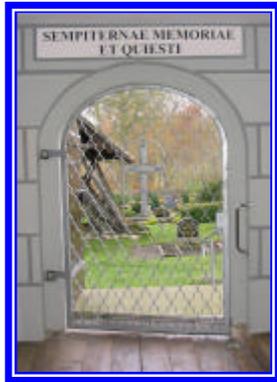


### The Prayer Room

In the last 10 years the Prayer Room has been transformed from a ruin to become once again a place of prayer and reflection.



**The Prayer Room 1997 and 2008**

### Restoration plan for 2008

This year the corner pillars and the mantle above the base have to be replastered and repainted. The west wall in the Crypt is now dry and can be restored. This work will complete the restoration programme.

The chapel has no heating and in Autumn the building is put to sleep for the Winter months. Each Spring one has therefore the normal tasks of preparing the prayer room for Summer services.



### The Motto of the Family Archives

“Plant a tree! For you will never know who will in future shelter in its shade. How wonderful – long before we were born our forefathers have planted this tree for us”.

At 4pm on Saturday 6 September 2008 the v.Pressentin family will under this Motto ceremonially plant a tree, unveil a Monument to celebrate the Bicentennial of the construction of the chapel, and invite all to a classical music concert in the Church.

At 10:30am on the Sunday 7 September 2008 there will be a Thanksgiving Service in the Church at which the Bishop will give the sermon.

You are cordially invited to both events.

**With this leaflet we too once again seek your support to help us finance our restoration work and our restoration plan for 2008.**

Donations can be made direct to our Bank Förderverein v.P.-Kapelle e.V.  
Bankverbindung:  
Dresdner Bank AG Hamburg  
Konto Nr. 08.903.402.00 BLZ 200 800 00

## The v. Pressentin Chapel in Prestin Mecklenburg Germany



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## The 200 year History of the v. Pressentin Chapel

The chapel was constructed by Johann Wilhelm II. v. Pressentin at a cost of some 1000 Thaler. This sum he provided in his will dated 16 May 1808 for its construction should he die before completion. He was however able to take part in the consecration of the chapel in September 1808. He died aged 60 in 1812 and was laid to rest in the crypt.



The Chapel and Church in 1872

The interest from an investment made by Johann Wilhelm v. Pressentin was to meet the maintenance costs of the chapel. His sister Magdalena Dorothea, who was married to Otto Bernhard v. Pressentin, Governor of Rostock added to the Investment to increase the annual interest. They too were laid to rest in the crypt.

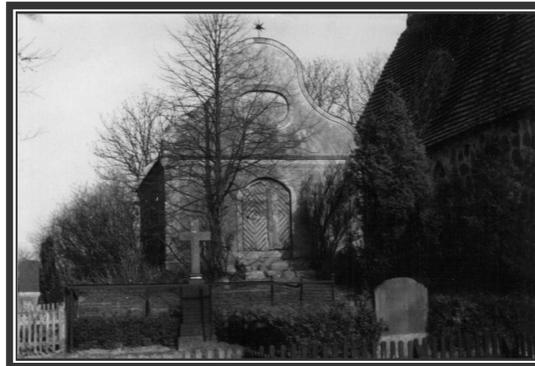
In 1908 Agnes v. Pressentin, the widow of Karl Dietrich v. Pressentin, Oberlandrost in Dargun, financed the reconstruction of the chapel front. It was then that the portrayal of the family coat of arms here was changed from the original renaissance style to the neo-gothic form.

With the outbreak of the War in 1939 annual maintenance at the chapel ceased. In 1945 the chapel was broken into. The Altar and family memorabilia were stolen and the coffins in the crypt desecrated.



The Chapel and Church in 1945

The family could do nothing as the chapel now lay in communist East Germany. In 1960 the family gave permission for Prestin Parish Council to use it as a chapel of rest for the cemetery.



The Chapel in 1963

It was however used as a workshop and store and the prayer room walls, complete with its frescos, were painted over with a green distemper. Only absolute necessary repairs to the building were undertaken.

This misuse meant that the chapel survived both its planned destruction and falling into ruin. Indeed its fate was secured when in 1984 it became a Listed Building.

In 1997 after German reunification the chapel came once again into the care of the v. Pressentin family and work began to restore the building and make the chapel once again a place of prayer and reflection and enable the crypt to be a last resting place for the family as its builder intended.

The first task in 1997 was to rescue the building. In 1998 the chapel was broken into and the crypt desecrated. The building was secured and the prayer room and crypt restored to a dignified state so that it could be reconsecrated as a chapel by Pastor Schaefer in October 1998.



The Chapel in 2008

It has taken 10 years for us to restore the chapel to its former state. This has been accomplished by the family without any State finance. On the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008 the restoration work will be completed and at the same time the chapel will celebrate the bicentennial of its consecration in September 1808.