

THE ALDERNEY SOCIETY

OFFICE Copy

BUILDINGS
OF THE ISLAND OF

ALDERNEY

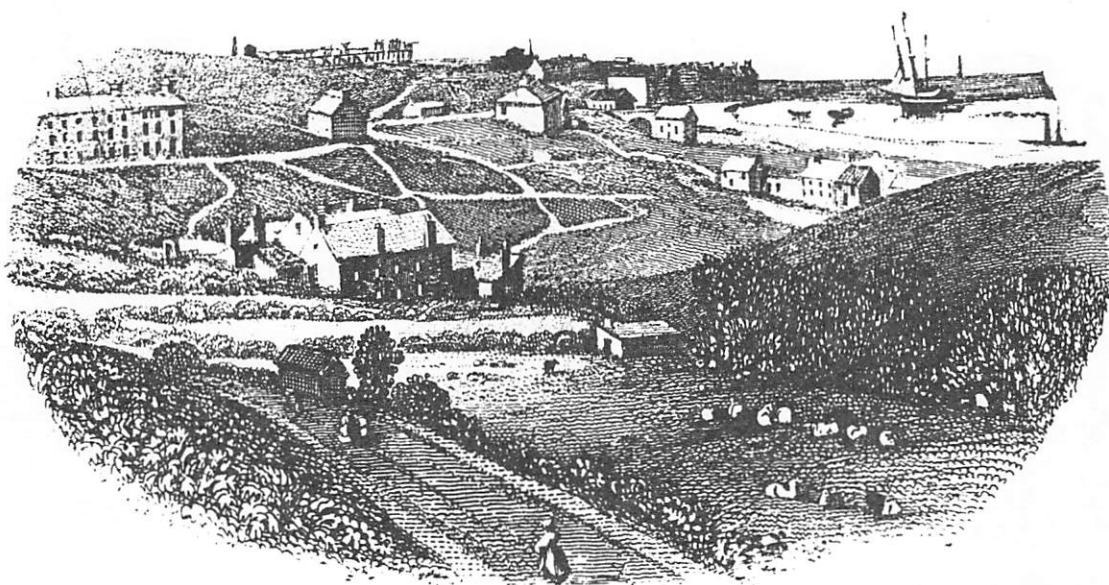
C.E.B. BRETT



THE ALDERNEY SOCIETY

BUILDINGS OF THE ISLAND OF

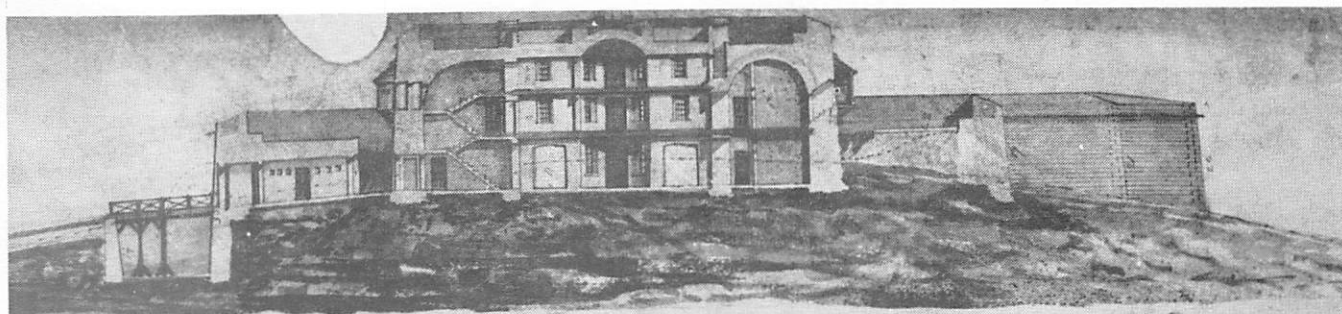
ALDERNEY



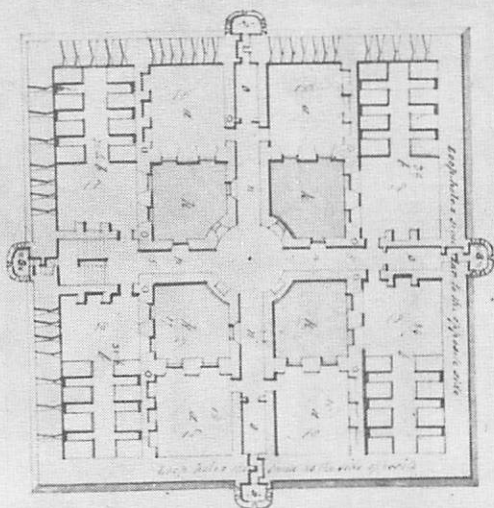
1. "Braye Harbour from New Town" in 1851.

Compiled for the Alderney Society
August 1975–March 1976
by
C.E.B. Brett

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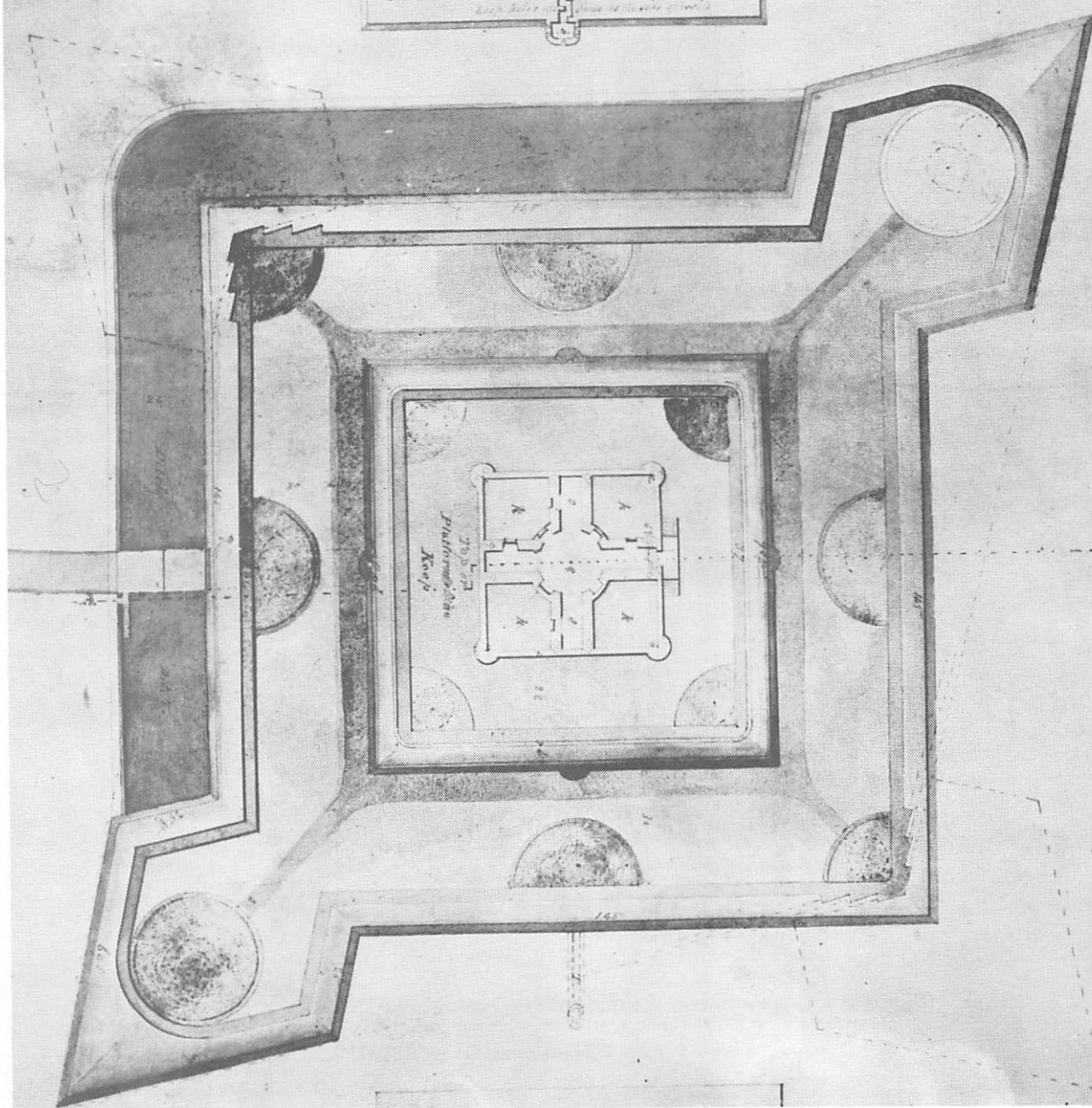


SECTION thro' PLAN on the LINE. A.B.



PLAN of the Outer Works

B.O.



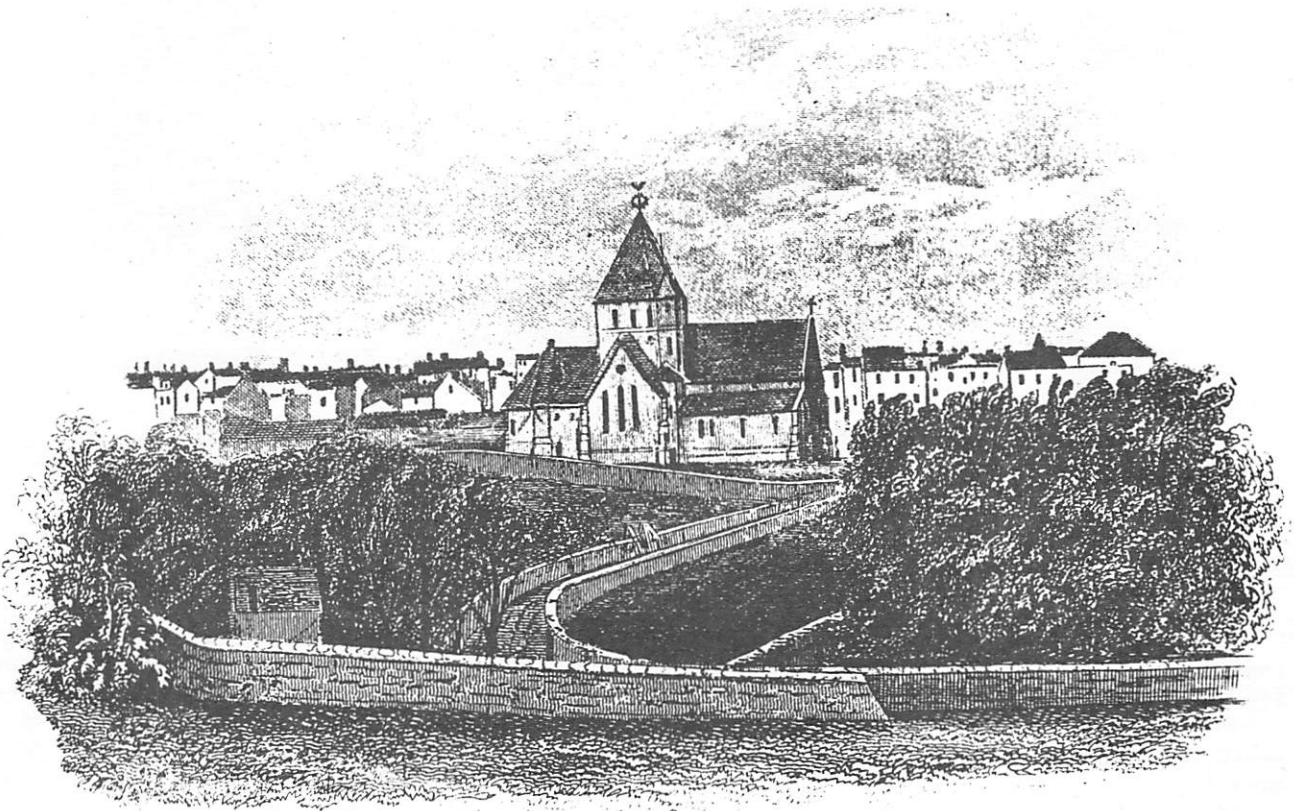
PREFACE

By J. Kay-Mouat, President of the States of Alderney.

Architecture - like politics - has always been a compromise between the desirable and the possible. In Alderney extremes have been emphasised by the sharp contrast between the unpretentious local housing and the imposing structures put up by the British Government during the last century when there was a possibility that Alderney might become a key to the naval blockade of Cherbourg. More recently, the taste of those seeking tranquil retirement from England in this Island has had a significant effect upon the appearance of its post-war buildings.

We are very much indebted to the Alderney Society for inviting Mr C.E.B. Brett to review the architecture of this Island. Mr Brett was a founder of the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, which has published some 30 volumes on the buildings of Ireland; and he is now well known in the Channel Islands for his recent work on the Town and Parish of St Peter Port. Although an outsider, he has come to this Island as a guest, who has enabled us for the first time to see our architecture through the eyes of an authoritative and disinterested spectator. I hope this survey will enable us to plan future building on this Island with greater regard for our past successes, and to avoid some of the pitfalls exemplified by past failures.

Jan Kay-Mouat

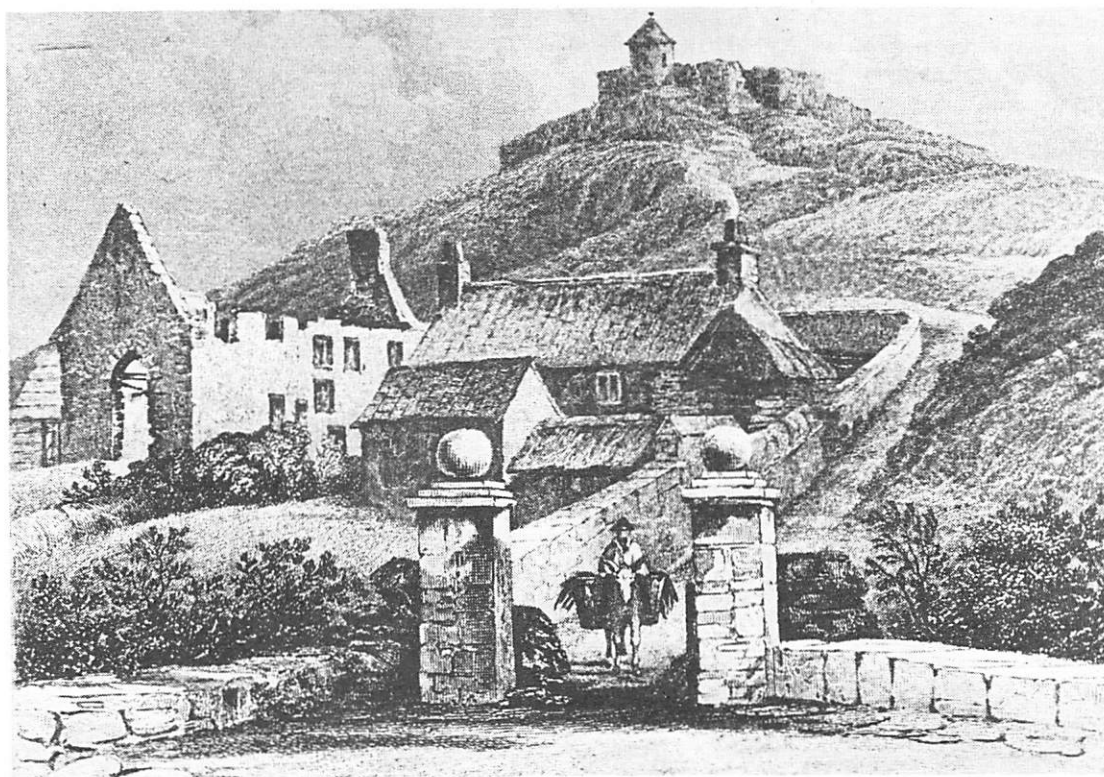


*Opposite: 2: "Project for a Place of Arms for Touraille", design of 1830 (unexecuted) by the Guernsey architect John Wilson; from the original in the Public Record Office, London, reference MPH 722.
Above: 3: "The Church and Town of Alderney" in 1851.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR ILLUSTRATIONS

The print reproduced on the front cover, and plates Nos. 17 and 55, are from originals in the collection of the Alderney Museum. Plate 2, the elaborate drawing by John Wilson, is reproduced by permission of the Public Record Office, London. The engravings from Louisa Lane Clarke's Guide at Nos. 1, 3, and 51; the Shepherd print at No. 4; and the vignettes by Thomas Carey (from Jacob's Annals) on the last page, are all reproduced from photographs taken by Mr Brian Green of originals in the Guille-Allès Library, Guernsey. Nos. 15, 16, 26, 35, 39, 40, and 56 are reproduced from photographs taken by Mr Brian Green of originals in the Priaulx Library, Guernsey. Nos. 6, 13 and 24 are from the private collection of Mr Victor Coysh. The plan at No. 50 comes from the Transactions of the Institute of Civil Engineers, in the collection of Mr John Winckworth. The photographs numbered 10, 14, 23, 25, 28, 34, 53, 54, and 59 are by Mr Brian Green. I have been unable to trace the author of No. 7 (the Big Wave), but I hope he will forgive me for reproducing this remarkable photograph. All the remaining photographs, including that on the back cover of the doorcase of Val des Portes, were specially taken by Mr Ken Wilson.

I should like to record my thanks to all those named above: particularly to Mr Brian Green, and also Mr Edmund Lenfestey, for their diligent researches in the two Guernsey libraries; and to Mr Ken Wilson for many hours spent on the ground and in the dark-room.



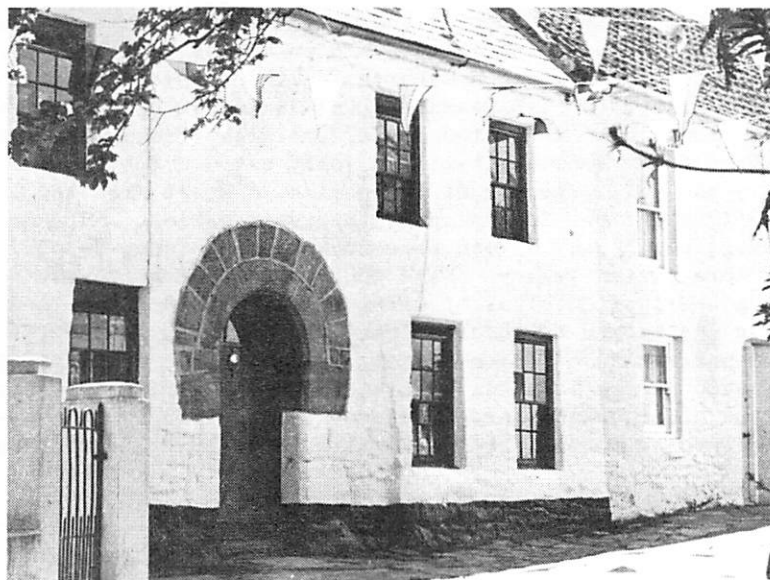
"Ruins of Essex Castle" by G. S. Shepherd, 1840 (No 30j)

THE AUTHOR

C.E.B. Brett, a former history scholar of New College, Oxford, worked for a year in Paris after leaving University. He has been chairman of the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society since its formation in 1967; a member of the Northern Ireland Committee of the National Trust since 1956; and in 1976 was appointed a member of the Council of the Trust. He is the author of books on 'The Buildings of Belfast' and 'Court Houses and Market Houses of Ulster'. He has been a joint author of six of the Society's publications, sole author of another five, and has acted as general editor of the series. His Survey of the Buildings of St Peter Port, prepared at the invitation of the National Trust of Guernsey, appeared in 1975. A practising solicitor in Belfast, he is an honorary member of the Royal Society of Ulster Architects. He is also a member of the Board of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, and of the Board of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

ABBREVIATIONS & SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| ACTES | Actes des Etats |
| ANDROS | Andros, A.C., <i>Reminiscences</i> , Guernsey, 1902 |
| ANSTED | Ansted, D.T., and Latham, R.G., <i>The Channel Islands</i> , London, 1862 |
| A.S.Q.B. | Alderney Society Quarterly Bulletin |
| BICHARD | Richard's Guide, Guernsey, n.d. |
| BLACK | Black's Guide, 1876 |
| BOLAND | Boland, H., <i>Les Iles de la Manche</i> , 1904 |
| CLARKE | Clarke, L.L., <i>The Alderney Guide</i> , London, 1851 |
| COCHRANE | Cochrane, J.J., <i>Guide to Island of Guernsey</i> , 1826 |
| COYSH | Coysh, V., <i>Alderney</i> , Newton Abbot, 1974 |
| COYSH, Defences | Coysh, V., <i>Nineteenth Century Defences in the Channel Islands</i> , S.G., 1968 |
| COYSH, Afoot | Coysh, V., <i>Afoot in Alderney</i> , St Peter Port, 1969 |
| CRUICKSHANK | Cruikshank, C., <i>German Occupation of the Channel Islands</i> , 1975 |
| DERRICK | Derrick, G.T., <i>The Antiquities of Alderney</i> , S.G., 1906 |
| EWEN | Ewen, A.H., <i>Essex Castle and the Chamberlain family</i> , S.G., 1957 |
| EWEN | Ewen, A.H., <i>The Town of St Anne, Alderney</i> , S.G., 1958 |
| G.E.P. | Guernsey Evening Press |
| G.S. | Société Guernesiaise, Transactions |
| GUIDE | Official Guide to Alderney, 1973 ed. |
| HUGO | Hugo, V., <i>L'Archipel de la Manche</i> , 1883 |
| I.C.E. | Proceedings of Institution of Civil Engineers |
| I.L.N. | Illustrated London News |
| INGLIS | Inglis, H.D., <i>The Channel Islands</i> , London, 1835; second ed. 1837 |
| JACOB | Jacob, J., <i>Annals of the British Norman Isles</i> , Paris, 1830 |
| KENDRICK | Kendrick, T.D., <i>Archaeology of the Channel Islands</i> , London, 1928 |
| LE CERF | Le Cerf, T., <i>L'Archipel des Iles Normandes</i> , Paris, 1863 |
| LUCAS | Lucas, A.H.S., ed., <i>An Alderney Scrapbook</i> , Guernsey, 1972 |
| MAURICE-JONES | Maurice-Jones, K.W., <i>History of Coast Artillery in the British Army</i> , London, 1959 |
| McCULLOCH | McCulloch, E., and Métivier, W.P., <i>Jurisdiction of Royal Court of Guernsey over the island of Alderney</i> , 1938 |
| ORDERS | Orders in Council |
| PACKE & DREYFUS | Packe, M. St. J., and Dreyfus, M., <i>The Alderney Story</i> , 1939-1949, Guernsey, 1971 |
| P.C. | Privy Council, White Paper on the Island of Alderney, 1949 |
| PRIaulx | Documents in Priaulx Library, St Peter Port, Guernsey |
| P.R.O. | Documents in Public Record Office, London |
| R.E.J. | Royal Engineers Journal (obituary, Lt.Gen. Sir W.F.D. Jervois, 1 December, 1897) |
| SYMONS | Symons, A.N., ed., <i>History of Alderney</i> , from Ms. of E.A.W. Martin, 1770, S.G., 1937 |
| TUPPER | Tupper, F.B., <i>Sarnia</i> , 2nd ed., Guernsey, 1862 |
| VALLAUX | Vallaux, C., <i>L'Archipel de la Manche</i> , 1913 |
| WOOD | Wood, C.W., <i>The Channel Islands</i> , in <i>Argosy Magazine</i> , London, 1864 |



5. House with "Norman" arch in La Trigale (No. 21a)

COMPILER'S INTRODUCTION

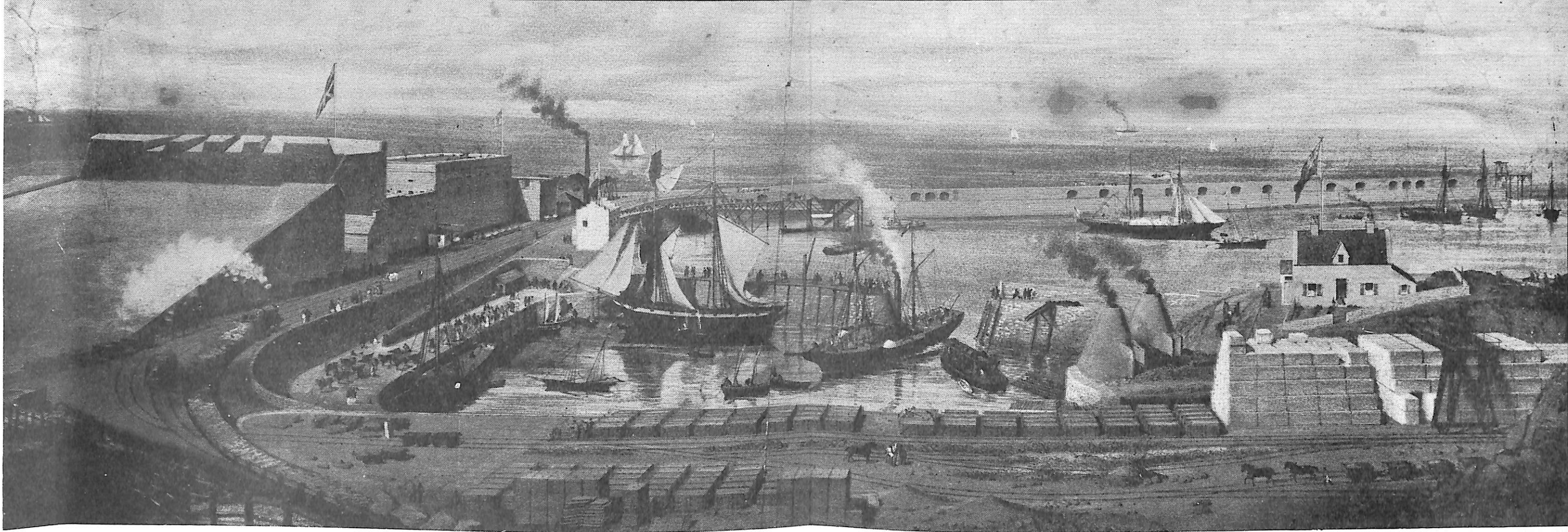
I felt very much honoured by the invitation, extended to me just over a year ago by the Alderney Society, to prepare a survey of the buildings of the island. Two years ago, I enjoyed writing about the island of Rathlin, off the north coast of Ireland - an island about four times the size of Alderney, but supporting today a population of only about 100. Two years ago also, I paid my first visit to the Channel Islands, when I started work on a survey of the buildings of St Peter Port for the National Trust of Guernsey. Though at the outset a total stranger, and still certainly an outsider, I have come to like very much indeed both the buildings and the hospitable and friendly people of the Channel Islands. I greatly hope this publication may prove useful both to the inhabitants of Alderney and to visitors.

I came to Alderney first in August, 1975; made a preliminary survey of the island's buildings; and prepared a first rough draft of the list which follows. During the autumn and winter months, this draft was circulated amongst a number of knowledgeable residents and local historians. Many useful comments and corrections were received, and much research into the literary and documentary evidence was undertaken by this team of helpers. My particular thanks are due to Ken and Peggy Wilson, of the Alderney Museum; to John Winckworth, who has amassed much information about the Victorian fortifications, the breakwater, and the garrison; to Victor Coysh of Guernsey, the knowledgeable author of the standard book on Alderney; to Edmund Lenfestey of Guernsey, who carried out very extensive researches into the papers to be found in the Priaulx and Guille-Allès libraries in St Peter Port; and to Maurice Ouseley, of the Guernsey Society, who tracked down many interesting plans and documents relating to the fortifications in the Public Record Office, London. I received help also from many other individuals in relation to specific queries, and my thanks are due to all of them.

I returned to the island for a rather more extended visit in February, 1976, as the guest of Ken and Peggy Wilson. I looked again at pretty well every building; some of my first impressions were revised; some omissions were rectified. It was, I think, a good thing to have visited the island both at the height of the tourist season, and in mid-winter. I hope that the survey which follows represents a fair and balanced assessment of Alderney's charms and defects, at least so far as appearances go.

I am very conscious, however, that the tastes and opinions of an outsider may be resented by residents as the impertinences of an intruding busybody. Questions of appearance - and this list is concerned almost exclusively with the contributions which individual buildings make to the overall visual amenity of the island - are very much questions of personal taste. I am far from expecting everybody to share my own taste, and no doubt some people will strongly disagree with some of the views I have expressed. Indeed, some of my comments may give offence. I can only plead that I have done my utmost to be entirely honest, both in paying compliments and in making adverse criticisms; as a stranger I have been able to keep clear of all personal and other local pressures; and I have been in no instance swayed by malice or political considerations.

