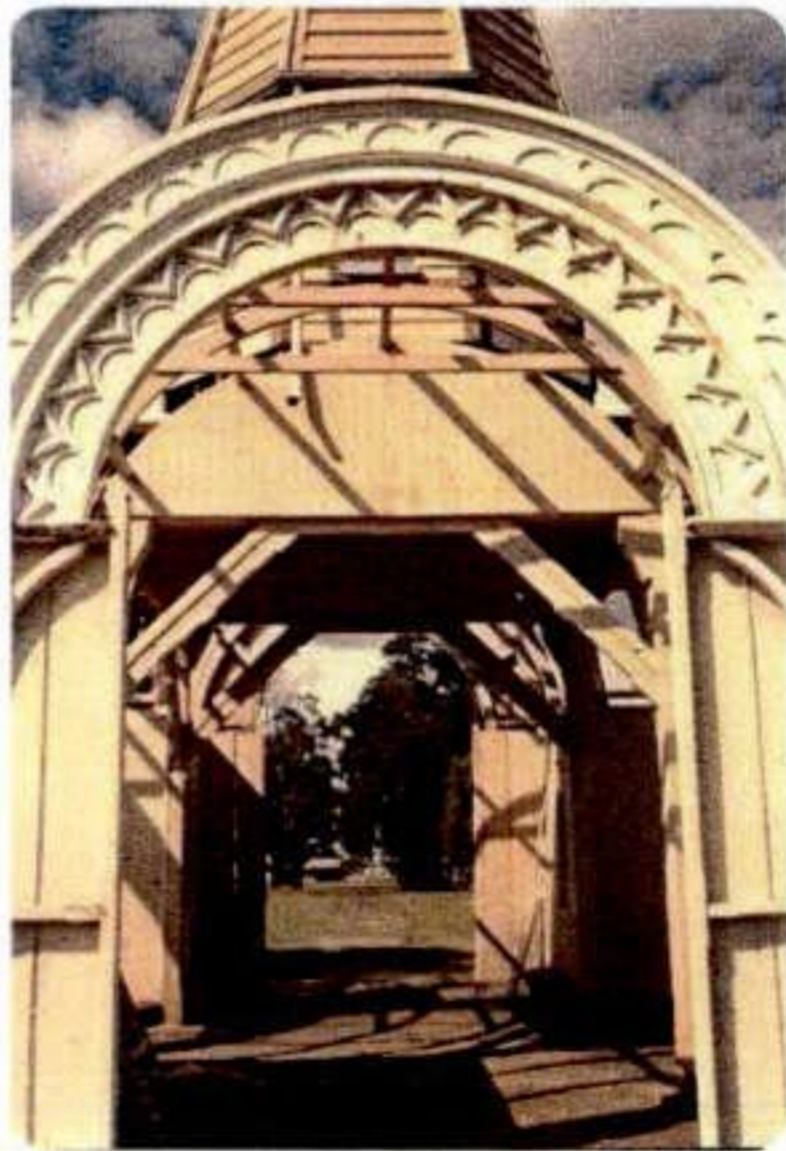
- (i) Frame - Treated with residual pesticide whilst exposed. Unexposed areas treated by the application of residual pesticide carried into access holes by hot fog, generated by a thermal fogger.
- (ii) Earthen Floor - Removed to a depth of 100mm. Residual insecticide applied with a high volume/low pressure pneumatic sprayer over three days, to allow soakage into the footings area. The floor was re-filled with finely crushed rock.

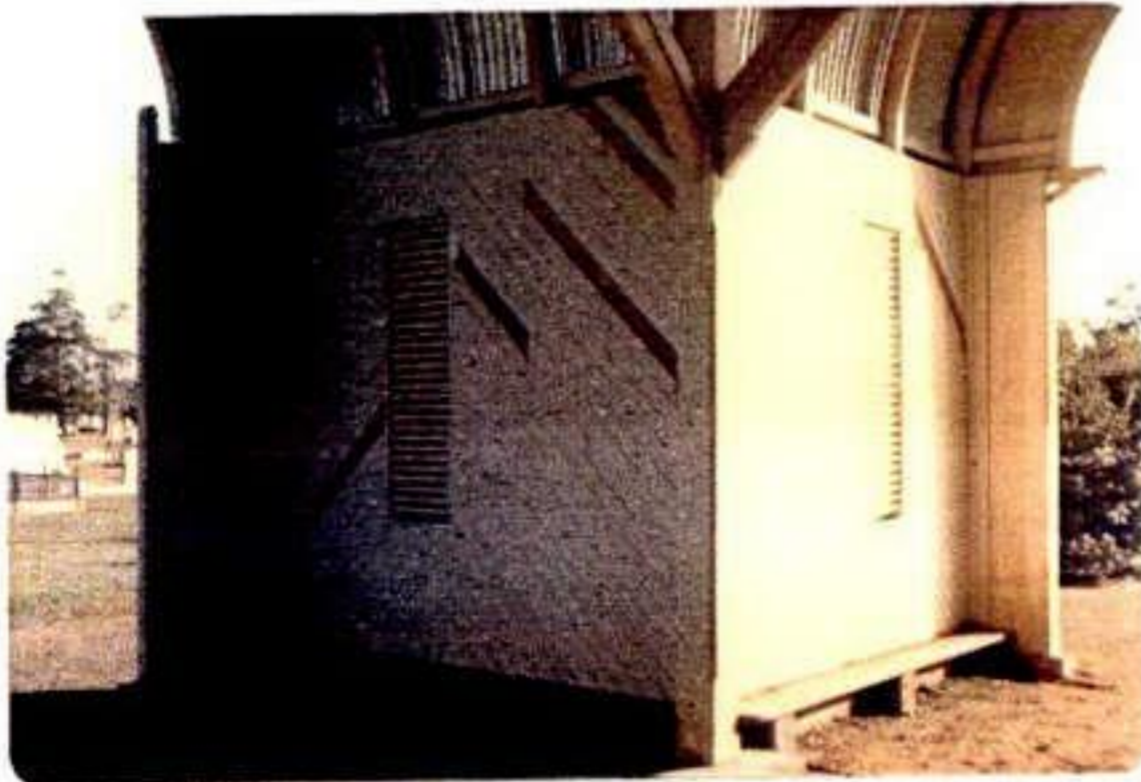
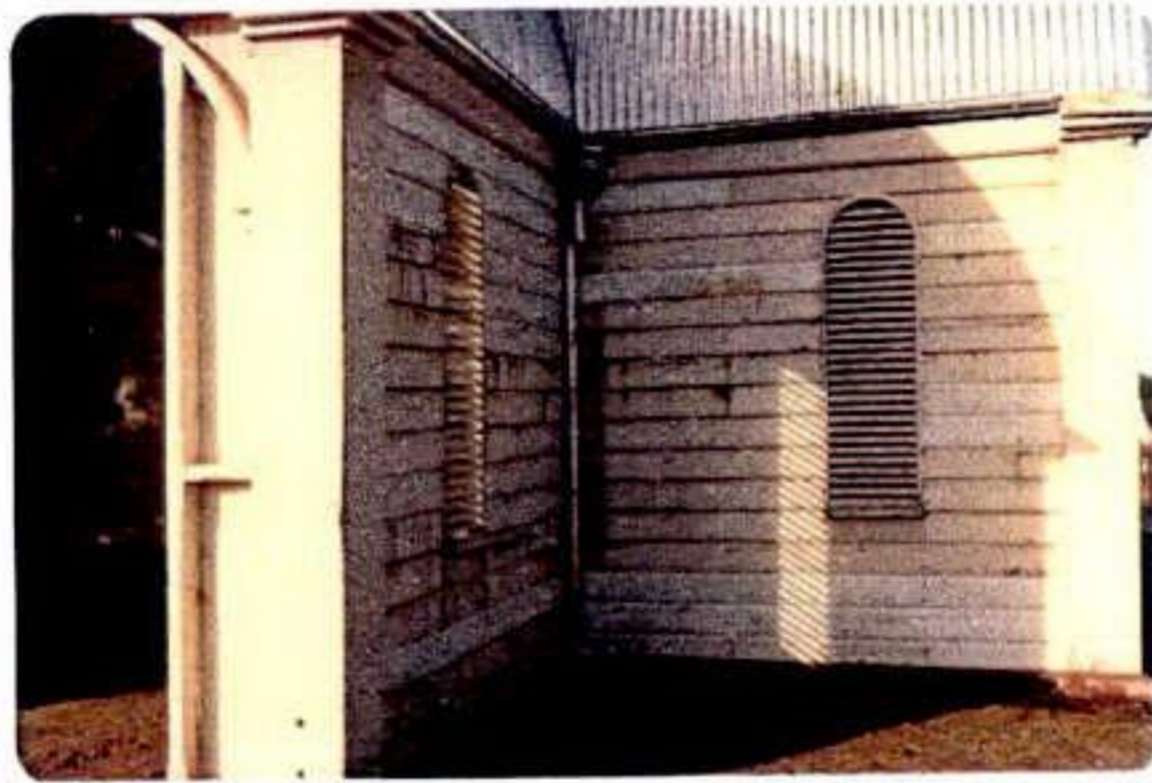
CONCLUSION:

