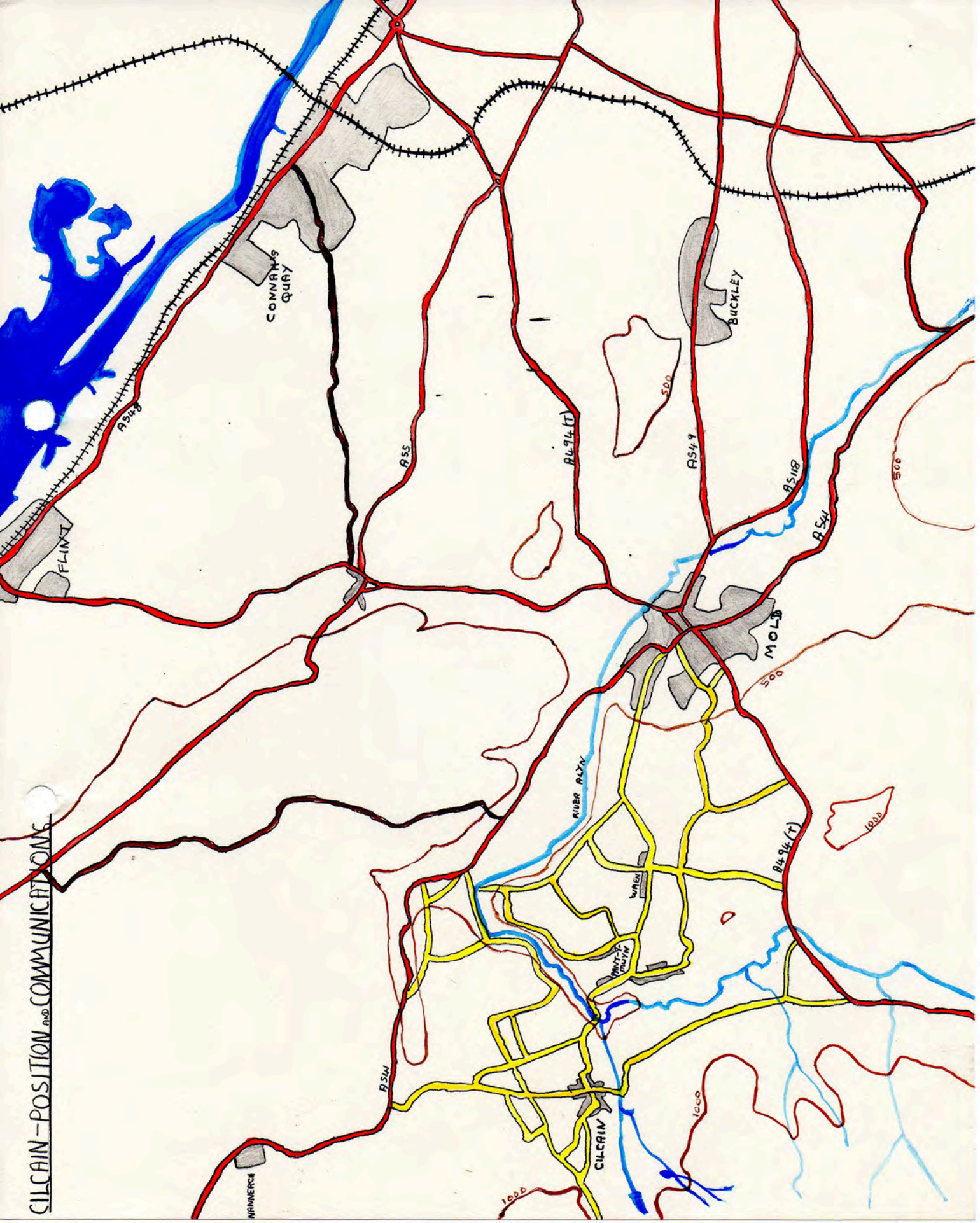


CILCAIN

A

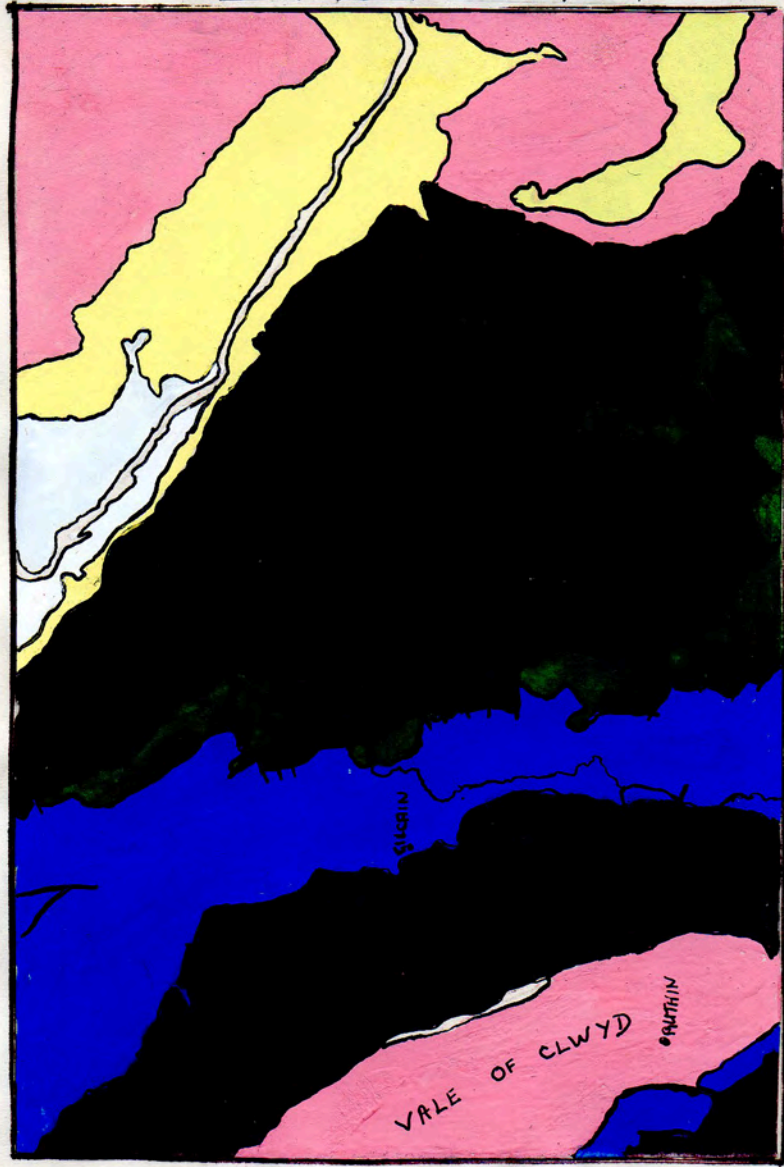
VILLAGE SURVEY

CILCAIN - POSITION AND COMMUNICATIONS



# FIGURE I

GENERAL GEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE AREA

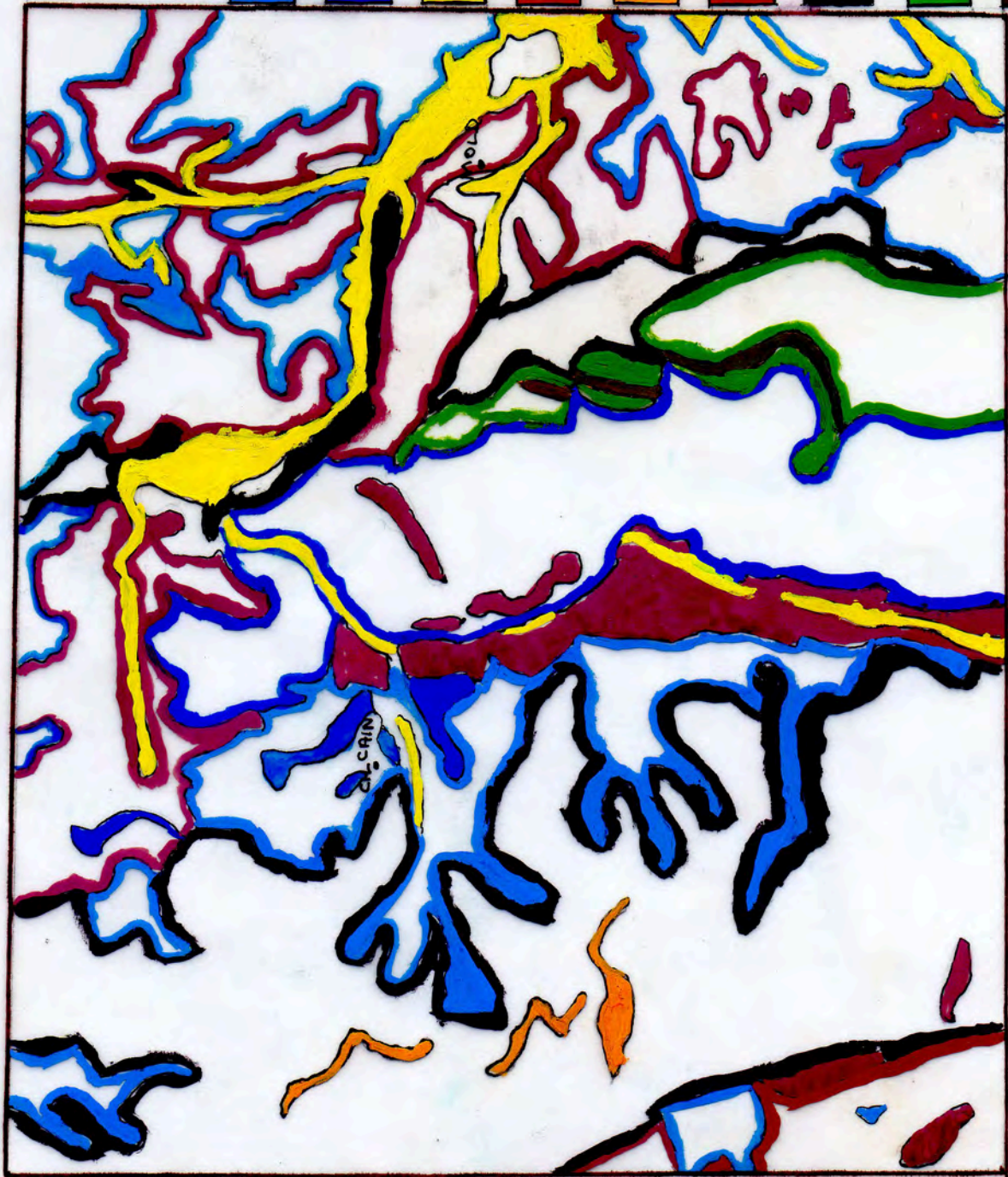
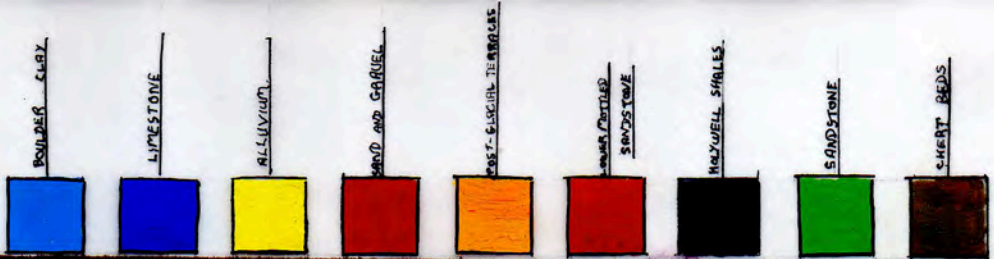


## KEY

- TRIASSIC ROCKS UNDER DRIFT AND ALLUVIUM
- COAL MEASURES
