

From Tiger Bay to 'Cardiff Bay': Community Heritage and Urban Regeneration

Overview

History of Cardiff

- Development of industry
- Bute estates

Images of Tiger Bay

- Name and geography
- Architectural features and spatial dynamics
- Relationship to rest of city

Multicultural Tiger Bay

- Cosmopolitanism
- 'Darker Cardiff'
- Edwardian and Interwar
- Intolerance
- 1919 Rios

Post-War Tiger Bay

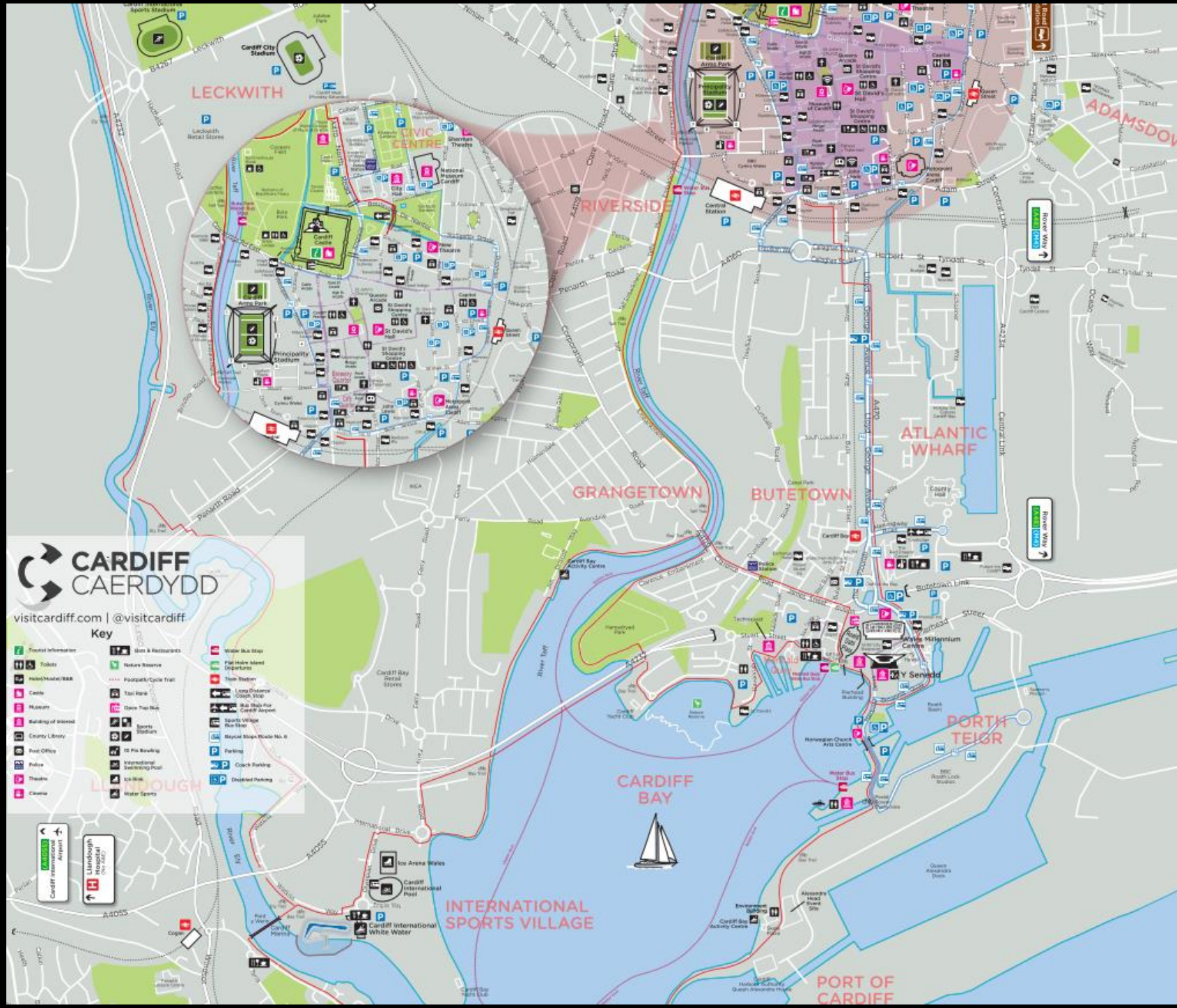
- 'Tiger Bay' myth
- Changing perceptions of Tiger Bay

- 1960s Urban Renewal
- Community heritage

Cardiff Bay Regeneration

- Politics
- Space and architecture
- Projects and controversies

Module Review



CARDIFF
CAERDYDD

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Key

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tourist Information | Bus & Restaurants | Water Bus Stop |
| Toilets | Nature Reserve | Flat Water Island |
| Hotel/Motel/Bed | Footpath/Cycle Trail | Train Station |
| Cafe | Taxi Rank | Long Distance Coach Stop |
| Museum | Open Top Bus | Bus Stop |
| Building of Interest | Sports Stadium | Sports Village |
| County Library | 12 Pin Bowling | Bus Stop |
| Post Office | International Swimming Pool | Royal Stages World No. 6 |
| Police | Ice Rink | Parking |
| Theatre | Water Sports | Coach Parking |
| Cinema | | Disabled Parking |



INTERNATIONAL SPORTS VILLAGE

PORT OF CARDIFF



John Speed map of Cardiff (1610)

Historical population of Cardiff

Year	Pop.	±%
1801	6,342	—
1851	26,630	+319.9%
1861	48,965	+83.9%
1871	71,301	+45.6%
1881	93,637	+31.3%
1891	142,114	+51.8%
1901	172,629	+21.5%
1911	209,804	+21.5%
1921	227,753	+8.6%
1931	247,270	+8.6%
1941	257,112	+4.0%
1951	267,356	+4.0%
1961	278,552	+4.2%
1971	290,227	+4.2%
1981	274,500	−5.4%
1991	272,557	−0.7%
2001	292,150	+7.2%
2011	346,100	+18.5%

Cyfarthfa, Merthyr Tydfil to Sea Lock, Cardiff



Glamorganshire Canal, completed 1798

Butes' Industrial Estates



www.britainfromabove.org.uk/image/WPW008811

© RCAHMW

Bute West Dock, Cardiff – opened 1839; Act of Parliament 1830



Dowlais Ironworks

Marquesses of Bute

Stuart Baronets of Bute (1627)

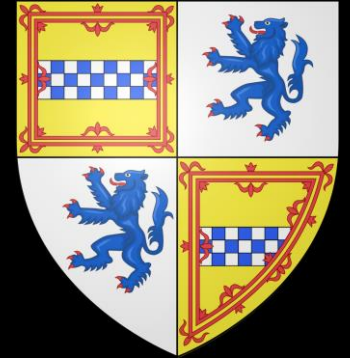
- Sir James Stuart, 1st (died 1662)
- Sir Dugald Stuart, 2nd (died 1670)
- Sir James Stuart, 3rd Baronet (died 1710) (created Earl of Bute in 1703)

Earls of Bute (1703)

- James Stuart, 1st (died 1710)
- James Stuart, 2nd (died 1723)
- John Stuart, 3rd (1713–1792)
- John Stuart, 4th (1744–1814) (created in 1796)

Marquesses of Bute (1796)

- **John Stuart, 1st (1744–1814) – Cardiff castle e**
- John Crichton-Stuart, 2nd (1793–1848) (had succeeded as Earl of Dumfries in 1803)
- John Patrick Crichton-Stuart, 3rd (1847–1900)
- John Crichton-Stuart, 4th (1881–1947)
- John Crichton-Stuart, 5th (1907–1956)
- John Crichton-Stuart, 6th (1933–1993)
- John Colum Crichton-Stuart, 7th (1958–2021)
- John Bryson Crichton-Stuart, 8th (born 1989)



