

- 6.8 The bank is a handsome building, approached by climbing six steps and built primarily in local stone. There are feature quoins and window surrounds formed in concrete to both the arched windows to the lower floor and top-hung sash windows to the upper floor. There is a parapet at roof level, the roof being clad in Westmoreland green slate.

Ingledene (The Old Manse)

- 6.9 Thought to have been built by Kelly Brothers in the early years of the 20th century. The Old Manse, whilst built in stone, makes extensive use of brick for decoration in the way of quoins, arches and window surrounds. A good attempt at retaining this style has been made in the design of a new ground-floor extension that adjoins the property.

The Former Station and Goods Shed

- 7.0 These buildings were constructed around the time of the opening of the Manx Northern Railway in 1879. The railway station is built in Peel sandstone under a slate roof, and externally appears to have changed little from photographs taken around the turn of the century. The goods shed, however, has been altered to accommodate the fire engine.

Kerroo Coar

- 7.1 This was the last vicarage of the parish, and was believed to have been built as the family home of Mr Daniel Kelly, of D. Kelly & Son, later to become Kelly Brothers, Joiners and Builders. Kerroo Coar was built in 1910 in stone, with extensive decorative use of red brick on the chimneys and quoins. On the front elevation is a decorative semi-circular archway around the first floor oriel window, with balustrades to either side. There are also two shops that are now The Village Pharmacy and Post Office, but were originally a single shop owned by the Kelly family.
- 7.2 The side elevation to the property is also most attractive. It has a bay window over two floors built extensively in brick with stone infill, and also a glazed porch

with a rosemary tiled roof. The roof to the main property is slate with terracotta hip and ridge tiles.

Mona House

- 7.3 From photographs taken prior to the erection of Kerroo Coar in the early part of the 20th century, Mona House appears to have changed very little. It features a four-bay frontage, finished in smooth-cement render under a slate roof. Windows are in the Georgian-style with plaster casings, and the front door has columns to either side with a pediment above.

St Michael's Church

- 7.4 Mr John Welsh of Birmingham was the architect of St Michael's Church. He was an architect of some repute, who designed several other important buildings on the Isle of Man. The church was built in 1835 and is constructed in local stone, finished in a buff-coloured smooth-cement render below a slate roof. The square tower of the church features four pinnacles, and is visible for many miles particularly when approaching Kirk Michael from the south.
- 7.5 Within the grounds of the church, five Bishops are buried and the graveyard also contains the chancel of the former church. The parish church houses one of the finest collections of crosses on the Island, and in 1907 the Lych-gate was built to accommodate them. Later the Lych-gate was found to be unsatisfactory for this purpose, and the crosses were moved into the church. Irrespective of its suitability for housing the crosses, the Lych-gate makes a positive contribution to the street scene.

Greystone Cottage

- 7.6 This is a small cottage built gable onto the main road, almost opposite Kerroo Coar at the entrance to Kelly's Yard. It is believed to be one of the oldest properties in Kirk Michael, and the only one noted to retain a Manx slate roof. It has undergone some external alteration with the addition of a front porch, but requires further investigation and an internal inspection to determine its history.

Church View House

- 7.7 This is an impressive five-bay property situated opposite the parish church. In the past the property was a lodging house, and has been redesigned externally and now features a Georgian-style front elevation. The roof to the property has been lifted in the past and pilasters inserted at both ground and first floor levels.
- 7.8 To the right of Church View House are the schoolhouses. In 1763, Bishop Hildesley purchased these cottages for the schoolmistress and schoolmaster, and set up a fund for their maintenance. Early photographs shows the cottages to be significantly lower than today, and markings above the ground-floor doors and windows probably indicate the height of the walls prior to the roof being lifted.

Kirk Michael Youth Club

- 7.9 Originally built in 1894 as the church hall, this was the first such hall to be erected in the diocese of Sodor and Man. The hall appears little changed externally since being built. It is built in coursed stonework with projecting pointing. It has four Gothic-style arched windows to the front elevation, surrounded by buff-coloured brickwork and a matching door in the centre. The roof is pitched and clad in slate with decorative ridge tiles.

St Michael's Hall

- 8.0 This was formerly the village school until the current school was opened in 1894. The first parish school was founded on this site in 1685 and the present enlarged building was erected in 1839, but at that time did not have a porch.