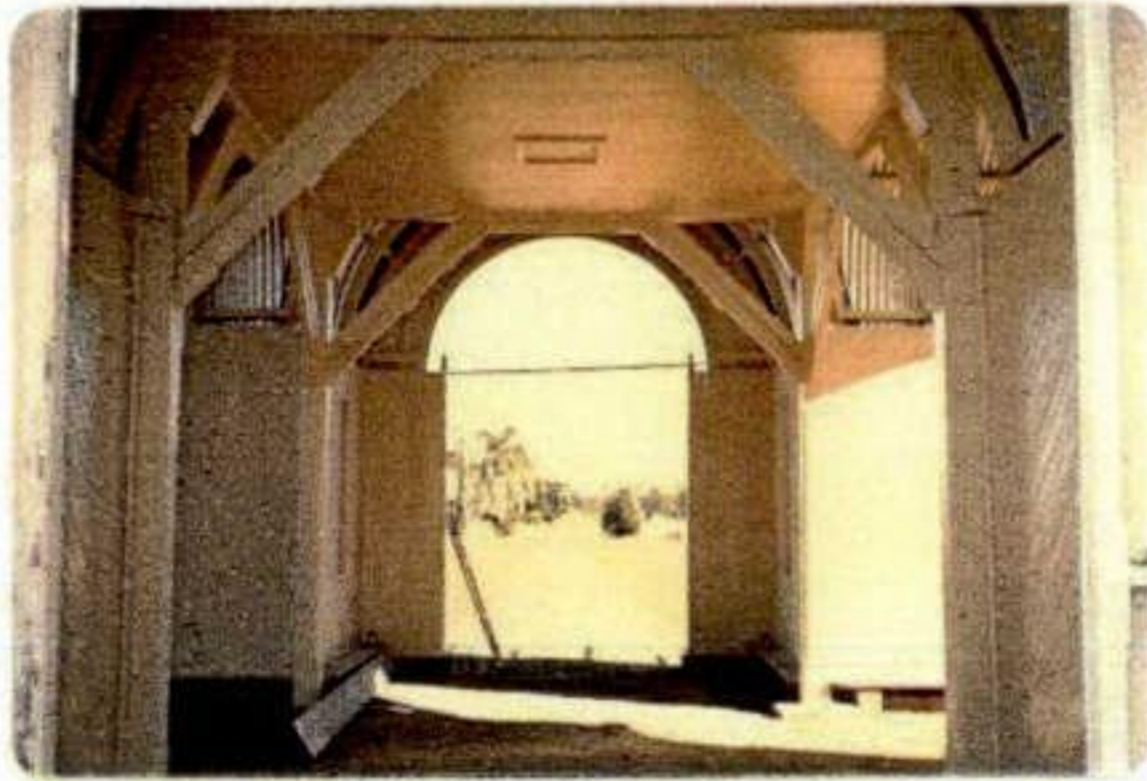
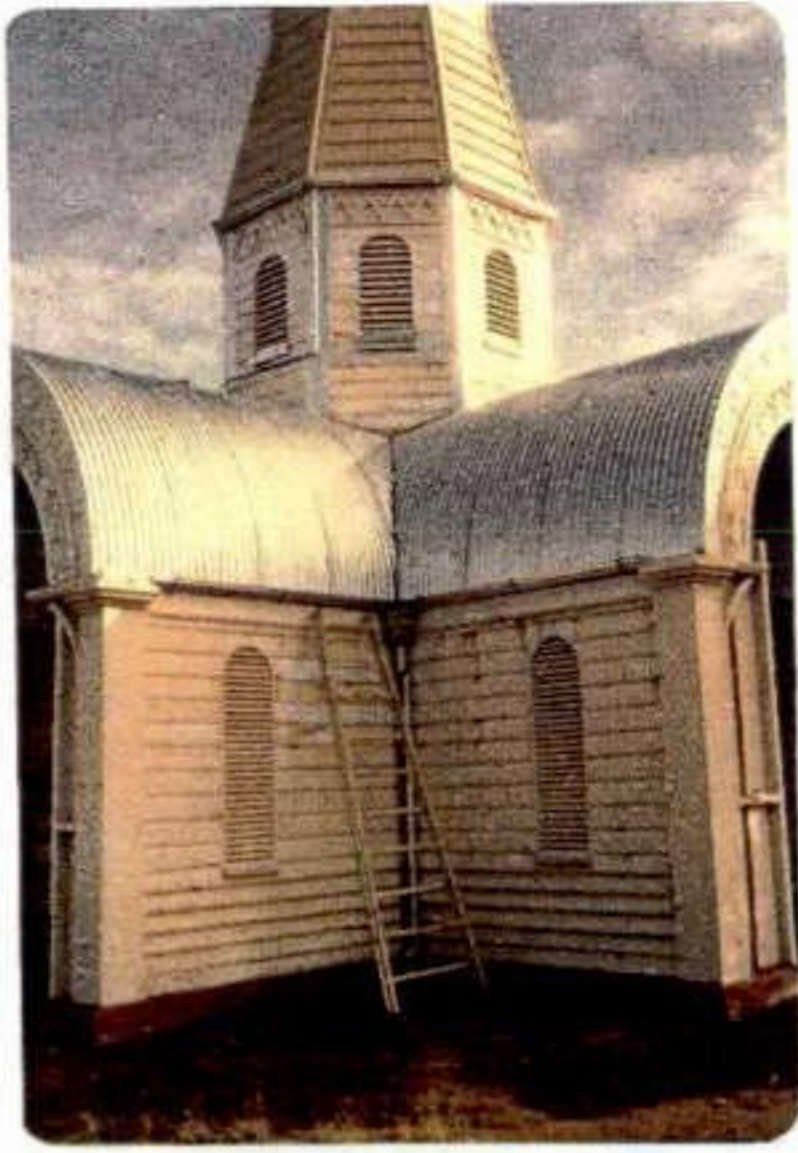
Assessments to determine compliance with the Australian ICOMOS Guidelines for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter), were undertaken on 27th April, 5th May, 9th May, 11th May, 16th May, coinciding with thorough inspections. It is considered that the Guidelines were substantially followed. The Mortuary Chapel's traditional use for Committal Services recommenced on the 23rd June, prior to the project's completion.

