



Isle of Man
Government

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Isle of Man Public Record Office

S4

**Records of the Isle of Man Rolls Office: Asylum
Plans
circa 1860**

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Records of the Isle of Man Rolls Office: Asylum Plans

circa 1860

Alternative/previous reference numbers: C275

Accession number: A19

Extent: 2993 plans bound into 29 oversize volumes

Creator: Isle of Man Rolls Office

Description of series: This series consists of 2993 individually hand drawn plans, originally lodged with the Isle of Man Rolls Office under 'An Act to provide an Asylum for Lunatics and Insane Persons' (The Lunatic Asylum Act 1860).

The plans are bound into 29 volumes, each volume contains a separate parish. A number of parishes extend over more than one volume. The plans come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes, from two inch square to over two foot by four foot. Some are highly decorated, some hand-coloured, whilst others are very rudimentary. The plans were pasted onto paper or linen for binding. Any plan larger than the volume had to be folded, sometimes several times and in several directions.

Lunatic Asylum plan numbers 1-149 for the parish of Rushen are missing, location unknown. As a result, these plans were not transferred to the Isle of Man Public Record Office nor were they filmed or photographed. However, some photocopies from this missing volume do survive. Please see the relevant subseries and item level descriptions for further information.

Administrative History: An Act to provide an Asylum for Lunatics and Insane Persons (The Lunatic Asylum Act 1860) was passed by Tynwald Court on 29 May 1860, received Royal Assent on 26 October 1860 and Promulgated on 13 November 1860.

Prior to the building of an Asylum, lunatics were kept in Castle Rushen. However, it had become necessary to provide a suitable site for the reception of criminal and other classes of lunatics and insane persons. Her Majesty's Treasury had agreed to pay one half of the cost of the purchase of the site and for the erection and furnishing of the Asylum. The Treasury also agreed to provide the whole of the cost and expense of the maintenance of all criminal lunatics therein.

Unlike the Tithe Commutation Act, where the valuers were chosen from amongst the landowners by agents of the parishes, the Lunatic Asylum Act gave the Lieutenant Governor powers to directly appoint competent persons to value the land. The Lunatic Asylum Act made provisions for three valuers for the countryside and two valuers for the towns. As with the earlier Tithe valuation, the valuers had certain powers awarded to them to assist them in

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the delivery of their duties, including the right to enter land and the right to call upon people for inquiries. In addition, the two valuers given responsibility for gathering the necessary information from the towns also possessed an additional right not awarded to the valuers for the countryside, or to their predecessors: the right to appoint an umpire to help settle disputes if they arose.

According to the Act, all landowners were required to furnish the valuers with a map, plan or survey of the extent, contents and bounds of any lands under their consideration. The valuers issued a number to every map, plan or survey they received.

As with the earlier Tithe valuation, Asylum valuations were entered into volumes. The valuers were to refer to the maps, plans and surveys used by the Tithe valuers in 1841. If the valuers thought the maps, plans or surveys were inaccurate or where no map, plan or survey existed they had the power to require new maps, plans and surveys to be undertaken. After completion, these volumes, accompanied by the maps, plans and surveys were deposited in the Rolls Office for inspection. A period of three calendar months was granted for objections to the valuations. In such a case a petition of appeal was lodged before the Deemster, whose decision was final. The valuation volumes were deposited in the Rolls Office on 30 April 1864.

The Temporary Lunatic Asylum Act 1864 was passed by Tynwald on 31 May 1864, gained Royal Assent on 10 June 1864 and promulgated on 5 July 1864. The Act of 1864 acknowledged the considerable time it would take to complete the Asylum. Therefore on 2 December 1864 a temporary asylum was opened at Oaklands, in the parish of Kirk Santon. The new Asylum (Ballamona) at the Strang, Kirk Braddan, was completed on 25 May 1868 and opened on 2 June 1868.

Custodial History: This series was originally lodged with the Isle of Man Rolls Office which in 1965 was amalgamated within General Registry.

The records were consigned under section 3(8) of the Public Records Act, 1999 at the Isle of Man Public Record Office on 12 Aug 2000.

The records were later fully transferred into the custody of the Isle of Man Public Record Office under section 3(4) of the Public Record Act, 1999 on 18 Jun 2014.

