

PILGRIMAGE PROGRAMME

Saturday 24th August 2002

12 noon

Sung Eucharist at **St David's Church, Llanthony.**

1.30pm

Assemble **outside St David's Church** for Pilgrimage Walk.

3.30pm

Ecumenical Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary at **St Mary's Church, Capel-y-ffin** with address by the Reverend Richard Williams, followed by the Procession to **The Monastery and Abbey Church** with stations at **the Wayside Calvary** and at **the Statue of Our Lady of Llanthony.**

Car parking will be available in the field at Chapel Farm by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Watkins.

Visitors are asked not to park at or near The Monastery itself, please, as this will cause difficulty, congestion and obstruct the Pilgrimage.

There will be a Walk Leader for the Pilgrimage Walk. The route will be up the secluded lane on the east side of the valley, not on the main road that carries the valley vehicle traffic.

Stout footwear and weatherproof clothing are essential.

From the original 'Interim Newsletter' of May, 1969

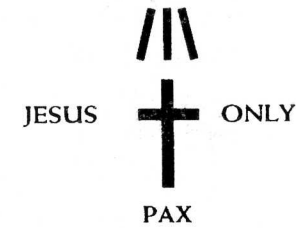
At Norwich a Father Ignatius Exhibition was held in the basement foyer of the Central Public Library, by permission of the City Librarian. The organiser of this very successful exhibition was Mr Frank Sayer, Librarian of the Colmand and Rye Libraries of Local History at Norwich. Among those who loaned items for the exhibition were the Father Ignatius Memorial Trust,

Mr Douglas Lyne, the Most Revd. Geoffrey Paget King, and Mr Tom Maschler.

During recent months Mr David Collison has been making a film about Father Ignatius which will be shown on B.B.C. 2 in the programme 'CHRONICLE' on May 24th 1969. The film's narrator is Mr Arthur Calder-Marshall, author of the most recent biography of Fr Ignatius.



Y GWIR YN ERBYN Y BŶD



*The Father
Ignatius
Memorial
Trust* Charity Commissioners'
Registration No. 253225

NEWSLETTER

No. 30, SUMMER 2002

Trustees

The Revd Hugh Allen
Hon Chairman
Mr Andrew Knill
Hon Treasurer
Mr Douglas Lyne
Hon Archivist
Mrs Elizabeth Hacket Pain
Hon Secretary
The Revd Thomas Dunn SSC
Canon Ivor Ll Davies
Mr Stanley Knill
Mr Will Jackson
The Revd Jeremy Dowding SSC
The Revd Roger Shambrook SSC
The Revd Richard Williams
Miss Deborah Lyne
Hon Independent examiner of accounts
Mr Adrian Bruton IRRV

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'INTERIM NEWSLETTER' OF MAY 1969



Father Ignatius preaching. An obviously staged picture from 1907 (the year before his death), of which this is, so far as we know, the only surviving copy. It comes from the album of his friend and disciple Alfred Field (now in the Fr Ignatius collection at Abergavenny Museum) which contains many rare photos of the Monastery and abbey church at Capel-y-ffin.

From the Chairman...

IT'S NOW SO LONG—TEN YEARS, TO BE exact—since we were last able to use the ruined abbey church for the pilgrimage service that it's hard to remember holding it anywhere other than in St Mary's at Capel-y-ffin. In gratitude for the hospitality we receive there and at St David's, Llanthony we have decided to give each of them a small gift: an icon of Our Lady for St Mary's, and a new altar linen for St David's. These should be in place by the time of this year's pilgrimage, on Saturday 24th August: if you would like to be associated with this project please enclose a separate amount along with your contribution to Trust funds. Any excess will be divided between the two churches for their purposes.

This year marks the thirtieth

anniversary of the first pilgrimage to be organised by the Father Ignatius Trust, on 5th August 1972—long enough ago to count as history in its own right, and to call for a few reminiscences.

The 1972 pilgrimage celebrated the centenary of the opening of the church (on 22nd August 1872), as well as the completion of five years' hard work clearing it of rubble and making it safe (for the time being!) for visitors and pilgrims. It wasn't until some time later that the suggestion was made—by Fr Brocard Sewell, who delivered the address at the centenary celebration and was responsible for much of the planning for it—that the pilgrimage might once again become an annual event.