PHOTOGRAPH INDEX

1. Roofing removed, new dome frame complete.
2. Transepts without roofing, deteriorated purlins exposed.
3. Transepts without roofing, tower without flashings.
4. New External cladding, and new guttering, heads and downpipes.
5. New internal lining, and new window sills.
6. New roofing, and new tower flashings.
7. Structure painting underway.
8. Interior painting underway, including new tower ceiling.







9.3 EXTRACT FROM QLD ARCHITECTS OF THE 19TH CENTURY

(Donald Watson & Judith McKay, "Willoughby Powell, *Old Architects of the 19th Century. A Biographical Dictionary*. Brisbane: Qld Museum, 1994, 147-8)

POWELL, Willoughby

ing the J.J. Hislop and Watson, Ferguson and Co.'s building in Queen Street (1882). In April 1882 Powell moved to Maryborough to participate in a building boom which offered him a range of work from industrial sheds to a mansion for the town's wealthiest resident, Edgar Thomas Aldridge. While practising privately in Maryborough he seems to have also been a local draftsman for the Public Works Department.

On his return to Brisbane early in 1885 Powell maintained his own architectural practice and on 23 April married Elizabeth Street, an American. At about the same time he was placed second in a competition for a new Town Hall at Warwick, his design later being adopted by the Warwick Municipal Council in preference to the winning design by George Clark. In July 1886 Powell won another prestigious competition, when his design was chosen from the 15 entries submitted for a new Presbyterian Church, Wickham Terrace, Brisbane. He served on the committee of the Brisbane School of Arts in 1887-89 and was an examiner in building construction and architectural drawing at its Technical College. In 1889 Powell became a Fellow of the newly formed Queensland Institute of Architects. By January 1889, after completing his prize-winning buildings, he returned to Richard Gailey's office as chief draftsman and remained there until the collapse of the local building trade in 1892. Thereafter Powell remained substantially unemployed and "almost destitute" until re-appointed to the Works Department on 3 August 1896 as a temporary draftsman. "Thoroughly sober", "competent" and reliable, he was appointed to the permanent staff on 1 July 1899, several months after he won yet another design competition, for a new Town Hall at Toowoomba. Powell had to give up supervision of its construction to the Toowoomba architects James Marks and Son to receive his permanent appointment. His retrenchment on 30 June 1902 was, therefore, a bitter blow, particularly as he remained unemployed for years afterwards. Powell's considerable architectural career had been forgotten by the time he died of old age in Brisbane on 16 April 1920. He was privately interred at Nundah Cemetery.

References: WOR/A, 1876/2419, 1886/74, 1900/7760, 1905/4481, 1909/9323, QSA; "The New Grammar School, Toowoomba, Queensland", *ATCL* 21 August 1875, p.301; *Aldine*, vol. 2, Townsville biographies, p.4; professional notices. *Maryborough Chronicle*, 29 April 1882, p.2, and *Brisbane Courier*, 1 January 1885, p.1; marriage notice, *Brisbane Courier*, 30 April 1885, p.1; "The new Municipal Offices, Public Hall and School of Arts", letter to the editor by Powell, *Toowoomba Chronicle*, 16 March 1899; Queensland Works Inquiry, 1900; information from Stephen Gee, Michael Kennedy and Jan Christison.

Work:



- 1875 Toowoomba Grammar School and master's residence
- c.1875 Queensland National Bank, Dalby
- c.1875 Commercial Bank, Dalby



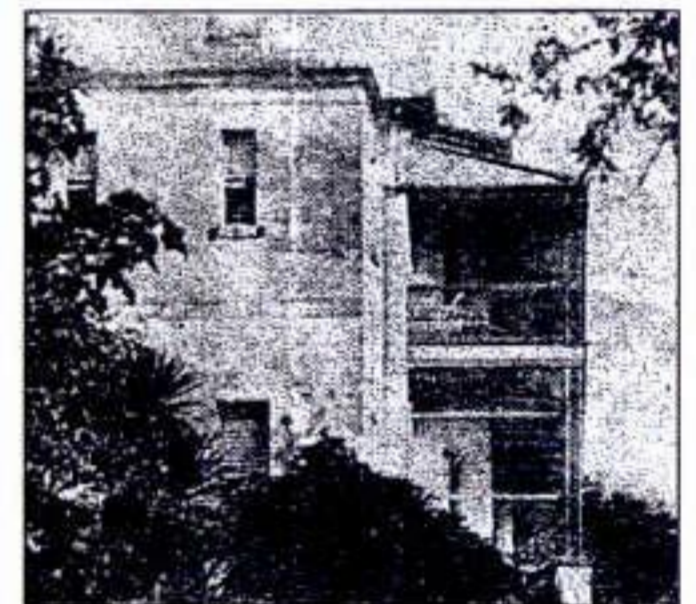
1875-76 Jewish Synagogue, cnr Herries and Neil Sts, Toowoomba