- CARBONIFEROUS LIMESTONE
- CEFN-Y-FEDW SANDSTONE
- SILURIAN
- ALLUVIUM
- TIDAL SANDS

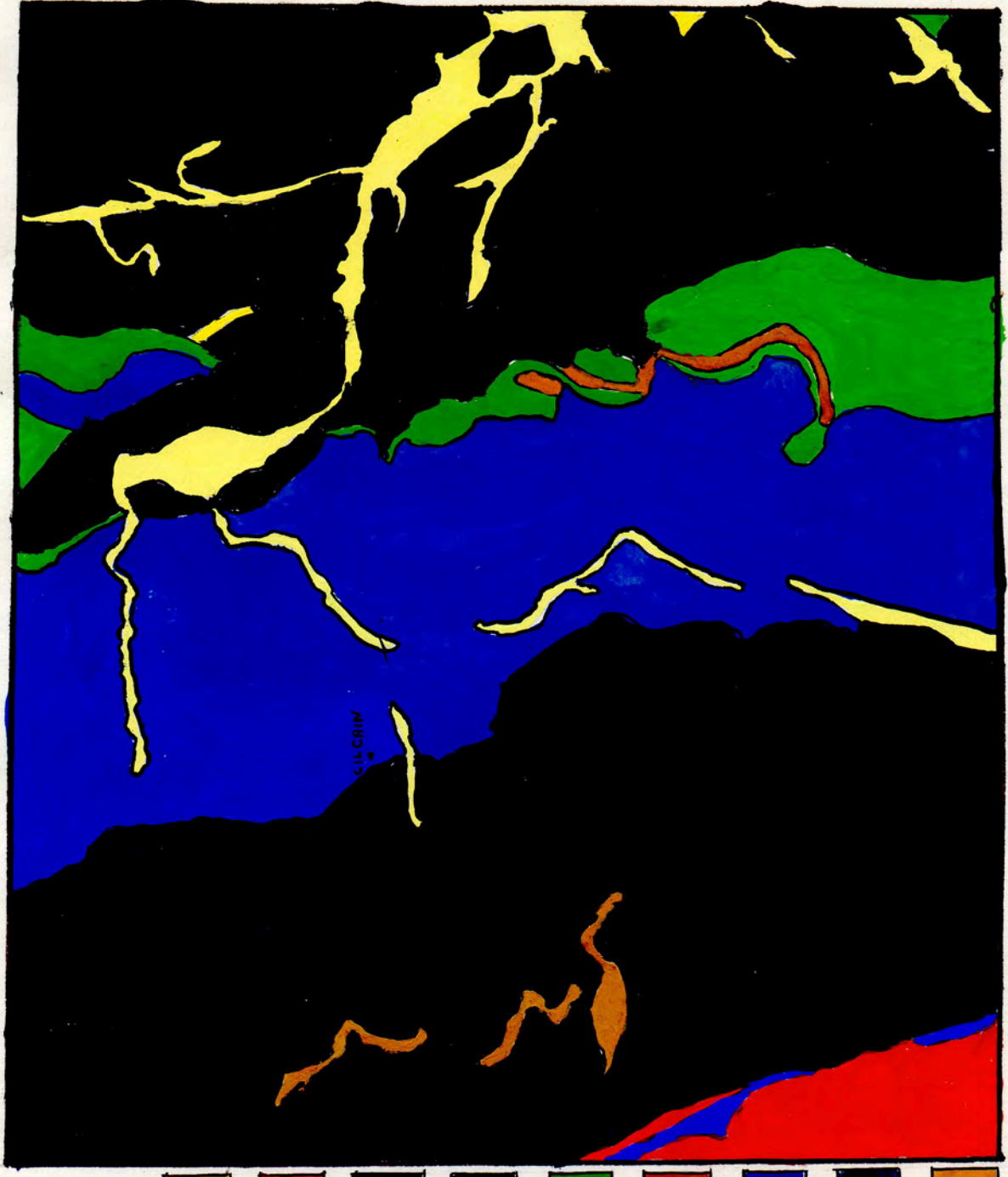
GEOLOGICAL DRIFT MAP OF THE CILSRIN AREA

KEY



SCALE - 33140

FIGURE 2

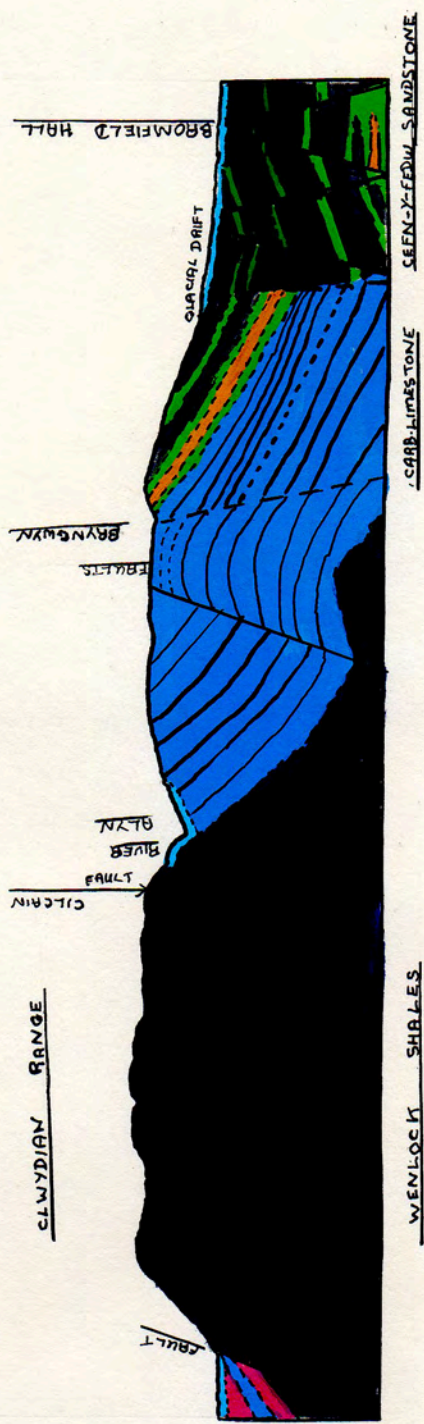


- PEBBLE BEDS
- LOWER MOTTLED SANDSTONE
- COAL MEASURES
- HOLYWELL SHALES
- SANDSTONE
- CHERT BEDS
- LIMESTONE
- WENLOCK SHALES
- SILURIAN SANDSTONE

