

Building Recording & Analysis at

91 - 95 Market Street, Holyhead

NGR SH 224659 382361



Report Number: CR40-2013



C.R Archaeology

Compiled by C. Rees & M. Jones

On Behalf of Isle of Anglesey County Council

Acknowledgements

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Results of Building Recording & Analysis at 91-95 Market Street, Holyhead

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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 properties following the commissioning of a condition survey. The building range has stood empty for a number of years and it is in a semi-derelict state. Certain building elements have been found to be structurally unsound and part of the building now requires urgent intervention and major works to make safe the structure and safeguard sections from pernicious rot and decay that will undoubtedly lead to further progressive collapse unless halted (Chris Pike Associates 2012: 3).

Due to the scale of remedial work required a cost benefit evaluation in conjunction with a qualitative assessment of historic significance has been recommended at the properties. This exercise is intended to “determine whether the property retains particular special historic value to justify major intervention in order to retain it substantially in its current form, or whether the dilapidation has reached a point where demolition and complete rebuilding is a sensible and pragmatic course of action to adopt in the circumstances” (Chris Pike Associates 2012: 3). This report is intended to serve as a supporting document to help inform this decision.

The site is situated in an urban setting and is located at 91 - 95 Market Street (SH 224659 382361) in the centre of Holyhead, Anglesey (figure 1). Building 95 is shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map as The Crown Inn and numbers 91 & 93 as an unlabelled building. Archive research has revealed that the three buildings were constructed in the early nineteenth century and are clearly shown on a map dated 1802. The buildings are not listed and nor are they recorded on the RCAHMW database. They are however located within the towns designated Conservation Area (www.holyheadforward). The extent of the Conservation Area is shown in figure 2.

The archaeological works conducted at 91 – 95 Market Street 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 basic drawn survey of the property was produced by C.R Archaeology.

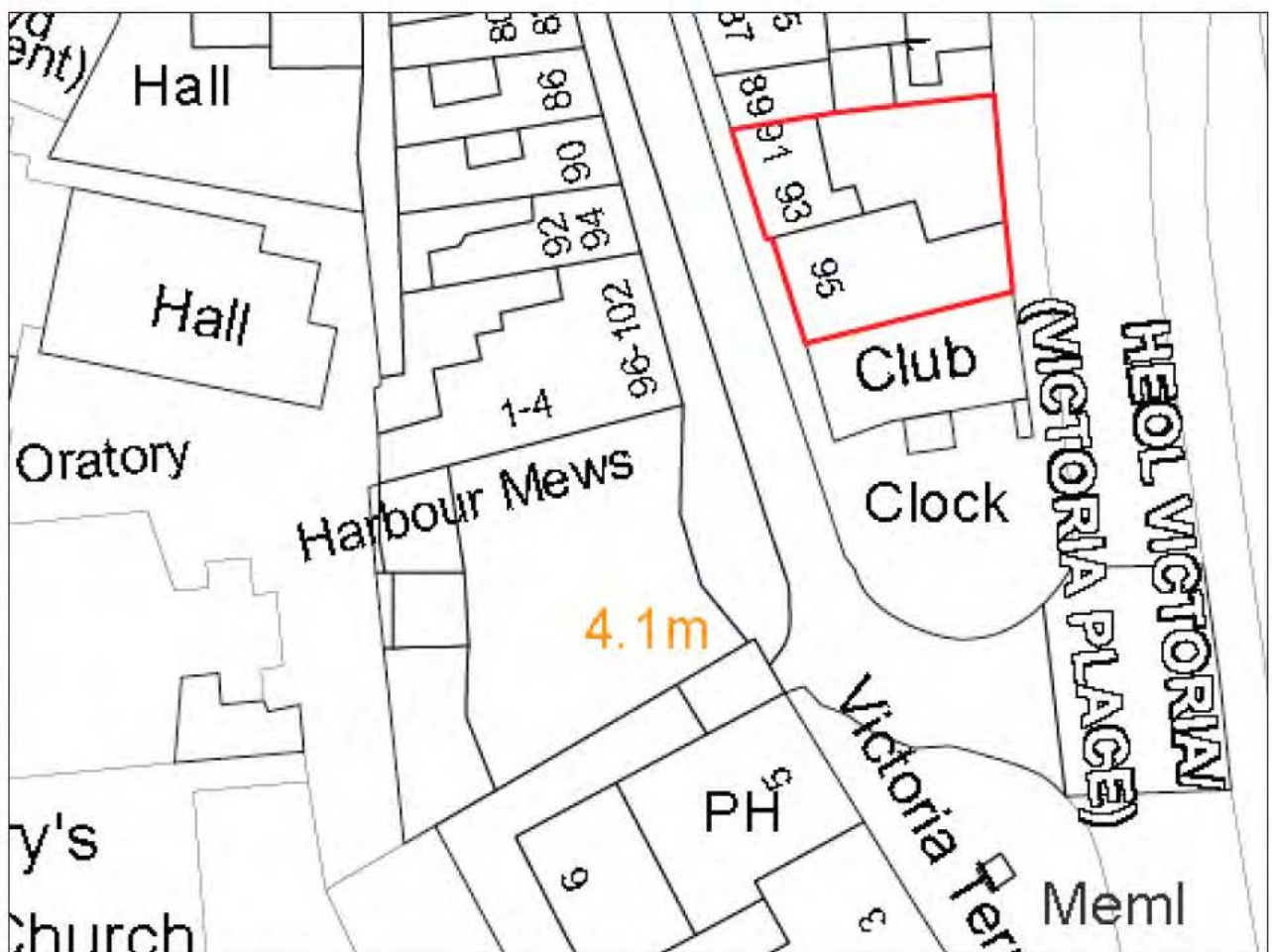
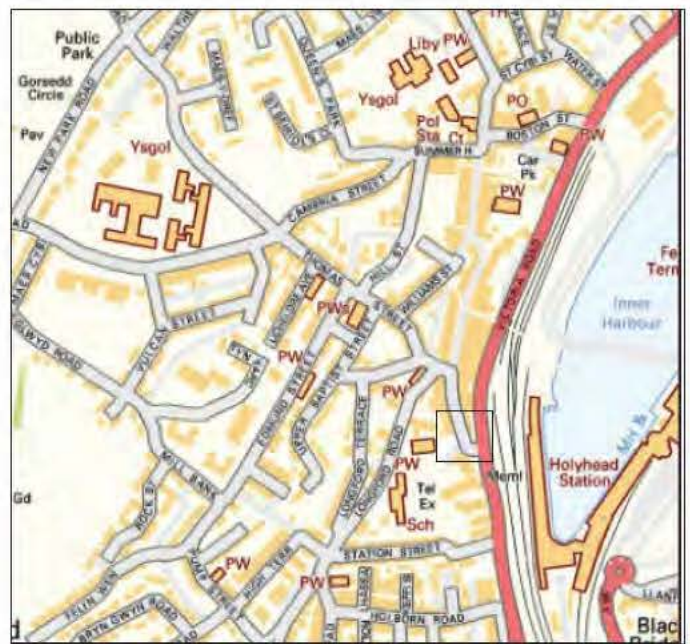
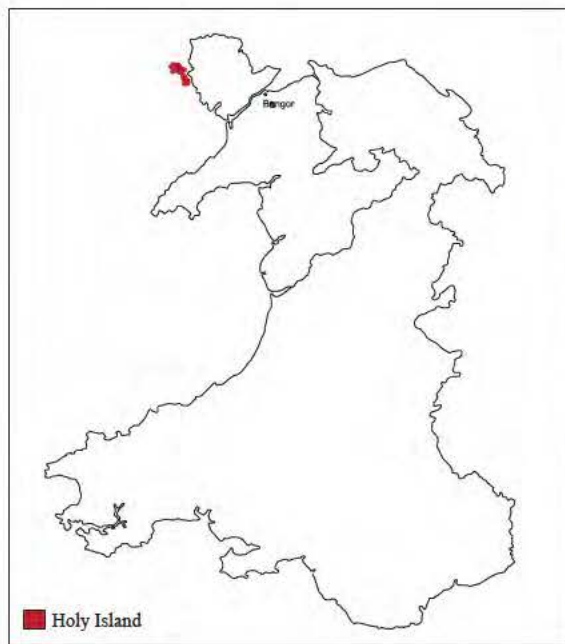


