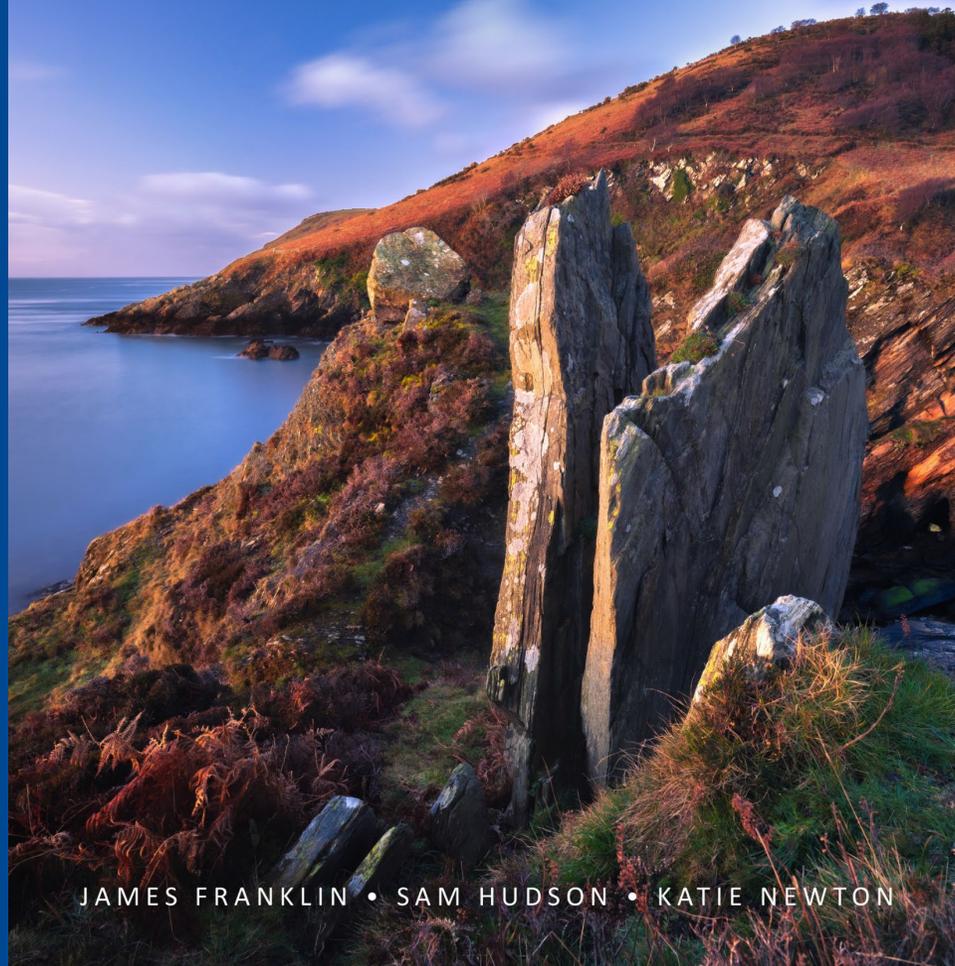


A guide to the
Folklore Sites
of the
Isle of Man

A GUIDE TO THE
FOLKLORE
SITES

OF THE ISLE OF MAN



JAMES FRANKLIN • SAM HUDSON • KATIE NEWTON

- 1) The book
- 2) Some sites
- 3) Q&A



Ayrn nane:
Yn lioar



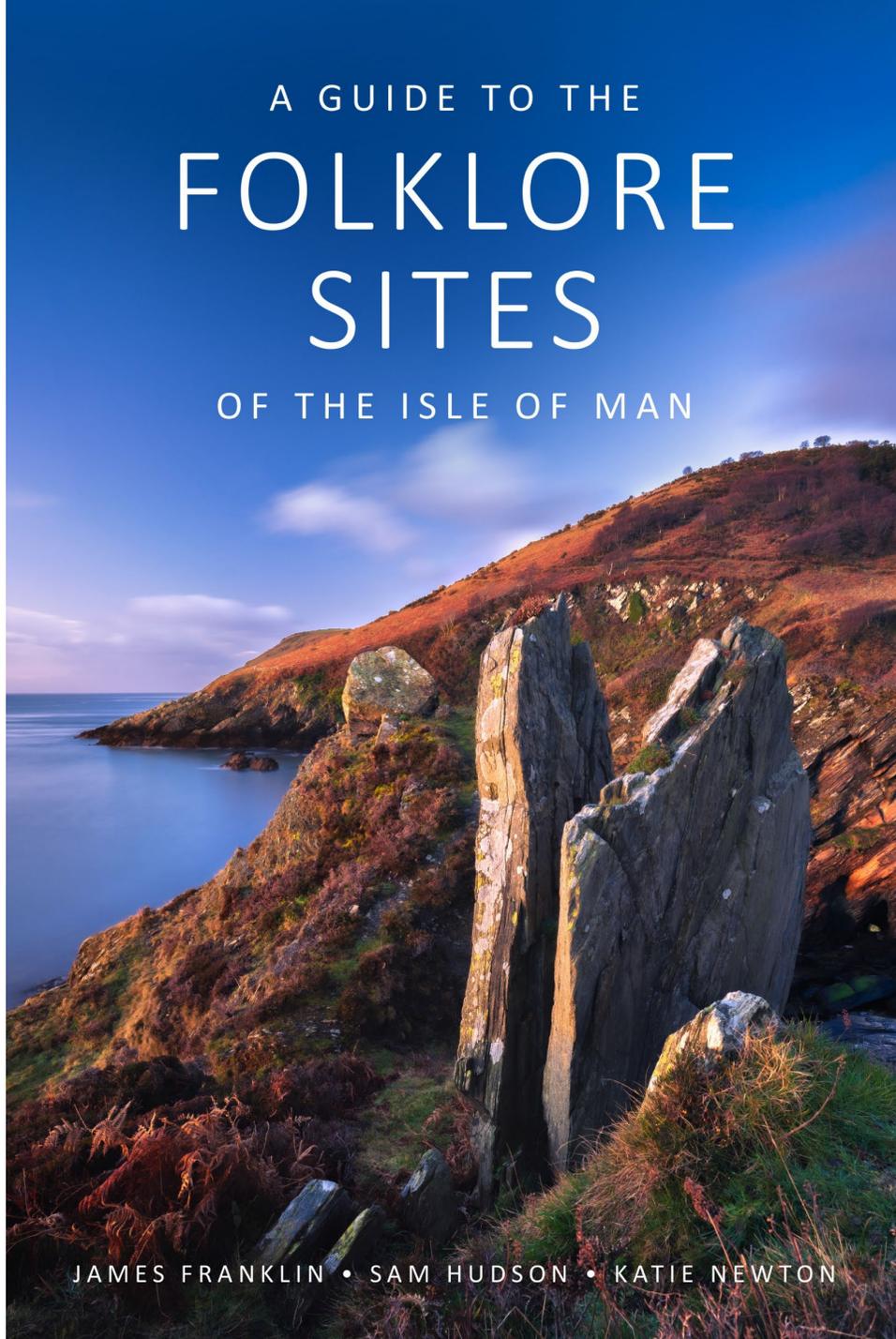




A GUIDE TO THE
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SITES

OF THE ISLE OF MAN

JAMES FRANKLIN • SAM HUDSON • KATIE NEWTON



A GUIDE TO THE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

OF THE
ISLE OF MAN
UP TO AD 1500



ANDREW JOHNSON
ALLISON FOX

CELTIIC CUSTOMS

THE
COLLECTED
POEMS
OF
T. E. BROWN

A
HISTORY
OF
THE ISLE
OF MAN



A. W. MOORE

MANX
DIALECT

WORDS
AND
PHRASES

W. W. GILL

MANX
NAMES



MOORE

A
MANX
SCRAPBOOK

W. W. GILL

A MILITARY HISTORY OF THE ISLE OF MAN

MANX
REMINI
SCENCES

DR.
J. CLAGUE



1811
1-875

1812
-074

1813
-968

1815
1-812

1817
2-352

1816
2-000

1814
2-089

1819
-787

1863
2-028

-458

1865
3-609

1869
1-030

1820
3-009

1821
2-008

1823
1-341

1825
1-776

1827
2-262

1828
1-780

1872
-571

1878
-067

Handwritten notes:
Hedge
Darragh
The Naive

OLD ROAD TO GLENMAYE

GLENMAYE

B a t

B.M. 284.7

Well

The Naive

Garden Field

Field







3,000 items

3,000 items

1,000 located

3,000 items

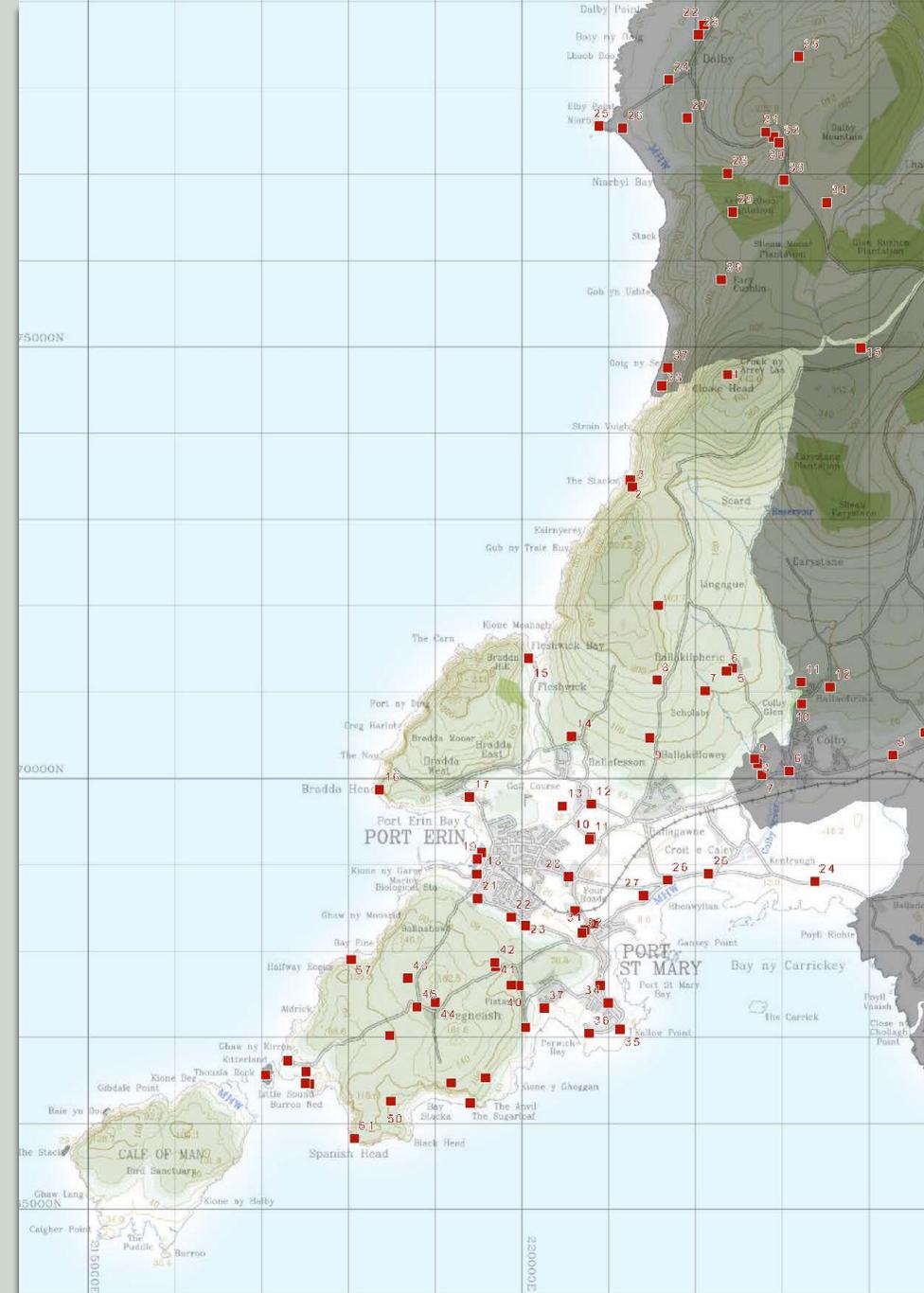
1,000 located

400 sites

Rushen

Rushen is the Isle of Man's richest parish for folklore, boasting everything from fearsome bugganes to captured mermaids. The Fairy Hill has one of the best known of all tales of the fairies, but there is hardly a patch of the parish which is not alive with tales of figures like the Ihiannan-shee, ghosts, giants, the devil and others. This is in great part thanks to the work of Karl Roeder and Edward Faragher, whose collecting in the 1880s-1900s provides us with most of the amazing detailed tales to be found here.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Cronk ny Arrey Laa | 20. Mermaids at Port Erin | 40. The fairies' mooring place |
| 2. The glowing rock of the Sloc | 21. The ferocious pig of Ballafurt Road | 41. Glenchass |
| 3. The landslide which sunk the Sunday fishers | 22. Struan Snail | 42. Cronk Glionchass |
| 4. The man who went blind from digging up a graveyard | 23. Harry Ballahane's Ihiannan-shee | 43. The Howe |
| 5. The standing stone built into the chapel | 24. The Ihiannan-shee of Glendown | 44. Buitched to not find a way out of a field |
| 6. Ballakilperic | 25. The beast emerging from the sea | 45. Corvalley |
| 7. The tarroo ushtey of Ballakilperick | 26. The Ihiannan-shee of Kentraugh Bridge | 46. Poyll Vill |
| 8. Tom the Dipper's candle | 27. Shore Road | 47. Two fairies in the quarry |
| 9. Fairy music in the kitchen | 28. The Smelt | 48. The women listening at the door at Hop tu Naa |
| 10. Kirk Christ Rushen | 29. The Four Roads | 49. The tall lady who could not cross the stream |
| 11. The old vicarage of Kirk Christ Rushen | 30. By Port St Mary Railway Station | 50. The captured mermaid |
| 12. Ballachurry | 31. The Giant's Quoting Stone | 51. The Chasms |
| 13. The Fairy Hill | 32. Ballacreggan Corner | 52. The Sugarloaf |
| 14. The Surby Ihiannan-shee | 33. Plantation Hill Road | 53. The mermaid of Cass Struan |
| 15. Fleshwick | 34. The Giant's Quoting Stone of Cronk Skibbylt | 54. Spanish Head |
| 16. St Patrick's landing at Raclay | 35. The giant hare of Port St Mary harbour | 55. Finn MacCool and the giant |
| 17. Bradda Head | 36. Lime Street | 56. The underground passage to the land of Manannan |