SCALE OF ONE INCH TO ONE STATUTE MILE

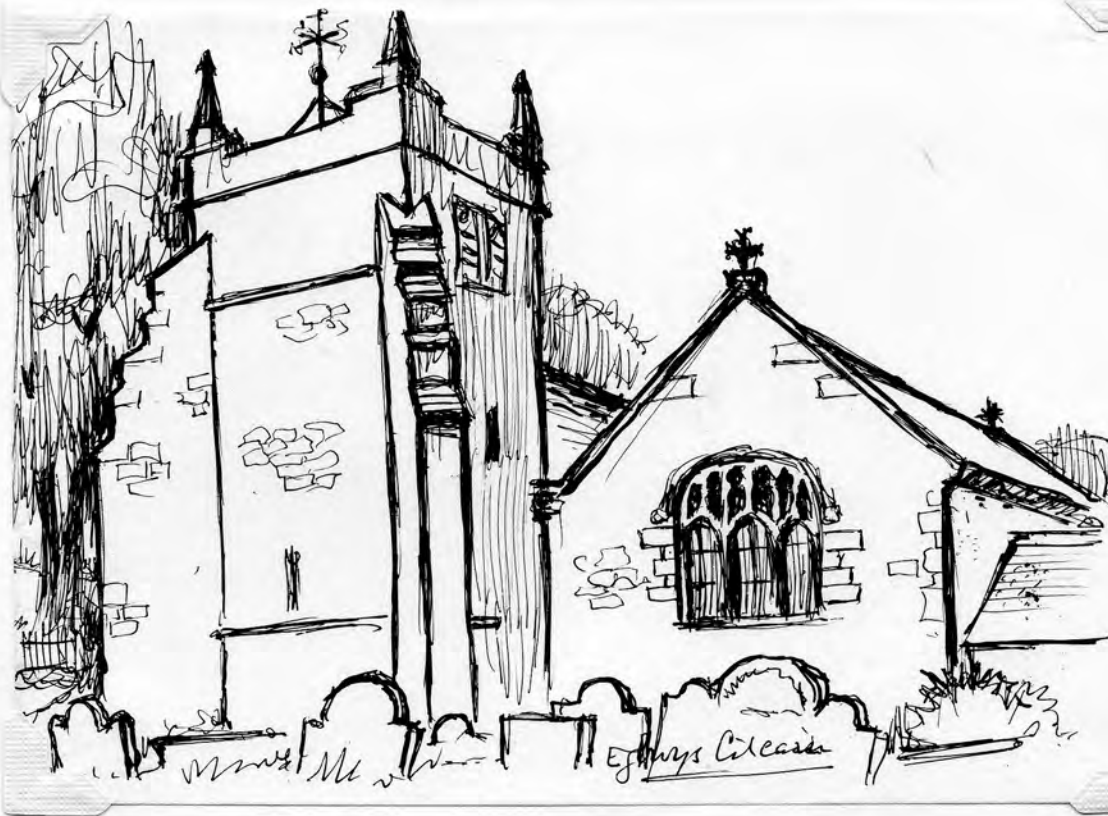
# FIGURE 3

SECTION SHOWING THE GENERAL RELATIONS OF THE ROCKS



HORIZONTAL SCALE, ONE INCH TO ONE MILE

CILCAIN PARISH CHURCH



Cilcain is a small rural settlement consisting of sixty dwellings grouped together and many outlying farms and houses. The nearest town is Mold which is five miles away. The settlement is situated between the Wenlock Shales of the Clewydian Range which rises to the west of the village, and the valley of the river Alyn. The village itself is on limestone under boulder clay as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

The earliest written record of the settlement is in 1607 when it is said to be a village of seven houses. The name of the village is variously written, Cilcain, Kilken, Kilcain, and Cilcen. Its origin has never yet been satisfactorily ascertained. By some it is supposed to be derived from Cil, a retreat, and Cair, fair or pleasant; others say "The retreat of Cair." Eurgain was the niece of St. Asaph, second bishop of the see which, after his canonization, obtained its name from him. She was educated by him and during the persecutions she retired to the district included in the present parish of Cilcain where she built a cell, and lived in solitude and devotion. From her pious and exemplary life she acquired the appellation of Eurgain, "the fairness of gold"; shortly after a church was erected near the site of her hermitage and consecrated to her memory; the vale in which she dwelt is still called Nant Cair, and the brook which runs from the mountain retains



the name of Cair.

There has been some gold-mining at Cilcain, but the results did not justify its continuance, as the yield was not sufficient to pay the running costs, though some still assert that gold could be found in valuable quantities near-by.

The main attraction of the village is without doubt the Parish Church. The first church on this site is said to have been built during the Norman period, but no vestige of it remains, unless the Norman font now in the church occupied a place there. Parts of the present edifice date from the fourteenth century. It is of a form common in Wales, having two equal aisles. The beautiful carved oak roof of the south aisle is one of the finest in the Principality and is said to have come from Basingwerk Abbey about a year after the dissolution of that establishment, which took place in 1535.

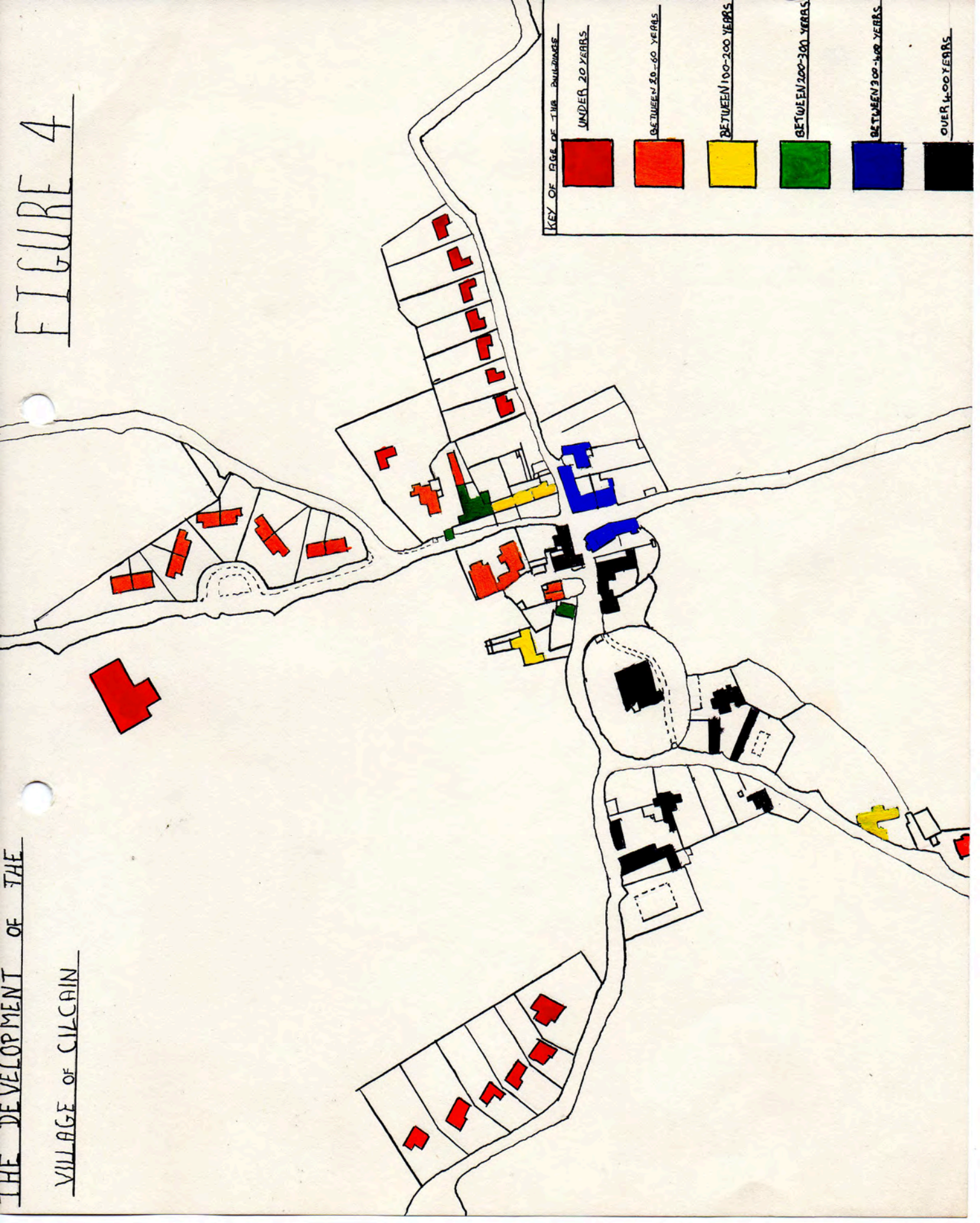
The old vicarage which was built in 1807, is situated a few hundred yards on the south-west side of the Church. The new vicarage was built fifteen years ago, but it has never been occupied by the vicar of the Parish as he resides at Narberch. On the north side of the church is a stone house, upon the front of which is a stone slab, bearing the following inscription :- "This building was