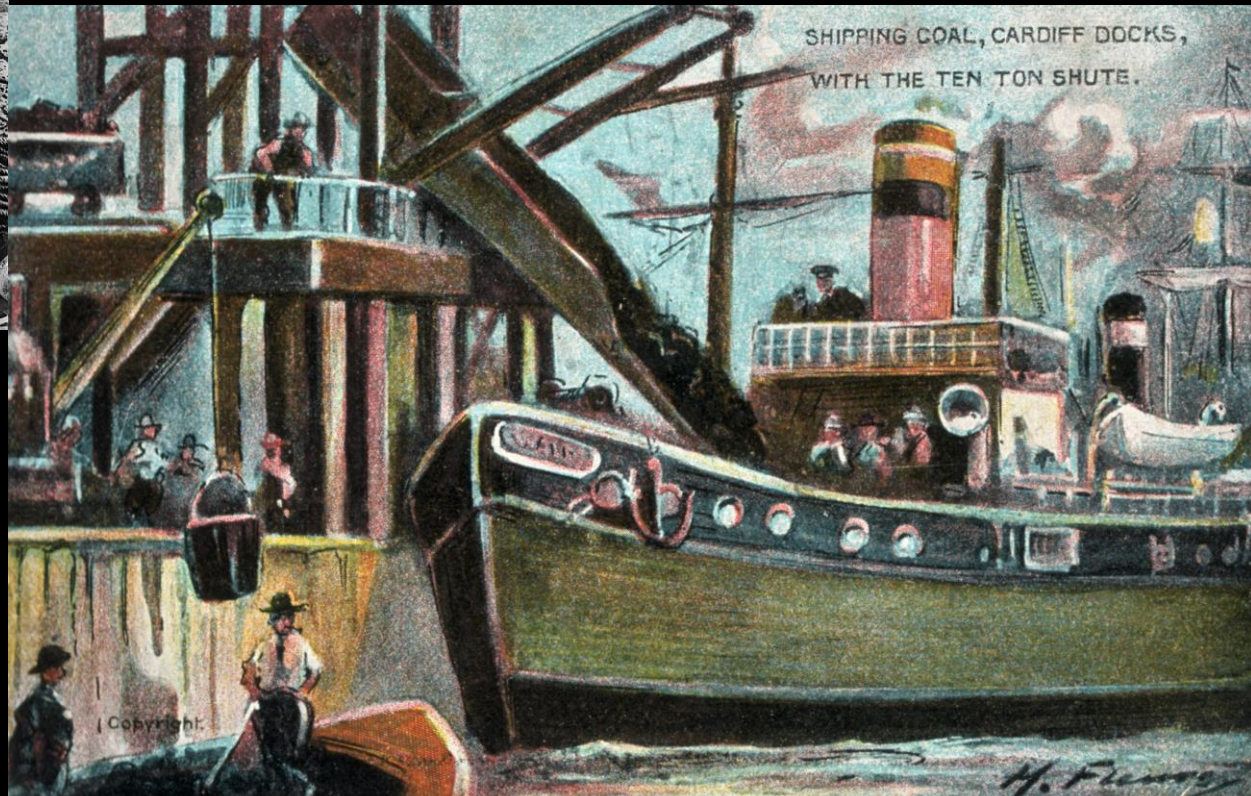
Taff Vale Railway



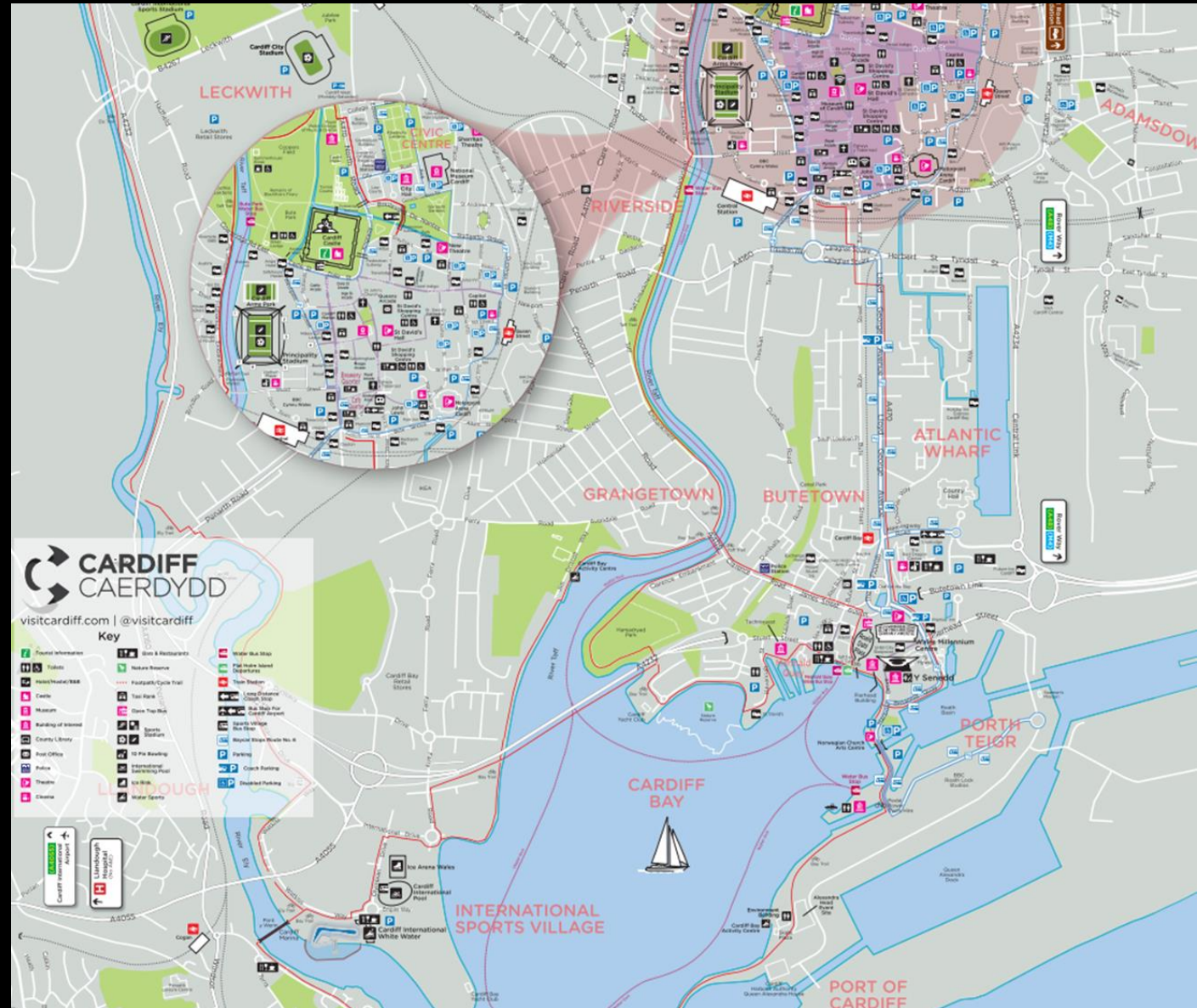
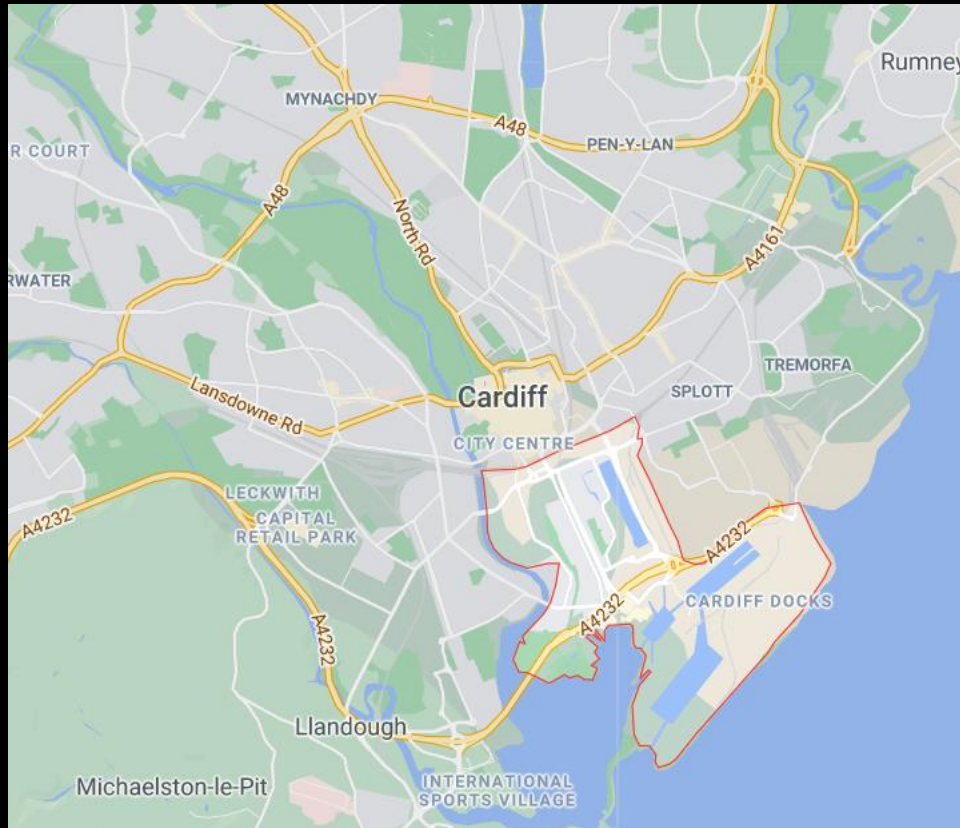
Coal Shipping



Shipping Coal, Cardiff Docks,
National Museum Wales, c. 1900; Coal
ships tied up at Cardiff Docks in the 1910s,
Library of Congress



Butetown



Images of Tiger Bay/Butetown

Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- Where is ‘Tiger Bay,’ according to Cameron?
- Where or how does the name ‘Tiger Bay’ originate?

It is unclear where and when the sobriquet 'Tiger Bay' was first used with reference to Cardiff. In 1933 the *Western Mail* published a letter claiming that he knew a popular singer in Cardiff's dockland 'saloons' in 1871, who used a song entitled 'Tiger Bay' into which he continually inserted references to Butetown, and that 'soon after this Butetown was called Tiger Bay'. Some believe that the name was brought to Cardiff before this date, either from San Francisco, Demerara or British Guiana, or alternatively that Cardiff was the original Tiger Bay and that the name was exported to its various namesakes from Wales.

If the geographical origins of the term are uncertain, it is clear that a portion of London's dockland at Wapping was also known as 'Tiger Bay', and that the name referred to the colourfulness or the ferocity of the area's inhabitants. Despite the mystery surrounding the origin of the name and the plurality of its application, it is clear that to generations of sailors throughout the world, the square mile between the Hayes Bridge and the evocative Pier Head Building in Cardiff was the only real Tiger Bay.

- Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 59



Images of Tiger Bay/Butetown

Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- What are some of the elements of the Tiger Bay ‘myth’ according to Cameron?

Tiger Bay/Butetown as a Space

Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- What were some of the key institutions and architectural features of Butetown and the Cardiff Docks in the 19th century?
- Where there any significant geographical features of Butetown? How was land and space organised?
- What was the relationship between Butetown and the rest of Cardiff’s cityscape?

Coal Exchange completed 1888



Loudoun Square



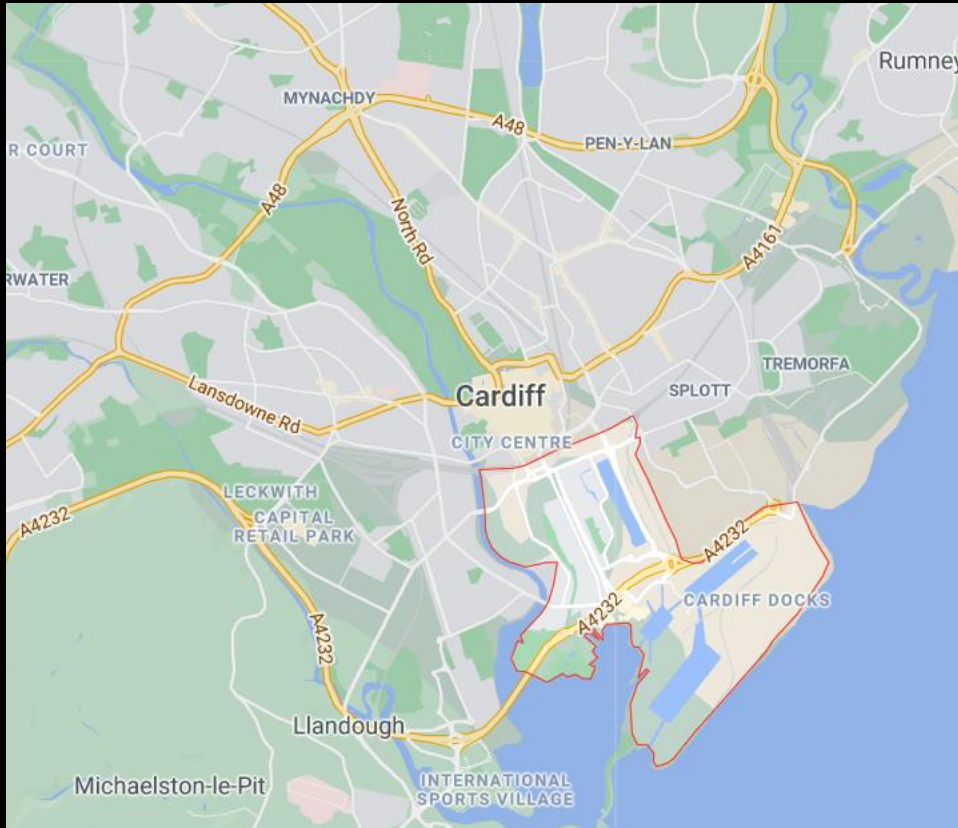
The Heritage & Cultural
Exchange Archive
Tiger Bay and the World

