

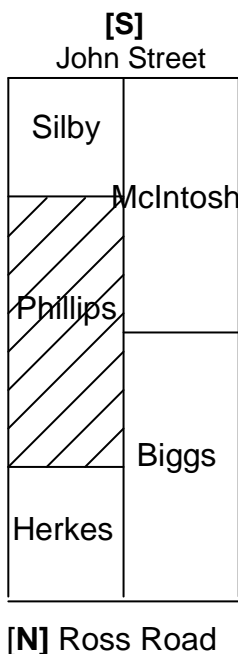
**ARCH GREEN – CHURCH HOUSE
– CROWN GRANT 11 (LOT 10, SECTION O)**

Church House on Arch Green is a relatively modern house in Stanley being built in 1902 but has an interesting history with a number of diverse uses since its original purpose.

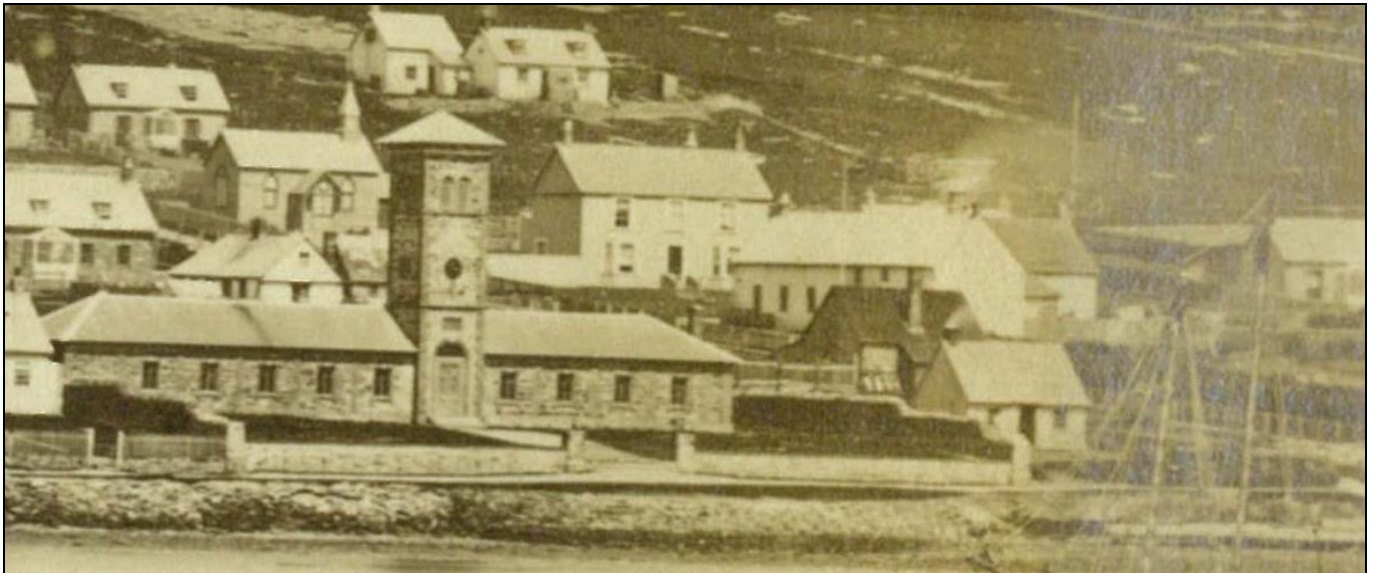
On 3 October 1844 Crown Grant 11 was issued to **Thomas HEARNDEN** for fifty pounds being Lot 10 in Section O containing half an acre with a front to Ross Road and rear to John Street. [CG 11]

On 1 May 1848 **Thomas HEARNDEN** conveyed part of Crown Grant 11 to **Christopher MURRY** “Containing in front to the Holding of Thomas Herkes Thirty Three feet in the Rear to the holding of Thomas Silby the like number of Thirty Three feet and in depth from Front to Rear on the East and West Sides respectively Ninety Nine feet Bounded on the North by the holding of John Herkes on the South by the holding of Thomas Silby on the East by Town Lot Number Eleven and on the West by the holding of Alexander McIntosh” for £20. This conveyance wasn’t registered. [BUG-REG-1; 57]

On 25 January 1849 **Christopher MURRY**, of Stanley, conveyed to **James PHILLIPS**, of Stanley, part of Crown Grant 11 with the house now built “Containing in front to the holding of John Herkes thirty three feet in the rear to the holding of Thomas Silby the like number of thirty three feet and in depth from the front to rear on the East and West sides respectively ninety nine feet with the House now built thereon, Bounded on the North by the holding of John Herkes on the South by the holding of Thomas Silby” for £15.