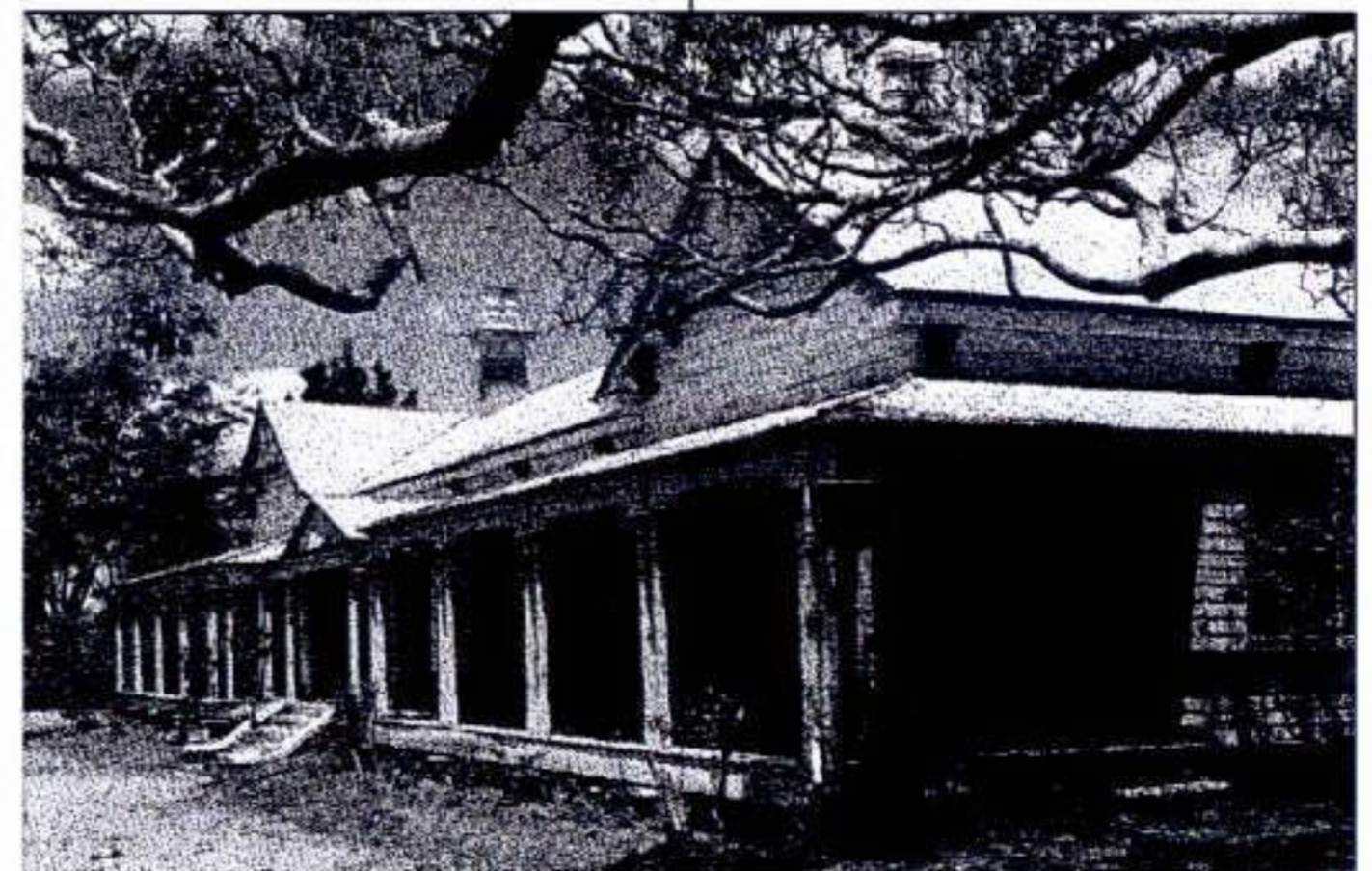
- 1876 (Second) St John's Church of England, Dalby
- 876 Gabbindar, for Rev. William Lambie Nelson, Ramsay St, Toowoomba
- c.1876 Two villas for Hon. James Taylor
- c.1876 Villa for James S. McIntyre, Toowoomba
- c.1876 House for Dr Edwin Roberts, Mort St, Toowoomba
- 1877 Wesleyan Church, Neil St, Toowoomba



- c.1877 Homestead for Edward Weinholt, Goomburra Station
- c.1877 Additions to Clifford House, Toowoomba, for Hon. James Taylor
- c.1877 Oakfield's Hall, Toowoomba
- c.1877 Homestead for Kent and Weinholt, Rosewood Station
- c.1877 Flour mill for Robert Aylard, Toowoomba
- 1880 Selby House, Wickham Tee
- 1882 Riversleigh House, for John Walker, cnr North and Elizabeth Sts, Point Lookout, Maryborough
- 1882-83 Three shops for F. Booker, Adelaide St, Maryborough
- 1882-85 Royal Exchange Hotel, cnr Elena and Adelaide Sts, Maryborough

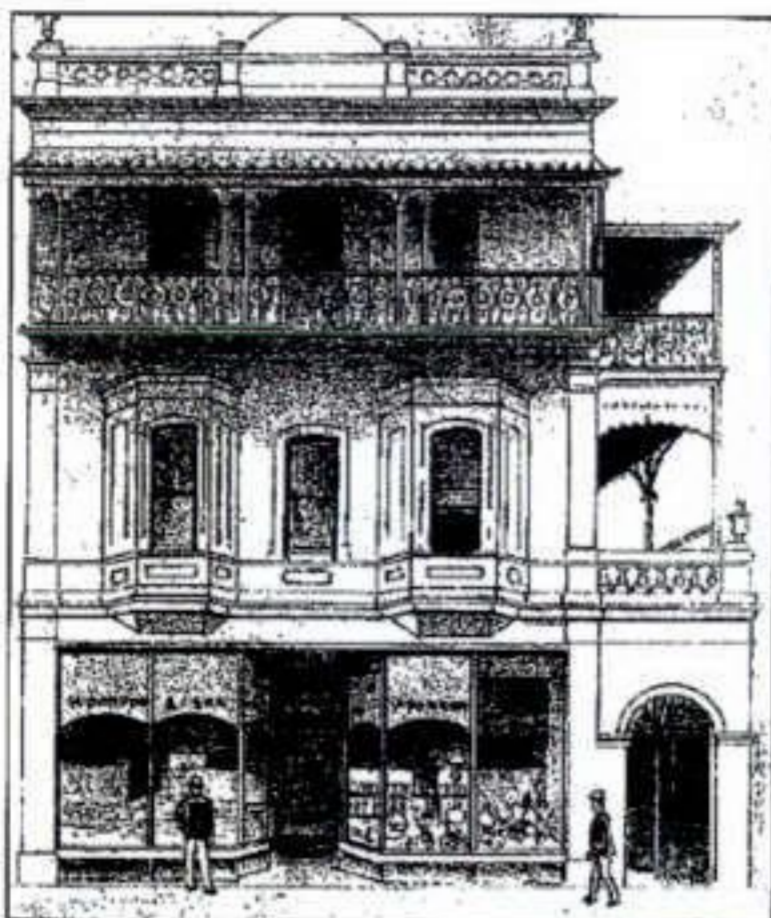


- 1883 Baddow House, for Edgar Thomas Aldridge, Maryborough
- 1883 Alterations and additions to Braun and Harvey's shop, Adelaide St, Maryborough
- 1883 Shed for Dalkeith Sawmills Co., Kent St, Maryborough