1962



Butetown

- Spatial segregation
 - Reclaimed land
 - South Wales Railway Line



Butetown, 1979

‘The Shape-Up’ or ‘Scramble’

Dock entrance at
the bottom of
Bute Street



Tiger Bay/Butetown as a Space

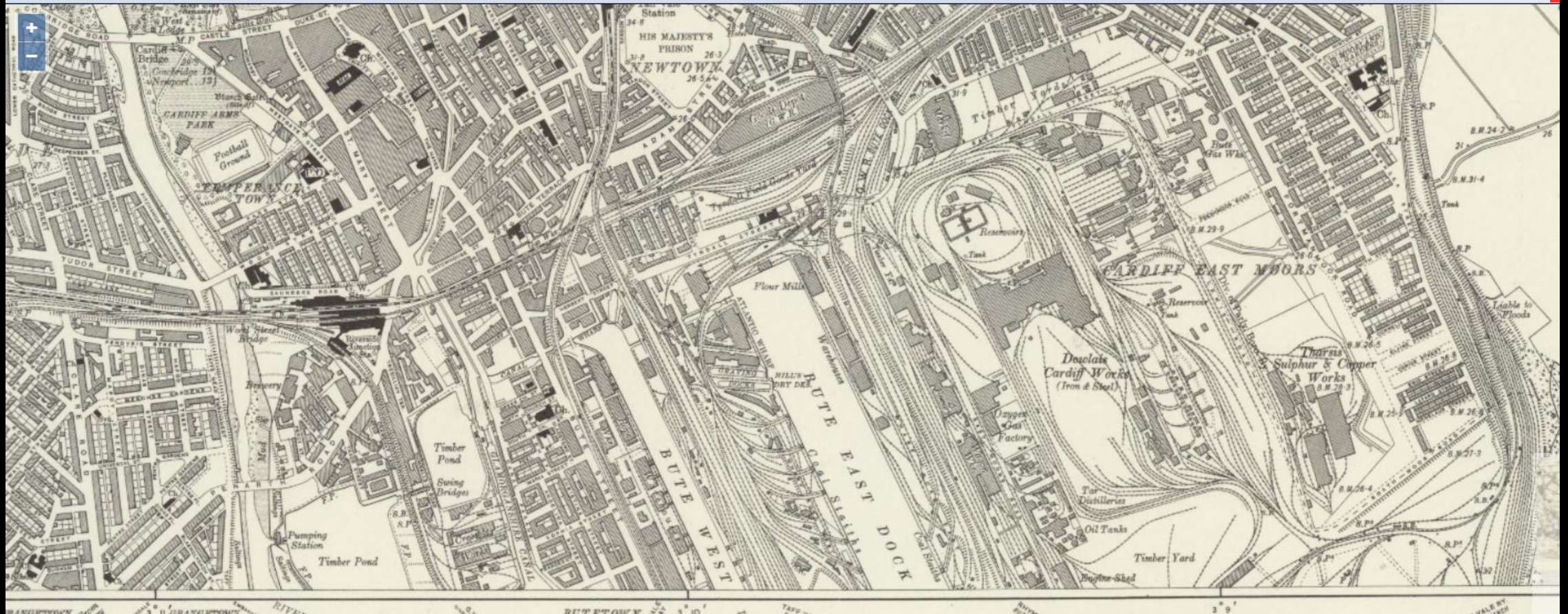
Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- What was the relationship between Butetown and Newtown?

Butetown vs. Newtown



Butetown vs. Newtown



Newtown as Little Ireland



Jim Driscoll, British featherweight champion



Newtown and the Dowlais Steel Works in the background

Newtown as Little Ireland

“a feeling of jealousy has existed for a long time past between the Welsh labourers upon the docks and the line of the South Wales Railway against the Irish, who have engaged to work at less rates of wages than the natives ... On every occasion that an opportunity is afforded this feeling breaks out with great violence and demands the interference of the civil authorities to quell.”

- *The Times*, 16 November 1848, cited by Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay, p. 64

Cosmopolitanism

By 1861 one-third of Cardiff's population was Irish. Although a central presence, they were not the city's only immigrant group. In fact, the cosmopolitanism of Butetown was already evident in 1851, as the population census for that year reveals: out of a total population of 3,142, 51 per cent were Welsh and 10.7 per cent Irish, but 33 per cent were English, 1.4 per cent 'foreign', 0.7 per cent Scottish and 0.2 per cent from the British Empire.²⁹ The 1855 street directory reveals that the Irish were then as well established in Butetown as in Newtown, as were many Europeans; the names 'Storenghi', 'Primavesi' and 'Dimond' are listed alongside 'O'Hagan', 'O'Driscoll', 'Molony' and other more traditional Welsh and English names. This cosmopolitanism was further reflected in the names of some of Butetown's businesses; the 'Cafe d'l'Univers', the 'Restaurant de Paris' and the 'Restaurant de Koffehnis', for example, all reveal a foreign connection.

- Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 65

Images of Tiger Bay/Butetown

Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- What images of cosmopolitanism emerged in Victorian and Edwardian Cardiff?
- What attitudes were expressed towards Butetown’s multiracial population, and the area’s ‘sailortown’ at large?

Cardiff has perhaps a greater variety of nationality than almost any other sea port, and a ride on the top of a tramcar down Bute Road is an entertainment in itself, if a stranger chooses to study the various shop signs displayed over the windows, where an English name is entirely absent.

- SW Allen, *Reminiscences* (1918), cited by Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 67



Bute Road,
1905, Martin
Ridley
collection,
NLW

‘M,’ ‘Sweet Tiger Bay,’ *Western Mail*, 23 August 1903
– cited in Neil M Sinclair, *Endangered Tiger: The Tiger Bay Story* (Cardiff: Wordcatcher Publishing, 2017 [1993]), pp. 12—14

By land and water, through toil and batter,
I've spent — no matter how many years;
But pleasant places and pretty faces
Still reconcile me to this vale of tears;
Have no memorial either grand or gay
That can outshine thee, as I outline thee
On memory's tablets, sweet Tiger Bay!
Oh Bay of Beauty! My pleasing duty
Is to salute thee in a frenzy fine,
For whose exalting in verse unhalting
I bow to Phcebus and the Muses nine;
If my devotion with equal potion
From far-famed helicon they do repay,
I'll straightway tune a verse which through
The Universe
Will waft thy praises, sweet Tiger Bay!

The Bay of Rio hath got a trio,
Earth, sea, and sky, oh! surpassing fair,
And thine, oh Naples! with beauty staples
Th' aesthetic pilgrim's admiration there;
The Bay of Sydney to artists' kidney
Hath prov'd a tickler in a wondrous way —
But all their grandeur I'd freely squander

One night to wander in sweet Tiger Bay!
Here all dominions, races and opinions
Have many precious specimens on view,
Maltese and Arab, German, Jew, and Carrib —
The meek Hibernian and the mad Hindoo;
Whatever ritual is their habitual,
Whatever politics their passions sway,
They're all believers in pints and sleeveers,
When once they're anchor'd in
Sweet Tiger Bay!

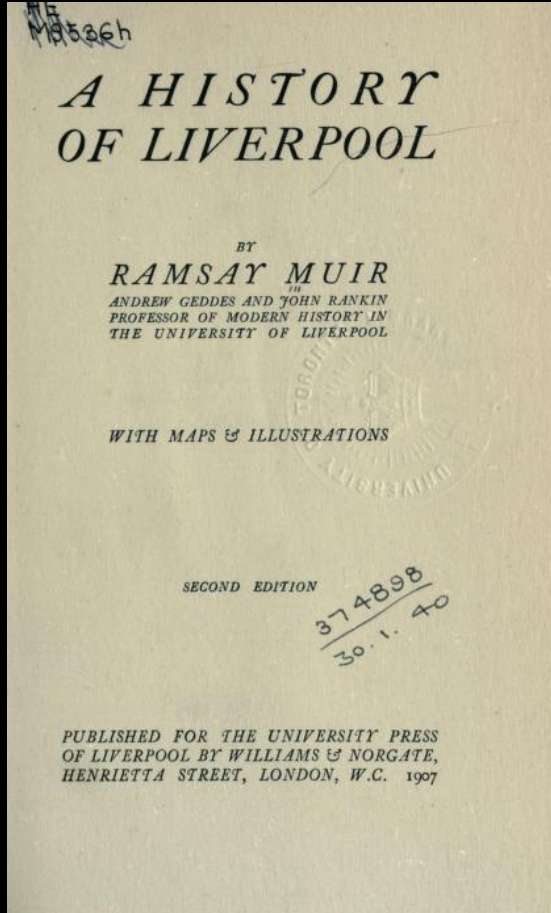
These gentle jokers, with tongs and pokers,
Sometimes make music in that striking style
Which dyes your cranium like a red geranium
And makes you dance but never makes you smile;
And sometimes sirens, with their smoothing irons,
Charm these environs with that winsome play
Which makes a mockery of glass and crockery,
And with a rockery strews Tiger Bay!

With names well chosen thy streets would cozen
Hearts almost frozen to admire and love,
Sweet Angelina and dear Christina
Salute the glad beholder from above!
And fair Maria and gay Sophia

Invite the lovelorn mariner to stay,
While Peel and Nelson fling martial spells on
The Imperial denizens of Tiger Bay!
Ye blissful bowers! in my boyhood's hours
I cull'd choice flowers —
Of speech within your shade;
And play'd like curlew in that classic purlieu
Which mortals meanly call "Canal Parade";
When manhood found me new pleasures
Crowned me,
The morning "sleeper" and the midnight fray —
Gods! What a blender of Grace and Splendour
Of the True and Tender is Tiger Bay!
With age o'ertaking me, and friends forsaking me,
And debts - to name them all I'd hardly dare —
I live in troubles, but they pass like bubbles,
When Fancy conjures up the days that were:
Put Death before me, and an Angel o'er me,
To bear me upward-this to him I'd say:
"Young friend, your attitude has won my gratitude;
But please, another night in Tiger Bay.

1. With some the term "Docks" is employed, it is not correct to the

Celebration of Cosmopolitanism coexisting with Intolerance



barrier to the growth of the social spirit.

