

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1991
THE REGISTERED BUILDINGS (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1991

To: **The Vicar and Wardens of Malew,
c/o Revd Michael Roberts, Malew Vicarage, St Mark's Road, Ballasalla**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 30th March 2001, the PLANNING COMMITTEE of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, in pursuance of its powers under the above Acts and Regulations REGISTERED


St Mark's Church, St Mark's, Malew

as represented by the buildings shown outlined in red on the plan hereto attached, in the PROTECTED BUILDINGS REGISTER by reason of their special architectural and historic interest.

THE EFFECT OF THIS REGISTRATION IS IMMEDIATE and prohibits the alteration or demolition of the structure or appearance of any part of the building except in compliance with an obligation imposed by or under any statutory provision or with the prior written consent of the Planning Committee.

Dated this *9th* day of *May* 2001

By Order of the Committee



RF Secretary, Planning Committee.

3rd Floor, Murray House,
Mount Havelock,
Douglas,
IM1 2SF.

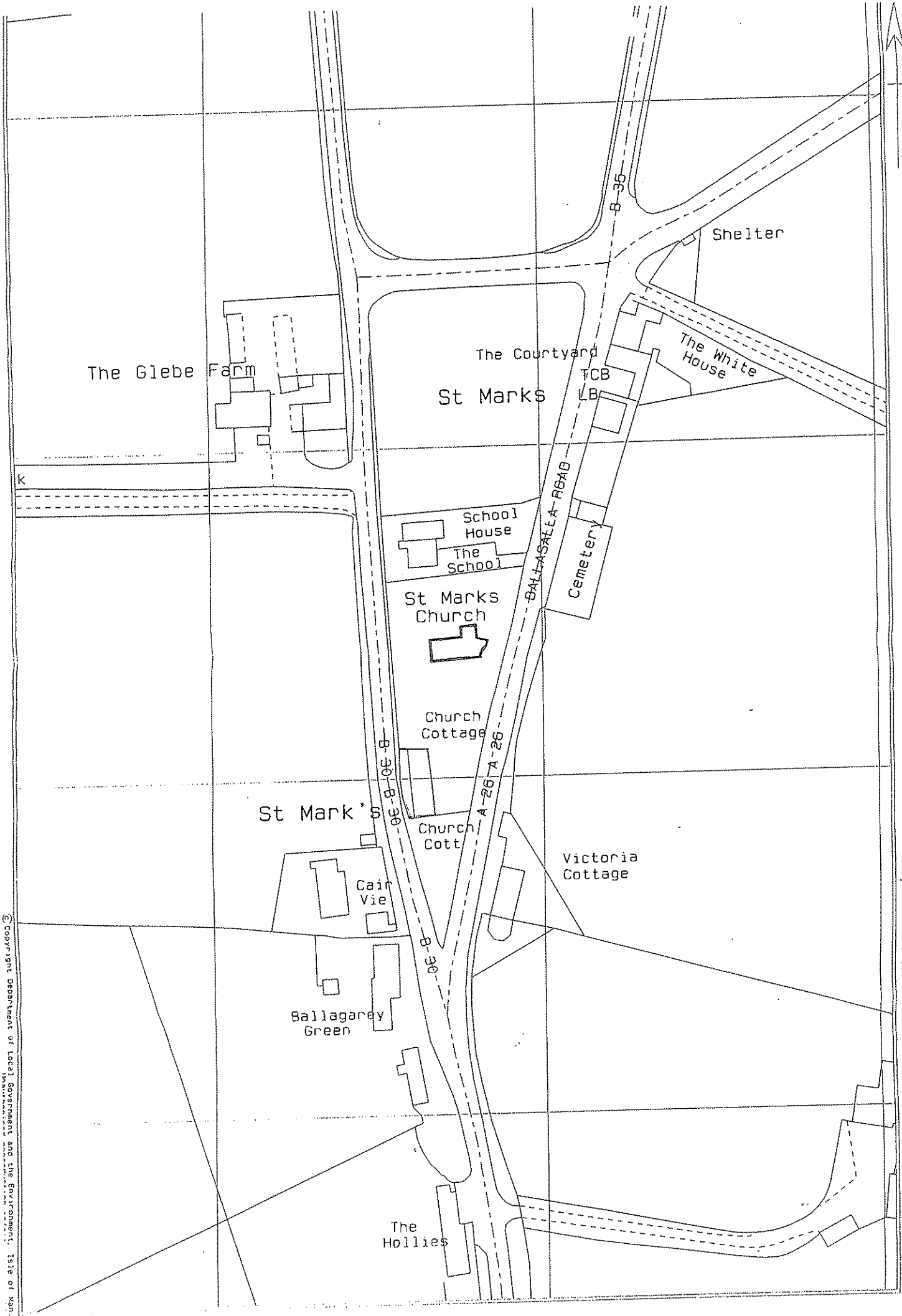
NOTE :

Rights to request de-registration of the building are provided under the Regulations and in summary are that:

Applications in writing for the de-registration of the building may be made by the owners or occupier, or any other person having an interest in the building, within a period of 28 days of service of this notice. Such application should be sent to the Secretary, Planning Committee, 3rd Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas, IM1 2SF.