There are, in fact, very few buildings of the first rank, architecturally speaking, in Alderney. The handful of surviving large Georgian houses - the Sauchet House, Les Mouriaux House, the Island Hall, Val des Portes - (though each in its own way charming) have in common a certain provincial character, as is indeed only to be expected. The principal Victorian contributions to the scene, the great breakwater and the series of fortresses, are alike today somewhat battered: only Sir G.G.Scott's parish church of St Anne survives in the full grandeur of the period. Apart from the lighthouse, there is no important building of the Edwardian or inter-war period. The German occupation has left an uncomfortable legacy of concrete bunkers and strong-points. The post-war years have left a more varied legacy. The conversion of Fort Corblets by the late F.R.S. Yorke; the new Mignot Hospital by Oxford Design Partnership: these two are the only major works on the island by modern architects of acknowledged standing. The series of standard-pattern Home Office houses, erected after the liberation to replace island homes destroyed by the Germans, have stood the test of time remarkably well: they fit in well with the older houses, and have proved surprisingly flexible in use. Recent States housing designed by Roger Warren also fits in with the traditional environment



ALDERNEY BREAKWATER (No. 29c)

Above, 6, "This view of the Harbour of Refuge and Fortification Works shewing 1300 feet of the Western Breakwater, as completed in the Autumn of 1852. The length of the Breakwater will be 3500 feet"; from the print by G. S. Reynolds after a painting by the Guernsey artist Paul Naftel.

Below, in contrast, 7, a recent photograph of a wave breaking over the mole; the little Harbour House in the centre of the picture is still standing. The ugly granite-crusher on the right was happily demolished (with much difficulty) in 1972.



very comfortably and harmoniously. The same cannot be said of the majority of the houses and bungalows built in recent years by those who have come to spend their retirement on the island. Most of these are mediocre, a few exotic, almost all inappropriately suburban in appearance.

Apart from the gaunt and romantic series of Victorian forts, the most significant element in the island's character is the individual style of the older houses of the town of St Anne, and of the old waterfront at Braye. These houses were mostly built between 1750 and 1850 in a very pleasing local vernacular style: stone walls, sometimes colour-washed; roofs of slate, stone slabs, or pantiles; simple door-cases, sash windows divided by astragals into the typical Georgian glazing-pattern, modest unobtrusive dormers lighting the roof-space; and a delightful local idiosyncrasy, wide segmental-headed windows divided by glazing-bars in the charming pointed Gothick manner. A great number of houses of this kind survive, but too many have been altered for the worse. Sometimes, by the insertion of clumsy shop-windows; in a few instances, by the substitution of plate-glass for the old sub-divided window patterns; all too often, by the enlargement of dormers - in itself, reasonable enough: but in too many cases the new dormers are too large, arranged asymmetrically, and sub-divided asymmetrically; the result is that some fine old houses now appear both top-heavy and lop-sided. It is not too late, however, to arrest this process of deterioration. Nor is it too late to set about tidying up the clutter of wires, poles, aerials, and other distractions which offend the eye, especially in the High Street.

This survey was originally envisaged as a complement to the Projet de Loi entitled 'The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments (Preservation) (Alderney) Law, 1975'. This Law, if passed, would have empowered the Building and Development Control Committee of the States of Alderney to designate any building as being of special historic, architectural, traditional, artistic, or archaeological interest; and to designate as a conservation area any area of special historic or architectural interest. However, the Projet, as drafted, was considered an undue invasion on the rights of the individual citizen, and was voted out by the States in the autumn of 1975.

I very much hope that the Projet may sooner or later be reintroduced, perhaps with amendments to meet the views of those who objected to it, and that the island's legislators may ultimately accept the methods of conservation now employed in most of the British Isles and much of the continent of Europe. If so, in my opinion the town of St Anne is worthy to be designated a conservation area; and it would appear logical to include in the designated area the buildings abutting on the Rue de Braye and the Route de Braye which link the town to the harbour.

Whether or not this comes about - and I certainly have no wish to interfere in the internal politics of Alderney - I think that St Anne is a town of great merit, which well deserves a concerted effort to retain its character. Both residents and visitors will be the losers - and indeed, its attraction to tourists will be much reduced - if its present appearance is allowed to deteriorate as a result of insufficiently-considered modernisation and "improvement". I hope this Survey may cause all concerned with the future of the island to look with fresh eyes at their surroundings: and that, having looked afresh, they will see to it that future changes enhance, rather than detract from, the charm of Alderney.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Alderney (Aurigny in French) is the most northerly of the Channel Islands; it is also the nearest to France. Normandy lies only eight miles away to the east; the port of Cherbourg is only 25 miles from the harbour at Braye. Weymouth is 60 miles to the north. The Casquets rocks lie eight miles to the west; Guernsey, 24 miles to the south-west; Jersey 30 miles, the coast of Brittany 70 miles, due south.

The island is somewhat tadpole-shaped, its head towards the Atlantic, its tail towards the Cotentin. It is some three and a half miles long; little more than half a mile broad at its narrowest point. There are sandy bays at its waist, but the head is cliff-bound, the tail rocky; both are strung about with islands, rock-stacks and reefs. The highest point on the island is just under 300 feet above sea-level. The central saddle, or Blaye - (Blé?) - has been cultivated for centuries: it is "a definitely marked-out area of 453 acres in extent, on a plateau which is blessed with some of the best soil in the Channel Islands." Most of the rest of the island is covered with outcrops of rock, gorse, brambles, bracken, ivy and thin grass.

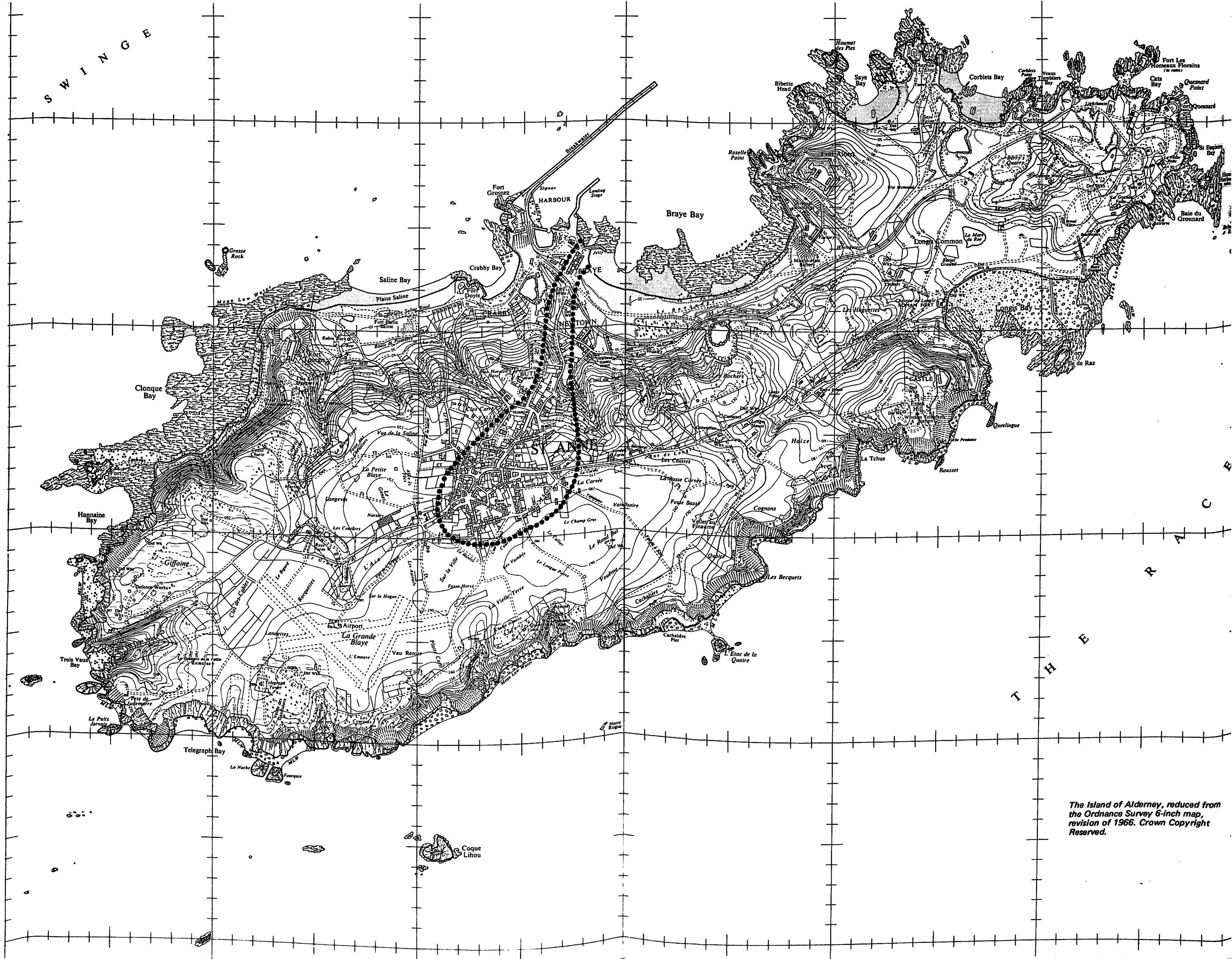
Alderney is guarded on all sides by rocks and reefs. Victor Hugo commented: "Chacune des trois îles-mères" (Alderney, Guernsey, Jersey) "a autour d'elle ce qu'on pouvait nommer ses poussins d'ilôts. Aurigny a Burhou, Ortach, et les Casquets." The deep channel to the north of Alderney, between it and Burhou, is named the Swinge - sometimes in old maps or documents, the Singe, or Monkey; that to the south-east, between the island and Cap de la Hague, the Race. There are formidable tide-rips and overfalls in both channels.

Only a few miles to the northward lies the main east-bound shipping lane of the English Channel. From the Butes, a little inland from the harbour, may be seen a ceaseless procession of shipping sliding across the horizon, not quite hull-down. Unwary navigators who stray southward of the main highway may find themselves all too soon in trouble; the Casquets are at least as redoubtable as the Scillies, and have seen as many shipwrecks.

Alderney differs considerably in character from the other Channel Islands. Guernsey, Jersey, even Sark, are domesticated; cosy; sheltered; (dare one say?) a little smug after centuries of cultivation and prosperity. Alderney is brisker and more bracing: there is always a wind off the sea: its character has perhaps been best caught by French commentators. Boland wrote, in 1904, "La campagne auregnaise offre un aspect très différent de celles de Jersey et de Guernesey. Elle est moins habillée, moins pomponnée." And Camille Vallaux, in 1913: "Aurigny... est une terre sévère et triste, où il semble qu'il existe une harmonie préétablie entre les lignes et les formes du sol, simples jusqu'à la monotonie, et les angles bastionnés des forteresses..."

The charge of monotony is perhaps less than just, for the shoreline of the island is extremely varied. But there is certainly an austerity about its physical structure which contrasts with the lush vegetation and the greenhouse crops of the other islands - the "pots de fleurs" as Victor Hugo dubbed them. There are few trees on Alderney, save in sheltered glens and valleys; where gardens exist - and there are some admirable ones - they are the result of diligent nurture and attention; over most of the island, the landscape is dominated by cliffs and outcrops of granite and sandstone, by sand, and by the hardy vegetation which flourishes in such surroundings. There is a touch of the Hebrides about Alderney; one can imagine Mendelssohn composing an Alderney Overture (not that he did) whereas a symphony from his pen on Jersey or Guernsey is somehow inconceivable.

The history of Alderney is, until a comparatively recent period, obscure. Of its prehistory there are visible remains at Tourgis and Les Huguettes; more no doubt wait to be discovered. There are records of very extensive Bronze Age burial sites on several of the island's headlands, but these have disappeared to make way for Victorian fortifications and, more recently, for German forced-labour camps and bunkers. Lieutenant Gordon RE - later to become General Gordon of Khartoum - found a "splendid bronze halberd-blade, that looks like an importation from Ireland" at Chateau l'Etoc. Some remains of the Roman period have been found; just possibly the building now known as the Nunnery (No. 37) may be built on Roman foundations, but the evidence is inconclusive. Apart perhaps from the successive layers of building at this site, there are no surviving evidences on the island of the early Christian, Viking or Norman periods. Indeed, though the nearest to France, Alderney is the least Norman of the Channel Islands. Victor Hugo commented: "La France a été longtemps sans apercevoir Auregny sur sa côte; Auregny en effet ne tient dans l'histoire de Normandie qu'une place imperceptible." There is one house in the Trigale with a stone doorway of the kind called "Norman" (No. 21a), but this cannot be earlier than 17th century, and is more probably later. The use of the Aurigny patois - an individual version of Norman-French - died out in the mid-nineteenth century,



The Island of Alderney, reduced from the Ordnance Survey 6-inch map, revision of 1966. Crown Copyright Reserved.

although the use of patois survives still in rural districts of Guernsey and Jersey. That it survived at all in Alderney was attributed by Le Cerf, writing in 1863, to the smuggling trade: "Il est heureux, pour les sources de la philologie, que le paysan d'Auregny soit quelque peu contrebandier ce qui lui permettra d'entretenir pour longtemps encore, avec nos côtes de Normandie, les échanges de ses produits et les rapports de langage dont l'origine est commune."

Documentary evidence is sparse. All the public records of the island were destroyed during the German occupation. There are, however, 11th century charters evidencing the attachment of the island to the Abbey of Mont St Michel, later to the Bishopric of Coutances. Alderney formed part of the Duchy of Normandy, passing later to the Crown of England, without apparently any form of intermediate feudal tenure. Perhaps this is because it was not, at this period, a particularly attractive piece of real estate: remote, windswept, lacking safe anchorages, capable only of supporting the limited population which could subsist on the produce of the Blaye. The gradual development of the island's economy, the "riages" or open-field system, the institutions, and the growth of its only town of St Anne, have all been admirably analysed by Mr A.H.Ewen in the publications of the Société Guernesiaise. Any attempt at a detailed history of the island would be quite out of place here. But it is plain that a small and self-sufficient community was firmly established at quite an early date, and that it exhibited from the earliest times a character of considerable independence. Early in the 14th century the islanders were collectively fined for non-payment of their dues to the Crown; in 1338 Alderney was over-run by the French, but they were successfully ejected and the island community resumed its normal life.

By the middle of the 16th century, the island had assumed a military importance which it has retained intermittently ever since. Pirates and privateers, both French and British, were operating freely in the surrounding waters. The earliest serious fortification of the island was undertaken at Essex Castle (so-called) in 1546, under Henry VIII, and a garrison arrived in 1549 - only months before the seizure of Sark in that year by the French. The appointment of Robert Turberville as Marshal of the island gave rise to much friction with the inhabitants. He and the garrison were removed by Government in 1554, and the half-completed fortifications at Essex Castle and Longis were abandoned. Four years later, a Cherbourg corsair named Malesart took the opportunity to raid Alderney, round up its cattle, and retire with his booty. He later returned to the island, but was overwhelmed by an expedition from Guernsey under the orders of Sir Leonard Chamberlain, whose descendants were rewarded with a confusing series of Crown grants conferring rights over Alderney. These rights gave rise to still more friction with the inhabitants, and their exercise seems to have been not consistently effective; in the 1570's the island was heavily fined again, this time for harbouring pirates.

The lack of an adequate harbour, however, prevented Alderney from becoming a pirate base as conclusively as it prevented the growth of any commercial activity comparable to that of the neighbouring islands. The bay at Longis is sheltered from west winds, that at Braye from east winds, and there must have been some crude pier at each from an early time; but that at Longis was the more important until the building of the first stone jetty at Braye in 1736 by Henry Le Mesurier. The latter derived his title from the Andros family of Guernsey, who in turn had bought the patent of Lieutenant-Governor from the Stuart nominee, Sir George Carteret, a Jerseyman.

The Le Mesurier family exercised some measure of control over the island's affairs from the beginning of the 18th century until the early years of the 19th. Like their predecessors, they found it no easy matter to handle the sturdy islanders, and there were many conflicts. In 1825, the last of the family surrendered his patent to the Treasury in exchange for an annuity, and left the island. His going was regretted by some but not by others. In the meanwhile, the family had brought a fair measure of prosperity to the island through its proclivity for successful and highly profitable privateering: John Le Mesurier, operating partly from Guernsey and partly from Alderney, brought in £212,000 with eight ships in the course of 1779 alone. The jetty at Braye was supplied with tall warehouses, stores and dwellings, built partly from the timbers of captured ships. Most of the grander buildings of the town of St Anne date from this period of comparative prosperity in the second half of the 18th century.

The Napoleonic wars brought military importance back to the island. Quite substantial fortifications (now mostly submerged by later Victorian and German works on the same sites) were built. By 1805, Alderney was defended by batteries of four 24-pounders, twenty-five 20-pounders, and thirty-four 18-pounders, as well as seven large carronades of 68 and 32 pounds. It appears that "The Duke of Wellington held strong views on the importance of the Channel Islands, and of Alderney in particular." For that matter, according to Miss Edith Carey, Napoleon himself described Alderney as "Le bouclier d'Angleterre." Most of the defences were abandoned after the end of the war in 1815, but the Duke's influence was long-lived. In 1830, Colonel Cardew, in command of the engineers in Guernsey, reported to London at length on

proposals for refortification: "The chief Apprehension I believe is, that Alderney from its proximity to the French Coast, might be seized on at the breaking out of a War, before there is time to effectually garrison it." In the following year he forwarded detailed plans and estimates, prepared by John Wilson, the distinguished architect who doubled as Clerk of Works to the Barrack Board in Guernsey, for a "Strong Redoubt with a Keep" at Mount Touraille. "This work I think may be well defended by about 250 men. The Keep, mounted with 4 Guns, is crenelle'd all round, and the base in some Measure protected by four Machicoulis. It affords barrack accommodation for 192 men (besides four officers' rooms)... The Redoubt is large enough to admit of 8 guns... the whole work presenting a Battery of 12 Guns, one third of which can be fired at once in almost every direction." These plans were axed, however, on grounds of economy; Wilson's drawings are inscribed, in a firm and martial hand, "Not Approved."

The present ring of dramatic fortifications encircling the island dates from the 1840's and 1850's. The French had recently enlarged and fortified the nearby naval port of Cherbourg, and by way of retaliation the francophobe Lord Palmerston determined to construct a deep-water fleet anchorage at Braye. This involved the building of an enormous breakwater, originally envisaged as embracing between two stone arms a large area of sheltered water; and a series of defensive fortresses designed to protect the harbour and all the vulnerable points of the island. Between 1847 and 1864 more than a million pounds was spent on the great breakwater - though only 1600 yards of one of its arms had been completed; and about half of this has now been abandoned and constitutes more of a danger, as a concealed man-made reef, than a protection. During the same period over a quarter of a million pounds was spent on the fortifications. All this work was futile from the strategic point of view. The harbour of refuge was quite soon rendered irrelevant by the increase in the size of warships, and the adoption of steam for vessels of all sizes. And the fortifications, probably one of the last major works to be constructed on the classical principles of Vauban, were rendered almost useless by the adoption of the rifled barrel for heavy artillery.

These fortifications remain nonetheless works of great magnificence, imposing and dramatic in their decay. French authors were scathing, but capable nonetheless of a grudging admiration. Vallaux wrote in 1913: "L'architecture formidable et enfantine" (!) "des forts construits sous Palmerston... vieillit les côtes presque autant que les donjons féodaux... La partie fortifiée de l'île, au nord et à l'est, ressemble à un nécropole où les forts feraient autant d'imposants monuments funéraires... On pensera, à la vue du paysage nocturne d'Auregny, que les ingénieurs de Palmerston n'ont pas travaillé tout à fait en vain: ils ont, sans y penser, embelli le rocher où ils ont remué tant de cailloux..." One may take leave to doubt that "sans y penser"; it looks as though Captain Jervois was very conscious of the romantic aspects of his designs. English visitors were more respectful in their comments: the writer of one guide-book remarked in 1876 "It may be regarded as the Ehrenbreitstein of the English Channel" - the reference is to the near-impregnable German fortress on the Rhine.

All these fortifications appear to have been designed and executed by William Jervois, a young engineer officer aged only 30 when he was ordered to Alderney in 1852. It is remarkable that so much discretion, in so major an undertaking, should have been delegated to so junior an officer. Jervois however declined to delegate responsibility (as had previously been the usual practice) to his civilian clerks of works; but several other junior officers - including the still more youthful Lieutenant Gordon - shared in the execution of the work. Though the layout is largely traditional, and the detailing often romantic, new methods and materials were employed to a considerable extent. The upper platforms are largely supported on brick vaulting tied together by iron tie-bars; much use seems to have been made of cast iron, handled mainly by carpenters. By now some of the ironwork has rusted, and restoration is correspondingly more difficult. There are voluminous records in the Public Record Office, London, which would well repay an enquiring research student.

The carrying out of works on this vast scale naturally overturned the whole economy of the island. Until 1850, the population figure seems to have stood pretty steady for several centuries between 1000 and 1500. In 1851, it increased to 3333, of whom less than half were natives of the Channel Islands. The figure reached a peak of almost 5000 in 1861, and then fell back to about 1850 in 1891. It rose to 2500 in 1911, fell again to 1300 in 1951. Today it stands again around 1850. Amongst them, the 1850 inhabitants owned, at the last count, 1050 cars or lorries; 30 tractors; 25 horses; 4 donkeys; 264 cattle; 88 pigs; and 6 private aeroplanes.

Plainly, the social consequences of the mid-19th century influx of English and Irish labourers, and their disappearance twenty years later, were dramatic. In the 1830's the inhabitants lived at a bare subsistence level: "The chief employment of the poor in this island is agriculture and fishing; a few of them only are employed in spinning wool, and in manufacturing it into coarse apparel, but this is trifling... The trade of Alderney may now be said to be scarcely anything, except for the supply of the island... To show the distress of the trade, and want of employment

Saint Anne: reduced from the Ordnance Survey
25-inch map, revision of 1951, part revised 1956,
edition of 1961.
Crown Copyright Reserved.



of the poor, in 1823, it need only be remarked, that there were forty-five houses standing empty, beside store-houses in abundance..." But by 1848, drunkenness was a problem, and police powers had to be extended. The Commissioners on the Criminal Law of the Channel Islands reported "that the quiet and orderly habits of the natives gave little cause for the exercise of summary jurisdiction; however... a great augmentation of the population has taken place by the influx into the Island of workmen... We have received a communication from the Judge of Alderney pointing out the necessity of further powers being extended to the Court..."

But the departure of the workers after 1872 led to renewed depression. When A.C.Andros visited the island in 1885, he found it "desolate... three parts of the houses tenantless and in ruins, the streets grown over with grass and the whole town looking as if the ravages of the plague had left but few survivors - in fact, when after wandering through several deserted streets, we suddenly came upon a crowd of three old ladies and a lame man, our friend suggested there must be a fire somewhere to account for the assembly..." And even in 1864, when the harbour works had only just been suspended, a Mr Charles W. Wood could write: "... The aspect of Alderney is most mournful, most melancholy. It has the appearance of a town once populated, now deserted; the look of a dead city... The town itself is quaint, irregular, without any vestige of beauty. The principal streets are deserted, whether in the morning, at midnight, or in the evening."

Between the 1870's and 1940, life in the island went on very quietly, much as it had for centuries. Vallaux could write just before the first Great War, "En dehors de son rôle militaire avorté, Aureigny n'a pas d'histoire." After 1918, the island gradually developed a modest tourist trade; there was a good deal of unemployment, but the quarries provided work for around 100 men. There was (and is) no other form of commerce or industry. The island's "always puzzling economy" (Packer and Dreyfus) is much like that of the mysterious country whose inhabitants "earned a precarious living by taking in one another's washing."

In 1940, war overwhelmed the island. The story of the years 1939 to 1949 has been very fully recounted elsewhere. Suffice it to say that, on Sunday 23rd June 1940, the entire population of the island was evacuated at short notice. A week later, the German occupying force arrived. Six months afterwards, a German interpreter left a record which echoes that of Andros: "The town of St Anne gave a completely neglected impression. The doors of the houses were open, and all the windows broken. Inside, the houses were indescribable... a picture of complete destruction."

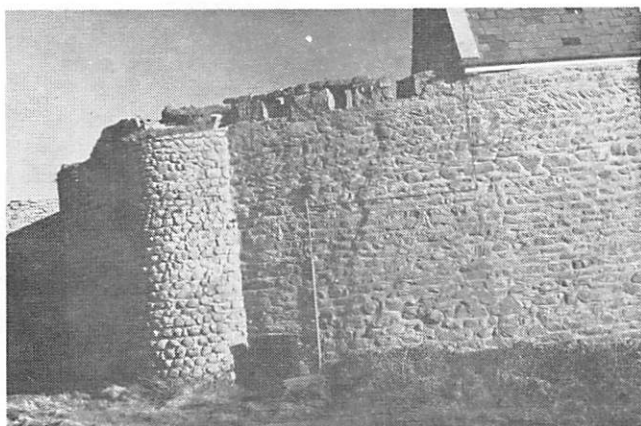
Hitler, however, like Napoleon and the Duke of Wellington before him, attached enormous strategic importance to the Channel Islands in general and Alderney in particular. He embarked on a staggering programme of fortification. A large part of the resources - in trained troops, labour, steel, concrete, and armaments - available for the defence of the Atlantic Wall, was tied up in the Channel Islands: by 1944 they had between them 11 heavy batteries and 38 strongpoints, compared to the same number of batteries and 37 strongpoints for the 1000-kilometre stretch of coast from Dieppe to St Nazaire. And if a disproportionate percentage of Hitler's defences was tied up in the Channel Islands, a disproportionate percentage of that percentage was tied up in Alderney. In 1944, the German garrison numbered 3200. And in addition there was a population of slave-workers, under the Organization Todt, of between 2500 and 3000, engaged on the construction of the new defence works. Investigations after the war concluded that, though conditions were harsh and brutal, there were no organised mass murders. But the camps of Alderney had nonetheless an unsavoury reputation, and the little Memorial (No. 33) to those who died there is one of the most moving places on the island.

Although the Germans did much damage, not everything they did was for the worse. In order to support a population four times that of the pre-war years, they installed mains water and electric light. Some of those returning to their homes after the Liberation found nothing but desolation and destruction; others found unexpected improvements. The most prominent contributions made by the Germans to the appearance of the island were the gaunt but imposing control tower on Mannez Garenne (No. 35); the hideous water tower which dominates the streets of St Anne (No. 13b); and innumerable concrete bunkers and batteries intricately imposed upon the pattern of the Victorian fortresses.

The process of reconstruction was slow and laborious. The Home Office helped by building 32 new houses, to replace those destroyed by the Germans. These, built to a standard pattern, are quite pleasant if a little undistinguished; they lend a welcome homogeneity to the otherwise rather anarchical post-war development of the rural parts of the island. The great majority of the pre-war inhabitants returned to pick up the threads of life as best they might. By degrees they were joined by a number of independent-minded people who resented the disciplines and restrictions (not to mention the taxation) of post-war Britain. There is still a steady trickle of immigrants, largely retired people, who are in a position to make a

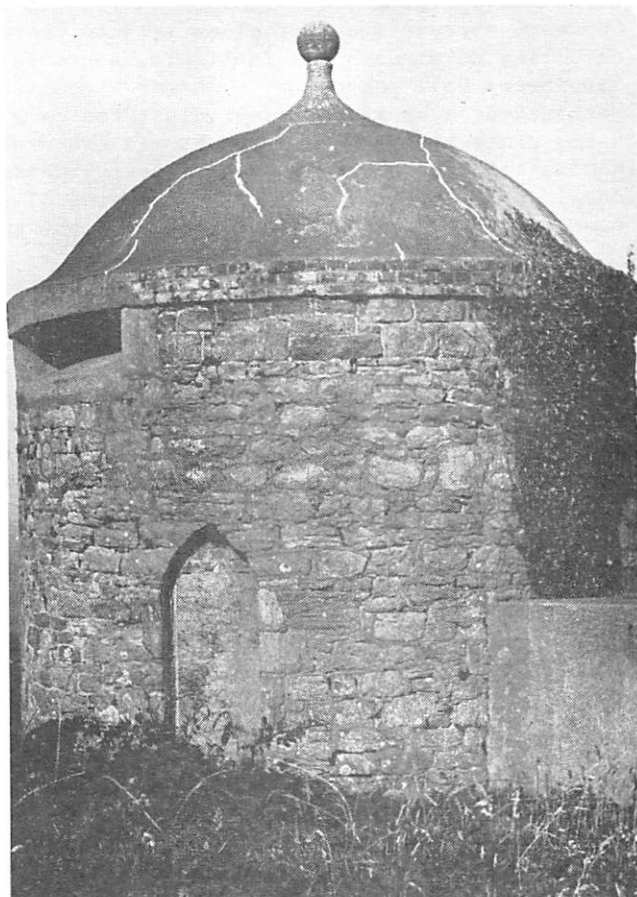


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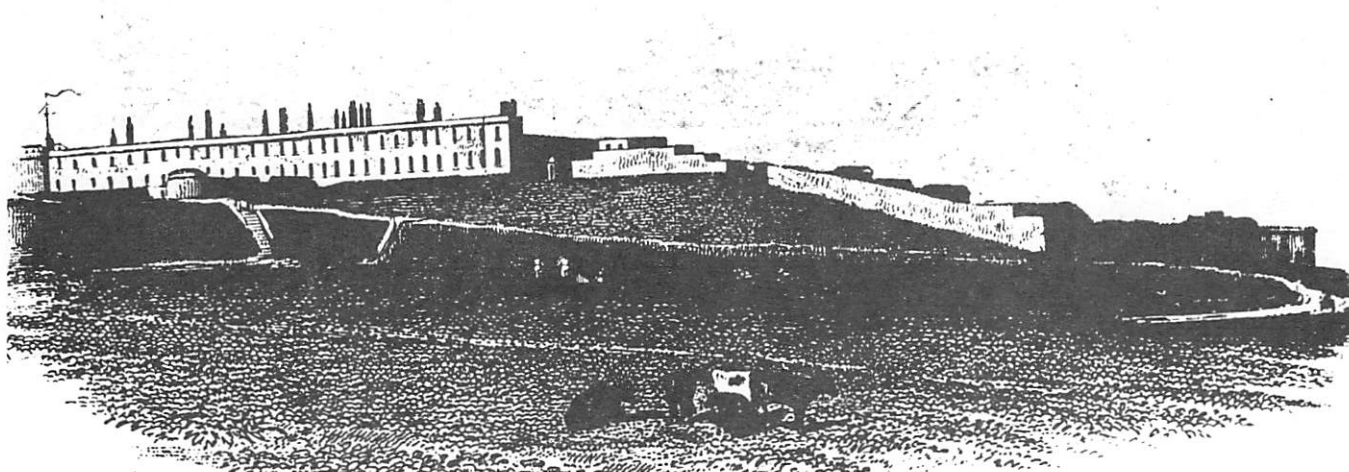
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10. Fort Houmet Herbé (No. 30g).
11. Medieval herring-bone stonework at the Nunnery. (No. 37).
12. The watch-tower or gazebo at Fort Essex, (No. 30j), built by John le Mesurier between 1812 and 1818; very curiously converted into a pill-box by the Germans.
13. Fort Tourgis (No. 30 l) soon after its completion; the chimneys standing up like sentries above the flat roof.



