TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1991 THE REGISTERED BUILDINGS (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1991

To: Dr SHP Maddrell, Ballamadrell, Ballabeg, Arbory;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 30th March 2001, the PLANNING COMMITTEE of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, in pursuance of its powers under the above Acts and Regulations REGISTERED

Church Cottages, St Mark's, Malew

as represented by the buildings shown outlined in red on the plan hereto attached, in the PROTECTED BUILDINGS REGISTER by reason of their special architectural and historic interest.

THE EFFECT OF THIS REGISTRATION IS IMMEDIATE and prohibits the alteration or demolition of the structure or appearance of any part of the building except in compliance with an obligation imposed by or under any statutory provision or with the prior written consent of the Planning Committee.

Dated this 9H day of Now 2001

By Order of the Committee

Secretary, Planning Committee.

3rd Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas, IM1 2SF.

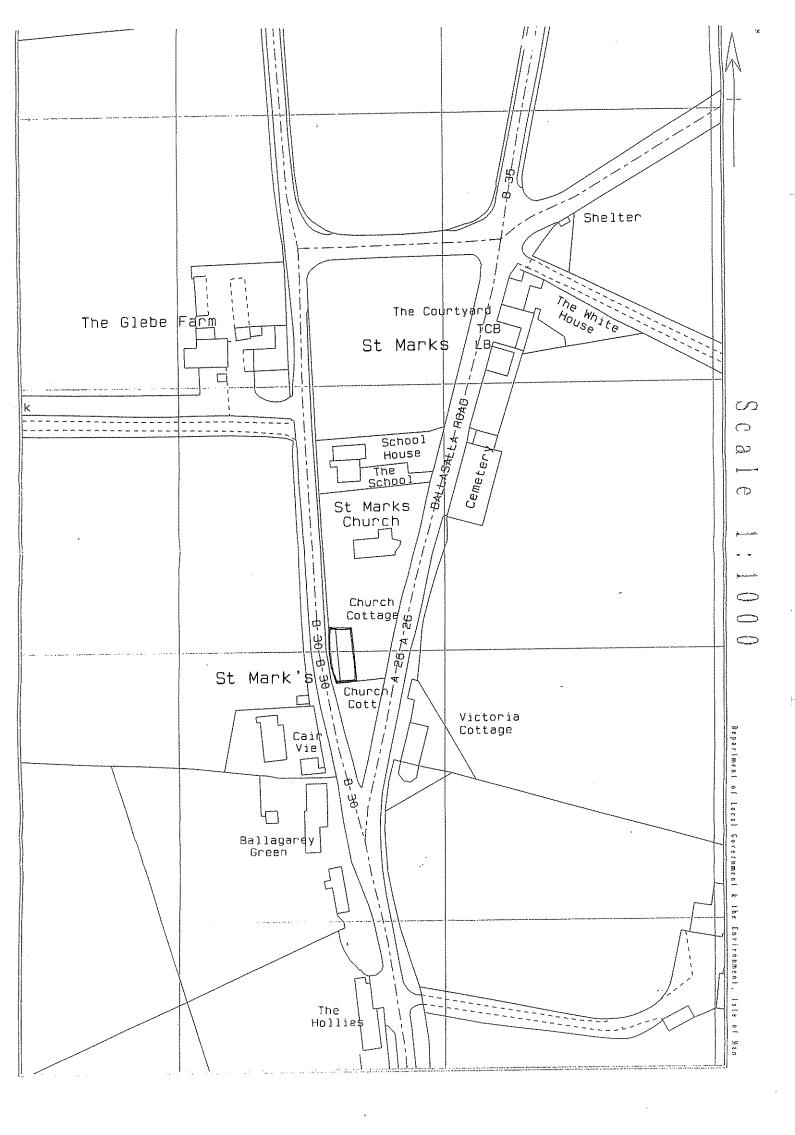
NOTE:

Rights to request de-registration of the building are provided under the Regulations and in summary are that:

Applications in writing for the de-registration of the building may be made by the owners or occupier, or any other person having an interest in the building, within a period of 28 days of service of this notice. Such application should be sent to the Secretary, Planning Committee, 3rd Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas, IM1 2SF.

