

Workshop of R.L. Jones & Sons, with adjacent former paint shop

Grade: II

Community: Ffestiniog

Locality: Blaenau Ffestiniog

Address: High Street, Blaenau Ffestiniog

Street side: E

270597, 345633

Location

Facing the street at the S end of the High Street, on a narrow plot with steep rock face behind.

History

Built in the early C20 and marked on the revision of the Ordnance Survey map made in 1914. The building served as a carpenter's workshop for a family firm of builders and undertakers. The adjacent building was a paint shop but was a separate, unrelated business and remains in separate ownership. The workshop was disused at the time of inspection.

Exterior

The 2-storey workshop is built principally of corrugated-iron walls and roof on a drystone plinth, with small-pane wood and iron-frame windows where visible. Its gable end faces the street and has plain barge boards and a finial. The rear of the building is built of coursed rubble stone, with stone stack. The upper storey of the corrugated-iron section of the building is jettied on both sides, supported by steel beams and with a boarded soffit. Some of the corrugated-iron sheets have been replaced. Ground-floor windows were mostly boarded-up at the time of inspection. Facing the street it has a replacement door and window to the L, while in the upper storey is a boarded loading door flanked by small-pane windows. In the L side wall are 3 windows in the lower storey and 2 windows above in the corrugated-iron wall, while behind is a further small-pane window in the stone wall. In the R side wall, the stone section of the building retains a boarded door and window in the lower storey, and small-pane window above, whereas in the corrugated-iron section is a single lower storey window and formerly 2 upper-storey windows, one of them covered over.

The adjoining former paint shop is a single-storey corrugated-iron building under a pitched roof. It has a replacement door and small-pane window in the gable end to the street. Two windows in the R side are boarded up, while on the L side the window is carried up into the roof slope, where there is a stovepipe chimney.

Interior

Not inspected.

Listed

Listed as a rare well-preserved early-C20 light-industrial roadside building, clad in corrugated-iron sheets that were once commonplace and give the building its distinct character.

Visited 3/2/2020

Unable to track down owner. I managed to find the last of the sons [REDACTED], who lives at [REDACTED]. He owned it until about 2 years ago, but said he did not have any contact details for the person he sold it to.

He did tell me that the adjoining paint shop is and always was in separate ownership, even though he didn't know (or didn't want to tell me) who owned it. I'm not sure if one listing can cover buildings in separate ownership, but the paint shop would not be worth listing in its own right, and could be removed without affecting the special interest of the main building.