| 18. The buggane of Spaldrick Dip | 37. The Kallow Point caillagh | 57. Ghaw ny Spyrryd |
| 19. St Catherine's Well | 38. Lag y Voddey | 58. The Sound |
| | 39. Perwick | 59. Kitterland |
| | | 60. The mermaid's garden |



North Barrule



Public | Steep, rough and uneven ground, steps, a committed walk | SC 4428 9093 | 54.290173, -4.393964 | North Barrule is the Isle of Man's second highest peak. It is a long and committed walk from the Black Hut on the Mountain Road, or a shorter but very steep climb from the Rhowin Road between the Hibernian crossroads and the Gooseneck.

The resting place of King Barrule

North Barrule took its name from a great King buried here at its peak. Rather than erecting a monument as we would expect today, the mourners placed a great pile of

stones over King Barrule's tomb, to which people visiting the site have contributed ever since. Kings are also buried at the peaks of Snaefell and Carraghan.

GW-DIM 58 | WWG-MS1 232–233

King Orry's great strength

King Orry, the great Norse ruler of the Isle of Man, was incredibly strong and powerful. One day King Orry thought to entertain himself by throwing an enormous rock from where it lay at the top of North Barrule down into Bulgham Bay below. But the rock came back up the hill of its own accord, three times, with King Orry throwing it back down each time. On the fourth time, the rock remained where it landed in Bulgham Bay.

It is possible that this story used to be told of Manannan rather than King Orry, as the name of the rock is 'Creg Vanannan,' which translates from the Manx as 'Manannan's Rock.'

WWG-MS1 316–317

The glashan

The glashan was a figure very much like the better-known phynnoderee. He was big and hairy, was very strong and helpful to farmers, but he was disdainful of clothing. A glashan used to help around North Barrule, gathering and driving in straggling sheep.

KR-MNQ 105

The White Horse

Around the 1850s two men were out searching for sheep buried in the snow on the slope of North Barrule above Park Llewellyn, when the men looked up and were surprised to see a white horse on the crest of the hill. It was smaller than normal, similar to the traditional Manx pony believed to be long extinct. The men recognised that it could not be a normal horse out in that weather, so they knew not to go any closer to it. The horse watched them working for a quarter of an hour and then moved away northward and out of sight over the ridge.

WWG-MS3 382–383

The final sighting of Ben Ven Carraghan

The ghostly appearance of a young travelling spinner from Maughold used to be well known on Carraghan in Braddan. She was murdered there by someone seeking her money, and her spirit, known as Ben Ven Carraghan, would frequently be seen on the hill with her spinning wheel and slumped down with her head on her arm as if in worry or woe.

Sometime around the 1860s a man decided to confront this spirit and so he and some others approached her from different sides so that she could escape. The woman could not get away and so approached one man, causing his dogs to begin to tremble and even shed tears. The man fell ill immediately and was in a bad way for six months afterwards. Ben Ven Carraghan then moved towards a small gully and vanished, but it was later discovered that she was seen here on North Barrule at that precise moment, heading in the direction of Maughold Head. This was the last time she was ever seen.

