Pontresina Switzerland - Holy Trinity Church 1882 - 1974

**History**

1872 - Committee formed to build a church. Architect Richard Pfeiffer bullfinch offers designs.
1880 - British visitor numbers had tripled, Pfeiffer advances both building and interior for much larger church. Project moves in for the Preperata of the Gospel. Land given by 2 local inhabitants, Bullock and Horstmann.Cmd by St. Mary's (1877) and International (1874) he uses craftsmen from Salzburg for woodwork.
1882 - Commission by Bishop of Bedford; East window, bell and altar frontal donated by well known congregation members.
1899 - "Services during the season, Library under care of chaplain", 1 Bankes's "A Switzerland".
1914 - WW1 piano damaged but restored.
1939 - WW2 and afterwards leads to reduced congregation.
1950 - Occasional series for "Engadine Karest," services every six months, art exhibition work outstanding.
1959 - Local builder uses space under the "real" church as storage, etc;
1965 - Last service in Holy Trinity, 189 years after chapel began in Hotel Kneuse.
1968 - Sale of church for CHF 50,000 (then or £20,000) to Pontresina town council whose initial offer in 1966 had been CHF 146,000 (then or £55,000). 
1975 - Despite original decision to convert church into a school, municipality of Pontresina decides to replace Holy Trinity with hotel of 12 rooms. Challenge to this decision by British Heritage conservation Department Canton Graubünden.

**Movable Religious Heritage**

- East window (St. Mary's) designed by H. Anger 1903 and by Thomas Morgan, CH.
- Present location: Chapel in the hotel, Pontresina.
- Present location: Chapel in the hotel.

- East window recently in local council's care (1973). Designed by G. Agost Benocci 1949 and by Thomas Morgan, CH.
- Present location: Chapel in the hotel.
- Present location: Chapel in the hotel.

- East window in local council's care (1973). Designed by G. Angora Benocci 1952 and by Thomas Morgan, CH.
- Present location: Chapel in the hotel.
- Present location: Chapel in the hotel.

- East window recently in local council's care (1973). Designed by G. Agost Benocci 1949 and by Thomas Morgan, CH.
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**Research Project Aims**

1. To increase public interest in and awareness of British cultural and religious heritage in the Engadine valley of Switzerland.
   - Stage an exhibition (Kneuse Museum, Pontresina) for 2016-17 to include items of Movable Religious Heritage and life-size monochrome photographs of items considered important.
   - Blues exhibition to cause capital (CEA) after 2017.
   - Keep some items in the museum as permanent exhibits.
   - Perpetuate the Swiss glass museum (Kneuse Museum) to take the East Window.
   - Investigate and make the history of all four Anglican churches built in the Engadine valley including archives, arts and crafts, churches, buildings, and art history. Write short reports and eventually a book.

2. To persuade the Church of England and Swiss authorities to make every effort to preserve remaining Anglican churches and their contents.
   - Find out if the Church of England would consider putting a policy in the Diocese of Europe (Switzerland) to include churches in sale contracts to safeguard historic C of E buildings and their contents.
   - Encourage Swiss authorities in the cantons to preserve British cultural and religious heritage in Switzerland - e.g. in the event of an unsuitable demolition, to record items of movable and fixed religious heritage.