

Building Recording & Analysis

**Site of the Former Kwik Save,
44 Market Street, Holyhead**

NGR SH 24658 82506



Report Number: CR36-2013



C.R Archaeology

Compiled by C. Rees & M. Jones

On Behalf of Isle of Anglesey County Council

Acknowledgements

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1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology have been instructed by Isle of Anglesey County Council to conduct an archaeological building recording and analysis at the above property following the discovery of concealed early interior features during the conversion of the former supermarket to housing. The site is being developed as part of the Holyhead Townscape Heritage Initiative.

The site is situated in an urban setting and is located at 44 Market Street (SH 24658 82506) in the centre of Holyhead, Anglesey (figure 1). The building is shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map as a coaching inn and is believed to date from the mid-late eighteenth century. The building is not listed and nor is it recorded on the RCAHMS database. It is however located within the towns designated Conservation Area (www.holyheadforward.com). The extent of the Conservation Area is shown in figure 2.

The archaeological works conducted at the former Kwik Save site created a Level 3 building record. This included the collection of archive material which forms the historical background section of this report and the compilation of a photographic record of the site. A drawn survey of the property was produced by Dewis Architecture and is included with their permission.

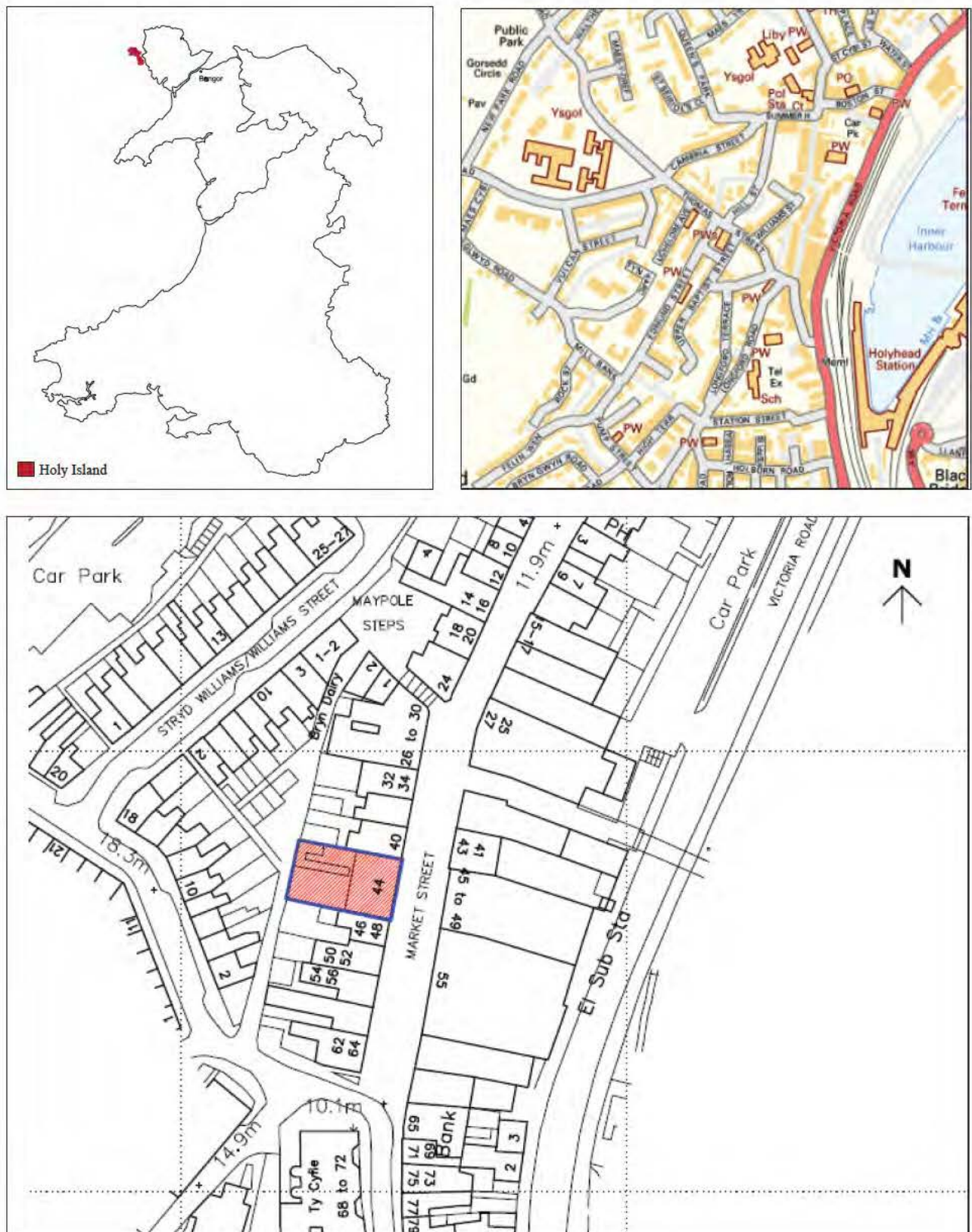


Figure 1. 44 Market Street Location Map (Source OS Open Data Mapping & Ordnance Survey)

Atodiad XIV

Appendix XIV

Cynllun yn dangos terfyn presennol yr
ardal gadwraeth, lleoliad y prif adeiladau
a cyfeiriad golygfeydd

Existing conservation area boundary,
location of principle buildings
and direction of views plan

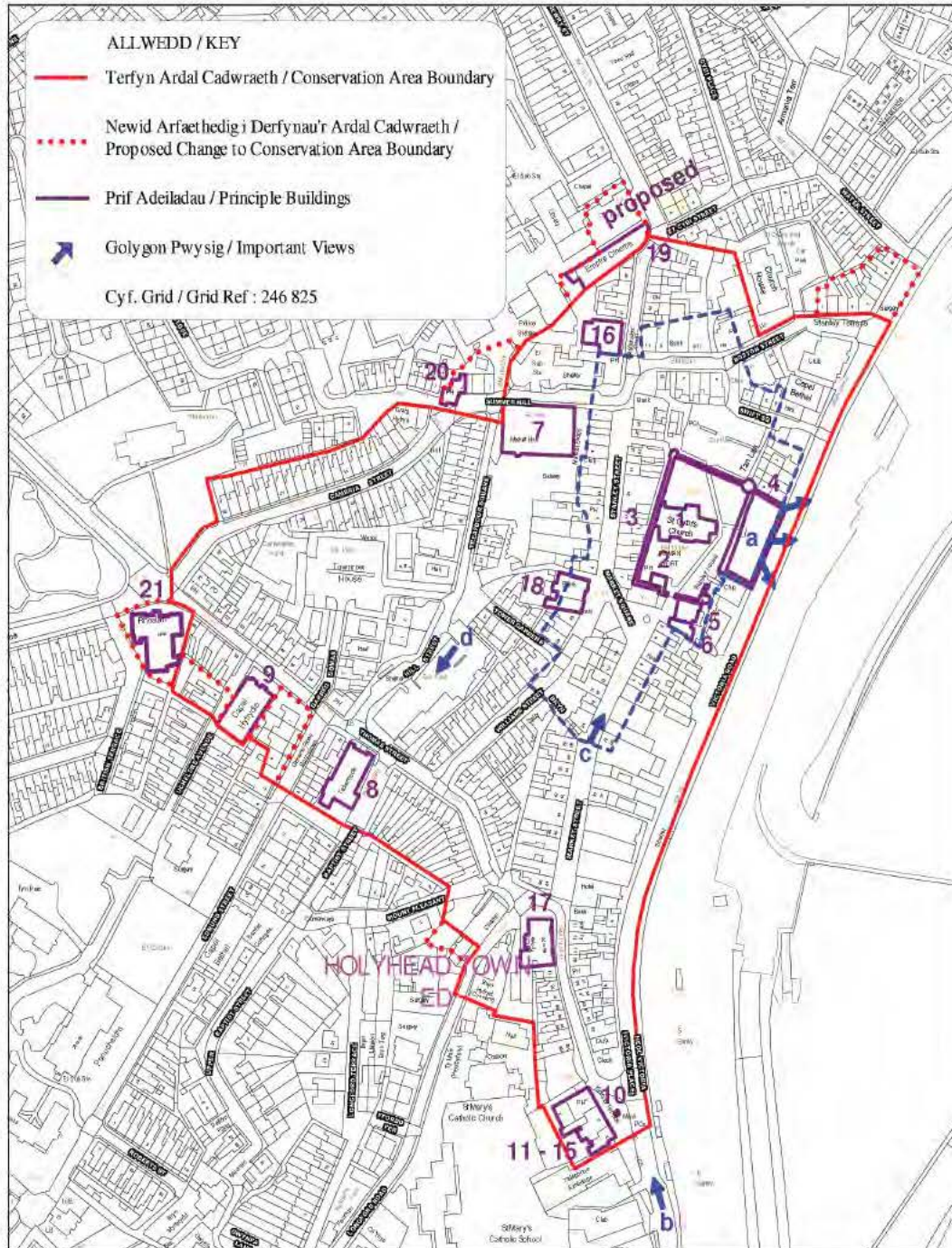


Figure 2. Holyhead Conservation Area Boundary (Source: www.anglesey.gov.uk)

2.0 Project Aims

The programme of works undertaken at the site aimed to create a Level 3 Historic Building Record and thus its aims were two-fold.

The first aim of the scheme of works was to undertake desk based historical research exploring the history of the property. This information included a map progression, photographic illustrations, archival research, an examination of tithe and census records and a search for entries in historic trade directories which were utilised to compile a coherent narrative history of the site.

The second aim of this archaeological investigation was to create a comprehensive level 3 photographic and drawn record of the site. The photographic record was compiled by C.R Archaeology and the drawn record included in this report was produced by Dewis Architecture and is included with their permission.

3.0 Scheme of Works - Methodology

The works at the former Kwik Save site were conducted in three sections, each of which is detailed separately below. The methodology employed conformed to the requirements of a level 3 analytical building record as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (Revised 2008).

The following points are detailed in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006).

The record created for the former Kwik Save site consists of:

Written Account	Points 1-3, 5-13, 22
Drawings	Points 2-9
Photography	Points 1-9

3.1 Desk Based Research

A complete and coherent history of the site was compiled utilising information sourced from Anglesey Archives, Bangor University Archives and local libraries. A full map progression was undertaken along with a search of tithe records, tax records, trade directories and census returns. Web resources were also utilised.

The works were carried in accordance with the IfA Standards and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (IfA 2009) and will include the information required to fulfil points 1-3, 5-9, 11-13 & 22 as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006).

This material forms the historical background for this archaeological report. The report also includes the results of the photographic survey and an additional compact disc containing all site images in Tiff format.

3.2 Drawn Survey

A drawn record of the site was produced by Dewis Architecture in December 2011. This included a location plan, building elevations and floor plans. Copies of these drawings were taken to site when C.R Archaeology visited to compile a photographic record and were annotated to show the location/direction of photographs taken and to record the position of architectural features which were previously concealed.

These drawings fulfil points 2-7 as specified in “*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*” (English Heritage 2006). Location plans and historical material have been produced/sourced by C.R Archaeology to fulfil criteria 8-9 in the aforementioned document.

3.3 Photographic Survey

A photographic survey of the former Kwik Save site was undertaken by Catherine Rees and Matthew Jones of C.R Archaeology on 20th March 2013. This work consisted of:

- 1) A basic photographic survey of the building exterior
- 2) A photographic survey of the building interior

3.3.1 Equipment

A photographic survey of the building was undertaken using a 13.5 mega-pixel Sony A350 digital camera with a variety of standard and other lenses. Images were captured in RAW format for processing into high resolution JPG and TIFF files.

Where possible all exterior and interior elevations of the building were photographed with scales from ground level. This was however not possible in the case of the front elevation as it was obscured by fencing and a vehicle. The lower level of the building had however been heavily modified and the photographs were taken for reference only. Additional photographs were taken detailing important architectural features.

The methodology employed conforms to the requirements of photographic recording to the equivalent of a level 3 survey, as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and will include works specified in points 1-9.

3.3.2 Timetable for Proposed Works

Site works at 44 Market Street were conducted on 20th March 2013. A further 5 days were utilised for archive research, report compilation and site archiving.

3.4 Staffing

The project was managed by Catherine Rees (BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology), PgDip (Historic Environment Conservation)). Site works were conducted by Catherine Rees and Matthew Jones. All staff have a skill set equivalent to the IfA AIfA level. CVs for all staff employed on the project can be provided on request.

The projects are carried out in accordance with IfA *Standard and Guidance* documents.

3.5 Monitoring

The project was not subject to monitoring by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services as this work was conducted outside the planning process. A draft copy of the report will be submitted to Anglesey County Council prior to submission of the final report. Copies of the report will be lodged with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record and at Anglesey Archives, Llangefni.

3.6 Health and Safety

A risk assessment was conducted prior to the commencement of works and site staff were familiarised with its contents. A first aid kit was located in the site vehicle.

All staff were issued with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the site work.

This consisted of:

- Safety Helmets (EN397)
- Hi-visibility vests (EN471)
- Safety footwear – steel toecap and mid-sole boots and Wellingtons (EN345-47)

All staff have passed at least a CITB health and safety test at least operative level and carry a Construction Related Organisation (CRO) White Card for Archaeological Technician (Code 5363).

3.7 The Report

The report clearly and accurately incorporates information gained from the programme of archaeological works. It presents the documentary evidence gathered in such a way as to create a clear and coherent record. The report contains a site plan showing the locations of photographs taken.

The report includes:

- A location plan,
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of any photographs or drawings
- Full dimensional and descriptive detail,
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- An archive compact disc

A digital Adobe PDF version and a bound paper copy of the final report and will be lodged with Anglesey County Council, Gwynedd Historic Environment Record, RCHMW Aberystwyth and Anglesey Archives on completion of the project. The site archive including copies of all photographs in RAW and Tiff format will be deposited at Anglesey Archives.

