

CALDEY ISLAND

Settlement morphology, topography and archaeology

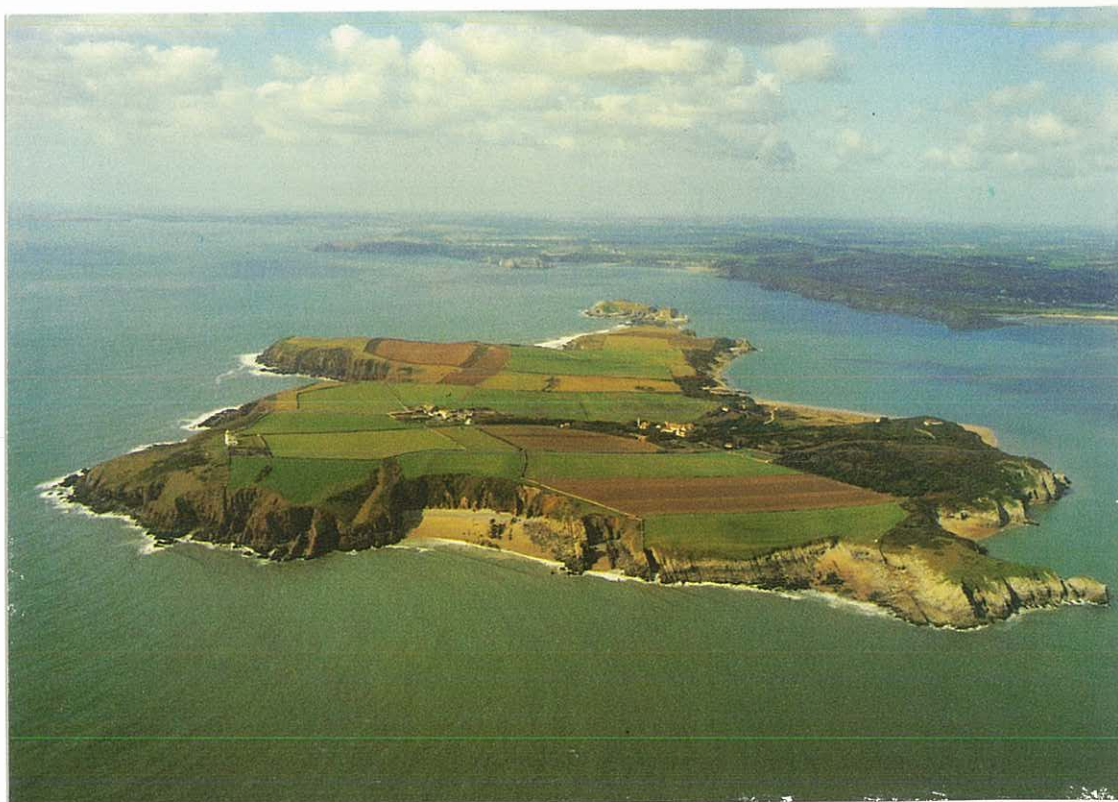
to accompany

CONSERVATION AREA STATEMENTS

prepared by H.J. James BA FSA MIFA

for Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

as part of a service level agreement with Cambria Archaeology



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CALDEY ISLAND

Introduction:

This archaeological, historical and topographical analysis of the Conservation Area on Caldey Island, designated in 1997, differs from those already prepared for PCNP (Caerfarchell, Angle, Trevine, Solva and Manorbier) in that it does not have a nucleated settlement at its core. Nor does the Conservation Area cover the whole of the island but only the eastern half, excluding the monastery and its adjacent enclosure (Appendix 1 Map 1). Nevertheless, the subject headings used in the previous studies are retained here, for consistency. There have been a number of surveys and summaries of the archaeology of the island, most recently that prepared by Johnson (1997), commissioned by The Caldey Island Trust. This drew heavily on the regional *Sites and Monuments Record* for its basic data, but added new information mainly on post-medieval sites from a rapid walkover survey. Another recent detailed survey relevant to this report is the two volume structural analysis of Caldey Priory (Ludlow *et al.* 1994), commissioned by Cadw-Welsh Historic Monuments. It is not proposed to repeat their information in detail but both have been heavily used in the preparation of this Report. Roscoe Howells has written two books exclusively about Caldey, and others on the Pembrokeshire Islands which include more information, all indispensable for the student and visitor. Valuable also is the recent (Feb. 1998) Caldey Island Management Plan prepared for CCW by Holly Harries, with some archaeological information supplied by Prof. D. Austin (University of Wales, Lampeter) and H. James (Cambria Archaeology). Nevertheless no historic landscape characterisation study has been carried out and it is hoped that this Report provides information ordered and interpreted from an historic landscape perspective for the Conservation Area on Caldey Island.

Name & Tenurial History.

In Welsh, Caldey is *Ynys Pyr*, the island of Pir. Most scholars now accept that this is the same personal name as in Manorbier, *Maenor Pir* and equates with Piro, a monk of Caldey in the early (8th or 9th century) *Life* of St. Samson of Dol. This, together with the inscribed Early Christian Monument of 7th century date now in St Illtud's Church and a find (identified by Dr Ewan Campbell) of 5th/6th century imported Mediterranean pottery strongly suggest a pre-conquest monastic site. The English name is of Scandinavian origin, like many islands and headlands off the Welsh coast and means 'cold island'.

A selective account of the tenurial history of the island is given here, highlighting the periods and owners which have left a physical imprint of the landscape of the island, particularly within the Conservation Area. Henry I granted Caldey to Robert Fitzmartin, the Norman lord of Cemais in 1113, who, in turn, granted it to his mother Geva. At about the same time Fitzmartin was establishing a new priory of Tironian monks at St Dogmaels, itself the site of a major pre-Conquest monastery. Geva granted Caldey to the new monastery of reformed Benedictines at St Dogmaels c. 1115. A small monastic community remained on Caldey until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536. This era has left a significant impact on the landscape of Caldey within the Conservation Area principally in the Old Priory Church and ruined buildings and the Fishponds. We must envisage a monastic

grange on Caldey, perhaps staffed only by one monk, with land let out to tenant farmers. The present field patterns of the island however are of post-medieval date.

In the 16th and 17th centuries Caldey was leased to mainly absentee landlords, the Bradshaws of Presteigne and then in 1600 Walter Philpin, Mayor of Tenby and was farmed by tenants. By the later 17th century and for most of the 18th century, population levels were low and the island was subject to more short term leases. A major change, inaugurating the modern history and settlement of Caldey came in 1798 when Thomas Kynaston of Pembroke bought the island. By this time there were four limestone quarries in operation, part of a rapid development of limestone quarrying and burning in the late 18th century and a fast developing coastal trading system along the whole of the Welsh coast. Kynaston bought the island primarily for its mineral resources and developed the substantial quarries at High Cliff.

In 1867 James Hawkesley, an alderman of Tenby, purchased Caldey from the Kynaston family and invested heavily in market gardening, which did not prove profitable but which has left its mark on the landscape. In 1897 the island was bought by the Revd. Done Bushell, a master and chaplain at Harrow School, a scholar and man of means, principally as a safe place for his handicapped son. Bushell began to restore the medieval monastic buildings. He invited to the island the charismatic, though financially imprudent, Benjamin Fearnley Carlyle, who assumed the name Dom Aelred and founded a high Anglican Benedictine Order. Bushell sold the island to the Order and it was Carlyle who commissioned the Penarth based architect John Coates Carter to design and build the monastic buildings that dominate the island today (see Appendix 2 - *Western Mail* article).

Carlyle converted to the Roman Catholic Church in 1913 and left the island in 1921, his community in dire financial difficulties. The reformed Cistercian Order purchased the island in 1925 and in 1928 the Belgian house of Chimay of that Order decided to establish a daughter house on Caldey and the remaining Benedictines left. The community received full autonomy from Chimay in 1959. The island is owned by the Abbey through the Trustees of the Caldey Island Estate, a registered charity. The Caldey Island Estate Company was registered in 1971

Economic History.

Caldey has a long history of farming but there are few details from the medieval period. We have a record both of land use and of extent of cultivable land from 1613 when 7 messuages (or tenant households and holdings) are mentioned, 300 acres of land (presumably arable) 6 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture and 100 acres of furze or heath. As noted above population levels fell in the later 17th and 18th centuries and it would seem from accounts of travellers that there was a consequent decline in arable cultivation and a reversion to grazing. Rabbits, formerly confined to the coastal edges and rough ground overran the island.

It is unfortunate that no 18th century estate map seems to have survived to show field boundaries but Roscoe Howells considers that the present system was laid out in the mid 18th century. This is substantiated by the comments of S. S. Banks, who wrote up his 'Excursion' in Wales in 1767 and noted that Caldey contained about

500 acres, let for £100 p.a and that 'the middle parts are fenced in with a strongway to yield corn and pasture . . the outside is everywhere full-stocked with rabbits'.

Possibly these boundaries were improved by Kynaston with the plentiful limestone now coming from his quarries because the Revd. Sir Thomas Cullum notes in his dairy for 1811 (quoted by Howells, mss in the National Library of Wales) 'part is most expensively enclosed with very high walls and seems well cultivated,. the remaing stock consisted of sheep and cattle, although he thought that the chief produce was still rabbits. The profitability of island farming was more vulnerable than the mainland to general economic conditions and the early 19th century recession in corn growing affected the island adversely. Cullum also noted that 'Mr K is loosing money by burning lime on the island instead of shipping off the shore'. The lime was loaded directly onto ships, which brought in the Pembrokeshire anthracite coal and culm needed to fire the kilns.