12

13



13

contribution both to the economy and to the social stability of the island. Many of them have built houses, bungalows, chalets, too often rather suburban in character, overlooking the harbour or the sea; others have chosen to rehabilitate - or, sometimes, 'improve' - the older houses in the town of St Anne.

The present appearance of the island is in consequence rather patchy. Small as its area is, it can be divided without any difficulty into four component areas. The first is the agricultural land of the Blaye; the prosperity of the whole island used to depend on this tiny area of rich soil, but this is no longer true, and today the precious acres have been nibbled into for the airport, for a sprinkling of farmsteads, and for the steadily encroaching bungalows on the outskirts of St Anne.

The second is the old town of St Anne itself: its appearance is still very charming. In 1947, T.H.White wrote to David Garnett "The architecture is a cross between Cornish fishing village and Horry Walpole Gothick - very attractive." He said, too, "Most of the streets are cobbled"; but alas, too many of them have been covered with cement or tarmac. Most of the houses belong to the period between 1750 and 1850. Most are of local stone, sometimes very well dressed and laid in courses of decreasing size; some have been plastered or stuccoed, and then attractively painted. The older roofs are of slates or pantiles, but plastic slates and corrugated iron are beginning to intrude here and there. Doorcases and windows are for the most part of classical Georgian proportions; the glazing-bars, so vitally important to the pattern of any Georgian streetscape, are often intact; there are many delightful variants on the 'Gothick' detailing of windows and fanlights, a speciality of the island which gives it its individual Strawberry Hill character. Dormer windows are common, though neither as frequent nor as sophisticated as in Guernsey; alas, too many of them have been altered and enlarged, often using plate-glass, giving the houses concerned a top-heavy appearance. There is only a handful of houses in the town of real architectural distinction; but the overall impression of curving, hilly streets, lined by terraces of simple and charming old vernacular houses, is of enormous merit - and at some risk from the ambitions of shop-keepers and 'improvers'.

The character of the town is still very rural, and admirably reflects its history. Inglis put it very well in 1837: "There is one peculiarity about St Anne's. The town is rather a congregation of farm houses, than a town. Almost every other house has its yard, byres and out-houses; and the reason of this is, that all, or almost all, the inhabitants of the island, live in the town; and consequently, being with scarcely an exception land-owners, they are forced to have much the same establishments, which farmers have, who live in the country." And Louisa Lane Clarke, in 1851: "To the thoughtful traveller there will be a peculiar interest in this little island town with its confusion of farm-houses and cottages side by side - the manure heap in corners of the street - the straw-yard and piggery beside the small shop or dwelling-house. On solid granite walls, thatched roofs, and on cottage walls, the old custom of drying the quaipeaux" (cakes of dung) "in the sun still prevails... when dry, chopped up for fuel." That custom has died; but there are still clucking hens close to the Marais Square, there are still rural outhouses tucked behind town streets, and it is still true that St Anne is more a congregation of farmhouses than a town.

The third element, the coastline, is dominated by the massive breakwater and the Victorian forts. Some of the latter - especially the two largest, Fort Albert and Fort Tourgis - are by now in a pretty advanced state of decay; there is probably nothing for it but to allow their stonework to moulder on until they become Antiquities as evocative as the ruins of Crusader castles. But the smaller forts could still, perhaps, be saved and put to good use. Corblets has been turned into a luxurious modern dwelling-house; Clonque is being admirably converted to holiday accommodation by the Landmark Trust. Are there no individuals or institutions that might think it worth while to repair, adapt, inject new life into Forts Homeaux Florains, Quesnard, Houmet Herbé, Doyle?

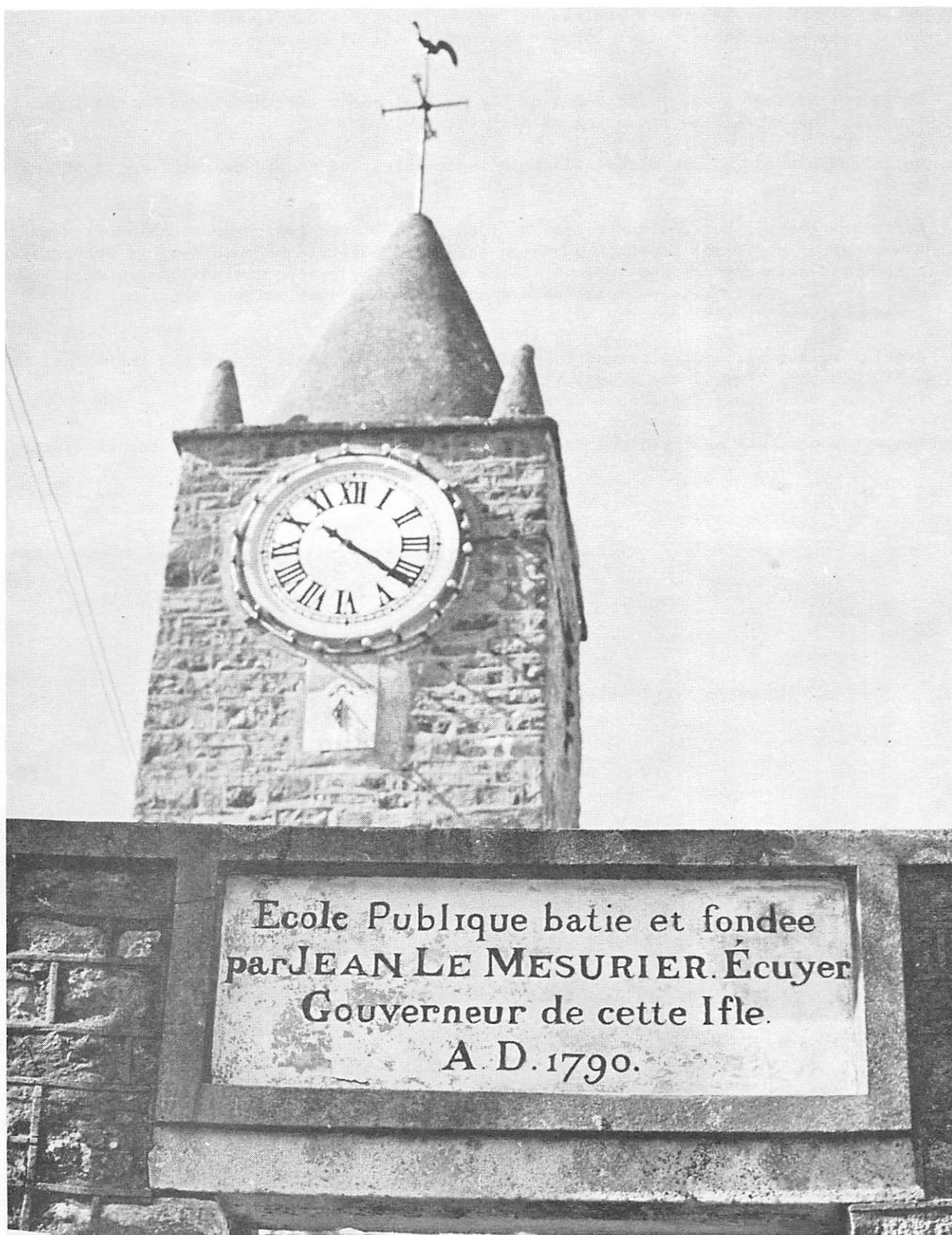
The fourth and last component of the island-landscape is the no-man's land, the area below the Butes at Crabby and Newtown where most of the post-war building has taken place. Unfortunately, the first impressions of the visitor arriving by sea do not do justice to the island. The harbour area is messy and derelict; the straggling and nondescript housing (some for the rich, some for the not-so-rich) is on the whole depressing. There are, indeed, a few good post-war buildings - the best the little hospital - but all too many are of bungaloid mediocrity. It is in no way surprising that the sturdy individualists who have sought refuge in Alderney over the past thirty years should have demonstrated their independence by doing their own thing, at their own expense, in their own way. Yet the results are rather sad. The States of Alderney exercise strict control over the siting of new buildings under the Building and Development Control (Alderney) Law of 1975. This, and the previous Law of 1957, have certainly proved effective in preserving most of the coastline from sprawl. But if the areas of natural beauty have been pretty well safeguarded, the island's heritage of buildings has not. It seems to the compiler

that, if a similar method of exercising judicious control over the appearance of buildings, old and new, is not introduced soon, then the very individual character of Alderney which gives it its personality and charm will disappear in the next few years.

Despite this note of criticism, the landscape and townscape of Alderney have still many more merits than blemishes.

C.E.B.B.

15 March 1976



The tower, built in 1767, of the old parish church (No. 10a), and the inscription over the gateway to the school-house of 1790 (No. 10b)

ARRANGEMENT & CLASSIFICATION

This Survey falls into three sections. The first and longest deals with the buildings inside the suggested conservation area, roughly outlined on the map at page , working in a generally southward direction from the Rue de Braye. The second section deals with the breakwater, the harbour, and the series of Victorian fortresses, recorded clockwise around the island, starting with Fort Grosnez and ending with Fort Doyle. The third section deals with other individual buildings or sites of interest outside the suggested conservation area, again in clockwise order around the island, starting at Newtown and ending at Crabby.

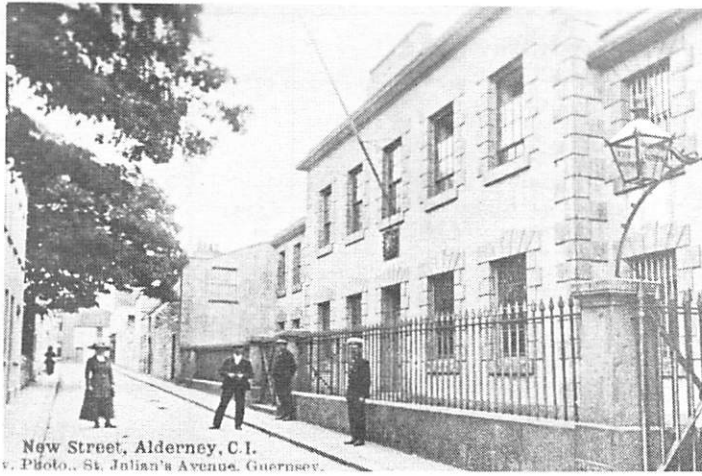
The classification system adopted is broadly the same as that adopted by the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society in its generally similar surveys of Irish buildings, and in the survey of St Peter Port prepared by the compiler for the National Trust of Guernsey.

- A Buildings marked A are considered of the highest merit and importance in the local context: they should be preserved at all costs.
- B Buildings marked B are of considerable importance, and should be retained if at all possible.
- Buildings listed, but not designated by letter, fall into two categories. Most are buildings of merit and importance, which should if possible be retained; if necessary, integrated into any new development in the area. The others are buildings, usually quite recent, which (it was felt) should not be passed over without mention, irrespective of their merit.
- G Special weight has been attached to groups of buildings, even though the individual buildings constituting the group may be of varying interest and importance. Every intrusion within a group should be resisted.
- Z Indicates a visual shock which, in the opinion of the compiler, constitutes an eyesore.

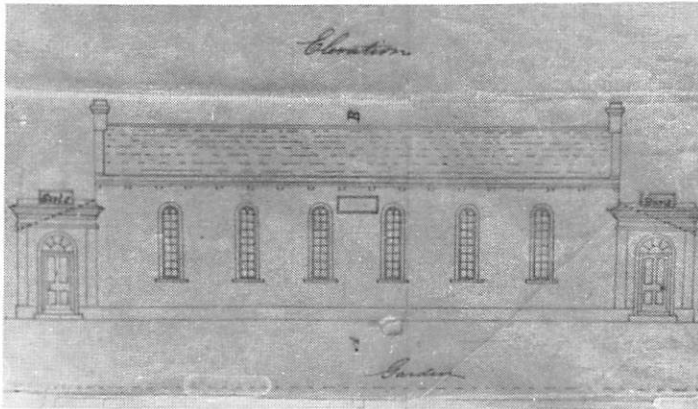


15. Sauchet Lane and Sauchet House (No. 25), on a sunny morning at the turn of the century.

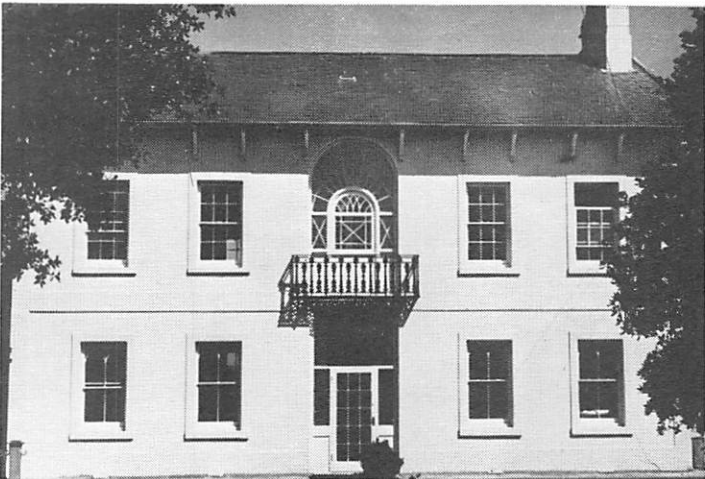
| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| | <p style="text-align: center;">THE SUGGESTED CONSERVATION AREA: BRAYE AND ST. ANNE</p> <p>1 <u>RUE DE BRAYE</u>: - : A small and picturesque group of mid-18th century houses and warehouses close to the oldest of the harbours at Braye. These date from the period, during the Seven Years War, when privateering first brought prosperity to Alderney. The warehouses are on the west side of the road, and their condition has fluctuated considerably over a long period. In 1830 Jacob wrote "Near the pier are 26 houses, if those of Crabby be reckoned, with store-houses besides: many of the latter seem now to be of no use, as there is scarcely any trade; and those store-houses, which, during the war, were occupied by the military, being shut up, are going fast to decay ...". The dwelling-houses are on the east side of the road, backing almost directly onto the beach of Braye Bay below - the building of the breakwater caused silting here, and it seems that originally sailing ships could come alongside the very windows of these houses.</p> <p>A number of regrettable alterations have been made over the years - especially the post-war north-facing front of the Seaview Hotel; the numerous TV aerials are quite unduly obtrusive, especially at the upper end of the street; but this still remains an important group, particularly charming when seen at a distance from the far side of Braye Bay.</p> <p>a <u>WAREHOUSES, WEST SIDE</u>: B : A series of four stone warehouses - some of them at one time used as dwellings also, two now roofless and used as an open-air coal-yard; each building with a peaked gable, three-storey, segmental-headed arches in the central bay and at ground level; then the ruins of a further series of similar buildings, now also used as retaining walls for the island's coal stocks.</p> <p>b <u>SEAVIEW HOTEL, facade, EAST SIDE</u>: Z : The two new bays, with picture-windows, added to the terrace in 1952 are a disaster here; since the new front to the hotel is the first sight the arriving visitor sees, and gives a wholly false impression of the merits of the terrace of 18th century houses to which it has unfortunately been attached.</p> <p>c <u>TERRACE, SEAVIEW HOTEL - NO. 9</u> : A : The remainder of the Seaview hotel is an eight-bay house, two-storey-plus-dormers, of stone, the roof-crest parallel to the street, Georgian glazed, with modern doors. Then comes the Diver's Inn, with a diver's helmet outside by way of inn-sign; this has certainly been an inn since the mid-18th century - among its guests was John Wesley, on 14 July 1787 - it was called the 'Jolly Tar' when Inglis visited the island in 1834. Again two-storey-plus-dormer, five-bay, whitewashed stone, Georgian glazed, with a good simple fanlight. Finally, there is a remarkable group of six houses with gables to front and rear (like "Dutch Billies"), each two-storey plus gable to the street, but with either one or two basement storeys below when seen from the back.</p> <p>No. 3, next to the Diver's Inn, has a lintel dated 1755, colour-washed stone, an altered window; Jean's Stores is pink-washed, with plate-glass window under a segmental head; No. 7 is whitewashed, with very unfortunate alterations to the glazing pattern; No. 8 is colour-washed with Georgian glazing mercifully intact; the Moorings has been stuccoed, with dripstones, but retains a segmental-headed Georgian Gothick window below.</p> <p>The A is for historic interest rather than architectural distinction; but it would be worth while to try to stem the erosion of the character of this group, and to embark upon a programme of gradual rehabilitation of its original appearance.</p> | | | <p>Jacob, p. 13</p> <p>Clarke, p. 16 Inglis, p. 269</p> <p><u>Pl. 22</u> <u>Pl. 59</u></p> |
| | <p>2 <u>ROUTE DE BRAYE</u>: - : The winding roadway which runs uphill to link Braye Harbour with St Anne proper: originally no more than a sandy track: a number of pleasant (and for the most part modest) houses have grown up along its length in a kind of gentle mid-19th century ribbon development. Although only one is of any architectural significance, they provide a very pleasant introduction to the town, and any deterioration in their quality should be resisted.</p> <p>a <u>NOS. 20 & 21, BRAYE SANDS</u>: - : Nice two-storey stucco, mostly Georgian-glazed, triple windows downstairs.</p> <p>b <u>NOS. 18/19</u> : - : A pleasant stucco semi-detached pair of about 1840 to 1850, with round-headed windows below; these would look much better if both were painted as a single unit.</p> <p>c <u>NO. 15 (CHANSON DE LA MER); NO. 16; NO. 17 (LOREM)</u>: - : All pleasing two-storey stucco or plastered houses, Georgian-glazed throughout, No. 16 with a nice Victorian porch.</p> <p>d <u>NO. 14 (GLENDENE)</u>: - : A two-storey three-bay house of grey stone, partly rendered, Georgian glazed, triple window downstairs.</p> <p>e <u>NOS. 10, 11, 11A (BEVERLEY ROSE); STEP-A-SIDE COTTAGE</u> : - : Nos. 10 and 11 a good stone two-storey pair of three-bay semi-detached houses, with glazing in the style of 1840-50, to which nasty modern dormers have been added; No. 11 at present being rebuilt. No. 11A a pleasantly designed example of modern stone infilling; Step-a-side Cottage a good grey stone two-storey three-bay Georgian-glazed house with a modern door.</p> <p>f <u>R.C. CHURCH OF ST ANNE AND ST MARY MAGDALENE</u>: - : Built 1958 to designs by Anthony Lillith of Birmingham; consecrated when finally paid for, in 1973. Replaces the earlier church of 1848 at Crabby, demolished by the Germans during the occupation to clear their field of fire. The ground floor contains a community hall for the use of the island; the church proper is on the higher level. Very austere built of cement blocks, it is not, externally, an ornament to the island. The interior is plain and simple, with a coved blue-painted ceiling; two small side chapels; a retablo of the crucifixion behind the altar of polished wood relieved by some gilding and colouring.</p> | | | |



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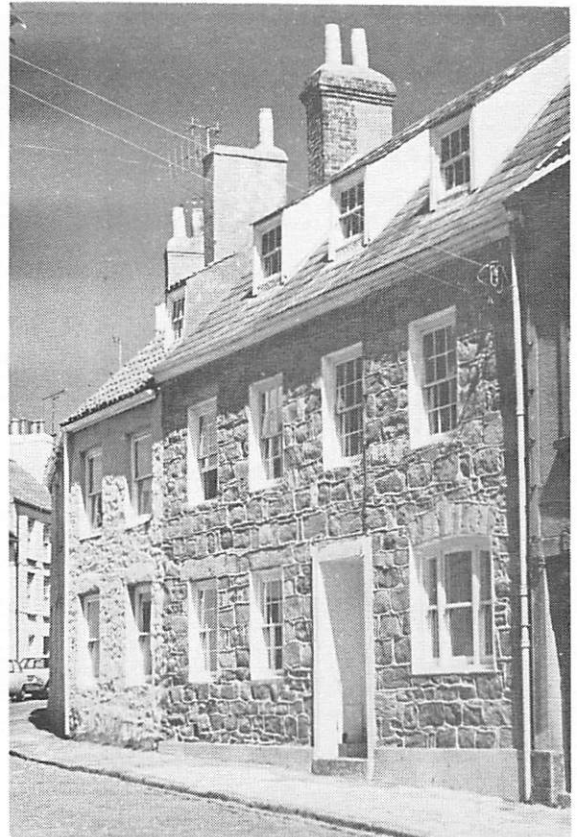
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- 16. The Court House (No. 8j) of 1851; photo of about 1910, before the removal of the railings.
- 17. Drawing of 1790 for the school-house (No. 10b).
- 18. Balmoral, Longis Road (No. 42).
- 19. The former Government House, now Island Hall (No. 12a) as rebuilt in 1763.
- 20. Sauchet House (No. 25).
- 21. 30, High Street (No. 11c).



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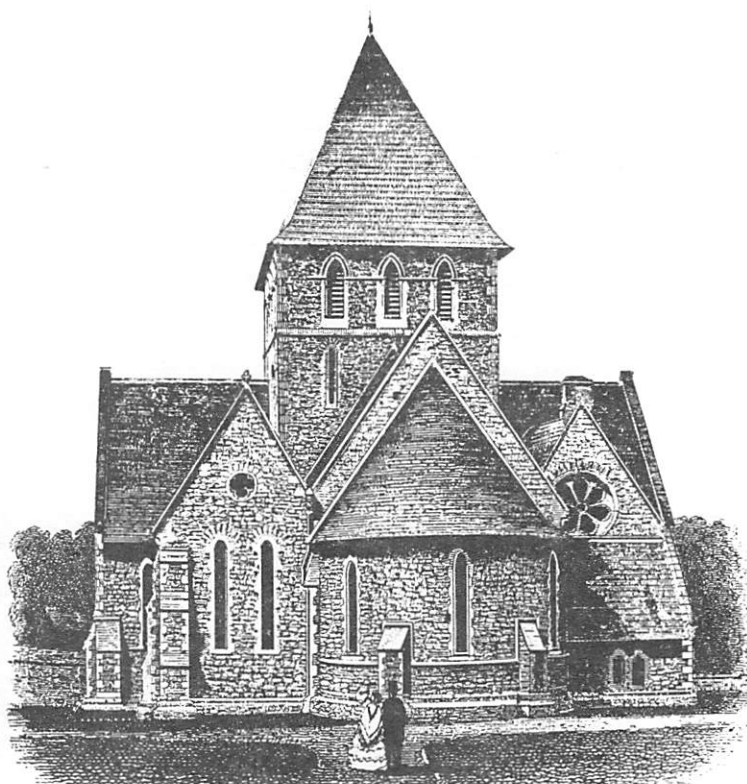
- Alderney Streetscape:* 22. 18th century houses and warehouses in Braye Street, backing onto the old harbour (No. 1c).
 23. The meeting-point of High Street, Le Huret, and Connaught Street; note how happily the cobble-stones and paving flags complement the texture of the houses.