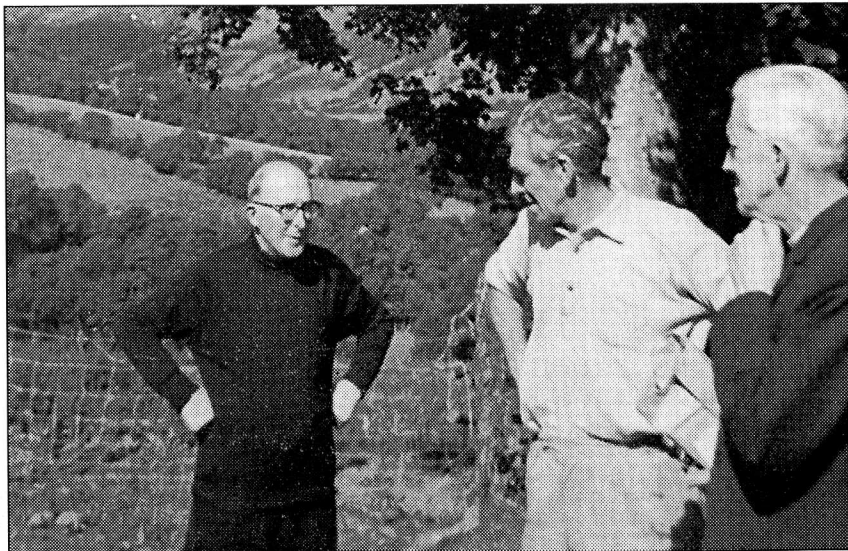
Dedication of the Memorial Calvary, 30 August 1936.
The figure on the right in cope and biretta is believed to be the Revd John Windle.

...On our Thirtieth Anniversary

The pilgrimage originated in response to the 1880 Apparitions, in honour of which Fr Ignatius instituted a feast to be kept each year on 30th August, the day of the eucharistic apparition to Brother Dunstan and Sister Janet and of the first appearance of the Blessed Virgin to the Monastery boys. Contemporary accounts record large numbers gathering on this day during Fr Ignatius' lifetime, and a small but steady trickle making their way up the Valley in the years after his death. On 30th August 1936 Fr Ignatius' nieces Hilda and Irene Ewens led a pilgrimage of some fifteen hundred people for the dedication of a wayside Calvary in his memory, and for many years an 'Anglo-Catholic Pilgrimage' assembled on or around this date in the Abbot's Meadow. By this time the Monastery and abbey ruins were in

Roman Catholic ownership: in the frosty ecumenical climate of those days an Anglican act of worship in or near the now roofless church would have been unwelcome as well as hazardous.

The priest who performed the dedication of the Calvary was the Reverend John Windle, at that time curate of All Saints', Hereford, and later Rector of Welsh Newton. Fr Windle was a lifelong devotee of Fr Ignatius (whose pectoral cross, now with other Ignatius artefacts in the Abergavenny Museum, he wore under his clothing), and made a personal pilgrimage to Capel-y-ffin every year on 30th August, whether there was an organised celebration or not. As a young priest he would take the train from Hereford to Hay-on-Wye and hire a horse for the



An early Trustees' meeting at the Monastery, c.1968. Left to Right: Fr Brocard Sewell, O Carm.; Wilfred Davies (Secretary); the Revd F.H. Mountney (Vicar of All Saints', Hereford).