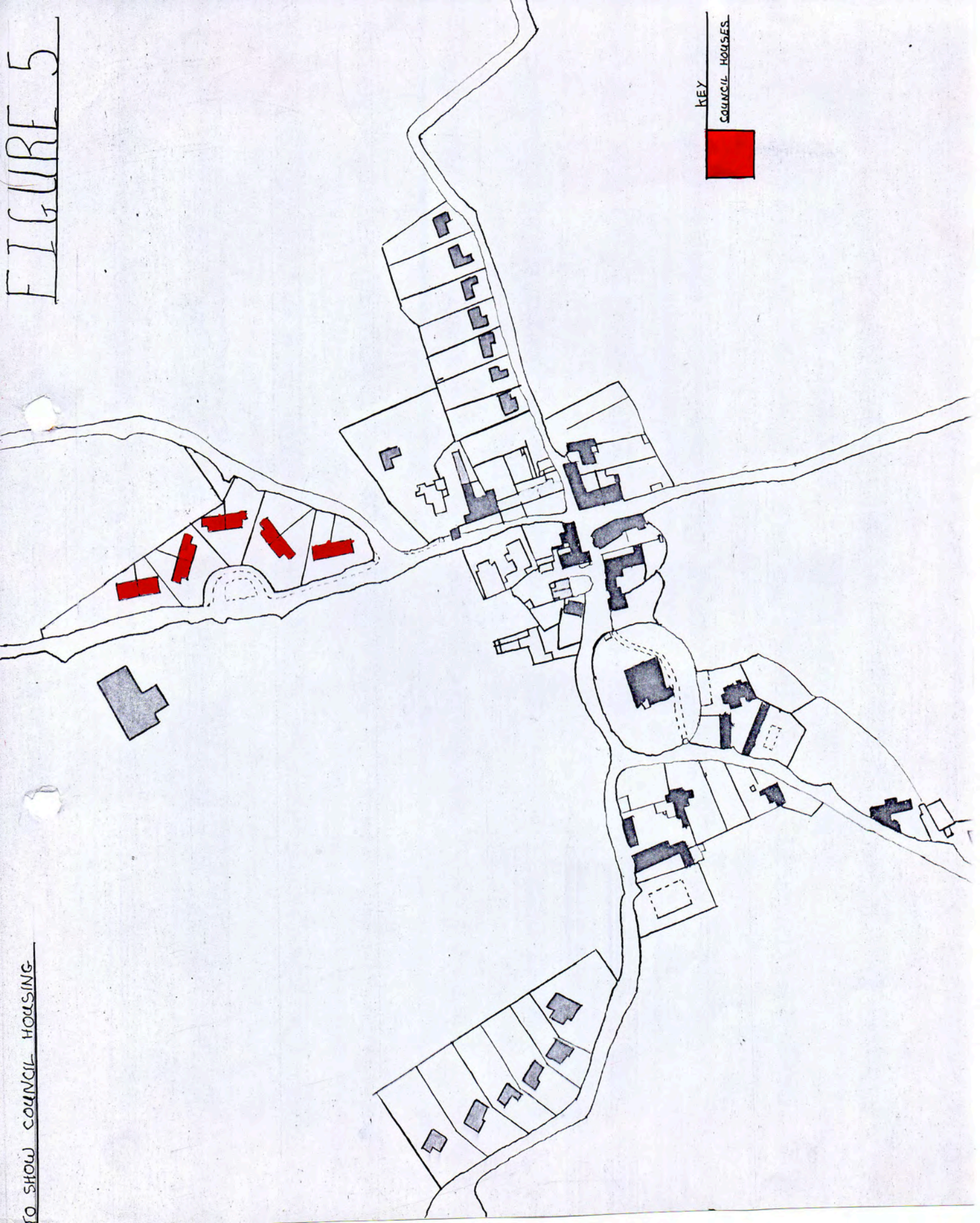
CLCN.41. THE VILLAGE, CILCAIN.

FIGURE 4

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
VILLAGE OF CILCAIN



# FIGURE 5



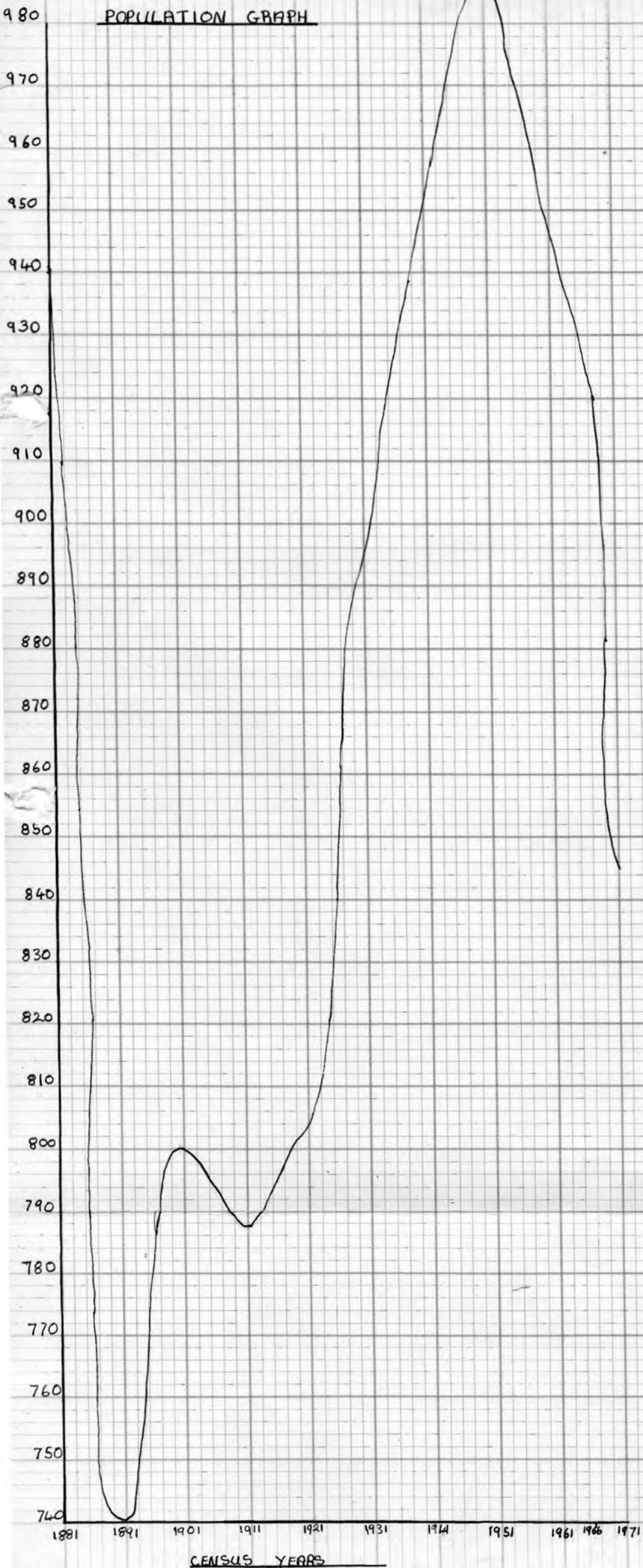
KEY  
COUNCIL HOUSES



TO SHOW COUNCIL HOUSING

FIGURE 6 . .

POPULATION GRAPH





CLCN.38. THE VILLAGE. CILCAIN.



VILLAGE CENTRE

erected on the common by a Voluntary Subscription from the Landowners and Occupiers of land in the Parish as a School for the use and Benefit of the Parishioners 1799" It is now used as a private residence, and a National School was built near to it in 1842, but this has been replaced by a modern school built in 1964. The old school now serves as the village hall. The village chapel was built in 1905 and it is situated north of the centre of the village.

The village is nucleated with the oldest buildings in the centre around the church and later development on the outskirts. (Figure 4.) The village has grown slowly but steadily during the last few centuries, but in the last thirty years there has been a sudden expansion. Just after the Second World War, ten Swedish style council houses were built to the north of the village. (Figure 5). In the last five years, seven modern bungalows have been built to the east of the village, and to the west six houses of high standard and contemporary design overlook the village. Future development is planned for the outskirts of the existing village.