From 1834, with the commencement of quarrying on St Margaret's island as well as Caldey itself, , the quarrying industry became more dominant in the island's economy - and its population. But it is the late surge of the industry, under Dom Aelred's grandiose scheme of works, in reopening the quarries at Highcliff between 1912 and 1921 that have left the most obvious impact on part of the Conservation Area landscape.

As noted above, James Hawksley embarked on an ambitious horticultural enterprise, building vast greenhouses, heated by what was then an advanced steam heating system and major waterworks. But horticulture and market gardening as an economic regime for Caldey had their roots in Kynaston's developments. He had built himself a new mansion adjacent to the Old Priory complex (now demolished see Appendix 3 Map). Writing in 1858, and giving perhaps a rather rosy picture of Caldey from the point of view of a Tenby tourist, Fanny Price Gwynne spoke of island produce sold to vessels lying in Caldey Roads and 2 productive gardens well stocked with fruit and vegetables.

Farming in the modern monastic era has been extensively covered by Roscoe Howells in his two books. He stresses the constant difficulty of making any kind of profit with the added costs of transportation to and especially from the Island. All kinds of farming have been tried - sheep, pigs, dairy cattle, beef cattle, poultry etc.

The tourist industry in Tenby has a long pedigree and trips to Caldey by boat were early attractions, even if the early tourists concentrated on shooting rabbits, puffins and seals rather than observing them. Today the focus of the day trip is the Village Green and teagarden, the monastic shops and the Post Office with its small but interesting archaeological and historical exhibition and display and an established perambulation that extends up to the Lighthouse via the Fishponds and Old Priory. The overwhelming number of visitors are day visitors and boat landing and embarkation has recently been much improved by the work on the jetty and access road . Other visitors are drawn by the spiritual life of the island.

This sketch of the economic history of the island is important for present and future policies and developments because unlike other Pembrokeshire Islands, many past uses either continue today or could be revived in modern guises generally within conservation parameters and sustainable development.

Location, Topography and Geology.

The island of Caldey lies 3 km south of Tenby, Pembrokeshire and 1 km south of Giltar Point from which it is separated by Caldey Sound. A rocky natural causeway links the western tip of the island to the smaller St Margeret's Isle at low tide. Caldey island covers an area of 225 ha, some 550 acres. The geology of the island influences its topography. The southern half of the island is Old Red Sandstone, the northern half, Carboniferous Limestone, which has been extensively quarried mostly at coast edge quarries. The highest ground is a ridge which runs parallel to the south coast which corresponds to an outcrop of part of the ORS and is breached by the wide inlet of Red Berry Bay. The ground then slopes downwards to the north which is dissected by a stream flowing north from a spring at SS 141963 - this has been extensively managed into ponds and once powered the corn mill; it is still the main source of water on the island. On the north side of the island, now choked by sand and obscured by trees, a shallow valley extends eastwards from Priory Bay towards Jones Bay; north of this the ground rises again to the heights of Highcliff across the northernmost coast of the island.

(description: after S. Howells in H. Harries's Caldey Island Management Plan)

Settlement Plan Form

The Medieval Monastic landscape:

The medieval Priory was sited in the centre of the island, in a slight, northfacing depression where several springs rose and where the small stream which flows northwards to the sea at Priory Bay has its origin. The surviving buildings consist of a Priory Church on the south side of an irregular square cobbled courtyard. There is a long range on the east side, a shorter range to the west and remains of a possible medieval building to the north. The church consists of a vaulted chancel, a long narrow monastic quire and a tower with a distinctive leaning blunt-topped spire. After the Dissolution, the Priory buildings were substantially altered to form a house but this was in poor condition by 1800 and buildings were used as farm buildings. It is not thought that the medieval Priory had a precinct boundary. (see Appendix 3 - plans from Dyfed Archaeological Trust Survey, Ludlow *et al.* 1994) To the south was a cemetery, probably of pre-Norman origins as the Early Christian Monument now in the church suggests. This area now lies below the farm buildings.

It is probable that the fishponds, consisting of a descending flight on ponds almost along the whole length of the small stream mentioned above, are of medieval origin and that there was a medieval corn mill also sited on the stream. But it is important to realise that the whole surround of the medieval Priory and the ponds have been substantially altered by early 19th century uses. The Fishponds were surveyed in 1994 by Dyfed Archaeological Trust subsequent to the Structural Survey of the Old

Priory - copies have been forwarded to PCNP but are reproduced again here as Appendix 3.

The likely focus for medieval settlement of the tenant, peasant farmers of the Priory, lies to the north in the vicinity of St David's church, rescued from agricultural uses by Done Bushell and recognised as being of 12th century origin. This area is now occupied by the Monastery buildings and the Village Green and (as detailed below) has physically altered since the medieval period through sand dune accumulation. The principal archaeological traces are an early medieval 'cist' cemetery north of St David's Church where the present day burial ground of the monks is sited. Medieval pottery (shown to me by Brother James in the mid 1980s) has been recovered from the lowest pond.

Nineteenth Century Mansion and Priory Farm.

Thomas Kynaston built himself a new mansion on the north side of the Old Priory complex and landscaped the area on its northern (front) side. This was finally demolished in 1970 and only an overgrown area of stubs of walls remains. The early 19th century, the time of the Napoleonic Wars, was very profitable for arable farmers. The Farm enclosures and buildings on the old Priory site are also of early 19th century date and the present day condition and extent of the buildings is very close to that shown on the 1887 1st edition OS 1:10,560 map and the second edition of 1906 (see Appendix 4).

What has now vanished are the vast greenhouses and market garden plots of John Hawkesley's ambitious horticultural enterprise. He installed an ambitious system of heating the glasshouses by steam. A steam engine pumped water up from the wellhouse to a tank high up near the Lighthouse and this was gravity fed back to the gardens and farm. Hawkesley bought a vast array of modern agricultural machinery, also steam driven. The monumental boiler still up at the Lighthouse is a surviving feature from this short-lived and ultimately untenable farming era.

At the time of writing farming on Caldey is at a low ebb, consequently many of the farm buildings are not in use. In addition to the early 19th century buildings there are of course additions and structures of 20th century date. A full survey should be made of them all.

Fields, field walls and field pattern.

A substantial part of the Island and the Conservation Area lies within stone-walled fields, today used mainly for pasture but until recently (as the air photograph on the cover of this report shows) also for arable. As noted above, the field system is thought to date from the second half of the 18th century although earlier elements may of course be present. We have to place considerable reliance on the field pattern shown in the OS Surveyors 2 inch to the mile drawings from the surveys of 1811-1813, although these were not always accurate. Being extra-parochial, Caldey has no Tithe Survey.

The 1811 boundaries have been plotted onto the modern 1:10,000 map (Appendix 5) where it can clearly be seen that they form the main elements of the present day

boundaries. The large intake south of Sandtop Bay, the incorporation of the outlying 1811 rectangular enclosure between Eel Point and Sandtop Bay into the main system and some sub divisions are likely to date to the early 19th century as well. A key feature was to exclude the rabbits, which were thus confined to the cliff edges and coastal slopes. They were a valuable commodity. Sir Thomas Cullum, whose diary extracts of 1811 have also been noted above, wrote that 'The Chief production of the island is rabbits in the open country, but part is most expensively enclosed with very high walls and seems well cultivated . . . The way the rabbits are caught is very simple, no nets or traps being used, they are caught by taking out the plugs at the bottom of the stone walls in the Evening & as the rabbits are sure to enter to to feed upon the fresh Herbage, they then stop up the Holes, the rabbits are easily caught in the Enclosure.'

A rapid walkover survey was made of parts of the field walls on 9th September 1999. The walls are all of locally quarried limestone, originally heavily mortared, although some of the outlying walls of little used fields have lost much of their mortar and appear dry-stone. They are well built, often coursed at entrances or corner junctions. In many areas, especially over the western half of the island they are partly ruinous with large open breaches at entry points. The original heights seem to have been c. 1.8m. The junctions between the 1811 walls and the additional enclosures have not been systematically inspected but are generally visible as butt joints and rather awkward entrance areas. Another notable feature that seems present everywhere and gives a strong locally distinctive element to the field walls are the semi-circular piers for the gateways. All those inspected by me only have a single pier remaining - the opposing pier having been removed to make wider gateways to take more modern farm machinery. The most modern gateways are of timber uprights (see photographs Appendix 6). The whole field system would repay careful survey and record (see Recommendations).

The Modern Monastic Buildings and Enclosure.

Although not wholly included within the Conservation Area, any analysis of the historic landscape of the Island cannot ignore what is today the central feature of the Island's built heritage and the mainspring of its economy. The architectural interest of the monastic buildings is covered elsewhere and has recently been reassessed as part of a bid for HLF funding (see Appendix 2) The site chosen by Dom Aelred was south of the Cottages and St David's Chapel. One of the first acts by the Reformed Cistercians in 1929 was to build an enclosure wall around the complex, which, together with the monastery buildings is out of bounds to visitors. An earlier field boundary was used, and repaired and heightened (see Appendix 5).

A disastrous fire in 1940 gutted much of the monastery and repairs were not completed until 1951, due to wartime conditions and shortages. A date of 1953 on the end wall of the cottages adjacent to the Village Green records the date of their refurbishment.

A dominant feature today of the northeast of the Island are the woodland plantations. Quite dense coniferous plantations surround the Abbey Tea Gardens on three sides. Pines were planted in 1906 by the newly arrived Benedictines and

Howells has suggested that marram grass may have been planted at the same time - the object being to stabilise the sand dunes and provide shelter for the site of the new monastery. Another Benedictine planting scheme of 1926 was probably incomplete when they left the island. Since then the Reformed Cistercian Community have continued planting various pines and some broadleaf species.