In the event that de-registration is not requested by any party within the 28 day period described above, then de-registration may not be requested within a period of 3 years.

c.c.:- Malew Parish Commissioners, Commissioners' Office, Ballasalla; Chief Minister Hon D J Gelling MHK, Grenaugh Beg, Glen Grenaugh, Santon; Manx National Heritage, Kingswood Grove, Douglas; Advisory Council on Planning and the Environment, 52, Alberta Drive, Onchan.



CHURCH COTTAGES, ST MARK'S

In 1827, when the Reverend John Thomas Clark was appointed Chaplain of St Mark's, he found the Church and Parsonage in a terrible state of repair. Assisted by the great Church-building Bishop, William Ward, Clark set to work to improve the buildings.

By 1830, he had replaced the Parsonage with a new building and in 1843, he instigated the building of the schoolhouse and adjacent master's house.

In 1846, Reverend Clark rebuilt the disused former school into the first pair of Church Cottages. Their purpose was to generate rents that would be used to keep the Chapel and new Schoolhouse in repair. There are inscriptions in stone tablets contained within pediments over the doors of each cottage and within a further pediment between them. These read (from left to right): 'T J Clark Chaplain, I Bridson esqn Trustee' 'St Marks Cottages erected AD 1846' 'Dr T V Short, The Lord Bishop".

The third of the Church Cottages was added in 1899, it too has an inscription above the doorway which reads: 'Bishop Straton Cottage Rev A J Holmes Chaplain 1899'.

It appears that the cottages were separately occupied until August 1980, when they were purchase as a whole by Lady Dowty. In addition to the cottages the conveyance included: 'the right title and interest (if any) of the vendors in and to the triangular area of open land adjoining such cottages.'

In 1981, when an application was lodged for planning permission to convert the three cottages into a single dwelling, there was a great deal of local debate as to whether 'the church' had actually owned this land and had the right to convey it. It was variously described as 'common land', 'the Village Green' and the 'Fair Ground', it was said to have been used by the parishioners for various events for many years. However, the sceptic tank and drains that serve Church Cottages are now situated beneath the land and ownership seems to have been passed. It is still used by the community at certain times, such as St Mark's Fair Day.

On a photograph dating from 1953, the general external appearance of the cottages is very similar to that of today. The main walls to the cottages, front boundary walls and the chimney stacks all appear to be in unrendered stone, with limewash applied to all but the chimneys. Today, all external surfaces are finished in a textured render, which was probably applied as part of the conversion in 1981. At the same time, what appears to have been a Manx slate roof was replaced with Welsh slate.

Replacement windows have been fitted, and whilst a Georgian-style has been retained, top-opening sashes have replaced sliding sashes and in some windows the number of panes and the configuration of the glazing bars is different. The doors to the original pair of cottages have been replaced, whilst that on the later cottage has become a window.

Prior to 1981, the dry closets were situated adjacent to the cottages where a utility room has now been built. Other external changes include, provision of a side window

overlooking the grass triangle and the blocking-up of three small wire-mesh apertures in the rear elevation overlooking the graveyard. Three roof lights have also been installed on the rear roof pitch.

Internally, the cottages have been extensively altered, all external walls have been dry lined with plasterboard, and nothing remains which is of historical importance. The first pair of cottages share a joint chimney stack, topped with four chimneys. The third cottage has its own stack, with a pair of chimneys that replicate the style of its neighbours and also that of the nearby schoolhouse.

Whilst externally there have been changes made to Church Cottages since 1981, their basic form remains broadly similar and as a group they largely retain their original character. Together with St Mark's Church and the Schoolhouse, they form an important link in the development of the hamlet. In isolation, it could be argued that inclusion in a conservation area could adequately protect the structure. However, as part of the group of ecclesiastical buildings on the central triangle of land in St Mark's, it is considered that addition to the Register of Protected Buildings would be the appropriate protection for the buildings.

It is accordingly judged that Church Cottages, St Mark's be added to the Register of Protected Buildings on the following grounds:

- 1. Architectural style and aesthetic quality.
- 2. Historical association in the development of the hamlet.
- 3. Close historical association with Reverend John Thomas Clark, who was known as the 'Patriarch' of St Mark's.
- 4. Group interest with the Schoolhouse and St Mark's Church, forming a unique grouping of ecclesiastical properties.

SOURCES

Records of St Mark's Chapel. The Manx Society Vol 28, 1878 Manx Life, November-December 1976 p 13-16 The Isle of Man Weekly Times, 30th October, 1937