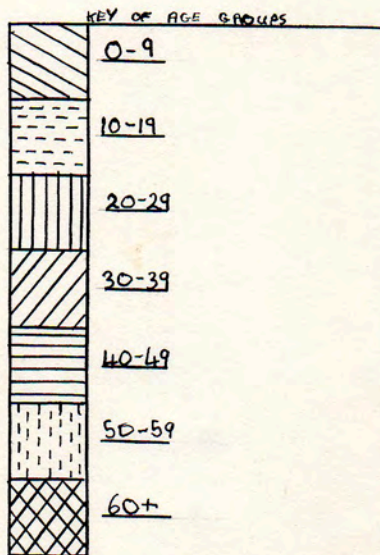
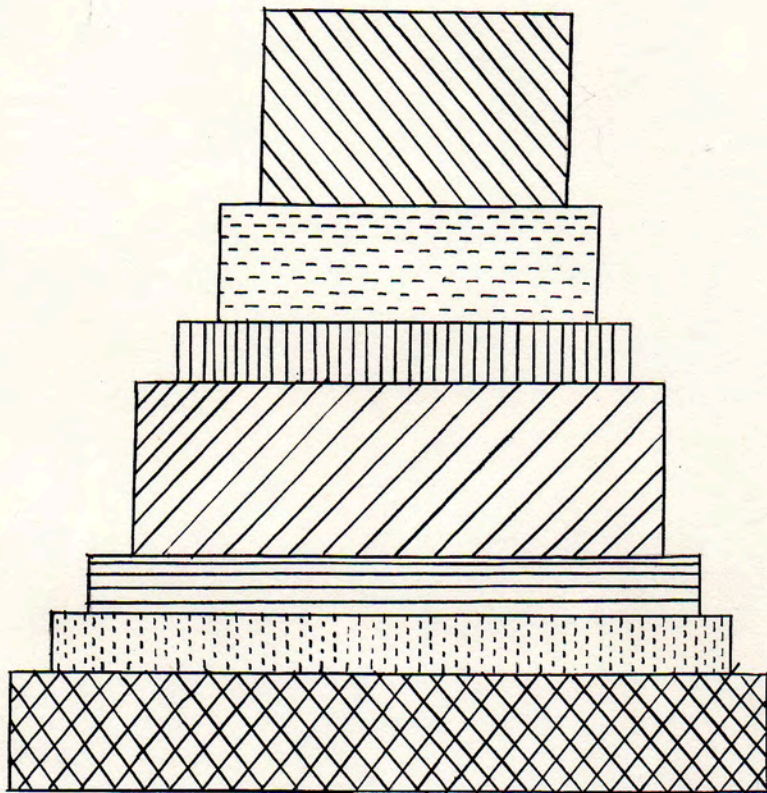
The population graph (Figure 6) cannot be considered as an accurate guide to the growth of the village as they are for the Parish of Cilcain which includes Hendre and Rhydymwyn, also, some of the later figures are only estimated from the Electoral

Register. However, the drastic fall of population in this area during the 1890s may be due to the closing of the gold mine and the general movement of people into towns. There has been a significant rise in population due partly to the building of the council houses in 1946, since the Great War when the population figures fell slightly. The decline of the population during the last twenty years cannot be logically explained as there has been a great increase of residential building in the village especially during the last ten years.

The present population structure as seen in Figure 7 is fairly balanced, 22.5% are between thirty and thirty-nine, and 25% are under ten years old, these figures are probably connected as there has been a general immigration of families of this age group. The 15% over sixty years old are mostly life residents in the village or have come to the bungalows in the village on retirement.

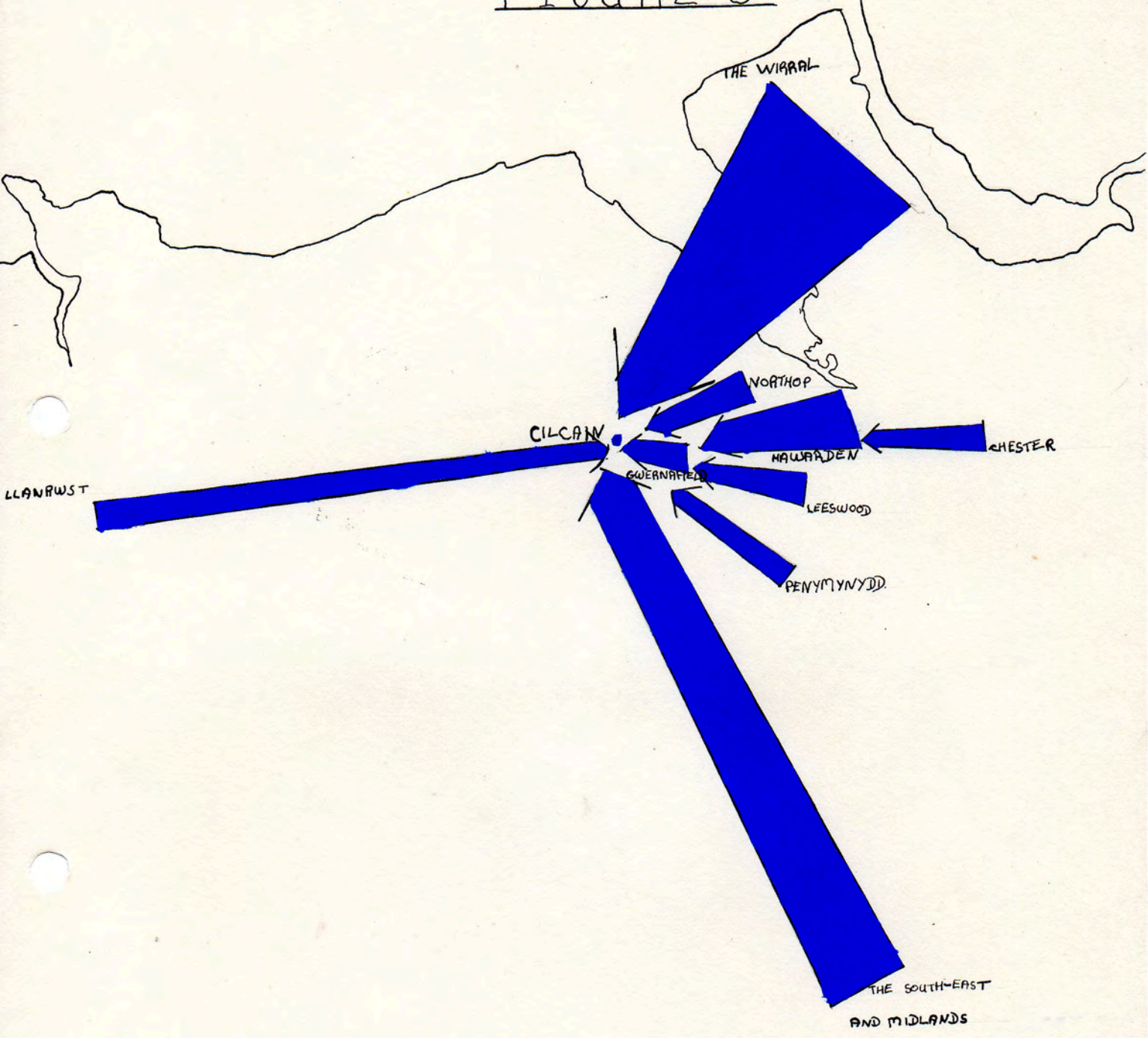
Of the majority of the people moving into the village 28% come from the Wirral. (Figure 8.) Another 16% have come from local villages, while 12% have come from more widespread areas such as the south-east of England and the Midlands. Of the present population 68% are immigrants. The immigration of the population has been steady over the last twenty years, although in the last three years, since the new houses and bungalows were built, the increase of immigrants has been noticeable.