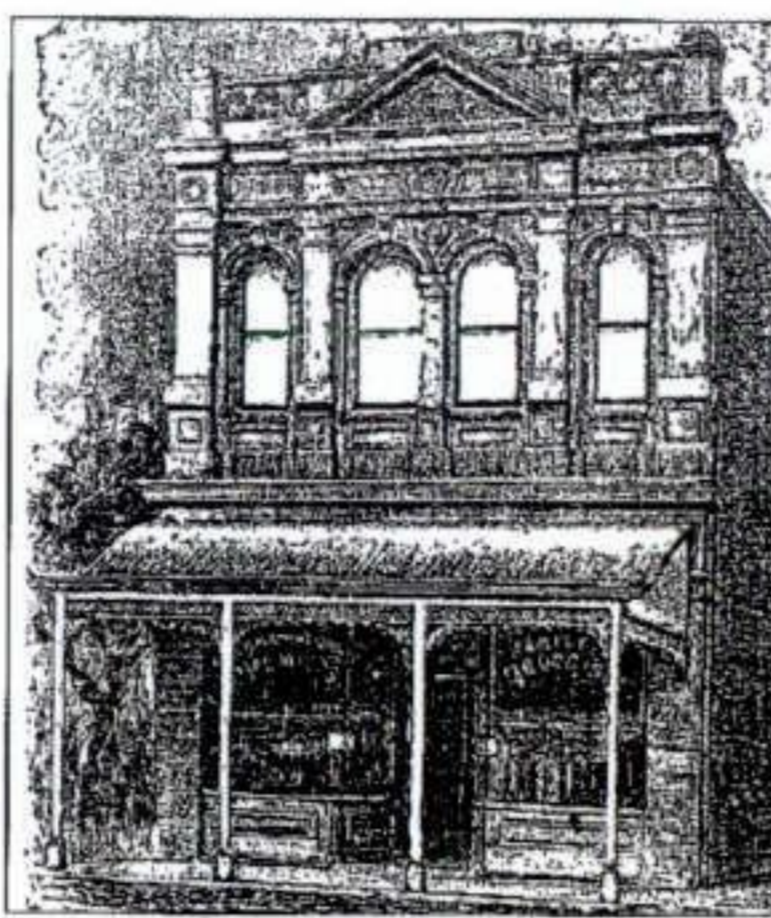


Willoughby Powell, Gabbindar, Toowoomba

POWELL, Willoughby (c.1848-1920) was born in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England, the son of William Powell, a contractor, and Lucy Nelmes. He began his articles in 1862 under George W. Sadler, City Architect of Cheltenham, and remained in Sadler's employ until 1872. Powell emigrated to Queensland with his younger brother Frank, a dentist. He worked for the Brisbane architect Richard Gailey before joining the Queensland Public Works Department as a draftsman in June 1874. When his entry "Veritas" won a design competition for the Toowoomba Grammar School, Powell left his public post in 1875 to supervise erection of the school. From 1875 to 1877 he maintained a busy practice in Toowoomba, later claiming to have erected "the majority of the principal buildings" there and in the surrounding district. Soon after rejoining the Works Department in February 1878, he was recommended to replace E.H. Harries in charge of the School Buildings Branch, but Powell resigned in the following October to make a return visit to England to attend to "urgent business". Back in Queensland in 1879, he practised as an architect in Brisbane and possibly returned to Richard Gailey's office as a designing draftsman, for he claimed to have designed major warehouses for Gailey, includ-



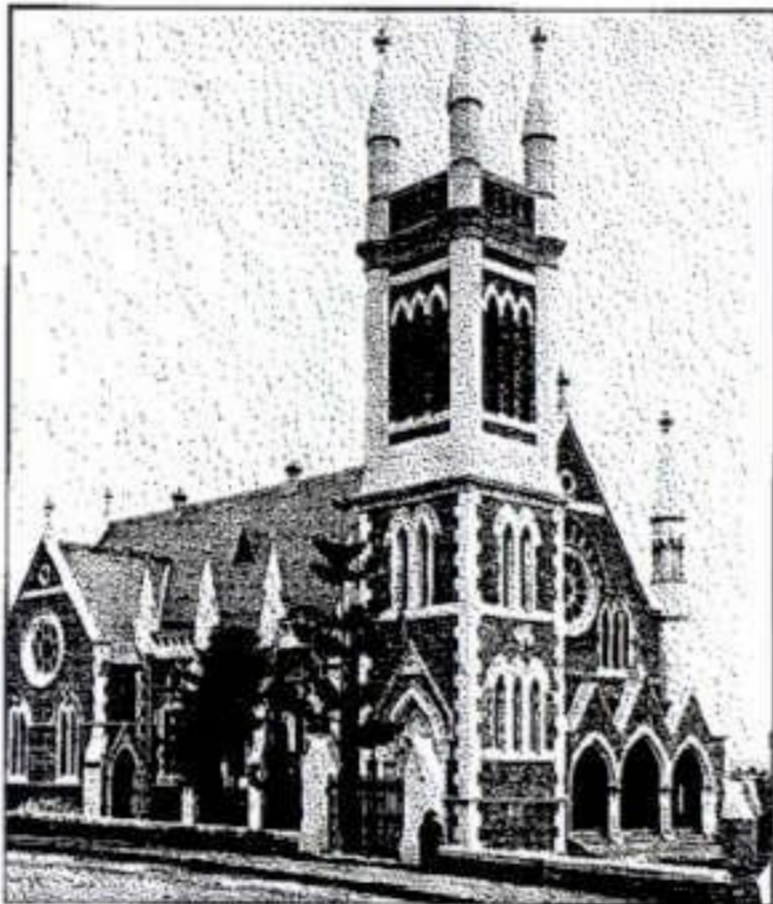
1883 T. T. Woodrow and Son's grocery shop, Bazaar St, Maryborough
 1883 Retort house and coal sheds for Maryborough Gas and Coke Co.