The people who inhabit this vast congeries of streets are of an extraordinary diversity of races; few towns in the world are more cosmopolitan. And these various races (except in so far as they belong to the wealthier class) tend to hive together in distinct quarters. The most numerous are the Irish, who have their principal quarter in the northern part of the old town, and who supply a large proportion of the unskilled labour required at the docks. Always numerous in Liverpool (there were Irish names among the burgesses as early as 1378), the Irish became especially numerous after the great potato famine

clustered together in quite the same way, but there are almost as many Welshmen as Irishmen in the city. Space fails to enumerate all the foreign nationalities which are represented in Liverpool by distinct little quarters wherein, to some extent, the customs and ways of life of the old country are reproduced in unfamiliar surroundings and amid sordid conditions. There is no city in the world, not even London itself, in which so many foreign governments find it necessary to maintain consular offices for the safeguarding of the interests of their exiled subjects. It should, however, be noted that this amazingly polyglot and cosmopolitan population, consisting to a considerable extent of races which are backward in many ways, and maintaining itself largely by unskilled labour, vastly increases

the difficulty of securing and maintaining the decencies of life.

The very nature and magnitude of the progress

Ramsay Muir, *A History of Liverpool* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 1907), pp. 304, 305—306

'Darker Cardiff'

Western Mail, 17 March 1894, p. 4

DARKER CARDIFF.

FORMATION OF A SOCIAL REFORM COUNCIL.

AN EXTENSIVE PROGRAMME.

A conference was held at the Town-hall, Cardiff, on Friday night, under the auspices of the Cardiff Ministerial Union, for the purpose of formulating an association or reform union, with the object of taking definite and combined action in dealing with the dire social evils in Cardiff. The Rev. J. D. Watters, M.A., presided.—The Chairman having opened the proceedings, Mr. G. Percy Thomas, secretary of the movement, addressed the meeting, and pointed out that the question was whether the agencies at present in existence were sufficient to remedy the evils of "Darker Cardiff."—The Rev. J. A. Jenkins, B.A., moved:—"That it is advisable and necessary that there should be a council formed for the purpose of federating and strengthening all organisations in Cardiff which tend to the moral welfare of the town, and also for such moral and social purposes as may be deemed necessary."—The Rev. W. Spurgeon seconded.—A general discussion took place, and eventually it was decided to form an organisation, to be called the Cardiff Social Reform Council, which would incorporate representatives of the South Wales Branch of the National Vigilance Association, the local temperance societies, the Society for the Suppression of Cruelty to Children, the local branch of the S.P.C.A., the Charity Organisation Society, the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, and other kindred societies. The programme will include the working in harmony with existing societies in the town, the securing of a diminution of public-house licences, and the suppression of drunkenness, suppression of houses of immorality, supervision of waifs and strays, improvement of common lodging-houses in the town, supervision of sailors' boarding-houses, sanitation of houses and streets, providing open spaces for the people, opening of playgrounds for the children and a gymnasium for the town, orderliness of the streets, the lessening of infant mortality, the reclamation of the criminal classes, and suppression of gambling.—The Rev. J. D. Watters, M.A., the Rev. J. A. Jenkins, and Mr. Percy Thomas were appointed a sub-committee to draw up the constitution.



The class of men who run the Cardiff gambling-houses are for the most part foreigners, who have, at some period or other of their lives, had some experience of the sea and of the reckless and unthrifty ways of seafarers all the world over. Italians, Albanians, and Greeks are, perhaps, the nationalities from which the gambling-house keeper is most frequently recruited, the Greek being without a doubt the worst offender. It has been my good—or, perhaps, I should say ill—fortune to come in contact with those who have had actual and most painful experience of the treatment that is meted out to the unwary stranger decoyed into these resorts. I can, therefore, speak with a certain amount of freedom of the amount of mischief that they have done and are still doing.

As the worst offenders in the running of these

South Wales Echo, 1 January 1894, p. 4

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TIGER BAY SHOOTING CASE.

...TIGER BAY SHOOTING CASE. A ZULU BEFORE THE CARDIFF I MAGISTRATES. ALLEGED ATTEMPTED MURDER. The causa celebre at Cardiff Police-court on Monday wa* the trial of a Zulu named Wilwn for an aUmrpt to introduce the savage warfare of his native forest* into the peaceful, ratepay. ing land of the whites. The court WM full of Africmc, whoae colour and tribe rangwl from the puifc Zulu fttures of the...

The Western Mail

30th March 1897

News

p.7

1,793 words

TIGER BAY -TASTES. I

...TIGER BAY TASTES. CURIOUS DEFENCE AT CARDIFF I'OLICE-COURT. A CUri0Ug side-light upon the character of Tiser Bay was reflected on Friday from Cardiff Police-court. The Stipendiary (Mr. T. W. Lewis) wa trying a police summons against a woman, named Sophia Malcolm, who was eharged with using obscene language in West ...

The Western Mail

2nd September 1899

News

p.7

164 words

" GWEN " IN TIGER BAY. I

...GWEN IN TIGER BAY. I OUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKES UP AS A SALVATION LASS. VISIT TO THE SLUMS. MIDNIGHT SCENES ON THE SEAMY SIDE OF CARDIFF. At a tunc whi-n meteoric lights are fiash- ing uOIDPntaril,y UpOll us their scintillating mnihiance and withdrawing to hurst with eVIU greater radiance on other steady-going citizens in other towns, let us turn otr ttten- tiou to the silent workers, the calm...

The Western Mail

13th October 1893

News

p.7

1,212 words

THE FRACAS IN TIGER BAY

...THE FRACAS IN TIGER BAY INJURED MAN STILL UNABLE TO APPEAR. Oa Wednesday at Cardiff Polioe-court (before Dr. Taylor and Sir. F. J. Beavan), Joseph Wilson, a coloured man, was dhorged, on re- mand, with attempting to kill and murder Jamee Nadh by shooting him in the neck with a revolver at *est Church-street, on the 16lli of 1a1'l-b,-ln8pOOtor Durston nid that the injurod man was till in the...

The Western Mail

25th March 1897

News

p.7

95 words

IA CASE FROM "TIGER BAY,' I ICARDIFF.I

...A CASE FROM "TIGER BAY,' CARDIFF. CUTTING A MAN'S HEAD WITH A GLASS. A glass seems to be a very handy and much used weapon in the salubrious portion of Cardiff known as 'Tiger Bay, and circumstances arising out of a missile of this kind being thrown are frequently heard at the borough pelice-court. Richard Hill was in the Locomotive Hotel, Bute- street, on Tuesday evening, when Mary Ann Jones...

The Western Mail

22nd February 1894

News

p.7

162 words

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A ZULU BEFORE THE CARDIFF MAGISTRATES.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED MURDER.

The cause celebre at Cardiff Police-court on Monday was the trial of a Zulu named Wilson for an attempt to introduce the savage warfare of his native forests into the peaceful, ratepaying land of the whites. The court was full of Africans, whose colour and tribe ranged from the pure Zulu features of the prisoner Wilson to the clear-cut profile of a young octoroon named Baker, who was also under arrest.

The prisoners and witnesses were Africans with the exception of Police-constable Fred Singer and Detective-inspector Scott. The two officers might very appropriately have blackened their faces in the christy minstrel style to maintain the harmony of colour, but the idea did not appear to have occurred to them.

Wilson was a tall man of a savage type that looked out of place in a civilised costume of blue reefer jacket and trousers. His face was as black as the cover of the police-court Bible. A head of short curly hair extended down his cheeks to the chin, and was touched on either side by a straight bristling moustache.

He was charged on four counts, first, with having attempted to murder a man named James Nash, belonging to a tribe of Africans quite as black. He was next charged with shooting a Cardiff constable, named Singer, on the same occasion, the 16th of March, in West Church-street. A third charge stated that he had shot at Charles Roll, another African.

And, lastly, he was charged, together with Alfred Baker, with having conspired to murder Nash on March 16.

Baker was a young man, almost white, with hair of the African curl, but not of the woolly African texture, and clear-cut features, which included a Grecian nose—a distinctly Americanised type.

The story had been told before. On the night of March 16 the Zulu and his young companion set out from Butte-street with revolvers to find James Nash, against whom they had a grievance. They found him in West Church-street, and the Zulu opened fire. He was a bad marksman, more accustomed, perhaps, to a war-club and an assegai than a revolver, and the shots, though fired at close range, missed. He shot at Roll, who interfered, and missed him also, only grazing his shoulder. As the inevitable constable ran up he fired twice at him, but missed again, except that one shot cut the

*Western Mail, 30 March
1897, p. 7*

TIGER BAY TASTES.

CURIOUS DEFENCE AT CARDIFF POLICE-COURT.

A curious side-light upon the character of Tiger Bay was reflected on Friday from Cardiff Police-court. The Stipendiary (Mr. T. W. Lewis) was trying a police summons against a woman, named Sophia Malcolm, who was charged with using obscene language in West Church-street, where she lives, between one and two o'clock on the morning of Saturday, August 19.—Mr. Morgan Rees raised the curious defence that, the neighbourhood having such an unenviable notoriety, "bad language made no difference there."—The Stipendiary dissented from this view. It was, he said, a monstrous thing that people's rest should be disturbed, and it was a serious grievance in some parts of the town. Defendant had been up sixteen times before for similar and other offences, and the Stipendiary, in imposing a fine of 5s. and costs, or seven days, warned the woman that if another such charge was established against her she would be sent to prison without the option of a fine.

Western Mail, 2
September 1899, p. 7



Two Salvation Lassess attending to Intoxicated Girl.



Women Tearing Each Other's Hair.

Western Mail, 13 October
1893, p. 7

"GWEN" IN **TIGER BAY.**

OUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKES
UP AS A SALVATION LASS.

VISIT TO THE SLUMS.

MIDNIGHT SCENES ON THE
SEAMY SIDE OF CARDIFF.

At a time when meteoric lights are flashing momentarily upon us their scintillating brilliance and withdrawing to burst with even greater radiance on other steady-going citizens in other towns, let us turn our attention to the silent workers, the calm-fixed stars, who week by week untiringly shed their lustre on Cardiff's vilest slums.

One Saturday night, in the company of two of the sisters of the Salvation Army, hidden from sight beneath the protecting shadow of an Alleluia bonnet and long S.S. cloak, I mingled in the wreck and ruin, filth and drunkenness, which characterise the streets of notorious "Tiger Bay." The rain, which had fallen heavily at intervals during the day, had entirely ceased. Over the slimy pavements flickered the gas-light from street lamps and windows, while reflected in the distance were the dock lights shining on the dark waters of the British Channel. Policemen, hardened to the sights which surrounded them, with monotonous footsteps stalked indifferently up and down the streets, or were roused from a quiet



"Move on."

reverie to quell some obnoxious quarrel, or remind the loiterers with more authority than courtesy to move on. Many respectable foot passengers, whom circumstances compelled to pass that way, pushed forward hurriedly, as though here, indeed, were sights more harrowing than their tender hearts could bear.