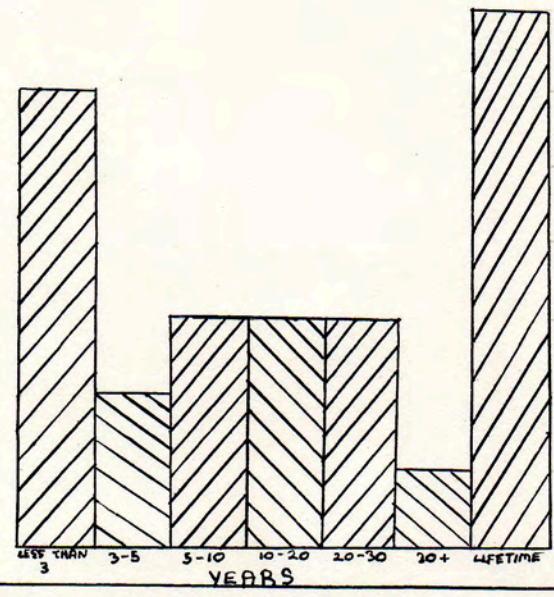
SCALE 1cm = 10%

FIGURE 8



TO SHOW THE LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN THE VILLAGE  
OF THE INHABITANTS

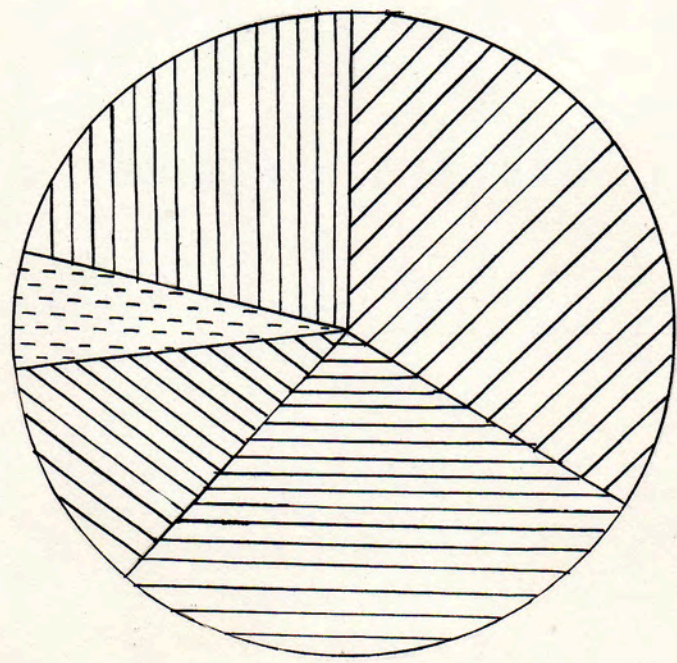
FIGURE 9



SCALE 1cm = 4%

TO SHOW THE REASONS FOR IMMIGRATION

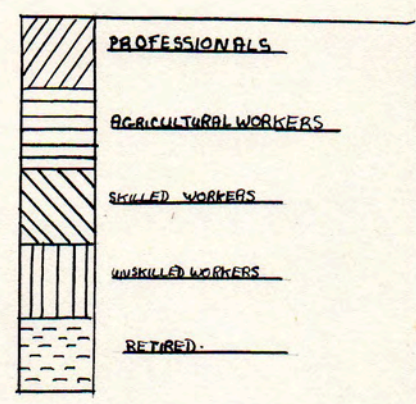
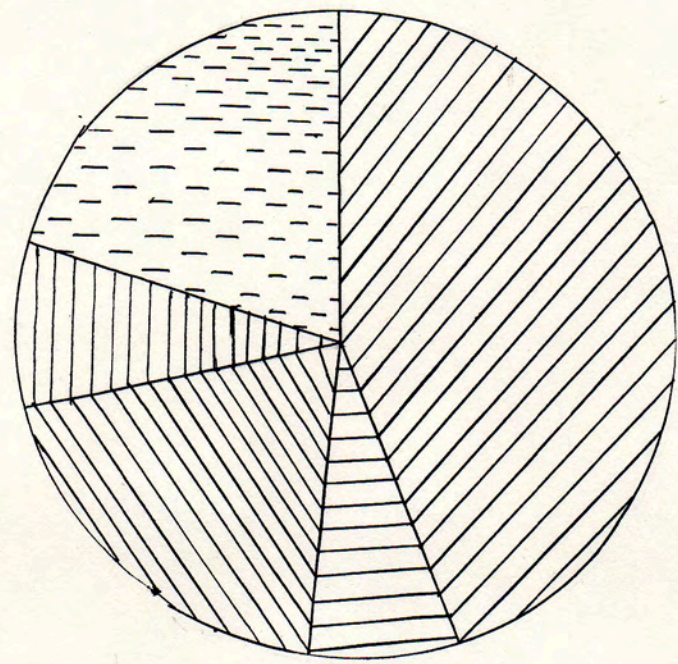
FIGURE 10

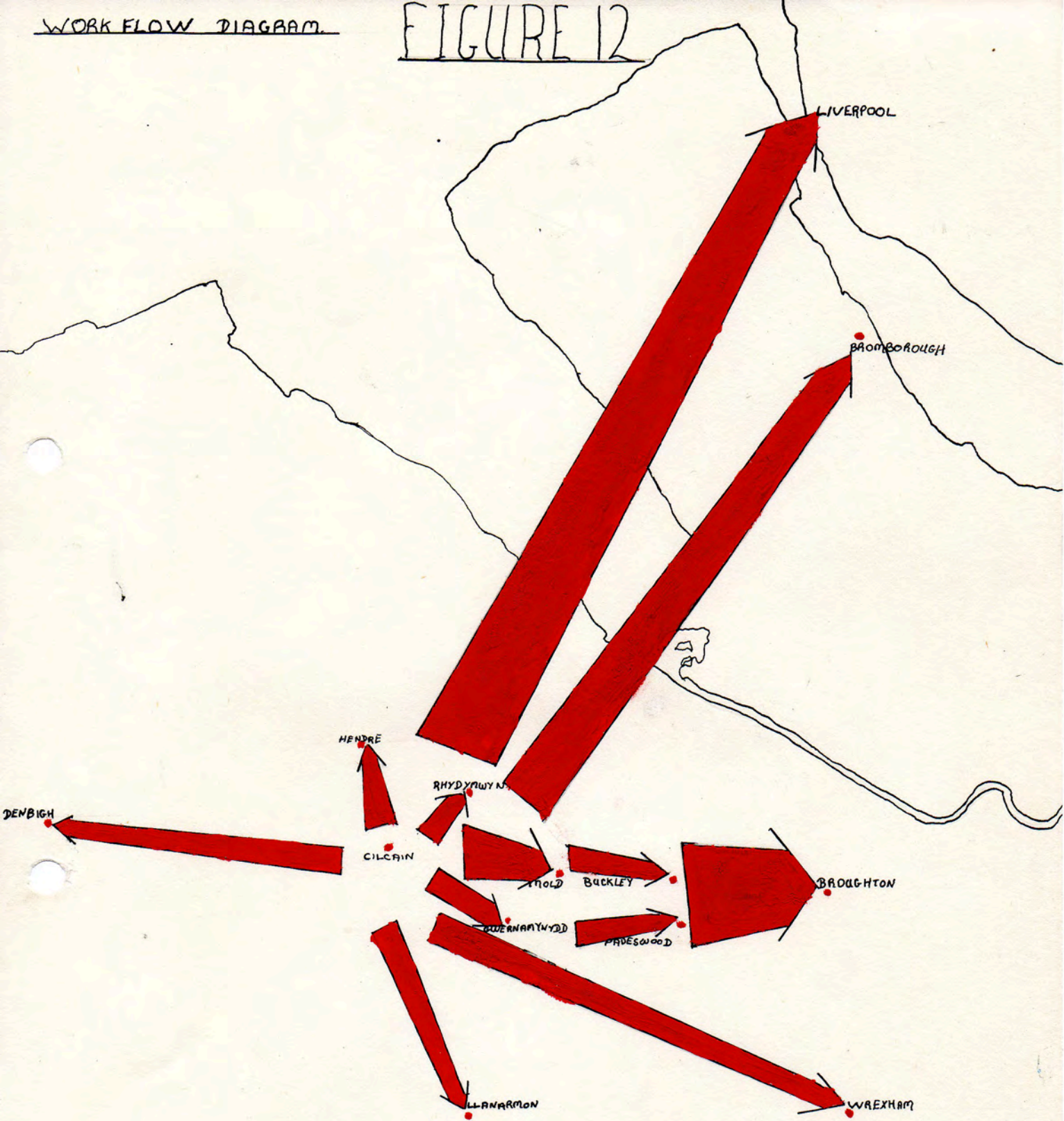


KEY

[Diagonal hatching]	<u>RURAL POSITION</u>
[Horizontal hatching]	<u>SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION</u>
[Vertical hatching]	<u>PROXIMITY TO WORK</u>
[Dashed hatching]	<u>PERSONAL</u>
[Vertical hatching]	<u>RURAL POSITION AND</u> <u>SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION</u>

FIGURE 11







COUNCIL HOUSES



NEW HOUSES ABOVE CILCWIN

(Figure 9).

Many of the immigrants came to the village for its rural position and beauty while others came because of the suitable accommodation offered especially in the newer property. Some immigrants gave the reason for their move for both the rural situation and the suitable accommodation. Only 16% came because of the proximity to their work and for personal reasons (Figure 10).

The majority, 44% of the working population are professionals, for example, a teacher and a marine pilot; 25% are skilled workers and 8% are unskilled workers. Only 8% are agricultural workers, which is unusual in a predominantly agricultural belt. Of the present population 20% are retired. (Figure 11.)

The unskilled workers are employed at the local lead mines at Hendre and Rhydymyr, while the majority of the skilled workers are employed at Broughton aviation factory. Many of the professional people commute as far as Bromborough and Liverpool while others are employed locally at Mold and Buckley (Figure 12.). Only 12% of the working population reach their place of employment by means other than by car. They go by bus, bicycle and motorcycle, as they only work within a five mile radius of the village (Figure 13.).

The migrants appear to participate in village activities more than the natives; 48% of the population

attend church and 32% of the ladies are members of the Women's Institute; 20% of the children attend youth club and 12% attend sporting activities. (Figure 14.)