3.7.1 Copyright

C.R Archaeology and sub-contractors shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides a licence to the client and the local authority for the use of the report by the client and the local authority in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

The copyright for the original drawings (site location, building floor plans and elevations) is retained by Dewis Architecture.

4.0 Geographical and Geological Context

4.1 Topography

The former Kwik Save site (Grid Reference SH24658 82506) is located on Market Street in the commercial centre of Holyhead, a sea port in the north-western part of the Isle of Anglesey.

The site falls within the designated conservation area for the town. The town is characterised as dating predominately from the nineteenth century with “the terraces, chapels and other buildings mostly of the modest sub-classical type found throughout the industrial expansion in NW Wales” (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009:127).

The town of Holyhead is situated in a key location along the route from London to Dublin and is the shortest crossing point between the two land masses.

4.2 Geology

The superficial geology of the site is described as “Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These rocks were formed in cold periods with Ice Age glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till with outwash sand and gravel deposits from seasonal and post glacial meltwaters” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

The bedrock is detailed as “New Harbour Group - Mica Schist And Psammite. Metamorphic Bedrock formed approximately 545 to 650 million years ago in the Neoproterozoic Iii Period. Originally sedimentary rocks formed in deep seas. Later altered by low-grade metamorphism. These rocks were first deposited as graded clastic sediments or turbidites in the deep sea, and then later metamorphosed, though there is evidence of their sedimentary origin.” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Historical Background

The following section is intended to place the site in its historical context. In order to achieve this a brief history of the town of Holyhead has been compiled. Specific reference will be made to the significance of the links with Ireland, the port/harbour, the London - Dublin road and the coming of the railway.

5.1 Early Development – Prehistory to Medieval Holyhead and Parish

The town and port of Holyhead lie in the area of the parish defined as Holyhead Urban. This area is described in the 1937 Royal Commission of Ancient and Historical Monuments as containing only limited structures of historic interest, namely the Roman Fort of Caer Gybi, the Parish Church of St Gybi, and the Chapel known as Eglwys-y-Bedd (RCAHMW 1937:28). The town of Holyhead originally clustered around the aforementioned fort of Caer Gybi and the sixth century church of St Cybi was founded within the fort walls. The current church was built during the thirteenth century and it is believed that Edward I stayed at the fort in 1283 (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

Within the wider area of the Holyhead Parish, defined as Holyhead Rural, there are a number of monuments of much greater antiquity and important sites from a variety of periods. The earliest of these sites is the Neolithic burial chamber at Trefignath, approximately a mile to the south-east of Holyhead town. Other prehistoric monuments include a number of cairns on Holyhead Mountain and there is a concentration of Iron Age activity in the parish which includes the hut circles at Ty Mawr, Holyhead Mountain and the hillfort at Cae Y Twr. An important early medieval chapel dedicated to St. Bride with associated cemetery is located at Towyn-Y-Capel (RCAHMW 1937:22-28).

The aforementioned site list is by no means exhaustive and the sites are not discussed in any great detail. They have been included merely to provide a context for the urban area whose earlier remains are likely to have been destroyed by later development.

5.2 The Development of the town of Holyhead – Sixteenth to Late Eighteenth Century

The fortunes of the town of Holyhead are closely interwoven with those of the harbour and the route to Ireland. As the shortest sea crossing Holyhead was of key strategic importance in the governance of Ireland and in 1561 John ap Pierce of Holyhead was contracted by the Vice Treasurer of Ireland to supply a vessel for the conveyance of Government Messages (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

Holyhead continued as a centre of trade and transport, albeit on a relatively modest scale as is attested in a number of late seventeenth and eighteenth century sources. The earliest of these is part of a strip map produced by John Olilby in 1675 detailing the route from London to Holyhead (figure 3). Although schematic this source shows the church at Holyhead and two rows of houses lining the main street. Other than the church it is not possible to identify individual properties but it does show houses occupying the approximate position of what would later become Market Street.

A similar level of development is shown in a sketch of the town by Francis Place produced in 1699 (figure 4), which also shows some outlying properties. A sketch map of the town in 1737 and a Sea Chart of 1748, both drawn by Lewis Morris (figures 5 & 6) further enforce this idea of a much reduced centre of the town developing in a strip between the church and the port.

There are a number of interesting descriptions of Holyhead written around this time which emphasise the vernacular nature of the housing. In a discussion of this period the work of Williams (Williams 1950:53) draws on the work of Defoe in which he describes Holyhead as unpretentious and straw thatched but with “*good accommodation in lodgings and diet within*”. Rowlands work of 1989 also describes much of mid eighteenth century Holyhead as undeveloped with many greenfield areas and few houses and cottages. He includes a contemporary description which details the lack of capacity of the town to house its increasing volume of visitors and states “*there were so many Lords and Ladies in the town that the inns were full and they are compelled to put up at houses with thatched roofs*” (Rowland 1989: 11).

A watercolour of the market place produced in 1776 (figure 7) graphically illustrates this and the area of the town shown is characterised by traditional stone built houses with small windows and thatched roofs. The caption describes the town as “*small, but being the station of the Irish packet-boats is much resorted to by passengers; five of these boats, stout vessels, well found and manned, ply backwards and forwards between this port and Dublin*”. A slightly earlier source of 1770 records Holyhead as “*little more than a fishing town, rendered considerable by being the place of general passage to Ireland*” (Unknown 1783: 18). The volume of this traffic is shown in the letters of William Morris and writing in 1753 he notes that “*we had eight coaches, chariots and post chaises in the compass of 48 hours from Chester*” (Rowland 1989: 11).



Figure 3. Section of John Olilby's 1675 Strip Map of the Route from London to Holyhead
(Source: www.anglesey-history.co.uk)



Figure 4. 1699 Sketch Map of Holyhead (Source: Williams 1950: 65)



Figure 5. Sketch Map of the Town Drawn by Lewis Morris in 1737
(Source: Anglesey Archives WMaps 53)

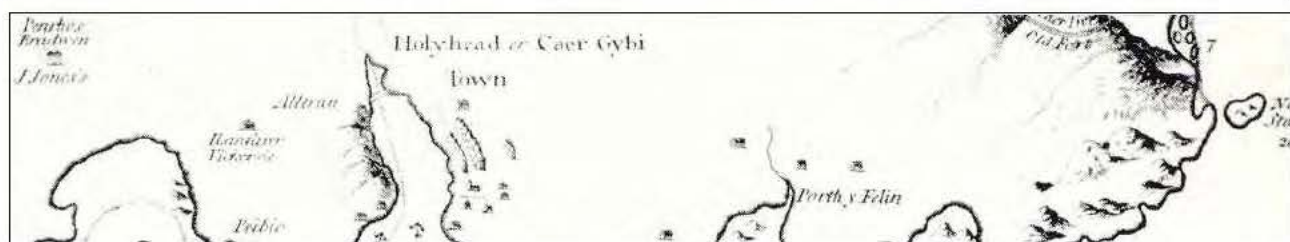


Figure 6. Lewis Morris Sea Chart 1748 (Source: www.anglesey.gov.uk)



Figure 7. 1769 Print of the Market Place, Holyhead (Source: Anglesey Archives WSD/421)

In the years leading up to the Act of Union with Ireland in 1801 Holyhead was to undergo rapid development, spurred on by improvements in transport networks notably the turnpike roads of the mid-late nineteenth century. These improvements were begun between Oswestry and Froncysyllte in 1756 and in 1765 the road across Anglesey from Porthaethwy to Holyhead was turnpiked (Quartermaine, Trinder & Turner 2003: 10). The success of these roads was however called into question in an account of the town written in 1770 which states that “*the turnpike road from Porthaethwy to Holyhead, 26 miles, is very ill kept for the first five miles, being pitched with great stones, but suffered to lie in great holes. The best part is that between Gwinde and Holyhead, 13 miles. The descent to the ferry-house is execrably rough and dirty; yet here are two toll-gates on this road and one would think traffic sufficient*” (Unknown 1783:19).

The aforementioned 1770 account records three good inns – “*The Eagle and Child or English House, The Welsh Head or Irish House, kept by the widow Arthur; and remarkably neat, and Lord Boston's Arms or the Welsh House. These houses, although by the names they seem to be appropriated to particular people, divide the business between them, especially the two first*” (Unknown 1783: 18). These inns are by no means the earliest recorded with the Black Lion dating back to at least 1727 and the house named Widow Welch on Morris' 1737 map of the town has been identified as a boarding house (Williams 1950: 64). For the purpose of discussing the place of the

King's Head in the context within which it was built the account demonstrates a clear opportunity and demand for the development of further lodging and public houses in the late eighteenth century.

A number of prominent landowning families in the area had foreseen the rising market for land in the parish and they seized upon the opportunities to add to their wealth through the increased number of visitors the improved road links brought into the town. The Eagle and Child, an imposing English style inn bearing the Stanley crest, was built by Margaret Owen (Penrhos Estate) just before 1770. The Eagle and Child was the principle terminus for coaches and the erection of the nearby Hibernia Inn with a pleasure house on Salt Island and a tidal bathing pool was a direct challenge to the family by the Llanfawr Estate. Both places were run by lessees rather than family members and represent a change in the traditions of the town (Williams 1950: 63).

Penrhos estate lands were leased for periods of three-lifetimes a row of three-storey houses were built on the on the seaward side of Market Street by the Parrys and Taylors in 1774. (It is noted that these houses were likely built on the footings of earlier structures). The ordered development of the street was however frustrated by the sale of Lligwy, Swift, Llanfawr and Treaddur lands which allowed a more piecemeal development despite attempts by the Stanley family to buy up all land appearing on the market (Williams 1950: 64-5).

An estate map of Penrhos lands commissioned by Sir John Thomas Stanley in 1769 (figure 8) shows the building that is believed to later have become the King's Head standing as a detached property on Lord Boston's land. An examination of the surrounding buildings as standing now would confirm this as the two properties flanking 44 Market Street are of very different proportions and have a different roof line. There is no indication that the property was built as anything other than a large town house as unfortunately the ground floor level of the building which would have borne evidence of any modifications has been remodelled to such a degree that any traces of earlier phases have not survived. Circumstantially an inn of this size with stabling to the rear would more than likely have appeared in the contemporary accounts of the town, particularly in passages describing the accommodation.

The exact date of the conversion of the house to an inn is unclear but is believed to have occurred relatively early in the building's history. It is tentatively assigned a late eighteenth century or very early nineteenth century date based on the other developments in the town at this time.



Figure 8. Penrhos Estate Map of Holyhead 1769
 (Source: Bangor University Archives Penrhos Manuscripts 772-3)

5.3 The Act of Union and Thomas Telford's Holyhead Road – 1801 to 1840

The Act of Union between the Irish and British parliaments was passed on the 1st January 1801 and from this point Irish MPs and peers sat in the parliament of the United Kingdom. It was therefore necessary that there was a fast and reliable communication route between London and Dublin for the transportation of mail, members of parliament, officials and when necessary troops. The current turnpike system, although much improved, was not sufficient to allow this particularly around the dangerous crossings of the Afon Conwy and Menai Straits (Quartermaine, Trinder & Turner 2003: 1-2).

The first elements along this route to be improved were the two ports of Dublin and Holyhead and works were begun on John Rennie's massive Admiralty Pier which protected the ports inner harbour. Works on this ambitious project were completed in 1821 (ibid: 3).

A number of maps and plans from this development survive and although most do not detail the town as a whole they do show the seaward side of the town. A map dated 1802 (figure 9) shows buildings in the location of the King's Head but little detail is recorded. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of properties along upper Market Street and the majority of the gaps shown on the 1769 Penrhos Estate Map have been filled.

It is soon after this that the first piece of documentary evidence which is believed to belong to the King's Head is dated, although it is possible that the house had been converted for use as an inn prior to this date. Anglesey Archives hold a Memorandum of Recognisance of Mary Parry who has obtained a license to keep an Inn until 10th October 1811. Although this document (included as figure 10) does not give the name of the establishment, later and undated sources (figures 11 - 16) all name Mary Parry as the proprietor and licensee of the King's Head (although in the 1824 document her name is crossed off and replaced with the name Lewis Parry). This change is however short lived and Mary continues to run the King's Head until at least 1828 when she is named in Pigot's Trade Directory. The exact date at which Mary relinquished her license is not known but by the time of the 1841 census a new family is in residence.