HU-JG 128–129

Dancing around the Oie Voaldyn fire

Oie Voaldyn (the evening before 1 May) is a dangerous time, when you are most exposed to witchcraft, bad luck and the effects of evil spirits. So fires are lit to drive off danger and evil from your land. This used to be frequently done on hills, and traditionally a fire was lit here at the peak of North Barrule, around which people danced with straw torches. After the conclusion of the dancing, one person was left behind to watch over the embers of the fire, ensuring that it was not tampered with in any way and its positive effects for the year ahead would be fully enjoyed.

A fire was also lit here for similar reasons at the other end of the year, at Hop tu Naa.

WWG-MS1 392

Clagh Hoit



Public | Steep, rough and uneven ground, steps | SC 4084 8852 | 54.267449, -4.445488 | Clagh Hoit is a short distance from the Black Hut and the Mountain Road. From the parking area of the Black Hut, nestled into the north-eastern side of Snaefell, cross the road and go over the stile. Follow the stone wall for 200 metres until it meets the wall heading north. This corner is Clagh Hoit and the site of the former cairn.

A boundary-cairn used to stand here to help those travelling between Laxey and Sulby on the rough track that used to run here. One account reports it as featuring a white boulder so large it 'would have filled

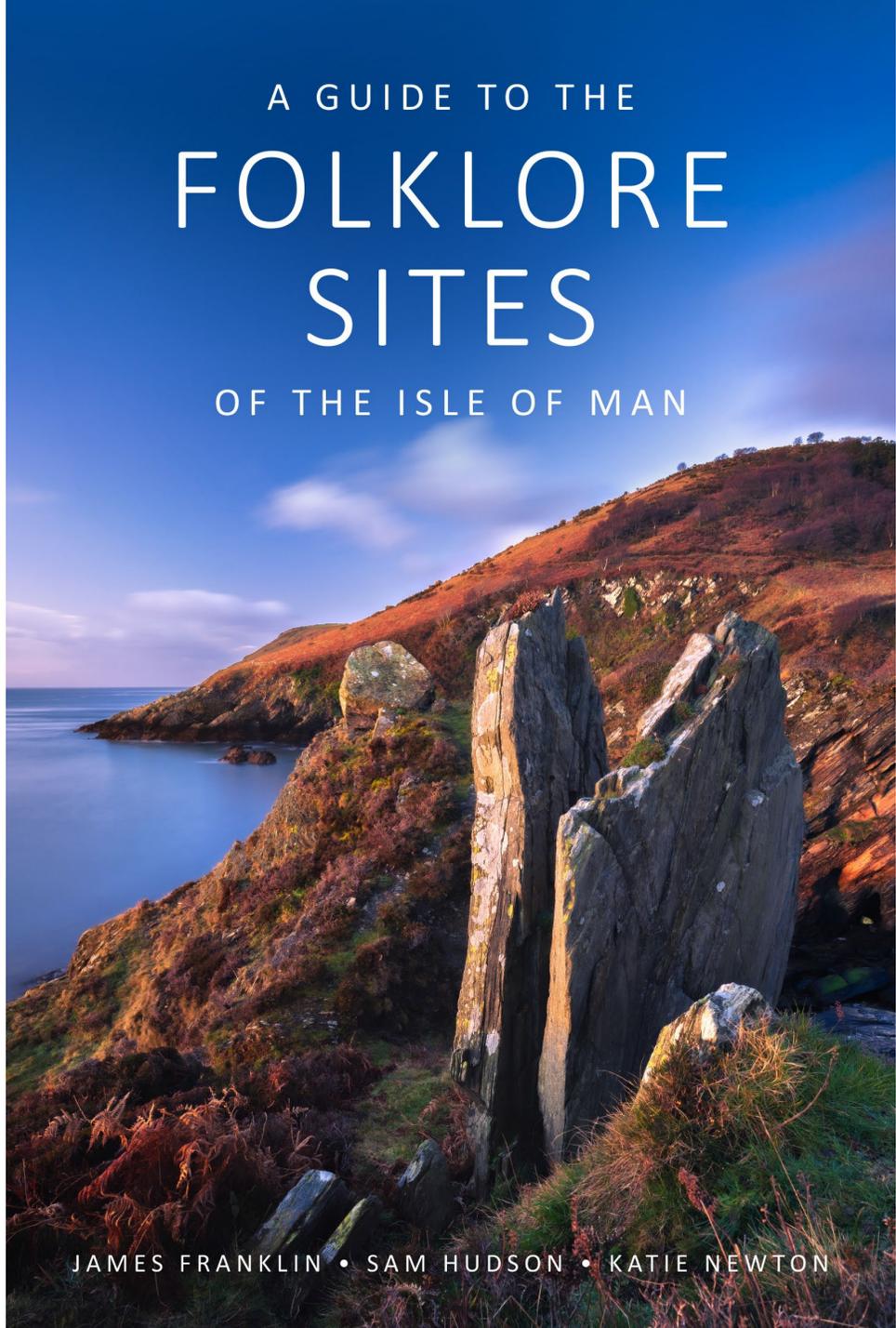
the breadth of Parliament Street in Ramsey and stood nearly as high as the houses.' It was at the meeting point of three parishes and a number of strange things have been seen here. Travellers would often hear music and voices here, though they could not see anything or find where the sounds came from. A particular strange occurrence here was when a man known as Robbie the Plumber came across a donkey stood alone and unattended, but as Robbie was looking at the beast it changed into a black dog and ran off along the road towards Ramsey.

WCR-MRP 44 | WWG-MS1 417–418 | WWG-MS3 385–386

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Many Folklore.



COLLECTED BY

A. W. MOORE, M.A., F.R.H.S., F.R.M.S., &c.



- I.—Fairies, Monsters, Witches, Giants, the Evil Eye, &c.
- II.—Customs and Superstitions connected with the Seasons.
- III.—Superstitions about the Moon, Animals, Iron and Salt, Prehistoric Monuments, and Sacred and other Edifices.
- IV.—Customs and Superstitions connected with Birth, Marriage, and Death.
- V.—Curious Customary Laws.
- VI.—Other Folk Tales.

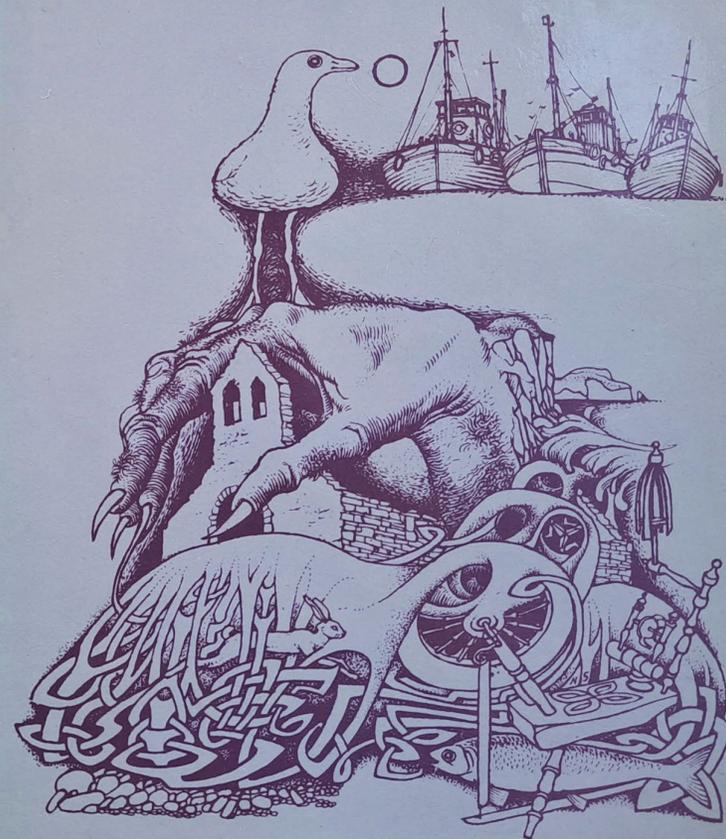
1899:

S. K. BROADBENT & CO., LTD., DOUGLAS AND PORT ST. MARY.
PUBLISHERS OF "THE ISLE OF MAN EXAMINER."



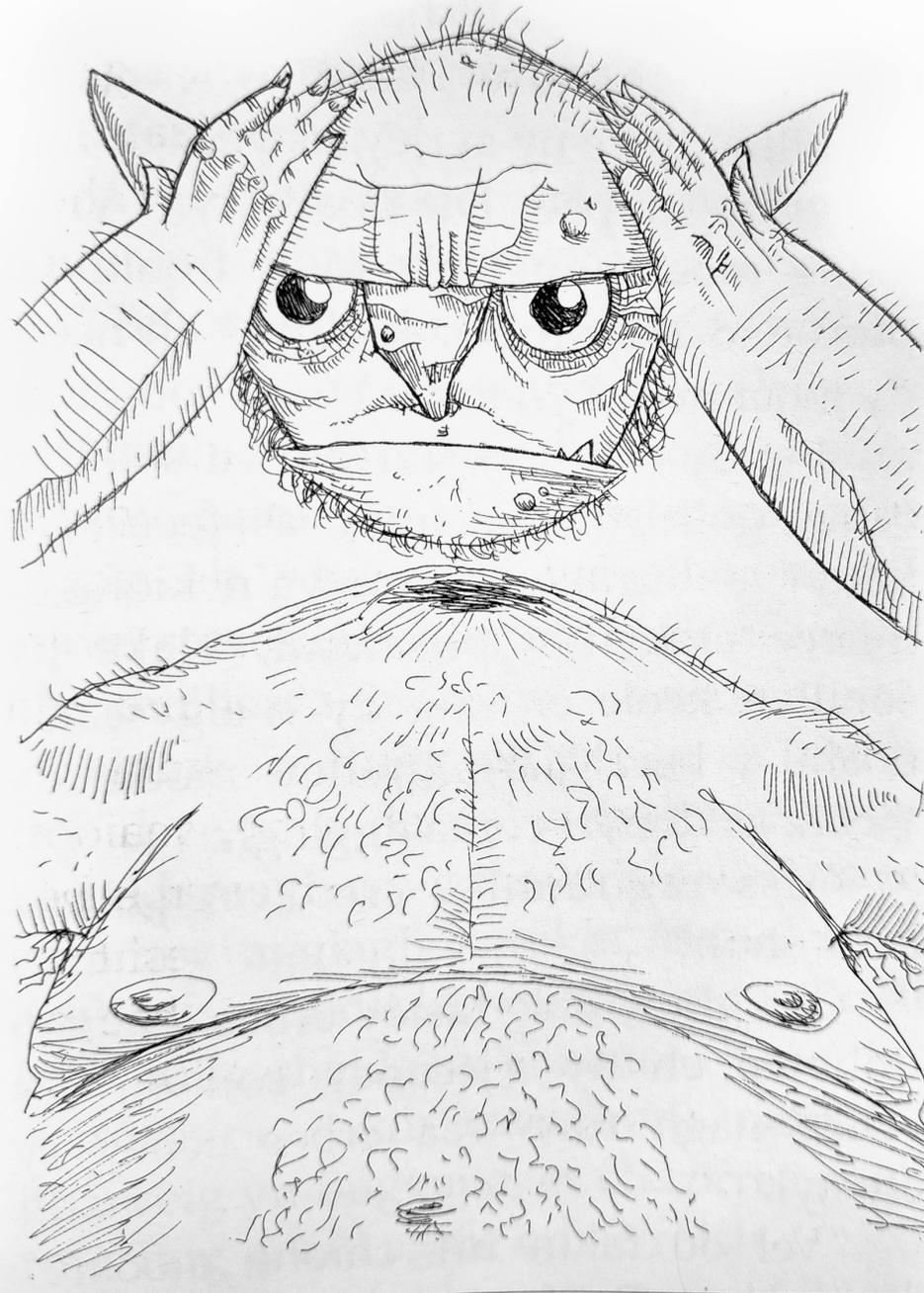
PRICE—THREEPENCE.

THE FOLKLORE OF THE ISLE OF MAN



Margaret Killip

WORD







Many Folklore.



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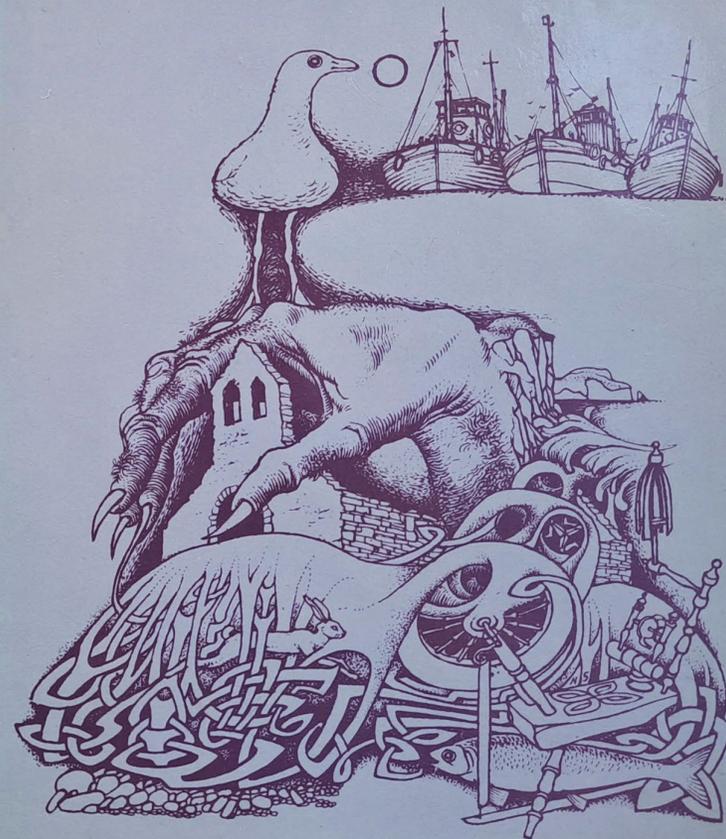
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PRICE—THREEPENCE.

THE FOLKLORE OF THE ISLE OF MAN



Margaret Killip

THE FOLKLORE

Killip

WORD



GHOSTS,
BUGGANES &
FAIRY PIGS

Karl Roeder's Manx Notes & Queries











Glashtyn / Glashtan / Glashtin







Glashtin =

Glashtin = Cabbyl ushtey







Glashtin = Cabbyl ushtey

Glashtin =

Glashtin = Cabbyl ushtey

Glashtin = Phynnodderree











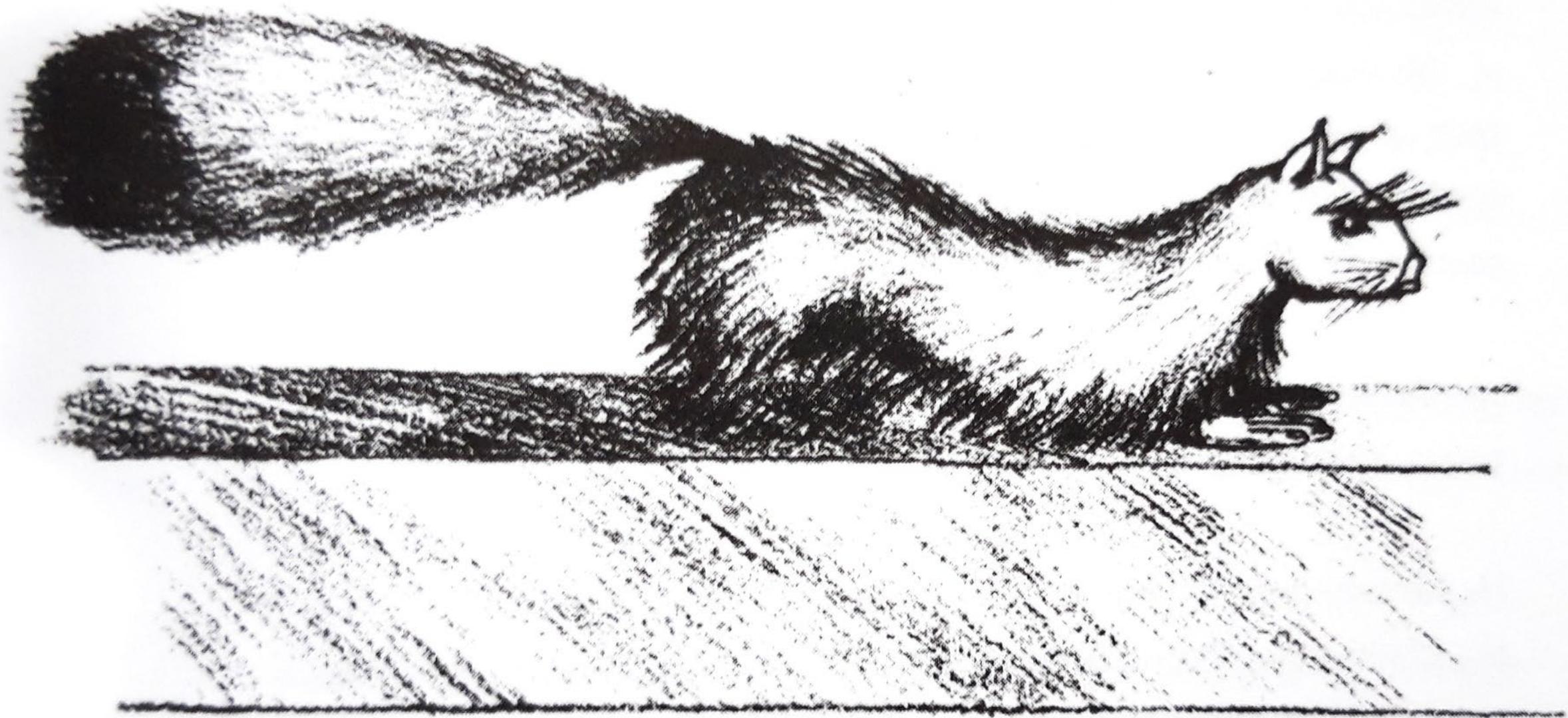






PG/7692 & PG/0990
© Manx National Heritage







Eaoch's trial



Public, seasonal opening, admission fee applies | Steps, uneven surfaces | SC 2422 8455 | 54.226447, -4.698063 | Peel Castle, on St Patrick's Isle off the coast of Peel.