1886 Atkinson and Powell's chemist shop, for Frank Powell (brother), Flinders St, Townsville (later The Matchbox)



1883-84 Mortuary chapel and sexton's cottage, Maryborough Cemetery
 1884 Philadelphia Villa, for Philip Heckscher, cnr Lennox and North Sts, Maryborough
 1884 Grandstand and stables for Maryborough Turf Club
 1884 Tattersall's Hotel, Richmond St, Maryborough
 1884 Cafe Royal (later Federal) Hotel, Kent St, Maryborough
 1884 Parsonage, Lennox St, Maryborough
 1885 Red Lion Hotel, Enoggera



1886-87 (First) St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, cnr Wickham Tce and Creek St; 1889 alterations
 1887-88 Three shops and dwellings, Stanley St, South Brisbane



1885-88 Town Hall, Palmerin St, Warwick

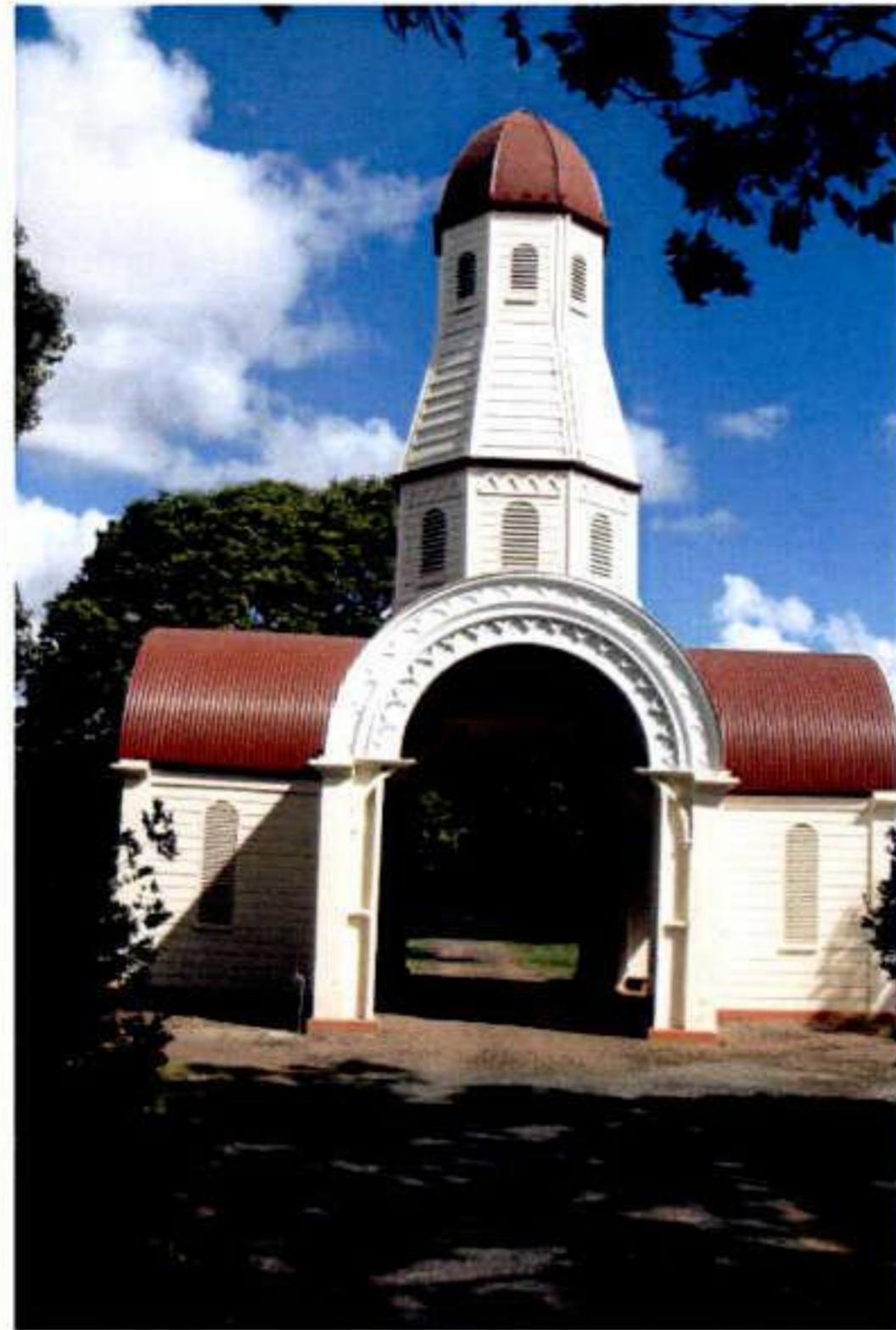


1899-1900 (Third) City Hall, Ruthven St, Toowoomba

9.4 ANNOTATED PHOTOGRAPHS



00 North/south axis entry off Walker Street. The Mortuary chapel is located towards the end of the entrance road.



01 North/south axis entry showing the northern elevation of the chapel. Much of the chapel's external fabric was repaired or replaced during the 1983 chapel restoration. (see the fabric survey)