Western Mail, 13 October
1893, p. 7



A By-street by Night.



Inside the Wellington—A "House of Blazes."

HOWARD SPRING HEAVEN LIES ABOUT US



[T]here was a fascination in the walk through Tiger Bay. Chinks and Dogs, Lascars and Levantines, slipped about the faintly evil by-ways that ran off from Bute Street. The whole place was a warren of seamen's boarding houses, dubious hotels, ships' chandlers smelling of rope and tarpaulin, shops full of hard, flat ship's biscuit, dingy chemists' shops stored with doubtful looking pills, herbs and the works of Aristotle. Children of the strangest colours, fruit of frightful misalliances, staggered half-naked about the streets; and the shop windows were decorated with names that were the epitome of all the clans and classes under the sun. The flags of all nations fluttered on the house fronts; and ever and anon the long bellowing moan of a ship coming into the docks or outward bound seemed the very voice of the meeting place of the seven seas. It was dirty, rotten and romantic district, an offence and an inspiration, and I loved it.⁵

Images of Tiger Bay/Butetown

Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- How did intolerance towards Cardiff’s black and Asian population develop in the Edwardian and interwar period?

As dockside labour became increasingly organised in the years before 1911, the ever-present accusation of undercutting began to be levelled at Chinese seamen. Between 1900 and 1911 the stage was being set for a confrontation between the National Union of Seamen (NUS) and the vehemently anti-union Shipping Federation.

The self-styled champion of the British merchant seaman, Edward Tupper, organized the campaign for better wages and conditions in Cardiff. In his autobiography, *Seaman's Torch* [1938] Tupper spoke of his horror at the prevailing conditions in Tiger Bay: 'The sailortown of Cardiff... was a cesspool. It wasn't a disgrace to civilisation—because it wasn't a part of our civilisation.' The average sailor, he argued, suffered from poor wages and conditions, and the attentions of Bute Street's criminal fraternity, which consisted of a 'whole lot of slimily cunning oddments of humanity of all sorts and colour'.

- Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 71



'Captain' Edward Tupper (1872—1942) speaking during the Seamen's Strike, Bute Docks, Cardiff, 1911 (People's Collection Wales)

Tupper led the NUS out on strike in 1911, and soon managed to effect a sympathetic strike by the dockers which threatened to close down Cardiff docks. In response, the shipowners imported a Chinese crew, causing widespread rioting by the striking seamen over a period of several days. Chinese seamen were attacked, the thirty Chinese laundries that dotted various inner-city working-class suburbs were trashed, and the police had to use the utmost force to quell the disturbances.

- Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 71



'Captain' Edward Tupper
(1872—1942) speaking
during the Seamen's Strike,
Bute Docks, Cardiff, 1911
(People's Collection Wales)

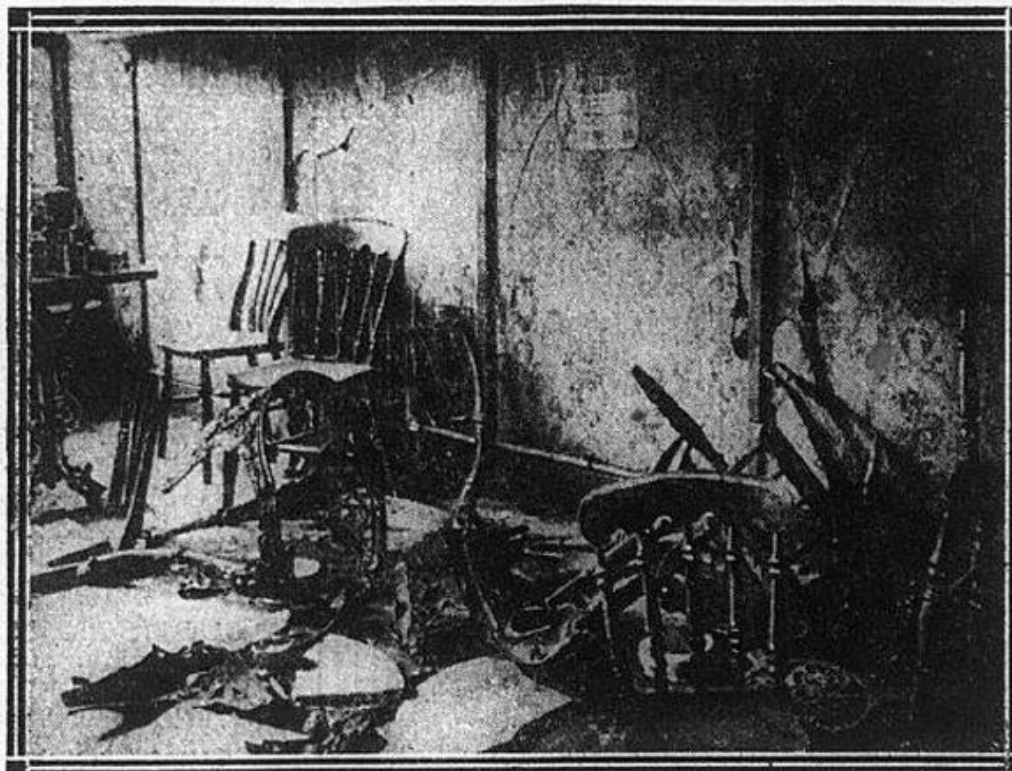
Western Mail, 14 June 1919

1919 Riots

RACIAL RIOTS AT CARDIFF.



A "man of colour" addressing a crowd in the Tiger Bay district on Friday. He advised his countrymen to do nothing likely to cause trouble. [Western Mail photo.]



Interior of an Arab lodging-house damaged in the riots.

[L. N. A.]

CARDIFF'S COLOURED POPULATION.

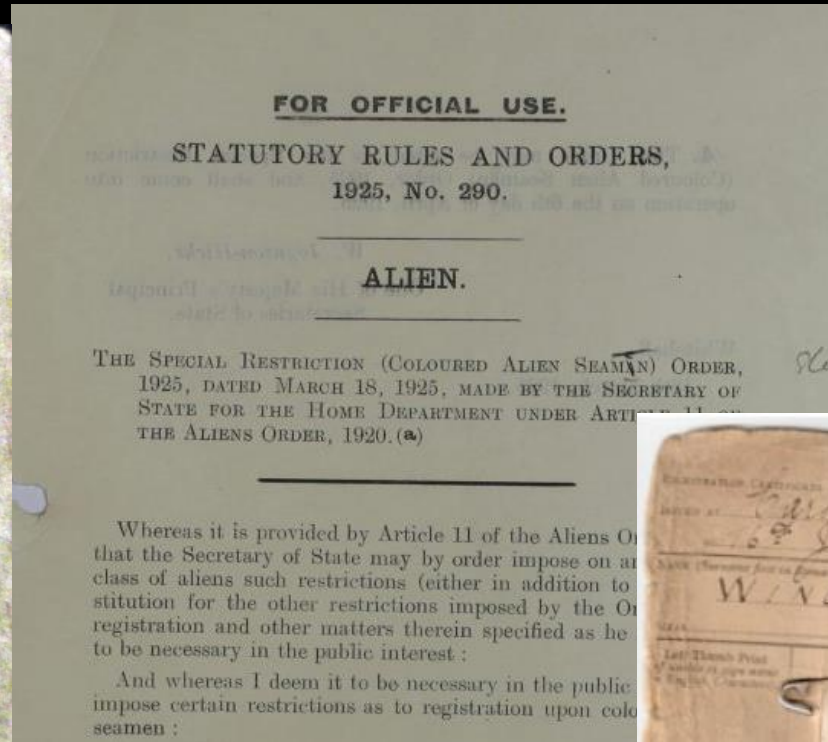
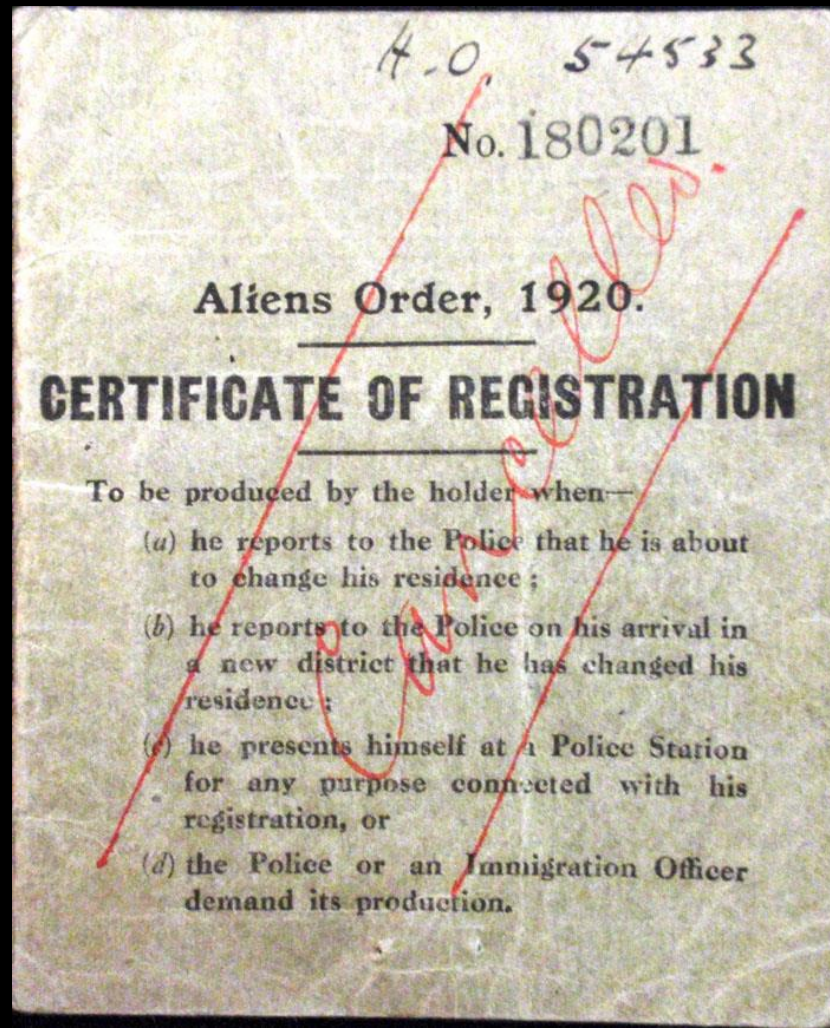


Types of coloured nationalities in Cardiff. Left to right: Arab, Portuguese, Cuban, African (West Coast), and East Indian.
[Western Mail photo.]

