

DECHRAU DINBYCH-Y-PYSGOD FEL TREFF WYLLAU

THE EARLY BIRTH OF  
TENBY AS A TOURIST  
RESORT

# DINBYCH-Y-PYSGOD YM 1800

Erbyn 1800 roedd Dinbych-y-pysgod yn lle digon llwm. Prin oedd yn ymestyn y tu hwnt i furiau'r dref, nifer o'r strydoedd yn rhy gul i geirt allu mynd heibio'i gilydd, moch yn crwydro'r strydoedd, grisiau'n golygu ei bod yn anodd cyrraedd yr harbwr, masnach drwy'r porthladd bron wedi dod i ben, a chyfleoedd cyflogaeth hefyd wedi gorffen.

Ym 1802 ymwelodd William Paxton â'r dref a dechreuodd pethau newid yn gyflym.

By 1800 Tenby was a scene of desolation. Still barely extending beyond the town walls, many of the buildings lay in ruins, many streets were too narrow for carts to pass, pigs roamed the streets, steps made access to the harbour difficult, trade through the port had almost ceased, and with it employment opportunities as well.

In 1802 William Paxton visited the town and things began to rapidly change.

## TENBY IN 1800



Y Stryd Fawr pan  
ymwelodd Paxton am y  
tro cyntaf

A view of the High  
Street when Paxton first  
visited

# YSTÂD WILLIAM PAXTON

Roedd William Paxton wedi gwneud ei ffortiwn yn masnachu dros y cwmni East India a chyda'r cwmni a'i weithwyr. Dychwelodd i Brydain ym 1785 a dechrau chwilio am gartref, a phrynnodd ystâd Neuadd Middleton o ryw 500 erw – sef Gardd Fotaneg Genedlaethol Cymru erbyn hyn. Trawsnewidiwyd yr ystâd gan Paxton yn barc gwledig godidog – gyda llynnoedd, rhaeadrau, llwybrau a mannau marchogaeth – sydd wedi eu hadfer yn ddiweddar i'r cyhoedd gael ymweld a mwynhau.

William Paxton had amassed a fortune working for and trading both with the East India Company and its employees. Returning to Britain in 1785 he set about finding a home base and settled on the Middleton Hall estate of 500 acres – now the National Botanic Garden of Wales. Paxton transformed the estate into a spectacular country park – with lakes, waterfalls, walks and rides – recently restored for visiting public to enjoy.

## WILLIAM PAXTON'S ESTATE



Trawsnewidiodd Paxton  
yr ystâd yn barc gwledig  
- sydd erbyn hyn wëid  
ei adfer yng Ngardd  
Fotaneg Genedlaethol