Figure 1. 91 - 95 Market Street Location Map
(Source OS Open Data Mapping & Ordnance Survey)

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

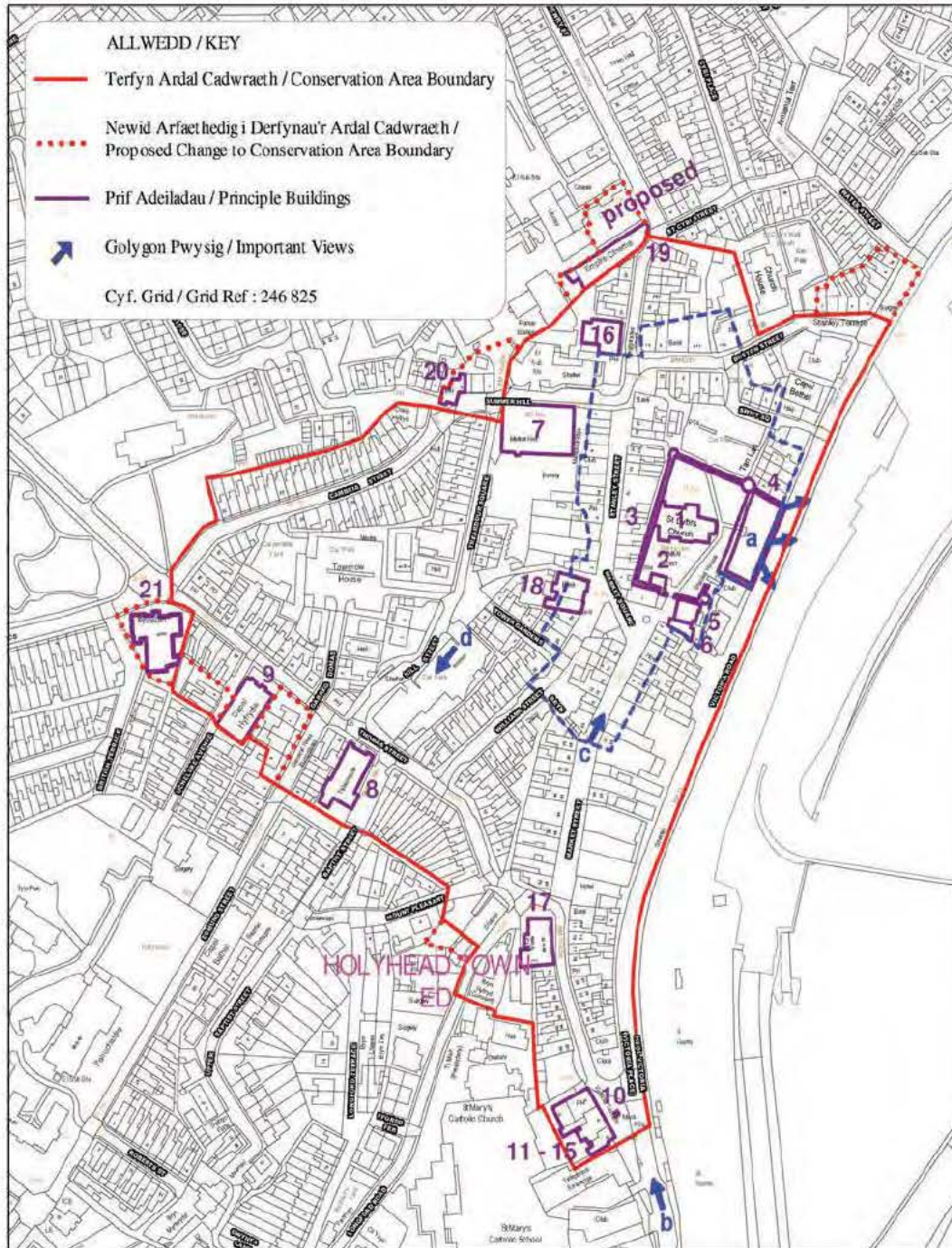


Figure 2. Holyhead Conservation Area Boundary (Source: www.anglesey.gov.uk)

2.0 Project Aims

The programme of works undertaken at the site aimed to create a Level 3 Historic Building Record of the buildings and to interpret this information in order to assess their historical and architectural significance. This document is to be used to inform further conservation decisions.

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 third aim was to interpret this information and present the findings in such a manner as to inform further conservation decisions.

3.0 Scheme of Works - Methodology

The archaeological works 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 91 – 95 Market Street 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

Basic floor plans of the site (not to scale) were produced by Chris Pike Associates in 2012. 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.

In order to produce a more detailed drawn record of the site on-site measurements were taken and photography used as a basis to create elevations of the front elevation of the building range. It must however be noted that the drawing created may contain inaccuracies in the roof area as this could not be accessed or the height measured during the site visit.

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 properties was undertaken by Catherine Rees and Matthew Jones of C.R Archaeology on the 6th June 2013. This work consisted of:

- 1) A basic photographic survey of the building exterior (access to the building rear was not possible and the lower rear level is obscured by boarding)
- 2) A photographic survey of the building interior

Due to the poor condition of the buildings certain areas could not be safely accessed. Where this was the case it has been noted in the descriptive/results section.

3.3.1 Equipment

A photographic survey of the building was undertaken using a 14.2 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. 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 91 - 95 Market Street were conducted on the 6th June 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. Hard copies of the report will be lodged with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record and at Anglesey Archives, Llangefni. A CD containing the photographic archive and a PDF version of the report will also be submitted to the RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.

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 in the text
- 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 floor plans is retained by Chris Pike Associates.

4.0 Geographical and Geological Context

4.1 Topography

The properties to be recorded are 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 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 the upper portion of 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)

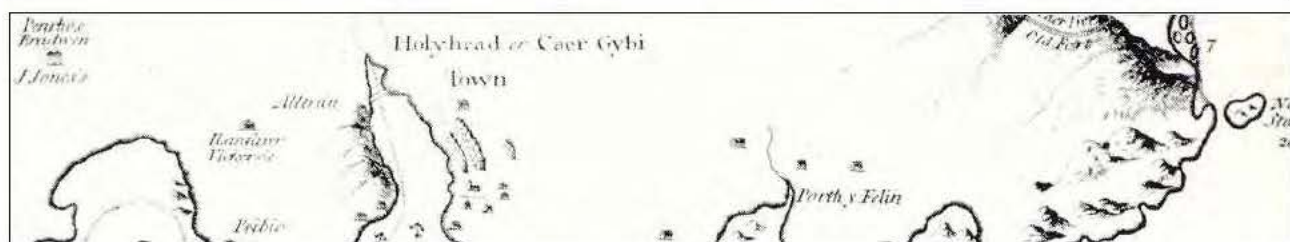


Figure 6. Lewis Morris Sea Chart 1748 (Source: www.anglesey.gov.uk)



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).

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 seaward side of the upper portion 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 a number of properties have been erected along Market Street, predominantly concentrated on the upper, seaward part of the street. There are individual buildings shown on the opposite side of the street and a few scattered properties have also begun to be built at the lower end of the street. The area now occupied by 91 – 95 Market Street has yet to be developed.

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).