Western Mail, 17 June 1919

Aliens Restriction (Amendment) Act 1919

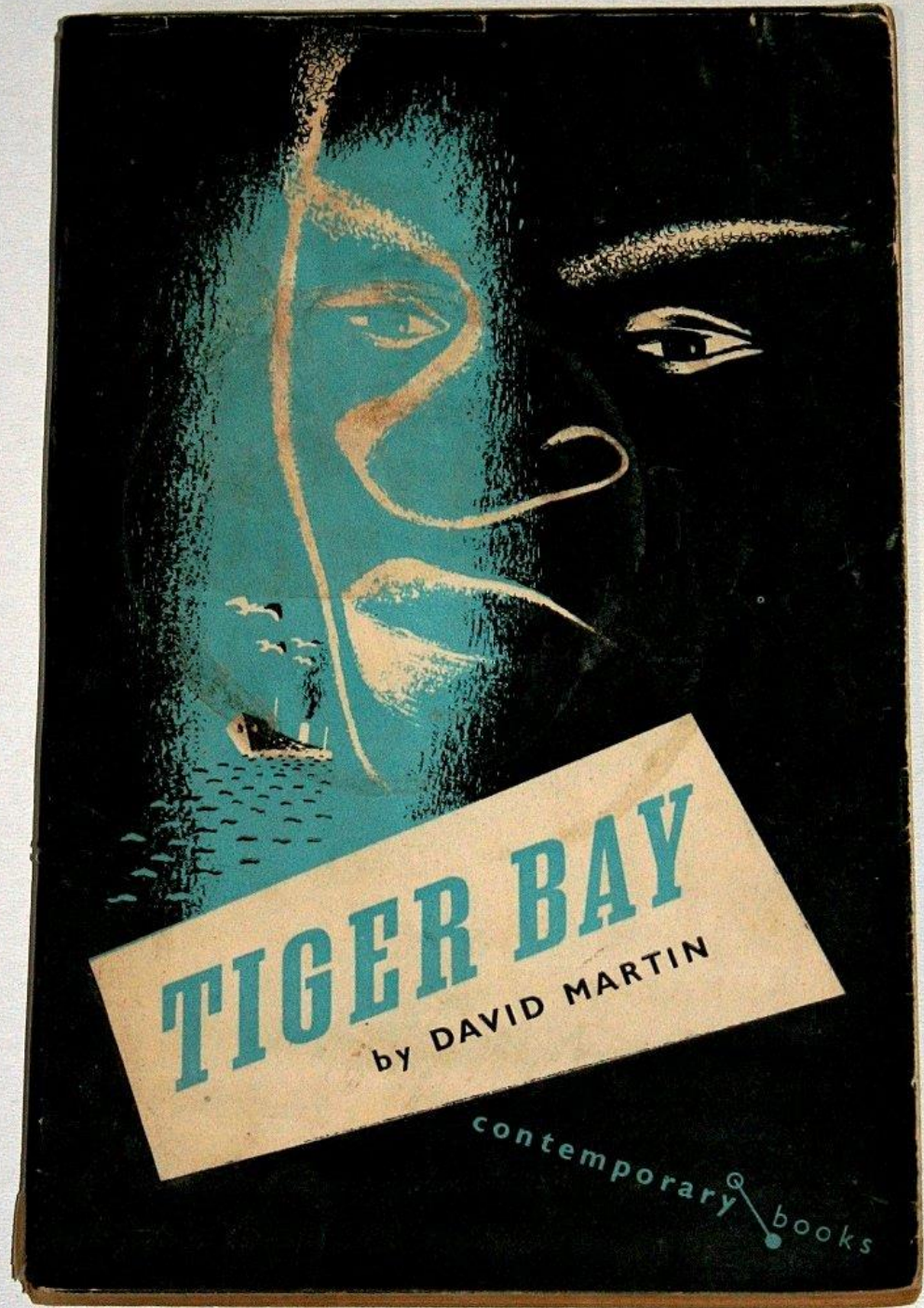
Aliens Orders, 1920, 1925



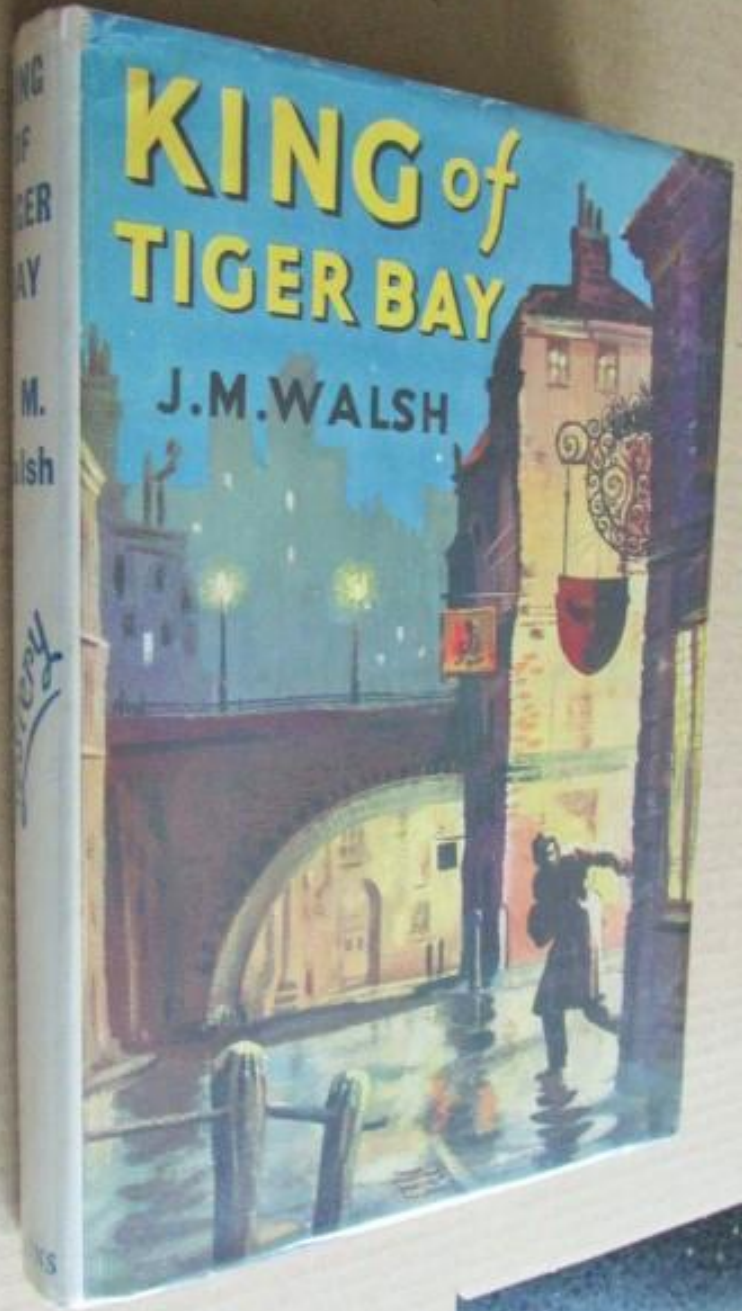
Images of Tiger Bay/Butetown

Ross Cameron, “‘The Most Colourful Extravaganza in the World’: Images of Tiger Bay, 1845–1970,’ *Patterns of Prejudice* 31:2 (1997): 59—90.

- What ‘images of Tiger Bay’ emerged in the post World War Two era? How was Butetown represented in popular culture and media?
- What social and economic changes effected Butetown in the post-war era?



03/26/2021



Changing Perceptions of Tiger Bay

The old Tiger Bay of Cardiff history, the rough area around the docks, does not exist to-day. In my view the Bute Street area is one of the most law abiding areas in the town ... The foreign population here are largely law abiding people. The coloured people in the area are no more guilty, no more dangerous to the peace of the district than the whites.

- Chief Constable Price in 6 Daily Sketch and Graphic, 14 September 1953, cited by Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 83

Changing Perceptions of Tiger Bay

In 1956 the *Cardiff and South Wales Times* ran a six-week feature entitled 'Butetown Is My Home', which consisted of interviews with various local residents, each highlighting the serious dilapidation of the area. The most controversial revelation to emerge was that 'there is an occasional fight down here'. The *South Wales Echo* ran a feature in 1958 which also highlighted poverty as the main feature of modern Butetown, describing it as 'Cardiff's other city, a city of tumbledown houses and dark grey streets, of ghastly rubbish dumps and dirty backyards. This is Butetown 1958.'

- Cited in Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' p. 86

Tiger Bay (1933), Tiger Bay (1959)



The Girl From Tiger Bay

The Dame Shirley Bassey Story
With Supporting Narrative and Footage



Shirley Bassey and 'Myth of Tiger Bay'

Shirley Bassey, the 'Cardiff contessa', seemed to personify the imagined exotic character of Tiger Bay ... In the context of large-scale colonial immigration into Britain after 1948, and white resistance to this phenomenon (which was often violent), there was a desire in Cardiff to highlight Butetown as a shining example of good 'race relations'. This became a central feature of the Tiger Bay myth in the post-war period, and with Shirley Bassey, the working-class girl from 'the bay', as its prodigal child, it was a very powerful image.

- Cameron, 'Images of Tiger Bay,' pp. 62, 88

Persistence of 'Myth of Tiger Bay'

Driver crashes £30,000 sports car two days after winning it in a draw

Three men smashed into house before snatching newborn baby from dad

Law and rule changes coming in May 2021 you need to know about

Headteacher bans the phrase 'good morning boys and girls'

The race against time to save a crying toddler and great grandad in sinking sand

W News News Opinion Welsh history

History that really matters in Tiger Bay, where nations lived as one | Carolyn Hitt

Black history is vital and in this week, of all weeks, that must be appreciated

By Carolyn Hitt
08:43, 8 JUN 2020

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Tiger Bay workers surround the dock entrance at the bottom of Bute Street (Image: Western Mail)

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I learned a fact about Welsh history this week that left me stunned on both counts – firstly the enormity of it; secondly that it was a story every Welsh person should know but I'd never heard it before. And in this week of all weeks it resonated powerfully.

"The first recorded landing of a free black man was in Cardiff docks."