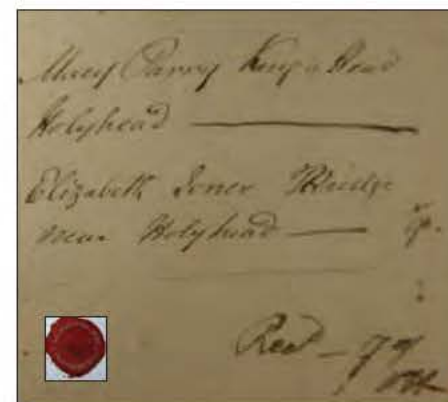
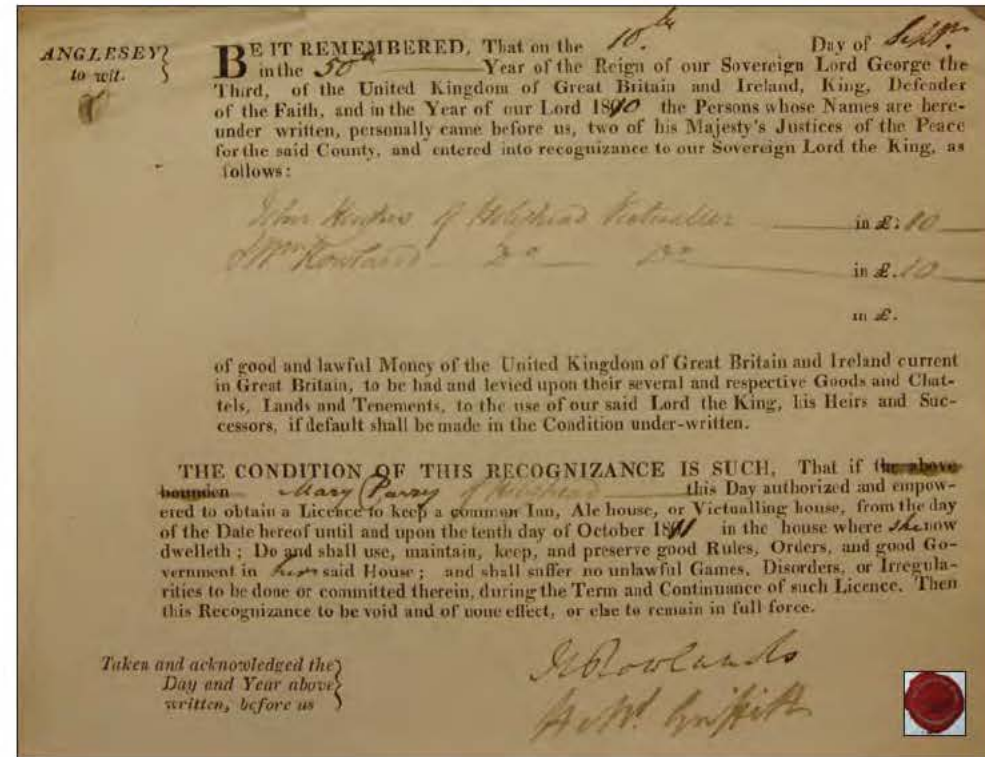


Figure 9 (Far Left). 1802 Harbour Plan (Source: www.anglesey.gov.uk)

Figure 10 (Above). 1810 Memorandum Of Recognisance of Mary Parry who Has obtained a license to keep an Inn (Source: Anglesey Archives WQS/1810/M/69)

Figure 11 (Left). Undated Reference To Mary Parry at the King's Head (Source: Anglesey Archives WQA/LIC/76/5)

License	Name	Quantity	Location	Amount
1	The Spencer	1	Eagle Head	Holyhead 10s
2	Mary Dwyer	2	Holyhead	10s
3	John Jones	3	Ship on Launch	10s
4	John Williams	4	Ship	10s

Figure 12. Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1819
(Source Anglesey Archives Document WQD/LIC/204)

License	Name	Quantity	Location	Amount
1	The Spencer	1	Eagle Head	Holyhead 10s
2	John Jones	2	Holyhead	10s
3	John Jones	3	Ship on Launch	10s
4	John Williams	4	Ship	10s

Figure 13. Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1820
(Source Anglesey Archives Document WQD/LIC/205)

License	Name	Quantity	Location	Amount
1	Mary Dwyer	1	Holyhead	10s
2	John Jones	2	Holyhead	10s
3	John Jones	3	Ship on Launch	10s
4	John Williams	4	Ship	10s

Figure 14. Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1822
(Source Anglesey Archives Document WQD/LIC/208)

License	Name	Quantity	Location	Amount
1	Mary Dwyer	1	Holyhead	10s
2	John Jones	2	Holyhead	10s
3	John Jones	3	Ship on Launch	10s
4	John Williams	4	Ship	10s

Figure 15. Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1823
(Source Anglesey Archives Document WQD/LIC/210)

License	Name	Quantity	Location	Amount
1	Thomas Jones	1	Royal Hotel	Holyhead 10s
2	Thomas Jones	2	Victoria Hotel	Holyhead 10s
3	Mary Dwyer	3	Ship on Launch	10s
4	John Williams	4	Ship	10s

Figure 16. Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1824
(Source Anglesey Archives Document WQD/LIC/215)

The tenure of Mary Parry covers a key period in the development of the town and between 1810 and 1824 the government spent £150,000 improving harbour facilities. This included the building of a pier at Salt Island and the creation of a “graving dock” which allowed ships to be floated for cleaning and repair. The improvements allowed the Post Office to use paddle steamers rather than the traditional sailing packets to take mail between Holyhead and Dublin. The early nineteenth century was a time of great hardship for the working classes of the United Kingdom with unemployment, social unrest and rising food prices and these works provided employment for local people and the prospect of work attracted a large number of incomers to the area. (Rowlands 1989: 15-16).



Figure 17. 1820 Estate Map Showing Property Belonging to Sir John Stanley (Source: Anglesey Archives WMaps/52/1)

The employment and trading opportunities offered by the harbour development in Holyhead were very attractive and the town was to benefit from the influx of money and, perhaps of greater importance, an optimism in the assured future of the town. The increase in the status of the town was exemplified in 1821 when George IV visited Holyhead. The new-found confidence in the town is reflected in the population numbers and between 1801 and 1841 the number of inhabitants increased from 2,132 to 3,869 (Rowlands 1989: 15-16). 1801 was a key year for the population of Holyhead as, for the first time, it overtakes that of the Island's previous principle town of Beumaris (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

An estate map produced for the Stanley family in 1820 (figure 17) shows the continued increase of housing density and the layout of the upper end of Market Street is firmly established. The increasing

population required an expansion of recreational facilities and an 1824 list of Ale Licenses granted for Holyhead (WQD/LIC/215) records thirty-nine different public houses and inns trading. This had increased from thirty-four such establishments recorded just four years earlier (WQD/LIC/205).

Telford's Holyhead road was completed in 1826 with the opening of the Menai Suspension Bridge (Quartermaine, Trinder & Turner 2003: 3) and by 1828 the coach journey from London to Holyhead had shortened to 29 hours and 17 minutes (Rowlands 1989: 24). This road, although intended primarily to take mail coaches and their passengers, generated a considerable volume of stage coach, posting and private travel along with a more limited amount of freight transport (Quartermaine, Trinder & Turner 2003: 5).

Despite being the first major civilian, state-funded infrastructure scheme of modern times the heyday of this route was limited to a relatively short period between the late 1820's and 1830's. Technological advances of the era were to rapidly supersede this great achievement and between 1837 and 1850 the successive opening of railways between London and Holyhead caused a steep decline in the traffic using the road. In 1851 Parliamentary funding for the maintenance of the road was stopped (Quartermaine, Trinder & Turner 2003: 3-4). A plan of the harbour and town produced as part of Telford's scheme in 1838 (figure 18) shows little change from the 1820 estate map.

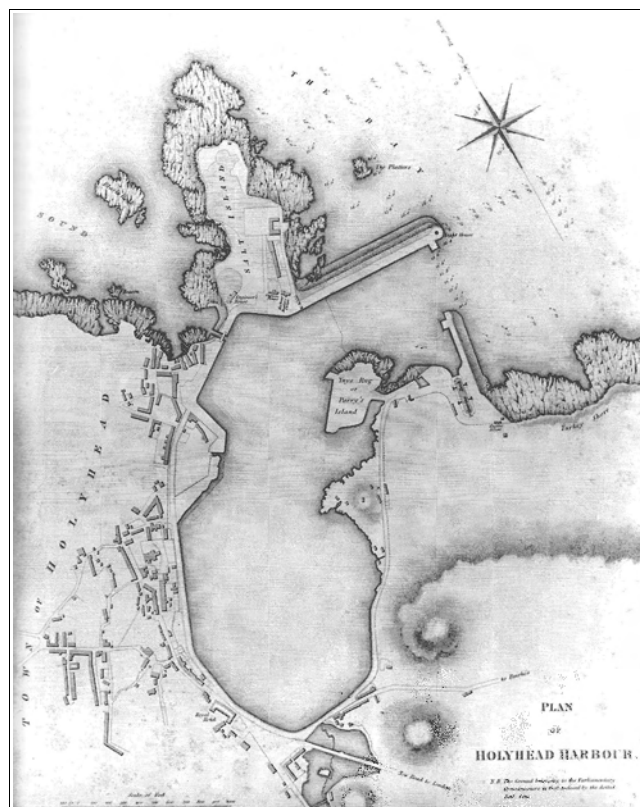


Figure 18. The Plan of Holyhead Harbour from Telford's Atlas 1838 (Source: Quartermaine, Trinder & Turner 2003: 111)

5.4 The Arrival of the Railway in Holyhead 1841 - 1900

The next great phase of development in the history of Holyhead was to be heralded by the advent of the railway. Throughout the 1840's there was a programme to construct a railway across Anglesey and in 1848 the first train arrived in Holyhead (Rowlands 1989: 24).

The momentum of the preceding period was continued and further port improvements, in particular the building of the breakwater, attracted national attention due to the sheer magnitude of the operation (Rowlands 1989: 24). The population increase between 1801 and 1841 was eclipsed by that which occurred between 1841 and 1851 when it increased by a further 4,994 to reach 8,863 – a figure which shows a more than doubling of the population in ten years (Rowlands 1989: 16).

These new inhabitants had to be accommodated and the remaining rural characteristics of the town which had survived the earlier part of the century were rapidly lost and by the time of the production of the Tithe Map of the town (figure 19) and the main street outline as surviving today is largely established, although there was continued infilling within the street layout into the early twentieth century (Rowlands 1989: 16). Figures 20 & 21 dated 1850 & 1868 show Market Street and there is little change in this area during this time.

The census records for Holyhead record the proprietor and family in residence at the King's Head between 1841 and 1861 as the Edwards family headed by Mr Owen Edwards (see figures 22 – 24). It is unclear as to the exact date the family took over the inn and it cannot be narrowed down other than it occurred at some point between 1828 and 1841. At the time of the 1841 census Owen is 30 years old and his occupation is recorded as inn keeper. Also listed are his wife Margaret (25) and their three young children Jane (6), Owen (4) and William (2). A second Margaret Edwards (20) is also recorded at the property although it is unclear as to her role/relationship within the family. Although not mentioned by name through comparison of this location against the proximity of other named properties in the census whose occupants are unchanged we can confirm that the inn is the King's Head.



Figure 19 (Far Left). 1840's Tithe Map of Holyhead
(Source: Anglesey Archives WMaps/53)
Figure 20 (Left). 1850 Survey of Land and Property in Holyhead
(Source: Bangor University Archives Lligwy Papers 215)
Figure 21 (Above). 1868 Map of Holyhead
(Source: Anglesey Archives W/CD/373)

do	1	Owen Edwards	30	Imm Keeper	y
		Margaret do	25		y
		Jane do	6		y
		Owen do	4		y
		Williams do	2		y
		Margaret do	20	F P	y

Figure 22. 1841 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

No.	Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind, Deaf, or Lame
					Male	Female			
10	Market Street	Owen Edwards	Head	Mar	39		Bullhead Kingstown	Do Do Do Do	
	King's Head	Margaret do	Wife	Mar		38		Do Do Do Do	
		Jane do	Daughter			15	Scholar	Do Do Do Do	
		Owen do	Son		13			Do Do Do Do	
		William do	Son		12			Do Do Do Do	
		John do	Son		9			Do Do Do Do	
		Griffith do	Son		8			Do Do Do Do	
		Mary do	Daughter		5			Do Do Do Do	

Figure 23. 1851 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

102	13	do	1	Margaret Edwards	Head	Wid	44	Publican	Holyhead do
				Jane do	Daughter	Wid	14	Domestic labourer	do
				Griffith do	do	do	12	do	do
				Mary do	Daughter	do	15		do

Figure 24. 1861 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

The Edwards family had grown by the time of the 1851 census and there are now six children at the King's Head – Jane (15), Owen (13), William (12), John (9), Griffith (8) and Mary (5). This is the last census on which Owen Edwards is recorded and by 1861 he is likely to have died. Margaret, now aged 49, is named as the head of the family and as a publican. The three oldest children have left home leaving only John (19), Griffith (17) and Mary (15). John and Griffith have not entered the family business and are both employed as agricultural labourers. The family have left the King's by the time of the 1871 census.

As detailed above, the period from the 1840's through to the 1860's was a boom time for Holyhead and the King's Head benefited greatly from influx of people and money into the town. A number of the surviving features such as the slightly older sash window in the rear elevation and possibly the addition of the roof light modifications and the creation of Room 4 are believed to date from this period. These improvements demonstrate the business was capable of generating a surplus that could be spent on architectural improvements.

The prosperity of Holyhead continued throughout the late nineteenth century and the focus of the towns wealth was still largely reliant on the crossing to Ireland and the associated rail and harbour industries, both of which continued to develop apace during this period (Haslam, Orbach & Voelecker 2009: 132-134). The lower end of Market Street is developed and there is a tremendous increase in workers housing.

A description of the town of Holyhead written in 1878 conveys the spirit of the time and reflects on general and population trends during this period. *“Holyhead, on the islet of Holyhead, which is separated from Anglesey by fordable sandy strait, is the most important town in the county. From the large amount of trade carried on with the sister island, Ireland it has become a port of great importance. It places London and Dublin in direct and ready communication; the principle railway, the road, and the telegraph having each their terminus here. Great improvements have been effected during the last twenty years, and a fine harbour made, which affords a safe retreat for distressed ships sailing from Liverpool, Dublin, Whitehaven, and other ports, to all parts of the world. There is a fine breakwater, constructed at the expense of the Government, the pier extending outwards 900 feet, and having a depth of 14 feet at the pier head during low water. Upon its extremity is a monster lighthouse, exhibiting a powerful light 200 feet above the level of the sea; a marble arch commemorating the visit of George IV in 1821, on his visit to Ireland, stands upon the*

pier. The mail steamers plying between Holyhead and Dublin are some of the finest built boats in the world, and run in all weathers. Passengers may be now conveyed from London to Dublin, a distance of 260 miles, in 11 and a quarter hours. The inhabitants are principally employed in the coasting trade, ship building and repairing, improving of the harbour, fishing, and assisting in the transport of cattle and goods from Ireland (The Wales Register & Guide 1878: 9-10).

The register describes further features of Holyhead in a later passage where it details the building of a new harbour in 1873 at a cost of almost two million sterling, and a town hall in 1875. Of interest in a discussion of the inns and public houses of Holyhead it describes the town as “*neat and well built, possessing some good inns and hotels*”. The population figures given for Holyhead show a slight trend towards a decline in numbers to 8,773 in 1861 and 8,131 in 1871 (*ibid*: 106).