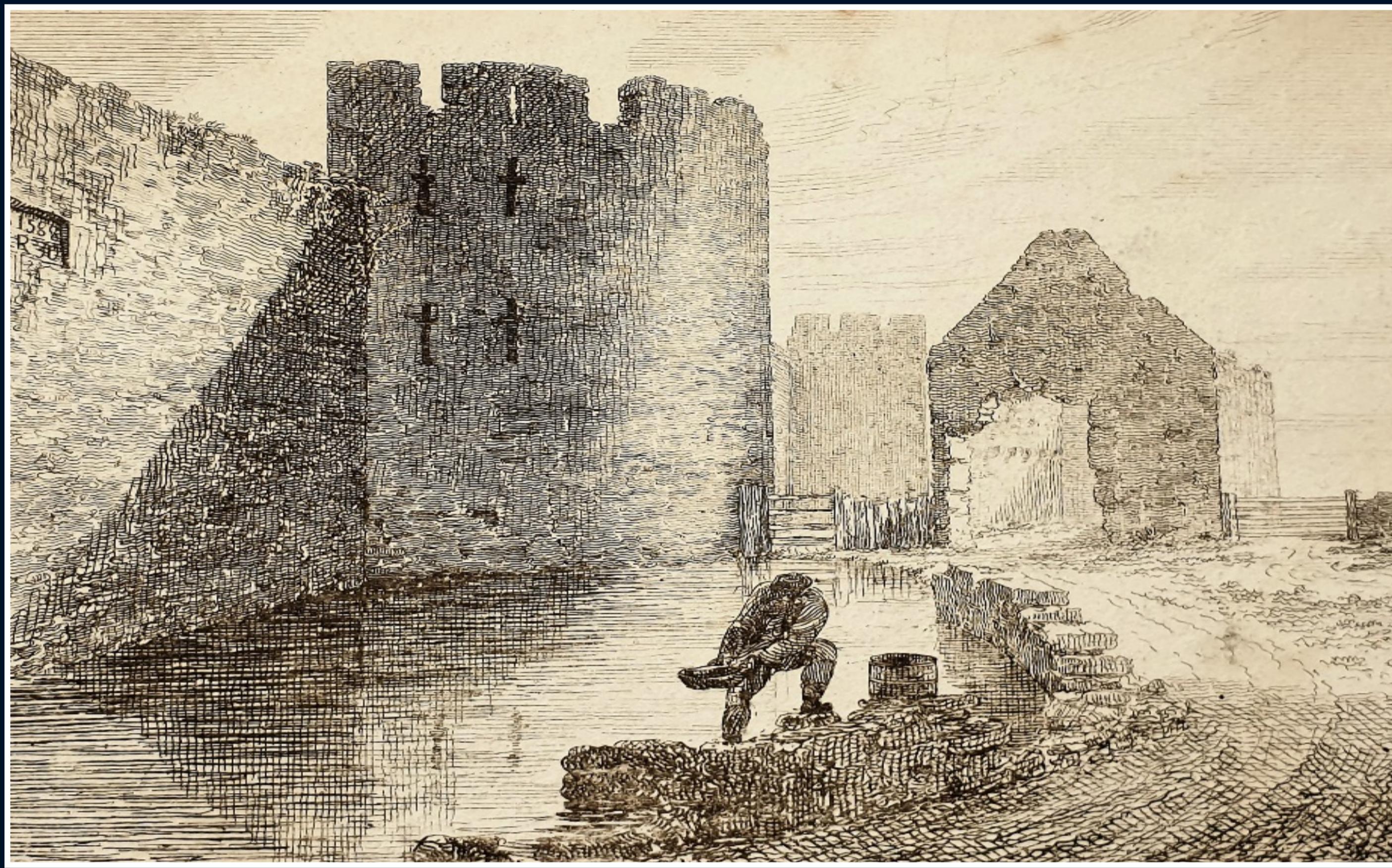
Paxton transformed the  
estate in to a country  
park - now restored at  
the National Botanic  
Gardens of Wales

# POTENSIAL DINBYCH-Y-PYSGOD

Roedd Paxton yn nofiwr brwd yn y môr yn Brighton, ond ym 1802 ymwelodd â Dinbych-y-pysgod, gwelodd botensial y lle a ddechreuodd gynllun helaeth o ail-ddatblygu, ar y cyd â Chorfforaeth y Dref. Un o'r datblygiadau cyntaf oedd gwella'r cyflenwad dŵr glân, yn barod ar gyfer helaethu'r dref, drwy ehangu'r gronfa ddŵr uwchben Parc Ceir y Gogledd, ei hidlo a'i gludo mewn sianeli i ffosydd o fewn y dref. Roedd hynny'n disodli'r hen ffosydd a draen agored.

Paxton was an enthusiastic sea-bather at Brighton but in 1802 he visited Tenby, saw its potential and commenced a huge scheme of redevelopment, in co-operation with the Town Corporation. One of his first developments was to improve the supply of clean water, in readiness for the town's expansion, by enlarging the reservoir above North Car Park, filtering it and piping it to conduits within the town. That replaced the ancient conduits and an open drain.