NEWS OPINION

MOST READ

1



Driver crashes £30,000 sports car two days after winning it in a draw

2



Three men smashed into house before battering baby's dad and snatching newborn

3



Live updates as child abuse trial of radio DJ Kev Johns continues

4



Law and rule changes coming in May 2021 you need to know about

5



Headteacher tells Good Morning Britain why she banned phrase 'good morning boys and girls' at her school

RECOMMENDED



Two new Covid deaths and more than 60 cases reported in Wales



Why Kate Middleton will one day be the Princess of Wales

After Many a Summer: The Changing Face of Tiger Bay (1968)

- <https://player.bfi.org.uk/free/film/watch-after-many-a-summer-the-changing-face-of-tiger-bay-1968-online>

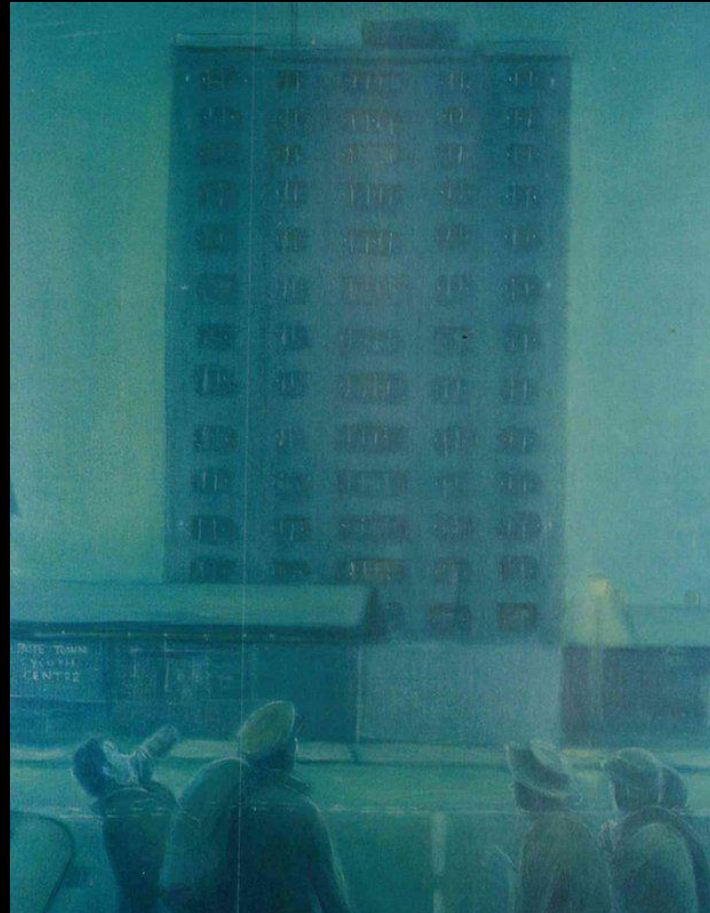


1960s Urban Renewal



Changing Face of Tiger Bay

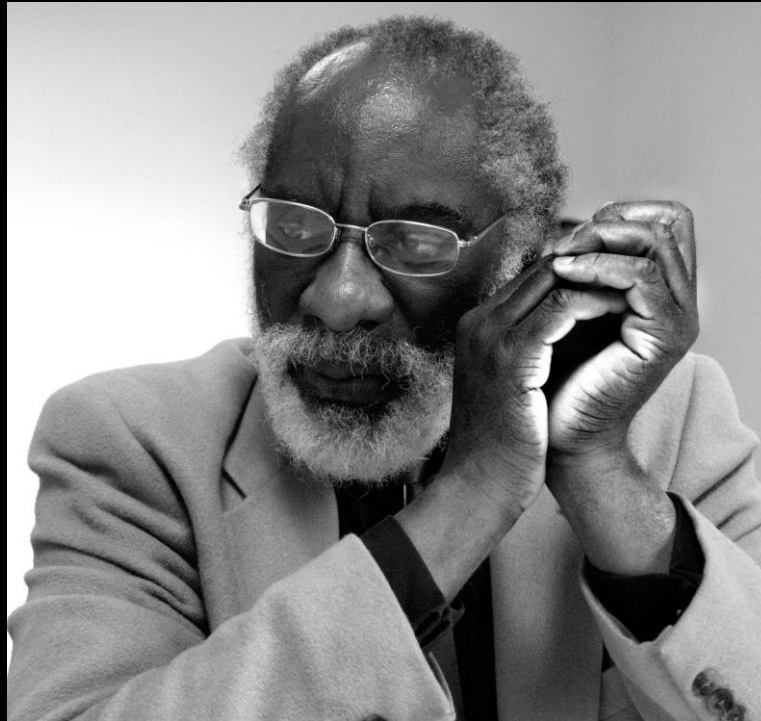
'Where's Tiger Bay
gone shipmates?'
Five ghosts return
from sea but cannot
get their bearings.
By the late Cardiff
artist and former
docks policeman
Jack Sullivan



Community Heritage



- Est. by Glenn Jordan, African American photographer and academic, 1988
- Collected oral histories
- Closed 2017 – lack of funding



The Heritage & Cultural
EXCHANGE
TIGER BAY AND THE WORLD

HOME SUPPORT US OUR COLLECTION EVENTS NEWS U-BOAT PROJECT CONTACT f t



TIGER BAY AND THE WORLD

At their peak, the docks in Cardiff were exporting around 11 million tonnes of coal a year.

South Wales coal was what oil is today – the fuel that powered the world.

Cardiff Coal Exchange opened in 1886 provided the base where the negotiations for trading and shipping coal could take place. It was a busy place with a many as 200 traders gesticulating and shouting and up to 10,000 people a day would pass in and out of the building.

The price of the world's coal was determined here.

Over a 70-year period Cardiff docks were always being extended to give more capacity for greater numbers of ships, which were in turn growing from small sailing vessels to much bigger steam vessels

These vessels were taking their precious cargo literally all over the world.

These vessels were also returning with a precious resource – people. Ships companies were recruited from foreign ports of call and on arrival some stayed in Cardiff mainly in the area that became known as Tiger Bay.

People from more than 50 nations made Tiger Bay one of the oldest and most diverse multicultural communities in the UK.



TIGER BAY - PRESERVING THE STORIES

Our archive was not well sorted or catalogued. A successful application to National Lottery Heritage Fund allowed us to put in place the project "Tiger Bay - Preserving the Stories" which means that not only are we putting this right but also more stories can be collected. More information can be found in Tiger Bay Times - [here](#)

The project, started in January 2019. Our Community Collections Officer assisted by a team of volunteers have been busy tidying up and recording the collection in an online archive. The archive is still a work-in-progress and there are many more items to be added. But you can now view how far we have progressed.

The Heritage & Cultural Exchange online archive can be viewed at www.hcearchive.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS

ONLINE ARCHIVE

TIGER BAY - PRESERVING THE STORIES

Our aim is to organise and catalogue historical/archival materials, consisting of approx. 7,000 photographs of old Cardiff docklands and portraits of people of ethnically-diverse backgrounds in Wales; audio, and videotaped interviews of life histories and stories from local residents; and documents such as magazines or seamen's discharge books. All material relating to the people who (used to) live and work in Tiger Bay, or Butetown, and the Cardiff Docks and mostly collected by the now closed Butetown History and Arts Centre.

We are trying to digitise as much as possible, so it will be much easier for people in Cardiff and all over the world to access and to uncover again all the great stories carried in those photographs, documents and interviews.

We are building an online archive of the material. It is far from complete but we are able to share what has been done to date.

Many volunteers continue to work with us to record the rest of the material so that you be able to find it there - so a big thank you to them!

VIEW THE ONLINE ARCHIVE AT

www.hcearchive.org.uk



The collection is safely and securely stored on our behalf at the Glamorgan Archives in Cardiff. Our volunteers continue to work there, sorting boxes, recording all the books, papers, tapes and photographs that we have and adding them to the online archive.

The project started with over 95 boxes of mixed materials. There are:

- c.800 cassette tapes
- minidiscs
- hundreds of CDs
- c.60 VHS tapes
- books
- newsletters and magazines
- research papers
- photo albums
- newspaper articles
- photographs (and lots of negatives as well)
- seamen's discharge books, ration books and other personal documents
- paintings and sketches
- a school register
- floppy disks (remember those?)
- flags (mostly from the Norwegian church)
- and lots of other papers and documents...

Many of the boxes are still there. But now, a good year into the project, most of them are a lot more organised!

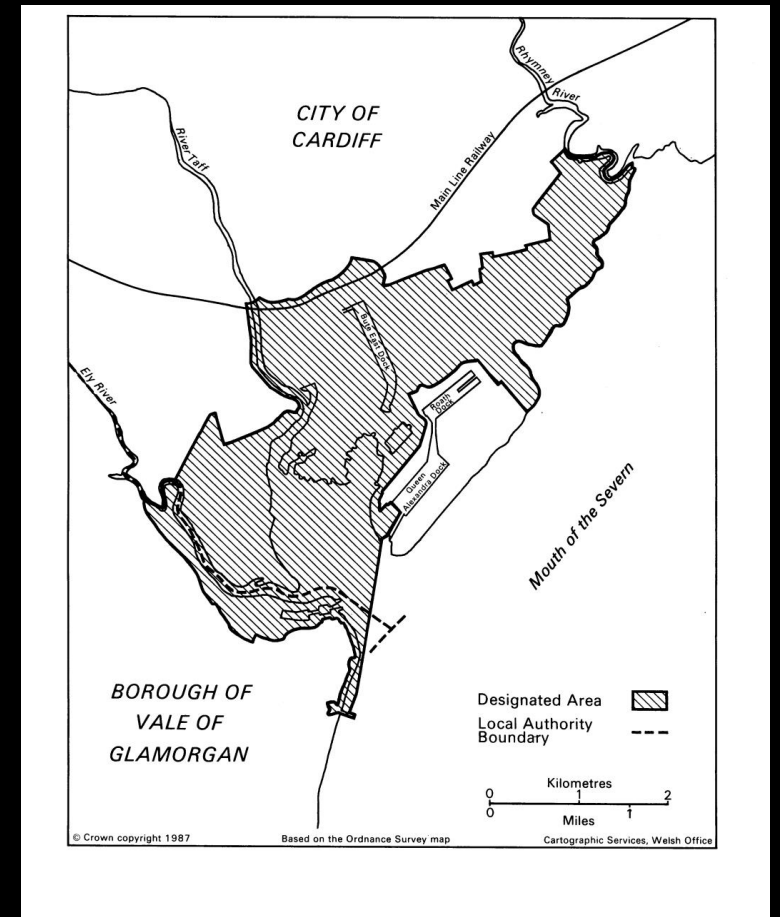
Reinvention of Cardiff Bay

Leon Gooberman, 'The State and Post-Industrial Urban Regeneration: The Reinvention of South Cardiff,' *Urban History* 45:3 (2018): 504—523.

- Which government agencies and stakeholders were involved in urban regeneration projects in Cardiff in the 1980s?
- What was the Cardiff Bay Redevelopment Corporation?



Sir Geoffrey Inkin, chairman of the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation in 1987



Cardiff Bay Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1987

Reinvention of Cardiff Bay

Leon Gooberman, 'The State and Post-Industrial Urban Regeneration: The Reinvention of South Cardiff,' *Urban History* 45:3 (2018): 504—523.