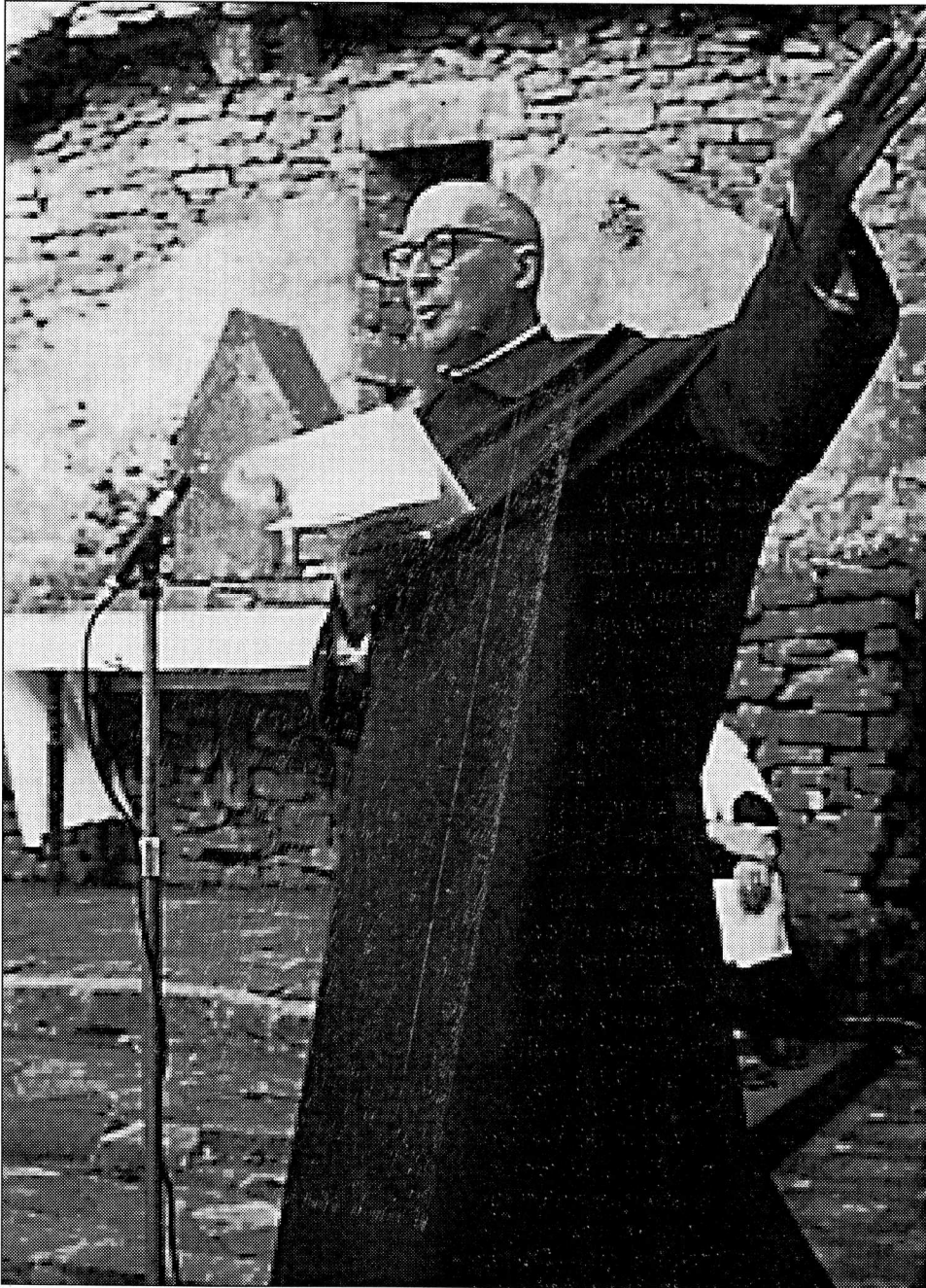


Centenary Service, 5 August 1972
Monks from Belmont Abbey sing the Salve Regina at the statue of Our Lady of Llanthony.

sixteen-mile double journey over Hay Bluff. In his last years, when he was crippled with arthritis, I remember him arriving from Monmouth on his moped, his two sticks secured to the luggage carrier behind. At the Centenary Pilgrimage Fr Windle read the Second Lesson (from the Bible which Fr Ignatius had presented to his adopted son 'Brother David'); at the next (his last, as he died very suddenly the following April) he preached the sermon. The freestanding stone altar in the abbey church was dedicated in his memory at the 1980 pilgrimage; he is buried at Welsh Newton next to the recusant martyr St John Kemble.