TENBY'S POTENTIAL  
AS A RESORT



Roedd gallu cael dŵr  
glân yn allweddol

Access to clean water  
was key



Gosododd Paxton  
ffosydd newydd yn lle'r  
ffynonellau cynharach

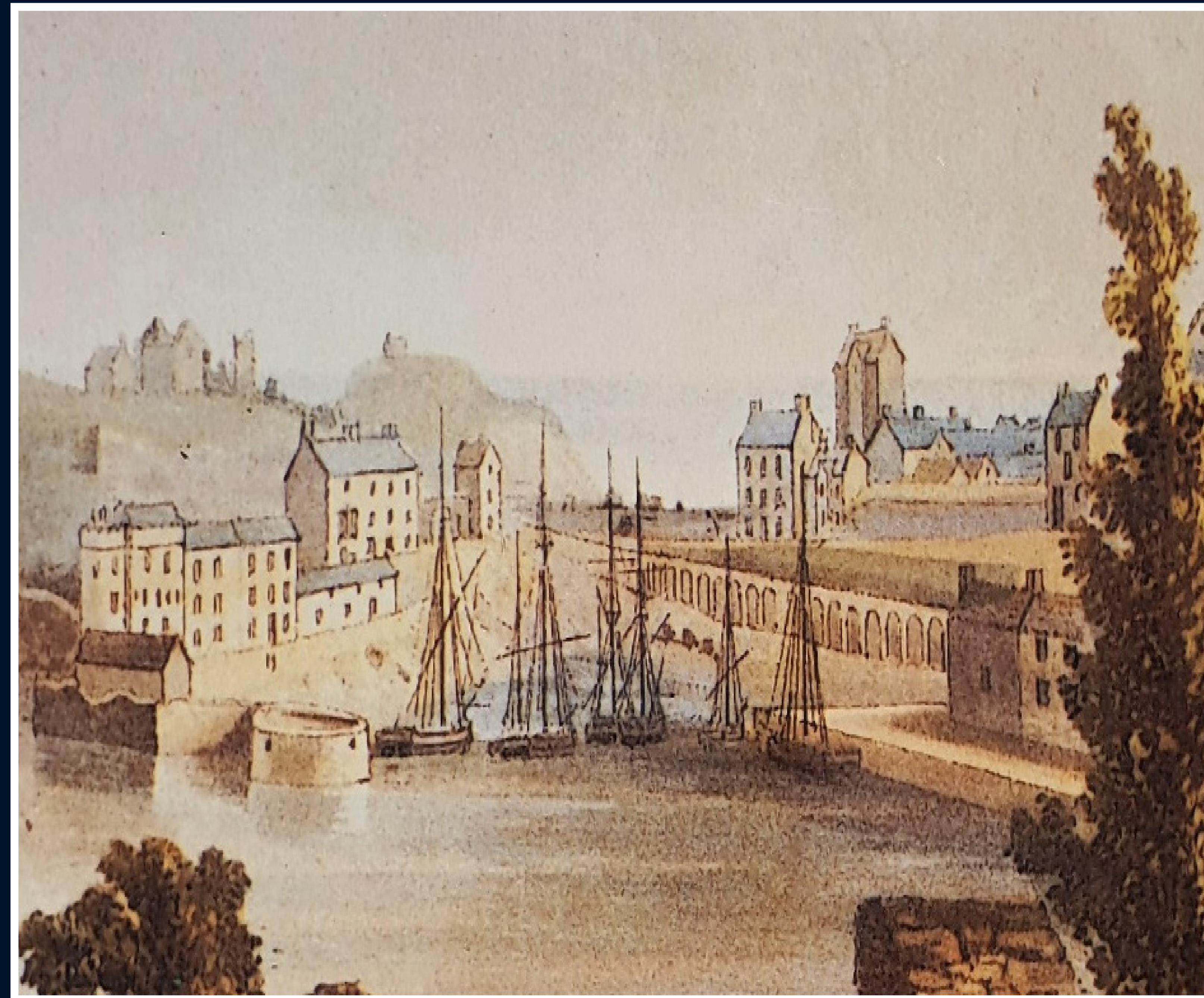
Paxton replaced early  
sources with new  
conduits

# Y BADDONDY NEWYDD

Ei gynllun mwyaf arbennig oedd creu canolfan ym mhen pellaf y pîr, yn cynnwys llety gwesty, neuadd ddawns a'r baddondy diweddaraf - Laston House erbyn hyn. Roedd yno ddua faddon nofio, ystafelloedd i gleifion, ystafelloedd newid cynnes, lolfa a bar, a dŵr y môr yn eu cyrraedd ddwywaith y dydd gyda'r llanw. Adeiladodd ffordd hyd yn oed yn cael ei chynnal ar fwâu ar gyfer coetsis, i hwyluso mynediad i'r fan yn ogystal â'r môr a'r harbwr.

His grandest scheme was to create a complex at the head of the pier, comprising hotel accommodation, a ballroom and a state-of-the-art bathing house – now Laston House. Fed by seawater on each high tide there were two swimming baths, invalid rooms, heated changing rooms, a lounge, and a bar. He even constructed an approach road supported on arches for carriages, to ease access to the complex as well as to the pier and harbour.