Kitterland close to the Calf of Man got its name during the Norse era when Earl Kitter drowned there in a storm raised by witch, Ada. He had been racing back from the Calf when he saw his castle on the top of South Barrule on fire having been alerted to it by the loud call of his faithful cook, Eaoch,

from the top of South Barrule. This led to the accusation that Eaoch had a hand in Kitter's death and so he was brought before King Olaf here in Peel Castle. The king decreed that he should be executed, but Eaoch used the Norse custom to choose his own method of execution, asking to be beheaded by the sword Macabuin whilst lying on the king's legs. This would mean certain death for the king as the sword would cut through everything in its path. However, the witch, Ada, was consulted and recommended nine times nine toad skins, rowan twigs and adders' eggs to be put between the king's legs and Eaoch's neck. This proved successful as Macabuin cut through Eaoch's neck and all the materials below except for the toad skin, thus saving King Olaf's life.

AWM-FIOM 27–28 | HU-JG 156–158 | JT-HSA 2.177–179 | KR-MNQ 231 | SM-MFT 109–111

The moddey doo of Peel Castle



Public, seasonal opening, admission fee applies | Steps, uneven surfaces | SC 2420 8450 | 54.225918, -4.698238 | The guardroom of Peel Castle is on the right-hand side just inside the entrance.

In the 1650s or 1660s, when soldiers were stationed in Peel Castle, a mysterious large black dog would appear from a passage off the guardroom. It would come in as night fell and lie by the fire through the night, only rising to return into the dark passage just before sunrise. The soldiers recognised this moddey doo as an evil spirit and they feared to be alone with it. However, one night a foolish man got drunk and bragged of how he was unafraid of the beast, boasting that he would go on his own through the passage to return the keys. The others tried to stop the man, but he would not listen and so he set off into the passageway. As he left the room, the moddey doo lumbered up from the fire and followed him. There was a pause, and

then awful and unearthly screams flooded the room and struck horror into the remaining men. After silence returned, the foolish man got himself back into the room, with a face white and twisted with fear. He was unable to speak another word and he died in unnatural agony three days later.

An early account of this has the moddey doo seen in every room of the castle, but most frequently the guardroom. It was here accounted to be 'in the shape of a large black spaniel with curled shaggy hair.'

AWM-FIOM 61–62 | GW-DIM 12–13 | HAB-HIOM 364–365 | JT-HSA 1.300–302 | RJK-SIOM 32–34 | SM-MFT 136–139

Counting the pillars of the crypt



Public, seasonal opening, admission fee applies | Steep and narrow steps, uneven surfaces | SC 2422 8452 | 54.226152, -4.697965 | The crypt of Peel Castle is beneath the eastern end of the cathedral ruins.

During the time when this crypt was a prison, it was said that anyone who visited the place had to count its thirteen pillars or else they would be doomed to later return here as a prisoner. This superstition continued after the closure of the prison, with bad luck following anyone who fails to count the pillars.

GW-DIM 10 | WH-MM1 192

Fairies climbing the flagpole



Public, seasonal opening, admission fee applies | Steps, rough and uneven surfaces | SC 2415 8456 | 54.226508, -4.699050 | The flagpole in Peel Castle is obvious on a raised mound at the centre of the castle grounds.

The crew of a fishing boat leaving Peel was once surprised to see 'innumerable' fairies climbing up and down the flagpole here.

WWG-MS1 244

The wishing stone of St Patrick's Isle



Public, seasonal opening, admission fee applies | Steps, rough and uneven surfaces | SC 2414 8453 | 54.226246, -4.699246 | Inside Peel Castle, between the chapel close to the flagpole in the centre of the site, and the larger former church to the south. The stone is no longer to be found.

A wishing stone used to stand somewhere between the church and chapel, which had the power to grant wishes if someone spoke them whilst stood on the flat surface of the rock. This was recorded in the 1930s, but today the stone cannot be located.

WWG-MS3 288–289

The bleeding skull



Public | Steps | SC 2408 8457 | 54.226547, -4.700208 | The rocky edge of St Patrick's Isle outside the walls of Peel Castle below Fenella's Tower, which is on the side farthest from the town, by the sally port projecting out across the path.

Two lovers once fell into an argument when they were sat near here. She had been idly unearthing a nail from the ground when a comment of his caused her to impulsively use a stone to drive the nail into the back of his head. The blow killed him almost immediately. She panicked and pushed the body down a gully towards the sea to

hide her crime. She left the Island early the next day, allowing people to assume that the two of them had eloped, and so no search was carried out. Years later, the woman returned to visit the Island and she took a tour around the castle. When the tour reached this point along the path outside the walls, a youth from the group, who had been clambering over the rocks below, uncovered a skull lodged in the gully. Weather-beaten and sea-aged, the skull had the appearance of being very old and so no one thought anything of passing it around the party. Not wanting to arouse suspicion, the woman took her turn to handle it but, in her hands, tiny drops of blood tellingly began to ooze from the base of the skull. However, no one in the party saw or had any suspicions, and so it was only on her deathbed that the woman spoke of this tale for the first time.

WWG-MS3 303–305

The giant of St Patrick's Isle



Public | Steps | SC 2419 8463 | 54.227120, -4.698572 | The Giant's Grave is a raised area of land on the far side of Peel Castle. The path goes over the Giant's Grave after it comes up the slope from the Breakwater, just as it levels off to run alongside the wall of the castle. It is about 2 metres wide and roughly 20 metres long.

Peel Castle is said to have originally been Manannan's home. This Celtic god and first ruler of the Isle of Man would protect the Island from invaders by hiding it in mist, but if the enemy got through to the Island, Manannan would make one man on the

battlements of the castle appear as a thousand men. He would also throw woodchips in the River Neb and they would emerge from Peel harbour as fearsome battleships fit to scare off any potential invaders. Some say that it is Manannan who lies within the Giant's Grave outside the castle walls.

Another account tells of a three-legged giant who lived in Peel Castle during the time of St Patrick. He could leap between St Patrick's Isle and Peel Hill with ease, and he was known to throw rocks for fun, such as those that landed two miles away at Lhergydhoo. With his strength and ferocity, the giant terrorised the Island until St Patrick finally confronted him. The giant tried to kill the saint but St Patrick cursed him in the name of the Virgin and the giant was banished. It is perhaps only in death that he was returned here, as he is said to lie within this mound.

Some say that the two smaller mounds nearby are the burial places of the giant's wife and dog.

Although not directly linked to the grave, another account tells of giant fairies who were seen walking around the ruins of Peel Castle. It was one of these giants who cared for the fishermen of Peel by calling out warnings to them from this far side of St Patrick's Isle. On one occasion this giant called out a warning of an approaching storm as the Peel boats were about to head off to the Calf, but they ignored the call and all the boats were lost in the storm.

It was possibly also this protective giant that was seen in a harbour in Ireland by a Peel fisherman, although none of his Irish counterparts could see him.

AWM-FIOM 6 | HU-JG 171–172 | JT-HSA 2.96 | JT-HSA 2.174 | LI-SCI 188 | N-IOMT-11091886 | PIOMNHAS 3.3.229 | PIOMNHAS 3.4.351–352 | PIOMNHAS 4.2.165 | SM-MFT 179–183 | SM-MFT 203–208 | WC-WCF 20 | WC-WCF 47 | WWG-MS1 241 | WWG-MS1 243–244











**FAIRY
BRIDGE**

**NO LIMITS
TRACK DAYS**

2018
6
ANNUAL FAMILY
RIDE OUT
MAY 13
MAY 14
MAY 15
MAY 16
MAY 17
MAY 18
MAY 19
MAY 20
MAY 21
MAY 22
MAY 23
MAY 24
MAY 25
MAY 26
MAY 27
MAY 28
MAY 29
MAY 30
MAY 31





