

Old Smithy, Hen-efail, Cross Inn, Newquay, SN39030 57232

Old Smithy, Hen-efail, is a disused late-18<sup>th</sup>/early-19<sup>th</sup> century, traditional stone and cob (clom) building, situated down the sloping ground, and has a former cow-house at its upper end, divided from a former domestic cottage at the lower end. This lower end retains cut-back evidence of a chimney-beam for a former wicker-work fireplace hood, when used as a smithy. This was cut back later, when used as a shop.

Its cement rendered walls are battered internally and externally rising to just over 2 metres at the eaves, with wall thickness of 80 centimetres at its base, and 60 centimetres at eaves level. The walls appear to be predominantly of stone behind the render with clay to gables and probably at the eaves. The external end corners of walls are rounded and original openings have timber lintels, with internal splays to narrow, low window openings (now all blocked). The early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century roof timbers are covered by corrugated-iron, and the trusses are held in position by wire straps to bolts in the wall.

The lower end, cottage part must have had an original narrower entry in the present modern opening, its left side, which is slightly splayed, indicates an original jamb. There are windows flanking the entry, and one almost opposite, perhaps for a small pantry. The window to the right is sited under the bressummer beam, which could serve to light a smithy fireplace. In these cottages generally, the larger kitchen/hall has the entry within it, alongside a partition to a smaller parlour, each with a window, as it may once have been here. In this case the original fireplace would have been opposite the later smithy fireplace, against the cross-wall. This wall has had a doorway with steps up, inserted in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, probably when the cow-house was no longer in use.

The typical 3-door cow-house part, at the upper end, had doorways for a central feed-passage and flanking doorways for cattle, which were formerly tethered facing the feed-passage. Part of a c1900 brick stall unit survives with four cattle tethering places. Only the central feed-passage doorways exist, the others are blocked. The three roof-trusses have mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century, nailed lap-collar trusses.

Visited at request of Shan Gwyn, Secretary of Llanllwchaiarn Community Council, prior to planned demolition. Recorded, Geoff Ward, 10/11/2011