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

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 a block of buildings in the location of properties 91 - 95 but unfortunately little detail is recorded. The uniformity and shared roof line of the properties being studied is strongly indicative of a contemporary build for the buildings and it would therefore seem likely that these are the range shown. There has also been a dramatic increase in the number of properties along Market Street and the majority of the gaps in the upper area shown on the 1769 Penrhos Estate Map have been filled.

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).

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).



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



Figure 10. 1820 Estate Map Showing
Property Belonging to Sir John Stanley
(Source: Anglesey Archives WMaps/52/1)

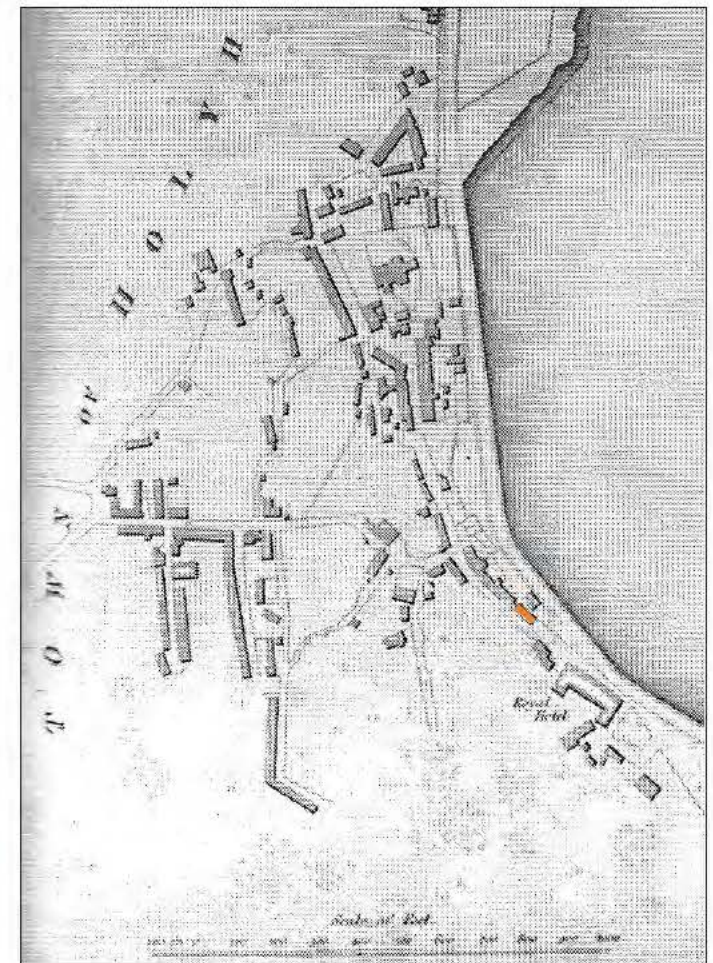


Figure 11. The Plan of Holyhead Harbour from
Telford's Atlas 1838 (Source: Quartermaine,
Trinder & Turner 2003: 111)

An estate map produced for the Stanley family in 1820 (figure 10) shows a continued increase in housing density and the layout of the upper end of Market Street is firmly established. The lower segment of the street is still more fragmentary and many of the gaps between buildings have yet to be in-filled. 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).

There is an entry for a “Crown” kept by Joseph Purcell recorded in Holyhead in the 1831 Ale Licenses but this establishment is not believed to be the Crown Inn. The reasons for this will be discussed in further detail in a later section. The properties of 91 – 95 Market Street are believed to have all been private housing or shops with living accommodation at this time.

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 11) shows little overall change from the 1820 estate map although some additional properties have been built to fill gaps in lower Market Street and the properties at 91-95 have been linked up to the street as a terrace and an additional property has been built adjoining building 95.

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 12) 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 13 & 14 dated 1850 & 1868 show Market Street and there is little change in this area during this time. Of interest in to the properties being studied is incorporation of a structure of some kind to the rear of 91 – 95 Market Street (first shown on the 1838 map) into the building range.

The 1841 census records for Holyhead do not mention a public house or inn named the Crown, although it must be noted that this census does not contain any great detail about property names or addresses other than street names. It has therefore been necessary to cross reference these records with other sources in order to identify the property.

The first definite mention of the Crown Inn is found in Slater's 1849 Trade Directory for Holyhead. The proprietor is listed as Margaret Owen and the property is listed as being located on Market Place, a name used in certain records as interchangeable with Market Street. Margaret Owen is recorded in an 1846 rate book for the Penrhos Estate as renting a house and premises on Market Place from a Mr Henry Williams Esq (Source: Bangor Archives Penrhos 909).



Figure 12 (Far Left). 1840's Tithe Map of Holyhead
(Source: Anglesey Archives WMaps/53)
Figure 13 (Left). 1850 Survey of Land and Property in Holyhead
(Source: Bangor University Archives Lligwy Papers 215)
Figure 14 (Above). 1868 Map of Holyhead
(Source: Anglesey Archives W/CD/373)

A search of the 1841 census was made for Margaret Owen and she was found to be resident on Market Street along with her husband and son, both named John Owen (figure 15). John Owen Senior's occupation is listed as grocer whilst his son is listed as a sailor's apprentice.

In order to confirm that the correct Margaret Owen has been identified the entry for the 1841 census was compared against that of that of the 1851 census (figure 16). Despite a slight discrepancy in the ages of Margaret and her son John this record confirms the residence of this family at the property – particularly in relation to John's occupation. Margaret has been widowed prior to 1846 as is attested by the 1846 rate book (Source: Bangor University Archives Penrhos Manuscripts 909) and it would appear that following this Margaret has changed the premise use from grocers to a licensed premises as her occupation in 1851 is recorded as publican. The use of the property as a grocers in 1841 makes it most unlikely that the “Crown” recorded in the aforementioned 1831 Ale Licenses is the correct property.

Also listed as present at the Crown Inn in 1851 are Mary Rowlands (age 27), a dressmaker and Hannah Jones (16) a house servant. Mary is listed as a visitor and it would seem reasonable to assume that the inn was taking paying guests at this time.

The period from the 1840's through to the 1860's was a boom time for Holyhead and this prosperity continued throughout the late nineteenth century. 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.

Neither Margaret Owen or the Crown Inn could be identified in the 1861 Census for Holyhead and it is not clear exactly when she left the premises. The next licensee who could be identified at the property was Richard Jones who is recorded as proprietor in 1865. The source of this information is in the form of a conviction notice served to Richard Jones of the Crown Inn for opening before twelve-thirty on a Sunday and records that he was fined ten shillings and ordered to pay twelve shillings in costs (Source: Anglesey Archives).

do	1	John Owen	50	Grocer	y
		Margaret do	40		y
		John do	15	Waler App	y
		Mary do	13		y

Figure 15. 1841 Market Street Census

58	Market Street	Margaret Owen	Head	44	61	Pullman	Anglo-Saxon
		John Owen	Son	26	28	Miller	Do Holyhead
		Mary Howlands	Visitor	46	27	Prof. M. H. H.	Do Monac Bridge
		Hannah Jones	Serv	16	16	House Servant	Do Wangey

Figure 16. 1851 Market Street Census

257		1	Richard Jones	Head	42	42	House Joiner	Cardana Do
			Percy do	Wife	42			Plantist do

No. of Habitable	House, Street, No. and No. of House	HOUSE In tenement (Y) or Building (N)	Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Male (Female)	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born
			Mary Jones	Wife	Mar.	42		Cardana Do
507			William do	Son	17	17	House Joiner	Cardana Do
508	seems to be under the same		Richard do	Son	16	16	General Serv	Cardana Do
			William do	Son	16	16		Cardana Do

Figure 17. 1861 Census Showing Richard Jones and Family are not Resident in the Crown Inn

58	Market St. Crown Inn	1	Richard Jones	Head	Mar.	42	Publican	do ; do
			Percy do	Wife	do	42		do ; do
			Mary do	Serv	16			do ; do

Figure 18. 1871 Market Street Census

152	Market St. Crown Inn	1	Richard Jones	Head	Mar.	56	Publican	Anglo-Saxon
			Percy Jones	Wife	Mar.	60	Do Wife	Do R. H. H.
			Mary Jones	Serv	23		Do Wife	Do R. H. H.
			William J. Holland	Visitor	Mar.	66	Architect	Shropshire

Figure 19. 1881 Market Street Census

191	Market St.	1	Richard Jones	Head	Mar.	67	Publican	Cardana Do
			Percy Jones	Wife	Mar.	70		Do R. H. H.
			Mary Jones	Serv	24			Do R. H. H.