The 1880 edition of Slater's Directory reinforces the optimism and praise for the town's railway and harbour of the previous account and further details the recreational opportunities open to visitors to Holyhead. “*The town also has visitors during the bathing season, during which period many families make it their residence. Bathing machines are established, which contribute materially to the comfort of visitors. There are several objects of interest; among these are, the venerable remains of a hermitage, two chapels, and the remains of a Roman wall, or as some antiquaries assert, built by the British prince Cassibelaunus; these with the lighthouse, and the suspension bridge, at the South Stack, and the storm guns at the North Stack, attract the attention of the stranger. There are several good inns in the town, the principle of which are the Marine, The Royal (London and North-Western Railway Company's) and the King's Head*” (Slater's Directory 1880: 87).

The census of this period 1871 – 1891 (Figures 25 -27) record a different family for each of the ten year returns and this turnover of proprietors is reinforced when this information is collected together with that from contemporary trade directories. Slater's Directory of 1868 lists William Rowlands as the proprietor of the King's Head but by the time of the 1871 census Judith A. Griffiths is listed as household head and hotel keeper. This is a very unusual household in that it is made up entirely of young, unmarried women. Judith is aged just 16, her sister Mary Puller is aged 4 and the two servants at the property Jane Owens (waitress) and Elizabeth Parry (dairymaid) are both aged 18. This arrangement appears to have worked as an edition of Slater's Directory dated 1880 lists Judith as continuing to be the King's Head proprietor.

31	do	1	Judith A. Bluffitt	Head	unm.	16	Hotel Keeper	born in England, born in
	King's Head Hotel		Brang Patter	sister		16		England, Holyhead
			John O'Brien	serv	unm.	18	waiter, Hotel de	do; born in England
			Elyabeth Parry	do	unm.	18	Laundry	do; born in England
Total of Houses..		5	Total of Males and Females..			7	17	

Figure 25. 1871 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

165	Market St.	1	Edith Stannard	Wife	Mar.	39	Hotel Keeper's Wife	born in England, born in
	King's Head Hotel		Alma Stannard	Daughter	Unm.	20	Hotel Keeper's Daughter	do; born in England
			Richard Doyle	Servant	Mar.	21	Hotel Servant	born in England, born in

Figure 26. 1881 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

No. of Stalls	ROAD, STREET, etc., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES No. of Dwelling houses (1)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION as to Marriage	AGE and Birthplace of each Person	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	WHEAT DOGS	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Lame, Paralyzed or idiot	Language spoken
62	28 Market St.	1	Thomas Marshall	Head	Mar.	40	Hotel Keeper			English
			Emily, P.O.	Wife	Mar.	39				

Figure 27. 1891 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head



Figure 28. 1888 First Edition Ordnance Survey

There is slightly conflicting information as to when the King's Head changes hands and it is thought that there is a reprint of the 1880 Slater's Directory as what is believed to be a second edition of the same year lists John H. Stammers in the Holyhead hotels section as running the King's Head. The Stammers family, although not John himself, are recorded in the 1881 census. In this instance it appears that John is away from the house rather than deceased as Ellen (39) and Alice (20) Stammers are listed as hotel keepers wife and daughter rather than household heads. Also resident is Richard Doyle (aged 21), a servant.

The 1891 census records Thomas Marshall and his wife Emily at the property. His occupation is listed as hotel keeper although "pub" has also been added to the entry. The employment status is given as neither employed or unemployed inferring that the family owned the business. Slater's Directory for 1895 also names Thomas Marshall at the King's Head, Market Street. The property has changed hands once more by 1899 when Bennett's Directory records the King's Head as a family and commercial hotel run by A. Duncan.

The King's Head during this period benefits greatly from the increased volume of people travelling through the port of Holyhead and bills itself as a family and commercial destination and in 1880 is recorded as one of three principle inns. It would therefore seem that the King's Head is targeting upmarket guests rather than relying on the income generated by virtue of having an ale license. This development of a niche market was a shrewd move at a time when public houses were becoming more numerous as by 1897 58 such establishments were recorded in the town (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

The late nineteenth and early twentieth century's provide a wealth of visual sources which greatly enhance the record of the King's Head at this time. Ordnance Survey produced their first map of the area in 1888 (figure 28) which shows the property in detail for the first time. This map is of particular interest as it shows the rear of the property. Unfortunately it is not known when these structures were erected but it is likely that at least some of the outbuildings belong to an early phase of building as a hotel would require stabling. The OS map shows a number of buildings lining the edge of the plot around an open courtyard which is entered through a passageway along the northern side of the property.

Although largely obscured by the scars of the modern supermarket extension and by modern render it is possible to make out some surviving markers to these structures in the western and southern enclosing walls. The larger of these outbuildings would most likely have served as coaching and stabling and the smaller structures possibly as storage. There are external steps alongside the largest of the buildings and this feature shows that there were two storeys. The first floor level may have served as accommodation for servants or as a storage area. It is possible that the stump of a rough schist wall still visible in the east facing elevation is the remains of these steps.

Anglesey Archives hold three further Ordnance Survey editions – a larger scale edition dated 1890, a second edition in 1900 and a third edition dated 1924. These maps are included as figures 29 -31 and no great change in the building layout is shown on any of these documents. These maps show the urban density reached in the centre of Holyhead and this remains largely unchanged to date.

In addition to the cartographic sources discussed above, Anglesey Archives also hold a selection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century photographs showing the King's Head (figures 32 – 35). As it is not possible to clearly date the pictures all are catalogued as early twentieth century although some are likely to slightly pre-date this. These photographs show the King's Head although unfortunately not front on. Figures 32 and 33 are the most detailed and show a simple sub-classical style façade. The two over two sash windows surviving only at second floor level can be seen at the lower two floor levels and two entrances at ground floor level are visible. Figure 33 also shows a stucco render and the name King's Head Hotel is painted on the building between the first and second floor windows. Figures 34 and 35 show little detail but place the building within the wider street vista. Figure 36 does not show the King's Head but has been included in this section as it shows the internal layout of a demolished building, or possibly as suggested by the author the internal features added in preparation for a house which was never built, and the schist construction with large slabs of the stone being used as fireplace lintels mirror that recorded in 44 Market Street. This will be discussed in greater detail in Section 6.

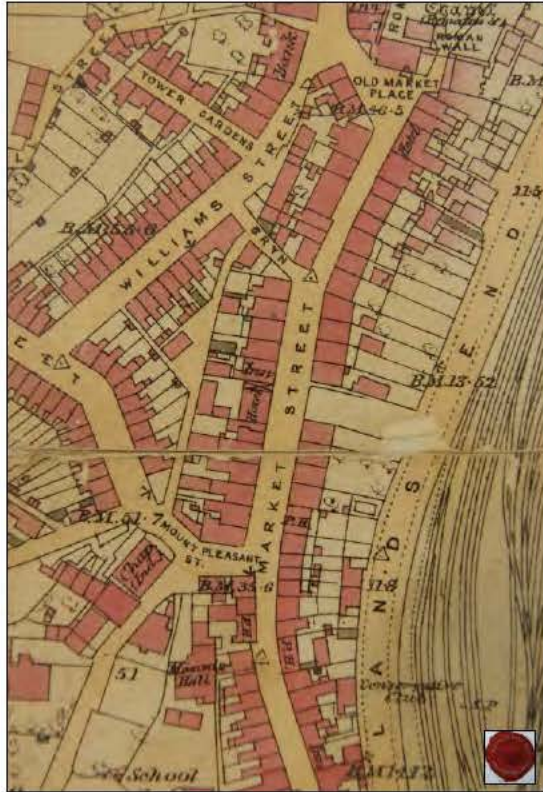


Figure 29. 1890 Ordnance Survey Map



Figure 30. 1900 Ordnance Survey Map

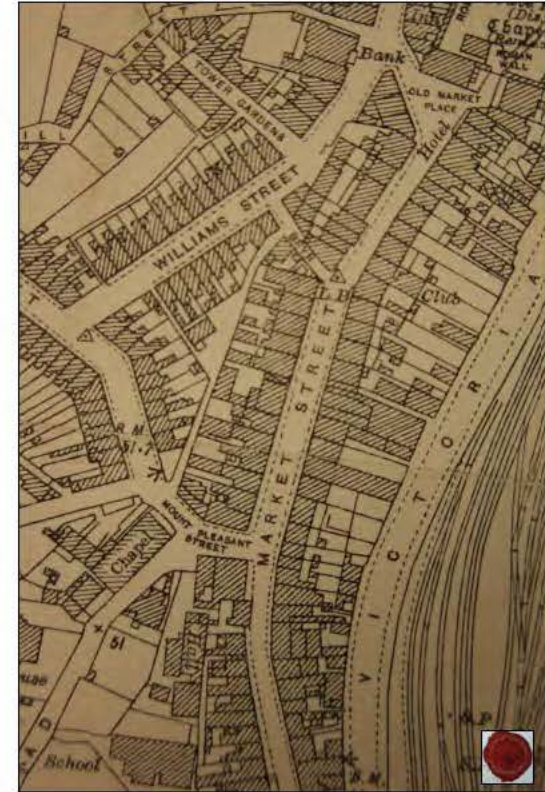


Figure 31. 1924 Ordnance Survey Map



Figure 32. Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street.
The King's Head is to the Left in the Foreground
(Source: Anglesey Archives WSD/311/72)



Figure 33. Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street.
The King's Head is to the Left in the Foreground
(Source: Anglesey Archives WSD/468)



Figure 34. Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street.
The King's Head is to the Left Behind the White Awning
(Source: Rendall & Davies 1977)



Figure 35. Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street.
The King's Head is to the Left Behind the White Awning
(Source: Anglesey Archives WSD/225)

5.5 Twentieth Century Holyhead

During the earliest part of the twentieth century life in Holyhead continued much as it had during the nineteenth century. As mentioned above the Duncan family have taken over the property by 1899 and the 1901 census (figure 37) records Frances Duncan (46) as hotel proprietor. Also resident at the King's Head are his wife Anne, his niece who is employed as a barmaid and four servants working as cook, butler, groom and housemaid. To employ this number of staff the establishment must have been doing well at this time but nonetheless the property has again changed hands by the time of the 1911 census (figure 38).

This is the latest census which is publicly accessible and records William Samuel (35) as hotel proprietor and his wife Kathleen (35) as assisting in the business. Also assisting is Kathleen's sister Ellen McCulloch (30). The couple have six sons between the ages of 3 and 12 and employ a nursemaid Rose Lee (14) to look after the children. They may also employ other staff but if so these are not resident at the property. It is unclear as to when the couple left the property.

An advert placed in Bennett's Directory of 1910 lists a Thomas Noone as hotel proprietor and he therefore must have run the King's Head between the Duncans and the Samuels although the exact dates are unclear. This advert is more detailed than those previously discussed and offers a description of the services provided by the King's Head Hotel. The hotel is billed as family and commercial and its central position is noted along with the line “*World-famed stopping place for cross-channel passengers*”. Amongst the attributes listed are high-class cuisine, excellent wines, Table d'hote luncheon, posting, a stable and garage which adjoin the hotel, personal supervision and a porter and carrier to meet all trains. These services are presumably largely similar to those which would have been available during the tenure of previous and subsequent owners and tie in with earlier descriptions of an upmarket establishment.

The twentieth century was less kind to Holyhead than the nineteenth and following the First World War it must be seen as a time of great decline and hardship for Holyhead and its inhabitants. It is unclear as to the exact date that the King's Head ceased to be run as a hotel but no mention of the establishment was found in trade directories after 1917.




Figure 36. Internal Construction Details in Market Street House
(Source Rendall & Davies 1977)

[illegible]

Figure 37. 1901 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

CENSUS
OF
ENGLAND AND WALES,
1911.



[Welsh Schedule.]

SCHEDULE.

Prepared pursuant to the Census (Great Britain) Act, 1906.

This space to be filled up by the Enumerator.	
Number of Registration Districts	634
Number of Registration Sub-Districts	3
Number of Enumeration Districts	10
Name of Head of Family or Separate Occupier	10 th Samuel Bartlett
Postal Address	"Kings Head Hotel" Holyhead

Bartlett S.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.															
Before writing on this Schedule please read the Instructions and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, on both the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.															
The names of the Schedule will be printed on cardboards. Almost every one will write that no information is obtained will be printed on cardboards. The names are not to be used for proof of age, for any other purpose than the preparation of the final returns.															
NAME AND SEX		MARRIAGE		RELIGION		BAPTISM		EDUCATION		INDUSTRY		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE	
NAME	SEX	MARRIAGE	RELIGION	BAPTISM	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE	INDUSTRY	MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112
113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128
129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144
145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176
177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192
193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208
209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224
225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240
241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256
257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272
273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288
289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304
305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320
321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336
337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352
353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368
369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384
385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398		

Figure 38. 1911 Holyhead Census Recording Proprietor of the King's Head

This decline was to begin in the 1920's when a number of episodes which were to prove disastrous for the town occurred. The first came in 1920 when the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company withdrew from the port ending 70 years of unbroken service and resulting in the loss of 350 jobs. This loss was compounded by the loss of the Royal Mail service contract to the London and North-Western Railway Company which led to the towns reliance on a single company. The dangers of this became evident when the LNWR merged with a number of other rail companies to form the much larger London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company and introduced scathing economies resulting in further job loss.

At this time relations with Ireland were changing and in 1922 Southern Ireland achieved home rule. Following this separation the diplomatic links between Britain and Ireland became strained and in 1932 a six year tariff war began which was to further feed into the precarious position of the town. In his work on the period John Rowlands records that *"The Trade War with Ireland was disastrous for Holyhead, because had it not happened the town's dependence on the LMS and the railway company's monopoly of the trade with Ireland, would have made them both relatively immune to the economic recession of the 1930's. Without those six long years of the Tariff War, Holyhead's limitations as a one company town could have been it's greatest strength. In fact as events turned out the fact that Holyhead was a one company town was it's greatest weakness in the 1930's"* (1989: 29-30).