As an ecumenical event it was felt that the pilgrimage could not in-

clude a public Eucharist, although when Fr Brocard was in residence at the Monastery there was in fact a Mass in the chapel furnished by Eric Gill and his companions in the north cloister. To this a number of pilgrims would come, and (bishop's regulations notwithstanding) Anglican visitors would be welcome to receive the Sacrament—if challenged Fr Brocard would justify it on the grounds that the Monastery was an ecclesiastical peculiar and therefore outside episcopal control. The same reasoning was applied to his choice of liturgy, which if the younger generation were likely to be present might be in the vernacular, but following the old rite (with Carmelite variations) from a well-known, if unofficial,



Centenary Service, 5th August 1972.
Fr Brocard Sewell making a point in his sermon.

High Anglican translation. He was not a lover of the 'Montini Mass' (i.e. the rite of Pope Paul VI), or of facing-the-people altars set up in front of eastward-facing ones ('Cranmer tables').

In 1975 the afternoon service was held in the ruins of Llanthony to celebrate the eight hundredth anniversary of that house. This, too, was very much Fr Brocard's brain-child, and led to the decision to make each year's event a pilgrimage to Llanthony Priory (which Fr Ignatius had hoped to rebuild) as well as to Capel-y-ffin. This made it possible for the day to start with an Anglican Eucharist in St David's church; at the same time a Roman Catholic Mass would be celebrated in the chapel at the Monastery. From the early 1980s until his death in 1992 the celebrant at this service was normally Fr (later Canon) Stanley Luff, whose learned but always enjoyable Newsletter articles will be remembered by many of our readers—but this is to come close to the present.

Over the years we have 'sat under' a distinguished company of preachers. These have included bishops (Benjamin Vaughan of Swansea & Brecon in 1980; Daniel Mullins of Menevia in 1992; Rowan Williams of Monmouth in 1993; Lindsay Urwin of Horsham in 2001); deans of cathedrals (Victor de Waal of Canterbury in 1978 and Horace Dammers of Bristol the following year; Alun Davies of Llandaff in 1985) and archdeacons (Owain Jones of Brecon in 1982, Martin

Williams of Margam in 2000); the Provincial Moderator of the United Reformed Church (John Morgans) in 1983, and the Moravian presbyter of Brockweir (Dennis Monger) in 1995. We have heard from academics, from members of religious orders both Anglican and Roman, and from the Master of the College of Guardians of the Holy House of Our Lady of Walsingham (Peter Cobb, 1998), as well as from most of our clerical trustees. Having heard twenty-nine of the thirty Pilgrimage sermons to date it amazes me just how much there is to be said about Fr Ignatius and his monastic enterprise, as well as the fact that we are pilgrimaging as enthusiastically as ever thirty years on—long may this continue!

So we look forward to welcoming friends old and new on 24th August—see the announcement on the back page (12) for details. This year the preacher at the afternoon service will be the Reverend Richard Williams, whose parish includes the chapelry of Capel-y-ffin and whom the Trustees elected to their number at their Autumn meeting.

Hugh Allen

The Llanthony Missal

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION TWO COPIES of what is commonly called 'The Llanthony Missal' but is, in effect, 'The Communion Office of the Book of Common Prayer.'

This was illuminated by Mother Tudfil of the Holy Name (Miss Jessie Dew) who was Superior of the Abbey of Llanthony in the Black Mountains in Wales at the turn of the century. Many of her sources (including the Sfortza Book of Hours) are obvious, but the botany is plainly original. The binding is by Mowbray.

This Office Book was commenced by Mother Tudfil in 1884 and was completed in 1914—thirty years of work.

Mother Tudfil was born in 1863 and died in 1954 in Ventor, Isle of Wight having left the convent to

return to secular life in her later years.

In 1952 (two years before her death) she gave the Missal to her dear friend, The Revd A.L. Luller, then Curate of St. Martin's church, Salisbury.

Later he was Vicar of St. Swithun's Bridport, Dorset and later again Rector of All Saints', New Amsterdam, Guyana, South America.