Figure 20. 1891 Market Street Census

An examination of the 1861 census shows that Richard Jones and his family are not resident at the Crown Inn (figure 17). They are shown to be living elsewhere in Holyhead and Richard is working as a house joiner. He is not a native of Holyhead and it is likely that the family were attracted to the town by the building boom of this era.

Richard Jones is recorded as the Crown Inn's proprietor in the Slater's Directory of 1868 and the family remained at the Crown Inn during the 1871, 1881 and 1891 census' (figures 18, 19 & 20) although interestingly in the 1891 census Richard Jones' occupation is listed as builder rather than publican. By 1899 Richard Jones and family have left the property and an advert placed in the 1899 Bennett's Business directory lists a Mrs E. Knight as the Crown Inn proprietor. This advertisement provides a little more information on the provisions available at the inn which included “*excellent stabling, ales, wines and spirits – choice cigars*”.

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 late nineteenth and early twentieth century's provide a wealth of visual sources which greatly enhance the record of the Crown Inn at this time. Ordnance Survey produced their first map of the area in 1888 (figure 21) which shows the property in detail for the first time. This map is of particular interest as it shows the rear of the property. These structures were observed on a map dated 1838 and at least an element of these outbuildings would have provided stabling for the hotel.

Anglesey Archives hold two further Ordnance Survey editions from this period – a first edition dated 1890 (figure 22), a second edition in 1900 (figure 23). These maps show the urban density reached in the centre of Holyhead by this time remains largely unchanged. These three maps show the current block of buildings is separated into two properties, only the lower one of which is used as the Crown Inn at this time. The upper property is a separate building at this time. Unfortunately due to the complicated layout of the census documents it was not possible to identify the resident family or business occupying this property.



Figure 21. 1888 Large Scale Ordnance Survey Map of Properties



Figure 22. 1890 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of Properties

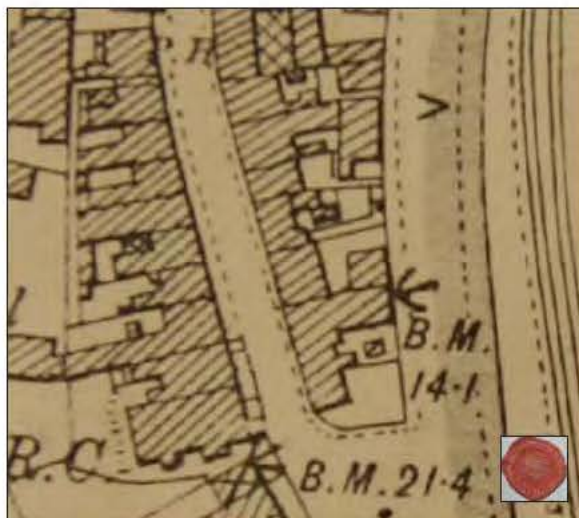


Figure 23. 1900 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map of Properties

5.5 Twentieth Century Holyhead

Following this date there were two further census' produced – the first in 1901 (figure 24) and the second in 1911 (figure 25). The 1911 census is the most recent census document which is publicly accessible. Mrs Knight does not remain at the property and the 1901 census lists Hugh Evans, a widower of 36 as the resident inn keeper along with his four children and a domestic servant. The Crown Inn has a new proprietor by 1910 and Bennett's Directory carried the following advert “*Crown Inn 95 Market Street. A Thomson, Best Ales, Wines, Spirits and Cigars. Good stabling*”.

The 1911 census records Arthur Thomson as a licensed victualler and his wife Catherine as assisting in the business. A single boarder, the 9 year old Sarah Jane Owen is also recorded. The use of the building to attract boarders and passing ale trade is attested in a 1917 Wales Trades Directory where the Crown Inn is listed as the Crown Hotel in the hotel section and also as the Crown Inn under public houses. Arthur is still recorded as the licensee in various directories until 1933.

The rear portion of the Crown Inn is shown on a 1923 photograph (figure 26) of the unveiling of the Holyhead Cenotaph. This picture shows three chimney stacks, two of which have since been removed. The rear bay window and extension which is obscured in later sources is also shown. A third edition of the Ordnance Survey Map for Holyhead was produced in 1924 (figure 27) which shows the continuation of the property division as two separate buildings.

The next recorded licensee at the Crown Inn/ Crown Hotel is G. Cummings who is listed in directories from 1936 – 1942. We do not have the names of the owners/residents for the later part of the twentieth century but a number of pictorial sources have survived. Figure 28 shows the Crown Inn during the 1950's and the clear distinction between the two halves of the building is maintained. The current three doorway arrangement is shown and the upper property is divided into two – numbers 91 & 93 Market Street.

The ground floor window/door arrangement appears to be an early twentieth century shop window with fascia boarding and where it is just visible in the photograph the first floor windows appear to be four over four sash windows. There is no clear indication on earlier Ordnance Survey Maps that the upper property was divided into two but there does appear to be a separate rear walkway to a central property shown from the 1888 edition onwards. By the time of the 1967 Ordnance Survey Map (figure 30) a clear distinction between 91 & 93 Market Street is shown.

[illegible]

Figure 24. 1901 Market Street Census

[illegible]

Figure 25. 1911 Market Street Census



Figure 26. Rear of the Crown Inn Properties Taken in 1923
(Source: Anglesey Archives WDB-70-2-C)

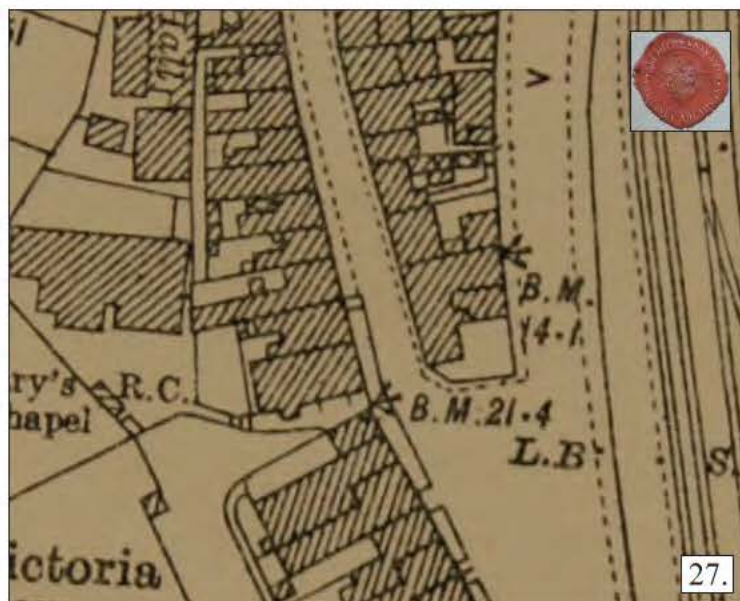


Figure 27. 1924 Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map



Figure 28. View of the Crown Inn Taken During the 1950's (Supplied by N. Blanchard)



Figure 29. View of the Rear Of the Crown Inn During the 1950's (Source: www.anglesey.info/images/holyheadoldphotos)



Figure 30. 1967 Ordnance Survey Map

It is possible that the building range was originally erected as a row of four houses. The aforementioned chimney arrangement would indicate this although it is believed that by the time that the property had become a public house the portion labelled as 95 Market Street had already been amalgamated into a single structure. This will be discussed in greater detail in the following section.