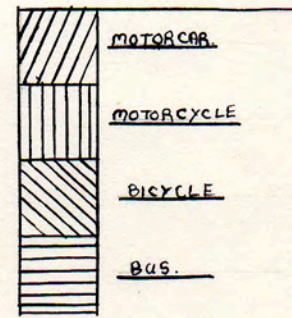
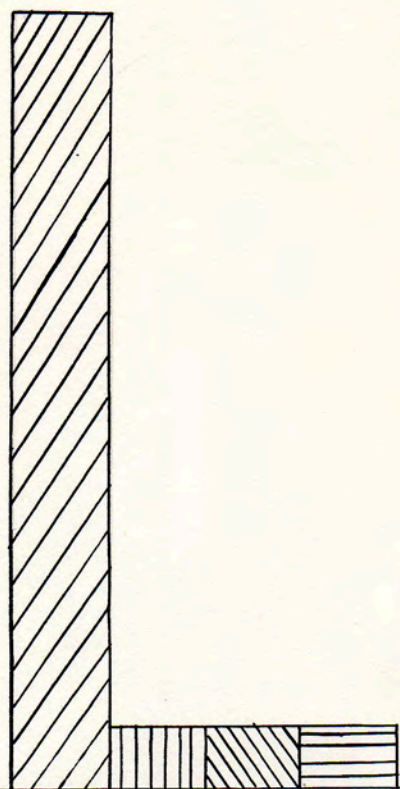
Of the native population 75% speak Welsh, while only 46% of the migrant population speak Welsh, of these, 28% prefer to speak Welsh. Some non-Welsh migrants have made the effort to learn the language and some Welsh culture and so appreciate this country more. (Figure 15.)

Mold is the main shopping centre for foodstuffs and electrical goods, but the town carries less importance in the purchasing of clothes and for purposes of entertainment. The majority of the population visit Mold for shopping purposes once or less per week as there is a poor bus service which only runs twice a week, Wednesdays and Saturdays. (Figure 16) There is of course a private school bus which carries the children every school day. Chester serves the village as the main shopping centre for clothes, but Liverpool is also important in this respect. The majority of the population prefer Chester for their entertainment, while a smaller percentage find the village itself adequate for their needs. (Figure 17.) Most of the children of senior school age attend Mold schools and most junior children attend the new junior school in the village.



TO SHOW THE METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

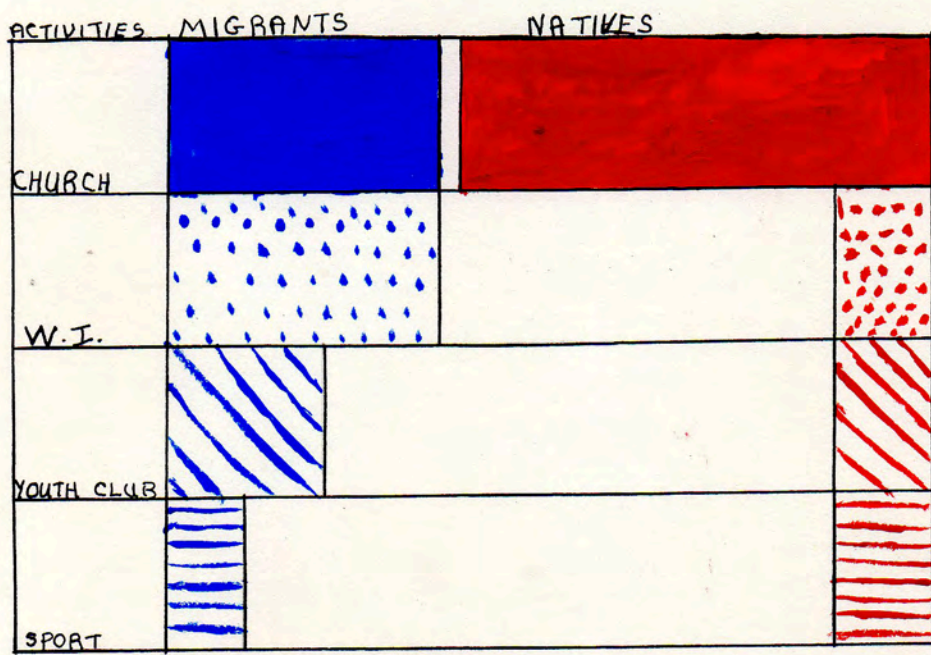
FIGURE 13



SCALE 1 inch = 4%

TO SHOW THE PARTICIPATION OF INHABITANTS IN VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

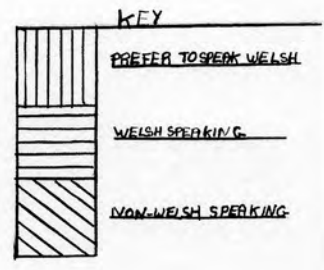
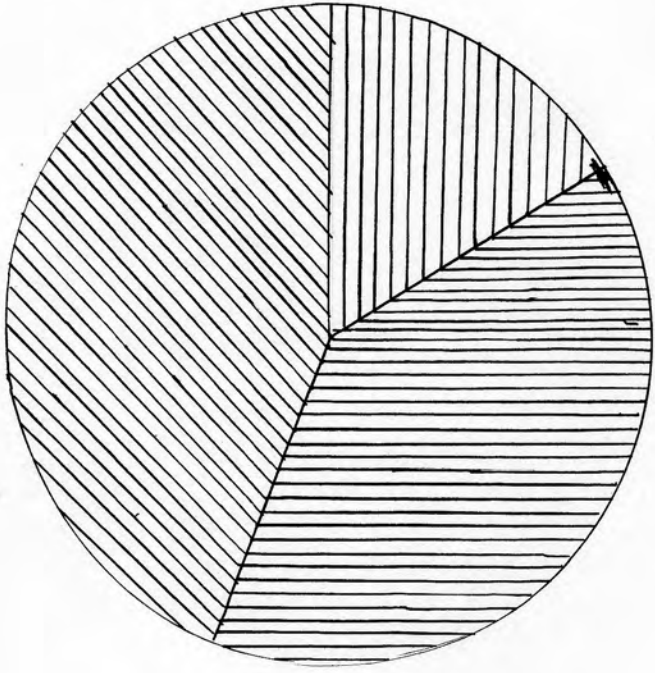
FIGURE 14



SCALE 1cm = 10%

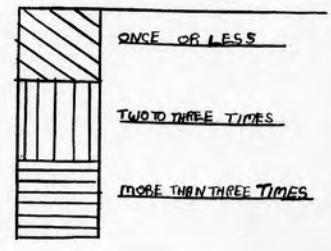
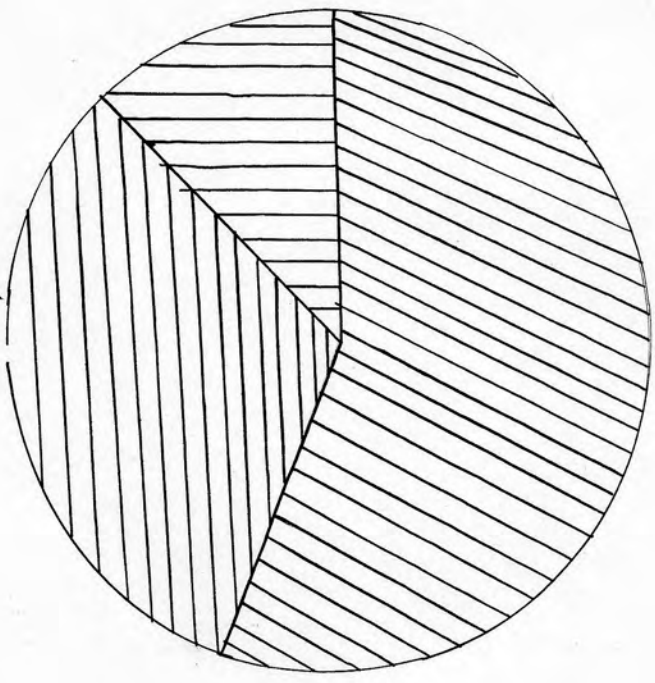
TO SHOW THE DEGREE OF BILINGUALISM IN THE VILLAGE.