Park View Wesleyan Chapel

- 8.1 This chapel was opened in 1912 to replace the smaller one at The Cronk. It is a handsome building, built in coursed stonework. The roof is pitched and clad in slate with terracotta ridge tiles. The property features buttresses on the external walls, a porch on the right-hand side of the front elevation, and a projecting gable to the left.

- 8.2 The building, which closed for worship in the early 1970s, now houses the playgroup. The glass windows on the front elevation have been sheeted over with green-tinted perspex, which detracts substantially from its appearance. Unfortunately, on the gable wall all windows have been boarded over.

The Old Vicarage

- 8.3 Set back from the main road, the current property on this site dates back to 1846. Bishop Wilson purchased Glebe Farm, and presented it to the parish in 1743 on condition that a vicarage was built. The property is square in appearance, of three-bay design with Georgian-style windows, and a central porch at ground-floor level. There are coursed vertical stonework bands at each corner of the front elevation, and the roof is pitched and clad in slate. The remainder of the front elevation has a smooth-render finish.

- 8.4 The following buildings are considered worthy of research as properties being suitable for consideration for inclusion on the Register of Protected Buildings:

Mitre Hotel

The Ebenezer Methodist Hall

Kirk Michael Methodist Chapel

The Isle of Man Bank

The former Station and Goods Shed

Kerroo Coar

Mona House

St Michael's Church

Greystone Cottage

Church View House

Kirk Michael Youth Club

St Michael's Hall

Park View Wesleyan Chapel

- 8.5 Whilst not included in the conservation area, it is considered that White House Farm is well worthy of further investigation as a prospective candidate for entry onto the Register of Protected Buildings.

9. Significant Archaeological Sites

- 9.1 There are a number of sites within the conservation area where significant archaeological remains have been identified. This information is derived from the National Monuments Record maintained by Manx National Heritage.
- 9.2 Set out below are those sites identified which fall within the conservation area boundaries:
- 9.3 1. A number of Bronze Age burial mounds or finds associated with burial practices of this period occurs in and around Kirk Michael. Significant sites are at: Whitehouse (SC322913, SC325911) and Lhergyvreck (SC317902)
- 9.4 A number of very significant features and finds associated with the use of the area now centred on Kirk Michael Churchyard (centred at SC318908) for Christian purposes back to the first Millennium AD. These comprise the site of a Medieval chapel; the remains of a church; the existing parish church, (which most probably incorporates elements of those earlier buildings); at least two Medieval coin hordes; Medieval inscribed stone crosses and a burial ground which has been in use for over a thousand years.
- 9.5 3. Additionally, an apparently prehistoric burial mound, in which some of the crosses noted above were once stood, is at Cronk y Croghee (SC323915)
- 9.6 4. The Old Courthouse (SC316905) is a significant historical structure.
- 9.7 There are a number of other archaeological sites of significance outside the boundaries of the conservation area, and some of these are situated within the boundaries of the Glen Wyllin conservation area.

**10. The Character and Hierarchy of Spaces and Vistas,
Green Areas and Trees**

10.1 Views Into the Conservation Area

10.2 There are three major accesses into Kirk Michael village. These are the A3 from both Douglas and Ramsey, and the A4 from Peel.

10.3 The most spectacular views into the conservation area and beyond, are afforded when travelling north on the A3 from Douglas. From a point close to Erinville, the road dips significantly into the village and extensive views that are well worthy of protection are afforded over the rooftops, particularly to the right of the dwelling known as Brynwood.

10.4 The A4 from Peel offers some distant views of the village and particularly the church tower, which stands high above the rest of the village. Due to the fact that this road dips steeply as it approaches Kirk Michael at Glen Wyllin, there are no views of the village until one rises into it at the junction with the A3.

10.5 When approaching the village from Ramsey and travelling in a southerly direction, the views are predominantly over the open fields to either side of the road, and extend to the Michael Hills to the east. On the western side of the road, the approach is dominated by the large green building of the riding school and the Total filling station.

10.6 There are, of course, panoramic views into and over the village to the coastline beyond, from the paths and tracks of the hill lands to the east of Kirk Michael.