Figure 29 shows that following 1923 a second storey extension was added to the neighbouring property and this obscures most of the rear elevation. Just visible is the rear portion which was originally a stable and later incorporated into the main building. This structure appears to still have it's original sloping roof shape at this time.

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. 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 it's late nineteenth century heyday (Rowlands 1989: 25 – 34).

A compilation of licensed premises dated 1938 is greatly reduced from the 58 licensed premises of 1897 and the number of public houses and inns in Holyhead has almost halved to just thirty – less than it had in 1824. The Crown Inn did however survive and in the later twentieth century the business expanded to incorporate the neighbouring properties and a number of structural and cosmetic alterations were undertaken. The windows and doors in the front elevation were replaced and no examples of the earlier details survived. Despite being a stone building a cladding has been added to the façade which creates a degree of unity along the building frontage.

Two of the three chimneys were removed along with the supporting walls which has led to structural problems. This has been greatly exacerbated by a number of alterations to the rear of the building. The sloped, slate stable structure has been re-roofed with a flat, felt roof and a further two storey flat roofed extension has been added in front of the bay window. The basement level of the property is at ground level to the rear of the property and given the style of the sash windows this floor can be seen to have been used as accommodation from at least the nineteenth century onwards. The outer yard area for this floor has been partially enclosed when the extensions were added.

The property is currently empty and semi derelict and has been for a number of years. Parts of the rear extensions have collapsed the front of the building is in danger of collapse. The roof is noticeably bowing due to the removal of load bearing internal walls. A recent structural appraisal has highlighted the structural issues at the property and this document is included as Appendix A.

6.0 Results of Archaeological Works

A site visit to the Crown Inn & Restaurant, Market Street was conducted on 6th June 2013. The property has undergone a number of changes since it was built in the late eighteenth/ early nineteenth century. The building is currently empty and is in a structurally poor state with the vast majority of original/ historic features have been removed. 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

Basic floor plans of the site (not to scale) were produced by Chris Pike Associates in 2012. 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.

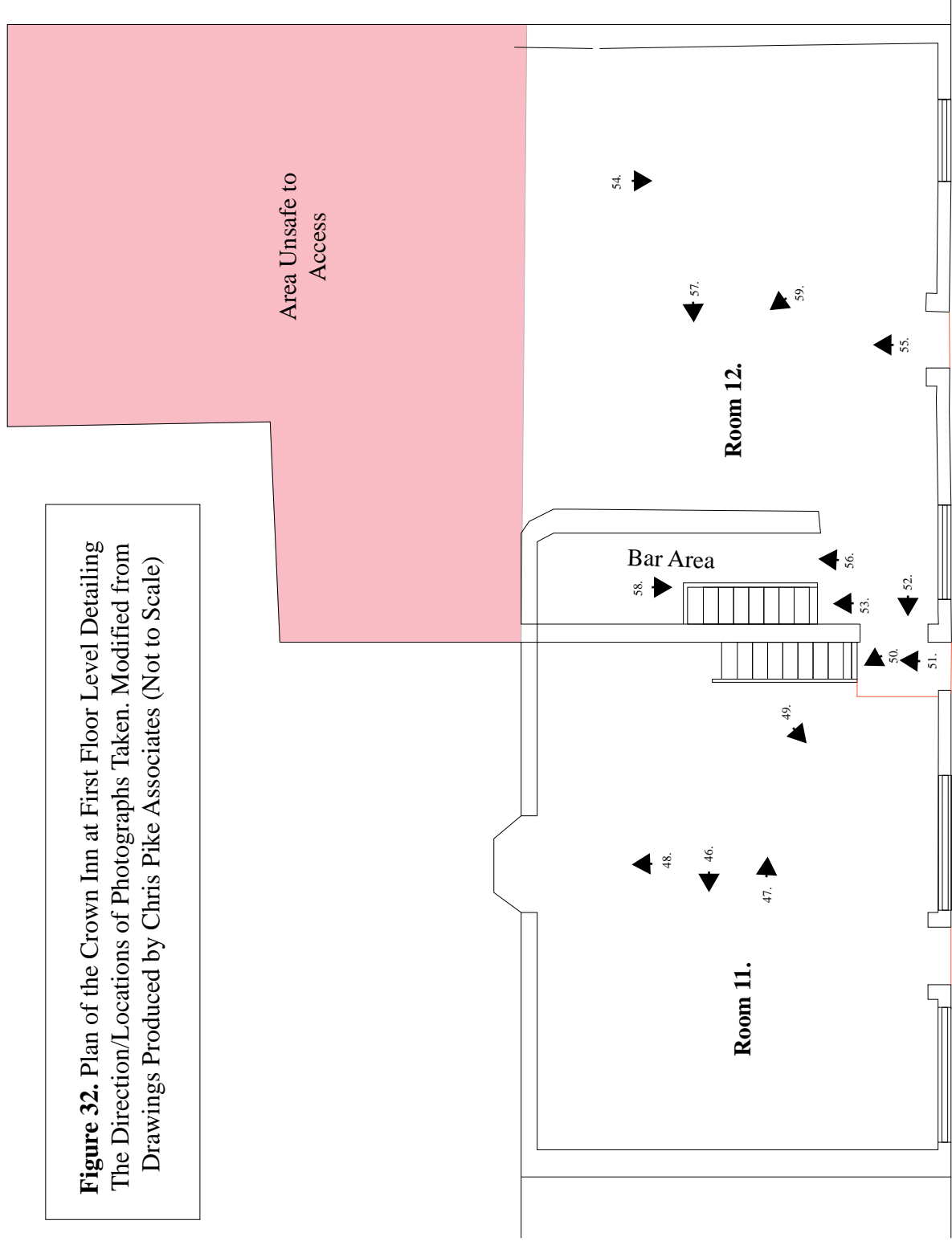
In order to produce a more detailed drawn record of the site on-site measurements were taken and photography used as a basis to create elevations of the front elevation of the building range. It must however be noted that the drawing created may contain inaccuracies in the roof area as this could not be accessed or the height measured during the site visit.

These drawings are included as figures 31 - 34.



Figure 31. Plan of the Crown Inn at First Floor Level Detailing the Direction/Locations of Photographs Taken.
Modified from Drawings Produced by Chris Pike Associates (Not to Scale)

Figure 32. Plan of the Crown Inn at First Floor Level Detailing The Direction/Locations of Photographs Taken. Modified from Drawings Produced by Chris Pike Associates (Not to Scale)