THE NEW  
BATH-HOUSE



Byddai baddondy  
godidog – gyda llety –  
yn denu'r bobl fawr

A grand bath-house,  
with accomodation,  
would attract high  
society

# GWASANAETHAU

Roedd angen llety ar ymwelwyr, felly prynodd nifer fawr o dai yn y dref a'u gosod ar rent fel gwestai. Adnewyddodd y Ball Inn (gwesty Tudor House nawr), ynghyd â stablau. Hefyd adeiladodd y Cobourg Hotel gwych gyda stablau helaeth i 40 o geffylau a 12 coets yn y cefn (Iard Brychan nawr.)

Visitors needed accommodation so he purchased a large number of houses throughout the town, renting them out as guest-houses. He refurbished the Ball Inn (now Tudor House hotel), complete with stabling, and similarly built the grand Cobourg Hotel with extensive stabling, to accommodate 40 horses and 12 coaches, behind it (now Brychan Yard).

## SERVICES



Dyluniwyd stablau  
lard Brychan gan S.P  
Cockerell ar gyfer y  
Cobourg Hotel (Ashleigh  
House erbyn hyn)



Brychan yard stabling  
was designed by S.P  
Cockerell for the  
Cobourg Hotel (now  
Ashleigh House)

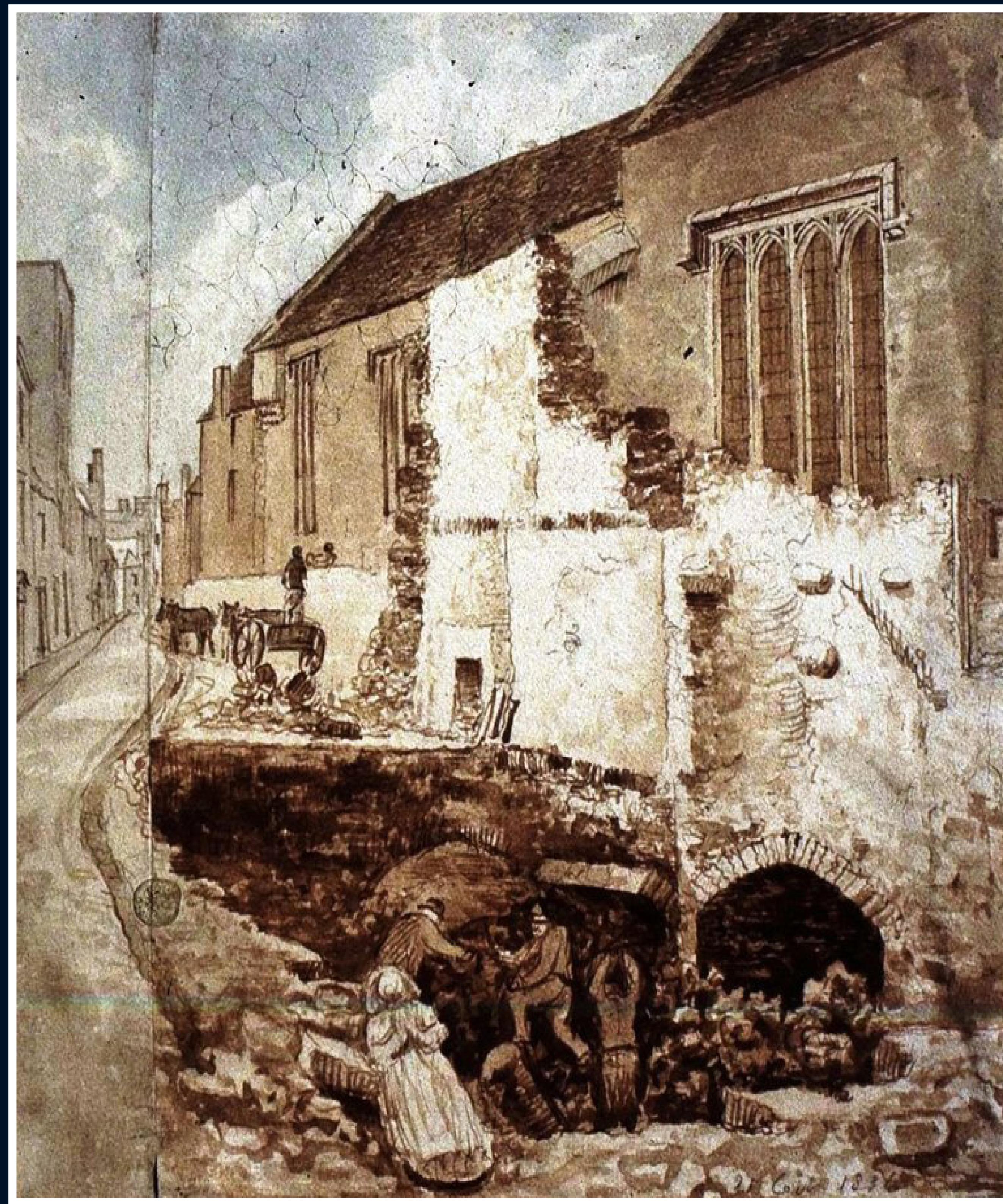
# BUDDSODDIADAU ERAILL

Roedd ar ymwelwyr angen adloniant hefyd. Roedd parêd yn beth poblogaidd, felly gosododd balmant ar hyd yr hen raffordd. Byddai'r Cobourg yn trefnu gemau cardiau poblogaidd gyda'r nos, a cheid dramâu yn yr Assembly Rooms. Yna ym 1810 helpodd ariannu theatr newydd - The Blue Ball. Parhaodd am nifer o flynyddoedd, ond pan aeth cynulleidfaoedd yn fach prynodd Paxton yr adeilad ac ad-dalu'r cyfranddalwyr eraill. Yng nghanol y Stryd Fawr bresennol a Tudor Square roeed rhesi o siopau a hen dai. Prynodd un o'r rheiny, a elwid White's House, a'i roi i'r Gorfforaeth i'w ddymchwel er mwyn lledu'r ffordd. Rhoddodd y groes hefyd yn Tudor Square gyda'r bwriad o glirio'r bloc hwnnw hefyd. Cwblhawyd ei gynlluniau ar ôl ei farw gan y Gorfforaeth ym 1824.