There are clearly strong design elements in the original plantings of rows of conifers. However the limited access and generally overgrown areas makes it difficult to appreciate the structure and purpose of the woodlands (see Appendix 7 Island Map from Visitors Guide for location)

Priory Bay & the Landing Beach, Limestone Quarries and Limekilns.

This area has seen considerable change in the last 200 years caused by acceleration of sand dune build up and the consequent filling up of what was in earlier times much more of a tidal inlet. A good idea of the possible original extent of this former inlet can be gained from Captain Aldridge's 1853 Chart of Tenby and Caldey Roads (Appendix 8). There are considerable archaeological implications here in terms of medieval access, settlement and trade. Howells cites Fanny Price Gwynne, writing in 1858 for evidence that even then the tide reached a beach close to the row of cottages in the present day 'village' - the cottages are marked on Aldridge's Chart but there are also tracks marked across what was probably salt marsh, covered only by very high spring tides or storm surges. The upper part of the area is now known as The Common or Village Green grassed and edged by trees, where the present-day tearooms are.

The accumulations of blown sand which first choked the tidal inlet and developed into the extensive sand-dunes right across the top of Priory Bay may have begun at an early date but the major build up was from the 19th century onwards. There is and was considerable movement of the 'sedimentary budget' within Carmarthen Bay and enclosures of marsh and inlets accelerates 'long shore drift'. The besanding of Priory Bay is undoubtedly connected with the tremendous development of sand dunes along Tenby South Beach following the enclosure of the Ritec inlet (see Dyfed Archaeological Trust 1992). The process can be seen by comparing Aldridge's Chart of 1853 with the first edition OS 1: 10,560 of 1888 and the 2nd edition of 1906.

The principal result of the sand dune build up has been the relocation of the landing point from the east to the west side of Priory Bay. In 1853 a track led directly across marshy ground from a landing place just under Highcliff on the eastern side of Priory Bay straight up to Caldey House (The Old Priory) passing, as it does today between, the lowest of the 'fishponds' and the Cottages. The first edition 6 inch Map shows this landing place marked as 'The Quay', a name which survives on the 2nd edition as well, even though by then a landing stage had been built at the present day position of the Jetty below Rubbishy Corner. Both OS maps mark 'Old Quarry' and 'Old Limekiln' close to The Quay. Today, although the name survives on the modern 1:10,000 map there is no trace of any landing jetty - which I suspect to be now buried by the tremendous build up of sand. But behind the high dune ridge at the head of Priory Bay on the east side of the large flat area of former sand pits, the old quarry faces can be seen below the red-roofed Ty Gwyn and also

remains of what seems to have been a large bank of kilns - definitely more substantial than the limekiln next to St Philomena's. A flight of steps now runs up the seaward end side of the kilnbank leading to 'Ty Gwyn' - a house built for Dom Aelred's Island Steward, Mr Pomeroy. The present day electricity substation is sited within part of the former kiln bank (itself replacing the old boathouse (Howells, 1996, p.151). A large yellow marker beacon on the dune ridge marks the line of the underwater cable which brought electricity to the island in 1965; previously generators were used.

Aldridge's chart of 1853 shows a track branching off from the main route from 'The Quay' up to a bluff on the east side of Priory Bay, labelled 'Windmill Point' where a circular 'Magazine' is marked. Powder stores were generally some distance from the working quarry faces for obvious safety reasons. This circular structure had been in use as a windmill - today it has been converted into a small chapel to Our Lady of Peace, above the modern monastic guesthouse building of St Philomena's. The tower is claimed to be a medieval 'Watch tower' - it may be of medieval origin but is more likely to have been a windmill from the start. There is a preference in South Pembrokeshire for discarding the relatively prosaic functions of windmills for the more 'gothick' Watch Tower ! (i.e above Kiln Park, Tenby)!

The quarries whose high vertical faces loom above the modern approach road up from the jetty seem therefore to date to the second half of the 19th century and the Jetty built to offload the stone. A fine double-eyed limekiln still survives close to St. Philomena's.

Although worked at earlier dates, the Highcliff Quarries were brought back into production by Dom Aelred who installed expensive equipment and a new jetty - but they were out of production again by the early 1920's. An old postcard (Appendix 9) shows the timber jetty, and the large blocks with mooring rings along the seaward edge of the quarry with a ship loading. The colour photos of Sept 9th 1999 show what survives today (Appendix 9). Although only accessible - and visible - to the visitor at low tide, and entailing some scrambling, Highcliff is an evocative site for the amateur industrial archaeologist - or anyone interested in the different facets of Caldey's past.

'To The Lighthouse'.

Lewis Morris's 1748 Chart of 'Tenby Harbour Road and Caldey Roads' (Appendix 10) shows a Chapel 'seen from the sea' where the modern Lighthouse now stands. Its existence is perpetuated in the name 'Chapel Point' for the headland south of the Lighthouse. It is quite possible that this was sited as a landmark to aid medieval shipping into Tenby, whether there was a beacon maintained or not. The modern Lighthouse was built by Trinity House in 1829. Its prominent position and shape make it the third member of the 'trinity' of Caldey landmarks, together with the distinctive red tiled spires and roofs of the Monastery and the endearingly stubby and off-centre 'spire' of the Old Church.

Trinity House had responded to a petition for a light on Caldey from traders in Carmarthen Bay. Evidence for the importance of the limestone being shipped out at

that time from the island is provided by an 1830 allowance for vessels carrying limestone to commute their lightdues into annual payments according to tonnage. The Lighthouse is a small, round, brick lined tower, 17.07 or 56 feet high, with a light 64 m or 210 feet above highwater mark. It is flanked by two keepers' cottages with walled gardens to the north, forming a 'U' shaped plan. Today the keepers and their families are gone - the Light is automatic and the cottages are let out. The maintenance (so important for long distance daytime visibility), of the sparkling white paint and Trinity House livery help keep the Lighthouse as a popular venue at the end of 'the spine road, now concreted, across the island. It is evident from the 1811 field plan that the Lighthouse and its cottages were accommodated within the existing field pattern and the road to it no doubt perpetuated the track to the former Chapel.

Short Gazetteer of sites within the Conservation Area from the Sites & Monuments Record.

(This is not exhaustive and there are many of the modern features noted in this Report which should be added to the Record as individual entries - a task beyond the scope of The Conservation Area Archaeological Support Statements - entries with a number in italic are taken from Johnson's lists, yet to be accessed to the SMR, but excluding most of the individual quarries. The SMR also contains records of sites or finds not closely located, these are marginal entries on the Record Map - not included in this site specific gazetteer. Scheduled sites have a star attached to the prn, Listed Buildings a cross)

Recommendations

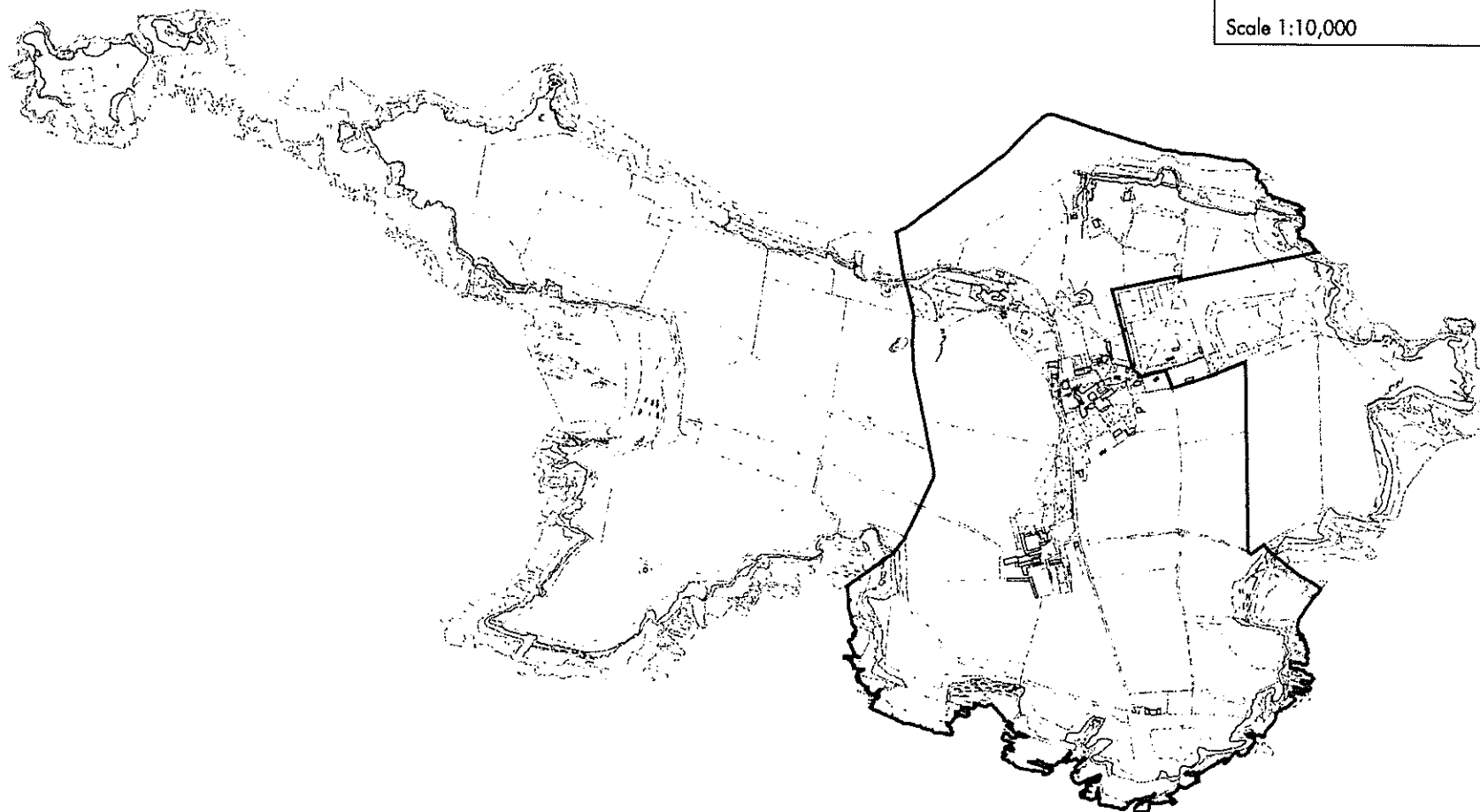
- Archaeological mitigation and recording should be considered in any further infrastructure works, building conversion or agricultural changes. (Cambria Archaeology considers that there was inadequate archaeological recording carried out in the recent Infrastructure works). Who is spelling out any possible archaeological implications in the next stage of HLF funding for the repairs to the Monastery buildings at an early enough stage to include costings for archaeological recording? - this is a curatorial not a contractual responsibility.
- A survey of the field walls is recommended in order to guide their future management and conservation in tandem with Habitat Management plans.
- A survey and record is recommended for the Farm buildings, before any further changes or benign neglect takes place