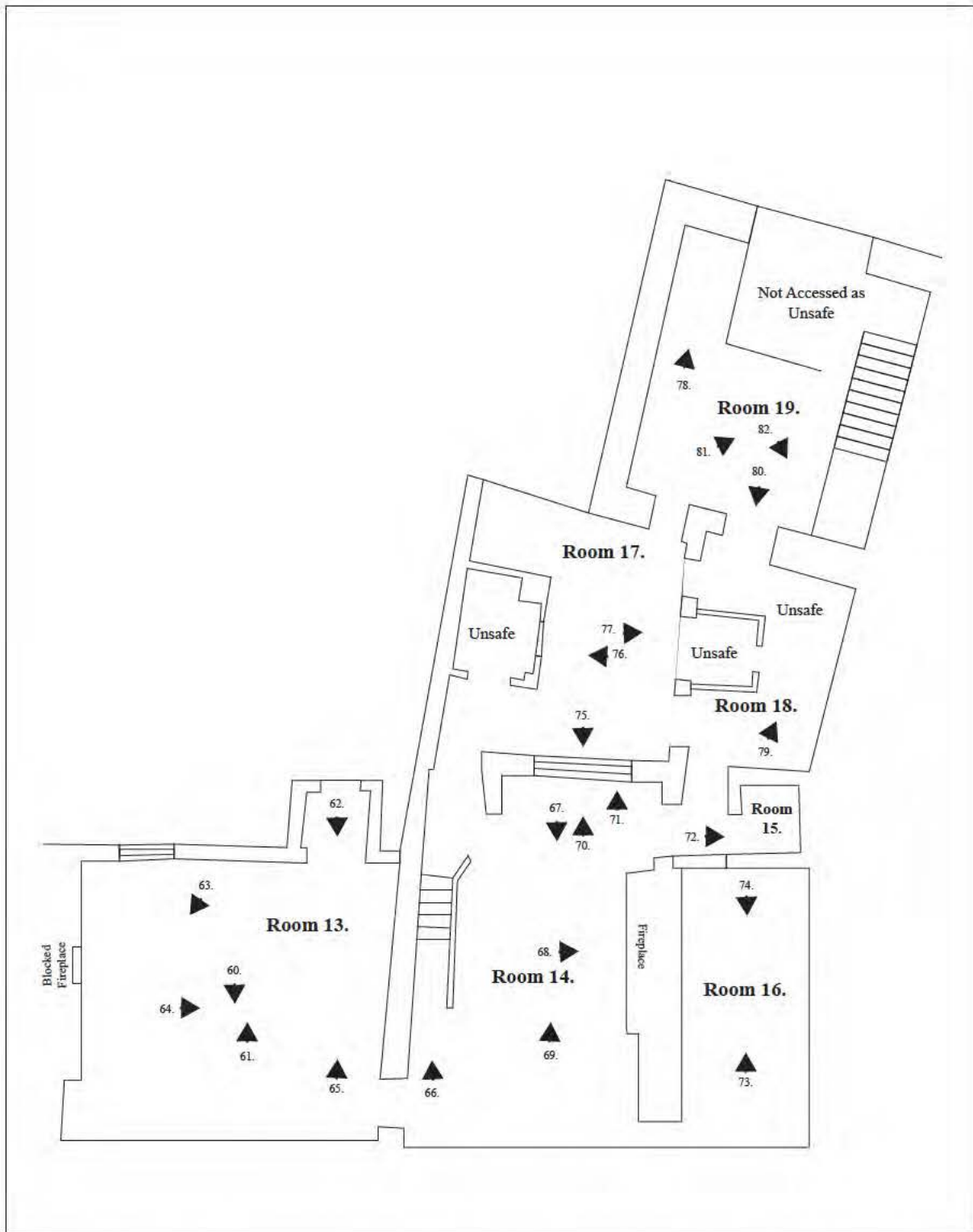


Figure 33. Plan of the Crown Inn at First Floor Level Detailing the Direction/Locations of Photographs Taken. Modified from Drawings Produced by Chris Pike Associates (Not to Scale). Please Note Probable Inaccuracies in the Plan Angles



Figure 34. The Crown Inn/ Restaurant Front Elevation. Please Note Likely Inaccuracies at Roof Level

6.2 Results of Photographic Survey (Plates 1 - 82)

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 on the accompanying figures.

6.2.1 Building Exterior (Plates 1 - 12)

The front elevation of the building was photographed with a 2m photographic scales from a variety of positions creating a comprehensive record of the structure and placing the building in its local setting. The building range of the Crown Inn evidences the piecemeal development of Market Street and these relatively low roofed structures contrast with their larger, grander neighbours.

The building had 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. Only one of the three chimneys shown on the 1923 photograph survives and the sash windows shown at first floor level have been replaced in the late twentieth century along with all original/early window and doors in this elevation. A modern cladding and cement render has been added. The building façade therefore retains very little of its original character aside from its overall proportions. The openings at ground floor level, although believed to date from at least the early twentieth century, may not be original but this is not possible to confirm without the stripping of the current cladding/render. The first floor window positions/sizes are however believed to be unchanged.

The rear of the building could not be accessed due to safety issues and therefore the photographs of this elevation had to be taken from the street. Boarding around the lower level of the building obscured the ground floor/basement levels and it was not possible to use scales in the photographs.

This elevation has also undergone a number of alterations since the erection of the building range and the extension including the bay windows has been added to the rear of 95 Market Street by the time of the 1888 Ordnance Survey as has the set of bay windows in 93 Market Street. Map regression has demonstrated that the incorporation of the old stables into the main building was undertaken between 1900 and 1924.



Plate 1. Photograph Illustrating the Location Of Crown Inn on Lower Market Street



Plate 2. The Crown Inn on Market Street Detailing Differing Roof Heights



Plate 3. The Crown Inn on Market Street Detailing Differing Roof Heights



Plate 4. The Crown Inn Front Elevation



Plate 5. The Crown Inn Front Elevation Showing Section First Used as Public House



Plate 6. The Crown Inn Front Elevation Showing Section Later Incorporated Into Public House



Plate 7. Photograph Detailing the Structure To the Rear of the Crown Inn



Plate 8. The Crown Inn Rear Elevation



Plate 9. The Crown Inn Rear Elevation



Plate 10. Rear Elevation Showing Rear Window Detail



Plate 11. Carved Stone Reused as Pillar Element at Rear of Crown Inn



Plate 12. Carved Stone Reused as Pillar Element at Rear of Crown Inn

This elevation does retain a number of early sash windows and these will be discussed in detail by floor level.

Also of interest at the rear of the property was a piece of carved limestone which had been reused as capping for a pillar in the boundary wall (plates 11 -12). It is possible this stone came from the now demolished Catholic Church which once stood opposite the Crown Inn on Market Street.

6.2.2 Building Interior (Plates 11 - 82)

The building interior will be discussed by floor, beginning at the first floor level and working downwards. There is an attic level within the building but this could not be accessed during our visit. Where possible floor levels will be further subdivided by room although it must be noted that many of the the internal divisions are modern.

6.2.2.1 First Floor (Plates 13 – 45 & Figure 31)

The current layout of the first floor of the property shows ten individual rooms. These internal divisions are in general not original and reflect the changing nature of the requirements of the businesses/families housed within. As previously detailed 91-95 Market Street has been subdivided in a variety of ways and the evidence for these divisions will be discussed where surviving.

Room 1 (Plates 13 - 16)

Room 1 runs almost the length of the front element of the upper half of the property. The positioning of the door appears to belong to an early layout although the frame/door has been custom built to reflect the difficult angles and movement of the building. This room held no historic architectural details and the street elevation was bowing badly. There were a number of holes in the ceiling which allowed glimpses of the attic level.

It was evident that some of the lathe and plaster divisions within the attic survive and it was possible to glimpse the rough stone used in the property's construction. This was a thick wall dividing the range of buildings into two sections. This wall was also evident in the corridor.

The Chris Pike report records that a wall which would have subdivided this room and divided this property into numbers 91 & 93 has been removed and this has caused structural damage to the roof which has been propped. No evidence of this wall could be seen in the room.

Room 2 (Plate 14)

Room 2 was a small en-suite bathroom entered through Room 1. The division between these two rooms was modern as was the bathroom. No features of interest were noted in this room.

Rooms 1 & 2 cover the first floor front elevation of 91 & 93 Market Street and the windows were examined. All were found to be modern replacements.

Room 3 (Plate 17)

Room 3 was a small en-suite bathroom accessed through Room 4. The division between these two rooms was modern as was the bathroom. No features of interest were noted in this room.