- How did the 'image' and built environment change of South Cardiff change during the 1980s and in subsequent decades?
- What types of redevelopment projects were supported by the Development Corporation – and at the expense of which others?
- What examples from other cities were used as precedents for regeneration in Cardiff?
- What controversies have surrounded regeneration projects in Cardiff?

RENAISSANCE

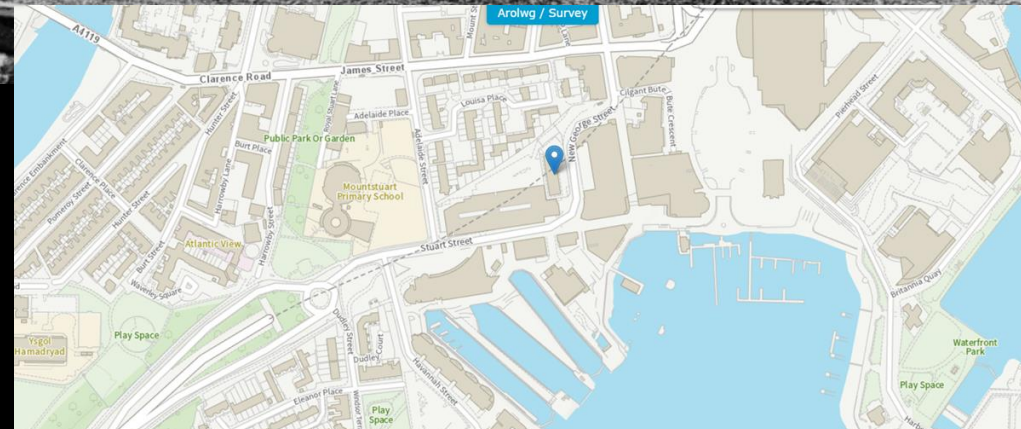
The Story of Cardiff Bay 1987-2000



CARDIFF BAY
BAE CAERDYDD



Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum (1977—1998)





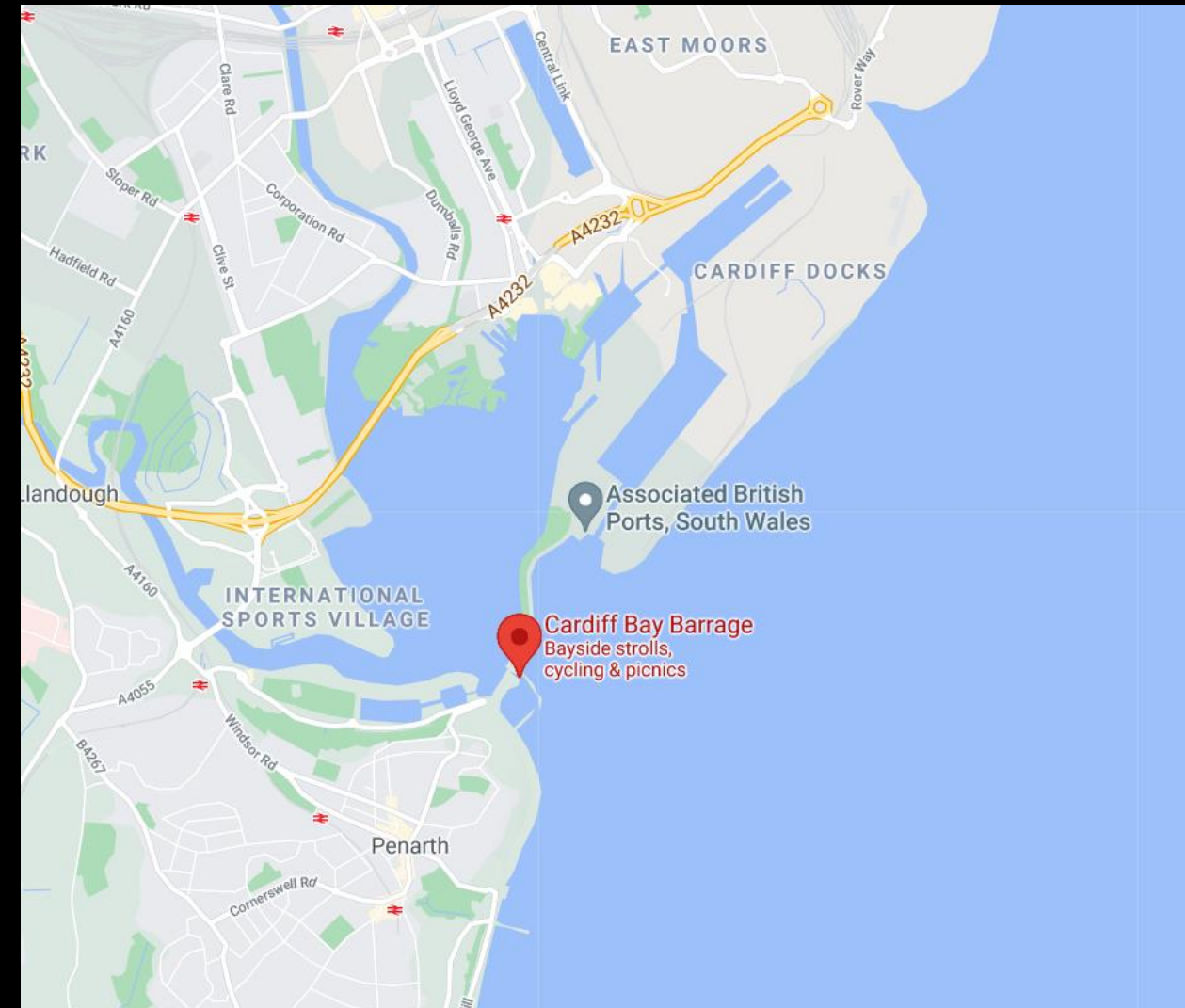
EAT
DRINK

SHOP
LIVE



MERMAID QUAY

Cardiff Bay Barrage



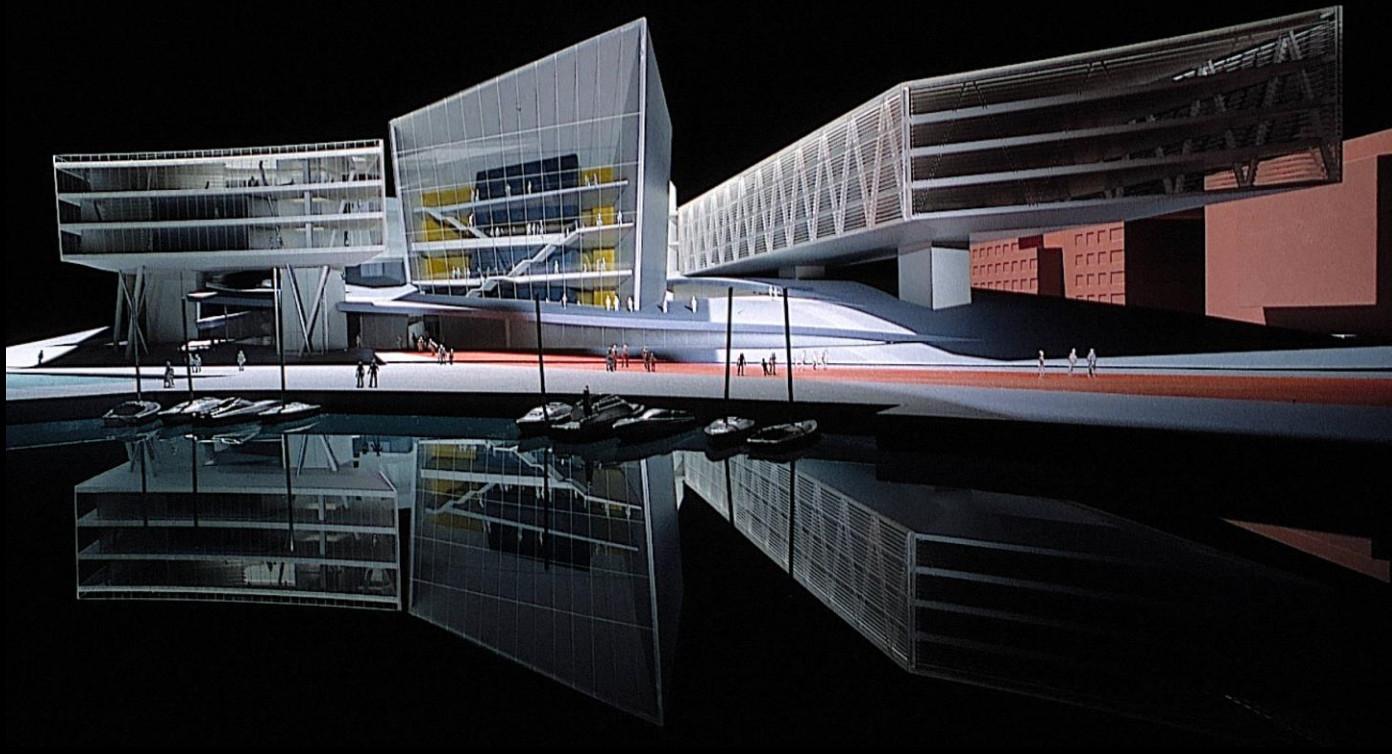
Baltimore Inner Harbour



Property-Led Regeneration



Zaha Hadid's Cardiff Bay Opera House



Millennium Centre, Cardiff (opened 2004) Senedd (opened 2006)



Cardiff Story Museum (opened 2011)



Museum of Military Medicine



NEWS

Campaigners put pressure on Cardiff Council not to sell bay park to Military Medicine Museum

27 Feb 2021 3 minutes Read



Architectural plans for the military museum. Picture by Scott Brownrigg

Community, environmental and pacifist campaigners have joined together to call on Cardiff Council not to sell a park in Cardiff bay to the developers of a Military Medicine Museum.

They said that the council appears "hell-bent" on selling the park despite "almost universal opposition" to the plans.

Nation.Cymru **recently revealed** that Cardiff was the fifth choice for the museum and only considered after an invitation by the council.

Cardiff

Steven Morris

@stevenmorris20

Tue 15 Dec 2020 17:12 GMT



248

Military museum is being dumped on us, say people in Cardiff

Pop stars and politicians express 'deep concern' at proposal to move museum from Aldershot



▲ Musician Cian Ciarán at Britannia Park in Cardiff Bay, which is being threatened with redevelopment. Photograph: Athena Pictures/The Guardian

Champions of the project say it will tell inspiring stories of how the lives of wounded service personnel have been saved over the centuries and help to

Welsh History and Heritage Reviewed

- What are some of the challenges faced by heritage institutions in Wales today?
- What have you learned from the module?
- What aspects of the syllabus have you enjoyed the most?
- Have you any suggestions for changes/improvements to the module and its syllabus?