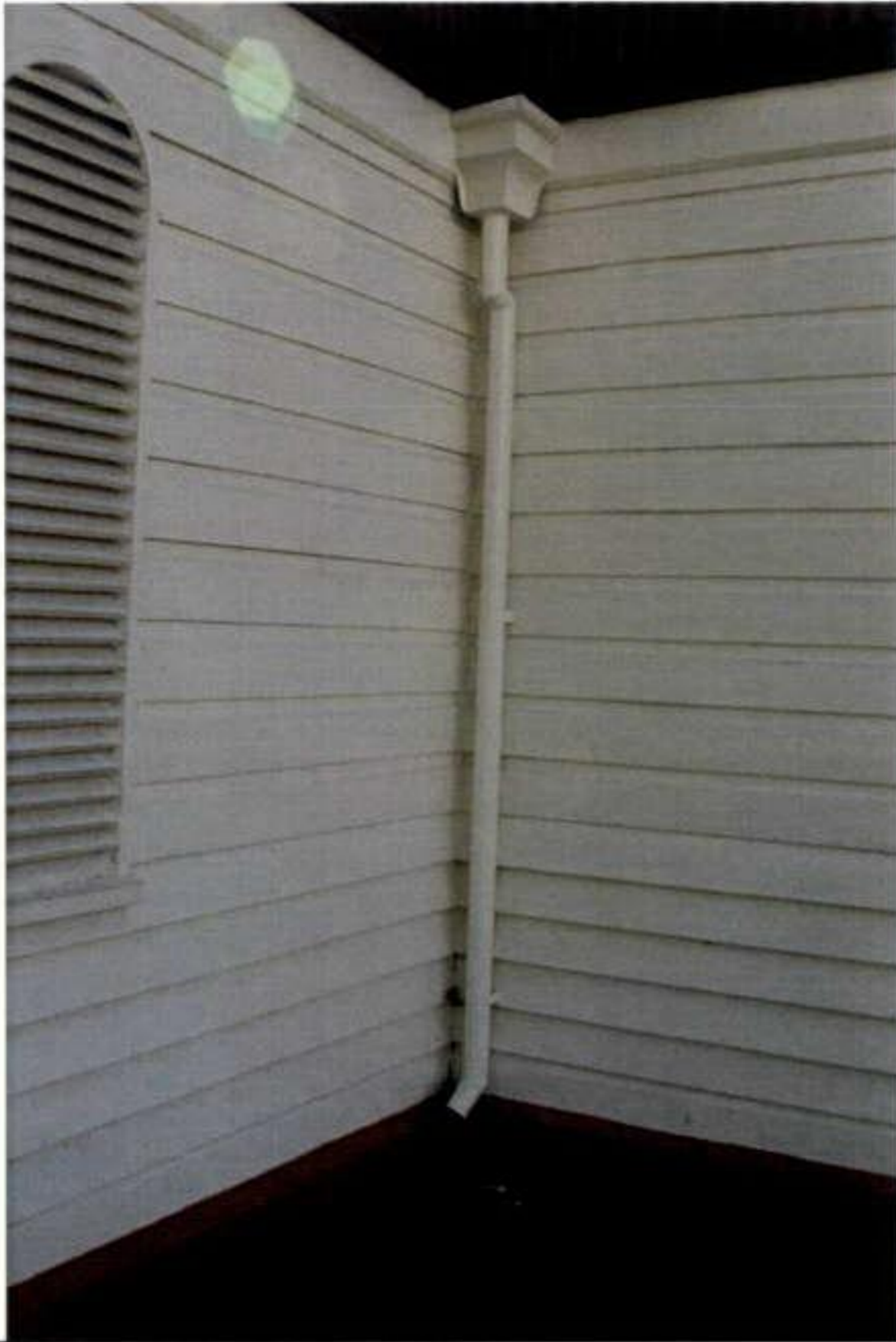


02 East/west axis showing the western elevation of the



03 East/west axis showing the western elevation of

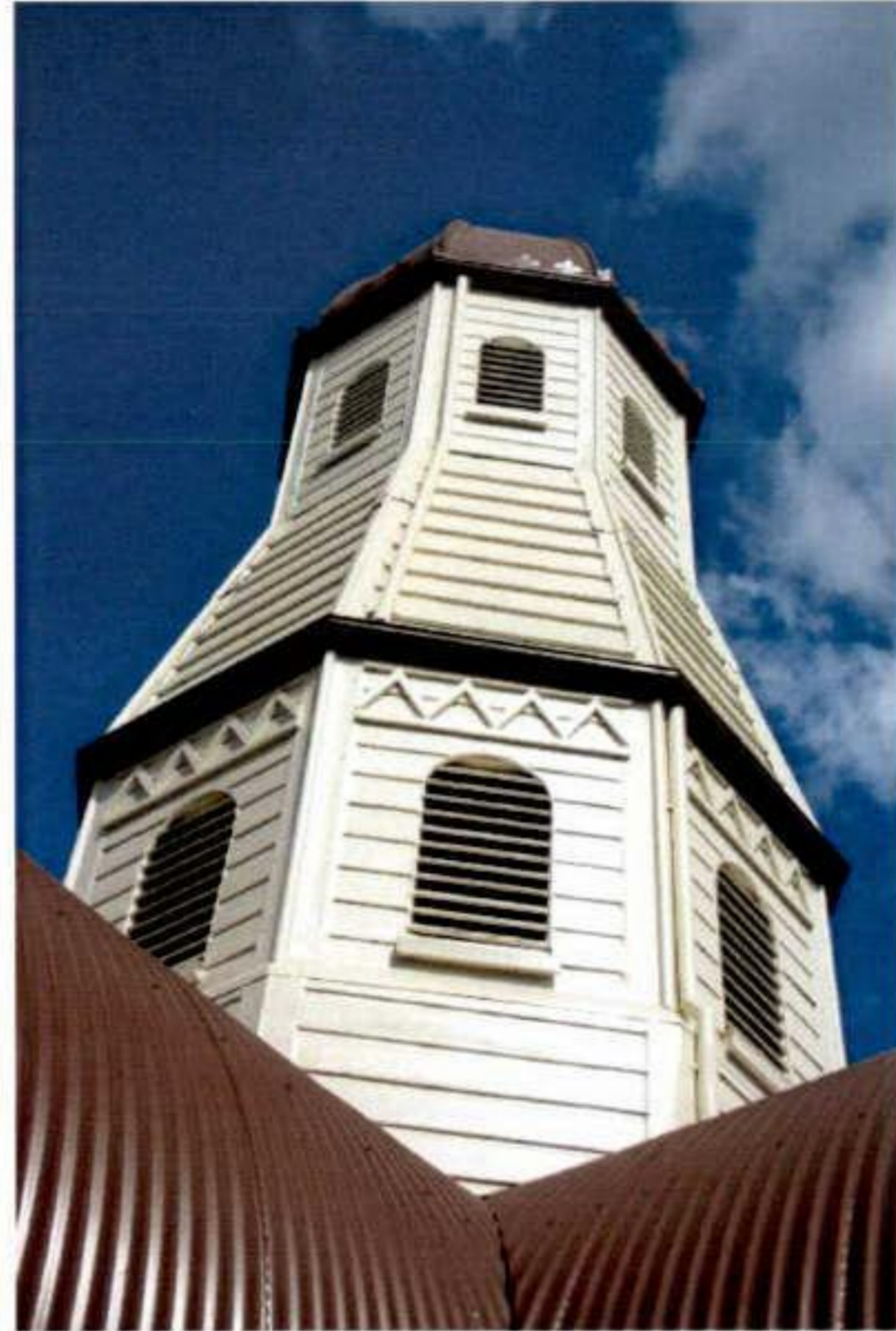
chapel.