Room 4 (Plates 18 – 20)

Room 4 was a bedroom with large bay window. As with Room 1 the positioning of the doorway from the corridor into this room appears to be part of an early, if not the original, layout and the frame/door has been custom built to reflect the difficult angles and movement of the building

The Chris Pike report records that a wall which would have subdivided this room and divided this property into numbers 91 & 93 has been removed and this has caused structural damage to the roof which has been propped. No evidence of this wall could be seen in the room.

Although not an original feature the bay window in this room pre-dates the 1888 Ordnance Survey Map. Bay windows became popular during the Victorian Period from c.1870 onwards and it was likely that the windows were added at this time. The window frames and glazing are modern replacements and it is likely that this window would originally have been a sash similar to that in Room 5.

First Floor Corridor (Plates 21 - 32)

The corridor at first floor level runs right through properties 91, 93 and 95. The opening between properties 93 & 95 is a modern addition and it can clearly be seen to have been cut through the thick stone dividing wall noted in Room 1.

A straight stairway leads up from the central front door to the first floor level. Although damaged most of the wooden bannister and balustrades survives. It is a simple, mass produced lathe turned wooden construction and is likely to date to the late Victorian Period.

The corridor continues through property 95 although presumably not in its original location as an alternative stairway must have been used to access this level prior to the amalgamation of 95 with the neighbouring property.

The attic area could be accessed from two points within this corridor. There were two purpose built doorways near the join between the two buildings (see plate 29) which were entered via ladders although it is possible that prior to remodelling of the property a more substantial stairway may have been used. It was not possible to gain access to this level but from the first floor it was evident that there were internal divisions within the attic and some were of lath and plaster construction.

A small hatch was located outside the door to Room 8. Through this it was possible to view a stone dividing wall similar to that observed between properties 93 & 95. The location of this wall could indicate that property 95 may have been built as two properties. This would mirror the arrangement seen at the other end of the building with smaller properties with one window in the front elevation at either end of the building flanking two larger central properties. Without examining the attic space and stripped interior walls this cannot be confirmed. The location of this wall also corresponds with the location of a chimney breast seen in a 1923 photograph.

Room 5 (Plates 33 - 36)

Although not in its original form Room 5 contained a number of surviving early features. The chimney breast was visible but the fireplace had been blocked. It is possible that an earlier fireplace survives behind the current wall covering.

This room has been extended into the rear courtyard area and a large floor to ceiling bay window added. The central portion of this window has been replaced by a modern door in the later twentieth century in order to allow access into a further extension built above the bar area. This structure was poorly built and has collapsed.

The earlier extension is believed to have been undertaken during the later nineteenth century and the large panes and use of window horns observed in the two surviving sash windows are indicative of this period (www.tewkesbury.gov.uk). The pelmet above the window although slightly later than the windows themselves is none the less worthy of note. It is of plywood construction but is in a rather attractive Art Deco style and is thought to be of 1920's – 1930's date. A similar pelmet survives in Room 6.

Room 6 (Plates 37 - 40)

Room 6 is currently used as an en-suite bathroom and is accessed via Rooms 7 & 8. This is a later division and the window has been replaced. An Art Deco pelmet of similar design to that found in Room 5 was recorded in this room.

Room 7 (Plates 40 -41)

Room 7 is a small area containing what appears to be a late Victorian/ Edwardian linen closet. It is a small space which was presumably not originally enclosed.

Room 8 (Plates 42 – 43)

Room 8 is a bedroom at the front of the property. This room has no surviving early architectural features and the window is a modern replacement. This wall, as is observed in other street facing rooms, is bowing outwards.

Room 9 (Plate 45)

Room 9 is a bedroom at the front of the property. This room has no surviving early architectural features and the window is a modern replacement. This wall, as is observed in other street facing rooms, is bowing outwards.

Room 10 (Plate 44)

Room 10 is the en-suite bathroom to Room 9. This room has no surviving early architectural features and the window is a modern replacement. This wall, as is observed in other street facing rooms, is bowing outwards.



13.



14.

Plate 13. First Floor Room 1

Plate 14. First Floor Room 1
Room 2 (Bathroom) is
Visible in Background

Plate 15. Roof Space in
Room 1 Showing Rough
Local Stone Used in Building
Construction. Room 1

Plate 16. Lathe and Plaster
Division in Roof Space.
Room 1



15.



16.



17.



18.

Plate 17. First Floor Room 3

Plate 18. First Floor Room 4
Bay Window - Windows are
Modern Replacements

Plate 19. First Floor Room 4

Plate 20. Lathe and Plaster
Used in Ceiling of Room 4



19.



20.



Plate 21. Doorway to Room 1 Showing
Asymmetrical Door Frame
Plate 22. Upstairs Corridor
Plate 23. Upstairs Bannister and Balustrade

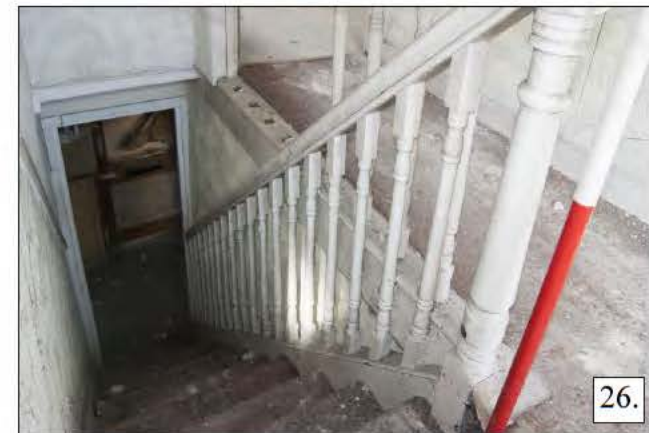


Plate 24. Doorway to Room 4 Showing
Asymmetrical Door Frame
Plate 25. Upstairs Bannister and Balustrade
Plate 26. View Down Stairway



Plate 27. Doorway Cut Through Between Buildings
Plate 28. Upstairs Corridor
Plate 29. Attic Entrances



Plate 30. Doorways to Corridor & Room 9
 Asymmetrical Door Frame
Plate 31. Upstairs Corridor
Plate 32. Attic Hatchway Showing Stonework



Plate 33. Room 5 Showing General Room Layout and Bay Doors/ Windows

Plate 34. Bay Doors/ Windows

Plate 35. Room 5 Showing General Room Layout

Plate 36. Detail of Bay Window



37.



38.



39.



40.



41.

Plate 37. Room 6 Bathroom
Plate 38. Room 6 Bathroom
Plate 39. Room 6 1930's Detailing
Plate 40. Linen Closet Room 7
Plate 41. Linen Closet Room 7



Plate 42. Room 8 Facing Room 7

Plate 43. Room 8 Facing Market Street

Plate 44. Room 10 Showing Structural Damage

Plate 45. Room 9

6.2.2.2 Ground Floor (Plates 46 – 59 & Figure 32)

The ground floor has been heavily modified and structural wall/architectural features have been largely removed. This has been in favour of creating larger open spaces for use as a bar/restaurant. This level of the property had been extended to the rear although these extension areas were unsafe and it was not possible to record them. Part of this extension was to incorporate a stable (dated c.1838) into the main property. When this was undertaken the pitched roof was replaced and a second storey added.

Room 11 (Plates 46 -49)

Room 11 was the ground floor area which covered 91 & 93 Market Street and is believed to have been used as a restaurant area for the Crown Inn. As with much of the remainder of the building this room is largely devoid of early features and the doors and windows in the street elevation are modern replacements. The bay window to the rear appears to have had doors added to it but it was not possible to get close access to this area as it was partially blocked.

Stairway (Plates 50 – 51)

An early, possibly original, straight stairway leads from the central front doorway up to the first floor level. This is between properties 93 & 95 and discussed above along with the first floor corridor.