PRN	NGR	Name	Period	Site Type
154	SS1496	Orchard	Dark Age	finds
82	SS14049675	St Philomena's	Post med	limekiln
2370	?SS1496	Ynys Pyr	Dark Age	Monastery
		Monastery		
3393	SS138968	Caldey Island	Meso/Neolithic	?Flint-working floor
*3445	SS14969663	Daylight Rock	Mesolithic	Occupation Site
3446	SS14969663	Daylight Rock	Period unknown	earthwork
3448	SS138968	Caldey Island	Neolithic	finds
3449	SS138968	Caldey Island	Roman	?settlement/finds
3571	SS14989660	Daylight Rock	Mesolithic	finds
		Cave		
4176	SS14259596	The Flats	period unknown	earthwork
4181	SS13839610	The Flats	Bronze Age	Barrow
4244	SS14239668	Caldey Island	Dark Age/Medieval	Cemetery?
4245	SS1496	Caldey Island	Dark Age	Inscribed Stone
4246	SS143960	St Mary's Chapel	Medieval	Chapel
4249	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Mesolithic	finds
4250	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Neolithic	finds
4251	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Bronze Age/Iron Age	finds
4252	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Iron Age/Roman?	finds
4253	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Roman	finds
4254	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Medieval	finds
4255	SS14349707	Potter's cave	Mesolithic	finds
4256	SS14369707	Potter's cave	Neolithic	finds
4257	SS14369707	Potter's cave	Bronze Age	finds
4258	SS14369707	Potter's cave	Bronze Age/Iron Age	finds
4259	SS14369707	Potter's cave	Medieval	finds
4261	SS14749660	Bullum's Bay	Meso/Neolithic	finds
4269	SS144963	Drinkim	period unknown	inhumation
4270	SS14249643	Monastery Field	Neolithic	finds
4271	SS14449653	Poultry Field	Meso/Neolithic	finds
4272	SS14009671	Abbey Field	period unknown	field system
4274	SS14269699	Ty Chwarel	Paleolithic	finds
+4278	SS14089631	Old Priory	Medieval	Priory
4279	SS14139633	Priory fishponds	Medieval	fishponds
4280	SS14439595	Valley Field	Mesolithic	Flint-working floor
4281	SS14509594	Valley Field	Mesolithic	Flint-working floor
4282	SS14289664	St David's Church	Medieval	Church
4283	SS13969683	The Oratory	Med/Post Med	?watchtower/windmill
4557	SS146966	Caldey Island	Neso/Neolithic	finds
4563	SS14469622	Drinkim	Mesolithic	finds
4564	SS14289664	St David's Church	Dark Age/Medieval	building
4894	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	Paleolithic	finds
5006	SS14369707	Potter's cave	Iron Age	finds
7288	SS14339595	Lighthousecottages	Post-med	buildings
7294	SS143970	Highcliff	Medieval	finds
7297	SS14159699	The Quay	post med	limekiln
7320	SS14989660	Daylight Rock	Medieval	finds
		Cave		
7341	SS14989660	Daylight Rock	Neolithic	Occupation Site
		Cave		
7342	SS14969663	Daylight Rock	period unknown	finds
7343	SS14979660	Daylight Rock	Paleo/Neolithic	finds

		Cave		
7396	SS14719688	Skull Cave	Meso/Neolithic	finds
7593	SS14269699	Ty Chwarel	Paleolithic	finds
8391	SS143958	Chapel Point	Period unknown	earthwork
+9778	SS143959	Caldey Lighthouse	Post-med	Lighthouse
10102	SS140960	St. David's Orchard	Mesolithic	finds
10187	SS143966	St David's	DarkAge/Medieval	Dedication
11691	SS1396	Priory Bay	Mesolithic	finds
11981	SS14589697	Nanna's Cave	period unknown	occupation site
11982	SS14589697	Nanna's cave	Neolithic	finds
11983	SS14369707	Potter's cave	period unknown	occupation site
11993	SS14655691	Ox Cave	period unknown	finds
11985	SS142966	Caldey Island	period unknown	midden
11995	SS14369707	Potter's cave	Iron Age	finds
12250	SS14289664	St David's Church	Mesolithic	finds
12251	SS140964	The Old Priory	Mesolithic	finds
12252	SS146959	Valley Field	Mesolithic	finds
*13072	SS143971	Potters cave	General	Cave
*13073	SS146969	Nanna's cave	General	Cave
20803	SS14129647	The Old Mill	Post med	cornmill
+33374	SS142966	Caldey Abbey	Post med	Monastery
+35378	SS141966	Cottages	post med	buildings
39016	SS1396 & 1496	fields & walls	post med	field system
39017	SS1396 & 1496	fields & walls	post med	field system

Bibliography.

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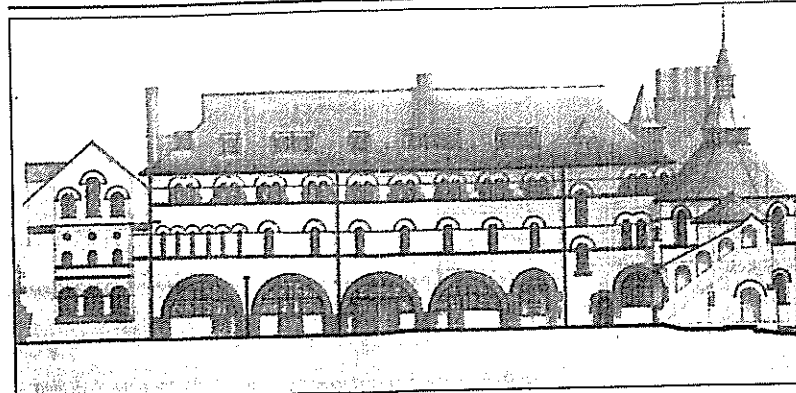
Caldey Island CONSERVATION AREA

THE CONSERVATION AREA IS COMPRISED OF ALL THE
LAND WITHIN THE BOUNDARY AND ALL THE LAND AND
STRUCTURES UPON WHICH THE BOUNDARY LINE FALLS

Scale 1:10,000

August 1997

CALDEY ISLAND: Arts and crafts movement monastery is in desperate need of a new roof



VISION OF THE FUTURE: An architect's drawing of the restored Caldey monastery

Abbey prays for Lottery salvation

MICHAEL BOON

Prayer may move mountains; it does not put a new roof on the Cistercian abbey of Caldey Island. The tiny community of monks is far better advised to trust its fate to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the expertise of the Pembroke architectural practice Acanthus Holden.

The firm, which specialises in conservation, has been called in "at a fairly late stage" to try to save the monastery.

Director Peter Holden does not mince his words: "The building was put up in the early part of this century and now needs major refurbishment. It is falling apart."

There are some 14 monks there. The one-and-a-half miles by three-quarters-of-a-mile island, two miles off Tenby, is also home to a lay community which is much larger.

All of them are dependent on tourism. The fear is that if the monks cannot raise significant funds — £500,000 in the first instance to reroof the monastery — there is a good chance that they will be forced out of their cherished home.

"They simply cannot survive in a building that is falling down around their ears," Mr Holden said.

"That is why we are applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund. In the process, you have to research the history of the building which is an important part of any bid.

"The HLF needs to know in detail about the building's origins, its historical background and its architectural importance."

Therein lies the monastery's greatest hope. Acanthus Holden has uncovered what it describes as "a gem" of the Arts and Crafts movement. This school of architecture stemmed from the ideas and theories of radical architects in the 1860s and 1870s, pri-



POINTING TO HEAVEN: Coates Carter's striking tower

marily William Morris, Philip Webb and William Lethaby.

It was initially taken up by architects in the Home Counties and by a few professionals in Wales. Then it was exported throughout the Empire and to the rest of the world.

The importance of the monastery centres on its creator John Coates Carter (1859-1927) who worked out of Penarth. His role and the significance of the building has been appreciated only recently.

"The monastery was listed just two

Conservation specialists

ACANTHUS Holden Architects is thought to be the only conservation architects in Wales working to preserve both the built and environmental heritage along with the communities that created them.

