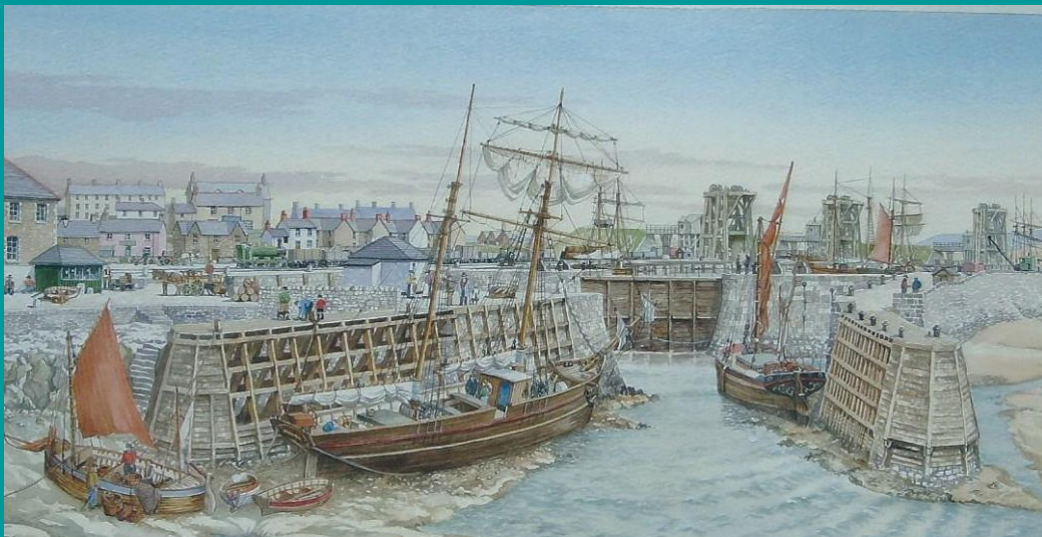


Porthcawl

Much More Than Meets The Eye Stage 1

A Character Study of Porthcawl's Maritime and
Industrial Area



by the Porthcawl Civic Trust Society
August 2015 (Amended)

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**Feedback and comments:**

Anyone wishing to make any comments on this report or provide any further information about Porthcawl should email [porthcawlcivictrust@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:porthcawlcivictrust@hotmail.co.uk)



## Acknowledgements

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In particular, the **Porthcawl Civic Trust Society** would like to thank Brian Batters, Brian Comley, Tony Comley and Peter Henry for their willingness to share their time, local knowledge and their photographs of Porthcawl. Their help has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated. We would also like to pay a special tribute to the late John David for his helpfulness, for his local knowledge and for his willingness to share his experience of living in Porthcawl, at what was a very difficult time for him.

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The Outline of the Report

This report has been researched, prepared and written by members of the **Porthcawl Civic Trust Society**. It covers the present maritime area together with the old industrial sector of Porthcawl and represents Stage 1 of the full characterisation report on the town. It is hoped that Stage 2 of the report will be completed at a later date when the **Porthcawl Civic Trust Society** will cover the Leisure and Commerce sector of Porthcawl.

'Much More Than Meets The Eye' draws on the available books, maps, census returns, newspaper reports, photographs and local records relating to Porthcawl's inception in the late Georgian period and the town's subsequent development. The document also builds on and incorporates the bulk of the previous interim report completed by the **Porthcawl Civic Trust Society** in conjunction with the, then, Civic Trust for Wales in December 2013, at the request of B.C.B.C.'s Design and Conservation Department in support of their application for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (H.L.F) in March 2014.

This characterisation report of Porthcawl's Maritime, Industrial and Early Residential Area is in 5 separate Parts. Part 1 is a General Introduction to Porthcawl which opens with a holistic summary of the town's origins and its early development. The report considers how those factors are reflected in the town's current layout, structures and buildings before moving on to Part 2 which presents separate characterisation studies of Porthcawl's Harbour-side area. Part 3 provides additional characterisation studies of the old Inner Dock Basin and the present Hillsboro and Salt Lake car parks together with the Eastern Promenade. Part 4 follows with an exploration of Porthcawl's Early Residential Area including The Square, Dock Street, Lifeboat Way, Pilot Row (now incorporated into the Pier Hotel), Marine Terrace and an extended characterisation of Hillsboro Place (once Railway Terrace). The report closes with Part 5 which contains suggestions from the **Porthcawl Civic Trust Society** regarding the way the maritime and old industrial quarter of Porthcawl can be developed so as to preserve and enhance its heritage for future generations. The document ends with a brief summary and overview.

In examining the architectural and building characteristics of, what was, the old Maritime and Industrial Area of Porthcawl, each character study begins with the history and origins of a particular area before providing a picture of its contemporary condition and appearance. Some gaps remain as it has not been possible to acquire all the information required for a portrayal of the town's Maritime and Industrial Area that fully justifies Porthcawl's hidden layers and its chequered past. As with the interim report of December 2013, much has been learned during this project but, even now, after several months of enquiry and research, we are aware that there is so much more to discover about Porthcawl. Several questions remain outstanding and **Porthcawl Civic Trust Society** will continue its research. Hopefully, answers will be found and will be included in the next stage of *'Much More Than Meets The Eye'*.

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## Glossary of Abbreviations

|            |                                                 |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| ABP        | Associated British Ports                        |
| B.C.B.C.   | Bridgend County Borough Council                 |
| B.C.S.E.G. | Bristol Channel Standing Estuary Group          |
| C.I.C.     | Community Interest Company                      |
| D.L.P.R.   | Duffryn Llynvi and Porthcawl Railway            |
| E.U.       | European Union                                  |
| Glamro     | Glamorgan Records Office                        |
| G.W.R.     | Great Western Railway                           |
| H.L.F.     | Heritage Lottery Fund                           |
| ID         | Identification                                  |
| M.P.       | Member of Parliament                            |
| L.G.R.     | Local Government Reorganisation                 |
| N.C.I.     | National Coastwatch Institution                 |
| O.N.S.     | Office of National Statistics                   |
| O.S.       | Ordnance Survey                                 |
| P.A.O.D.S. | Porthcawl Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society |
| P.U.D.C.   | Porthcawl Urban District Council                |
| R.A.F.     | Royal Air Force                                 |
| R.N.L.I    | Royal National Lifeboat Institution             |
| S.M.P.     | Shoreline Management Plan                       |
| T.H.I.     | Townscape Heritage Initiative                   |
| U.K.       | United Kingdom                                  |
| uPVC       | unplasticised Polyvinyl Chloride                |
| W.A.G.     | Welsh Assembly Government                       |
| WWI        | World War I                                     |
| WWII       | World War II                                    |

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