Appraisal: All plans transferred to the Isle of Man Public Record Office have been preserved.

Accruals: No further accruals to the series expected.

Arrangement of series: Plans are arranged in numerical order within each parish volume.

Access Status: Open.

Access conditions: Access to the original plans is restricted due to fragile condition. Microfilm copies of surviving plans, and colour transparencies of coloured plans, are available for public inspection in the Isle of Man Public Record Office reading room.

Physical description: The Lunatic Asylum plans vary in quality, some are very faint, some are highly coloured, some are badly marked.

Copyright: Crown copyright - 125 years from calendar year of creation.

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Related records at the Isle of Man Public Record Office:

S108 - Records of the Isle of Mans Rolls Office: Asylum Town Registers;

S109 - Records of the Isle of Man Rolls Office: Asylum Parish Registers;

S110 - Records of the Isle of Man Rolls Office: Asylum Valuation Index.

Related reference material:

Lunatic Asylum Valuations index. This volume is arranged alphabetically by parish and is available on microfiche in the Isle of Man Public Record Office.

Valuation of Douglas under the Lunatic Asylum Act.

Town Valuation under the Act.

Land Valuation (volumes one and two) under the Act

These volumes are available on microfiche in the Isle of Man Public Record Office and on microfilm in the Manx Museum Library.

James Woods, 'A New Atlas and Gazetteer of the Isle of Man' (1867).

Following the asylum valuation, James Woods, Surveyor to the Asylum Board, published 'A New Atlas and Gazetteer', usually known as Woods's Atlas. The parish maps in this act as a key to the manuscript asylum plans (and the tithe plans) and valuation details are also given.

'Statutes of the Isle of Man', volume III (1860-1871) p 43 and p 109.

'Statutes of the Isle of Man', volume XII (1925-1929) p 13.

'Ballamona Hospital 1868-1968 Souvenir Programme' (1968).

Nigel Crowe, 'A New Atlas and Gazetteer: an appreciation of James Woods's Atlas and its origins', 'Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society Proceedings', volume X, no 4, pp 373-379.

Alan Franklin, 'James Woods-Victorian surveyor and civil engineer 1840-1896', Journal of the Isle of Man Family History Society', volume XIX, no 3, (August 1997) pp 78-84.
Concentrates on the life of James Woods.

Archivist Note: Series level description created by James Holmes, UCM Intern, in May 2019 under supervision by Gavin Rowan, Records & Archive Officer.

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S4/1 SubSeries	Andreas	Suberies comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Andreas.	2 volumes	circa 1860	Open
S4/1/1 Item	Andreas [2]-76	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, smaller intack lands, small amounts of freeholder lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/1/2 Item	Andreas [76]-122	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, smaller intack lands, small amounts of freeholder lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/2 Item	Arbory 1-108	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large concentrations of intack and mill rent lands, small groups of freehold and bishop's cottage lands, incorporating church in former.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/3 Item	Ballaugh 1-131	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland and intack lands, smaller areas of freehold land, very small cottage lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open

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S4/4 Item	Braddan 1-122	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, good sized abbey land (the Nunnery), barony land, good sized mill rent land, wide spread on intack across map, and three tiny freehold lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/5 Item	Bride 1-69	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, small amounts of intack concentrations and tiny freehold lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/6 SubSeries	<u>German</u>	Suberies comprising Asylum volumes for parish of German.	2 volumes	circa 1860	Open
S4/6/1 Item	German 1-83	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large areas abbey and intack lands, small amounts of freehold, cottage and mill rent lands, very small amount of barony lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/6/2 Item	German 84-181	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large areas abbey and intack lands, small amounts of freehold, cottage and mill rent lands, very small amount of barony lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open

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S4/7 Item	Jurby 1-68	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, two large areas of bishop's barony, large community of intack, smaller freehold lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/8 SubSeries	<u>Lezayre</u>	Subseries comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Lezayre.	4 volumes	circa 1860	Open
S4/8/1 Item	Lezayre 1-[74]	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing intack, quarterland, large area of abbey lands, small areas of freehold lands and one tiny cottage land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/8/2 Item	Lezayre [74]-217	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing intack, quarterland, large area of abbey lands, small areas of freehold lands and one tiny cottage land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/8/3 Item	Lezayre 218-[326]	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing intack, quarterland, large area of abbey lands, small areas of freehold lands and one tiny cottage land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open