In the event that de-registration is not requested by any party within the 28 day period described above, then de-registration may not be requested within a period of 3 years.

**c.c.:- Malew Parish Commissioners, Commissioners' Office, Ballasalla;
Chief Minister Hon D J Gelling MHK, Grenaugh Beg, Glen Grenaugh, Santon;
Manx National Heritage, Kingswood Grove, Douglas;
Advisory Council on Planning and the Environment, 52, Alberta Drive, Onchan.**



Scale 1:1000

Department of Local Government & the Environment, Isle of Man

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ST MARK'S CHURCH, ST MARK'S

St Mark's Church was consecrated on the 23rd of June 1772 by Bishop Mark Hildesley, who had personally contributed £217.10.00 towards the cost.

In the year 1771, local inhabitants petitioned the Governor and the Bishop regarding the need for a place of worship closer than Malew Parish Church. The petitioners graphically described that in winter they were unable to reach the church due to severe weather and poor roads, as most of them lived some four miles from the Parish Church and some up to six miles.

The Governor and Bishop gave every encouragement to the undertaking and Hugh Cosnahan of Ballakew, a member of the House of Keys, and Thomas Fargher of Shenvalla were authorised to collect subscriptions. They purchased a portion of the property called Dreem-freaie meaning 'heathery ridge'. Later parts of Cleighrouyr meaning 'thick hedge' were acquired and Ballagaley for the Parsonage House, School and Glebe. It would appear that initially the church was either poorly constructed or not maintained, as when the Reverend John Thomas Clarke was appointed chaplain in 1827 he found the building in a 'shocking state'. It is reported that he found the floor of the Chancel aisle and pews to be made of clay instead of wood, the gallery remained without a ceiling and no paint had been used on the interior of the chapel. It is recorded that Reverend Clarke remedied the defects of the church.

Amongst those buried in the churchyard are the first trustees, Hugh Cosnahan and Thomas Fargher. Mr Fargher's memorial in the graveyard is by far the largest and most striking. The first burial was that of Margaret Callister in December 1778. Many residents of Foxdale were also buried at St Mark's prior to the opening of St Paul's Church in Foxdale in 1874. Reverend Clarke buried his first wife at St Mark's and the same grave holds his eldest son and a daughter.

St Mark's Church has solid stone walls of slate and granite, finished in render. However the exposed bell-cote on the west end of the church is unrendered and constructed in granite. The tower is in the form of four pillars with segmental brick arches, supporting a square cap, conical roof and weather vane.

A particular feature is the existence of square finials, eight of which ornament the tower. Originally another four stood at each corner of the roof, but these were removed due to the ingress of water around them, and placed on the gate pillars at the east entrance to the churchyard.

A sundial appeared in the churchyard in 1849, although it was replaced in 1919-1920. When the church was last repainted externally, a slate plaque over the entrance doors, the lettering on which was obliterated, was rendered over. The inscription 'St Mark's 1772' was then painted above the doors.

The entrance doors have been replaced in recent years. They lead into a vestibule that has a single door to the left, leading up to the organ loft, and double doors ahead into the chapel. The organ came from Malew Parish Church in 1907, having been built by

H W Hewitt of Leicester in the 1880s. It is likely that the organ dates back to the 1830s, as Hewitt's speciality was rebuilding scrap organs. The organ was sited in the chancel until 1981, when it was restored and moved to its present site by Peter Jones of St John's.

The organ loft was referred to as the gallery by Reverend Clark in 1827, but may not have been included when the chapel was first built. A plan dated 16th April 1773, shows no vestibule or gallery and it is clear from this plan that the pew positions have been changed. Reverend Clark referred to pews with doors missing and few having desks or kneeling boards. It would appear that the pews referred to are not those in the chapel today, as they do not have doors and all have desks. This opinion is reinforced by the haphazard numbering on the pew ends. These numbers go as high as twenty-two, when the plan of 1773 shows only twelve rows of pews, it is therefore likely that the pews were obtained from another place of worship.

The plan of 1773 shows a doorway to the vestry, but as the vestry is not shown on the plan, it has not been possible to determine if it was built at the same time as the chapel.

There are four arched windows to either side of the chapel, these have a diamond-pattern glazing formed in cast iron. Above the two arched windows to the west end of the chapel are dormer windows, these are inset into the roof and provide light for the gallery, which is now the organ loft. There is the suggestion that these were again a later addition, as their glazing differs from the eight arched windows and they extend below the line of the gutter.