FAIRY
BRIDGE







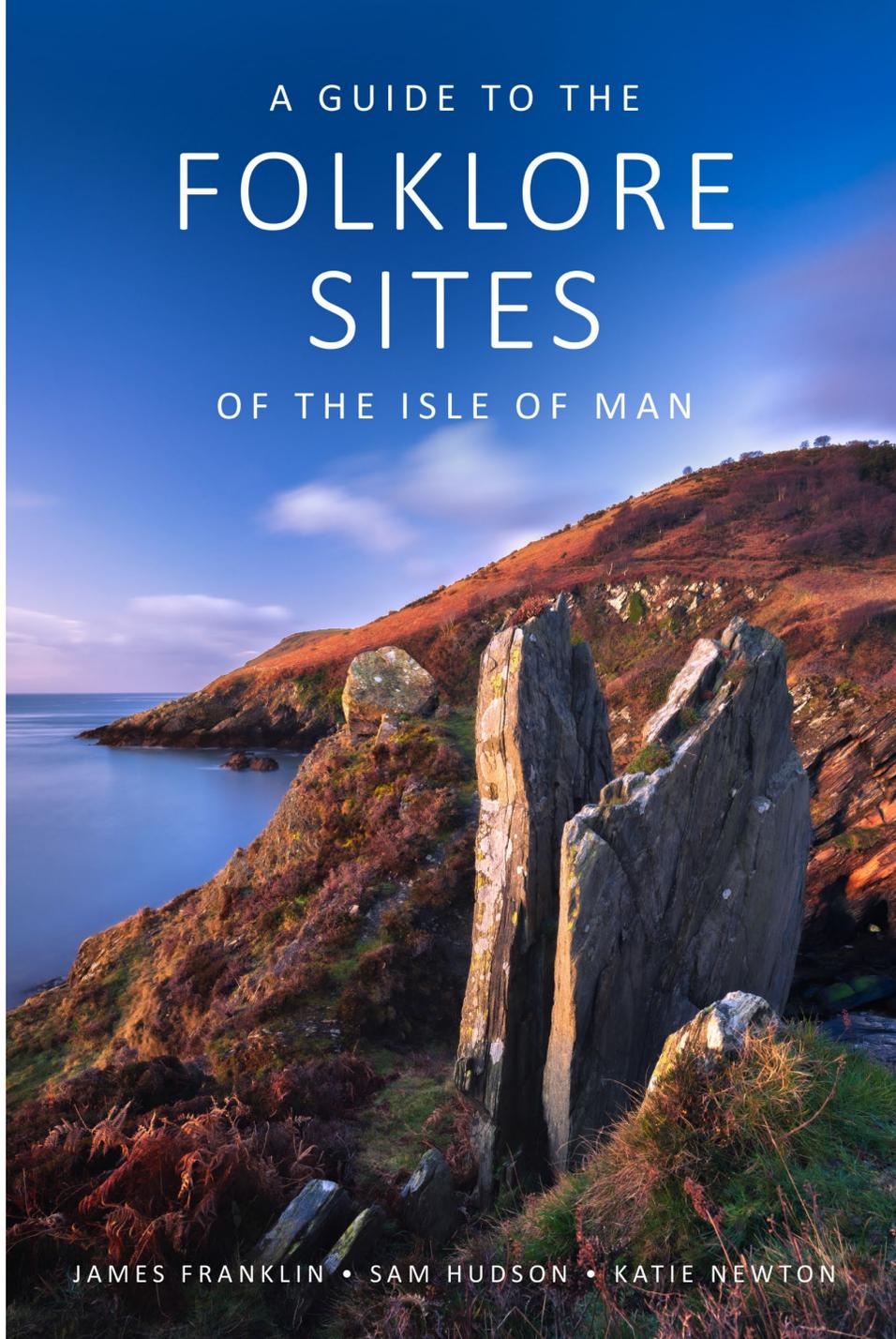




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Ayrn jees:

Paart dy vuill

Cashtal Ree Gorry











104

Mar Vert

101

105

9

100

No in which
the man lived who
was turned into a horse

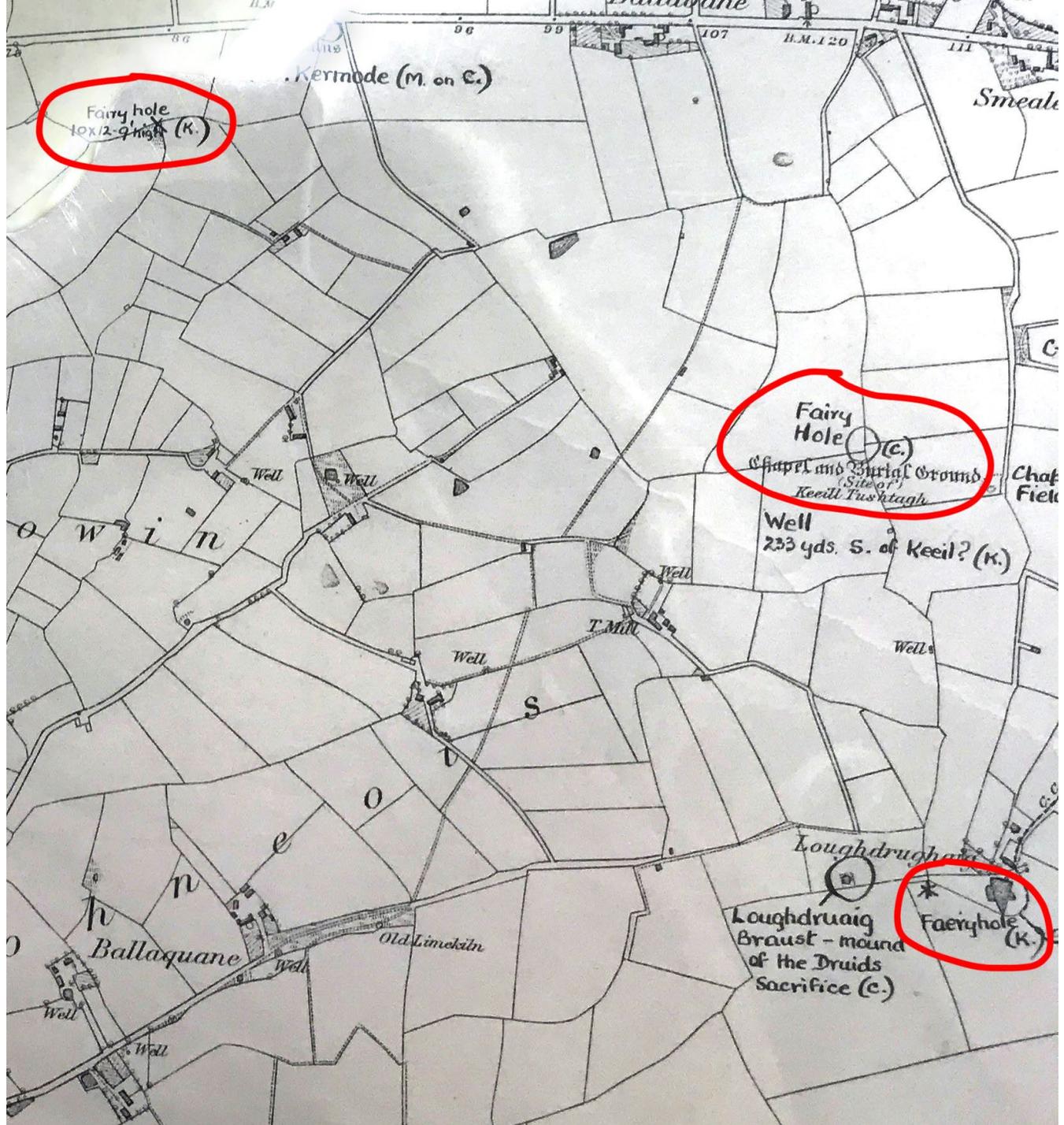
150

olla New B...

153



Fairy holes



Fairy hole
10x12-9 high (K.)

Fairy Hole (c.)
Chapel and Burial Ground
(Site of)
Keelil Tushtagh

Well
233 yds. S. of Keelil? (K.)

Faeryhole (K.)

Kerrnode (M. on E.)

Smeale

Loughdruaig
Braust - mound
of the Druids
Sacrifice (c.)