11. Vistas within the Conservation Area

- 11.1 Being a linear settlement, Kirk Michael effectively has only one street. From the south, the vista is dominated by the square tower of the church, and Ballyre House which is elevated. The most famous vista within the conservation area is the view back to the south, along the TT course from the vicinity of the entrance to White House Farm. From this point, an extensive area of the main road rising into the village can be seen. This view has been captured on many photographs and videos of the TT races, showing the progress of the riders over a considerable stretch of the course passing through the village.
- 11.2 An attractive view into the village is that from the disused railway line, over the burial ground and extends to the hills beyond.

11.3 Views out of the Conservation Area

- 11.4 It is considered that the views out of the conservation area over the agricultural land, hills and sea that surround it, are one of the most important features worthy of preservation within Kirk Michael.
- 11.5 These views are spectacular when leaving the village at either end. On the A3 when travelling south, the road rises and trees to either side frame the view of the hills. To the north, the vista extends over green farmland to the hills beyond.
- 11.6 Along the whole eastern side of the main road within the village, extensive glimpses of the Michael Hills can be gained between buildings and over open spaces. Mounds of glacial moraine are plainly visible.
- 11.7 These were formed at the end of the last ice age, and are known locally as the 'dromedaries'. When travelling in a southerly direction the hills visible are: Slieau Curn (351 metres); Michael Mountain (known as Vael); Slieau Freoaghane (498 metres); and Sartfell (454 metres).

- 11.8 Possibly the most extensive view out of the area is over the parklands of White House Farm. Other points where vistas out of the village can be enjoyed are: at the entrance to Slieau Curn Park; between the Commissioners' Office and Avonmore; between the Mitre Hotel and the Old Stables; over the school playing field; and over the paddock adjacent to Erinville. Also when approaching the village centre from Station Road, the vista above Mull View is impressive.
- 11.9 On the western side of the main road the views are somewhat limited, due to the proximity of buildings to the road and the fact that the land falls away to the Irish Sea.
- 11.10 However, from the approach along the A3 when travelling northwards, the sea can clearly be seen over the large, grassed, corner plot of The Warbuck, and over the rooftops of the dwellings between Douglas Road Corner and Station Road. Another fine sea view is gained when standing close to the school field and adjacent to the dwelling known as Cronk Froy .
- 11.12 From the burial ground adjacent to St Michael's Church, there are impressive views out to the coast over the top of the football field. To the right of the field, in an elevated position, stands Ballyre House.
- 11.13 Included in the conservation area is a short section of the dismantled railway line in a northwesterly direction, from the bridge over the Balleira Road. This is included as it affords spectacular views out to the west over farmland towards the coast. For the remainder of the railway line between Glen Wyllin and the Balleira Road, with the exception of a small field adjacent to the burial ground, development has encroached up to the track bed. As one travels northwesterly, the former railway enters a cutting and, due to the steep-sided banks, no view is afforded.

12. **Open Spaces, Green Areas and Trees**

- 12.1 Open spaces and green areas within the conservation area are of two types. Firstly, there are formal open spaces that have been designed and designated for such purpose. Secondly, there are informal open spaces and green areas, for example: gardens and glens.
- 12.2 Dealing firstly with the formal open spaces, possibly the largest open green area within the conservation area is the Kirk Michael Football Ground. This large open space links the built-up part of the village within the conservation area to the agricultural land which adjoins the Irish Sea.
- 12.3 Other formal areas of open space include: Ellison's Green adjacent to Station Road, which was gifted to the people of the village by the developer of adjacent properties; the recreation ground (children's playground) adjacent to the Methodist Church; and the school playing field which gives an important visual link from the main road to the hills beyond.
- 12.4 Perhaps the most valuable and important area of open space within the conservation area is the open parkland fronting the main road and belonging to White House Farm. This provides a vitally important visual link between the highway and the hills overlooking the village.
- 12.5 There are a number of informal open spaces that contribute to the character of the area. At the southern end of the village there are paddocks adjacent to Erinville on the eastern side of the main road, and between Glendale and The Warbuck on the western side. The Warbuck itself stands in very large grounds, and together with the adjacent paddock offers a green aspect at the southern approach to the village.
- 12.6 Between Douglas Road Corner and the northern end of the village, the linear development is generally adjacent to the highway and there are no further