23



| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2g | <u>PORTLAND HOUSE</u> : - : A pleasant two-storey three-bay stucco house, Georgian glazed, with a hipped roof. | | | |
| h | <u>VAL DES PORTES</u> : <u>A</u> : About 1790; a very large three-storey-and-basement five-bay Georgian house, rendered, standing in a stone-walled garden. The portico is most unusual: the cobweb fanlight is round-headed, framed in free-standing fluted Corinthian columns; the entablature of the porch is decorated with anchors, swags, and a gaily-painted scene of sailing-ships. Above this is an extremely pretty central window with an unusual tear-drop variant of the Gothick glazing-pattern. Above this again, unfortunately, the rhythm of the (otherwise Georgian-glazed) windows has been recently disturbed by the insertion of inadmissible casement windows in the top storey. (<u>Z</u>) This is said to have been the residence of the military commander of the island's garrison, but, in view of the nautical motifs of the portico, was perhaps built rather for the naval commanding officer during the Napoleonic period. | | | <u>Back cover</u> <u>Pl. 36</u> |
| 3a | <u>METHODIST CHAPEL, RUE DES BUTES</u> : <u>A</u> : 1852; datestone. Very pleasant hipped-roof chapel, standing up above the road, thirteen steps leading up to the pointed doorcase; windows pointed too, and Georgian-glazed in the Gothick taste; of whitewashed rubble save for the quoins and Gibbsian surrounds to the windows, all of granite; church above, hall in the lower storey. The interior is plain and of no special interest, apart from the well-lettered boards bearing the Commandments ad longum, the Lord's prayer, and the Creed. The deal pews and very Spartan gallery remain exactly as first built. | | | <u>Pl. 30</u> |
| b | <u>CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL HOUSE, LES ROCQUETTES</u> : <u>B</u> : A pleasant five-bay two-storey-and-dormer stucco house of c.1845, with frilly dormers, heavy architraves, a round-headed window in the centre above a nice porch, quoins; closing the vista down Victoria Street. Well painted. Formerly the residence of Judge Mellish. | | | |
| c | <u>HOUSES, LES ROCQUETTES</u> : - : Two pleasant two-storey stucco houses, Georgian glazed, next door. | | | |
| d | <u>HILLSIDE</u> : - : A pleasant two-storey three-bay stone house, nicely restored, with pantiles on the seaward slope of the roof, heavy stone slabs on the landward slope. | | | |
| 4 | <u>VICTORIA STREET, ST ANNE</u> : <u>G</u> : Victoria Street, formerly Rue du Grosnez, was renamed on the occasion of the royal visit of 1854: there is a nicely inscribed slab inset in the wall at the north-west end of the street - "Victoria Street August 9th 1854". This is the spinal column of the town, and from the outset is a thoroughfare with marked charm and character of its own, derived largely from the combination of curves and hills with which it makes its way up to the junction with High Street on more elevated ground. Its value is much enhanced by the various trees which break up its terraces, especially at the church gate and in the garden above Barnett Christie (Finance) Ltd., though one or two more - especially in the rather bare War Memorial Garden - would not come amiss. Still more important is the fact that the square-setts remain in the carriageway, and the stone slabs in the pavements, for almost the full length of the street. Wirescape is here pretty unobtrusive. It must be added that the architectural character of the whole is a good deal more impressive than the sum of its parts: the parish church apart, there are few buildings of any great merit; yet a series of quite minor alterations could drastically change the whole character of Victoria Street - and more easily for the worse than for the better. For this reason almost every building is here briefly noted, starting on the west side from the north end, and returning down the other side of the street. | | | |
| a | <u>GATEWAY, VICTORIA STREET, WEST SIDE</u> : - : A very large sloping walled garden at the foot of the street, behind a modest rendered wall, but the entrance archway has a pleasantly festooned lintel; the garden of the former hospital next door. | | | |
| b | <u>LA BOUTIQUE, NO. 56</u> : - : Two-storey-and-dormer five-bay block, white-painted plaster, a nasty mosaic-and-plate-glass-shopfront; formerly the Mignot Memorial Hospital. | | | |
| c | <u>THE VANITY BOX, NO. 55A; and SALAD BOWL, NO. 55B</u> : - : Two-storey, rendered, two-bay, Georgian-glazed upstairs. | | | |
| d | <u>THE GEORGIAN HOUSE, NO. 54</u> : <u>B</u> : A large three-storey five-bay house, white painted, dentils at the eaves, Georgian glazing complete, very plain doorcase with a little triangular pediment-canopy with dentils, added only in 1974, but quite in keeping. | | | |
| e | <u>MIDLAND BANK, NO. 53</u> : - : An odd asymmetrical addition, perhaps of about 1860, to Grosnez next door: said to have been added by Judge Barbenson, then used as a club. Hipped gable; grey plaster; a triple-window with console brackets; garden partly gravelled in. | | | |
| f | <u>GROSNEZ, NO. 52</u> : <u>A</u> : A good two-storey-and-dormer five-bay house, of stucco with a parapet, heavy architraves around the Georgian-glazed windows, excellent doorcase of Ionic engaged fluted columns and nice rectangular fanlight; at one time Judge Barbenson's house. | | | |
| g | <u>BUCKETROUTS, NO. 51</u> : <u>Z</u> : A single-storey intrusion on the street-line, of striated plaster, varnished wood, and plate-glass: inappropriate and distressing. | | | |
| h | <u>LE SOLEIL LEVE/LES MOUETTES</u> : - : A plain but pleasant semi-detached pair, set back from the road, of painted stucco; heavy string-course and very heavy projecting cornice; cusped doors in simple door architraves. The street would benefit greatly if the two houses were to be repainted to a uniform colour-scheme. | | | |

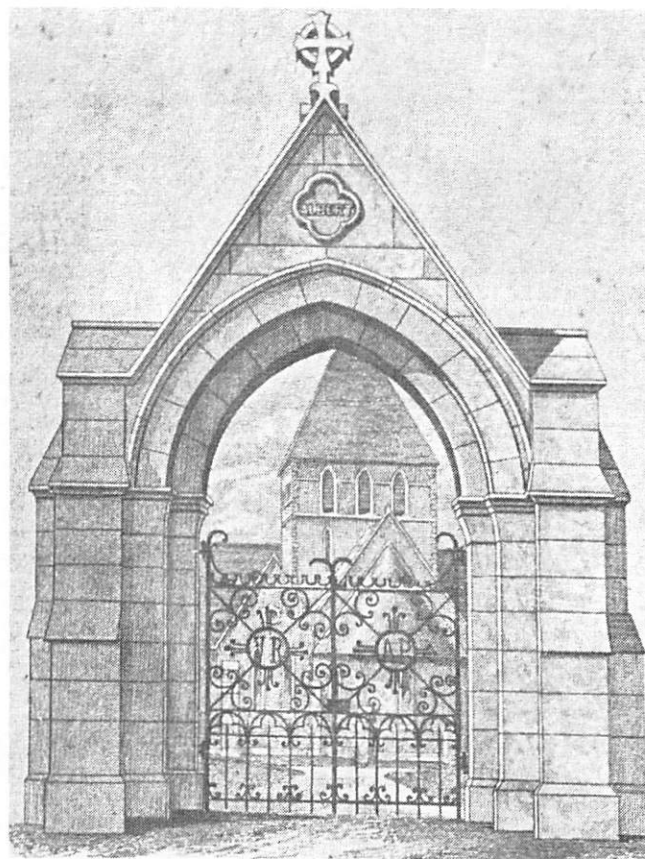
| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|----------------------------------|-------|--|--|
| 4i | SLADE & SON, NO. 48 : Z : | | A cottage very inappropriately refaced as a butcher's shop with bright blue mosaic tiles and modern shopfront. | |
| j | ST CATHERINE'S: A : | | An excellent tall plain two-storey-and-dormer five-bay stucco house, with Georgian glazing complete, and simplified Doric pilaster doorcase; panelled doors; set back a little from the road, and half masked in roses, creepers and climbers. | |
| k | GATEWAY TO ST ANNE'S CHURCH: - : | | 'Erected by the People of Alderney, 1864'; 'Albert' in a quatrefoil; gateway of silicose granite; gates dated 1950. Imposing, if a bit charmless. | Pl. 26 |
| 1 | ST ANNE'S PARISH CHURCH: A : | | Consecrated 21st August, 1850; Sir G.G. Scott. "Mr Scott of Spring Gardens, London. Mr Hunt, a young man of great promise, was the original super-intendent of works, but died during the progress of the building, his brother succeeded him." An important and imposing church set in the middle of a pleasant churchyard surrounded by large plane trees. The gift of Rev. John le Mesurier, whom it cost around £8000. Described as "in the early pointed style and cruciform in plan ... the internal appointments are very chaste." Of a pleasant purpleish island stone, with Caen stone dressings. Externally, a carefully-balanced and rather complex composition, with subsidiary roofs grouped around the large square pyramidal spire, flanked by a single sub-pyramid housing a bell. The cluster-columnar west doorway particularly good: as Mrs Clarke commented just after its completion, "The principal entrance is the western door, the depth and beauty of its early English moulding is very striking, and the flight of steps from the sloping ground on this side gives considerable effect to the entrance." She added, a little breathlessly but truthfully, "the interior of the church is very beautiful, from its extreme simplicity and the just harmony of its proportions." Above the porch, a small statue of the Good Shepherd. Internally, a very robust tall and broad foursquare church in the 'transitional' style, but with a deliberately Norman feeling. The crossing carrying the tower is nobly-proportioned; the nave is flanked by very stout columns, their feet more ambitiously carved than their capitals. There are quatrefoil windows in the clerestory, lancets below. The chancel is less weighty, with slightly spindly wooden screens behind the choir stalls; in the apse the Creed, Commandments and Lord's Prayer both in French and in English. The original glass was by 'Mr Wailes of Newcastle'. The west window is modern, and distinctly peculiar; it depicts the heads of children of all nations, plus black children in clean missionary shirts, and Burmese children with pagodas. Queen Victoria, the Prince Consort, and the Prince of Wales visited the church in August 1854; Her Majesty "remained there several minutes, expressing her satisfaction of the edifice". In 1885, the Guernsey engineer A.C. Andros, a critic not easily pleased, commented "It is certainly a very pretty piece of architecture and is an ornament to the island". Mr Victor Coysh and I think so too; so there is pretty general unanimity as to the merit of the building. The church was used as a wine cellar by the Germans, many of the furnishings were gutted; "by the end of the occupation the church had been stripped of all its remaining religious fittings to make space for the storage of barrels." The restoration was completed only in 1953. The oak chairs are German. | I.L.N. 5 Oct 1850 Clarke, pp.64, 65 Tupper, "Sarnia" Andros, 'Star', 24 Sept 1885 Lucas, pp. 1-4 Front cover Pl. 24,28,29 |



24. The parish church, engraved soon after its completion.



25



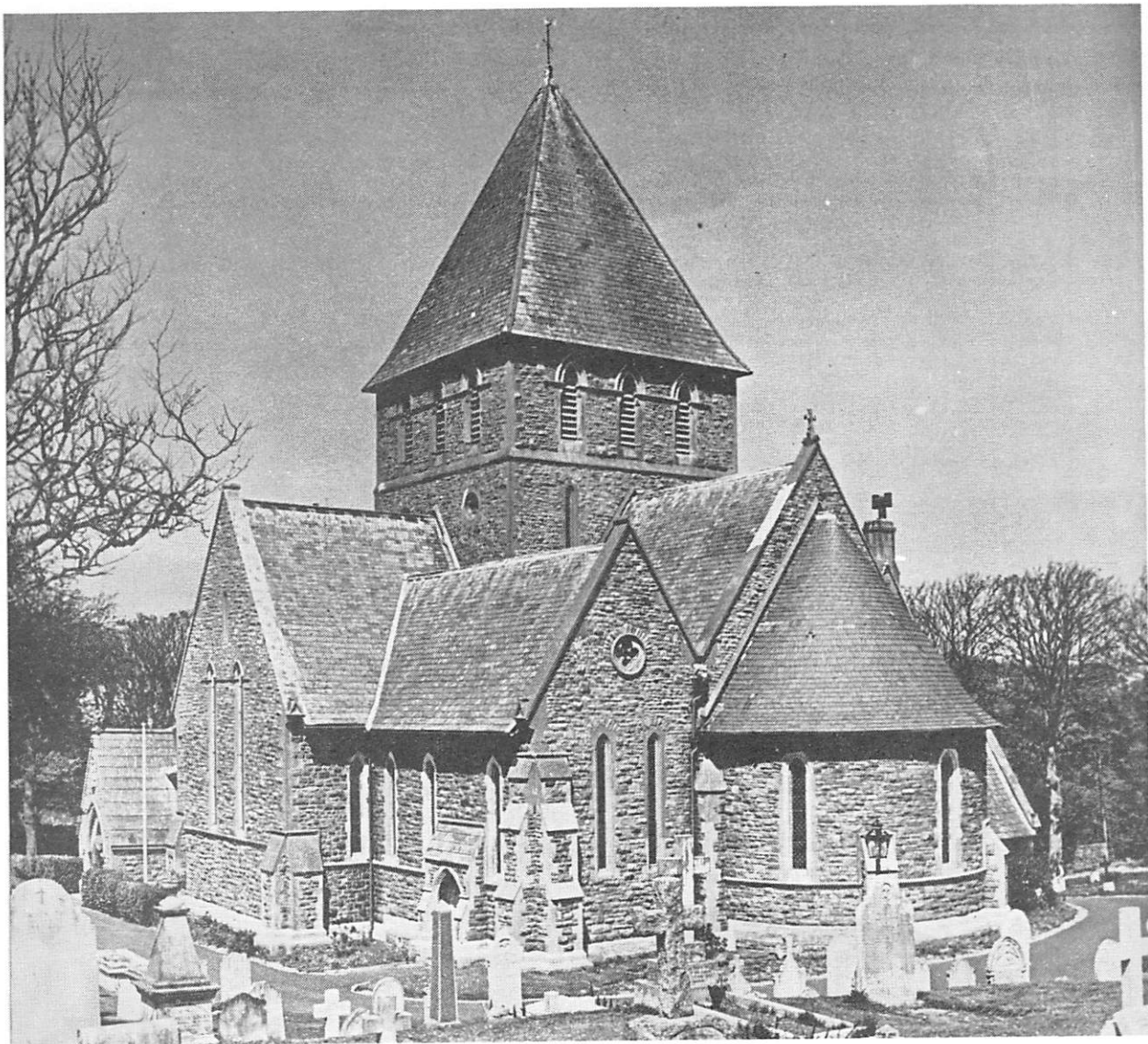
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- 25. Tower of the old church (No. 10a).
- 26. Engraving of the Albert Memorial Gate (No. 4k).
- 27. The Vicarage of 1820 (No. 12b).
- 28. Parish church by Sir G. G. Scott, 1850 (No. 4 II).
- 29. Porch, parish church.
- 30. Wesleyan chapel of 1851 (No. 3a).

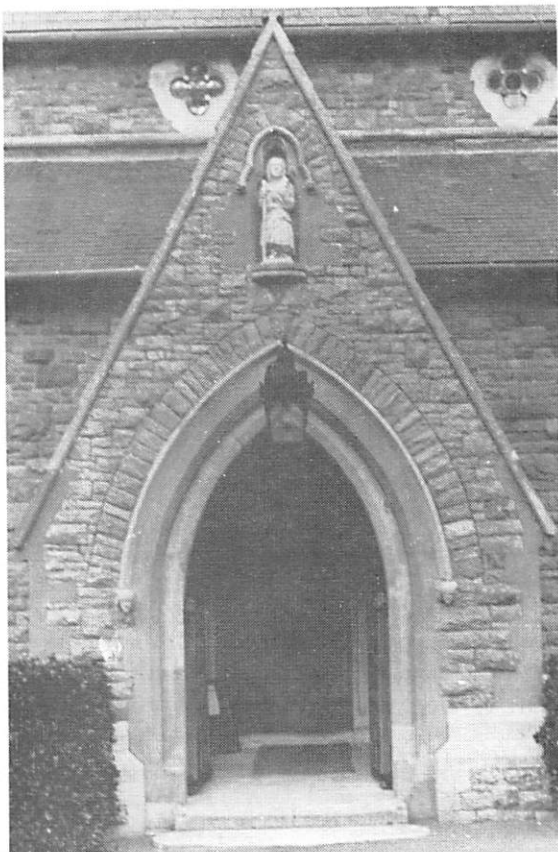
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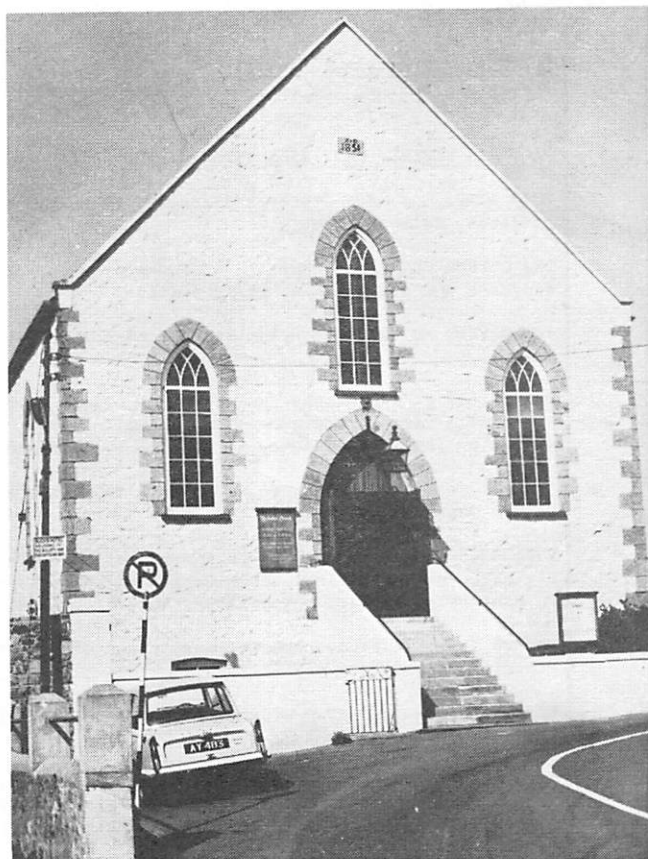
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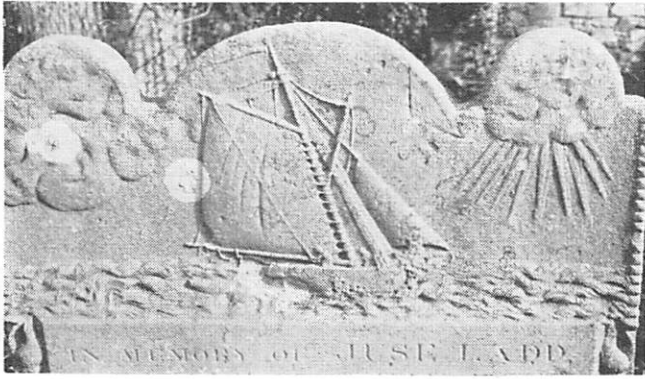


30



| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|------------|
| 4m | <u>CHEZ ANDRE, NOS. 43-44:</u> - : Two-storey-and-dormer, five-bay, stucco house, with some triple windows, mostly Georgian-glazed; rather odd overhang linking bay windows on the ground floor. This and the adjoining building were converted to an hotel, from a house and three cottages, in the 1960's. The linking block in the modern idiom, is partly painted black and is quite inconspicuous behind its well-laid-out little garden. | | | |
| n | <u>HOTEL CHEZ ANDRE, NOS. 45-46:</u> - : Two-storey-and-dormer, six-bay, of random stone; modern addendum also of stone, with two bow windows, quite acceptable. | | | |
| o | <u>RIDUNA STORES:</u> - : A very tall rather odd mid-Victorian shopfront, with pilasters and Gothick tops to the dividers, capped by pleasing Victorian iron balcony railings; a very individual building; and, | | | |
| p | <u>(CORNER OF NEW STREET):</u> - : a plain old two-storey house with dormers, and Georgian glazing in the very oddly arranged windows. (Here is New Street) | | | |
| q | <u>R. MARTYN; C.H. BICHARD, NO. 41:</u> - : A pair of pleasant rendered two-storey-and-dormer shops, seven bays in all, with nice old-fashioned green-painted shopfronts; roof part slate, part pantile. | | | |
| r | <u>ALDERNEY ELECTRICITY LTD., NO. 40:</u> - : Another two-storey-and-dormer pair, with Georgian glazing complete upstairs, simple pilasters (their feet rotted) to the shopfronts below. Slate roof. | | | |
| s | <u>TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK, NO. 39:</u> - : Two-storey-and-dormer, three-bay, stucco, pretty frilly dormer, poor shopfront. | | | |
| t | <u>COWELL, NOS. 37 & 38:</u> - : No. 37, two-storey stucco with triple window upstairs; modern ye olde window below, quite acceptable. Good fascia lettering, but obtrusive projecting signs advertising Elizabeth Arden, Max Factor, Kodak, and Perfumer. No. 38, a rendered gable-end with enlarged window in the ground floor. | | | |
| u | <u>LONDON HOUSE, NO. 36:</u> B : Two-storey four-bay stucco, c. 1845, nice pilastered doorcase, simple traditional shopfront, Victorian glazing bars complete upstairs, nice little squares of yellow glass in the corners. | | | |
| v | <u>LLOYD'S BANK, NO. 35:</u> B : Two-storey, five-bay, granite in alternate courses of grey and brown, cut in exceptionally long slabs; pointing a bit heavy-handed; Victorian-glazed with one segment-headed window; large modern dormers; nice pilastered doorcase with simple fanlight. | | | |
| w | <u>LE VALLEE, NO. 34:</u> - : Two-storey-and-ugly-modern-dormers, three-bay, stucco, Georgian glazed, simple shopfront and doorcases. | | | |
| x | <u>WOOL SHOP, NO. 33:</u> - : Two-storey three-bay, green-painted plaster, "traditional" shop windows, pantiles. | | | |
| y | <u>LE COURIER RESTAURANT, No. 32:</u> - : Three-storey three-bay stucco, a bit crudely modernised but not too bad. Fascia and lettering a bit clamorous. | | | |
| 5 | <u>VICTORIA STREET, EAST SIDE (from High Street down).</u> | | | |
| a | <u>TOWN SHOP:</u> - : Two-storey-and-dormer, four-bay, rendered, Georgian-glazed upstairs; pantiles; well-painted. | | | |
| b | <u>THE COFFEE CUP (LYNDHURST):</u> - : Two-storey-and-dormer, three-bay, stucco; slate; Victorian doorcase and shop fascia; gaily painted. | | | |
| c | <u>THE HAVEN, NO. 29:</u> - : Two-storey-and-dormer, two-bay, stucco, triple window on ground floor. | | | |
| d | <u>NO. 28:</u> - : Two-storey-and-obtrusive modern dormers, artificial slates, three-bay, random stone with very strong quoins and Gibbsian window surrounds upstairs. The modern ye olde window on the ground floor, if painted to match the upstairs sashes, would be more acceptable. | | | |
| e | <u>VOWLES:</u> - : Two-storey, four-bay plus room over archway, stucco; Georgian-glazed upstairs, rather bogus below; bow windows, green marble, brick, bottle-bottomed panes. | | | |
| f | <u>YORK HOUSE:</u> B : A fine large two-storey-and-dormer five-bay house, with heavy architraves, stringcourse and quoins; Georgian-glazed; slate roof; doorway altered and steps removed, on conversion to bar; now offices; worth replacing the steps. | | | |
| g | <u>NO. 25:</u> - : A stucco hybrid, part two-storey part single-storey, with a rather poor Victorian shopfront; pantiles. | | | |
| h | <u>SHIRLEY BROWN:</u> - : Two-storey, two-bay, pebble-dashed wall upstairs but nice slim shop-window-dividers. | | | |
| i | <u>RIDUNA HOUSE:</u> B : A two-storey stucco block of three-plus-one-plus-one bays, with heavy architraves, nice 20-pane windows with coloured glass in the side panes, nice doorway, poor shopfront, well painted. The projecting signs for 'Calor' and 'Vaillant' are obtrusive. | | | |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|------------|
| 5j | <u>GARDEN (OF NORTH STAR): A</u> : The four trees maintaining, while lending variety to, the street line, are extremely important; the house is so far set back from the road as to be, effectively, invisible; it has a large stucco star on its north wall, visible from Ollivier Street. | | | |
| k | <u>BARNETT CHRISTIE (FINANCE) LTD., NO. 22</u> : - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, three-bay, pinkish random stone, Georgian-glazed upstairs, segmental-headed windows below; rather plain cement-covered doorcase, and window surrounds, sills and lintels. | | | |
| l | <u>JULIE'S SHOE SHOP AND GEISHA SALON</u> : - : Two-storey five-bay shops, with three surviving fluted pilasters framing traditional shopfronts. | | | |
| m | <u>ALBERT HOUSE INN</u> : - : On corner - two-storey, four-bay, - nicely painted, Georgian glazed upstairs. (Here is Ollivier Street) | | | |
| n | <u>RICHARDS</u> : - : Part two-storey part three-storey, part rendered, part painted. | | | |
| o | <u>HALBERTON, NO. 17</u> : - : Three-storey-and-dormer, three-bay, cement rendered, quoins, heavy architraves, console brackets with anthemion ornament. | | | |
| p | <u>STEFANIE HOUSE, NOS. 15 & 16</u> : - : A pair, one three-storey, three-bay, one two-storey and dormer two-bay, rendered, well painted, most Georgian glazing upstairs complete. | | | |
| q | <u>NO. 14</u> : - : Two-storey-and-dormer, two-bay stucco, Victorian shopfront. | | | |
| r | <u>NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK</u> : - : Two-storey four-bay house, upstairs stucco, downstairs recessed and not very pleasingly modernised with granite slabs and steel furniture; projecting sign. | | | |
| s | <u>NO. 12</u> : - : Two-storey three-bay, glazing bars complete, triple windows below; a rather unfortunate gravelly roughcast over the stone. | | | |
| t | <u>WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN</u> : - : The gables frame this little garden very gauntly; one or two more trees here would be useful, if only to define the street-line more clearly. | | | |
| u | <u>NOS. 9, 10 & 11</u> : - : A seedy but good three-storey three-bay late-Georgian stucco house, with quoins; a single-storey block next door; an odd arrangement of interlocking quoins linking the two; then a smaller three-storey three-bay stucco house, Georgian-glazed, with the original 15-pane shop window between two simple doorcases. No. 10 was the old Assembly Rooms. | | | |
| v | <u>NO. 8, MAN'S SHOP/ NO. 8A, GARDEN SHOP: Z</u> : A three-storey house most unhappily altered, black tiles and plate-glass below, metal-frame windows of unfortunate proportions above. | | | |
| w | <u>NOS. 1 - 7, ALDERNEY CENTRE TO FOOT OF STREET</u> : - : A terrace of pleasant two-storey stuccoed shops, with a few dormers, well painted; No. 4 has two nice feathery-capitalled fluted pilasters still surviving. | | | |
| 6 | <u>OLLIVIER STREET</u> : - : A pleasant modestly-scaled street, with square setts; a bit nondescript and patchy; Chez Andre closes the end of the street very nicely. | | | |
| a | <u>NOS. 1 - 2</u> : - : Two-storey Victorian stucco houses, simple but pleasant, with nice little pilastered doorcases. | | | |
| b | <u>NO. 4</u> : - : Two-storey three-bay stucco, with a rather fancy later porch. | | | |
| c | <u>NOS. 5 & 7</u> : - : Two-storey and dormers; Georgian glazed; No. 7 has a triple window below, No. 5 the original slightly bulging Regency 18-pane shop window. | | | |
| d | <u>TWIST COTTAGE</u> : - : A nicely painted modest two-storey two-bay Regency stucco cottage with triple windows below, Georgian glazed. | | | |
| 7 | <u>R.A.O.B. HALL, THE VAL: B</u> : A rather fine massive stucco block of around 1840, five tall windows upstairs framed in square architraves, eight round-headed doorways or windows below; a bit seedy. | | | |
| 8 | <u>NEW STREET</u> : - : Opened about 1850; a bit patchy. | | | |
| a | <u>HOUSE AT CORNER OF VICTORIA STREET, NORTH SIDE</u> : - : A stone double gable, with an attic window rather unhappily inserted into the valley; two sturdy black-painted door-hoods. | | | |
| b | <u>(FORMER HOLMWOOD)</u> : - : Two-storey five-bay house, Georgian glazed, segmental window below, over-obtrusively pointed stone; flush door; garage white-painted stone with Georgian-glazed windows above. At one time home of the notorious Bank of Alderney. | | | |
| c | <u>ST ANNE'S HOUSE (STATES OFFICES)</u> : - : Two-storey and dormer, five-bay, originally perhaps fine but unhappily roughcast with a kind of pebbledash round the windows. | | | |
| d | <u>LES HERITIERS</u> : - : Two-storey three-bay whitewashed house, with triple sashes below; pantiles, name incised in string-course. | | | |



31



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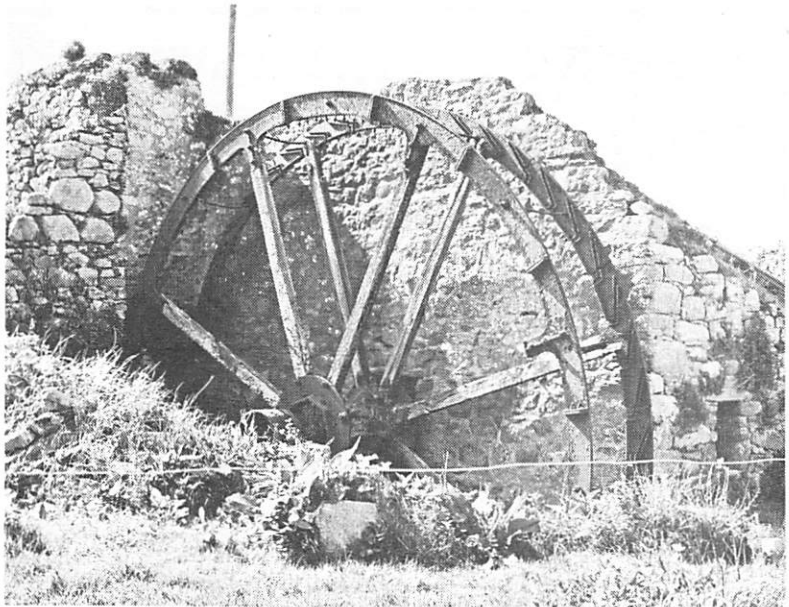


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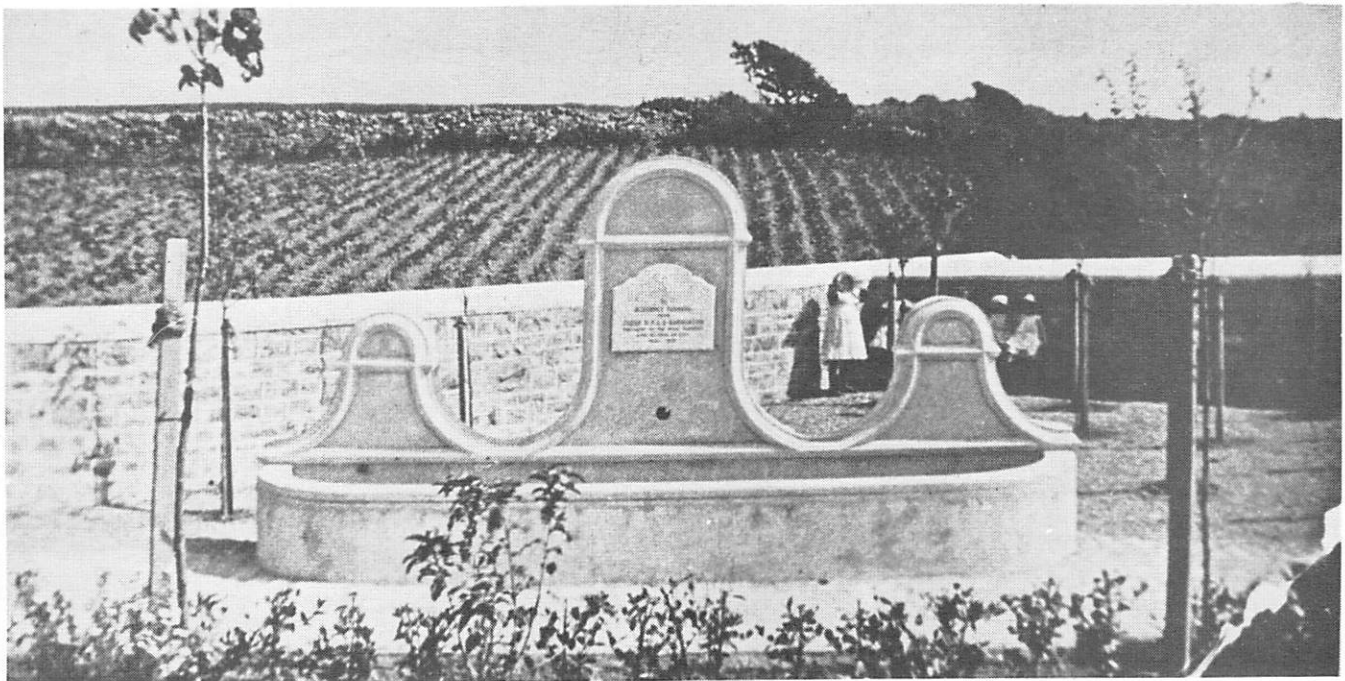
Alderney details:

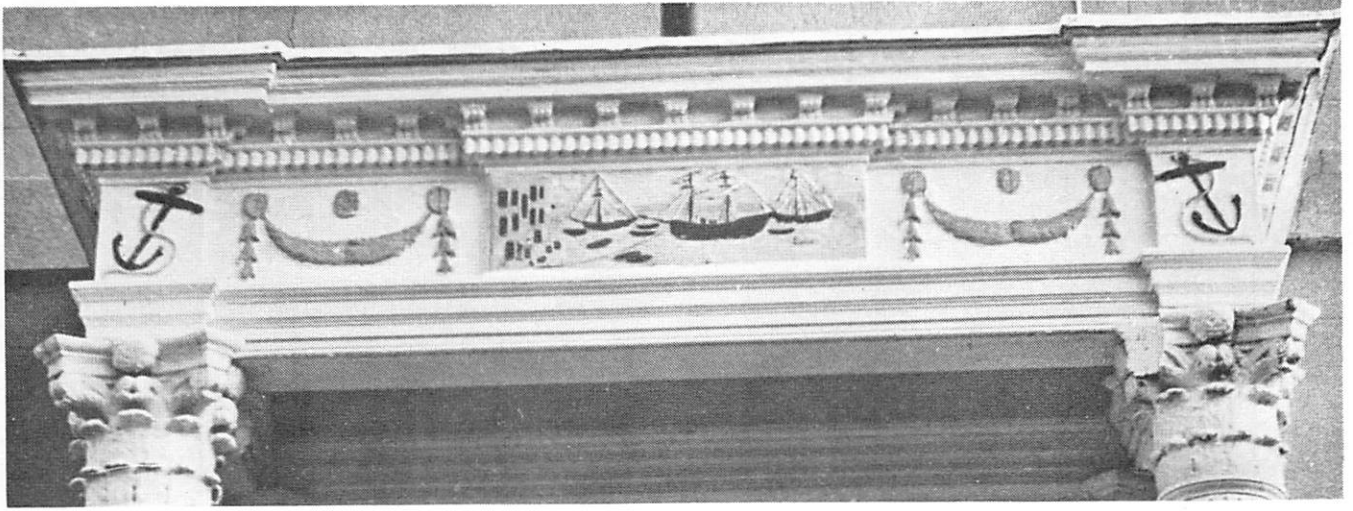
- 31. Tombstone of Juse Ladd, d. 1777 (No. 10a).
- 32. Tombstone of Rebecca Young, 1779 (No. 10a).
- 33. Gate-pillar-knop in New Street (No. 8h): perhaps the bereaved survivor of the pair at Essex Castle (compare Plate 4).
- 34. Water-mill-wheel (No. 46); the mill of 1792.
- 35. Judge Barbenson's Fountain (No. 45) before trees had grown, lions' masks sprouted, or airport been dreamed of.