The recession of the 1930's was on a global scale and unemployment was high throughout the country but for reasons detailed above Holyhead was particularly harshly hit leading Megan Lloyd George (MP for Anglesey) to claim in 1937 that Holyhead was suffering higher unemployment than all but the very worst areas of South Wales and Durham. Statistics record that unemployment in Holyhead was only to fall below 30% once during the 1930's and in December 1936 it hit the record level of 47.7%. Many families left the town in search of work elsewhere and during the 1930's the population fell by over one thousand. Contemporary observer accounts paint a bleak picture and stated that *"the town is in crisis – the most serious in its history"* (1931), *"there are hundred of men, women and children practically destitute"* (1933), *"anyone walking through the town would at once notice that Holyhead was a dead town; there was nothing there at all"* (1938) and *"we are worse off in Holyhead today than we have been in the whole history of the town. The town is poverty stricken"* (1939). It was only with the advent of the Second World War in 1939 that there was any improvement in the towns fortune – a fact that was bitterly noted at the time by the town clerk who

remarked that “apparently you cannot get anything for Holyhead unless you get a war”. The war did however bring employment and government contracts to the area although Holyhead was never to return to its late nineteenth century heyday (Rowlands 1989: 25 – 34).

As mentioned above it is unclear at what date the King's Head ceases to function as a hotel or public house but it is not listed on a compilation of licensed premises dated 1938. This list is greatly reduced from the 58 licensed premises of 1897 and the number of public houses and inn in Holyhead has almost halved to just thirty – less than it had in 1824. Given the dominance of market street as a place of commerce the property has presumably been converted for use as a shop and by the 1960's it housed the Stop & Shop supermarket. A number of photographs (figures 39 – 41) were taken of the property in 1970 prior to the Kwik Save chain taking over the property (figure 42). It is evident from these pictures that the modifications to the ground and first floor façade and the rear extension have been undertaken by this stage.

Kwik Save closed in 2007 (www.news.bbc.co.uk) and was one of a number of chains which were to suffer during the current financial crisis. Other closures amongst Holyhead's stores were Woolworths and FADS (www.theonlinemail.co.uk) and the Market Street now houses a number of vacant properties.



Figure 39. 44 Market Street Front Elevation Taken 1970
(Source Anglesey Archives WM/2406)



Figure 40. 44 Market Street Rear Elevation Taken 1970
(Source Anglesey Archives WM/2406)



Figure 41. 44 Market Street (Rear) Taken 1970
(Source Anglesey Archives WM/2406)



Figure 42. 44 Market Street Following Closure of
Kwik Save (Source: www.geograph.org.uk)

6.0 Results of Archaeological Works

A site visit to 44 Market Street was conducted on 20th March 2013. The property has undergone a number of changes since it was built in the middle of the eighteenth century. It is currently in the process of being converted into flats, and prior to this was in use as a supermarket. C.R Archaeology attended the site after much of the building had been “stripped out” and the internal divisions on the second floor which did appear to be of an early date were removed prior to our visit. The positions of these divisions were however recorded by Dewis Architecture and it was noted during the site visit that they were of lathe and plaster. Existing drawn records were annotated and measurements were made of the newly revealed features. Measurements of the divisions within the attic space were also made. A photographic survey was made of all accessible interior and exterior spaces and surviving original/ early interior and exterior features will be discussed by floor level.

6.1 Drawn Record

A drawn record of the site was made by Dewis Architecture in December 2011. This was annotated by C.R Archaeology staff members during the site visit. These drawings are included as figures 43 - 48.

6.2 Results of Photographic Survey (Plates 1 - 78)

A comprehensive photographic survey was conducted and the full photographic archive has been included in TIFF format on an accompanying disc at the back of this report. These photographs are subdivided by interior and exterior and internally by floor. Relevant photographs are incorporated into the main text as numbered plates and the positions of these are marked in Appendix A.

6.2.1 Building Exterior (Plates 1 - 10)

The front elevation of the building was photographed without photographic scales from a variety of positions and was intended primarily to place the building in its local setting. This included a similar position to that shown in historic photographs to allow easy comparison.

The building has a simple pitched roof and was covered with slate. It is almost certain that this material was locally sourced from one of the many quarries in north-west Wales. The chimneys had been removed from the building but they can be seen from the 1970 photograph to have been rectangular and brick built with ceramic pots. Similar examples survive on neighbouring buildings.

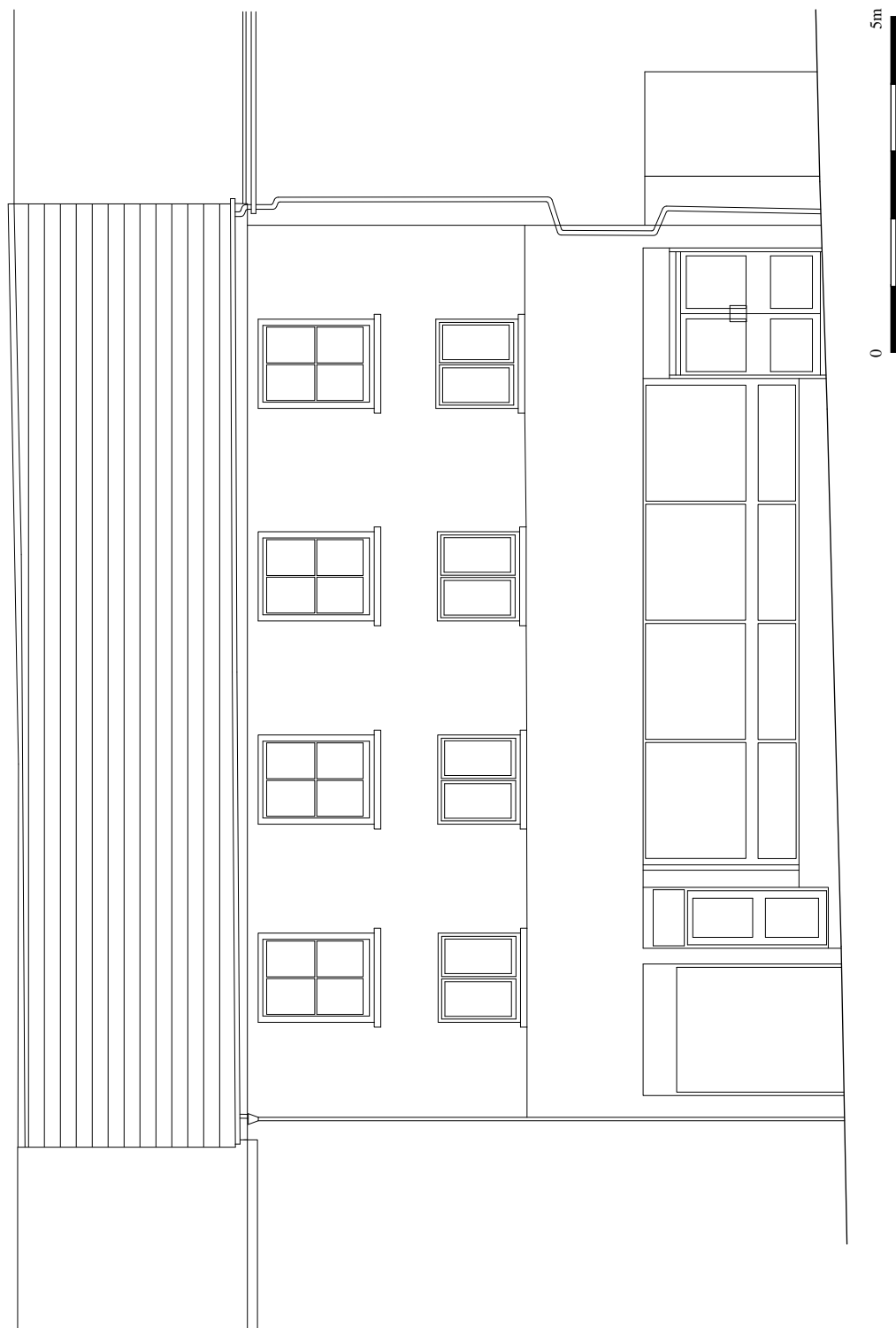


Figure 43. 44 Market Street Front Elevation. Produced by & Copyright Dewis Architecture

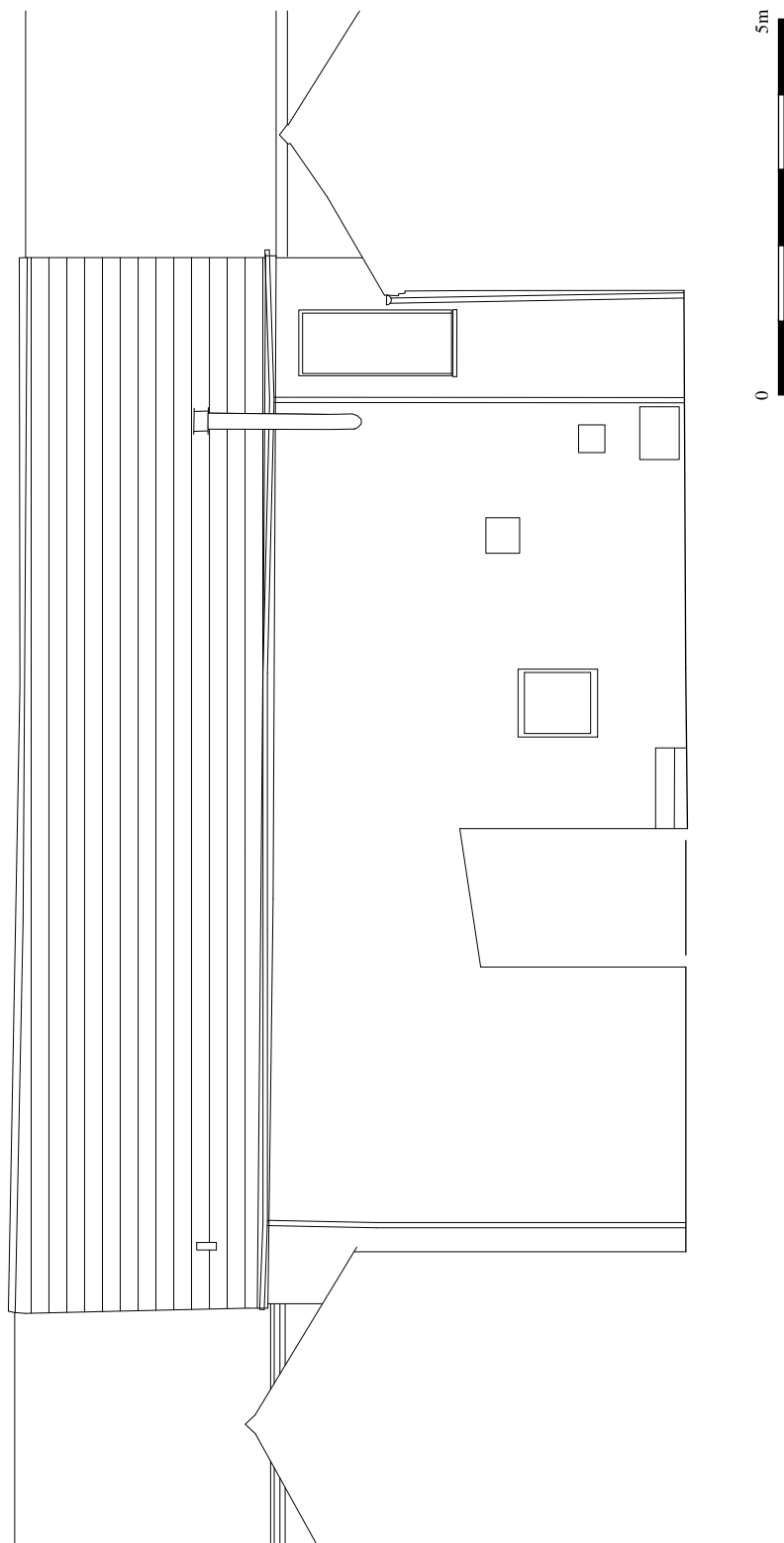


Figure 44. 44 Market Street Rear Elevation. Produced by & Copyright Dewis Architecture

