

# Library and Archives

## Manx Coastal Erosion

Retreating sandy shores and cliff faces have been evident for many years particularly on the north western coastline of Michael, Ballaugh and Jurby parishes and the north eastern shoreline of Bride.

This factsheet introduces selected printed and manuscript resources in our collections documenting coastal erosion around the Isle of Man. To search for additional items use our online catalogue <https://www.imuseum.im>. The Library turquoise tab (advanced search option) or pink archives tab enable you to narrow the search.

### Main Sources

**Joliffe, I.P. - An investigation into coastal erosion problems in the northern part of the Isle of Man: causes, effects and remedial strategies**

University of London, 1981

200 page report to the Isle of Man Harbour Board and the Isle of Man Government. Highlights key features of earlier reports and considers marine and coastal influences specific to the Manx coastline.

Library Ref: D.134q

**Renshaw, John C. - Coast Erosion in the North of the Isle of Man, 1976**

University of Durham undergraduate dissertation.

Archives Ref: MS 09630

**Robinson, Vaughan and McCarroll, Danny - The Isle of Man: Celebrating a Sense of Place**

Edited by Vaughan Robinson & Danny McCarroll.

Liverpool : Liverpool University Press, 1990

Chapter 6 'The Isle of Man's unstable coast' by Colin Rouse gives a concise illustrated summary. A good introduction to this topic.

Library Ref: F.68/ROB

**Weller, Sarah J. - Coastal Erosion along the North-West Coast of the Isle of Man**

University College of Swansea undergraduate dissertation

Archives ref: MS 12244



Thatched cottage and coastal erosion, Bride, 1965.



Coastal erosion, Jurby, 1940s

## Maps

### **Ordnance Survey -**

1:2500 Survey plans of the 1860s

1:2500/1:10560 Plans of the 1950'S and 1960'S

These illustrate the extent of erosion over the last 130 + years.

## Government Reports

### **Blaker, W.H. - Report on Construction and Effect of Groynes at certain English Seaside Towns, and suggested Remedial Measures for Arresting Erosion at Peel and on the North West Coast of the Isle of Man**

Douglas: Brown & Sons, 1917

Report presented to Isle of Man Harbour Commissioners. p.p. 26-31 refer to Peel, Kirk Michael and the north west coast, with methods of construction and projected costs.

Library Ref: B. 92/10/2xf(6)

### **Brown, J.C. - Report on Coast Erosion**

Douglas: Isle of Man Government, 1951

Typescript report prepared for the Harbour Commissioners. Several photographs clearly show the failure of previous attempts to halt erosion on the northwest coast of the island. Includes maps.

Archives Ref: MS 05359 C

### **Coast Erosion - Report of Committee of Tynwald with report by W.H. Blaker and report from H. Cowin. Douglas, Isle of Man Government, 1924**

Considers west coast erosion and cost of remedies with report from W.H. Blaker and financial statement from H. Cowin.

Library Ref: D.134/1xf(27)

### **Harbour Board and Board of Agriculture and Fisheries - Report on Erosion of the coasts of the North of the Isle of Man. Douglas, Isle of Man Government, 1983**

Assesses Jolliffe's report, the possible effects on government boards and advises non-intervention as a general rule.

Library Ref: D.134q

### **Department of Highways, Ports and Properties & Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Coast Erosion Policy: A report to the Executive Council. Douglas, Isle of Man, 1990**

Follow up to 1983 report which reviews the recommendations made.

Library Ref D.134/HIGq

### **An Interim Report to Tynwald January 2000. Douglas, Isle of Man Government, 2000**

Report of a geophysical survey by Posford Duvivier, consulting engineers, commissioned by the Department.

Library Ref: D.134q

### **Encroachment of the sea at Michael, Ballaugh etc - report of Committee of Tynwald. Douglas, Isle of Man Government, 1897**

Includes minutes of evidence of landowners and G.W. Lamplugh on causes of erosion and preferred measures to prevent further erosion.