As well as the Caldey monastery, Peter Holden is also directing the conservation and conversion of the listed buildings within the former Royal Naval dockyard at Pembroke Dock.

His colleague director Julian Bishop's environmentally-sensitive light industrial park at Machynlleth has recently been ac-

claimed as one of the top 10 most significant buildings constructed in Wales in the 1990s.

Linda Jones, another director, has been responsible for some of the most innovative community projects in rural West Wales.

They include the adaptation of the old village hall in Lawrenny to incorporate a youth hostel, now a valuable source of income to the village.

Finished in 1997, it was one of the first completed Millennium Lottery-funded schemes in the UK.

years ago by Cadw," says Peter Holden. "It was awarded grade two star status: now there is talk about elevating it to grade one."

"There is certainly a very good chance that after the work is done this will happen. The building has outstanding quality."

"Let us not forget that it is in Wales and we have very few outstanding examples of turn-of-the-century architecture. In a wider sense, it is important because most of the Arts and Crafts practitioners concentrated on small domestic-scale buildings."

"Caldey Abbey is one of the very few large buildings in Britain by the Arts and Crafts architects. Coates Carter brought together many of the influences that were around at the time — for instance, Castell Coch and Cardiff Castle designed by William Burges."

"The monastery is exceptional in its size and detail. Throughout, we can see decorative motifs such as

cows, door handles which have owls and dragons, floral patterns on hinges and so on.

"The Arts and Crafts architects were looking back to medieval traditions and revolting against the industrial architecture of the 19th Century. They wanted doors produced by local craftsmen; hand-crafted stone and so on. Much of this is included in the building on Caldey."

"One of the factors that sets apart Coates Carter is that he employed reinforced concrete. It was used in the main structure and on the minarets of the guest house."

Princes of the church have often entertained ideas of grandeur. The founder of the High Anglican Benedictine Order between 1906-1913, Abbot Carlisle, wanted to live in great luxury and was undeniably obsessive about the finer things of life.

The bubble burst in 1913, he con-

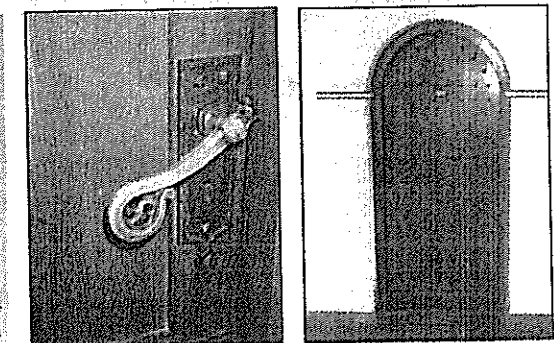
verted to Rome and disappeared back to Gloucester. But he had made his mark in the furniture, an altar, works of fine art, stained glass and the decoration he commissioned.

Much of that finery, and the craftsmen who produced it, followed him to Gloucester. But the building, reminiscent of a Bavarian schloss and possibly an architectural cousin of Castell Coch, remained.

"I hope that the new Welsh Assembly will identify Welsh architecture. There are those who will say it does not exist beyond Norman antiquities — they are wrong."

"Men like Coates Carter and Herbert North, whose group of houses in Llanfairfechan, along with the Caldey monastery, are the outstanding examples of Arts and Crafts building in Wales, are major architects."

"Coates Carter is a heroic figure of our profession. Caldey dominated his life from 1907 to 1913."



FINE DETAILS: An intricate door handle of the Arts and Crafts movement and the richness of Caldey's original doors

Original clay tiles need to be replaced

PETER Holden rates the chances of saving the monastery as "very high" because the main reinforced concrete frame is in good condition. The big problem is the roof.

"It has clay tiles which were manufactured in Bridgwater and brought over to Caldey by boat. Unfortunately, they were not designed for the kind of weather that the island experiences."

"All now need replacing. We aim to use an appropriate tile as close as possible to the originals but more weather resistant."

"Clearly, to the hard-up monks, the architectural integrity of the building has not been a major priority over the past 20 years. They went for the cheapest options such as flat roofs rather than towers; Upvc windows rather than lead. We are now seeking to restore all the original features as far as possible."

In the long term, there are plans to clear away the trees that obscure the splendid Coates Carter facade. It is also hoped to bring back the landscaping that was part of the original concept of the schloss on the hill with the retainers' village below.

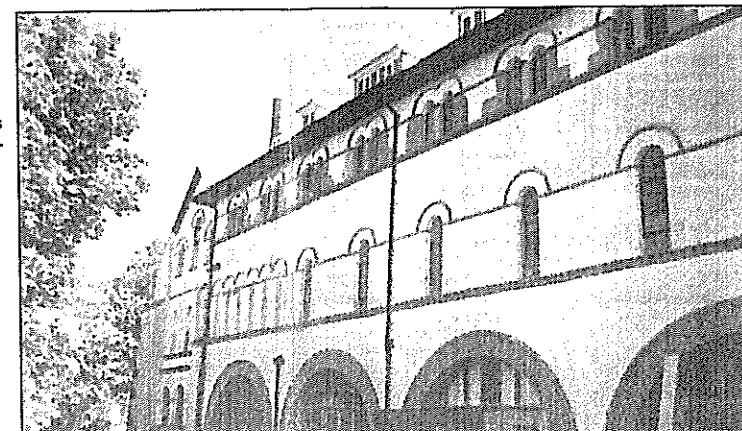
The only way that the future of the monks on the island can be safeguarded is by preserving their monastery. Acanthus Holden also intends to improve tourist facilities such as the cafe and toilets.

The firm joins the monks in aiming to create a self-reliant community; one that produces its own food and energy; that disposes of its own



LEFT: The striking church on Caldey

RIGHT: The monastery's half-hidden tree-shaded front



Appendix 3
(Ludlow 1994)

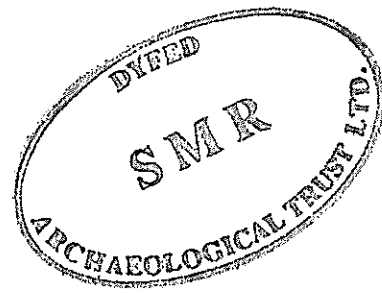
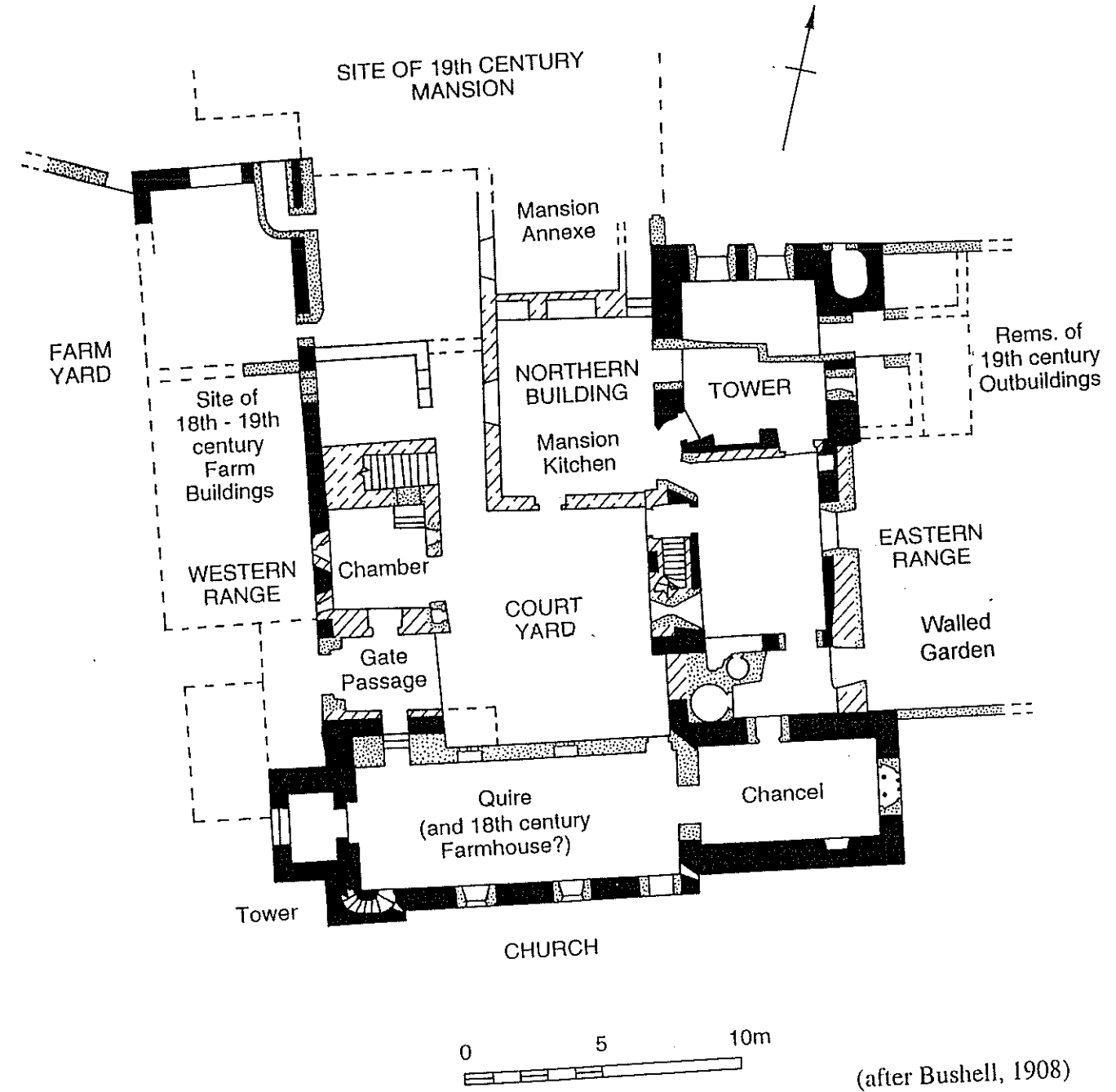