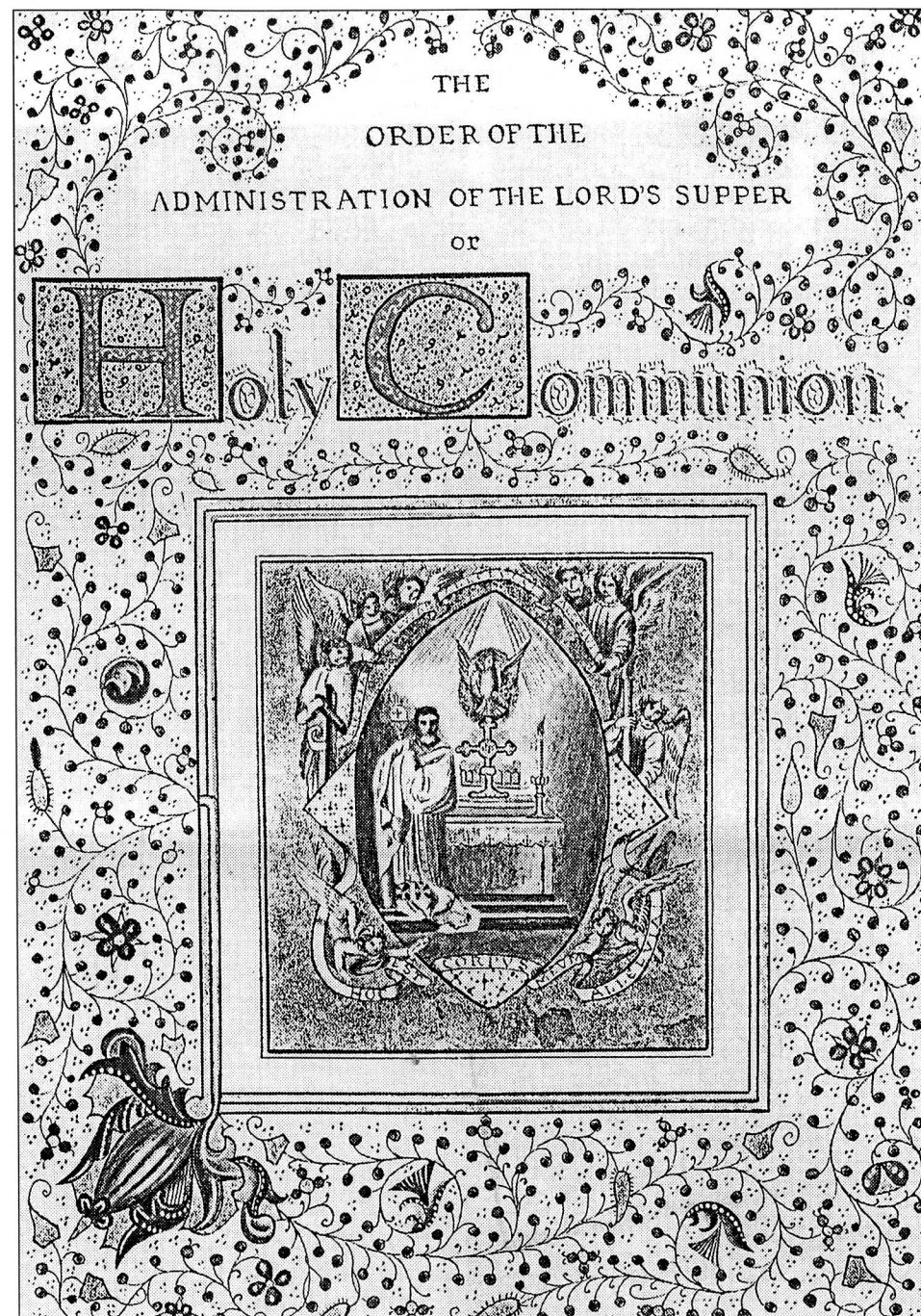
Before he died in 1971, he gave the Missal to his sister, Mrs Ruby Friend, in whose possession and care it has been ever since.

I will bring my copy to the Llanthony Pilgrimage this year on Saturday August 24th and will have it available for anyone to see. It is quite spectacular.

Fr Roger Shambrook



Mother Tudfil of the Holy Name (Miss Jessie Dew) who was Superior of the Abbey of Llanthony at the turn of the century. The accompanying animal is thought to be a lamb.



A page from the 'Llanthony Missal'.