04 Downpipe detail. The Downpipes are currently shedding water against the walls which could cause future damp issues.

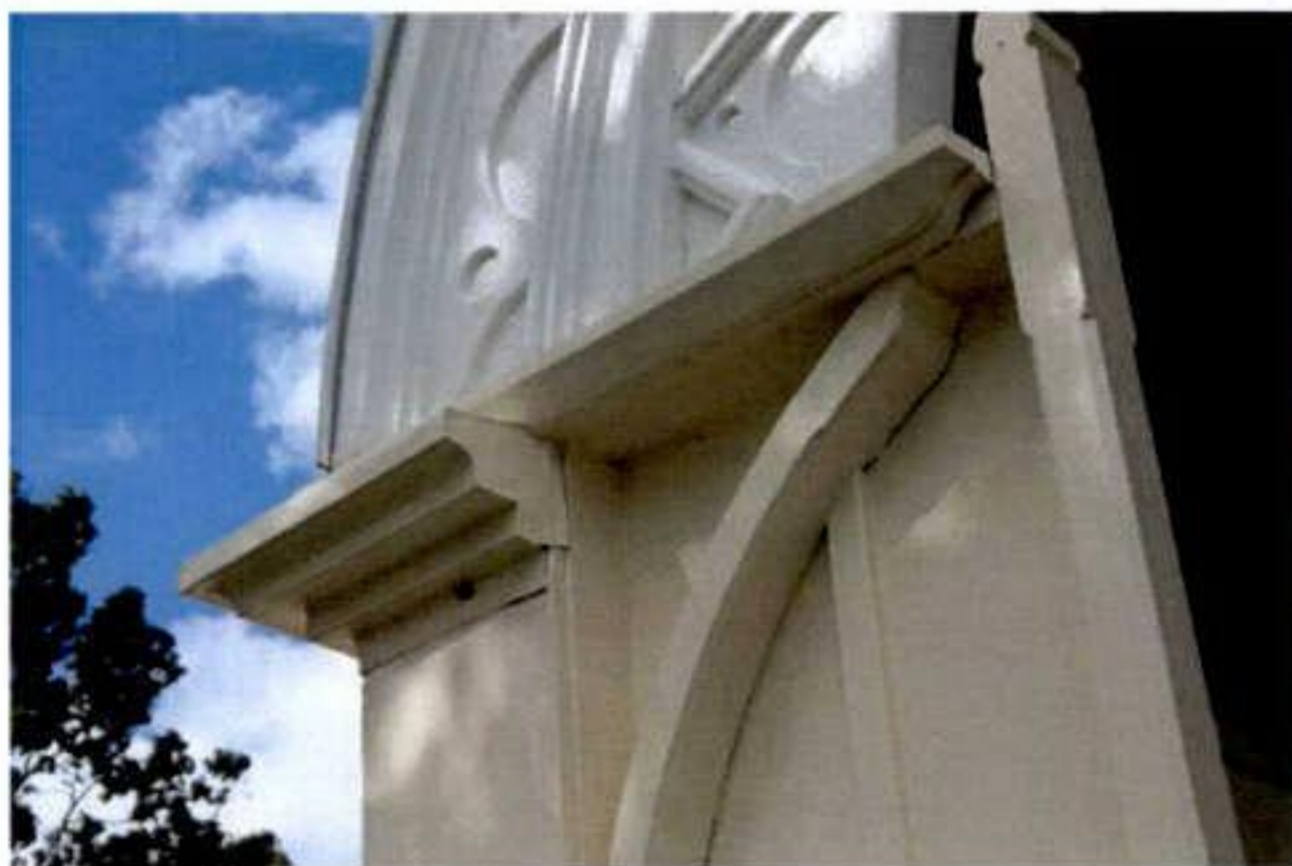
Note the weatherboards to the lower part of the wall in place of the chamfer boards. This work was done prior to the 1983 restoration.

the chapel.



05 Fleche (tower) view. Much of the chapel's external fabric was repaired or replaced during the 1983 chapel restoration.

Note the two discreetly laid narrow diameter downpipes shedding water from the fleche.



06 East/west axis entry detail including carved timber fascia supported by structural curved brackets, stop chamfered timber posts with Gothic motif, and columns with folded sheet metal capitals.



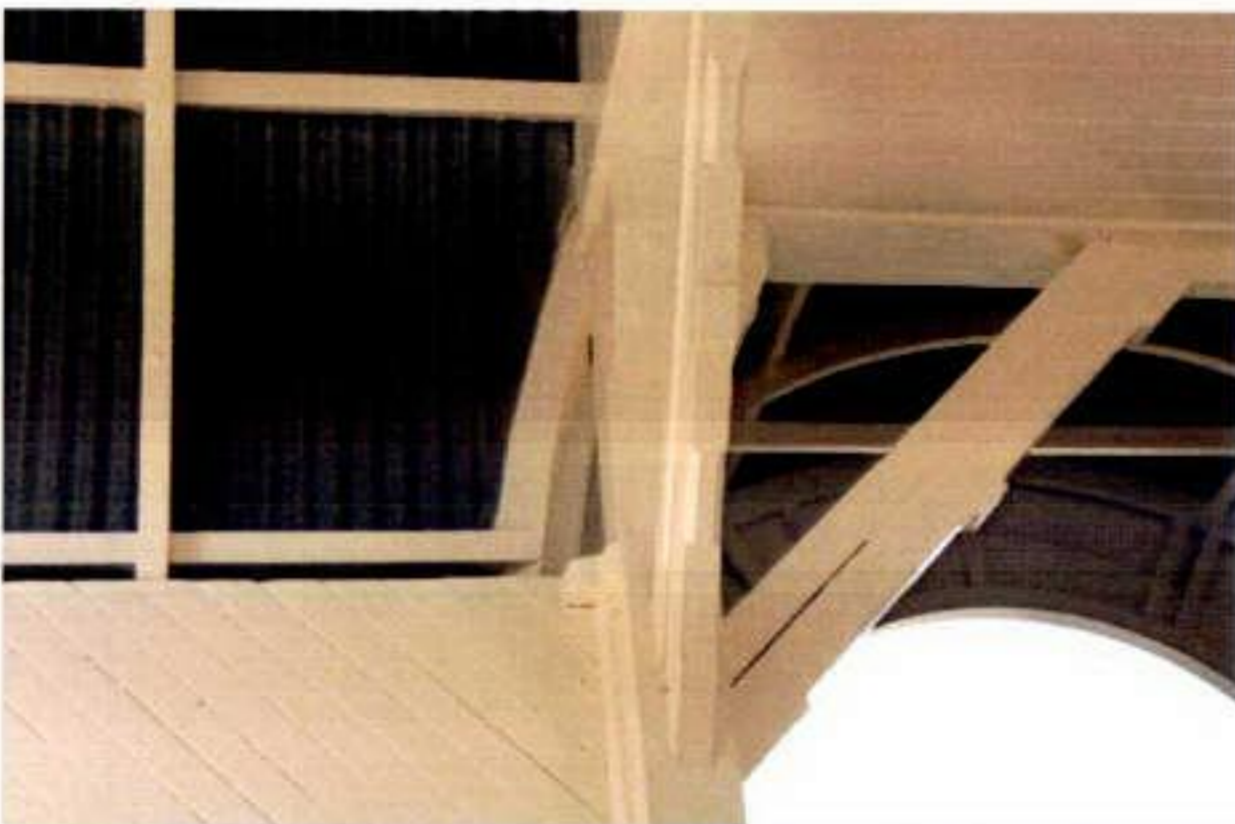
07 Typical interior view of the chapel. The interior was restored with replacement of damaged and missing building fabric during the 1983 chapel restoration.



08 A typical interior view of the chapel. As part of the 1983 restoration the ceiling shown with central manhole was completely replaced, and ceiling joists were installed to compensate for downward bowing of the original frame.



09 Typical interior view.



10 Detail view of post, strut and beam supporting the fleche.



11 Detail view of a post supporting the fleche (tower) above.

The posts attachment to the ground appears to have been altered a few times, probably to try to deter water damage and rot. Wrought iron shoes were introduced but later covered by a concrete plinth which was compensating for the raised ground level. This post still shows signs of weather damage due to its close proximity to the ground.