34



35





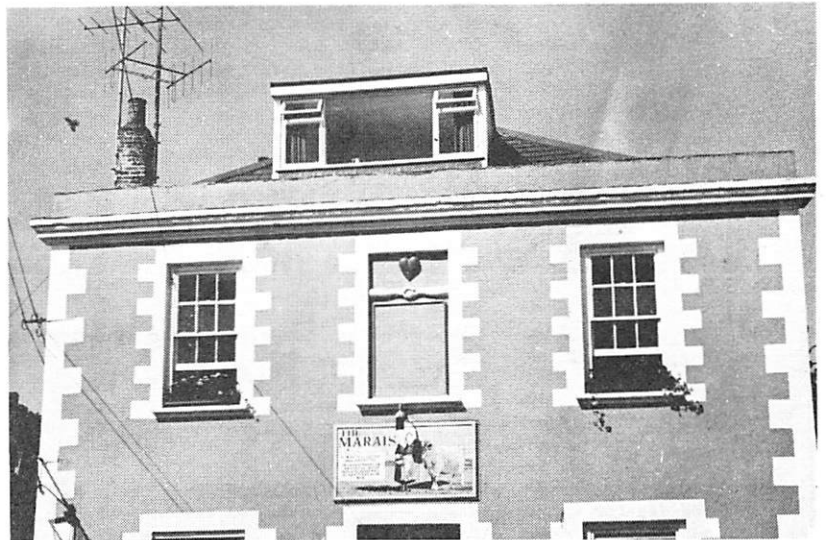
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36. Nautical entablature to doorcase, Val des Portes (No. 2h).

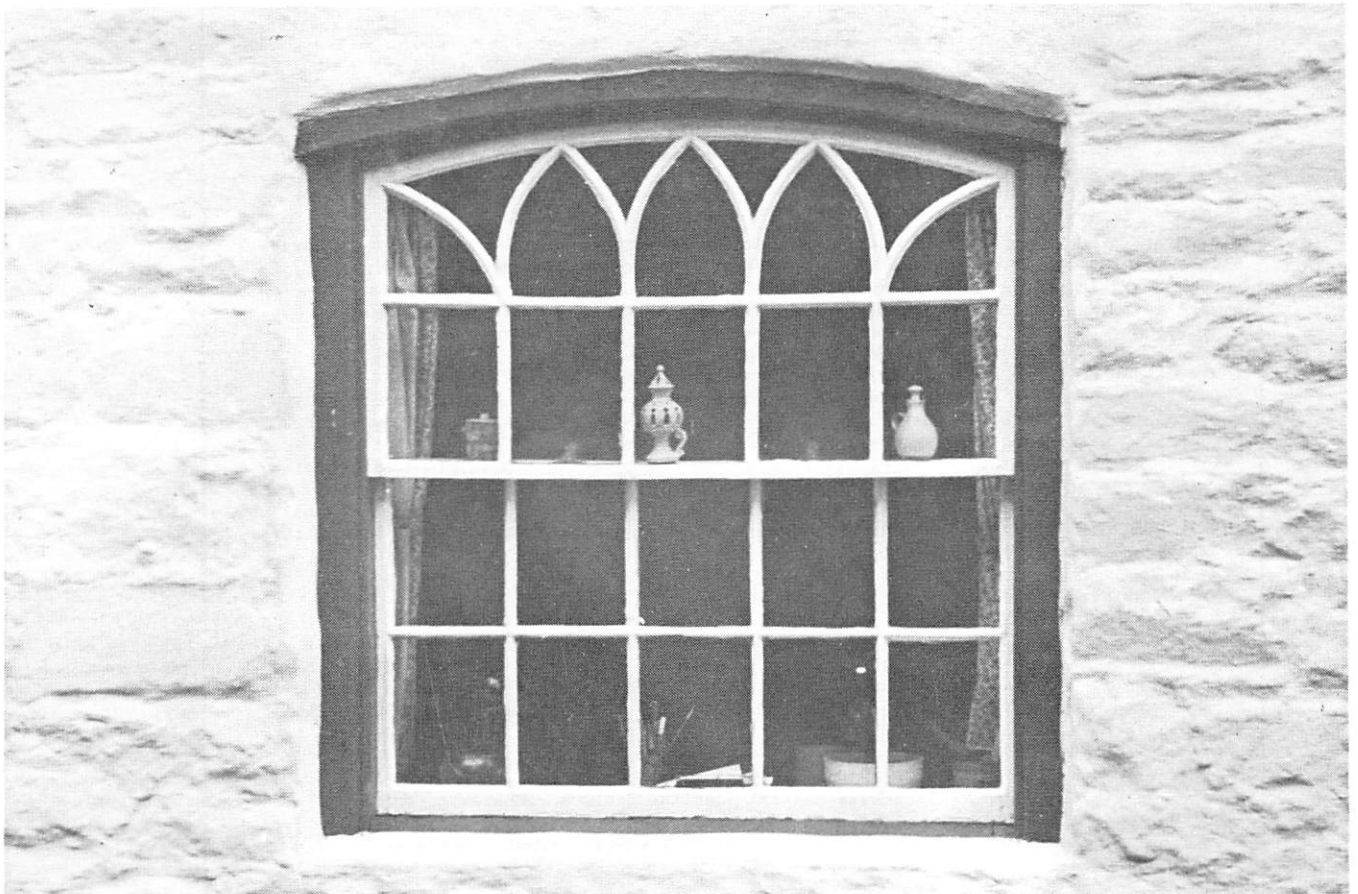
37. The Marais Hall (No. 15a): delightful plump heart and clasped hands: regrettable inn-sign, and in the wrong place: deplorable dormer, off-centre too.

38. A classic example of the Alderney segmental-headed Gothick-glazed window—in High Street (No. 11rr).

37

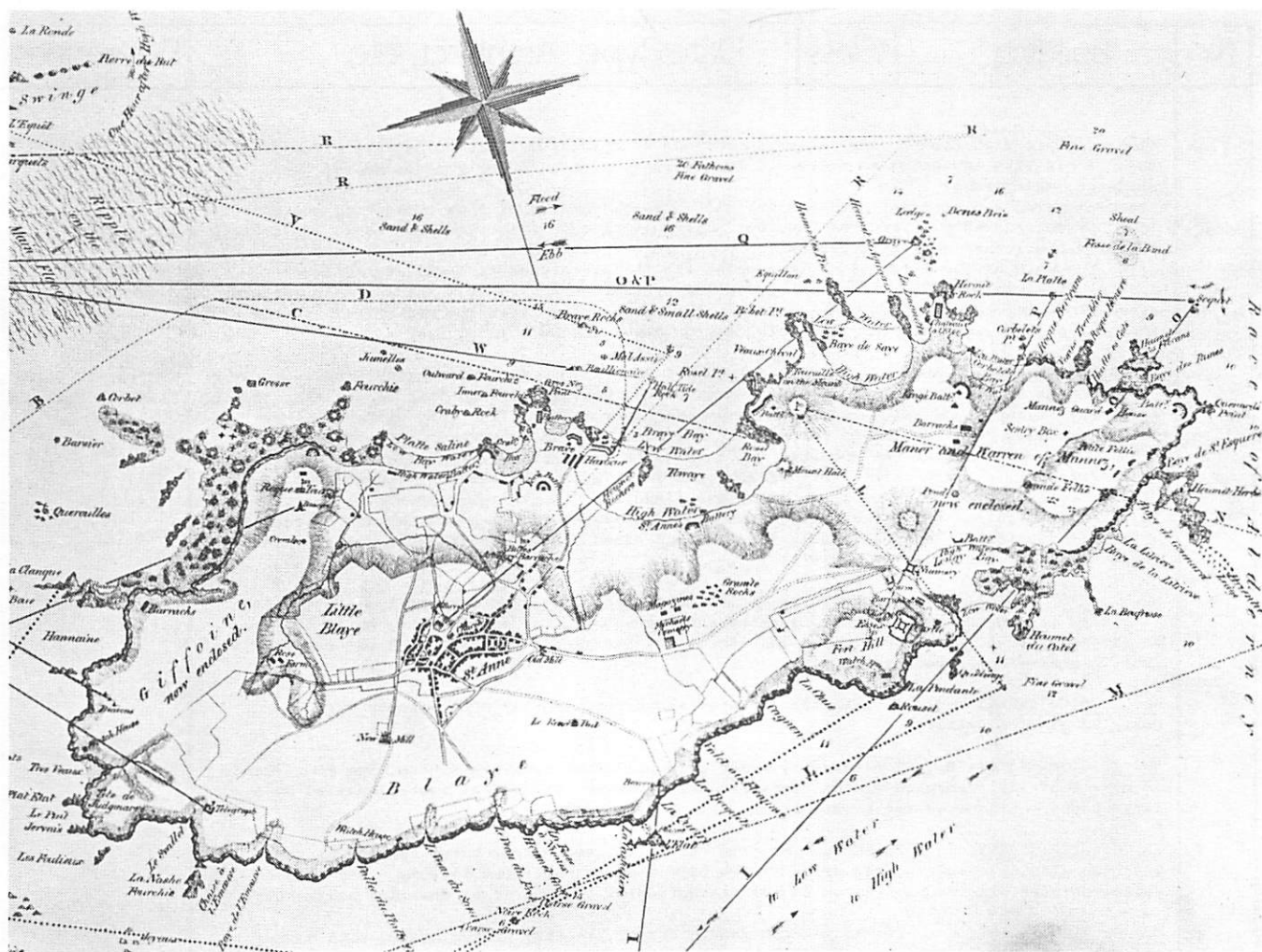


38



| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| 8e | NO. 8, NEW STREET, NORTH SIDE: - : Two-storey and dormer, two-bay, triple window below, glazing bars and shutters; a pity the rather dreary rendering is not as well painted as the rest. | | | |
| f | NO. 7 : - : Two-storey three-bay rendered house, Georgian glazed, the rendering again unpainted. | | | |
| g | THE NOOK: - : Two-storey two-bay, triple segmental window below, whitewashed, Georgian glazed. | | | |
| h | NO. 2, SOUTH SIDE: - : A modest two-storey two-bay house with a single tremendous gate-pillar-knop: this looks very much like one of the pillars shown at the entrance to Essex Castle in the Shepherd print of 1840: if so, where has the other one gone? | | | Pl. 4, 33 |
| i | STATES CAR PARK: - : This is rather an unhappy gap, despite the stone walls and garden at the rear; the buttressed blank gable of the Courthouse, with the tarmac, looks very bare. A couple of trees on the frontage line, and a big tree in the far corner, would help a lot. | | | |
| j | COURT HOUSE: B : 1851. The plans for the Court and Gaol had been prepared and approved in October 1848; completed early in 1851; unfortunately the name of the architect was not recorded in the Order in Council. A rather lumpish stucco block, which could look more imposing if painted to bring out the strong quoins and Gibbsian ornament around the openings. The main block, two-storey, five bays; lower set-back subsidiary wings of three bays; nice curly carved arms of Alderney over the door - perhaps from an earlier Court House? Good granite retaining wall and gateposts, but it would be worth replacing the railings. At the rear, the overgrown prison exercise yard, and a two-storey stone block with six cells on each storey. | | | Orders, I, p.204 Pl. 16 |
| k | THISELDOME: Z : A two-storey stucco house to which a most unhappy third storey has been added, incorporating asymmetrical steel-frame windows, contrasting markedly with the Georgian glazing of the first floor and the remains of triple Gothick windows on the ground floor. | | | |
| l | NO. 5 : - : A two-storey three-bay house, Georgian glazed, cement rendered; it would help the street if the rendering were painted. | | | |
| 9a | HIAWATHA, NO. 4, RUE DE L'EGLISE: - : A two-storey three-bay whitewashed stone house, with triple window below. | | | |
| b | MASONIC HALL: Z : 1813. A large hipped-roof two-storey hall, with an astonishing porch: the engaged columns terminate in half-cones, and the porch supports a large water-tank masking the central window on the first floor! Originally French Methodist Chapel: "In the back lane, leading from the square by the church on the right, is a large Methodist Chapel, erected in 1813, capable of holding between three and four hundred persons". | | | Jacob, p.21 |
| c | FORMER SCHOOLHOUSE: - : The stone wall to the street is fine, but a very odd addendum has been finished in dark-brown-painted cement apparently to simulate plastered stone; but the simulation is most unconvincing - the wall looks like a bowl of lumpy porridge left over from childhood. At one time Rechabite hall. | | | |
| d | SEXTON'S HOUSE: - : Two-storey three-bay, of dressed stone, with nice pointed windows in the ground floor and the gable. | | | |
| 10 | HIGH STREET: G : A splendidly picturesque and satisfactory street, curving gently downhill; rather more modest in scale than Victoria Street; rather less commercial in character; very pleasantly painted, giving an impression of neatness, cheerfulness and sparkle. The square setts in the roadway still survive, but unfortunately much of the pavement has been cemented over. Both television aerials and wirescape are pretty obtrusive; the ugly brackets which carry telephone and electricity wires are particularly upsetting; the sooner these services can be placed underground the better. Here again, while the overall effect is charming, the individual buildings do not quite match up to the general impression. The majority are in a good, sturdy, colourful local vernacular, but too many unfortunate alterations have been allowed to creep in: artificial 'slates' in place of real ones, or pantiles; metal casement windows in place of Georgian sashes; worst of all, wide modern 'picture' dormers in place of the modest and seemly ones with which the older houses are equipped. However, the character of the street has not yet deteriorated very far, and it could be rescued with a comparatively small expenditure of money and effort. (North side, from the old churchyard to Le Val) | | | Pl. 46 |
| a | CHURCH TOWER AND GRAVEYARD: A : 1767: only the tower and spire, erected in that year, survive from the much older church, ("a plain, ancient, English-looking edifice" - 1837) the nave having been demolished upon the completion of the new parish church in Victoria Street. "The scanty accommodation and tottering age of the building render it no longer fit for its holy purpose" (1851). The tower is surprisingly modest for what is said to have been a pretty large church, capable of seating, according to Inglis, nearly 1000 people; according to Mrs. Clarke, "400 sittings marked out by high irregular and dilapidated pews... Nothing can be more un-ecclesiastical than the whole arrangement...". It is of reddish stone, somewhat over-pointed, with a curious conical rendered spire, and similar squat conical pinnacles at the corners. The tower displays a sundial and a very large | | | Painting of c. 1810 by W.Le Mesurier reproduced at Symons facing p.49 Clarke, pp.22,23 Inglis, p.283 Jacob, p.18 |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10a | <p>clock-face to High Street, the latter surrounded by colourful light-bulbs like a fun-fair: these could with advantage be removed. The spire is surmounted by a plump modern, but pleasant, weathercoq.</p> <p>The graveyard is a pleasant grassy slope with numerous stones of some antiquity, not all of them now decipherable. Three of them bear carvings of some note: two bear crown, delicately sculpted hourglass, and olive-leaves, one of them with an anchor added; the former dated 1779, the date of the latter indecipherable; the third, to Juse (a local diminutive for Justin) Ladd, dated 1777, bears a very pleasing representation of a sailing ship, with a storm-cloud in one corner, a blazing sun in the other. The first two are certainly from the hand of the same sculptor, the third may be also: was he a local man?</p> | | | Pl. 14, 25 |
| b | <p>SCHOOLHOUSE (NOW THE ALDERNEY SOCIETY'S MUSEUM): B : 1790. A pleasant long single-storey schoolhouse, stuccoed, with six bays of round-headed Georgian-glazed windows, entered through a gateway in the stone wall beside the graveyard; over the arch the inscription: 'Ecole publique batie et fondée par Jean Le Mesurier, Ecuyer Gouverneur de cette Isle A D 1790'. The schoolmaster was required to "faire lire et écrire les Ecoliers tant en Anglais qu'en Français, et fera faire l'orthographe une fois la semaine alternativement dans l'une et l'autre langue (à moins qu'il ne sache pas l'Anglais) et il leur apprendra l'arithmétique". He was also required to "élever les Enfants dans la crainte de Dieu suivant aux préceptes du Saint Evangile". Today admirably laid out and cared for as the island's Museum, and headquarters of The Alderney Society.</p> | | | Pl. 31, 32 |
| c | <p>NO. 1, HIGH STREET: - : A very large Victorian-glazed house, two bays of two storeys and five bays raised to three storeys, masking the old schoolhouse at the rear, built 1851 as an extension to it; now dwellings. The school was reorganised in 1862, and was removed in 1969 to more modern premises.</p> | | | Orders, I, p.364 Plans in Museum |
| d | <p>NO. 3, HIGH STREET: - : A plain three-storey-and-dormer two-bay stucco house with Georgian glazing upstairs.</p> | | | Pl. 14, 17 |
| e | <p>NO. 4, HIGH STREET: B : A pleasant vernacular house of whitewashed stucco, two-storey-and-dormer, four-bay, Georgian glazed upstairs, well painted; the effect rather spoiled by a large picture window on the ground floor.</p> | | | |
| f | <p>NO. 5, HIGH STREET: - : Built on a concave curve, a three-storey three-bay stucco house, Georgian glazing complete; the upper floors have a curious striped texture - can this be yellow-painted plaster applied on top of weatherboard? Or was it at one time slate-hung?</p> | | | |
| g | <p>NO. 6, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-modern dormer, two-bay stucco house, with a nice shopfront and little rectangular fanlight.</p> | | | |
| h | <p>NO. 7, HIGH STREET: - : A three-storey two-bay stucco house.</p> | | | |
| i | <p>IVY HOUSE: B : A three-storey late Georgian house but with a wide dormer, five bays wide but only three windows on the second floor; stucco; Georgian glazing complete; simple canopied doorcase.</p> | | | |
| j | <p>JAYNE/STANLEY HOUSE: - : Originally three houses, three-storey, nine bays plus one on the curved corner; converted to shops, probably fairly recently; part roughcast, part striated plaster, but all well-unified by strong pink paint; Victorian glazing pattern upstairs.</p> <p>(Here is Victoria Street: this used to be known as Blackguards' Corner).</p> | | | |
| k | <p>THE TOWN HOUSE: - : Part two-storey-and-dormer, five bay, stone with protruding pointing, heavy cemented window-surrounds, Victorian-glazed; part two-storey, three-bay, of white-washed stone, the windows altered at some date; all well painted.</p> | | | |
| l | <p>NO. 11, HIGH STREET: B : A plain but nice vernacular two-storey four-bay house of whitewashed stone with red pantiles.</p> | | | |
| m | <p>NO. 12, HIGH STREET: - : A Victorian two-storey-and-dormer four-bay house, very oddly extended, but well painted.</p> | | | |
| n | <p>CAMPANIA PUB: - : Datestone inscribed 'F b B P G 1743' in lintel; part two-storey three-bay, old no doubt but wrecked by the insertion of a new ye olde bow window; part two-storey-and-dormer four-bay Victorian, with a somewhat ye olde shopfront. Pantiles.</p> | | | |
| o | <p>BON JOUR: B : Two-storey-and-dormer three-bay stucco house, Victorian-glazed, with a pilastered doorcase.</p> | | | |
| p | <p>SANS GENE: B : The house proper, two-storey-and-dormer five-bay, of lemony painted stucco; the adjoining small house unhappily altered to make a garage and room over; rendered but not painted; doorcases and shop-windows of around 1840.</p> | | | |
| q | <p>THE PANTILES: B : Two-storey-and-dormer, four-bay, segmental-headed triple windows on ground floor; plain sashes; well painted in black and white.</p> | | | |
| r | <p>NO. 20, HIGH STREET: B : A good granite two-storey-and-dormer five-bay house, Georgian glazed, one segmental-headed triple window on ground floor; the pointing over-obtrusive.</p> | | | |
| s | <p>OSBOURNE HOUSE: - : Two-storey-and-dormer two-bay house, the stonework almost lost behind the projecting pointing, window-surrounds cemented over.</p> | | | |

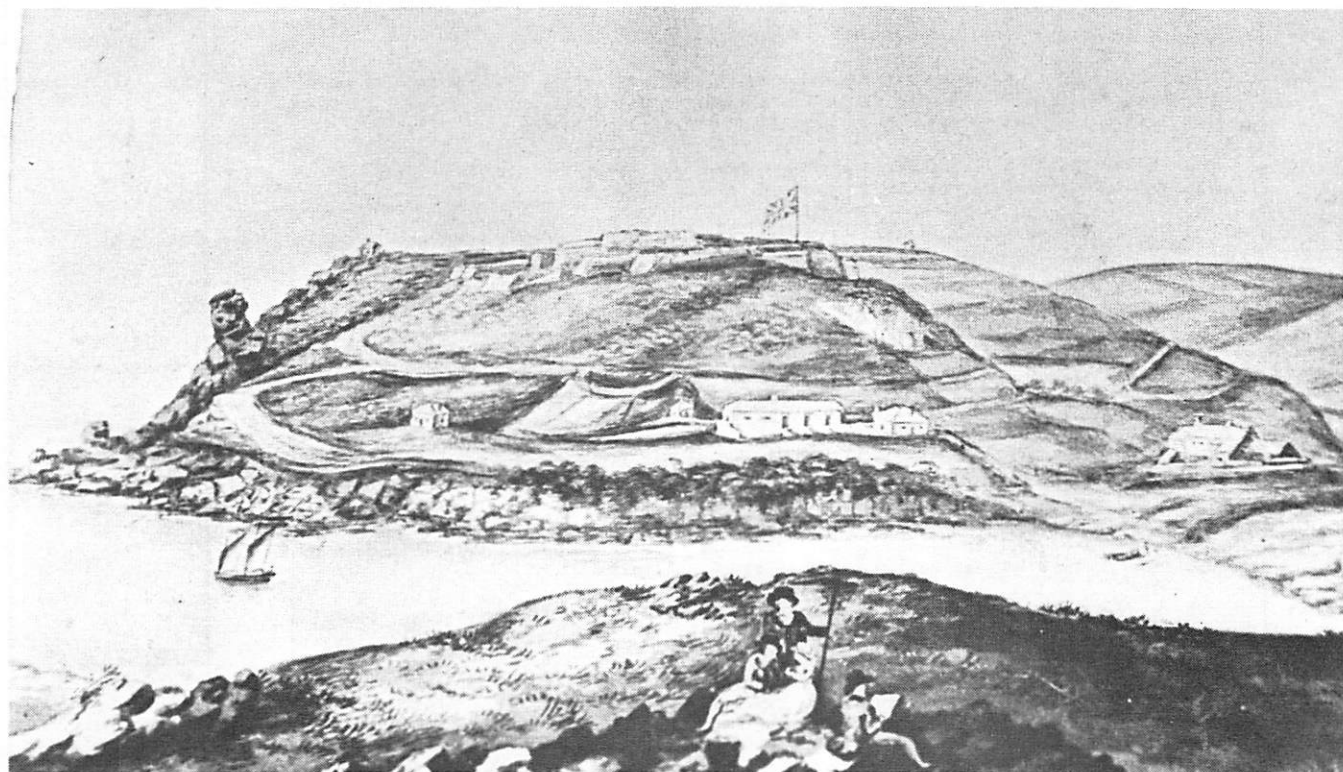


39

39. Part of the Map and Chart of the Island made by James Wyld, Geographer to the King, in 1833.

40. Sketch of about 1810, showing Fort Essex, Longis Lines, the Nunnery, and the Roche Pendante.

40



30



41

Streetscape

- 41. Houses in St. Martin's (No. 16).
- 42. House in the Bourgage, with rounded corner for the convenience of passing vehicles (No. 24).