Visitors also needed entertainment. Parades were popular so he paved the former ropewalk. The Cobourg hosted popular card games of an evening and plays were performed in the Assembly Rooms. Then in 1810 he helped fund a new theatre – The Blue Ball. It ran for a number of years, but when audiences fell Paxton bought the building and repaid the other shareholders.

In the middle of both the present High Street and Tudor Square were rows of shops and ancient houses. He purchased one, known as White's House, and gave it to the Corporation to pull down to widen the road and also gave the cross in Tudor Square with the plan to clear that block, too. His plans were completed by the Corporation after his death in 1824.

## OTHER INVESTMENTS



Dymchwelwyd yr  
adeiladau oedd yn  
rhwystro'r Stryd Fawr  
wrth Eglwys y Santes

The buildings blocking  
the High Street by St  
Mary's Church were  
demolished

# CYHOEDDUSRWYDD S MYNEDIAD

Roedd angen cyhoeddusrwydd a mynediad i'r dref hefyd. Cyhoeddodd y papurau newydd enwau'r holl bobl bwysig a fyddai'n dod bob wythnos, gan ddenu nifer o rai'n dod i sbecian. Ond comisiynodd Paxton hefyd lyfr taith, yn cael ei gyhoeddi gan J. Voss, i gynyddu'r ymwelwyr.

Roedd mynediad i goetsis o'r ffordd dyrpeg yn Arberth, dros saith milltir i ffwrdd, yn anodd, felly adeiladodd Paxton dafarn i goetsis yn Cold Blow, ac mae'n ymddangos iddo lwyddo i ddwyn perswâd ar y Postfeistr Cyffredinol i newid y man aros o Arberth i Cold Blow gan fod mynediad ffordd oddi yno lawer yn haws.