Ballaquane

Old Limekiln

O W I N

Well

S

Well

Well

Well

Well

Well

Well

T Mill







595

596

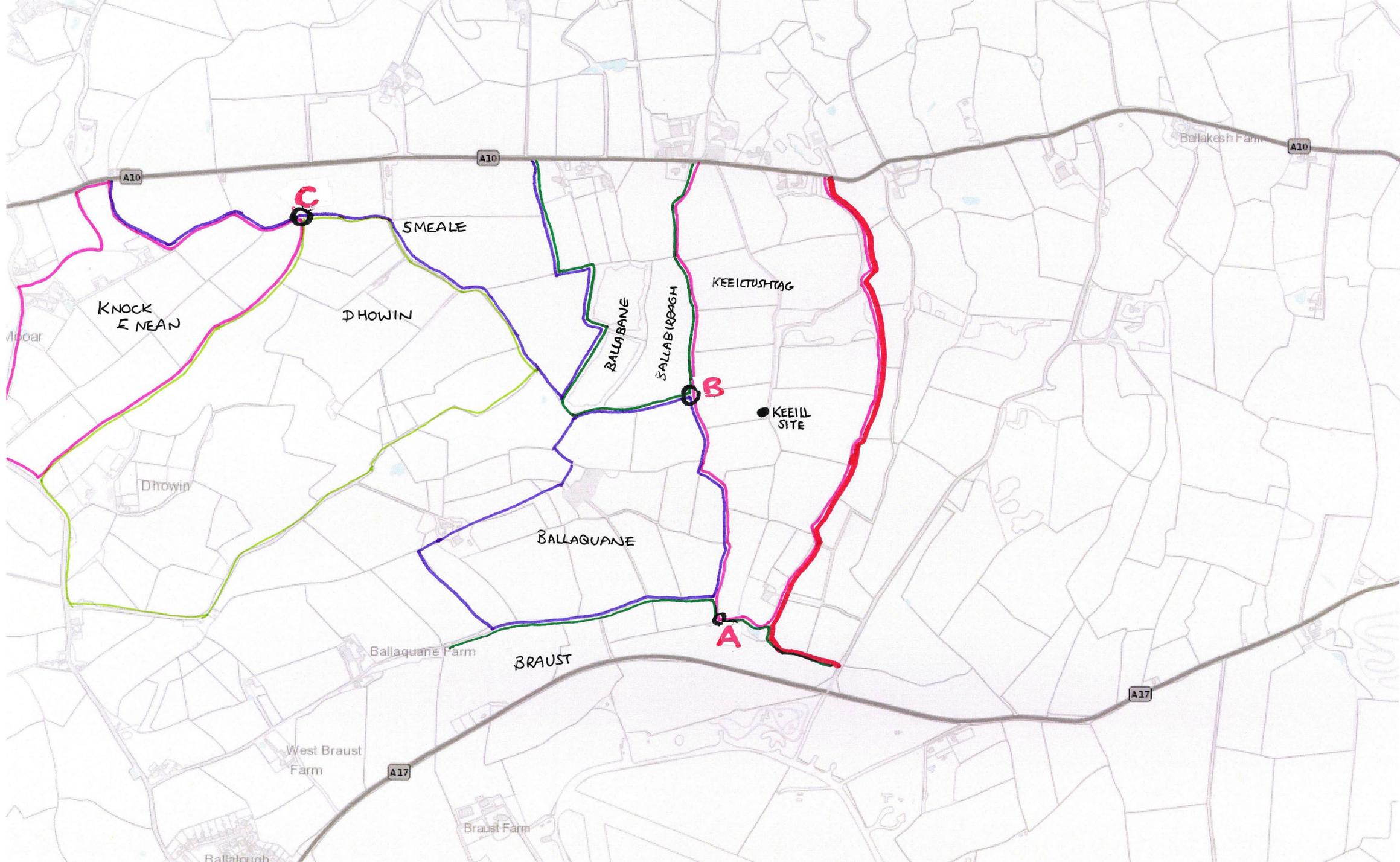
FAIRY
HOLE
(Buggane here!)

MAGHER HOWAN
or HOON

598

594

Tease





Nikkeseu's Pool















MANX
FAIRY
TALES
MORRISON







IMPORTANT.

GLEN ROY (LAXEY),

With its

RIVER & WATERFALLS.

Possesses Scenery of the most Picturesque description—Unequaled in the Island.

SEE THE NIKKESEN

(Pool of the NIKKA or NORWEGIAN
WATER SPRITE.)

Around which the Native Imaginatioin has
woven Strange and Weird Stories.

Balleby





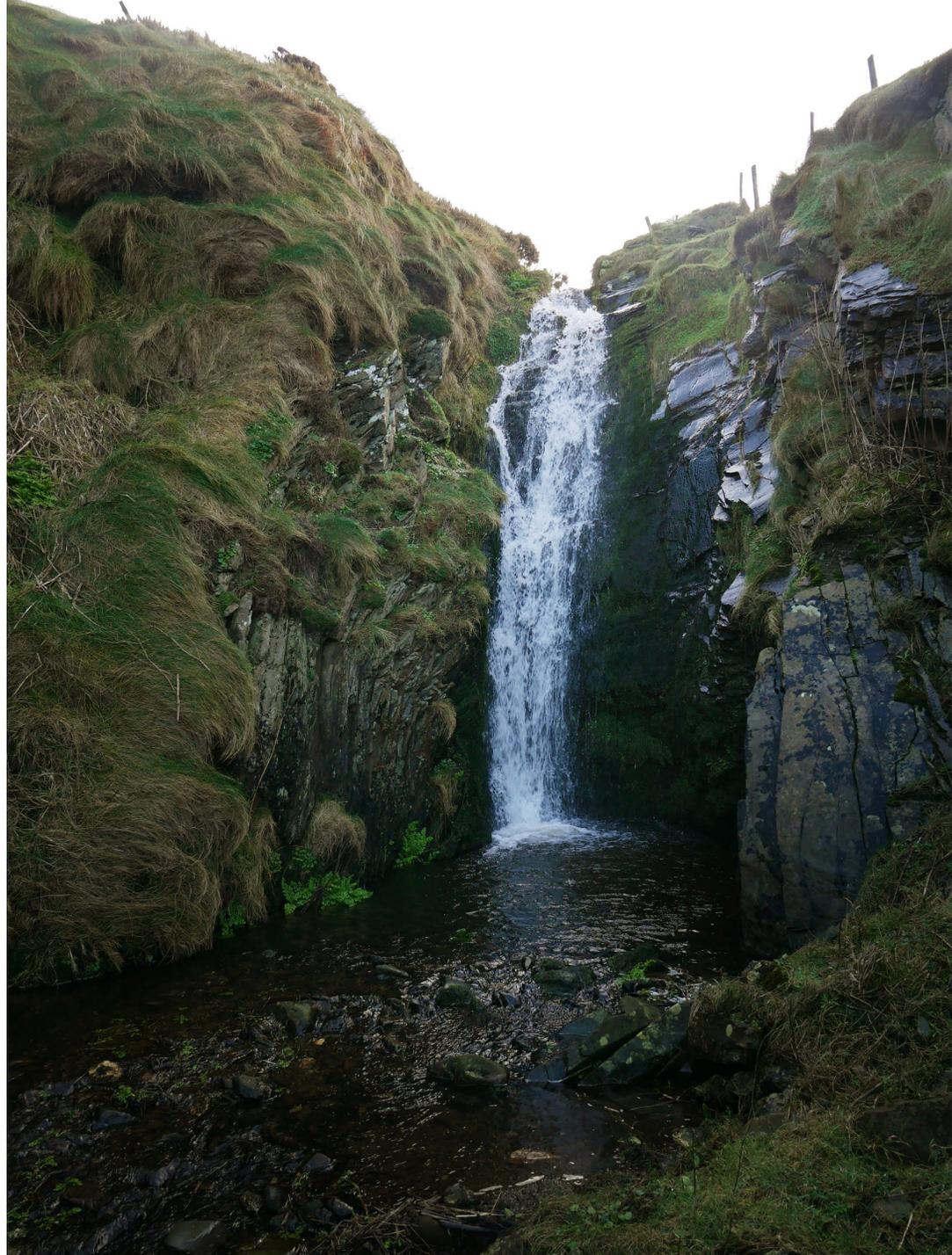














1-805

1854
3-855

1854

1803
3-858

1838
3-834

1900
4-285

Site of
Chapel & Burial Ground
(Acres in Chicago)