42



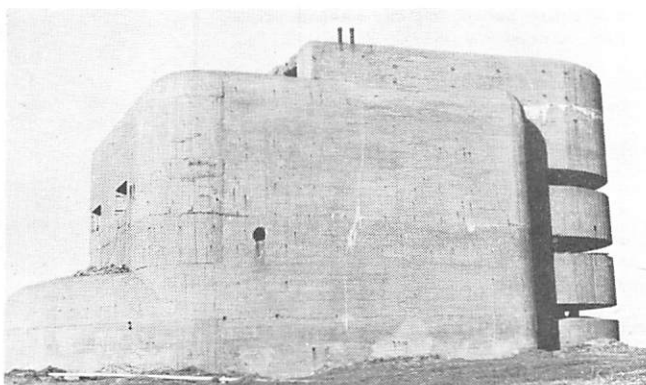
31

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| 10t | NO. 22, HIGH STREET: A : An excellent two-storey-and-dormer house (two acceptable dormers, and a large unacceptable square one at the very top), five bays plus one, colourwashed, pantiles. Georgian glazing upstairs, nice segmental-headed Gothick-glazed triple windows below, pedimented doorcase with five rather unexpected stars applied to the entablature. | | | Documents in Archives of United Reformed Church |
| u | NO. 22A, HIGH STREET: - : A two-storey three-bay house of cream-painted stone with pantiles; unfortunately the windows have been altered both upstairs and down and the work made good in a very clumsy and unconvincing way; modern and unsuitable door. | | | |
| v | NO. 23, HIGH STREET: B : A two-storey five-bay house, very well painted white and blue; a pity about the artificial slates. | | | |
| w | LA RETRAITE: B : A nice two-storey four-bay house, colour-washed stone, plain architraves, Victorian glazing; artificial slates again. | | | |
| x | HERON HOUSE: - : A rather ugly and intrusive block - the upper floor with six Georgian-glazed windows, rendered wall, sitting on top of an unpierced stone base. Not a happy example of infill, though no doubt well-intentioned. This was a German bunker, which had a flat built on top of it, and the concrete faced in stone. At the back there is evidence of a smithy. | | | |
| y | JUBILEE HOME: B : 1887; a very pleasant two-storey five-bay building of pink stone, the centre bay advanced, with tall gable embracing the legend 'En commemoration du Jubile, AD 1887'; good detailing; very pretty top corners to the sash windows; old people's home. | | | |
| z | SYDNEY HERIVEL HOUSE: B : 1974; at the rear, a modern addition to the Old People's Home, by Roger Warren; two-storey, seven-bay, with three projecting 'oriels'; cream stucco, traditional glazing-pattern; a sensitive and satisfactory design. | | | |
| aa | NO. 26, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey three-bay stuccoed cottage. | | | |
| bb | RHONA: - : Two-storey-and-dormer, three-bay, very ordinary facade, but much larger than it looks; the gable has three storeys, one window still Georgian-glazed; a nice Gothick-panelled Victorian door. | | | |
| cc | FORMER SCOTTISH CHURCH: - : Foundation stone, August 1860; completed September 1862; intended to accommodate 400. Its style was modestly described as "of a mixed character partaking of the Corinthian, with five buttresses on each side". The church was built to meet the needs of the influx of workers on the fortifications, and did not survive their departure for very long; the last service was held in 1894; the building subsequently served as a roller skating rink and a cinema, but is now totally abandoned. It is a gaunt stone building, with curious rough-cast pebbled addenda; slates off, windows blocked, interior vandalised; never of much charm, but part of the town, and it would be a pity to waste so much careful stonework,(if not very Corinthian). Cannot a new use be found for it? | | | |
| 11 | (High Street, South side, from Le Huret). | | | Pl. 21, 23 |
| a | NO. 28, HIGH STREET: B : Two-storey-and-dormer three-bay house, painted stone, Georgian-glazed; triple window and fanlight Gothick-glazed. | | | |
| b | NO. 29, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey two-bay Victorian roughcast facade; but alas, topped by a dreadful asymmetrical dormer. (Z) | | | |
| c | NO. 30, HIGH STREET: B : Two-storey-and-dormer four-bay house of stone, rather unobtrusively pointed, Georgian-glazed with one segmental-headed triple window. The stonework is of a particularly pleasing mellow reddish colour. | | | |
| d | NO. 31, HIGH STREET: B : On a convex corner, a five-bay two-storey house of colour-washed stone. | | | |
| e | BUTEL, NO 32A : - : Two-storey two-bay, yellow-washed stone, the windows altered but still pleasing. | | | |
| f | NO. 33, HIGH STREET: B : Two houses converted into one - two-storey-and-dormer, six bays; one Gothick triple window; Georgian glazed for the most part. | | | |
| g | NO. 34, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-modern dormer, three-bay, Georgian glazed; but the stonework almost entirely obscured by the heavy-handed repointing and thick cement window-surrounds. | | | |
| h | NO. 35, HIGH STREET: - : A stone two-storey two-bay house, with former shopfront, much less aggressively pointed than its neighbour. | | | |
| i | CORONATION INN: - : The main house three-storey, three-bay, of white-painted stucco, mostly Georgian glazed but the ground floor windows spoiled; the set-back side wing - perhaps former stable or coach-house? - of two storeys, whitewashed stone upstairs. The modern inn-sign over the front door very pleasing - a simplified and idealised scene of the coronation, inscribed 'Duke of Normandy, Queen of Britain'. The good impression cancelled out by a horrible concrete pylon bearing a competing sign for the same pub; the latter, reminiscent as it is of a petrol station, could with advantage be suppressed. | | | |
| j | NO. 37, HIGH STREET: - : A tall three-storey two-bay stucco house, somewhat spoiled by alterations. | | | |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|------------|
| 11k | POST OFFICE: - : A small two-storey-and-dormer building, three bays wide in all, with a pleasant shopfront, painted black and white. | | | |
| 1 | M. PHILLIPS & CO.: B : A good two-storey-and-dormer house of dressed stone, with Gothick detailing in the fanlight and shopwindow, the first-floor windows Victorian glazed, the dormer charmingly like a miniature Victorian window; exceptionally important as the visual stop facing the top of Victoria Street. | | | |
| m | AURIGNY AIR SERVICES LTD. : - : Two-storey-and-dormer, two-bay, whitewashed stone; Georgian-glazed; Gothick fan in doorcase. | | | |
| n | NO. 41, HIGH STREET: - : A modest and crude single-storey shop. | | | |
| o | NO. 42, HIGH STREET: - : A two-storey two-bay house with shopfront, whitewashed, pleasant simple Gothick glazing. (Here is Venelle du Sauchet) | | | |
| p | NO. 43, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-dormer, three-bay, white stucco, an unfortunate modern three-light casement window inserted on one side of the door, plate-glass on the other. | | | |
| q | PRESTONS: - : Three-storey three-bay house of yellow stucco, the wide modern false bow window on the ground floor acceptable. | | | |
| r | NO. 45, HIGH STREET: - : A three-storey single-bay stucco house with a wide former shop-window. | | | |
| s | NO. 46, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-dormer, two-bay, rendered; Georgian-glazed above, an unpleasant modern window inserted below. | | | |
| t | NO. 47, HIGH STREET: B : A nice two-storey-and-dormer three-bay house, colour-washed stone, triple segmental-headed window downstairs; could be better painted. | | | |
| u | NO. 48, HIGH STREET: B : Three-storey, two-bay, stone, cemented Gibbsian architraves, wide reproduction bow window and door inserted below - but sensitively done. | | | |
| v | NO. 49, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-dormer three-bay stucco, Victorian glazing-pattern. (Here is Venelle du Sergent) | | | |
| w | NO. 50, HIGH STREET: - : A big five-bay house, two-storey with a canted dormer in the Guernsey style, Georgian-glazed; the doorway recessed in a slot at the top of six steps; painted stucco, probably stone (and perhaps quite early) underneath. | | | |
| x | NO. 51, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, four-bay, stucco; plain glass sashes. | | | |
| y | SALVATION ARMY HALL: - : Two-storey three-bay yellow-painted stucco, with tall pointed Gothick-glazed windows, sprouting finial, and indecipherable plaque, which originally read 'Primitive Methodist Chapel, 1860'. | | | |
| z | NO. 52, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-dormer, three-bay, stucco; one segmental-headed window, mostly Georgian-glazed, nice diamond-pattern fanlight. | | | |
| aa | PRIMROSE COTTAGE: - : A pleasant two-storey two-bay little house of around 1830, whitewashed stone, Georgian glazing upstairs, compartmented fanlight. (Here is Venelle du Puits) | | | |
| bb | NO. 54, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-and-dormer four-bay house, Georgian glazing complete, triple window downstairs; nice door with linenfold panels. | | | |
| cc | ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE: - : A single-storey block of squared stone, black garage door, corrugated roof; not bad at all in itself, but this constitutes a rather awkward gap in the roofline of the street at this point. | | | |
| dd | LES BREHAUTS: - : Two-storey, three-bay, rendered, Georgian-glazed, modern door. | | | |
| ee | ROSELLE: - : With the single-storey garage next door, constituting another slightly unfortunate gap in the continuity of the street. | | | |
| ff | NO. 56, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, four-bay, stucco. | | | |
| gg | NO. 57, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, three-bay, triple window downstairs. | | | |
| hh | DOLPHIN COTTAGE, NO. 58 : - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, four-bay, well painted. Georgian glazing on the ground floor, plain sashes above; alas, topped by large asymmetrical modern dormers. | | | |
| ii | NO. 59, HIGH STREET: B : Lintel incised 'FBPEG 1802'; nicely built of slabs of stone of decreasing thickness as the wall rises; two-storey, pretty triple Gothick windows below, Georgian glazing on the first floor; would have rated an 'A' but for the heavy-handed pointing and the dreadful modern dormers: but these matters could still be put right, at some cost. | | | Pl. 48 |



43



44

Alderney Eyesores

- 43. Wirescape and polescape in St. Martin's (No. 16).
- 44. German control tower, Mannez (No. 35).
- 45. The imposing modern head offices of Rupert Investments, European Marketing Consultants, St. Martin's (No. 16).
- 46. Modern dormer windows in High Street.
- 47. German Water Tower, Mouriaux (No. 13b).
- 48. 59, High Street (No. 11ii): stonework and Gothick windows outstandingly good: pointing, door and dormers unhappily incongruous.

45

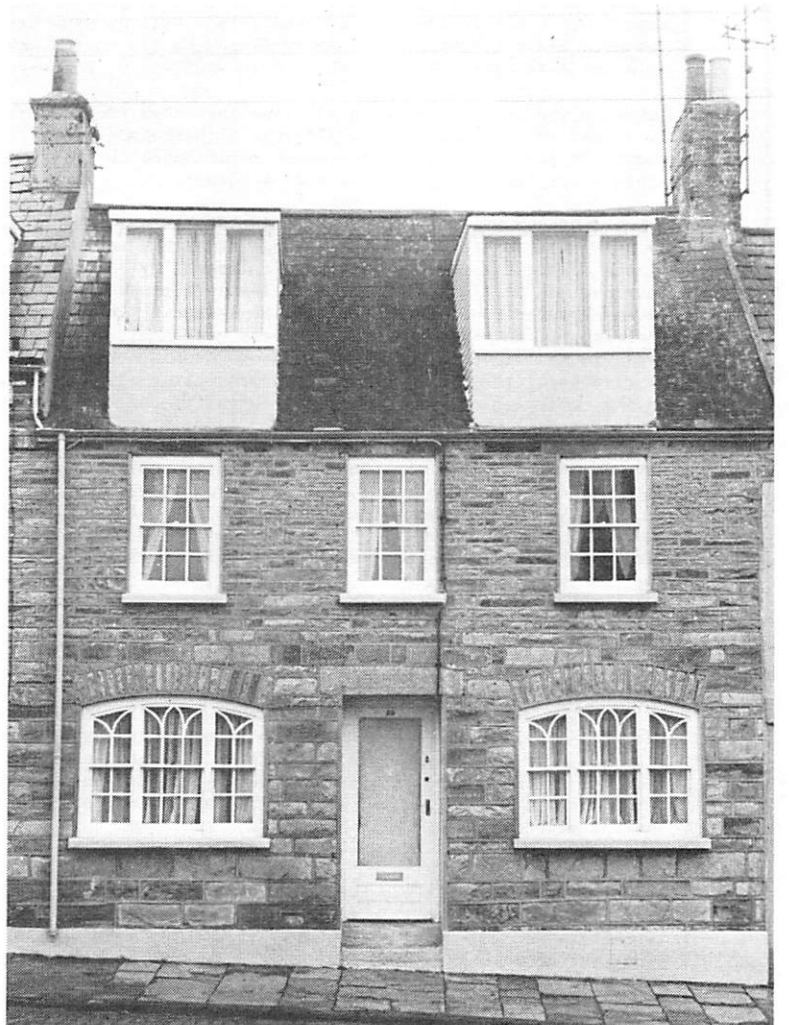
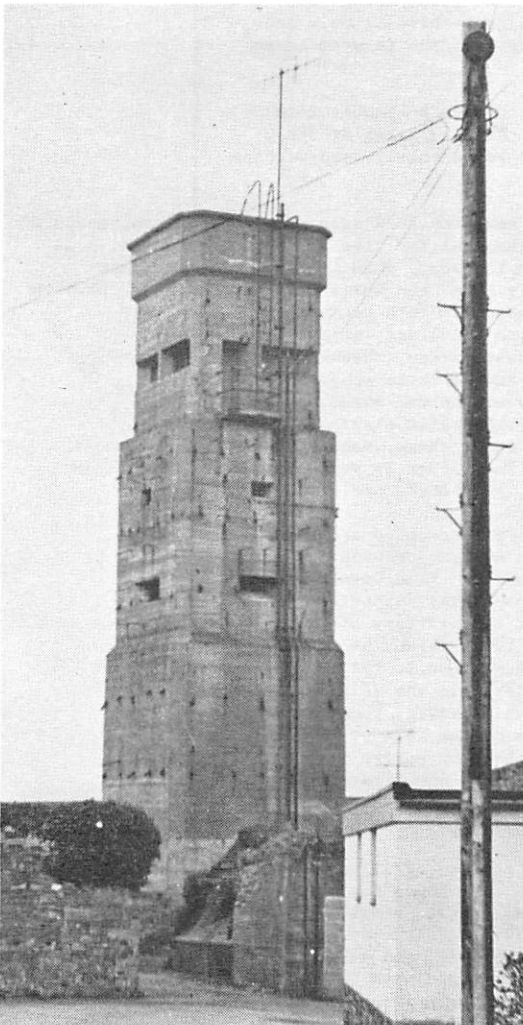




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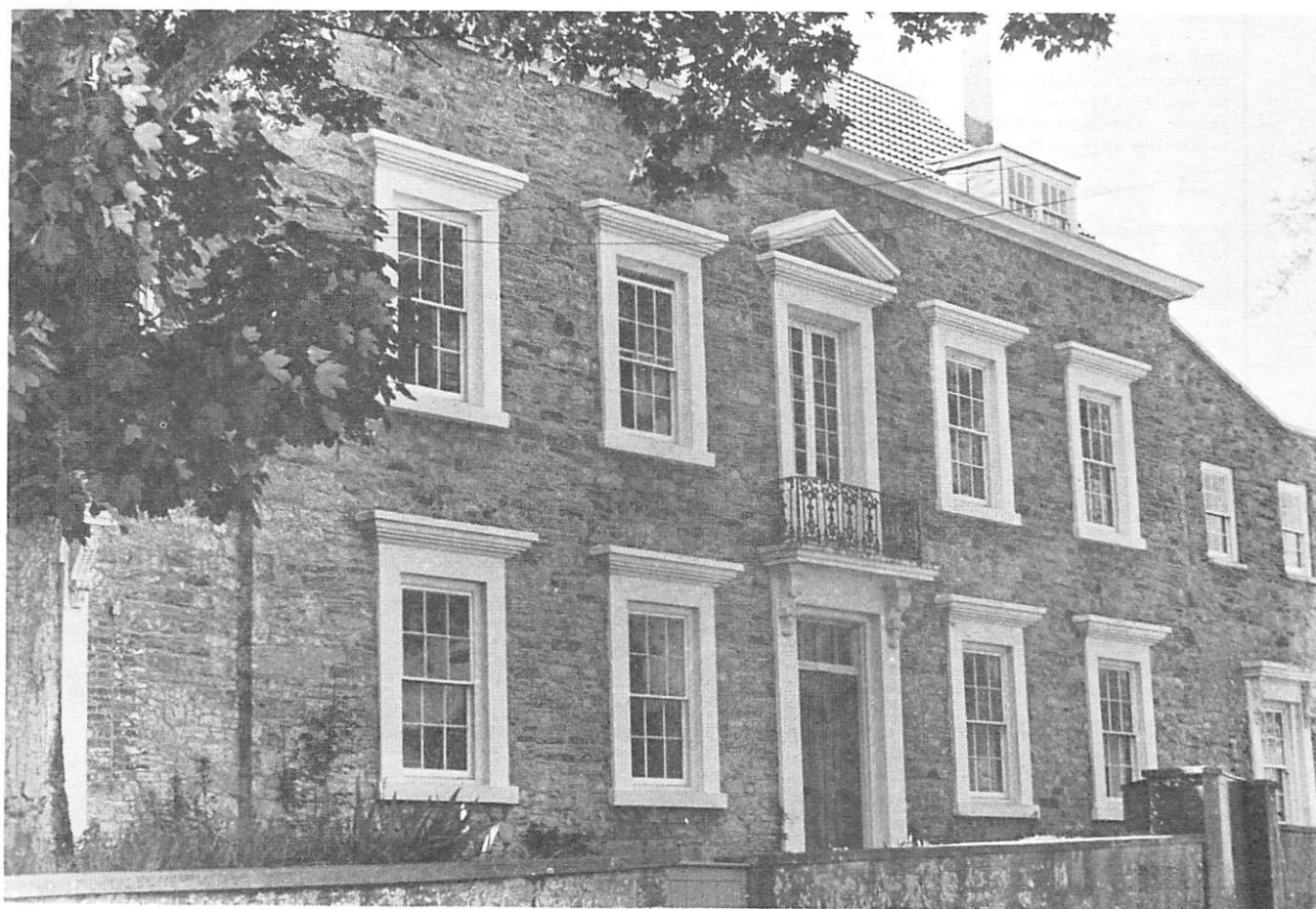
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46



| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| jJ | NO. 60, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey, two-bay, segmental-headed triple window, Georgian-glazed; painted stone; obtrusive pointing and an asymmetrically placed modern dormer. | | | |
| kk | NO. 61, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey, two-bay, very top-heavy modern dormer; stone, obtrusively pointed; Georgian glazed; passage giving access from rear to No. 61A. | | | |
| ll | NO. 61A, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey three-bay house of blue-washed stone, with two large curly-topped dormers. | | | |
| mm | LIFTON HOUSE: - : Two-storey, three-bay, very aggressive dormer; segmental-headed window, plain sashes, nice rectangular fanlight, well painted black and white. | | | |
| nn | BUMBLE COTTAGE: - : Two-storey-and-dormer, four-bay, stucco, Georgian glazed, modern door. | | | |
| oo | NO. 64, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, two-bay, tiny; stucco; compartmented fanlight. | | | |
| pp | NO. 65, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, three-bay, stucco; nice rectangular fanlight. | | | |
| qq | NO. 66, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, three-bay, roughcast walls but with contrasting Gibbsian surrounds of stucco. | | | |
| rr | NO. 67, HIGH STREET: B : Two-storey, three-bay, whitewashed stone, Georgian glazing upstairs, a pair of wider segmental-headed windows below - they and the fanlight Gothick-glazed; very pretty and fresh-looking; a pity the slates are artificial. | | | Pl. 38 |
| ss | NO. 68, HIGH STREET: - : Two-storey stucco, three bays plus one, Georgian-glazed, modern door; pantiles. | | | |
| 12 | <p>ROYAL CONNAUGHT SQUARE: A : A most attractive open space off which there lead High Street and Le Huret, Les Mouriaux, the Rue de l'Eglise, and a small street which has apparently always been nameless, and so remains. The square is closed by houses on the west and south; by the stone wall and raised garden of the Vicarage on the east; and by the garden of the former Government House, now Island Hall, on the north; and constitutes a kind of sheltered hollow in their midst. Its surface is cobbled, though there is lawful parking-space for eight cars in the middle of the square. This is a pity, and it might be better to ban parking here, since there are alternative lots of waste ground pretty close at hand. The trees in the Vicarage and Island Hall gardens are fine, but there is only one juvenile chestnut (planted by Queen Elizabeth II) in the square itself: the fair exchange of a few less cars for a few more trees would be no robbery.</p> <p>Inset in the vicarage wall is a plaque inscribed 'Royal Connaught Square September 26th 1905 erected by the States of Alderney N. Barbenson Esq., Judge.' The renaming of the square followed a visit by the Duke of Connaught in that year; it was formerly, and perhaps preferably, known simply as St Anne's Square.</p> | | | |
| a | <p>FORMER GOVERNMENT HOUSE (NOW THE ISLAND HALL): A : The original house on this site was built by Lieutenant-Governor Ling soon after his appointment to the post for life in 1661. It was completely rebuilt, and much enlarged, by John Le Mesurier in 1763. When Les Mouriaux was built, the Le Mesurier family kept it as their family home, and the Island Hall became the centre of government in the island. "The Government-house is both handsome and convenient; the billiard-room is a very good one; the garden behind excellent, with a neat green-house." (Jacob, 1830). A handsome double-cube house of dressed stone, three-storey, of five bays; the central three bays projecting slightly; quoins and Gibbsian projections to the central block and top-floor central window: below this a round-headed window with nice iron balcony, resting on a rather later porch; string course; Georgian glazing complete: the whole facade a quite subtle play of surfaces. The later wings, and the porch, detract somewhat from the general impression, but not too much. The garden is very pleasant: there is a splendid mature copper beech: excellent iron railings, gate-arch, and lamp-bracket: but it is a pity that the gravel sweep has been tarmac'ed.</p> <p>"Government House, formerly the residence of the Le Mesuriers, is not occupied and the garden, which is well worth seeing, is left in the care of an old man who obtains the fruit for his labour and sells it" (1826). In 1830, John Jacob wrote sadly: "The Government-house has been unoccupied; the festive board, so liberally and hospitably supported by Governor Le Mesurier, no longer exists, either for the benefit of the military officers stationed in the island, or for the sociability and trade of the town, which, at present, is dullness itself ...". In 1851, "It now belongs to the Government, and is the appointed residence of the officer in command of her Majesty's forces quartered in the island". At one time a boarding-house run by a Mrs. O'Kelly; then a Convent of Mercy; then, during the war, a Soldatenheim - "behind the window shutters of the room on the left of the entrance were later discovered quantities of champagne corks filling the entire recess"; acquired by the States in 1959, the building today houses the library, committee and entertainment rooms, and two flats. The extension to the east (datestone 1896) housed the convent chapel.</p> | | | Jacob, pp.20,22 Clarke, p.24 Cochrane Lucas, pp.6-10 Pl. 19 |
| b | <p>VICARAGE: A : Rebuilt 1820. "The Parsonage... is a neat modern edifice of stone, plastered over and whitened. It was rebuilt by the late Governor, in 1820. The house has a very comfortable and respectable appearance" (Jacob, 1830). A handsome dressed stone house, two-storey and basement; three bays, originally with an additional single-storey bay at each side; the room to the south of the main facade was demolished after 1956, and the window unhappily filled in with stonework; the ground-floor windows round-headed with Gothick</p> | | | Jacob, p.20 Coysh, p.117 Painting c.1810 by W. Le Mesurier, reproduced at |

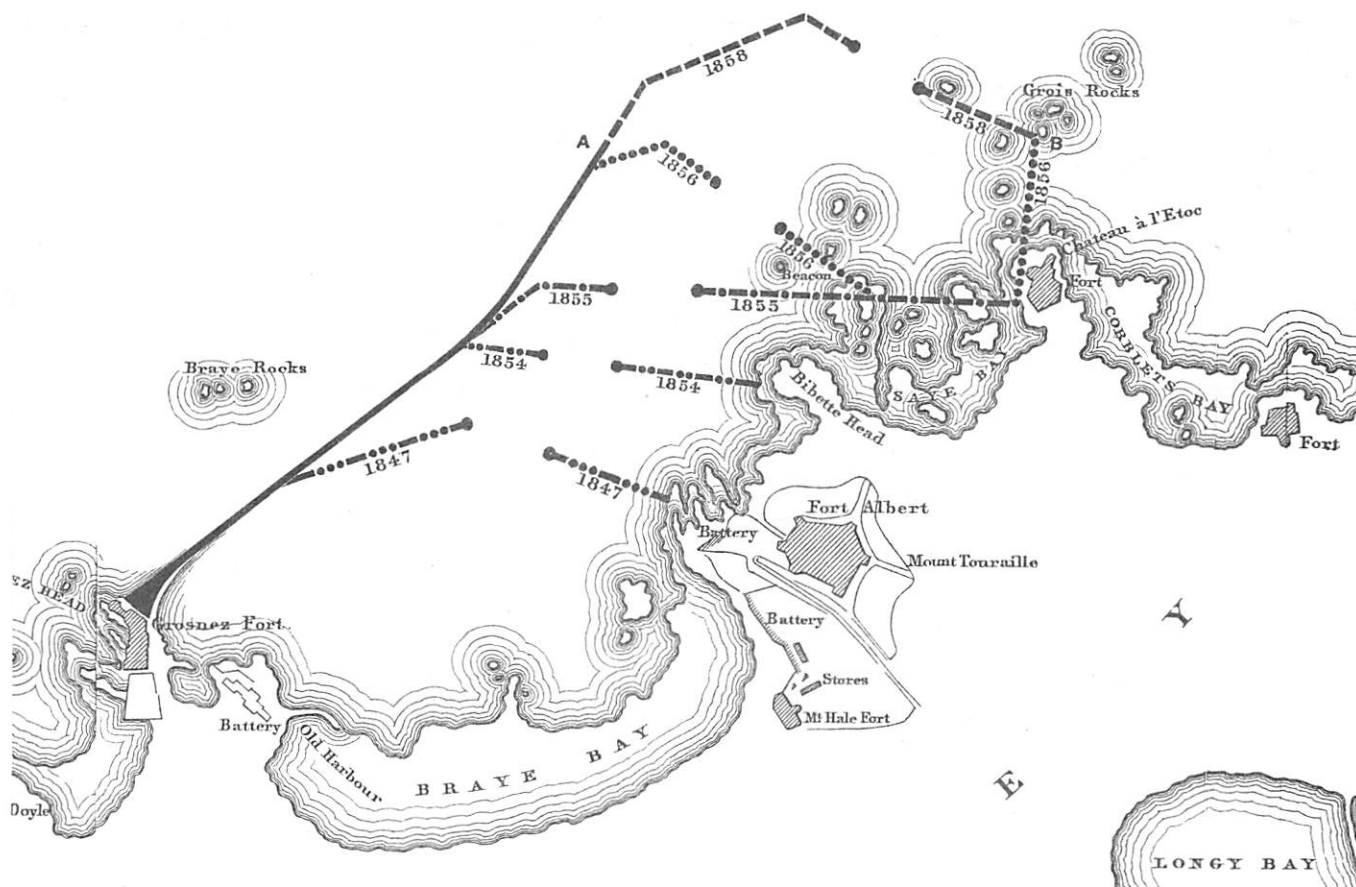
| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| 12b | glazing, the upper windows unusually wide with 8-pane instead of the more usual 6-pane Georgian sashes. There are wide rendered bands surrounding door and windows; these seem to be a not very happy idiosyncrasy of the island. The garden has a good stone retaining-wall and handsome granite gate-pillars. | | | Symons facing p.49 <u>Pl. 27</u> |
| c | <u>THE OLD ROSE AND CROWN: B</u> : Former pub of this name: a handsome two-storey-and-dormer five-bay house of random stone, Georgian glazed, segmental window, original door; very happily restored in 1973 by the removal of very thick layers of old whitewash and paint from the stone. | | | |
| d | <u>NO. 2, ROYAL CONNAUGHT SQUARE: -</u> : Two-storey-and-dormer three-bay stucco house, Georgian-glazed except for one sash, which it would be well worth replacing. | | | |
| e | <u>NO. 3, AND WHITE COTTAGE: B</u> : Closing the head of the square, a group of buildings whose correct sub-division has become somewhat confused; at one time they were the home of the author T.H. White. (The name is an intentional pun; both owner and walls were White). First comes a tall three-storey three-bay stucco house, nicely painted, with an admirable pattern of early Victorian sashes with nicely-curved corners at the top. Then comes a yard wall topped by the bust of an almost-Sheldonian Roman Emperor. Then a pleasant two-storey four-bay house of white-painted stucco, topped by a jolly angel weathervane, the windows Georgian-glazed, with two shallow doorcases, flimsy shallow pediments carried on fluted pilasters, one recently restored. There is a pedimented stone arch in the garden at the side. | | | |
| f | <u>NO. 4, MELROSE: -</u> : A pleasant two-storey-plus-dormer house, three bays, with segmental-headed Gothick triple window below. Georgian glazing above; nice blue-painted rosettes in the dormers; it is only a pity that the rendered wall-surface is bare and unpainted. | | | |
| g | <u>NO. 5, ROYAL CONNAUGHT SQUARE: -</u> : A two-storey two-bay stucco house, its segmental-headed window alas fitted with plate-glass, and a dreadful modern dormer on top; a great pity on so important a site. | | | |
| h | <u>ROYAL CONNAUGHT HOTEL: B</u> : On the corner of the Square and Les Mouriaux, an imposing two-storey stucco hotel of dignified mid-Victorian character (perhaps about 1850?): seven bays, round-headed windows in the ground floor with curious stepped hoods, Georgian glazed; striped window-blinds; altogether very attractive. | | | |