The Father Ignatius Memorial Trust

NEWSLETTER No. 2

November 1970

Trustees: The Reverend F.H. Mountney, vicar of All Saints', Hereford;
Father Brocard Sewell, O. Carm.;
The Reverend John Windle, vicar of Welsh Newton.
Wilfred Davies (secretary);

Archivist: Douglas Lyne, Esq.

The Monastery
Capel-y-ffin
Abergavenny

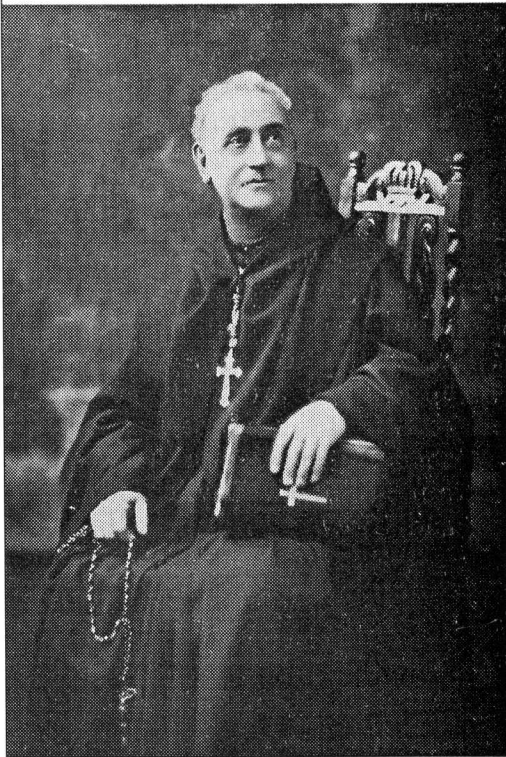
THIS Trust was formed, as you may remember, a little over two years ago and registered with the Charity Commissioners, for the purpose of maintaining in perpetuity the tomb of Father Ignatius of Llanthony, together with the fabric of the ruined church within which it lies, here at Capel-y-ffin, adjacent to Llanthony Monastery, now a private residence, of which Father Ignatius was the founder.

In our first newsletter, of May 1969, we reported that the appeal issued

on behalf of the Trust over the signatures of the Bishops of Llandaff and of Swansea and Brecon, Lord and Lady Dynevor, Mr (now Sir) John Betjeman, Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas, Mr Donald Attwater, and Mr Arthur Calder-Marshall, had brought in the sum of £160. Of this sum, £73 had been spent on the general maintenance of the church, and on solicitors' fees in connexion with the setting up of the Trust.

The clearing of the rubble and fallen masonry which completely filled the floor of the church and covered the Founder's tomb, had already been completed. Also, some retiling of the tomb had been done and a new

Fr Ignatius O.S.B.
(The Rev Joseph Leicester Lyne)



The Abbey Church

AN APPLICATION IN RESPECT OF the conservation of the Abbey Church was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund last summer, and their decision is still awaited. The organisation's wheels may possibly run on well maintained bearings but they turn very slowly indeed.

In September we were allocated a project reference number. In early November we again received a project reference number and were informed that, due to a backlog of cases awaiting assessment, there would be a short delay in our application being allocated a Grants Officer and therefore the assessment process would take a little longer than usual. I immediately informed the Heritage Lottery Fund that there was a problem in that time was against us, as most of the structure was in a bad state and there had been two new collapses. I added that we were living in hope that there would not be a catastrophic collapse preventing the major conservation project, as required by them in contrast to our original much more modest proposal, from becoming a reality.

Later in November a Grants Officer was appointed who informed us that we should expect to wait at least six months for assessment of our application and asked for confirmation that the project had not been commenced, because that would make it ineligible for their support. Upon confirming that no work had been undertaken nothing further was heard until a flurry of phone calls was received from them in February, very friendly in tone, requesting confirmation of several small items. It seemed that a decision was imminent, but a month has now passed without any further confirmation.

As I write this I have received a letter from the Heritage Lottery Fund stating that they have decided to support the application proposal, subject only to finalisation of specification details between our architect, David Harvey, and Cadw.

Stanley Knill