The east window in the church is a memorial of the Reverend J T Clarke and his first wife. Two other chaplains are also commemorated by brass plaques, the Reverends Thomas Howard Gill and J S Lupton. Externally a tablet to the front of the church commemorates those killed in the First World War.

On the wall of the chancel is a carved wooden plaque of a Bishop's mitre, dedicated to Bishop Mark Hildesley (1755-1773). It features dog-tooth carving which matches detailing to the pulpit, reading desk and the doorway-surround to the vestry. The accounts of Reverend Clark show that the font was replaced in 1863.

It is recommended that St Mark's Church be added to the Register of Protected Buildings on the following grounds:

- 1 Age. The property can be accurately dated as being constructed in 1772.
- 2 Architectural style and aesthetic quality.
- 3 Close historical association with Reverend John Thomas Clark, who was known as the 'Patriarch' of St Mark's.

- 4 Landmark qualities. St Mark's Church is situated in an elevated position and its bell-cote is visible for several miles in all directions.
- 5 Group interest - with the Schoolhouse and Church Cottages, St Mark's Church forms a unique grouping of ecclesiastical properties.

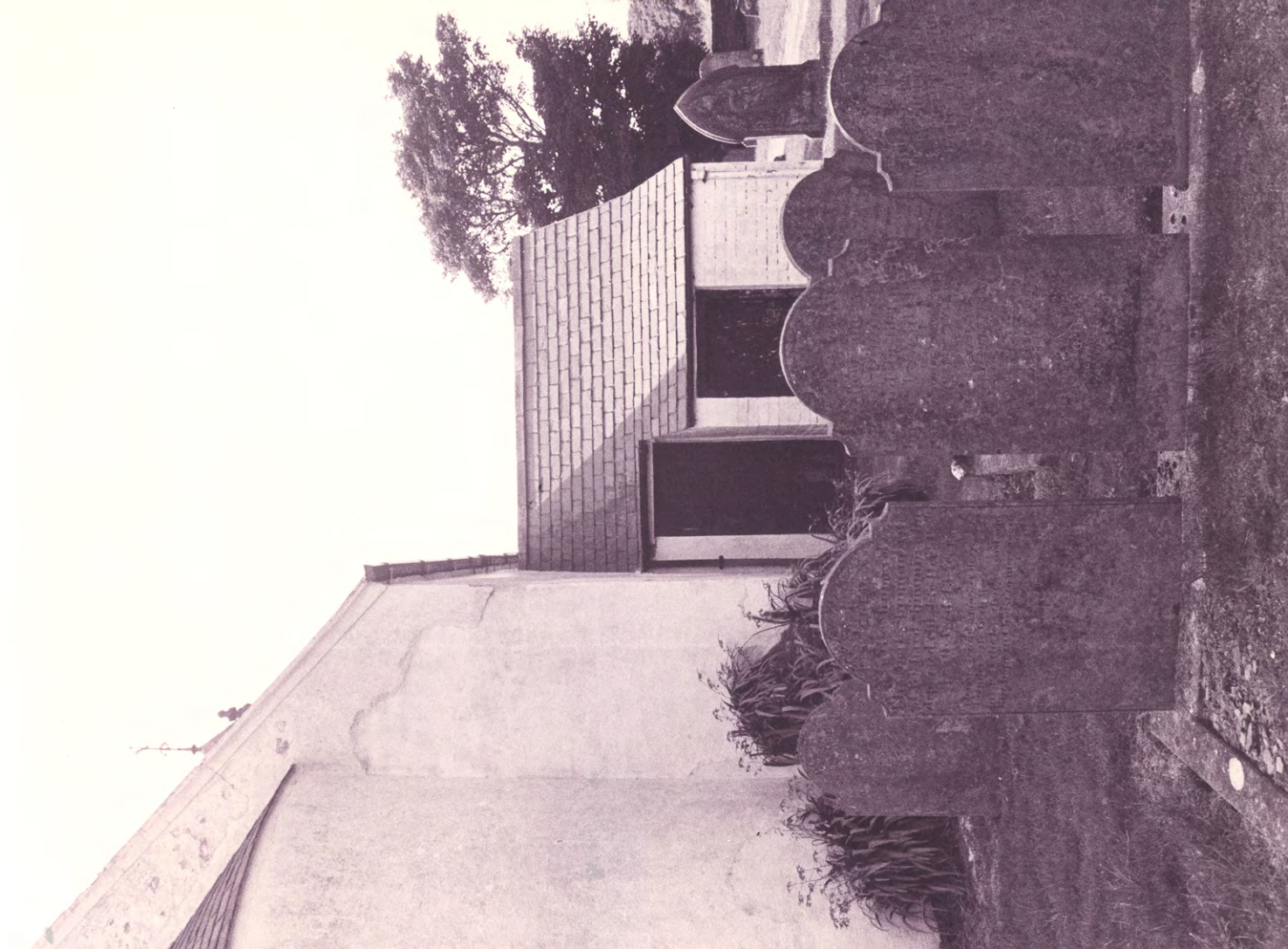
SOURCES

Records of Saint Mark's Chapel, The Manx Society Vol 28, 1878

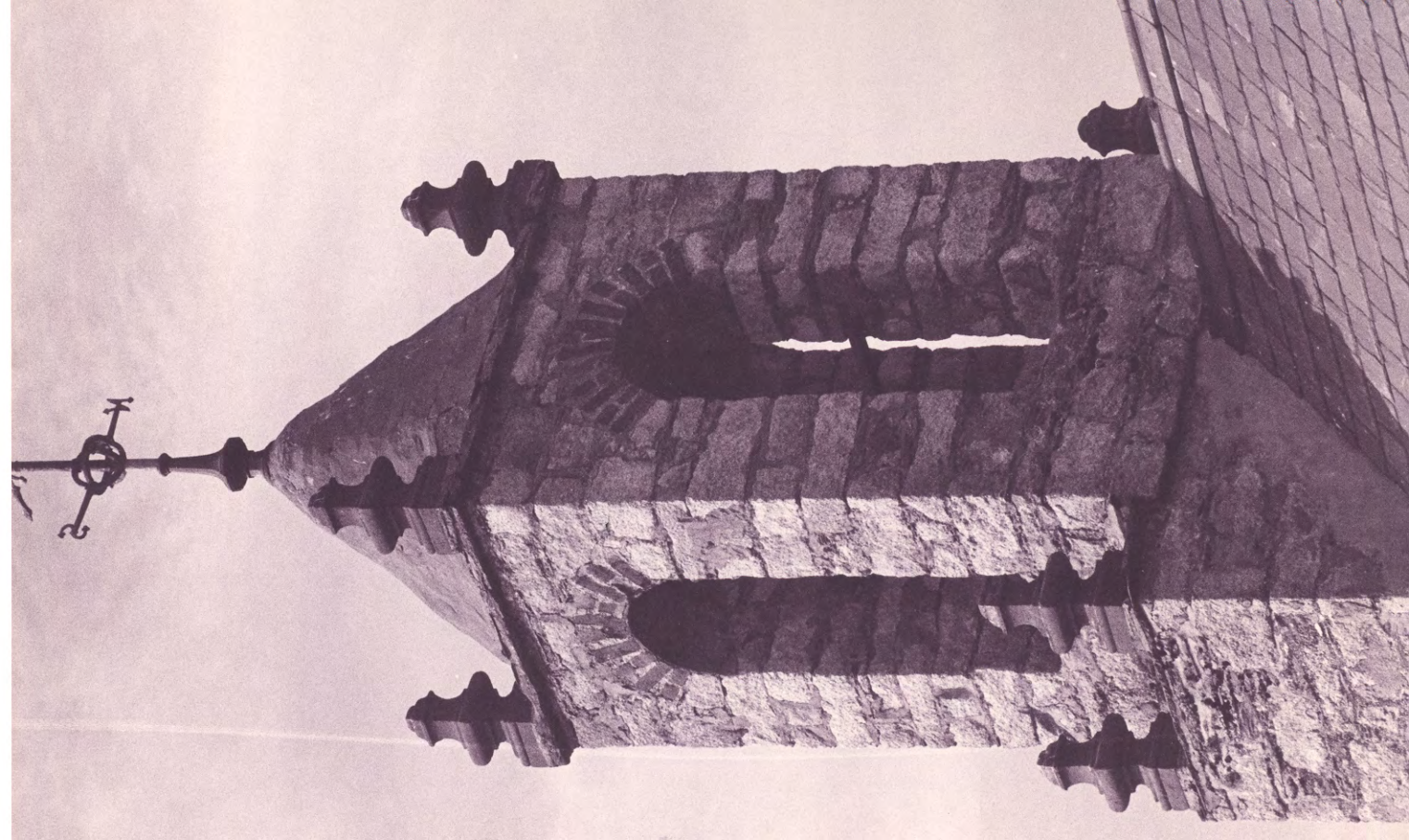
Manx Life, November-December 1976 p 13-16

The Isle of Man Weekly Times, 30th October, 1937

Mr Peter Jones, Organ Builder, St John's









St Marks
1770







ST MARKS
1772

BY ORDER OF THE CHURCH

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARKS, WHOSE NAMES ARE ENGRAVED ON THIS PLATE.

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St. Mary's
1772