6-102

1-596

2045
1-347

*(Story of
the crying
child)
Hedge taken out*

2037
2-249

2042
1-484

2044
182

2046

2038
3-487

2043
4-868

20
2-0

gold

part

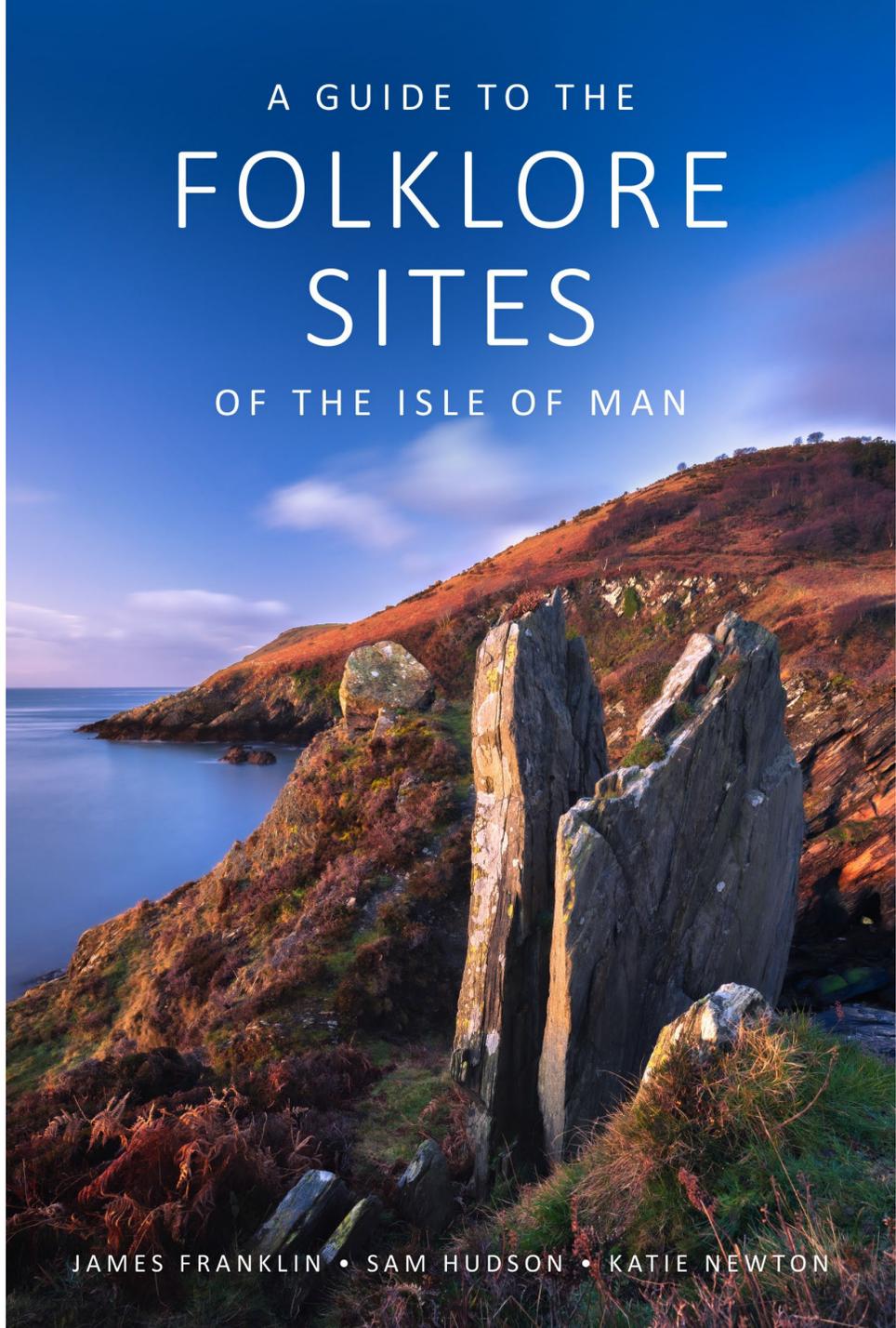
Paraghor's Place



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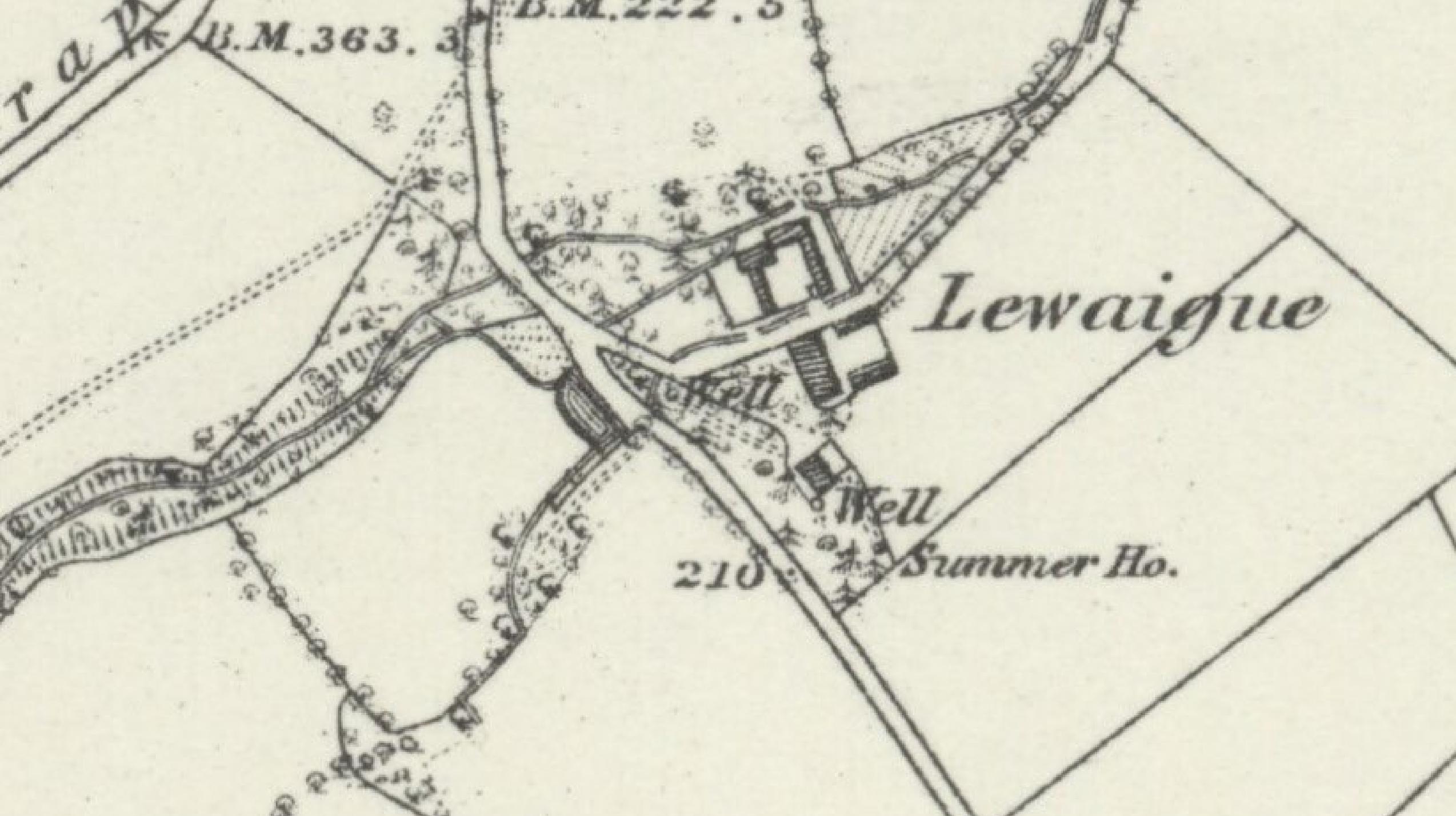
Lewaigue





← THE VENTURE CENTRE →

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Hotels



T a p

B.M. 363. 3

D.M. 222. 5

Lewaigue

210

Well

Summer Ho.







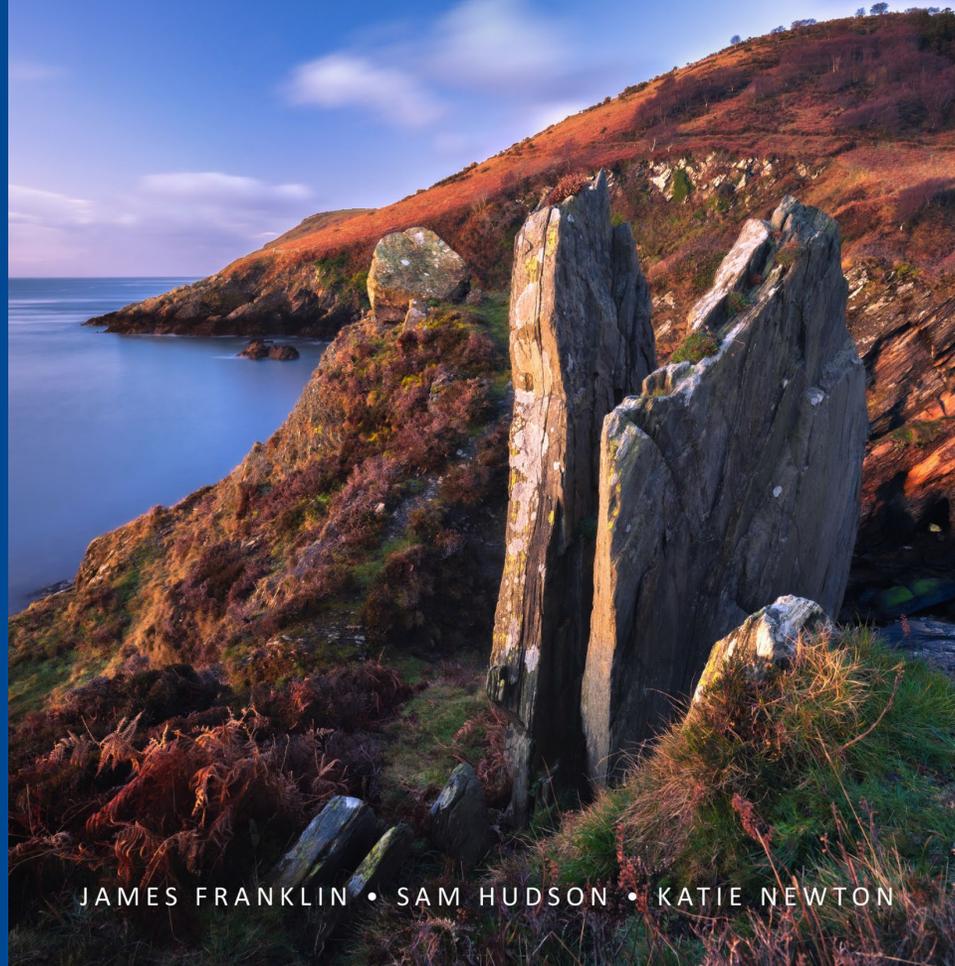






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