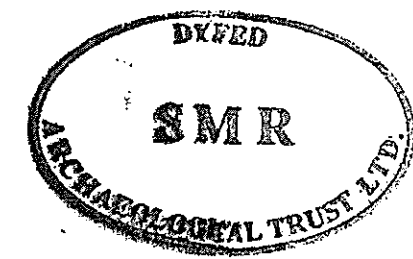
Fig. 3:
Caldey Prioory Complex:
Overall Plan

Phase I - II Phase III - IV Phase V - VIII

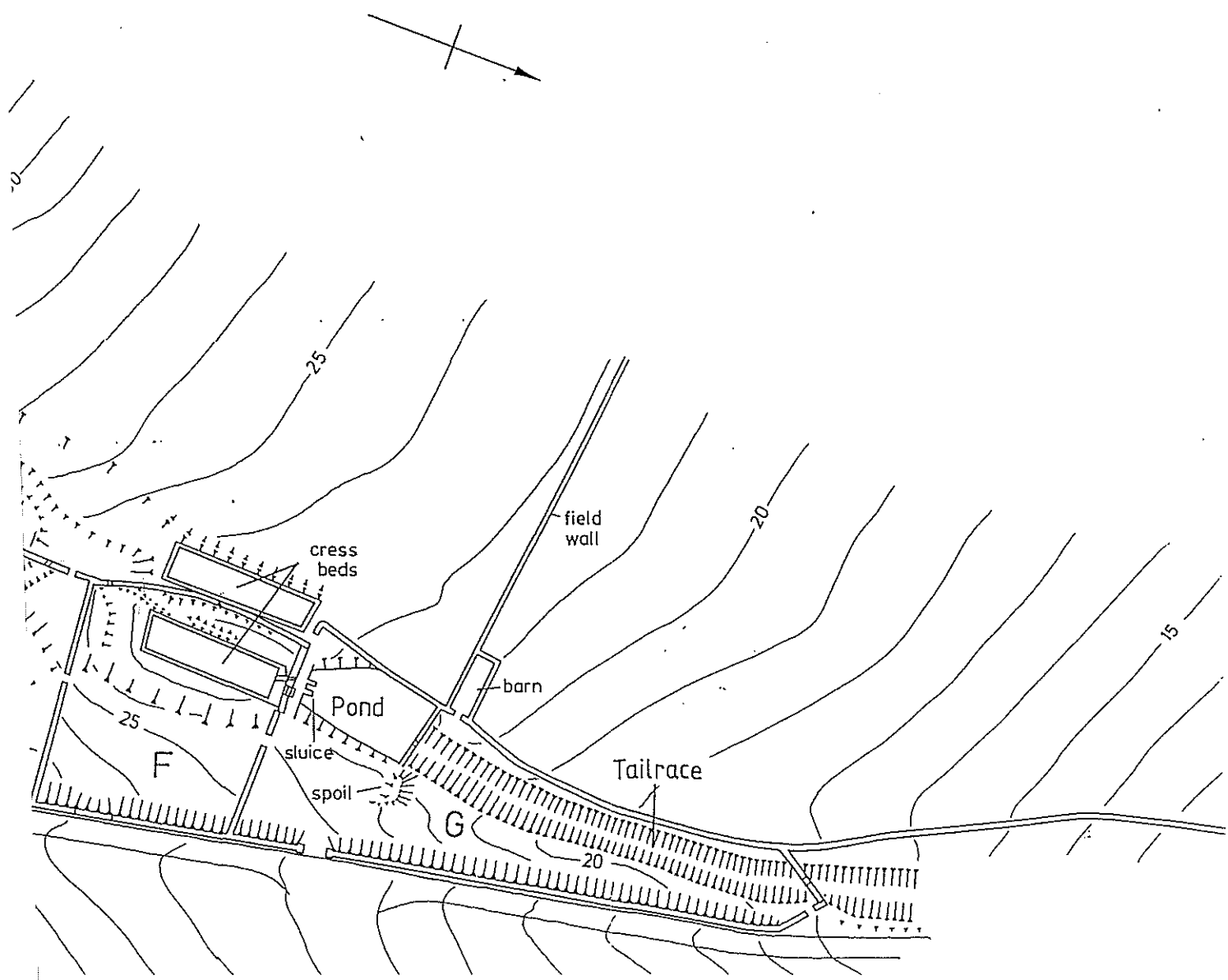


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(Appendix 3)
Ludlow & Murphy 1994



