

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

To: **Dr and Mrs T Byrne, May Hill House, May Hill, Ramsey, IM8 2EF**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 10th October 2002 , the PLANNING COMMITTEE of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, in pursuance of its powers under the above Acts and Regulations REGISTERED

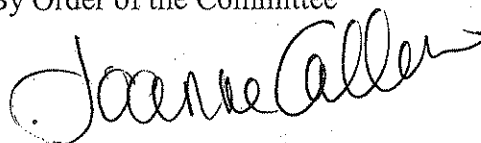
May Hill House (formerly Cronk Brae), May Hill, Ramsey

as represented by the buildings shown outlined in red on the plan hereto attached, in the PROTECTED BUILDINGS REGISTER by reason of its 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 18th day of October 2002

By Order of the Committee



J Callow
Secretary, Planning Committee.

1st Floor, Murray House,
Mount Havelock,
Douglas,
IM1 2SF.

NOTE:

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

Applications in writing for the de-registration of the building may be made by the owners or occupier of, 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, 1st 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.:-

- Mr P Whiteway, Clerk to the Ramsey Town Commissioners, Town Hall, Ramsey;
- Director of Manx Museum and National Trust, Kingswood Grove, Douglas;
- Advisory Council for Planning and the Environment, 52, Alberta Drive, Onchan.

Scale 1:500

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MAY HILL HOUSE, RAMSEY

Historical Notes

Introduction

May Hill House (formerly Cronk Brae) is situated in Ramsey, separated from Summerland by Queen's Pier Road. It provides impressive views of Ramsey and is a landmark on the TT Course.

May Hill House was built on land sold by the Reverend William Kermode between the 1850's and 1870's. This area of south Ramsey is noted for its remarkable land and sea views. May Hill House was built prior to the time in the 19th century when Ramsey was undergoing considerable expansion, the town was expanding away from the harbour and into the surrounding quarterlands, specifically to the south and the west. With the development of houses, roads and shops, along with the construction of the Queen's Pier Road, the Mooragh Park, the Queen's Pier Road and the development of the Mountain Road in the 1880's, Ramsey was attracting a considerable number of people and its population was increasing steadily.

In 1865 Ramsey was constituted a town and by 1871, with a population of 3,934, it was the second largest town next to Douglas. At this time Ramsey was in competition with Douglas, as they were both fishing ports situated close to England. Further expansion was anticipated, but in reality no further developments happened until the 1960's.

Architectural and Historical Interest

The Reverend William Kermode bought the land along Summerland, including the land on which May Hill House now stands in December 1859. The Reverend who was the chaplain of St Paul's', (1843-1871) had a great love of buildings and saw his land as being an integral part of the expansion of Ramsey at the time. He was occupied with the future health, prosperity and progress of the town and in 1840 he was involved in the formation of the Ramsey Health Association. The Reverend Kermode divided up the land, and the section of land on which May Hill House stands was sold in October 1866 to John Corlett LaMoche. The deed included restrictions on the layout and style of any proposed buildings, the Reverend had to over see any building plans and no trade or business was to take place without the Reverend's permission. A penalty was to be incurred if the contract was broken. The Reverend felt strongly that the buildings built on the land should be of a similar style.

May Hill House was built between December 1866 and 1869, when it first appears on a survey of land. In 1969 John Corlett LaMoche bought two additional plots of land from the Reverend Kermode, which were alongside and in front of May Hill House. Today the land belonging to May Hill House has changed since 1870-1898, with more land at the rear than was recorded at that time. The Queen's Pier Road was built through the grounds of the house in the 1880's.

May Hill House is said to be the most architecturally superior of the houses in the area, built on land which once belonged to the Reverend, which also includes The Old Vicarage, Hillside houses and the nearby Summerland houses. The Summerland

houses are all similar while the others vary externally, while being in-keeping with the Reverend's wishes of similarity of design. It has been suggested that these houses had been built for people who were prominent in Victorian Ramsey.

May Hill House was built in a modern gothic style, with steep pitches and a tower. Internally, the cornicing and skirting are similar to the Old Vicarage, Hillside House and Summerland, while the joinery is different. The theme of the decoration is consistent throughout the house, with the decoration at its most grand on the ground floor, and the level decreasing with each floor of the house.

Features of interest throughout the house include the main stair newel which appears to be a direct copy of a newel illustrated in 'The Elements of Style', taken from a book of 1860, 'Cottage, Lodge and Villa Architecture', by G A and W J Audsley. The door cases are similar to those found in the Ramsey Methodist Church, dating from 1845. The wall at the back of the house, first recorded in the 1870 Ordnance Survey Map shows the extent of the garden. The wall is high with a centre archway, providing access to the servant's quarters. This wall is similar to the wall surrounding Dunlace, another Gothic-style Victorian house, found on Ballure Road, Ramsey.

John Corlett LaMoche and his family lived at May Hill House between the Census returns of 1871 (when the house was known as Sandy Mount) and 1881 (when it was known as Cronk Brae). LaMoche was an important character in Ramsey, being an advocate and high bailiff. James Cruikshank and his family were resident at the house during the time of the 1891 census. Another person notable in the history of Ramsey,

Cruikshank spent time as the Chairman of Ramsey Town Commissioners and was involved in the building of the Ramsey and District Cottage Hospital.

May Hill House, Ramsey is judged worthy of entry into the Protected Buildings Register by virtue of its special architectural and historical interest on the following grounds:-

1.Architectural Interest:- This house of high quality architecture is part of a group of houses which represent an important time in the 19th century when the town was expanding.

2.Historical Interest:- The house has an association with people who contributed greatly to the town; the Reverend William Kermode, John Corlett LaMoche and James Cruikshank.

3.Landmark Qualities:- Positioned in a prominent area with outstanding views, the house is a known landmark on the TT Course.