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S4/8/4 Item	Lezayre [326]-429	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing intack, quarterland, large area of abbey lands, small areas of freehold lands and one tiny cottage land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/9 SubSeries	<u>Lonan</u>	Subseries comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Lonan.	2 volumes	circa 1860	Open
S4/9/1 Item	Lonan 1-115	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland and intack, small abbey land community, three tiny freehold lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/9/2 Item	Lonan 116-247	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland and intack, small abbey land community, three tiny freehold lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/10 SubSeries	<u>Malew</u>	Subseries comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Malew.	3 volumes	circa 1860	Open

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S4/10/1 Item	Malew 1-126	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing abbey land, large concentrations of quarterlands, as well as large concentration of intack lands, small communities of cottage lands, freehold lands etc.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/10/2 Item	Malew 127-215	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing abbey land, large concentrations of quarterlands, as well as large concentration of intack lands, small communities of cottage lands, freehold lands etc.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/10/3 Item	Malew 216-362	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing abbey land, large concentrations of quarterlands, as well as large concentration of intack lands, small communities of cottage lands, freehold lands etc.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/11 Item	Marown 1-79	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, a lot of intack land, small amount of barony land, and one freehold area (Old Church).	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/12 SubSeries	<u>Maughold</u>	Subseries comprising asylum volumes for parish of Maughold.	2 volumes	circa 1860	Open

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S4/12/1 Item	Maughold 1-96	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large concentration of intack land, and sizeable amount of barony land across map.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/12/2 Item	Maughold 97-163	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large concentration of intack land, and sizeable amount of barony land across map.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/13 Item	Michael 1-107	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, intack land, and one large freehold (Bishop's Demesne).	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/14 SubSeries	<u>Onchan</u>	Subseries comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Onchan.	2 volumes	circa 1860	Open
S4/14/1 Item	Onchan 1-101	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, intack and abbey land, as well as one small freehold land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open

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S4/14/2 Item	Onchan 102-250	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, intack and abbey land, as well as one small freehold land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/15 SubSeries	<u>Patrick</u>	Subseries comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Patrick	2 volumes	circa 1860	Open
S4/15/1 Item	Patrick 1-108	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing intack land, large concentrations of quarterlands, baron lands, small freehold lands and one small cottage land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/15/2 Item	Patrick 109-210	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing intack land, large concentrations of quarterlands, baron lands, small freehold lands and one small cottage land.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
S4/16 SubSeries	<u>Rushen</u>	Subseries comprising Asylum volumes for parish of Rushen. Please note that Volume 1 - which encompasses plan 1-149 - was not transferred to the Public Record Office as it is missing and its location is unknow.	3 volumes	circa 1860	Open

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<p>S4/16/1</p> <p>Item</p>	<p>Rushen [1]-[149]</p>	<p>The first volume for Rushen (which equates to plans 1-149) is missing and its location is unknown. As a result, it was not transferred to the Public Record Office alongside the rest of the sequence. However, photocopies of certain plans from this volume survive and have been transferred, these are as follows: 1, 37, 80, 81, 82, 88, 89A, 99, 100, 103, 104, 105, 108, 111, 116, 117, 120, 133, 134, 134, 147 and 148.</p> <p>As with the other volumes for Rushen, the photocopies detail the holdings for part of the Parish of Rushen, all be it in a more limited way.</p>	<p>22 copy plans</p>	<p>Undated copies of circa 1860 originals</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>S4/16/2</p> <p>Item</p>	<p>Rushen 150-287</p>	<p>1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large freehold on Calf of Man, significant intack lands, small abbey lands, and two mill rent lands.</p>	<p>1 volume</p>	<p>circa 1860</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>S4/16/3</p> <p>Item</p>	<p>Rushen 288-398</p>	<p>1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, large freehold on Calf of Man, significant intack lands, small abbey lands, and two mill rent lands.</p>	<p>1 volume</p>	<p>circa 1860</p>	<p>Open</p>

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S4/17 Item	Santan 1-43	1 volume comprising pasted plans, detailing quarterland, small amount of intack land incorporating Mount Murray, two small freehold lands.	1 volume	circa 1860	Open
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