Room 12 (Plates 52 – 59)

Room 12 was the Crown Inn bar area and has undergone many modifications over time and the open space seen today bares no resemblance to how this space would once have been utilised. Internal divisions have been removed and the door/windows are modern replacements. It is possible that some early features such as fireplaces are covered by modern finishes but the scope for this is limited. A single early feature, a set of wooden steps, was noted behind the bar (plate 58).

Leading off room 12 were a number of additional rooms which were not safe to access.



Plate 46. Ground Floor Room 11



Plate 48. Ground Floor Room 11



Plate 50. Stairs
From Ground Floor



Plate 47. Ground Floor Room 11



Plate 49. Ground Floor Room 11



Plate 51. Stairs
From Ground Floor



Plate 52. Front Door
And Doorway to
Room 11



Plate 53. Stairway
To Basement
Level



Plate 54. Room 12 - Bar Area
Facing Market Street



Plate 55. Room 12 Facing Unsafe
Rear Building Element



Plate 56. Rear
Of the Bar

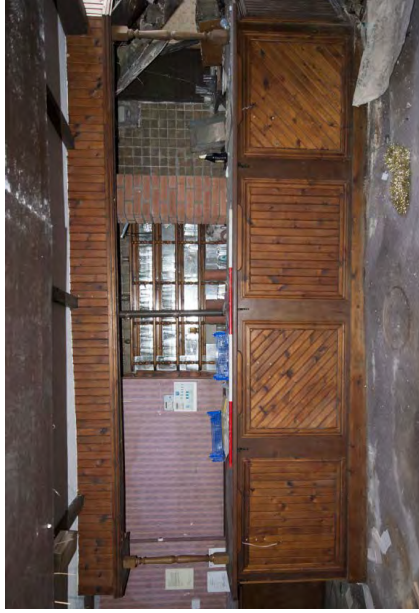


Plate 57. Modern Bar Area in Room 12



Plate 58. Concealed
Steps Behind Bar



Plate 59. Room 12 Showing Bar
And Rear of Room

6.2.2.3 Basement Level (Plates 60 – 82 & Figure 33)

The basement level of the Crown Inn is extensive and although this floor is below the street level adjacent to Market Street the ground level to the rear of the property is lower allowing for windows and doors to be incorporated into the rear elevation.

This level has been used as accommodation and as kitchens and at the basement level does retain a number of early features (albeit in very poor repair) although as with the remainder of the building this area has been greatly modified.

Room 13 (Plates 60 – 65)

Room 13 lies beneath Room 11. The door and window in the rear elevation are not believed to be of an early date although the porch itself and the terracotta tiles leading into the room are thought to be late Victorian. There was a blocked fireplace in this room although modern cement obscured all details.

Room 14 (Plates 66 – 71)

Room 14 can be accessed via a stairway from the bar area. These stairs are in an early/original position although the banisters/stair rail are more modern and similar to those used on the stairway between the ground and first floor level. This room contained an early twentieth century glazed brick fireplace (plate 67) which was the only fireplace in the building to have survived.

The rear elevation would have originally been the back wall of the property and contained a badly damaged horned sash window believed to date to the later nineteenth century. The panes in the window would have been arranged in a four over four pattern although the glass is a modern replacement and some of the earlier glazing bars have been removed. A later extension was added behind this wall and the windows have been painted to give privacy to the occupants.

Room 15 (Plate 72)

Room 15 was a small closet of little note.

Room 16 (Plates 73 – 74)

Room 16 contained no features of note and was blocked to the rear.

Room 17 (Plates 75 – 77)

Room 17 was originally part of the rear yard which had been recently enclosed to provide a covered area and toilets for the public house. The windows in Rooms 14 & 18 were painted in.

Room 18 (Plates 78 - 80)

Room 18 was used as a kitchen area and contained no features of note. The room was unsafe to enter properly.

Room 19 (Plates 80 – 82)

From the area which could be safely accessed Room 19 appeared to contain no features of note. It was unsafe to access to examine the stairs.



Plate 60. Basement Level Room 13.
Market Street Elevation



Plate 61. Basement Level Room 13.
Rear Elevation and Porch



Plate 62. Room 13.
View From Porch



Plate 63. Basement Level Room 13. Note
Blocked Doorway in Corner and Blocked Fireplace



Plate 64. Basement Level Room 13.



Plate 65. Porch at
Rear of Room 13



Plate 66. Room 14.
Cupboard Beneath
Stairway



Plate 67. Basement Room 14



Plate 68. Early Twentieth Century Fireplace
In Basement Room 14



Plate 69. Sash Window in Rear Wall of Room 14



Plate 70. Sash Window Detailed Photograph



Plate 71. Sash
Window Detailed
Photograph



Plate 72. Basement Room 15 - Pantry

Plate 73. Basement Room 16

Plate 74. Basement Room 16

Plate 75. Basement Room 17 - Originally
A Courtyard Which was Later
Enclosed

Plate 76. Basement Room 17

Plate 77. Basement Room 17



78.



79.



80.

Plate 78. Basement Room 18

Plate 79. Basement Room 18
Kitchen Area

Plate 80. Doorway Between
Rooms 18 & 19



81.



82.

Plate 81. Basement Room 19

Plate 82. Basement Room 19

7.0 Conclusion

Documentary research has shown that 91-95 Market Street was built between 1769 and 1802 and that the building range was built as a single block of up to four houses. It is believed that the properties were originally intended to be for domestic use and later became used for retail. The portion of the building which was later to become 95 Market Street was utilised as an inn/public house from at least 1849 onwards and the upper sections of the block were not incorporated into the Crown Inn until relatively late in the twentieth century.

Holyhead's boom years of the nineteenth century were reflected in building improvements during this period and the majority of the architectural features which survive date from the later part of this century.

Unfortunately during recent years (since c.1950) the property has undergone several less than sympathetic modifications and the vast majority of internal features of any antiquity have been removed. The interior layout reflects little of the original floor plans and the removal of load bearing walls has compromised the structural integrity of the building.

There are however some surviving late nineteenth century features – in particular sash windows to the rear of the property, although these are generally in a very poor state of repair and are likely to require replacing should any restoration be undertaken. Early interior doors in the upper levels along with some architraves also survive and the odd angles used in the doorframe/door construction does add character to the property.

The building exterior has been altered with the removal of two chimney stacks, modifications to the lower front elevation and the replacement of all windows and doors on the street facing elevation. Unsympathetic material has been utilised as cladding on the building façade and in its current state it is difficult for observers to determine the true age of the property.

There is however a positive attribute to this property and it does contribute to the overall character of Market Street. The relatively low roof height in comparison with neighbouring buildings does enhance the sense of the piecemeal development of the street and were the modern cladding to be removed the façade would be in-keeping with the modest sub-classical style characteristic of buildings of this period in North-west Wales.

The poor condition and appearance of the structure has a negative impact on the Market Street vista which is particularly lamentable giving the prominent position of the Crown Inn at the entrance to the Holyhead Conservation Area. It is the opinion of the report authors that the significance of this structure has been severely compromised by the removal/deterioration of so much of the historic fabric and what remains is little more than a shell. It may therefore be considered disproportionate to expend large sums of money in renovating/restoring this property in order to simply replicate what no longer survives. It may be considered more appropriate to redevelop the plot within the same footprint, maintaining the original height than to attempt to recreate what has already been lost.

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Archive Material (Sourced from Anglesey Archives, Llangefni)

W/CD/373	1868 Map of Holyhead
WDB-70-2-C	1923 Photograph Showing Unveiling of Holyhead Cenotaph
Wmaps/52/1	1820 Estate Map
WMaps53	Sketch Map of the Town Drawn by Lewis Morris in 1737
WSD/421	1769 Print of the Market Place, Holyhead
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
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1924	Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map

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Appendix A.

Structural Report Produced by Chris Pike Associates 2012