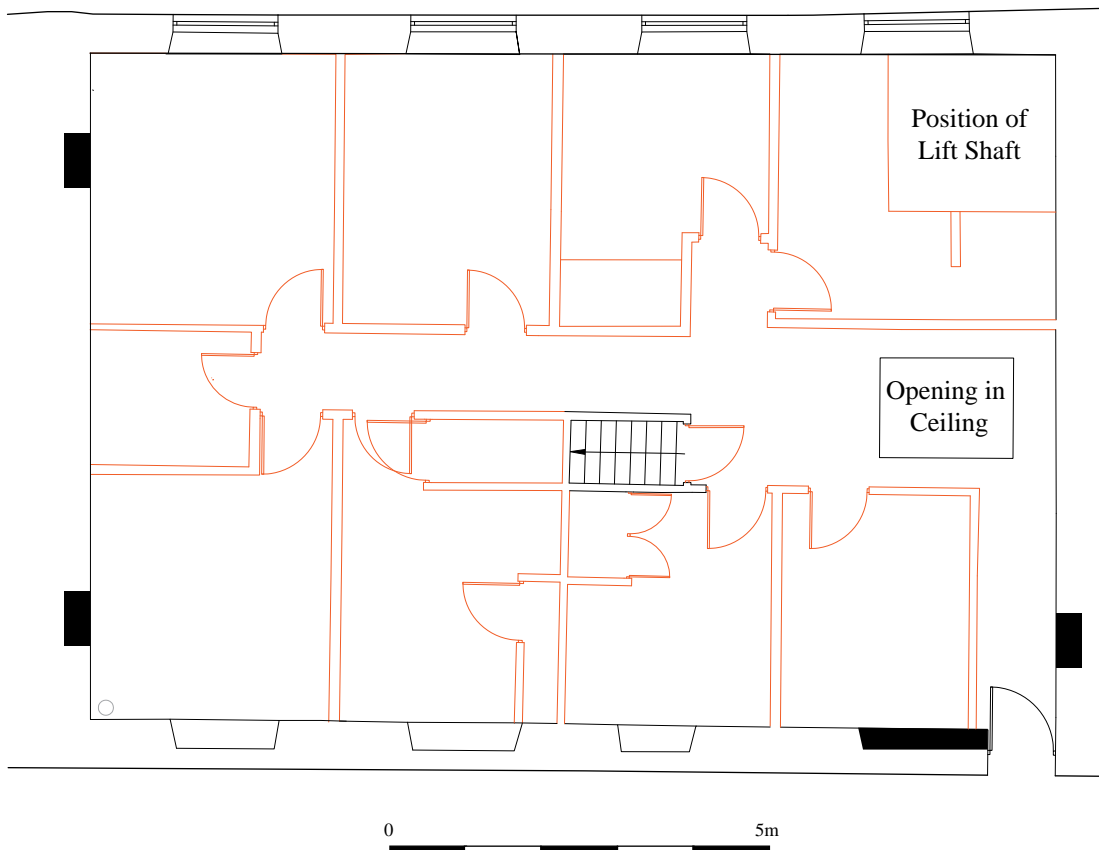
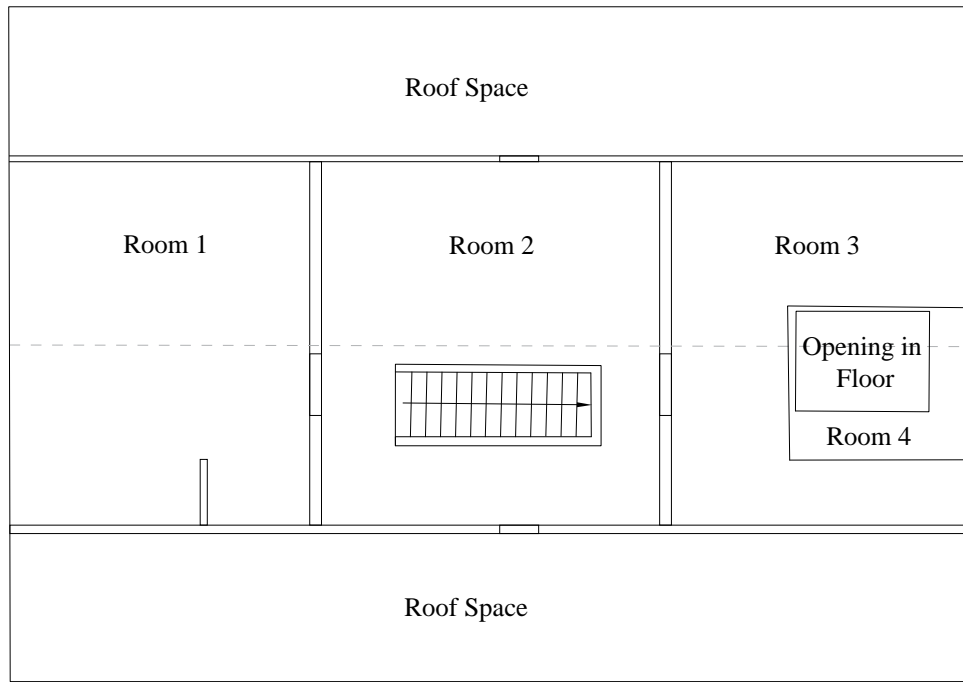


Figure 45 (Top). Third Floor Plan

Figure 46. Second Floor Plan. Divisions Marked in Orange were Removed Prior To Site Visit. Black Blocked Areas are Blocked Openings Recorded During Visit
Modified from an Original Drawing Produced by Dewis Architecture

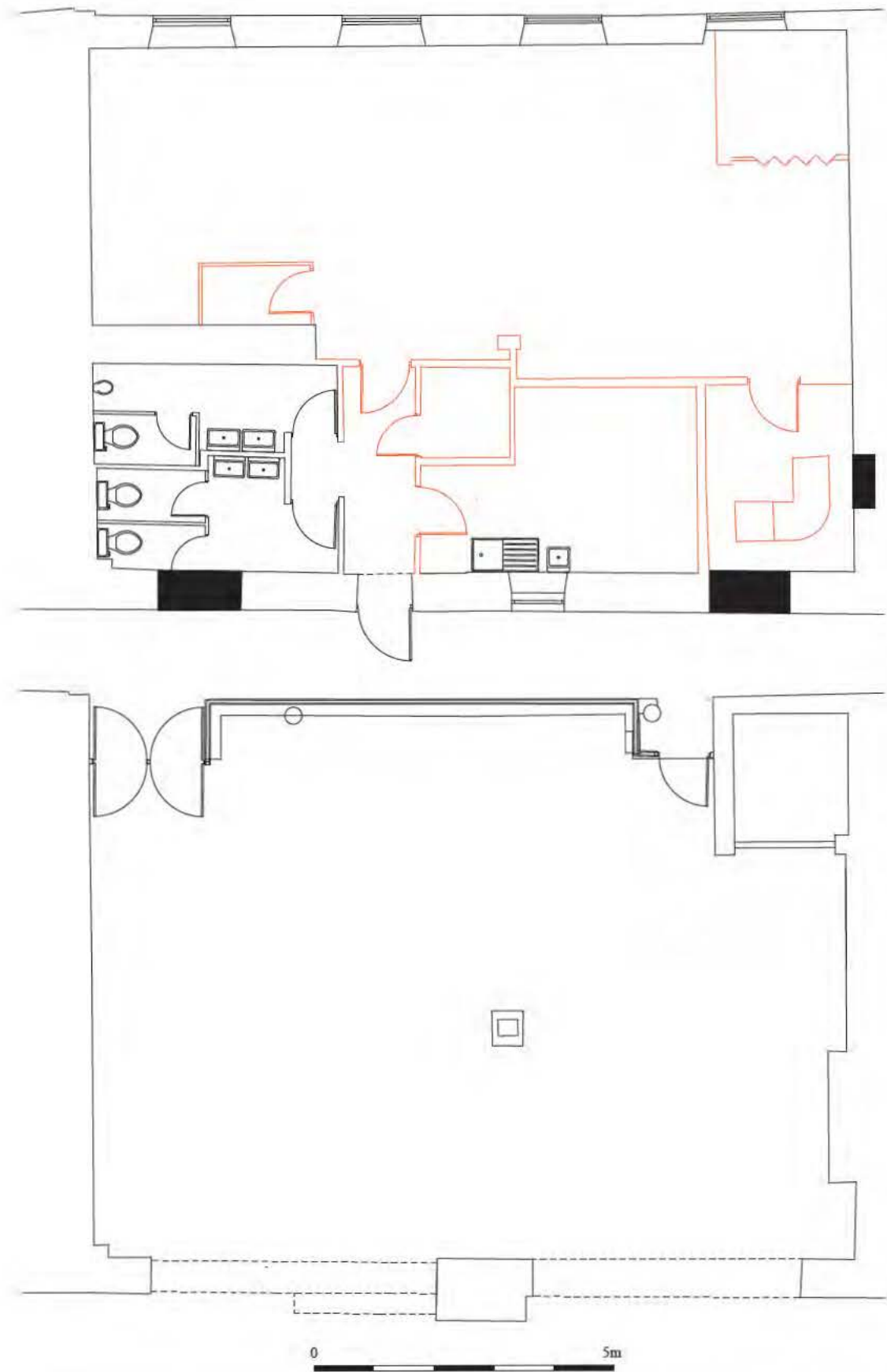


Figure 47 (Top). First Floor Plan

Figure 48. Ground Floor Plan. Divisions Marked in Orange were Removed Prior To Site Visit. Black Blocked Areas are Blocked Openings Recorded During Visit
Modified from an Original Drawing Produced by Dewis Architecture

As evidenced by historic photographs the front elevation has been much altered. The smooth render now utilised to clad the building is a modern addition and in a historic photograph (figure 33) the façade is clearly shown to be stucco. The popularity of this finish is evident on surrounding buildings, lending a sense of order and completeness to a town vista which had developed in a far more ad-hoc and diverse manner.

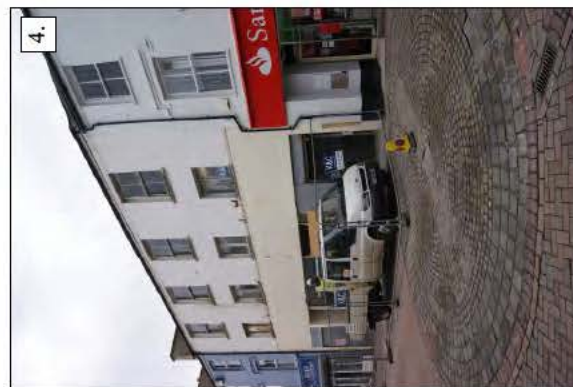
Although in use from an earlier date this style of façade render was popularised for the mass market with the introduction of several 'patent' cements in the later eighteenth century. The advent of Portland Cement in 1824 strengthened the architectural fashion before it fell out of favour during the Victorian period when it was perceived as a 'dishonest' material. Stucco is therefore synonymous with the Regency period when it was widely used to allow ordinary buildings, particularly in towns, to achieve a superficial grandeur (Morris 2004: 88).

It therefore would seem likely that this stucco render was an early facing material used on the building façade to hide the rough local schist used in construction. The vernacular nature of the building design is masked by the covering, an effect which was clearly intentional. It is unclear at what date the stucco was removed as the other early historic photographs are not clear enough to make out the style of render. It is clear from a series of photographs taken in 1970 that the smooth finish was in place by this date.

The second floor has four windows arranged symmetrically with even spacing giving an ordered appearance. They are all vertically sliding sash windows with glass panels arranged two over two. The use of larger sheets of glass, together with the use of a single glazing bar and window horns are indicative of a mid-late nineteenth century date as prior to this window horns were not used. The use of plate glass became more widespread during the early Victorian Period when changes in manufacture techniques led to a reduction in production costs allowing much more modest properties to install such windows (www.tewkesbury.gov.uk).

44 Market Street has been demonstrated to have a building date which is pre-1769 and it is therefore clear that these are not the original windows which were presumably casement or smaller paned sashes. These windows are nonetheless of a relatively early phase of building improvements and are indicative of a business capable of generating an income surplus to allow for building improvements.

Plates 1 - 4. 44 Market Street Front Elevation



The first floor also houses four windows arranged directly beneath those of the second floor. These windows are a modern modification and it is evident when comparing historic photographs with modern observations that the earlier windows were removed when the building was converted into a supermarket. The 1970 photograph shows the building as a “Stop and Shop” and it is clear that the height of the windows was reduced to allow for the addition of the wide banded shop signage.

The full height of the windows can clearly be seen when viewing from the inside as much of the internal wall covering has been removed to expose the modern bricking up of the original openings. The windows for this floor will be discussed in the interior section of the report.

The ground floor of the building has been altered beyond all recognition and the original doorways/openings replaced by modern shop fittings including large glass windows and doors and metal roll-shuttering. Photographs and map evidence show that the King's Head originally had two entrances and two sash windows arranged directly below the windows on the floors above. The sash windows are mid nineteenth century or later design with panes arranged two over two as seen surviving on the second floor. The door to the south led into the public house and the door to the north allowed access to a passageway through the building and out into the stable yard at the rear.

The rear building elevation had also been significantly altered over time as can be seen from cartographic evidence and from examination of the building interior. A photograph of the rear of the building taken in 1970 also shows clear evidence of the blocking of window/doorway openings observed when in the building. The positioning of openings on the second floor mirrors that found at the front of the building with four openings arranged in a symmetrical pattern.

The yard area was enclosed, presumably during the 1960's as an adaptation of the building for use as a supermarket and the exterior buildings shown on historical maps were removed. A flat roofed, steel and concrete single storey structure was erected. This structure had been demolished prior to our arrival on site but is shown in the photograph taken in the 1970.

The King's Head Hotel, although originally erected as a detached property, is now part of a terrace and it is therefore not possible to provide a detailed description of the gable elevations. Where the render had been removed from the building interior it was evident that these walls were constructed of the local schist.



Plate 5. Enclosed Area at Rear of 44
Market Street

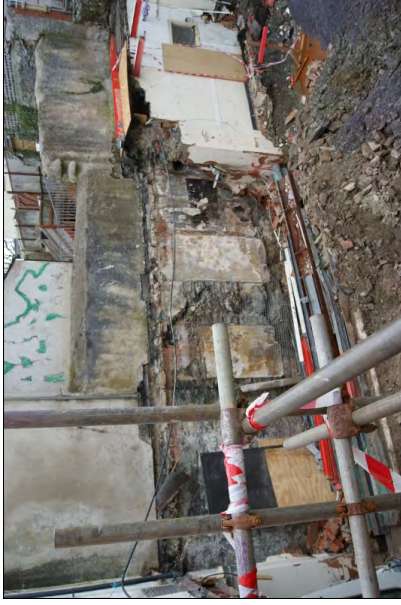


Plate 6. Enclosed Area at Rear of 44
Market Street



Plate 7. Enclosed Area at Rear of 44
Market Street



Plate 8. Enclosed Area at Rear of 44
Market Street



Plate 9. Enclosed Area at Rear of 44
Market Street



Plate 10. 44 Market Street
Rear Elevation

6.2.2 Building Interior (Plates 11 - 78)

The building interior will be discussed by floor, beginning at the attic level and working downwards. Where possible this will be further subdivided by room although many of the internal divisions were removed prior to our arrival.

6.2.2.1 Third Floor (Attic Level) (Plates 11 - 37)

The roof of the building had been covered with waterproofing felt at a relatively recent date and it was therefore not possible to examine the slates, fixings or any roof openings as all were concealed. The main roof structure was however exposed and the remains of three blocked roof lights were visible, one in each bay. These could be identified by the presence of new timbers and horizontal frames as seen in plates 13, 14, 21 & 37. All roof openings were at the rear of the building and it would seem quite likely that the building was either designed to have light to the attic level to increase occupancy or these window openings were added at approximately the same time as the sash windows surviving on the second floor. As with the aforementioned sash windows technological advances introduced in the mid nineteenth allowed larger, more leak resistant panes to be mass produced. This is however not an absolute date and in the absence of the windows themselves we cannot rule out an earlier original Georgian date as roof lights were also in use during this period (www.buildingconservation.com).