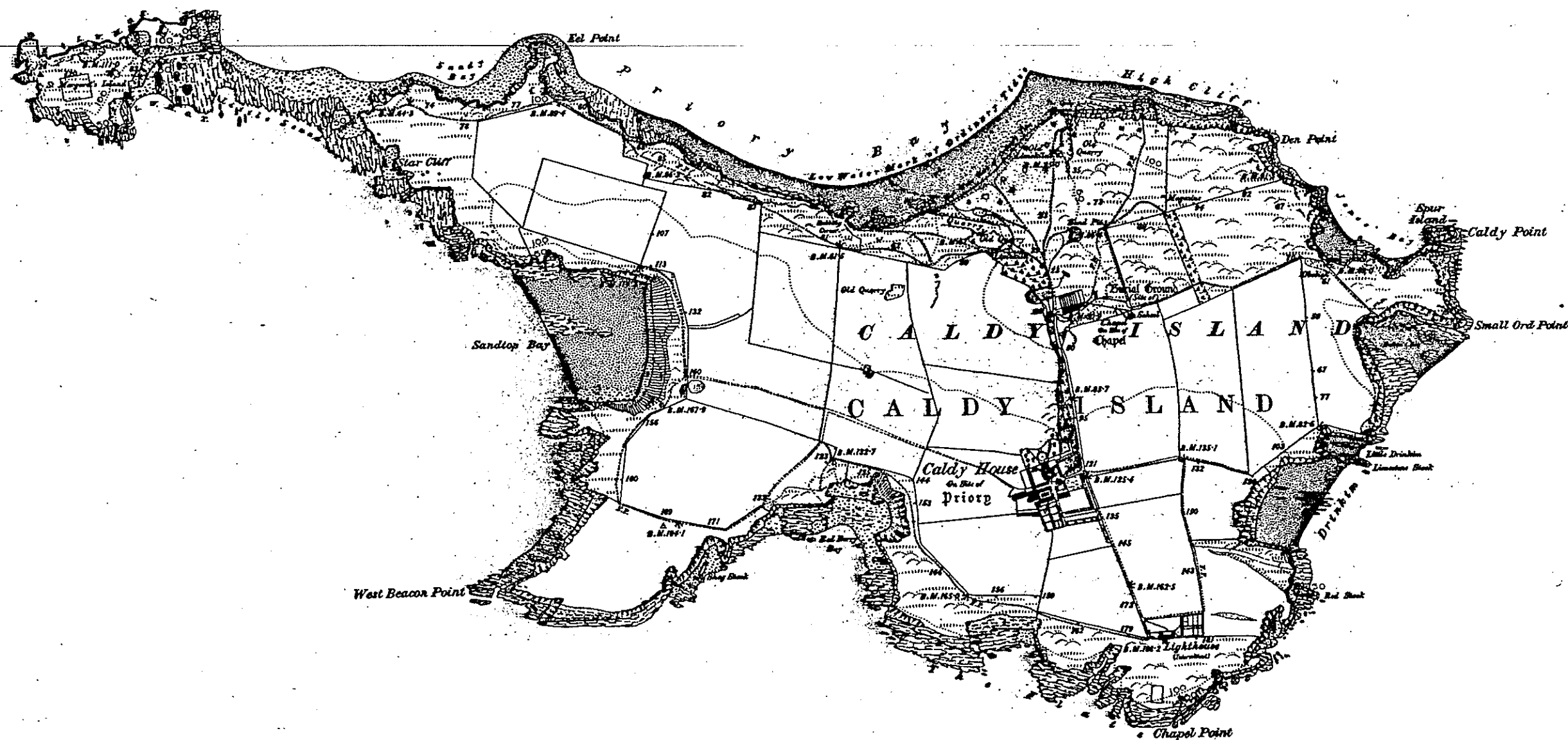
0 50m



CALDY
SOUND

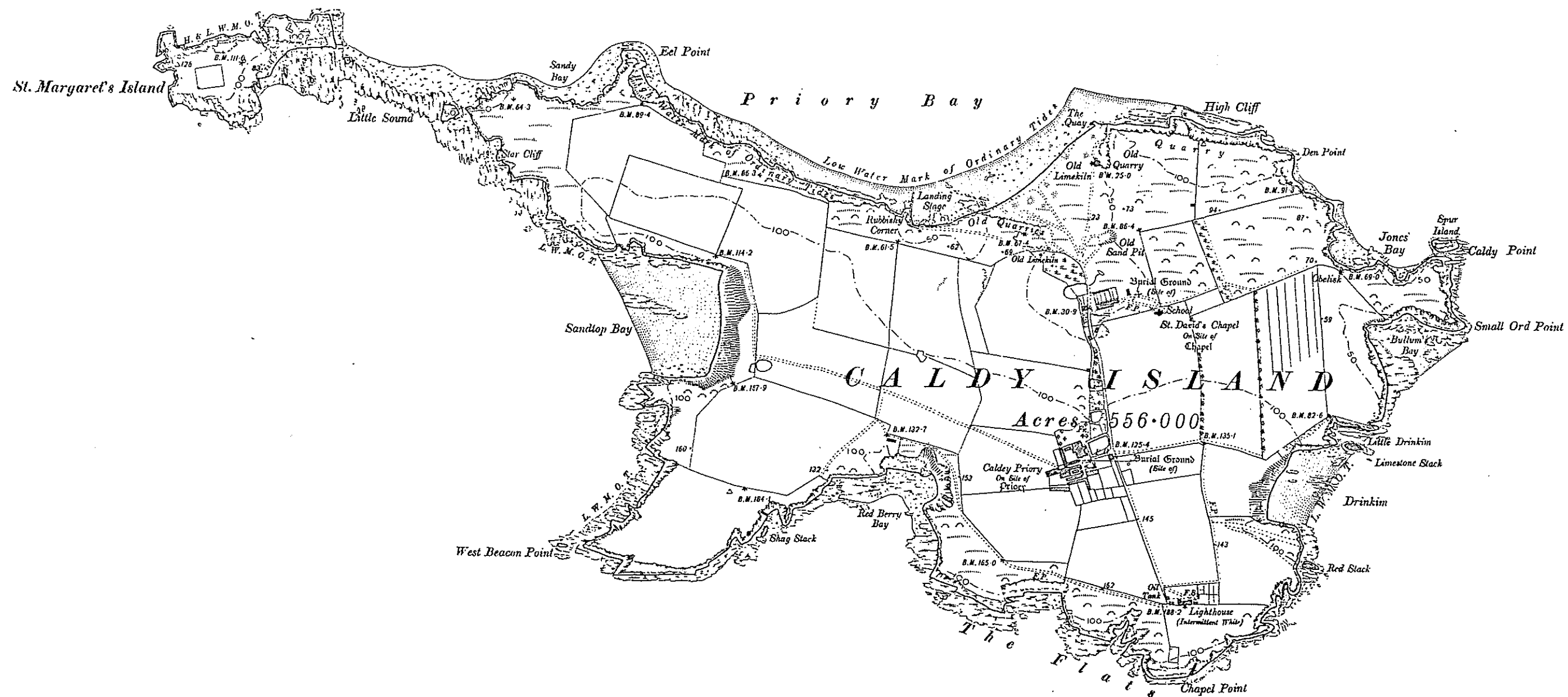
CALDY
ROADS



Appendix 4
1st edn O.S. 6" map
Survey date 1887
XLIVNE



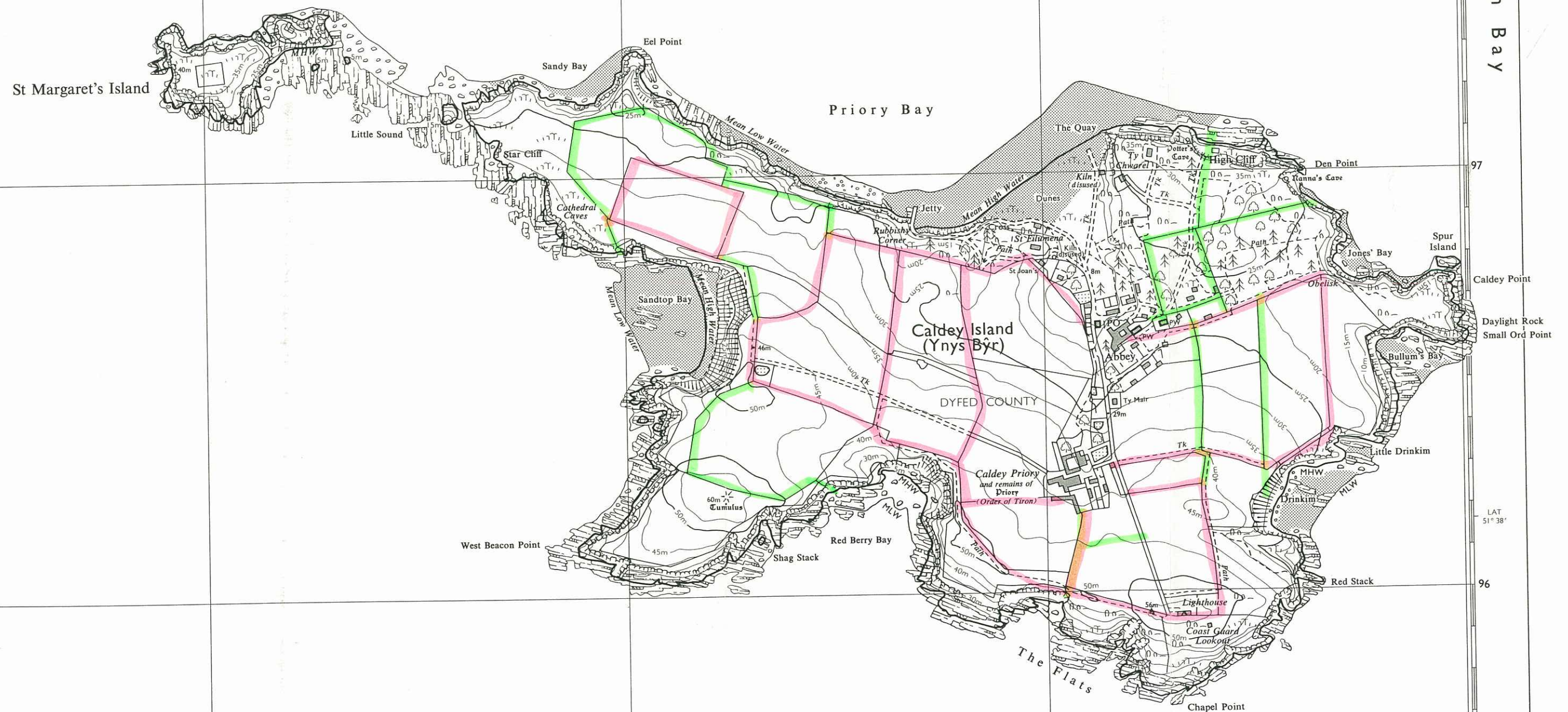
B R I S T O L C H A N N E L

1st edn



 = Field boundaries shown on O.S. Surveys 2nd drawings 1811
 = Field boundaries added by 1887.

LAT
51° 38'





Decayed end of wall and junction (butt joint) between two phases of field walls - west end Caldey Island..