49. Mouriaux House, of 1779 (No. 13a)

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 13 | <u>LES MOURIAUX.</u> | | | |
| a | <p><u>MOURIAUX HOUSE: A</u> : 1779; built for, and by, the Le Mesurier family; a very large double-cube house of undressed stone, evidently somewhat altered around 1840, when a console-bracketed portico with volutes, and heavy stucco architraves around the windows, were added. The stucco covering of that period has recently been stripped from the stonework, to the great benefit of the building's appearance. The main block of five bays, two-storey with dormers; with lower subsidiary wings (each with its own consoled doorcase inserted in the brick segmental archway of former coach-house and stables.) One of the subsidiary bays still has a lead rain-water head inscribed 'PLM 17 M 80'. Georgian glazing complete; a nice garden behind a stone retaining wall, with three important trees; the rear elevation overlooks a very large walled garden, and has a later porch with Ionic columns. In 1851, it had "been for many years occupied as the girls' school, founded by Mrs. Le Mesurier in 1817".</p> | | | Clarke, p.24 <u>Pl. 49</u> |
| b | <p><u>WATER TOWER: Z</u> : Erected by the Germans about 1942 : some eighty feet high, dominating the whole town: of concrete, stained by rust from innumerable protruding iron rods: an object of almost unbelievable ugliness, visible from all quarters. But undeniably useful; an interesting disproof of the hopeful architectural theory that what is functional must be beautiful. The best solution would be the planting around its base of a vigorous and high-flying strain of ivy, such as grows with great exuberance near Clonque.</p> | | | <u>Pl. 47</u> |
| c | <p><u>GAZEBO</u> - : A little square watch-tower, with pyramidal tiled roof, straddling a stone wall; windows looking north, east and west; probably built by the Le Mesuriers in order to watch their ships come in: the view now largely masked by the adjacent outcrop of bungalows.</p> | | | |
| 14 | <p><u>LE HURET</u> - : The curving street, a continuation of High Street, which links Royal Connaught Square to the Marais. Stone pavements; square-setts in the carriageway; a nice triangular pattern at the meeting place with the Square. A street of pronounced character, though the individual merits of the buildings which front it are distinctly uneven, and there are some decided weak points.</p> <p>East side, from High Street (near Park House) to the Marais.</p> | | | |
| a | <p><u>DEVONSHIRE HOUSE</u> - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, five-bay, Victorian glazing, rather dreary roughcast.</p> | | | |
| b | <p><u>CLARENCE HOUSE</u> - : Two-storey, five-bay, heavy stucco architraves in the style of about 1840.</p> | | | |
| c | <p><u>ROSE AND CROWN</u> - : The main block two-storey-plus basement-plus-dormer, of stone heavily repointed, Georgian-glazed except for the dormer, triple segmental-headed Gothick window on the ground floor. Quite pleasant, but not helped by the extension next door - three-storey, two-bay, rendered, Georgian-glazed - which could be greatly improved if the rendering were painted. The block ends with a curved stone wall around the hotel yard.</p> <p>(Here is Simon's Lane).</p> | | | |
| d | <p><u>MAIN'S GARAGE</u> - : A regrettable single-storey garage and repair shop with corrugated-iron roof.</p> | | | |
| e | <p><u>HURET FARM</u> - : A good three-bay two-storey house, Georgian-glazed, segmental-headed window below with 24 panes in the sashes; its generally similar neighbour roofless and derelict. At one time Mignot's Farm.</p> <p>West side (from Royal Connaught Square to the Marais).</p> | | | |
| f | <p><u>THE OLD FORGE</u> - : Part two-storey, two-bay, part single-storey; nicely whitewashed stone, but spoiled by the insertion of unsuitable modern windows.</p> | | | |
| g | <p><u>NO. 6, LE HURET</u> - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, three-bay, with a projection to the street, framing a little paved triangle in front; stone, whitewashed, but not for a long time; a good house, quite unspoiled by 'modernisation', but seedy, romantic and Dickensian in its present rather uncared-for state.</p> | | | |
| h | <p><u>NO. 7, LE HURET</u> - : Two-storey two-bay stucco, Georgian-glazed, with an acceptable olde worle 'shop' window downstairs.</p> | | | |
| i | <p><u>HURET LODGE: B</u> : Originally two houses? Two-storey, five-bay, colourwashed stone, Georgian-glazed, heavy window surrounds.</p> | | | |
| j | <p><u>NOS. 10, 11, LE HURET</u> - : A Victorian pair of rendered houses, quite pleasant; painting the rendering might improve them further.</p> | | | |
| k | <p><u>NO. 12, LE HURET</u> - : A very nice two-storey five-bay house, whitewashed stone. Georgian glazing complete, well-painted; but spoiled by the horrid modern dormers.</p> | | | |
| l | <p><u>NO. 13, LE HURET</u> - : Two-storey, two-bay, cream-washed stone, Georgian-glazed.</p> | | | |
| m | <p><u>HURET HOUSE</u> - : Two-storey-plus-dormer, three-bay, stucco, Georgian-glazed.</p> | | | |
| n | <p><u>LE COCQ, NO. 16A</u> - : A pleasing two-storey stucco Victorian shop, Victorian-glazed windows upstairs.</p> | | | |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 140 | NO. 16, LE HURET: B : A very pleasant two-storey-plus-dormer whitewashed house of six bays, Georgian glazing complete, very well painted. | | | |
| 15 | THE MARAIS: - : Originally, as its name implies, a marshy hollow; then the market-place for the island, and in particular the cow-fair for Alderney Cattle - as the very large central drinking-trough indicates. Unfortunately, this potentially agreeable open space lacks definition, for its surrounding buildings are largely pretty nondescript. It could be much improved by careful thought and careful planting (and perhaps walling) to redefine its edges. The excellent square-sets, some laid out in a circular pattern, and the central long trough, should certainly be retained. So should the hens which scratch and cackle in a walled yard just opposite the Inn, providing a very suitably rural sound accompaniment. | | | |
| a | MARAIS HALL: B : A solid hipped-roofed two-storey three-bay stucco public house of considerable character, probably mid-Georgian though later stuccoed; quoins and Gibbsian window-surrounds very nicely painted onto the wall; climbing roses; ornate Victorian sashes on the ground floor, Georgian glazing on the first floor; very plain doorcase, about it a rather feeble inn-sign of a lady in fancy dress (not even proper Alderney costume, just English milkmaid fancy dress) leading a blanketed Alderney cow; above this a charming blank window incorporating stucco heart (bright red), hands clasped in friendship (pink), and the proper place for the inn-sign (empty). Unfortunately this whole very pleasant composition is spoiled by the wholly inappropriate wide modern dormer above. (Z) | | | Pl. 37 |
| b | ALDERNEY MOTORS LTD. : B : A very ordinary two-storey three-bay whitewashed building which deserves a <u>B</u> , not for its architectural distinction, but for the care and ingenuity with which the petrol pumps have been tucked neatly into a former shop-window opening. This might serve as a model for thousands of petrol stations all over the British Isles. Its appearance could be further improved, however, if some of the over-fussy advertising notices could be taken down or, at the least, simplified. | | | |
| c | PUBLIC LAVATORY: Z : 1965; closing the south end of the square, an ugly pebbledashed grey box, prominently marked with notices saying (a little incongruously) 'AIRPORT' and 'LADIES'; flanked by two rather aimless little patches of grass. This eyesore could be much helped by intelligent planting: clematis would soon smother the outlines of the box, and a tree at each side of it would help to restore the street-line. | | | |
| 16 | ST MARTIN'S: - : An exceptionally good curving vernacular street, running from Les Mouriaux to Hauteville, but unfortunately deteriorating somewhat in the process. The carriageway retains its cobbles, but the pavements have been cemented over; the wirescape is very obtrusive here. All the houses are two-storey, many with traditional dormers, for the most part Georgian-glazed (though St Martin's Lodge has had lattice casements inserted). Most are exceptionally well-painted. It is a pity that the rendering of No. 8 remains unpainted; also that St Martin's Cottage has had unsuitable metal-frame windows inserted - especially those upstairs. The concrete yard next door to St Martin's Cottage, as also the garage and waste ground at the top of the street opposite Les Chevaliers, are regrettable, to put it mildly. The cleared area is a riotous muddle of weeds, buddleias, abandoned cars, and vans; with piles of rubble and sheets of corrugated iron; all surrounding a tiny empty hut, imposingly marked "European Marketing Consultants" - a bucket-shop that has leaked? Could not the yard be used for a suitable piece of infill building to reinstate the street-line: could not the waste ground be walled, planted and screened to provide parking-space for the cars which at present spoil Royal Connaught Square a mere 100 yards away? | | | Pl. 43 Pl. 45 |
| a | NO. 1, ST MARTIN'S: B : Two-storey-and-dormers three-bay pink-washed house, one segmental Gothick window, Georgian-glazed. | | | Pl. 41 |
| b | NO. 3, ST. MARTIN'S: B : Two-storey three-bay stuccoed house, painted black and white, glazing-bars complete. | | | |
| c | NO. 7, ST MARTIN'S: B : A large two-storey-and-dormers five-bay stone house, pointed rather sloshily; pantiles; nasty cement lintels. | | | |
| d | NO. 9, ST MARTIN'S: B : Two-storey-and-dormer three-bay house, nicely painted in grey colour-wash; shutters; Georgian glazing complete; curious curved back-door-porch masking part of the neighbouring house. | | | |
| e | LES CHEVALIERS: - : Two-storey-and-dormer, five-bay, covered in rather nasty raw rendering but with a nice fluted pilastered doorcase, segmental-headed window, glazing-bars complete. | | | |
| f | TREIZE (!) : B : Two-storey, four bays up but five down, Georgian glazing complete, pantiles, well-painted though in khaki. | | | |
| 17 | HAUTEVILLE: - : Continuation of St Martin's, leading up to the junction with La Trigale; still quite pleasant, but no outstanding buildings; the best is No. 18, a two-storey three-bay colour-washed stone house with Georgian glazing and pantiles. (B) | | | |
| 18 | COIN DES ECAILLES: - : A very pleasant curving street, cheerful and charming. Butiaba is a handsome plastered-stone two-storey-and-dormer three-bay house, with a good | | | |



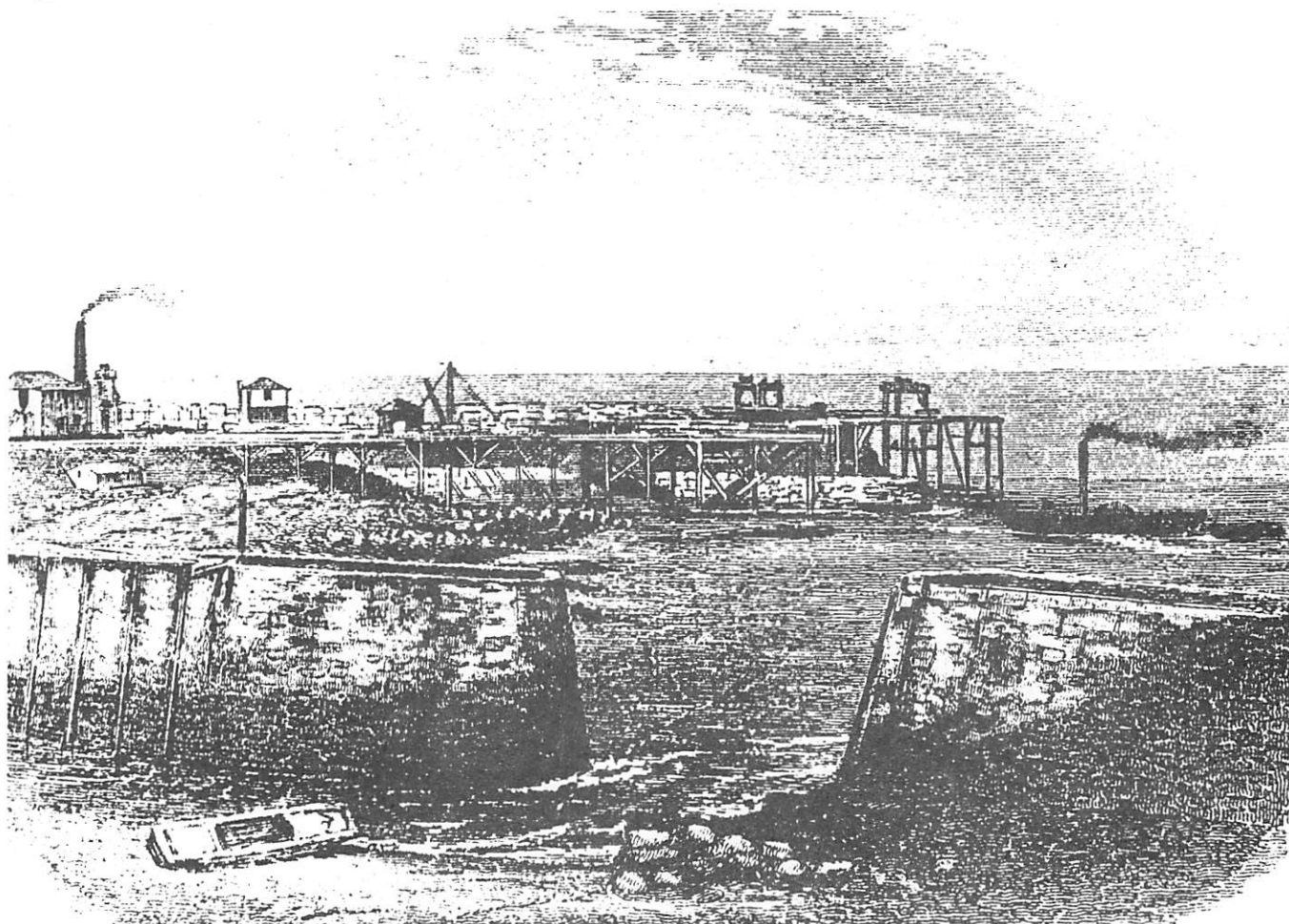
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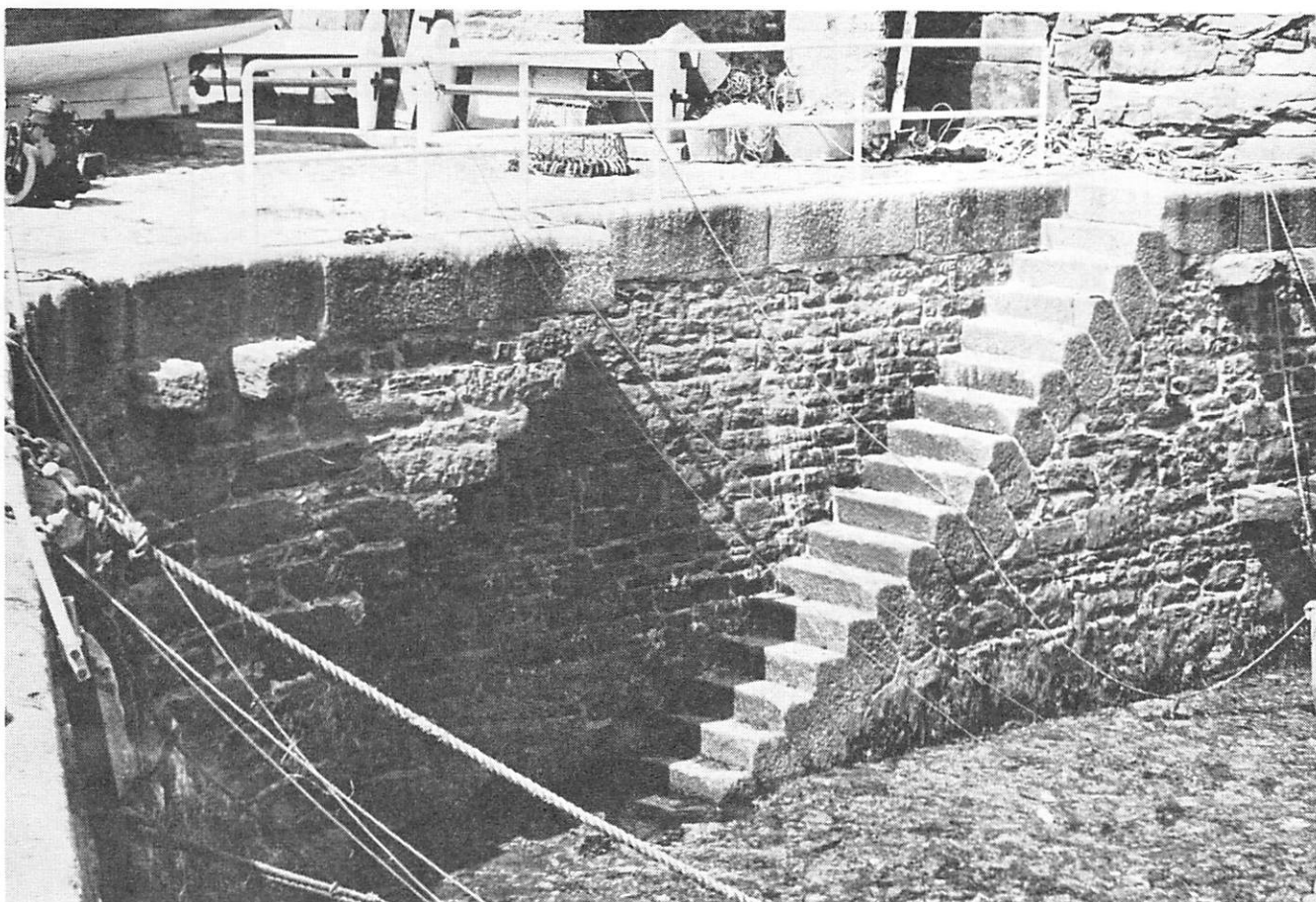
HARBOUR AND BREAKWATER

50. "Plan showing the various designs for the harbour, from 1847 to 1859": from the proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1873-4.

51. Work on the Breakwater at an early stage, in 1851.

51





52

52. *The Inner Harbour (No. 29b): detail showing the elegant and practical stonework of the steps.*

53. *Mannez Lighthouse of 1912 (No. 34); in the background, left, Fort les Homeaux Florains; right, Fort Quesnard.*

53



41

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|------------|
| 18 | Regency doorcase, Georgian-glazed, with a lesser cottage, both in the same stone-walled garden, sharing it and a blue-painted flagpole; all very gaily painted. | | | |
| 19 | <u>RUE DE LA FONTAINE</u> : - : A pleasant modest street, mostly two-storey but part single-storey, Georgian glazing nearly complete, all very well painted; a nice curved corner gable at the St Martin's end; one rather unfortunate picture window at the Marais end. | | | |
| 20 | <u>LA VENELLE JEANETTE</u> : - : A very nice lane, bounded by trees, stone walls, and gardens full of twittering birds. | | | |
| 21 | <u>LA TRIGALE</u> : - : A good rural curving tree-shaded street, with several pleasant houses abutting on it, the most important - | | | |
| a | <u>NO. 10, LA TRIGALE</u> : A : The only house on the island to have a stone Norman-style arched doorway; simple, but very handsome; the inner voussoirs comprising three chamfered slabs, the outer semi-circle twelve stones. The house is two-storey-plus-dormer, four-bay (though the arrangement of the openings is irregular). Georgian glazing complete, stonework white-painted except for the doorway; all very well painted and cared-for. | | | P1. 5 |
| b | <u>NOS. 1 - 5, LA TRIGALE</u> : - : A nice group of two-storey stucco houses, one with a dormer, stucco, Georgian glazing nearly complete, running down to the Marais. | | | |
| 22 | <u>LA PETITE RUE</u> : - : Rather a long street running up-hill from the Marais to the southern edge of St Anne; containing a number of pleasant modest houses, mostly two-storey, mostly Georgian-glazed. The carriageway is cobbled but the pavements have been cemented; the criss-cross wirescape is most distracting. The street starts off very well indeed, but unfortunately there are several horrible cement-block intrusions half way up on the left, and thereafter the quality of the individual buildings is uneven. | | | |
| 23 | <u>SIMON'S LANE</u> : - : Quite pleasantly dotted with modest houses of some merit. | | | |
| 24 | <u>LE BOURGAGE</u> : - : Part cobbled, pavements cemented; tucked away parallel to High Street, a thoroughfare of much character and charm though none of its buildings is of any great distinction: mostly two-storey, some with dormers, for the most part stone-built, the majority still Georgian-glazed. Linked to High Street by two very pleasant short curving alleys, the Venelle du Sergent (tarmac'ed) and the Venelle du Sauchet (still happily cobbled). In the latter: | | | P1. 42 |
| 25 | <u>SAUCHET HOUSE, VENELLE DU SAUCHET</u> : A : Perhaps the best Georgian house left in the town; certainly the least altered - it is externally quite unspoiled. Originally one of a pair of large town houses, but its neighbour has been allowed to fall down and the lower part of its front wall serves to frame the garden. Sauchet House is built of pinkish squared stone, two storeys with simple traditional dormers topped by glass fishermens' floats of the pre-plastic era, five bays, Georgian glazing-pattern complete; a parapet masking the roof of heavy stone slabs and three tall chimneys. | | | P1. 15, 20 |
| 26 | <u>LA BRECQUE PHILIPPE/CHEMIN DES MEUNIERS</u> : - : A small group of pleasant cottages at the upper end of La Brecque Philippe; | | | |
| a | <u>LA BRECQUE COTTAGE</u> : - : Single-storey, whitewashed; | | | |
| b | <u>NOS. 8 and 9</u> : - : Two-storey stone, mostly Georgian-glazed; and, | | | |
| c | <u>BLAYE HOUSE</u> : - : on the other side of the Chemin des Meuniers, a large stucco two-storey five-bay house with Georgian glazing, but rather spoiled by a later porch and modern dormers. | | | |
| 27 | <u>ROUTE DE LONGIS</u> : - : The eastward continuation of High Street, beyond Le Val, may really be considered as part of High Street. It contains: | | | |
| a | <u>NO. 3</u> : - : Two-storey-plus-dormer three-bay house of whitewashed stone, Georgian-glazed, triple window in ground floor; later porch. | | | |
| 28a | <u>NO. 5/DANGLEFOOT</u> : - : Pleasant two-storey stone houses with brick relieving arches and dressings, the bricks so faded in colour as nearly to match the pink stone; five bays in all. | | | |
| b | <u>NO. 6</u> : - : A tall two-storey-plus-dormer three-bay house of whitewashed stone, again with brick dressings, Georgian-glazed; extensive outbuildings, perhaps rather earlier, also of stone and brick mixed. | | | |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|--------------------------------|---|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| THE HARBOUR AND FORTIFICATIONS | | | | |
| 29 | BRAYE HARBOUR. | | | |
| a | <p><u>THE OLD JETTY: B</u> : The earliest quay surviving on the island, built by Henry Le Mesurier in 1736; a curved wall of large boulders, enclosing a sandy beach which dries out at low tide. "It was not... a sufficient security for vessels even of 40 or 60 tons, the rush of the sea across the bay being tremendous, and springing over the pier, came down with such violence on the shipping as to break the beams which support the decks. In the winter of 1807, twenty vessels, being all that were in the harbour, were either lost or received such damage as rendered them unserviceable." The old jetty was strengthened and somewhat enlarged in 1840, and a stone inscribed "Douglas Quay 1840" has been set into the wall.</p> | | | Clarke, pp.15,16 Coysh, Afoot, p.18 |
| b | <p><u>THE INNER HARBOUR: A</u> : 1847-9. Built to provide shelter for the hopper barges and other small craft engaged in the building of the great Breakwater. "A small inner bay, close to the works, was converted into a harbour, by the construction of two short piers, 250 feet and 100 feet long respectively, with an opening between them of 45 feet. The area thus enclosed was about 1½ acre... This harbour has proved of great service for vessels unloading cargoes... in addition to the special purpose for which it was constructed." Much the most attractive part of the harbour: the stonework is of outstanding quality, especially the ingenious construction of the two sets of steps down the quayside to the water. On no account should any future attempt to repair or 'improve' this stonework with concrete or cement be contemplated.</p> | | | I.C.E. 1873, p.63 <u>Pl. 52</u> |
| c | <p><u>THE BREAKWATER: B</u> : 1847-1864; James Walker, C.E. Because of its vast cost, the exceptional working difficulties encountered, and the constant breaches caused by storms, Alderney breakwater acquired "an unenviable notoriety" in professional circles. In consequence, the work is uncommonly fully documented; a two-day debate on the subject took place at the Institute of Civil Engineers in 1873, and much of the following information comes from this source.</p> <p>In 1844 the Admiralty commissioned from Mr Walker a report on two new defensive harbours in the Channel Islands, and work started in 1847 at St Catherine's Bay, Jersey, and at Braye, to his designs. The islanders were delighted, and there was a splendid ceremony, accompanied by feasting, fireworks, artillery and musketry salutes, and (of course) speeches, when the first block of granite was tumbled into the sea on 12th February 1847. The first design was for quite a modest harbour of 67 acres sheltered between two breakwaters; a great number of alternative schemes were contemplated; by 1858 the Admiralty required a harbour of 150 acres with a depth of 3 fathoms or more. The work went on quite quickly in the early years; by 1856 the western breakwater had reached 2,700 feet from the shore; at this point a change in design took place, and the line was deflected to seaward in order to meet the Admiralty's increasing demands for space. From here on the work became much slower and more laborious, as the water became deeper. In 1864 the head of the western jetty was finally reached at a distance of 1600 yards from the shore; no further new construction was undertaken after that date; and in fact the outermost 600 yards were ultimately abandoned after gale damage, and have now disappeared, constituting a dangerous underwater artificial reef.</p> <p>Indeed the cost of maintenance, and the breaches periodically caused by gales, were to be the cause of much heart-searching. In the first place, the designers failed to appreciate the full effects of the exposure of Alderney to the force of Atlantic storms; and they failed also to take account of the formidable eight-knot tide-rips to be met with in the Race and the Swinge. In the second place, the outer section involved foundations no less than 130 feet below low-water level, a then quite unprecedented depth. In the third place, it was not appreciated that, as most of the work must be carried out in the summer, there would be uneven settlement of the foundations, giving rise to deep cracks, between one season's work and the next. Finally, it was not appreciated that the near-vertical seaward face would, in local conditions, throw up waves to a terrifying height; stones weighing nine tons have been picked up from the outer foundations and thrown to a height of 45 feet over the wall. And similar dangerous waves can occur from ground swell even on the hottest and calmest days of summer.</p> <p>The entire work was built with stone brought from the quarry at Mannez by a specially-constructed light railway - still in use, for the permanent repair team based at Fort Grosnez today employs the light engine Molly. The foundations of the breakwater consist of a vast mound of rubble - four million tons had been tipped by the end of 1864. On this was built the main structure of concrete blocks and masonry; the lowest courses had to be laid by divers. The seaward or promenade level is fourteen feet higher than the quay level; the railway line runs along the former, so that stone may be tipped into the sea to check erosion; there are arched openings at regular intervals on the harbour side of the promenade wall. These were very necessary. At the approach of ground seas, which "struck terror into the stoutest hearts connected with the work", "divers, carpenters and masons sought the nearest shelter... in a few minutes a tremendous body of water would be flung against the wall, and there being no wind the wave would mount up a vast height into the air... this commotion would last an hour perhaps, ... and the men were often kept prisoners in the arches of the promenade wall during the time they lasted... The phenomenon was particularly fearful at night."</p> | | | I.C.E. 1873, pp.60-108 I.L.N. 20 Feb. 1847 <u>Pl. 6,7,50,51</u> |
| d | <p><u>THE LANDING STAGE: -</u> : Between the breakwater and the Douglas Quay: built between 1895 and 1900 by the Admiralty, of concrete, at a cost of £12,250, after long and bitter disputation on the island, which did not wish to have to pay, directly or indirectly. The iron extension is the work of the Germans, is so dangerous as to be unusable, and is exceedingly ugly.</p> | | | Orders, III, p.11 Lucas, pp.4,5 |
| e | <p><u>THE HARBOUR AREA: Z</u> : The harbour proper is surrounded by a large and desolate area of no-man's-land, dotted with quarries, stone-crushers, concrete blocks, huts, sheds, shacks, pill-boxes, bunkers, and a collection of mean and utilitarian eyesores.</p> | | | |