The gable wall was seen to have been constructed from the local schist stone used in the rest of the building. The render at the base of this wall was still intact and it is possible that a fireplace similar to those observed on the first and second floors was concealed from view. This was the same for Rooms 1 & 3.

At the third floor level the lathe and plaster room divisions were intact and their positions were marked on the existing plan (figure 45). The floor has three bays and is partitioned into four separate spaces – a central landing with staircase, flanked by two rooms believed to be the original divisions. These rooms were presumably used as servants quarters or budget accommodation. The southern room has a later additional subdivision which was used to channel sunlight from a roof light down to the second floor stairway.

The northern room (Room 1) was accessed through a doorway from the central landing. To access the room one had to step over a high wooden truss and enter through a purpose built doorway. The

doors themselves had been removed prior to our arrival but the simple wooden frame survived. The room interior was rendered using a lime plaster with horsehair inclusions and wooden laths were used to form a low wall within the eaves of the roof structure. This space was likely to have been utilised for storage and could be accessed at both the front and rear of the building via low doorways in the central attic bay.

A wooden internal division survived against the rear building elevation and this partition was of rather rustic construction. It appeared to have been positioned so as not to obscure the window and block light from one half of the room. One side of the division had been pasted with bill posters appearing from the fonts and design to be of Victorian or early twentieth century date. Unfortunately these posters had been almost entirely destroyed and the surviving writing has been bleached or has bled onto the wood and the adverts themselves could not be easily deciphered.

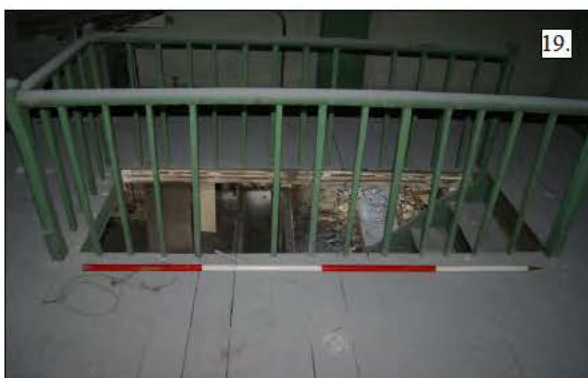
The central attic bay (Room 2) was utilised as a landing with a straight central staircase leading up from the second floor. This was enclosed on three sides by a simple wooden balustrade, the four corners defined by larger slightly more ornate balusters and in-filled with simple stick balusters. A simple skirting board was also surviving around the room. The rooms appear to be purpose built as accommodation with the staircase being an original feature rather than a later addition.

The southern room (Room 3) dimensions mirrored that to the north. This room had a later internal partition which had been added to channel light from the roof light down to the second floor staircase. As with the other partitions on this floor the partition was constructed using lath and plaster. It had two openings, a small door near the gable end of the building (possibly to allow for cleaning as there is a narrow walkway around the window in the floor) and a small window opposite the door, presumably to allow some light into the attic room.

The structure was inserted over the roof light and the wall nearest the rear of the building had been tapered to direct the light downwards through the underlying glass panel. When this space was photographed from below the size of the modern replacement rafters could be seen much larger than was recorded in the other two rooms. It would therefore seem likely that the original window was replaced by a larger one when this partition was added. It is thought unlikely that the larger windows and room partition pre-date the late nineteenth century when glass became readily available in large sheets (www.buildingconservation.com).



Plates 11 - 15.
Attic Level (Third
Floor) - Room 1



Plates 16 - 23. Attic Level (Third Floor) Room 2



Plates 24 - 31. Attic Level (Third Floor) Room 3



Plates 32 - 37. Attic Level (Third Floor) Room 4. No Scales Used Due to the Lack of Safe Areas for Access

6.2.2.2 Second Floor (Plates 38 - 61)

When C.R Archaeology visited the site the second floor had been stripped out and the internal divisions had been largely removed. What was clear however was that the divisions had been of lath and plaster and the layout shown on the plans drawn by Dewis Architecture may therefore represent, at least in part, the original layout of this floor. The plans have been interpreted and colour coded to show the phasing of the divisions and the additional features added.

The staircase to the attic survived and was located in the centre of the room. This would have originally been covered to the side and rear and was in a small corridor. The skylight discussed in section 6.2.2.1 was exposed in the ceiling of this floor and was photographed from this level.

A lift had been installed which reached this floor and therefore part of this level was obscured by this late addition. The stripping of the render from the walls uncovered three previously concealed fireplaces. All three were blocked using brick. Each of the fireplaces was clearly an integral element of the original build. The three fireplaces had a large undressed schist lintels. This form of construction would seem to be widely used in the town and similar fireplaces can be seen in figure 36 which shows the exposed interior of another of the Market Street properties.

There were four identical two over two sash windows in the front elevation of the building. These are described in section 6.2.1. Additional details were recorded on the internal elevation. The windows were seen to have all had wooden lintels and the remains of some of the wooden laths which were used to create a smooth rendered finish around the windows have survived. It is also likely that there would have been originally been wooden panelling below the window.

The rear elevation of the building housed four blocked openings, three windows of the same size and one which was narrower. There was also a modern fire escape inserted near the left hand gable. This insertion had also damaged one of the window openings. Two of the windows had wooden lintels with some surviving laths and the remaining two had a replacement lintel of a stone conglomerate material. It is unclear as to why one of the windows was narrower but it is clear from the 1970 photograph (figure 40) that the openings were all the same height.



Plates 38 - 45. Second Floor Following Stripping-out of Building.
Series of Photographs Showing Window Details in the Front Elevation



Plate 46. Second Floor Level. North Facing Elevation



Plate 47. Second Floor Level. North Facing Elevation



Plate 48. Second Floor Level. Fireplace in North Level. Facing Elevation



Plate 49. Second Floor Level. Fireplace in South Level. Facing Elevation



Plate 50. Second Floor Level. South Facing Elevation



Plate 51. Second Floor Level. Fireplace in South Level. Facing Elevation



Plate 52. Second Floor Level. Opening in Attic Level



Plate 53. Second Floor Level - Central Staircase



Plate 54. Second Floor Level - Central Staircase



Plate 55. Second Floor Level - Central Staircase



Plate 56. Second Floor Level - Central Staircase



Plate 57. Second Floor Level. East Facing Elevation



Plate 58. Second Floor Level. Blocked Openings in East Facing Elevation



Plate 59. Second Floor Level. Blocked Opening in East Facing Elevation



Plate 60. Second Floor Level. Blocked Opening in East Facing Elevation

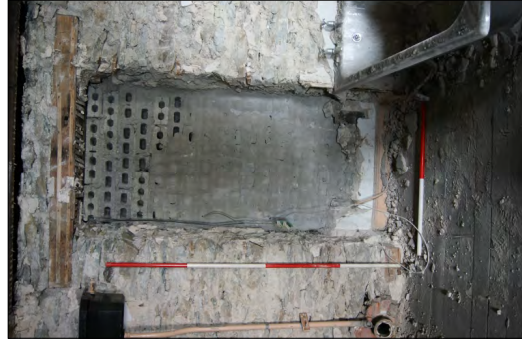


Plate 61. Second Floor Level. Blocked Opening in East Facing Elevation

6.2.2.3 First Floor (Plates 62 - 76)

The first floor had been heavily modified and the early internal layout has been lost. Modern insertions of a toilet block and a mess room have obscured much of the right-hand gable elevation although there were presumably concealed fireplaces in this wall.

As detailed in section 6.2.1 the four windows in the front elevation were modern additions and the brick blocking used to decrease the height of the window was clearly evident from inside the building.

The rear elevation has four blocked openings directly below the ones on the second floor. Three of these were window openings and the fourth was currently in use as a fire escape, although this was presumably also originally a window. Of particular interest in this elevation was the survival of a six over six sash window. This window style pre-dates those seen in the second storey front elevation and demonstrates that there was a process of remodelling at the property of which much of the evidence has been lost. There is in this instance partial survival of the wooden panelling below the window which give a strong indication as to how the other windows would have previously looked as this detail has been lost in other instances. This window has been assigned a mid nineteenth century date as horns were used in the window construction – a feature which is not used prior to this date (www.tewkesbury.gov.uk). A series of detailed photographs (plates 70 -76) were taken.



Plate 62. First Floor Level. Blocked Window Details in Front Elevation



Plate 63. First Floor Level. Previous Position of Lift in South-east Corner



Plate 64. First Floor Level. North Facing Elevation



Plate 65. Blocked Fireplace



Plate 66. First Floor Level. South Facing Elevation. Note Schist Wall

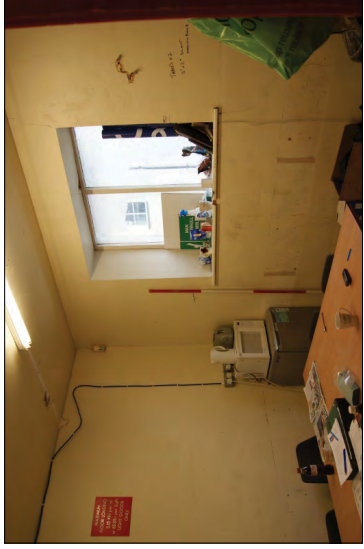


Plate 67. First Floor Level. Blocked Window in Staff Room Area



Plate 68. First Floor Level. Rear Elevation Showing Sash Window



Plate 69. Blocked Window



Plates 70 - 76. First Floor Level. Detailed Photographs of Blocked Sash Window in Rear Elevation

6.2.2.4 Ground Floor (Plates 77 - 78)

As mentioned above the ground floor of the building has been altered beyond all recognition and the original doorways/openings have replaced by modern shop fittings including large glass windows and doors and metal roll-shuttering. Internally no original features survived and the rear wall had been demolished prior to our arrival.

Where the concrete floor had been removed in one small area there was evidence that there was a cellar beneath the building but this had been backfilled with rubble and the dimensions, nature and construction could therefore not be ascertained.



Plate 77. Ground Floor Level. General Shot Taken Facing South



Plate 78. Ground Floor Level. General Shot Taken Facing North

7.0 Conclusion

Documentary research has shown that 44 Market Street was likely to have been built prior to 1769 and is therefore one of the oldest surviving buildings on the street. The property is believed to have been built as a Georgian period town house and was converted for use as an inn/hotel at some point prior to 1810. This coincides with an increase in the prosperity of the town during the late seventeenth century and the 1801 Act of Union with Ireland which dramatically increased the number of travellers through Holyhead.

The King's Head Hotel, as the property was named, prospered with the town and attracted a relatively upmarket family and professional clientèle. The boom years of the nineteenth century were reflected in building improvements during this period and a number of early twentieth century photographs detail how the property would have looked prior to the modern supermarket façade being added. As with the town itself the King's Head declined during the 1920's/1930's and is believed to have been converted for use as a shop prior to 1938. During the period from 1897 – 1930 the number of licensed properties in the town dropped from 54 to 30.

During recent years the property has undergone several less than sympathetic modifications and the former grandeur of the building has been somewhat lost or masked. Despite this numerous early and earlier features have survived, particularly on the upper levels, making this a far more interesting structure than it would initially appear. The current works aims to restore much of the previous character of the property and the hidden six over six sash window is to be restored and replicated in the front elevation, opening up the partially blocked first floor windows to their original height and restoring some of the elegant symmetry of the street frontage.

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Archive Material (Sourced from Anglesey Archives, Llangefni)

W/CD/373	1868 Map of Holyhed
Wmaps/52/1	1820 Estate Map
WMaps53	Sketch Map of the Town Drawn by Lewis Morris in 1737
WM/2406	1970 Photographs of the Front and Rear of 44 Market Street
WSD/311/72	Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street
WSD/225	Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street
WSD/468	Early Twentieth Century Postcard of Market Street
WSD/421	1769 Print of the Market Place, Holyhead
WQA/LIC/76/5	Undated Reference to Mary Parry at the King's Head
WQD/LIC/204	Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1819
WQD/LIC/205	Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1820
WQD/LIC/208	Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1822
WQD/LIC/210	Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1823
WQD/LIC/215	Ale Licenses Granted for Holyhead 1824
WQS/1810/M/69	1810 Memorandum of Recognisance of Mary Parry
1841	Tithe Map and Returns for Holyhead
1888	First Edition Large Scale Ordnance Survey Map

1890 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map
1900 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map
1924 Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map

Trade Directories

1828-29 Pigot's & Co National Commercial Directory
1868 Slater's Directory
1880 Slater's Directory
1895 Slater's Directory
1899 Bennett's Directory
1910 Bennett's Directory
1917 Wales Trade Directory

Archive Material (Sourced from Bangor University Archives)