Library Ref: D.151/15xf(40)

### **Report into Coastal Erosion on the Northern Coasts of the Isle of Man October 2000**

Department of Transport, 2000

Library Ref: D.134/TRAf

### **Coastal Management Options for the Northern Shoreline of the Isle of Man (Kirk Michael to Ramsey) - report prepared for the Isle of Man Department of Transport.**

Posford Duvivier International Ltd, 2000.

Archives ref: MS 12908

## Other Sources

### **Craine, David - Manannan's Isle: A Collection of Manx Historical essays**

Douglas: Manx Museum and National trust, 1955

Contains brief details of erosion in Ballaugh p.p. 210-211 and Jurby p. 232.

Library Ref: F.64/CRA

### **Kermode, P.M.C. - The Manx Archaeological Survey Third Report**

IOMNHAS, 1911 reprinted with reports 1 to 5, Manx Museum and National Trust, 1968

Considers the site of Keeill Pharlane, Michael with a sketch map showing rate of erosion.

Library Ref: F.6/KERf

### **Lamplugh, G.W. - The Geology of the Isle of Man (Memoirs of the Geological Survey)**

London: HMSO, 1903

Contains details of changes since the Ordnance Survey of the 1860s particularly for the Point of Ayre.

Library Ref: A.224

Department of Transport Coastal Erosion at Kirk Michael -





**Moore, Arthur William - A History of the Isle of Man**  
Douglas: Manx National Heritage, 1992,  
(reprint of 1900 edition). 2 vols.  
ISBN 0 901106 3 X  
Vol 1, pp 24-25 refer to the rate of erosion.  
Library Ref: F.64/MOO

**Ramsey Town Commissioners- Report on the Denudation of the Beach along Mooragh Promenade**  
Cardiff: Ove Arup & Partners, 1979  
Assesses erosion undermining the sea wall and its prevention.  
Library Ref: D.134/RAMq

**Train, Joseph - An Historical and Statistical Account of the Isle of Man.**  
Douglas: Mary A. Quiggin, 1845  
p.p. 33-35 Dimensions of the Island summarises previous authors' comments on the rate of erosion.  
Library Ref: F.64/30/TRA & F.64/20/TRA

## Index to Isle of Man Newspapers

The following references extracted from our 1957-1994 card index show the wealth of relevant articles found within Manx newspapers. Digitised newspapers 1792-1960 are searchable and viewable online at [www.imuseum.im/newspapers](http://www.imuseum.im/newspapers).

Papers spanning 1960-2010 may be consulted on microfilm in our Reading Room. Beyond 2010, newspapers are available to view via hard drive. The original papers are all held in the Manx National Heritage collections.

**Harbour Board to make survey, Port Cranstal**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 22 Mar 1957 p.1

**Report of further damage at Cranstal -**  
Isle of Man Courier, 4 Mar 1960 p.4

**Ballavarey Cottage, Andreas collapses into the sea -**  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 9 Mar 1962 p.1

**An Enquiry -** Isle of Man Daily Times, 2 Feb 1965 p.2

**Cranstal article with pictures -**  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 8 Oct 1965 p.4

**Mooragh Shore -** Isle of Man Weekly Times, 19 Jan 1968 p.1 & Isle of Man Courier, 27 Jan 1968 p.8

**Laxey Beach -** Mona's Herald, 6 Feb 1968 p.5 & Isle of Man Weekly Times, 9 Feb 1968 p.10

**Island in general especially the north coast -**  
Mona's Herald, 6 Jan 1968 p.6

**Problem of sand erosion at Laxey -**  
Mona's Herald, 12 Mar 1968 p.5

**Beach at Bride inspected -**  
Mona's Herald, 16 Feb 1969 p.3

**On Farm at Cronkbane, Bride -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 16 Oct 1970 p.3

**Notes on the Cronkbane, Bride -**  
Isle of Man Courier, 11 June 1971 p.5

**Government gives assurance that situation is being carefully watched -** Isle of Man Courier, 28 Jan 1972 p.3  
Residents in the north worried about erosion - Mona's Herald, 25 Jan 1972 p.1