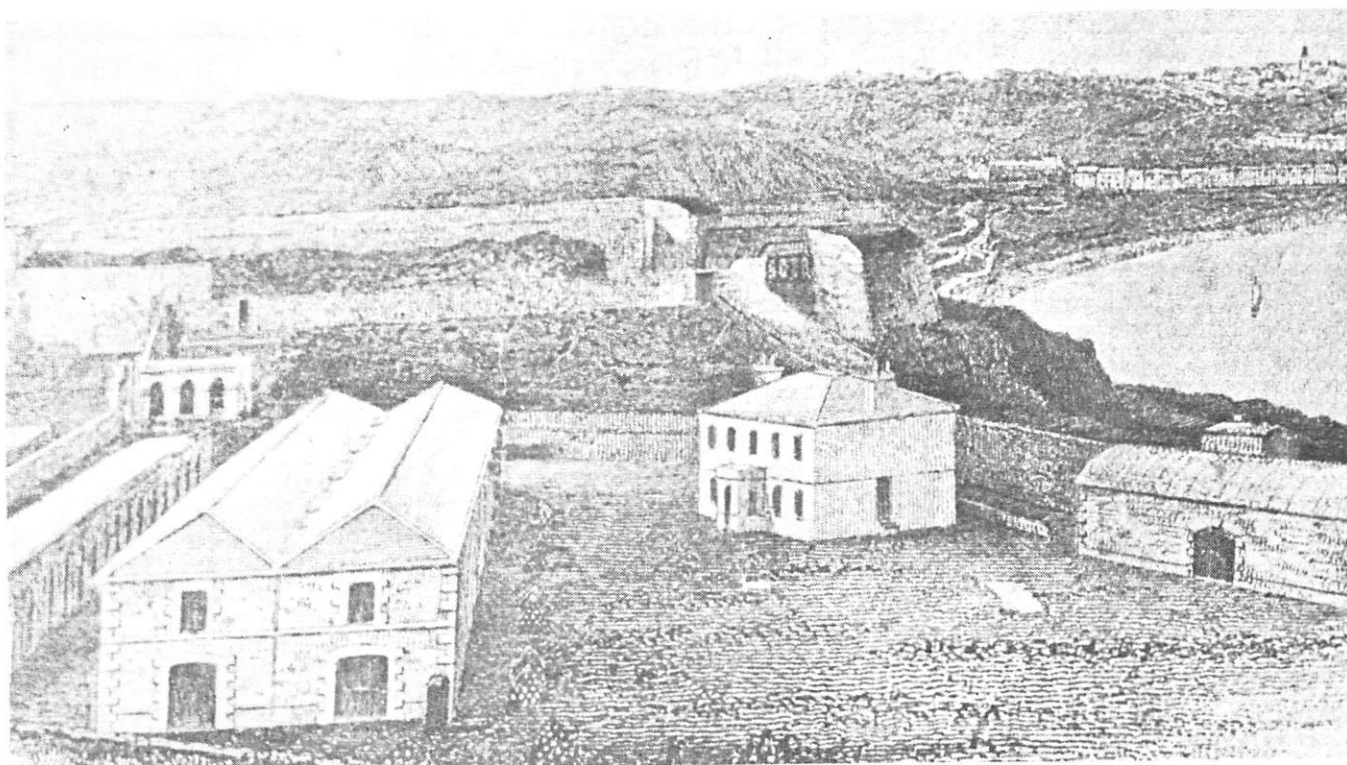
| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| 30 | <u>THE FORTIFICATIONS (IN CLOCKWISE ORDER, FROM FORT GROSNEZ TO FORT DOYLE).</u> | | | |
| a | <p><u>FORT GROSNEZ: B</u> : The first of the Victorian fortresses to be built, started in 1847, completed 1852, it is now probably the most extensively altered: first, by the Germans, who rebuilt and refortified it to meet their own requirements; second, to provide a depot for the breakwater maintenance team employed by the Department of the Environment from London. The original design embraced an enormous stone glacis (now grass-grown), and a dry moat, on the landward side; the artillery emplacements surround a large irregular central courtyard, with segmental-arched recesses, the glazing-bars surviving in some of the store and garrison windows. There are rows of musket-loops overlooking the harbour. The whole is built of squared blocks of reddish gritstone, with granite dressings. There are numerous concrete additions by courtesy of the Germans. In fact, the imposing and austere geometrical design of the original Victorian fort is in some ways like a precursor of the functional Bauhaus style. Fort Grosnez lacks the romanticism evident in the design of some of the later forts, but is nonetheless imposing in a rather grim way. Designed for a complement of 2 officers and 81 men; in 1886 it mounted 16 guns, for which 81 men would be inadequate, but the local Militia manned many of the guns.</p> | | | <u>Pl. 6</u> |
| b | <p><u>FORT ALBERT: B</u> : Probably started 1847; the largest of the Alderney forts by far, and in some ways the most impressive. Started in 1854, after many changes in design; finished in 1857. According to Black's Guide for 1876, this was the only one of the forts "constructed to hold out against a serious land attack with heavy artillery". Renamed after the death of Prince Albert, formerly called Touraille Fort from the hill on which it stands, and on which there had stood an earlier signal station; this was the site for the projected Place d'Armes designed by John Wilson in 1831, but never built. On the summit, very extensive earthworks and revetments arranged in a polygon, with artillery mounts on the walls; containing extensive (and now very derelict) single-storey barrack blocks with Georgian-glazed windows, - in the case of the officers' quarters round-headed; flat roofs and a strange array of tall brick chimneys: from a distance they are visible above the walls like a throng of sentries, giving an impression not dissimilar from that of the statue-sentries perched on the walls of some of the Border keeps. Defended by draw-bridge over a rock-cut moat overlooked by musket-loops.</p> <p>Below, a whole series of outworks: to the west, <u>ROSELLE BATTERY</u>, the Victorian work now almost entirely submerged by the complex of German fortifications; itself on the site of a battery dating from the Napoleonic period; and to the south, <u>MOUNT HALE BATTERY</u>, a rocky outcrop with imposing walls and stairways of dressed stone, now largely overgrown by brambles and nettles and topped by a television aerial. Mount Hale appears never to have mounted guns, but may have had rockets. Between the two, embraced as it were between their arms, the very extensive series of <u>ARSENAL</u> buildings: two great ranges, each of two storeys and fifteen bays, with hipped double roofs, now partly converted into holiday flats; a range of 21 bays of arched recesses under the south-west wall, with huts on top; a rather grand freestanding house for the Commander of the Arsenal, (B) , hipped roof, two-storey five-bay, cream-painted stucco, radial glazed round-headed windows below; best of all, a vastly intriguing stone covered way running up the hillside from the Arsenal to Fort Albert, (B) , the roof brick-arched, with granite-framed musket-loops at intervals overlooking the arsenal, externally somewhat overgrown but internally in excellent order: a highly intriguing sample of military engineering.</p> <p>Designed for a complement of 22 officers and 402 men, including Garrison Headquarters; and for about 50 guns.</p> | | | <p>Black</p> <p><u>Pl. 55, 56, 57, 58</u></p> <p><u>Pl. 2</u></p> <p><u>Pl. 57</u></p> |
| c | <p><u>CHATEAU A L'ETOC: B</u> : Datestone, VR 1853. On the northernmost headland of Alderney, commanding splendid views south-west to Braye harbour and east to Les Homeaux Florains; the site of a very large bronze age cemetery. The landward block of the fort is L-shaped, nine bays by nine, Georgian-glazed, two-storey-and-basement, behind a dry moat; now converted to flats. At the tip of the point, a watch tower converted by the Germans to a searchlight platform. The walls are in places five feet thick, and are pierced by musket-loops. This fort was built under the supervision of Lieutenant, later General, Gordon. Designed to mount some 20 guns, and for a complement of 4 officers and 128 men.</p> | | | Kendrick, I, 61, 245 |
| d | <p><u>FORT CORBLETS: B</u> : 1852; datestone inscribed 'Fort Corblets, War Department 1852, F.L.Impey 1947'; the latter date referring to the conversion of the fortress into a house to designs by Yorke Rosenberg, Mardall completed under the supervision of Speakman, Sayers and Cuttle of Guernsey. The conversion has been very tactfully and successfully handled, and the mass and silhouette of the Fort have been little altered, apart from the construction of a tropical greenhouse on the summit; the dwelling quarters have been fitted neatly into the western barrack-block, whose windows overlook Corblets Bay; the courtyard within the walls has been turned into a most attractive garden of rising terraces.</p> <p>Designed for a complement of 4 officers and 48 men.</p> | | | |
| e | <p><u>FORT LES HOMEAUX FLORAINS: B</u> : 1854. A very dramatic peninsular site to the north-east of Alderney, converted into an island by an artificial cut through the rock, passable only at very low tides. One of the smaller forts, designed to mount only 3 guns, with a complement of 2 officers and 49 men. Now abandoned and very derelict - large sections of the walls have fallen in or been washed away; difficult of access, and dangerous.</p> | | | |
| f | <p><u>FORT QUESNARD: B</u> : Datestone, VR 1853. Another fairly small artillery fort, defended to landward by a dry moat; designed for a complement of 2 officers and 50 men; converted to a private dwelling between the wars, refortified by the Germans whose concrete pill-boxes remain; now abandoned, but not beyond rehabilitation.</p> | | | |
| g | <p><u>FORT HOUMET HERBE: A</u> : 1854? On an insular site at high tide, peninsular at low tide, very romantic both in siting and design, the entrance flanked by two round towers. Designed for a complement of 1 officer and 45 men. Not re-used by the Germans, nor by</p> | | | <u>Pl. 10</u> |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|--|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| 30g | anyone else, so pretty much as originally built, but now considerably derelict; some of the roofs have collapsed; difficult of access and in a poor way, but perhaps not yet beyond salvation. | | | |
| h | <u>FORT ILE DE RAZ</u> : - : 1854? On a rocky outcrop at some distance from the shore, isolated at high tide; the site of another bronze age burial site. Converted to a dwelling between the wars, altered by the Germans, and again used as a dwelling after the war. Designed to mount 10 guns with a complement of 2 officers and 62 men. | | | |
| i | <u>FRYING-PAN BATTERY</u> (not marked on Ordnance Survey map; overlooking Queslingue, below Essex Castle) : - : Refortified as part of the Victorian defences, but in fact first fortified much earlier - probably before, certainly during, the Napoleonic period. It takes its local name from the shape of the heavy-gun emplacement close to the shore. A little way to the northward, an admirably-built powder magazine of dressed stone, with a good granite doorway and brick protecting arch, designed by Jervois. Just above the battery, a regrettably unsightly holiday hut. (Z) | | | |
| j | <u>ESSEX CASTLE</u> : B : The Victorian fort is an enlargement of the fortress begun in 1546 (during the reign of Henry VIII) in order to turn Longis Bay into a defended anchorage; the work was executed by a Southampton contractor named James Stoner under the orders of Captain Robert Turberville; work ceased in 1554 when the fortress was still incomplete, but the northern and western walls were evidently incorporated into the Victorian structure, although the rest was cleared in 1840. Although it was designed for a complement of 7 officers and 235 men, Essex Castle appears never to have been armed; but to have served only as barracks and, later, as military hospital. The very large courtyard is flanked by ranges of colour-washed stone two-storey buildings, most Georgian-glazed, now converted into 13 dwellings; the roof was raised at the time of the post-war conversion. Some remnants of German work remain, including an obtrusive control tower. | | | Ewen, <i>passim</i> Coysh, p.56,79 Pl. 4 |
| | <u>A</u> : At the northern corner of the outer wall, a pleasant watch-tower or gazebo, built by John Le Mesurier between 1812 and 1818, with a nice domed roof topped by a knop, and pointed doorway, very weirdly converted into a pillbox; perched on a curious serpentine stretch of wall, just possibly designed to accommodate the Tudor latrines. No connection either with the Earl of Essex or Sir William Essex has yet been established, and the first use of the name Essex Castle appears to date only from 1770. | | | Pl. 12 |
| k | <u>FORT CLONQUE</u> : A : Started 1853; completed 1855? The most dramatic and romantic of all the Victorian forts, perched on a rocky islet at the west of the island, and reached by a German-built causeway. A round tower commanding the causeway, and many musket-loops; the southernmost gun emplacement was on a separate stack reached by a stone arch, but the rock cracked and the arch fell in a gale in recent years. In process of restoration by the Landmark Trust as flats, to designs by Philip Jebb of London, under the supervision of Mr Arthur Markell, a local mason; the work is being carried out to an exceptionally high standard, and sets an example for other rehabilitation work on the island. Designed for a complement of 2 officers and 50 men. | | | GEP, 25 Sept. 75 Pl. 54 |
| l | <u>FORT TOURGIS</u> : B : c.1855? Another very large fort, almost as imposing as Fort Albert and, like it, sprouting clumps of chimneys from the skyline. The main barrack block, of two storeys, thirty bays long, was used principally by the local militia; it is surrounded by a highly complex layout of gun emplacements, high walls pierced for musketry, stables, dry moats, and archways. The winch operating one of the drawbridges over the moat is still in situ. Designed for 32 guns and a complement of 11 officers and 247 men. Demolition of all but the outer walls and the main barrack block was authorised by the States of Alderney in October 1975. Close to the southern wall, a white-painted conical sea-mark. | | | Pl. 13 |
| m | <u>FORT PLATTE SALINE</u> : - : c.1855? A small battery set on the shoreline of Saline Bay, probably designed for 5 guns and 25 men, manned by the militia; now much altered and barely recognisable, in use as the Sand Depot of the Alderney Grit Company. | | | |
| n | <u>FORT DOYLE</u> : B : c.1855. Another, rather larger, stone-faced battery, defending Crabby Bay, designed for a complement of 1 officer and 21 men; somewhat pill-boxed by the Germans. | | | |



54. Fort Clonque (No. 30k)





56

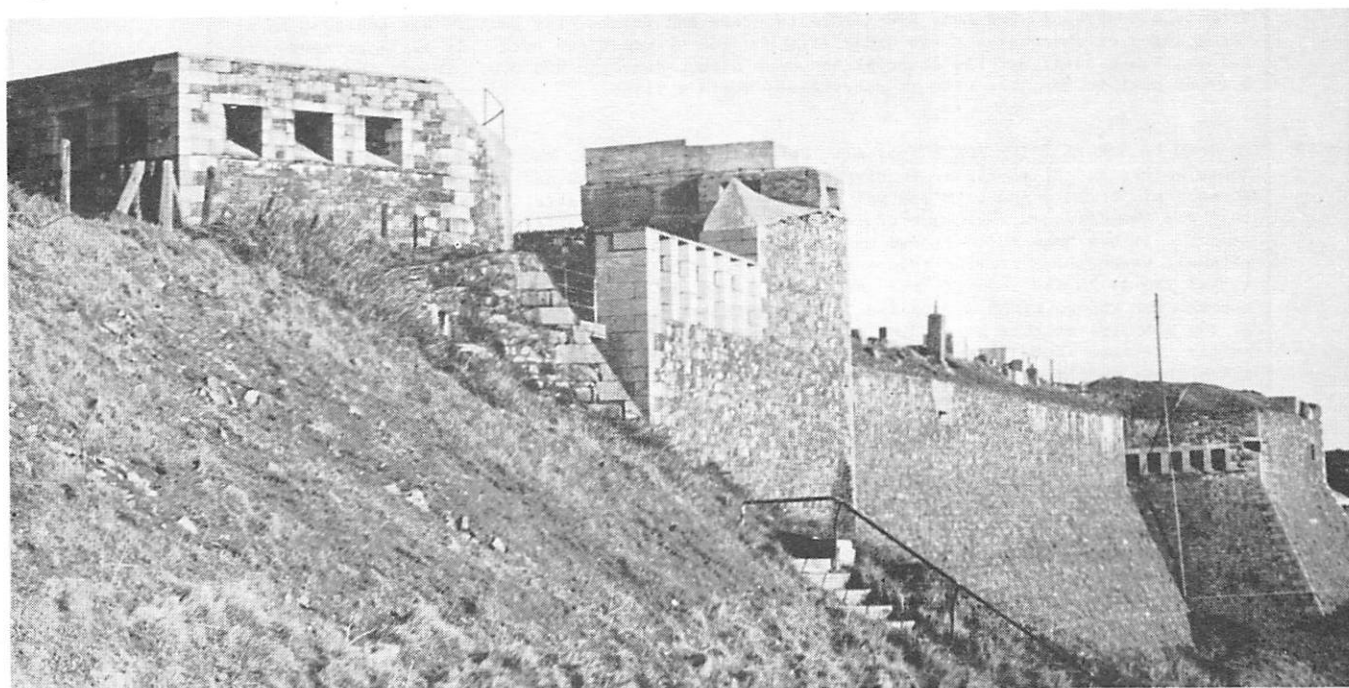
Fort Albert (No. 30b)

- 55. (opposite page) Part of a War Office map of the Victorian defences, still marked "Not to be Published" in 1940, though Alderney was then totally disarmed.
- 56. The Arsenal and Commanding Officer's house, 1851.
- 57. The Commanding Officer's house, 1796.
- 58. Detailing of the west wall: German strongpoint perched on top.



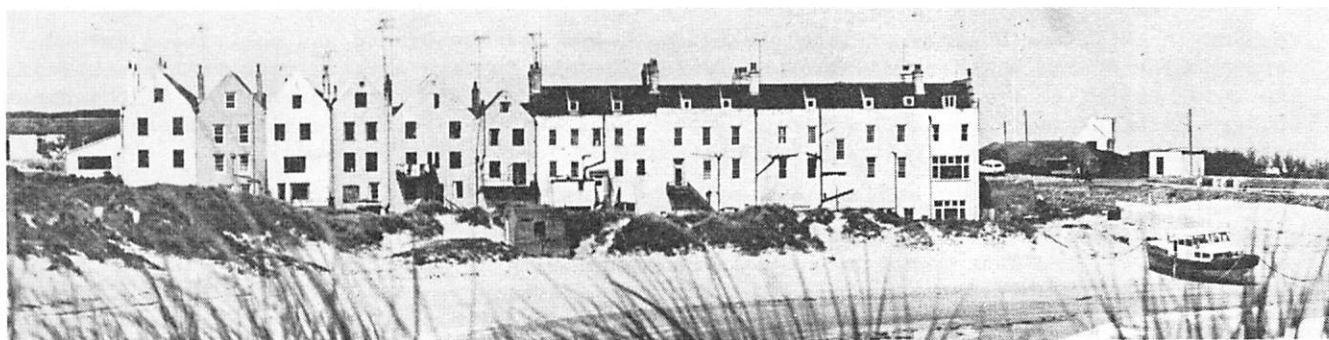
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58



| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|----------------------------|--|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| NEWTOWN AND THE RURAL AREA | | | | |
| 31 | <u>NEWTOWN</u> : - : Originally a cluster of labourers' houses close to the harbour, at the foot of the hill, overlooking Braye Bay; dating from the building of the Breakwater. Of these a few survive, amidst modern houses and bungalows. Here too is the modern island school. | | | |
| a | <u>SCHOOL</u> : - : 1969, by R.G.Read (Guernsey States Architect). An extensive range of single-storey class-rooms in the contemporary style, insipid but quite inoffensive; artificial granite bricks, wooden frame windows, blue panels, much plate-glass. | | | |
| b | <u>NOS. 1 - 6, GAUVAIN'S ROW</u> : <u>G</u> : A pleasant row of two-storey cottages, running downhill at right angles to Newtown Road, with a sandy path in front of them and gardens beyond the path; mostly colour-washed, mostly Georgian-glazed, though No. 5 has had unhappy new windows inserted. | | | |
| c | <u>NO. 6, BIRDCAGE ROW</u> : - : Part of another row at right angles to the road, a two-storey three-bay stucco house with Georgian glazing complete, nice door and doorcase with a simple pediment and fluted entablature. The new States houses opposite, designed by Roger Warren, have been well designed to harmonise with the few surviving older buildings in this area. | | | |
| 32 | <u>WHITEGATES</u> : <u>G</u> : c.1850. A pleasant group of six houses and three cottages designed as married quarters for the Victorian garrison; each three-bay, Georgian-glazed, pleasantly painted in cream and green; some of the houses with walls built at curious acute angles, perhaps because of restrictions imposed by the site acquired by the War Office? | | | |
| 33 | <u>HAMMOND MEMORIAL</u> : - : Erected 1966; Dedicated 1970. Designed by Roger Warren, and erected at the expense of Mr Bert Hammond. Inscribed 'In memory of all foreign labour who died in Alderney between the years 1940-1945. They also served' ; with additional inscriptions in Polish, Hebrew, Russian, French and Spanish. A very well conceived and executed circle of low stone walling, with garden, set in the Y of the junction of the roads to Chateau a l'Etoc (near which was a large concentration camp) and Fort Corblets. | | | |
| 34 | <u>MANNEZ LIGHTHOUSE</u> : - : 1912. Erected by Trinity House on the northern coastline, overlooking Fort les Homeaux Florains; builder William Baron; 120 feet high; rather surprisingly, built of imported brick. A tall cylindrical lighthouse of the standard pattern of the period, painted black and white, very large black-painted fog-horns on the flat-roofed subsidiary buildings. Inside, a plaque: "This lighthouse and fog signal station were erected by the Corporation of Trinity House in the Year 1912. Field Marshall H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught KG Master." | | | Coysh, Afoot, p.41 Pl. 53 |
| 35 | <u>GERMAN CONTROL TOWER, MANNEZ</u> : - : 1943. On the summit of Mannez Garenne, some 120 feet above sea-level, overlooking the island's principal stone quarry (terminus of the light railway serving the Breakwater), the lighthouse, and the northern forts, a very tall cylindrical concrete control tower with three storeys of north-facing slitted embrasures; designed to control the fire and operations of the numerous German batteries and defensive works on the island. Gaunt and geometrical but still, in its way, very impressive. | | | Pl. 44 |
| 36 | <u>IRON AGE SITE, LES HUGUETTES</u> : - : Iron Age site. Excavated by Kenneth Wilson 1969, dig sponsored by the Alderney Society. A roughly circular retaining wall in typically Iron Age style, with annexe, contained a large central hearth, over 60 pots, cremated remains from twelve persons, and Late Bronze Age tweezers and razor. The pottery was embedded in a thick layer of charcoal and the whole site covered by windblown sand. It was a pottery rather than a dwelling; the charcoal has been carbon-dated to 490 B.C. Though there is not a great deal to see, the site is nonetheless worth a visit. | | | |
| 37 | <u>CHATEAU DE LONGIS ("THE NUNNERY")</u> : <u>A</u> : Possibly a Roman fort, though experts disagree; Roman bricks and tiles appear to have been built into the 13th and 14th century walls, and pottery of the 10th and 11th centuries has been found on the site. It is probable that this was the defended residence of the Bishop of Coutances' Bailiff in the late medieval period. It has been much altered by successive occupants; evidently this is the 'castle of small strength' converted into a residence by John Chamberlain in 1584-6: the house within the walls was rebuilt, and the fort altered, by Peter le Mesurier in 1793-5 to accommodate the garrison during the Napoleonic Wars, who seem to have given it the nickname of the Nunnery: at this period the entrance gate was altered; the present house may be partly the same, but appears to be partly early 19th century: the Germans added a bunker and pillbox overlooking Longis Bay. The layout is intriguing - a rectangular walled enclosure close to the present shore-line, with round towers (of which three survive) at the corners, and a defended dwellinghouse within the enclosure. The arrangements bears a surprisingly close resemblance to that of the traditional Irish bawn. The walls are of very solid stone, built in the herring-bone pattern sometimes used both by Romans and Normans; the present house six-bay with a central double porch. Two of the lintels are of stone, the rest of brick; the walls are of random stone. The curly bargeboards to the dormers, and the window-sashes, are Victorian. There is a nice curving flight of stone steps at the south end giving access to the upper floor. Apart from the German bunker, there are various subsidiary buildings within the 'bawn' which may have been used as arsenal or powder magazines in the Napoleonic period or earlier. | | | D.E.Johnston, ASQB December 1971, p.15 Ewen, pp.225, 245,251,256 Pl. 11 |

| No. | Building | Class | Date, Type, Architect, etc. | References |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| 38 | <u>LONGIS LINES (OVERLOOKING THE CHATEAU DE LONGIS):</u> - : Perhaps c. 1790; parts possibly earlier; a long low building, originally perhaps officers' (or barrack-master's) quarters, then barrack, then German motor transport workshop, now dwelling house. Stone, one-storey and basement, five-bay, segmental-headed windows, that in the centre exceptionally wide. No doubt much altered over the years; present appearance would indicate a date around 1810, but this may well have been part of Peter le Mesurier's strengthening of the defences of 1793-5. | | | |
| 39 | <u>STRANGERS' CEMETERY, LONGIS ROAD:</u> - : A very pleasant stone-walled enclosure on the hillside of the central valley; in the wall a plaque inscribed 'Cimetière de St Michel. Consacré le 7 ^o Mars 1802. Pierre Solier Ministre Pierre le Cocq Jean le Ber Curateurs.' | | | |
| 40 | <u>ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY, LONGIS ROAD:</u> - : Close by, another stone-walled graveyard on the same hillside. | | | |
| 41 | <u>ST MICHAEL'S COTTAGE, LONGIS ROAD:</u> <u>B</u> : Probably late 18th century; an attractive small house, two-storey, four-bay plus lean-to store, of whitewashed stone, the windows upstairs Georgian, Victorian casements below, the brick lintels probably added when the windows were enlarged. | | | |
| 42 | <u>BALMORAL HOUSE, LONGIS ROAD:</u> <u>B</u> : A handsome mid-Victorian white-painted stucco house, two-storey, five-bay, plus later subsidiary wings; Georgian glazing upstairs, a remarkable central round-headed window with a most curious radial glazing-pattern; coupled pointed windows in square heads below. Recessed porch; central cast-iron balcony; rudimentary pilasters at the ends of the facade; wide eaves carried on heavy brackets. | | | Pl. 18 |
| 43 | <u>TELEGRAPH TOWER, SOUTH CLIFFS:</u> <u>B</u> : Before 1804, on a map of which year it is marked 'Old Telegraph Tower'; said to be the work of 'the ingenious Mr Mulgrave'. Designed to communicate with Sark by semaphore if suspicious ships approached - but this can only have been possible in very clear weather. A plain three-storey round tower, much like a Martello Tower in appearance; well-built, even the lintels are curved; now unfortunately blocked and boarded up to prevent vandalism. | | | Coysh, p.62 |
| 44 | <u>TOURGIS DOLMEN:</u> - : What the Ordnance Surveyors called a Druid's Altar; its original name, Roc a l'Epine. A burial chamber of between 2000 and 3000 B.C., comprising two large upright stones supporting a single triangular capstone. It overlies a flint-chipping site. Excavated 1974 by D.E. Johnston of Southampton University, dig sponsored by the Alderney Society. | | | D.E. Johnston, ASQB June 1975, p.18 S.G. xix, iv, pp. 463-8 |
| 45 | <u>JUDGE BARBENSON'S PUMP:</u> <u>B</u> : 1913. An odd, enjoyable, stucco drinking-fountain and trough, backed by three moulded humps, with red-painted ornaments and water spouting from a lion's mask. | | | Pl. 35 |
| 46 | <u>WATERMILL, OFF LE PETIT VAL:</u> - : Datestone 1792; the carcass of a stone mill, fed by a race from the adjacent dam; the overshot wheel, gears, and millstone survive though considerably damaged; the millstone is constructed from a large number of pieces of French burr bound together by an iron band. The mill was abandoned in 1910, and largely dismantled as late as the 1960's. It now belongs to the Alderney Society, which hopes to restore it. | | | Lucas, pp.105-107 Pl. 34 |
| 47 | <u>MIGNOT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, CRABBY:</u> <u>A</u> : The original block 1957/8, by Gerald Linfield of Oxford Architects' Partnership; the additional Mason maternity wing, 1970, by the same architect. A very satisfactory composition of pleasant and seemly local stone, with part pitched and part monopitch roofs. The stone is random, correctly pointed in the earlier part of the building, but unhappily protruding in the newer section. Nevertheless, this is a very pleasant building which is entirely suited to the character of the island and its buildings. | | | |



59. The backs of the Georgian houses at Braye (No. 1c) seen from across the bay.

This publication is the outcome of co-operation between two voluntary amenity societies - one in the Channel Islands, the other in Ireland. Both need the support and contributions of as wide a membership as possible, if they are to carry out their work effectively. If you have found this survey of interest, would you care to become a member of one or other body, or both?

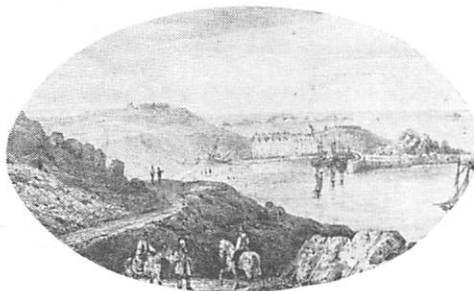


THE ALDERNEY SOCIETY AND MUSEUM,
Alderney,
Channel Islands.

The Alderney Society was founded in 1966 by a group of enthusiasts with a great affection for the Island, who wished to preserve for posterity what was left in evidence of its past. Not only is it necessary to preserve, but also to record that which cannot be preserved. Part of the constitution of the Society reads: "To preserve or record structures, sites and chattels of historical or scientific interest or artistic merit on the Island".

Preservation today is a very costly business both for the States of Alderney and for the owner of private property. Consequently it is inevitable that, in order to save money, much that should be preserved or restored to its original condition is neglected, or replaced by cheaper modern materials such as concrete, where dressed stone was used in the past. Although active members of the Society deplore this gradual change which is slowly altering the character of the Island, there has been no-one among its members qualified or willing to make a comprehensive survey of what is left of Old Alderney: and the Society is correspondingly grateful to Mr Brett for compiling this work.

The Alderney Society, with a membership of about five hundred, is not wealthy. A large proportion of its limited funds is used in preservation and restoration, leaving very little to spend on publication. All its workers are volunteers and it has no paid staff. This work could not have been published without the aid of those who have made generous interest-free loans towards the cost of publication. To these we extend our thanks. Membership of the Society costs £2 per annum and a Quarterly Bulletin is sent to all members, many of whom live off the Island, to keep them in touch with the activities of the Society.



ULSTER ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY,
181A, Stranmillis Road,
Belfast, 9.

Founded in 1967, the Society is based in Belfast, but its membership and activities extend throughout the nine northern counties of Ireland. Its objects are: to promote the appreciation and enjoyment of good architecture of all periods; to encourage the preservation of buildings and groups of artistic merit or historic importance; and to encourage public awareness and appreciation of the beauty, history and character of local neighbourhoods.

The Society has compiled and published a series of surveys, in a format similar to this volume, covering different towns, villages and districts on both sides of the border. It has also published five hard-back books on subjects connected with Irish architecture. It has campaigned successfully for important changes in the planning and conservation laws, and plays an active part in environmental issues of every kind. Members receive half-yearly reports, and enjoy the privilege of buying the Society's publications by post at a 25% discount. Ordinary membership costs £1 a year until the end of 1976; thereafter, £2 a year.