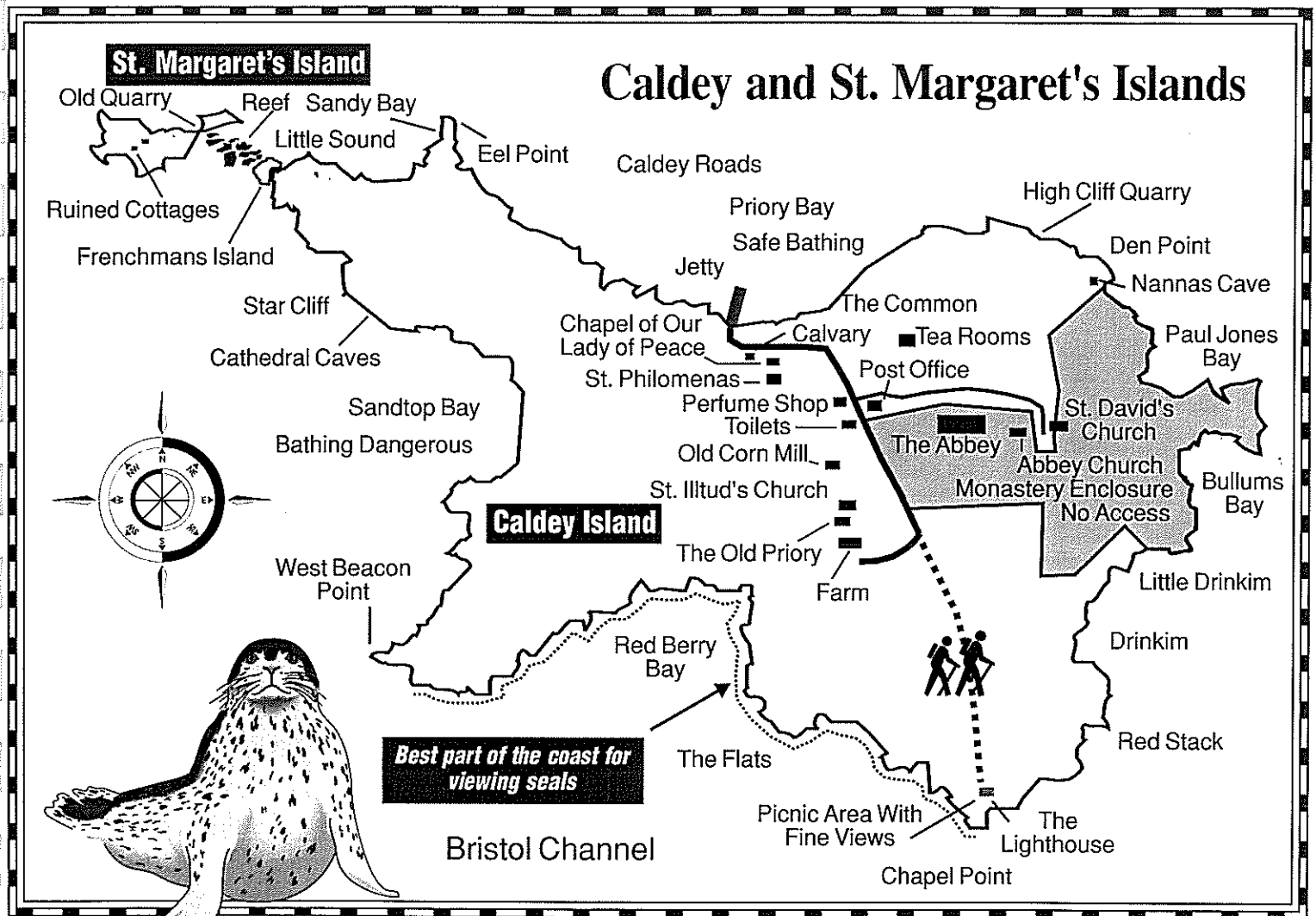


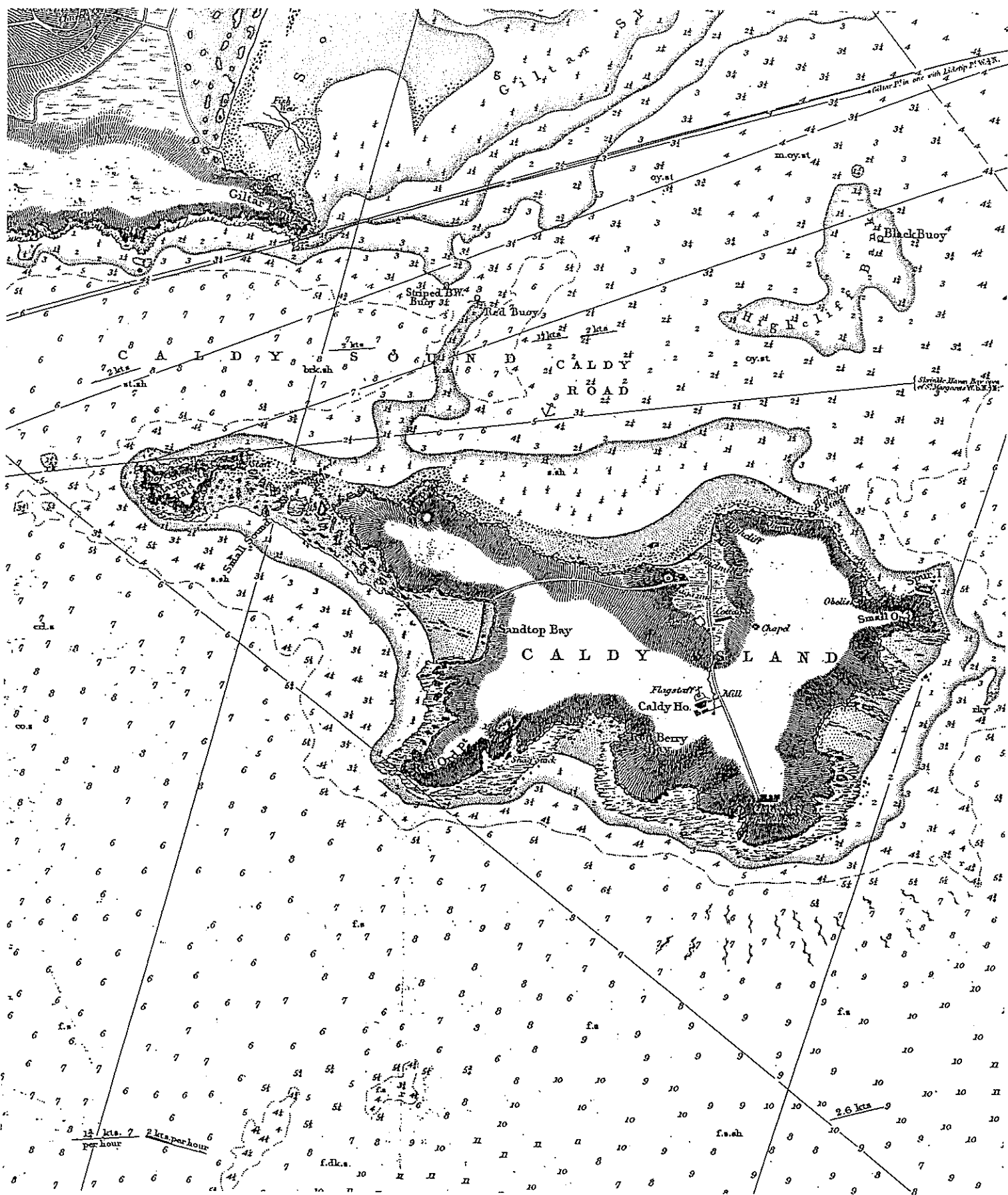
Characteristic semi-circular gate pier on one side of entrance and a wall cut back and pier removed for a modern (now decayed) gate - west end Caldey Island

Appendix 7

Visitors Map from

'A Visitors Guide to Caldey Island'
Alan Shepherd 4th edn.





Appendix 8
 Chart of Tenby + Caldy Roads
 Captain Aldridge 1853



Highcliff Quarry, September 1999, showing the landward end of the former timber loading jetty shown on the early 20th century photograph.

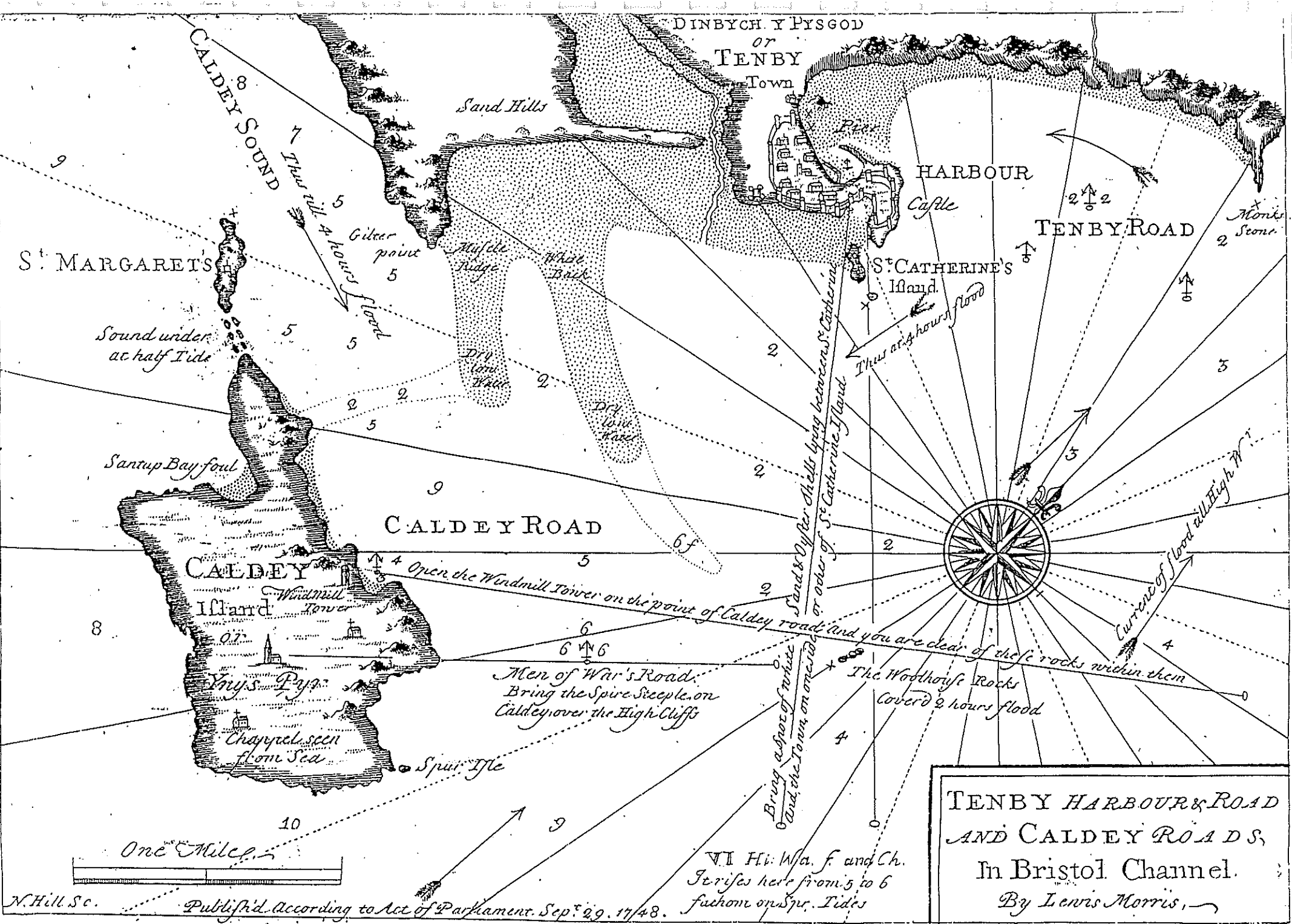


Highcliff Quarry September 1999, view from the eastern end, showing remains of the timber jetty and large mooring blocks (see lines from bow of ship being loaded with limestone in early 20th century photograph)



74. The island of Caldey, just off Tenby, at one time had a thriving quarry industry as can be seen from this picture. It is totally different today and has become a peaceful and quiet sanctuary for a religious order.

Appendix 9.
Highcliff Quamers. 1910-1920



N. Hill Sc. Published according to Act of Parliament. Sep. 29. 1748.

VI H. Wa. f. and Ch.
It rises here from 5 to 6
fathoms on Spr. Tides

TENBY HARBOUR & ROAD
AND CALDEY ROADS,
In Bristol Channel.
By Lewis Morris,