[BUG-REG-1; 57]



Showing the two houses on Crown Grant 11 to the west of the Exchange building in the 1870s; the site of Church House being empty land. –Blake Album

On 20 December 1894 Alexander MacIntosh Pitaluga of San Salvador transferred the plot to the Trustees of Christ Church Cathedral for the sum of one shilling being *the North East corner of the south half of Lot number 10 as marked on the Special Chart of the Town Bounded on the South 33 feet by land in occupation of Mrs Yates on the East 99 feet by road leading to Christ Church on the North 33 feet by land in the occupation of the Falkland Islands Company and on the West 99 feet by land lately occupied by Mrs Samuel Bonner deceased.* BUG/REG/5, pg 53]

In the September 1901 issue of the Falkland Islands Magazine W C GIRLING, the Minister's church warden, published a circular dated August 1901 asking for subscriptions for a building to house the assistant chaplain.

The Falkland Islands Magazine of November 1901 announced that the plans, specifications and estimates were carefully drawn out by Mr W BIGGS and then submitted to Thomas KING who had undertaken to erect the house. The materials amounted to £470 and the labour to £200. It was described as having *no porch in front but a small lean to at the kitchen door: four rooms below and four above: the passage at the entrance door will run between the two front rooms which will be about 15 x 13 feet: the back rooms (having only a partition between them) will open into the end of this passage and will be about 15 feet by 15 feet: the same arrangement will hold in the upper rooms.*

The Falkland Islands Magazine of June 1902 reported that *The Church House is practically out of the builders hands. The painting is in progress and before long will be completed. The carpenters work has been very well done. A visitor, a most practical man who looked over the house expressed his opinion that the house was of very strong construction, economically planned and very compact. No papering will be attempted for some months, and the porch (Which all find so necessary here) will not be put up until more funds are in hand.*

The Falkland Islands Magazine of September 1902 reported that *The Church House has been built on the site present by Mr Alex Pitaluga – to the north of the house so long inhabited by the late Mrs Yates. It consists of 8 rooms and a porch at the kitchen door. A large peat shed has also been erected: a garden fenced in and drain pipes lead direct into a drain running into the harbour...The foundations were built by Mr Albert Biggs, assisted by his son, Fred, and Mr James Smith erected the house. One well able to judge said, "There is no hosue in the Islands built with better material or workmanship." The two stacks of chimneys, each containing 4 fire places, were erected by Mr H Bell, Government bricklayer: their only fault – they draw too well.*

Rev C K Blount and family took up residence in the Church House on July 1st 1902, at a yearly rental of £30.

During World War I the Naval Communications Headquarters were set up in Church House under the name Pursuivant (shore base HMS *Pursuivant*)

In October 1923 the Falkland Islands Government applied to purchase or lease Church House as a school hostel; a lease was agreed and FIG made the necessary alterations to convert it early 1924. The bath and toilet were installed in the attic for convenience.

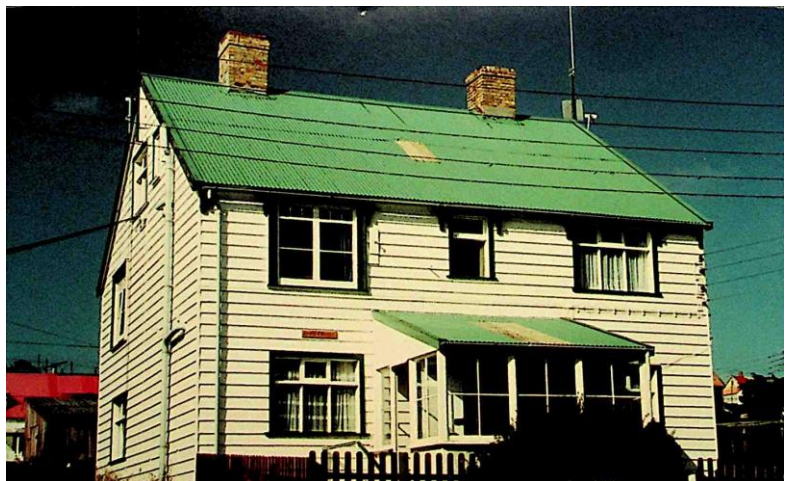


Early 1927 – Front right, Church House – photo FIC collection

£300 was voted for re-conditioning of the School Hostel in 1928.

On 2 January 1936 Reverend Dr R T WADE offered to lease Church House to the Falkland Islands Government. The Director of Public Works considered the building suitable for a senior government officer but noted that a number of changes were needed including moving the bath and toilet, which had been installed in the attic for convenience when it was a hostel, to the first floor.

The Falkland Islands Company Ltd purchased Church House in 1952 for £2,940-11-11 and still own it to date.



1992 - JCNA