

On reading Mr Alastair Partington concerns regarding the supposed “historic boat shed”, which he claims is the “last remnant of many that once were a feature of Porth Cressa’s shoreline” it is clearly obvious that the bottom half of the original early 1880’s photo which he attached to his response has been cropped.

Interestingly, the bottom half of the photo that has been cropped off clearly shows that the “historic boatshed” in question did not exist in the 1880’s, which incidentally is ten years after the last boat was constructed on Porthcressa.

I have also attached a second photo showing the same scene taken some twenty years after the first photo as evidenced by the completed Town Hall in the distance and additional houses on Buzza street. The majority of the original Porthcressa Boat Company boatsheds on Porthcressa bank have been demolished, yet the garage / store that he is so concerned about - that “important relic and reminder of Scilly’s maritime history” - has still yet to be built for another 40 years.

The garage concerned was built in the early to mid 20th century on a previously empty plot. One half of the building was originally used as a chicken coup (hence the North-west side elevation being predominantly constructed out of wood / corrugated iron and not granite as would be expected were it to actually be a traditional Scillonian boatshed), and the other part used as a general store / workshop.



Cropped 1880's photo from Mr Partington's letter of concern.



Full size 1880's photo



Early 1900's photo.