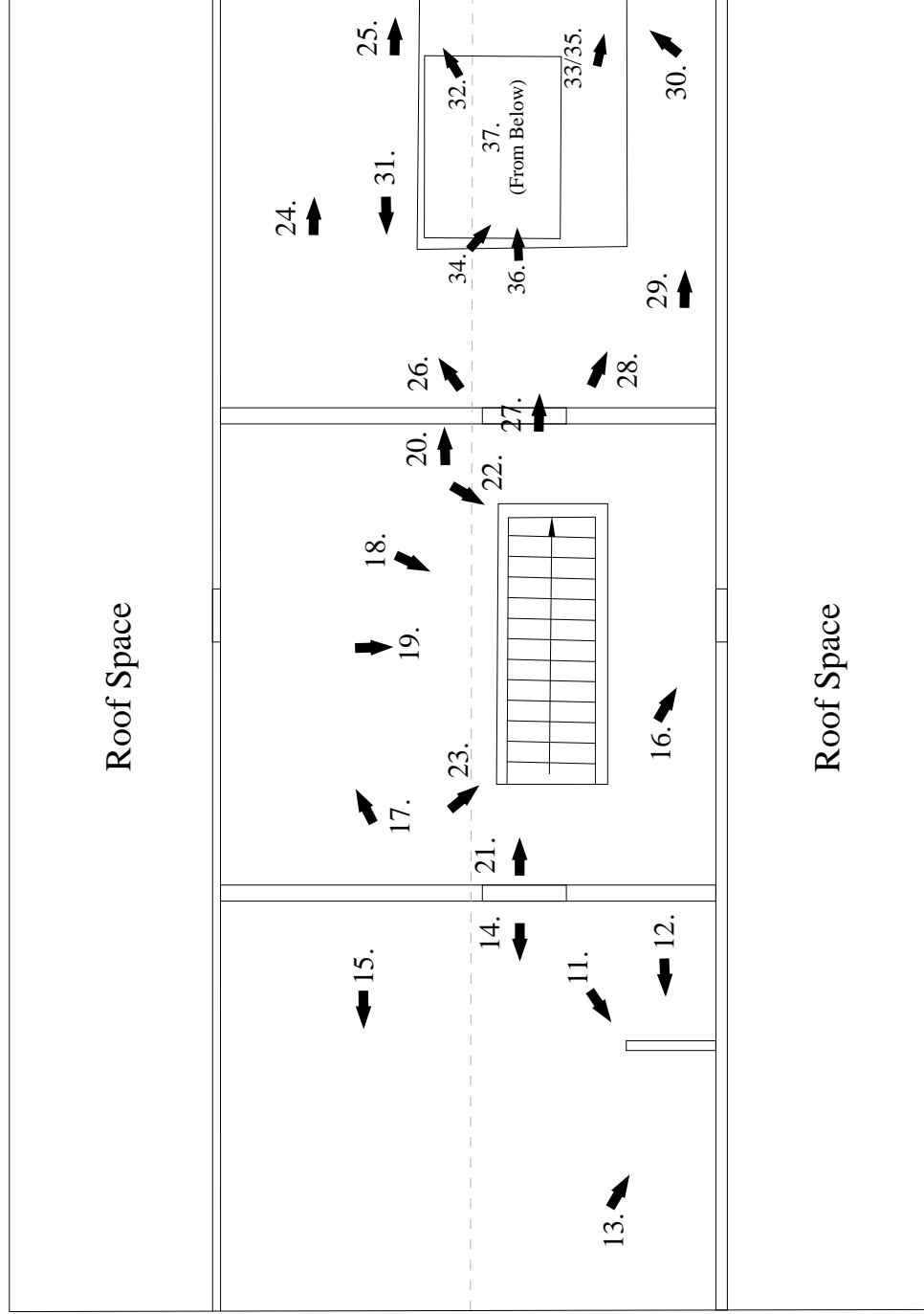
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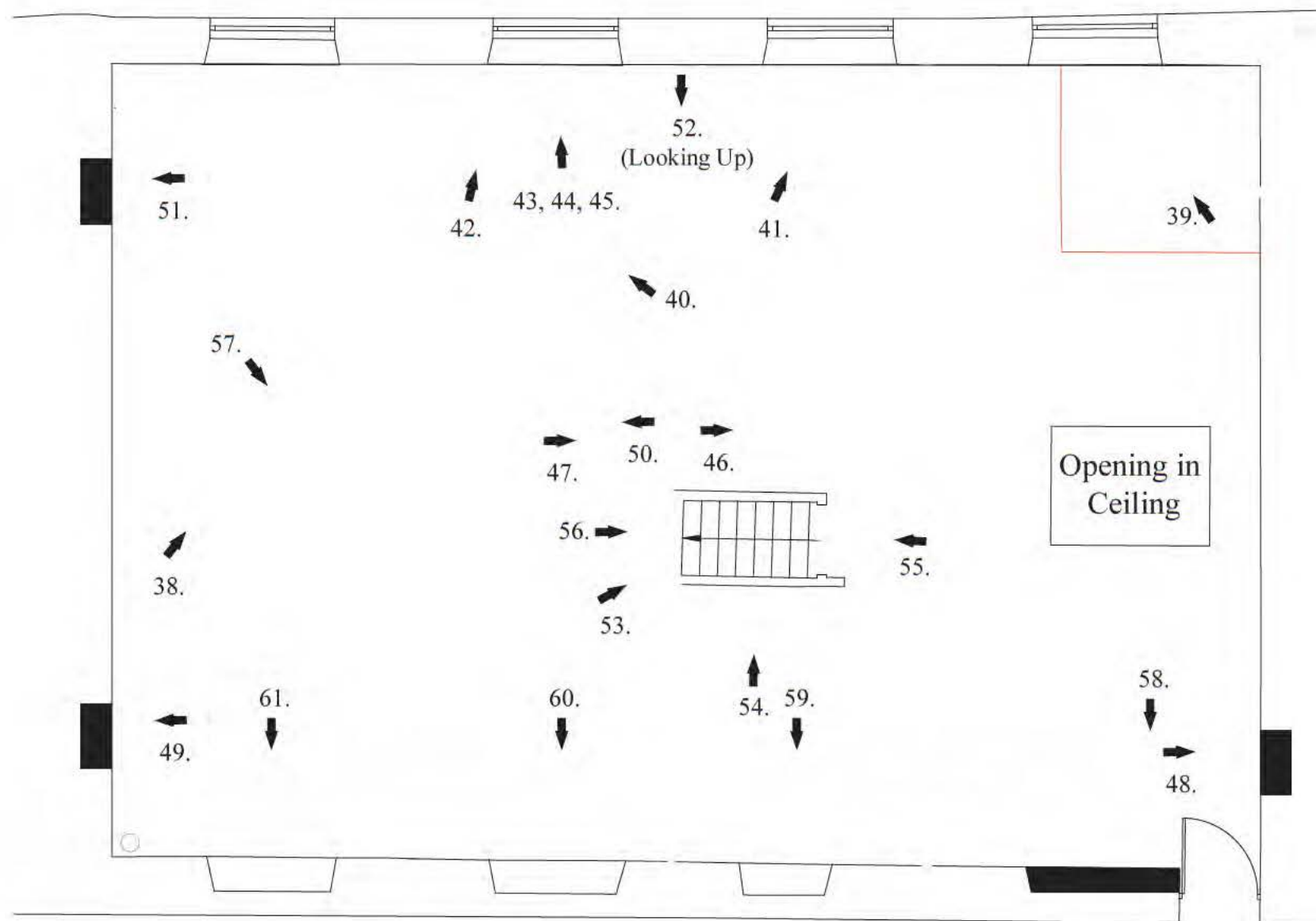
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Appendix A.

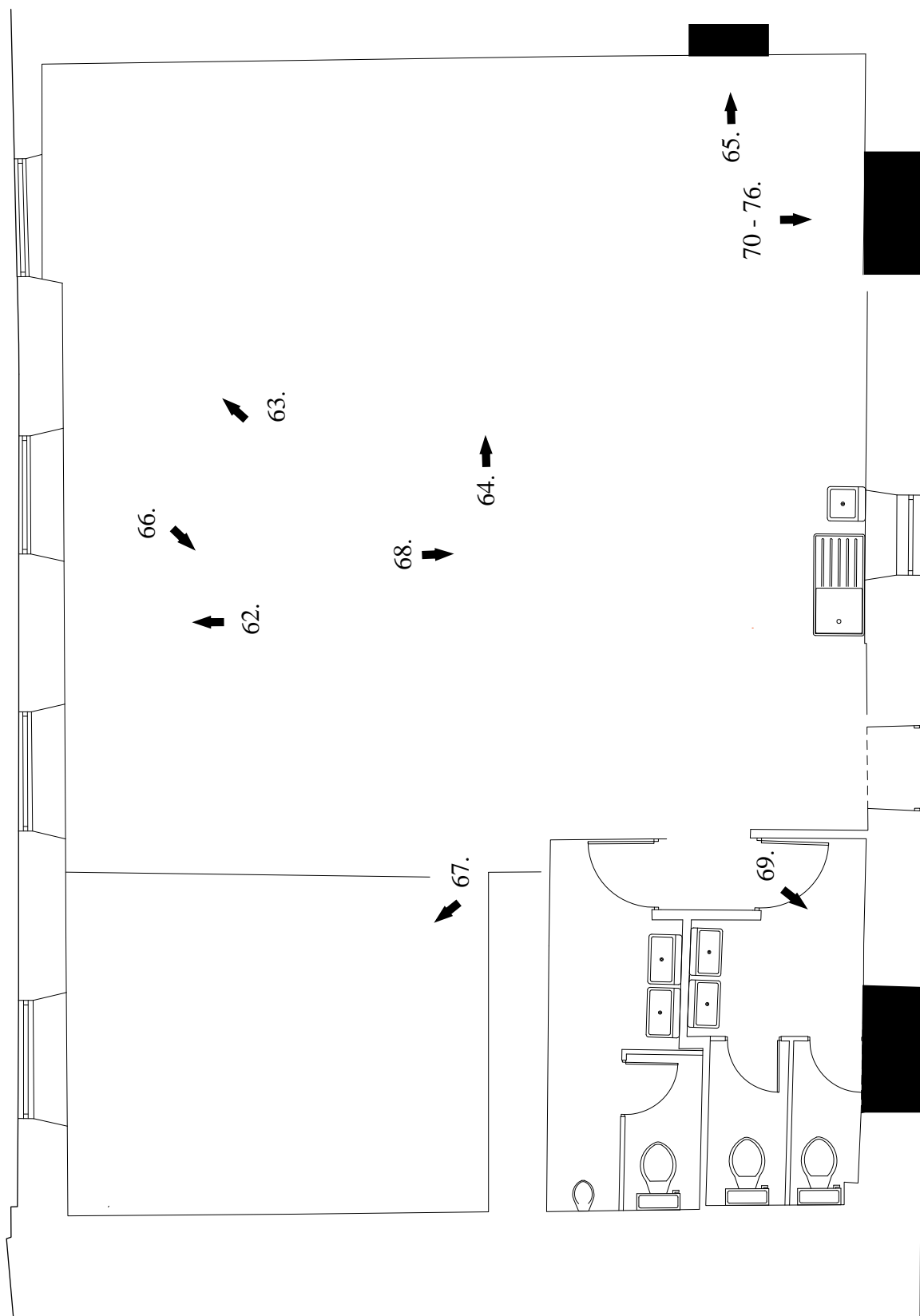
Location and Direction of Photographs 1 - 78



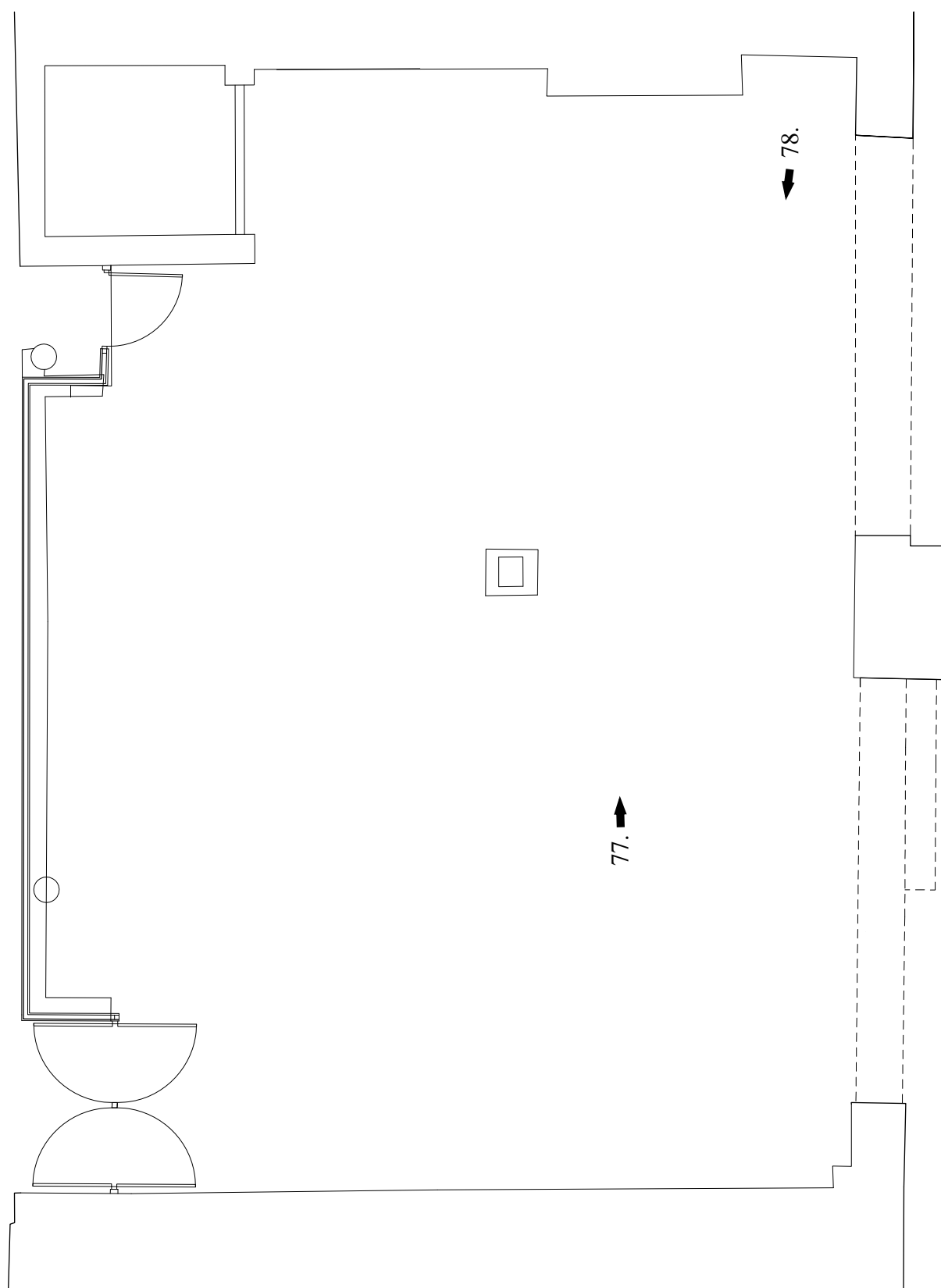
Appendix A. Location and Direction of Photographic Plates 11 - 37



Appendix A. Location and Direction of Photographic Plates 38 - 61



Appendix A. Location and Direction of Photographic Plates 62 - 76



Appendix A. Location and Direction of Photographic Plates 77 - 78