FIGURE 15



NUMBER OF SHOPPING VISITS TO MOLD

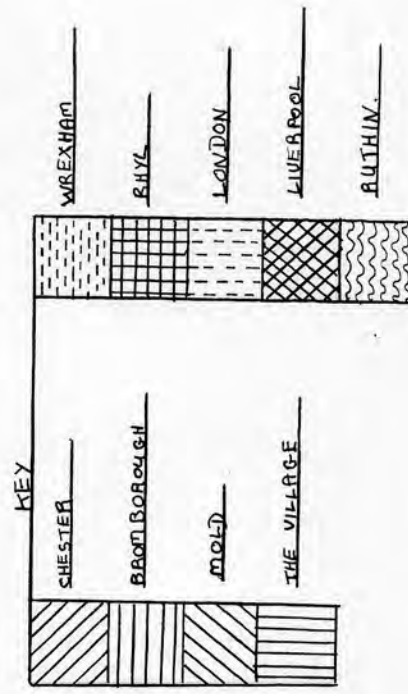
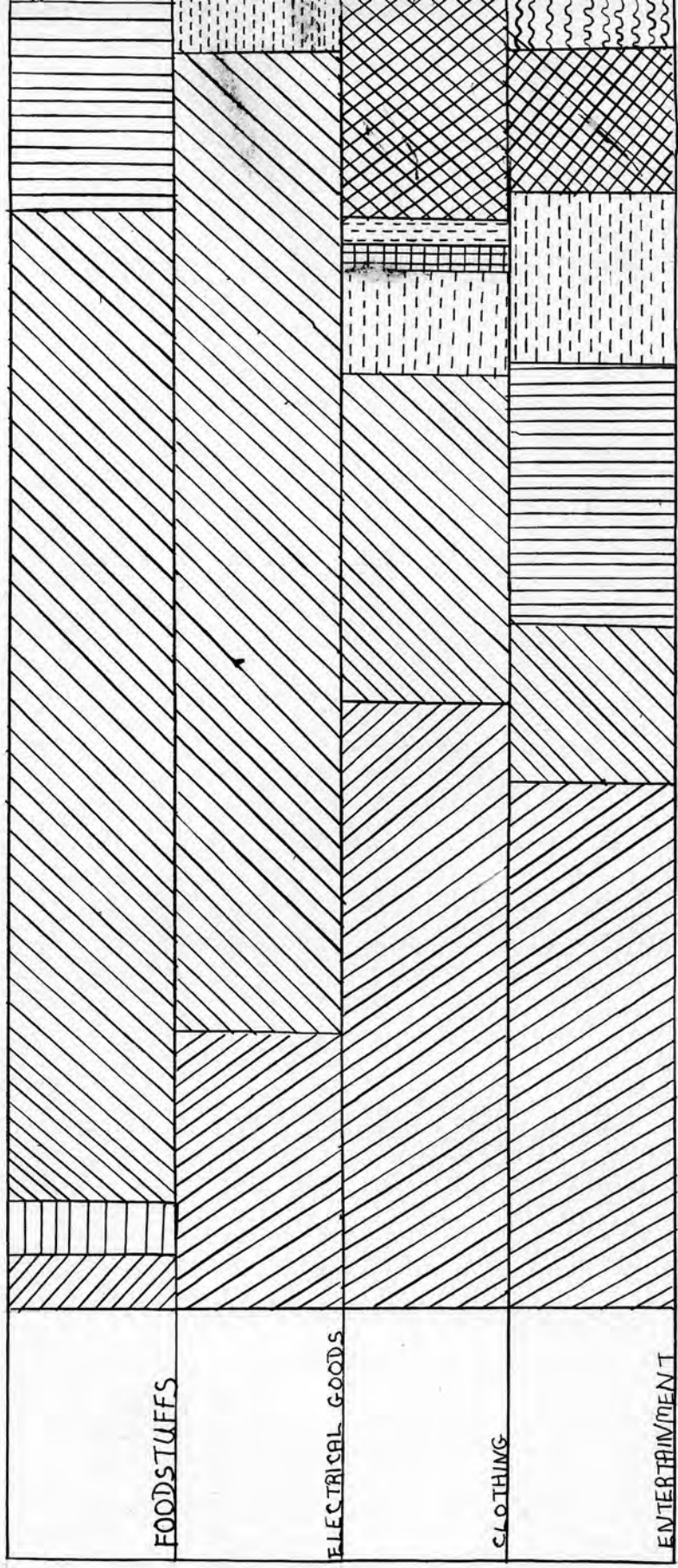
FIGURE 16



# FIGURE 17

THE DEPENDENCE OF THE VILLAGE ON

LOCAL TOWNS






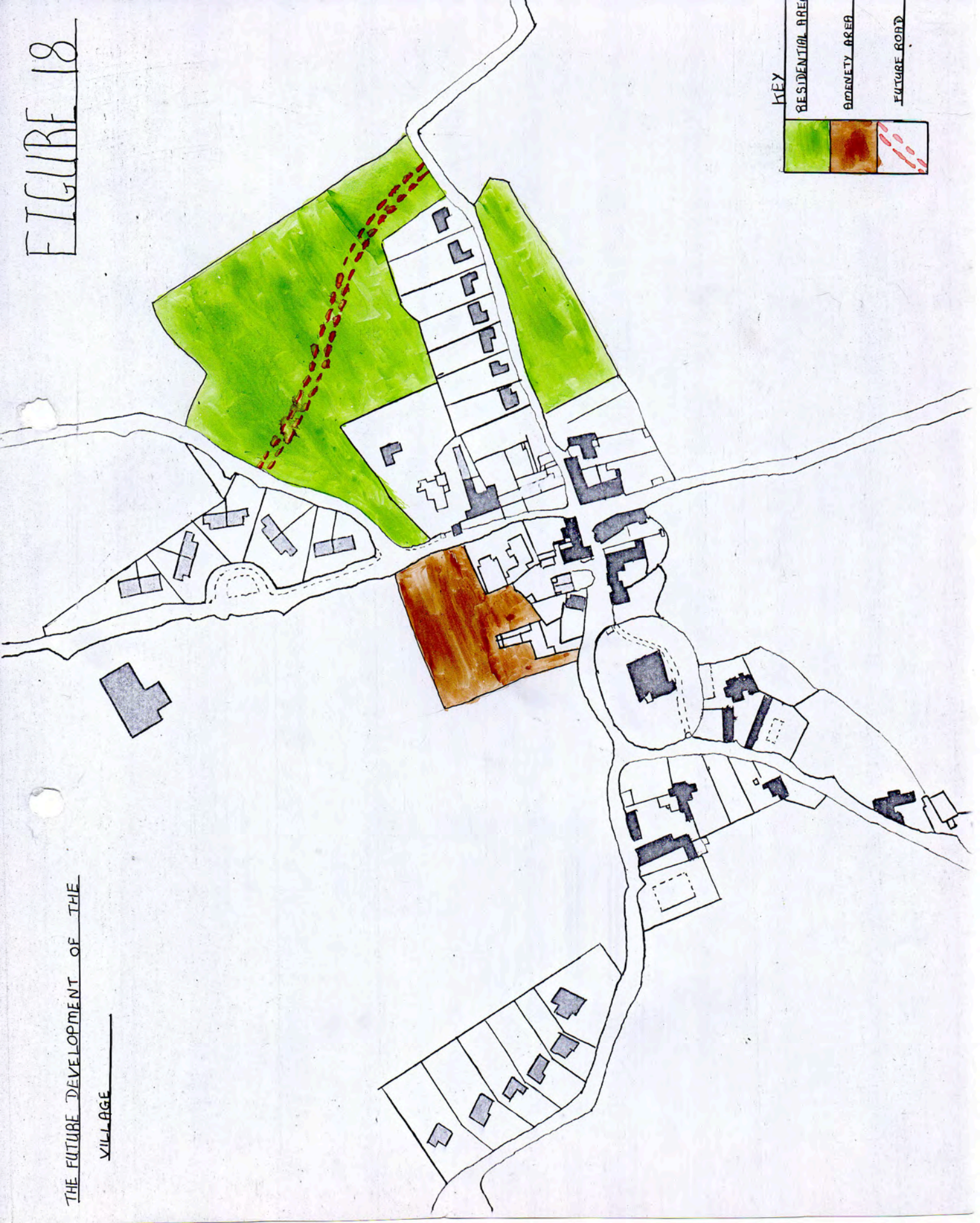
SCALE 1cm = 4%

# FIGURE 18

THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
VILLAGE

KEY

	RESIDENTIAL AREA
	ADJACENT AREA
	FUTURE ROAD



The village has developed rapidly over the last few years and more extensive development is planned. The present population of the village itself is estimated at two hundred and twelve, but with the development planned there is expected to be an increase of three hundred to the population. Sixty new dwellings are planned for the village and outlying areas and joining roads will be built to avoid the centre of the village. (Figure 18) The present junior school, which was built in 1964, has a capacity for eighty-one children plus twelve nursery children; but at present only thirty-six children attend the school, so many more children can be accommodated and as the school is in its own grounds, it has plenty of space to expand with the development of the village.

Cilcain is essentially a dormitory village where the working population commute to and from work each day. There is no local industry in the village and the nearest source of employment is the local lead mines of Herdre and Rhydymwyn. There is however a reservoir, supplying water to the Hawarden district, just outside the village. The village can offer its population a great deal; it is in beautiful settings and within easy reach of the Welsh mountains; it has a

historical tradition; it has a local general store  
and post office <sup>1600</sup> combined and a picturesque public house,  
and the migrants have found a good communal life  
in the village which has stimulated many activities.  
A conservation order now ensures that new development  
will avoid the picturesque old village centre which  
will remain as a permanent feature of this area of  
rural beauty.

1651