**Bride -** Isle of Man Examiner, 3 Mar 1972 p.6

**Government Office informs farmers that there is no evidence that the old Jetty near the point of Ayre causes erosion by deflecting heavy seas towards the coast -**  
Mona's Herald, 28 Nov 1972 p.3

**North of Ramsey. Local government holds public enquiry -**  
Mona's Herald, 5 Dec 1972 p.7

**Reduction of rates for Ramsey man following claim regarding the constant expenditure caused by coastal erosion -** Isle of Man Examiner, 16 Mar 1973 p.4

**Erosion caused by gales -**  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 21 Feb 1974 p.8

**Too much gravel removed from the coast leads to erosion -** Isle of Man Examiner, 26 Apr 1974 p.6

**Erosion at Glen Maye -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 18 Oct 1974 p.6

**Erosion following high tide at Ballure -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 7 Feb 1975 p.15

**Erosion at Jurby -**  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 20 May 1975 p.13

**Storms cause further erosion at Bride -** Isle of Man Examiner, 6 Feb 1976 p.15

**Descriptive notes of erosion in the north of the Island -**  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 18 Oct 1977 p.1

**Notes on coast erosion in the North of the Island -**  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 18 Mar 1980 p.12

**Project undertaken by Bedford College, London -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 10 Apr 1981 p.6

**Mr. Joughin of Bride refuses to pay income -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 27 Nov 1981 p.20

**Descriptive notes of report on erosion along the Northwest coastline -** Isle of Man Weekly Times,  
15 Feb 1983 p.1

**Work started on groynes at Glen Mooar beach to prevent erosion; notes and photos -** Manx Star, 17 Oct 1986 p.1 &  
Isle of Man Weekly Times, 21 Oct 1986 p.12

**The problem of our shrinking Island; notes and photos -**  
Manx Independent, 3 Jul 1987 p.5

**Dramatic effects at Ballaugh; notes and photos -**  
Manx Independent, 16 Feb 1990 p.4

**Battle to save the crumbling riverbank; notes and photos -**  
Manx Independent, 21 Feb 1990 p.19

**DHPP considering asking advice from Dutch engineers -**  
Manx Independent, 23 Feb 1990 p.12

**Millions would be needed to halt the erosion of the Island's North-West coastline -**  
Manx Independent, 2 Mar 1990 p.1

**Michael Commissions say groyne barrier at Glen Mooar has halted erosion -** Manx Independent, 6 Mar 1990 p.8.

**Residents take initiative to protect cliff-top home on erosion-hit north western coastline; notes and photos -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 23 Oct 1990 p.12

**The Islands northern coastline and the soft option remedy -** Isle of Man Examiner, 11 Dec 1990 p. 24

**Scheme to protect coastline at Glen Wyllin -**  
Isle of Man Courier, 17 Feb 1991 p.12

**DHPP plan pilot scheme at Glen Wyllin to fight coastal erosion -** Manx Independent, 30 Aug 1991 p.15 &  
Isle of Man Examiner, 10 Sept 1991 p.15

**Cost of sea defences at Bay Ny Carrickey -**  
Isle of Man Courier, 18 Dec 1992 p.22

**Marine expert to be called in- troubled defence breached again (Shore Road) -** Manx Independent, 19 Jan 1993 p.10

**Shore Road closure hits local trade -**  
Manx Independent, 29 Jan 1993 p.20

**Coast at Ballaugh and further North -**  
Isle of Man Examiner, 15 Mar 1994 p.19

## Before your visit

Check our Library and Archives opening times (Weds to Sat with exceptions). Write down any facts you know for sure. Be prepared to stow your bags in a locker and use only pencil. Bring a USB key if you want to save digital data and also a camera. Allow sufficient time for research and possible visits to sites of interest.

You will need to register with us so bring some ID showing your home address.

You can find a welcome leaflet, contact details and other available guides on our library page:  
<https://manxnationalheritage.im/collections/library-and-archives>

To give advance notice of a visit you are welcome to email the team at [library@mnh.im](mailto:library@mnh.im)

MNH website home page:  
<https://manxnationalheritage.im>