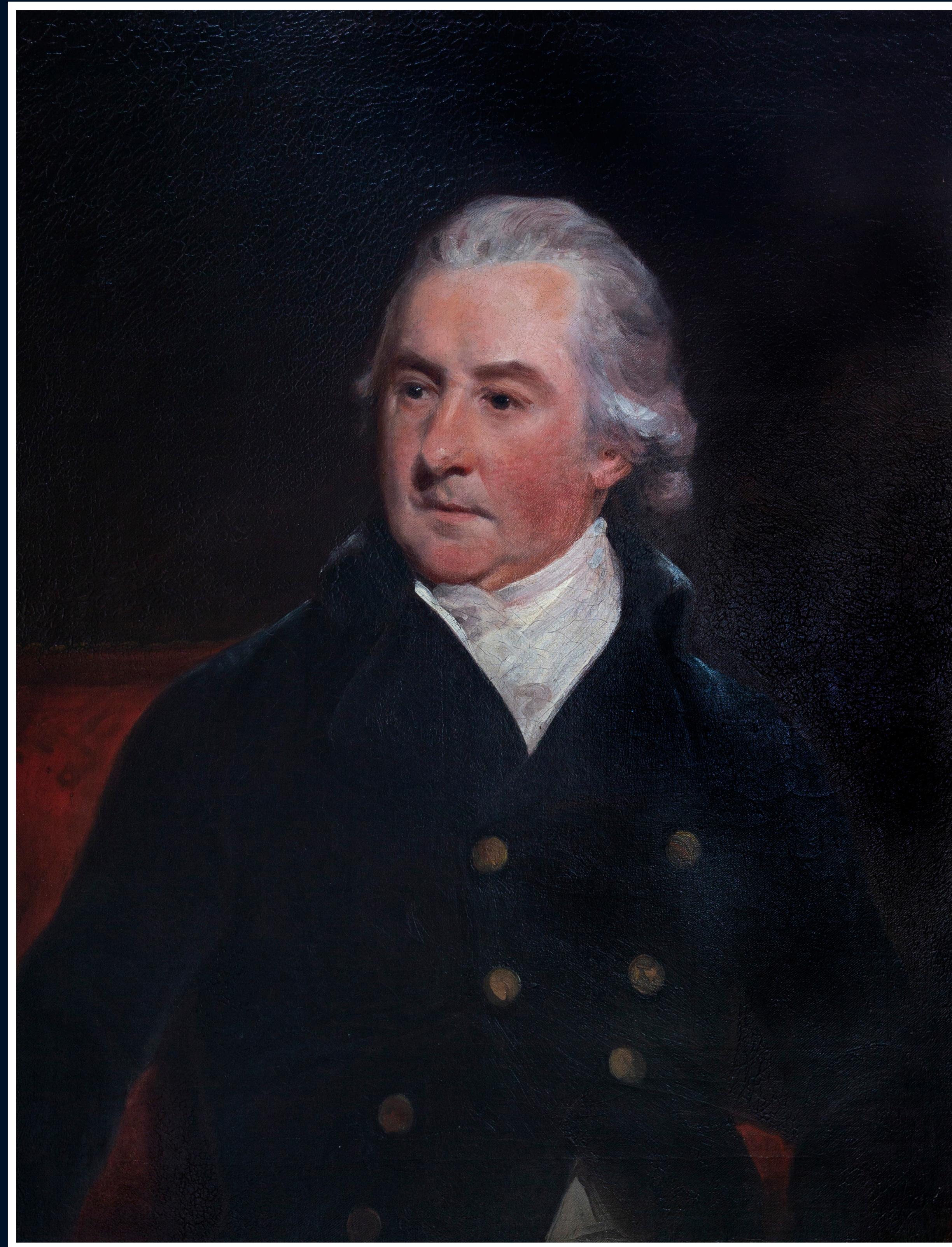
O ganlyniad i'r holl fuddsoddi hwn, roedd Dinbych-y-pysgod wedi ei thrawsnewid yn dref wyliau boblogaidd ddeg myned ar hugain cyn i ddyfodiad y rheilffyrdd helpu sefydlu mannau

Publicity and access to the town were also needed. The newspapers published the names of all society members attending each week, attracting many voyeurs. But Paxton also commissioned a travel guide, published by J. Voss, to boost attendance.

Coach access from the turnpike to Narberth, over seven miles away, was difficult so Paxton built a coaching inn at Cold Blow and seems to have persuaded the Postmaster General to switch the staging post away from Narberth to Cold Blow, from which the road access was much easier.

As a result of all his investments Tenby had been transformed into a popular seaside resort thirty years before the railway boom helped to establish others.

## PUBLICITY AND ACCESS



Rhaid bod Paxton  
wedi gweld na fyddai'n  
adennill yr hyn roedd  
wedi'i wario yn Ninbych-  
y-pysgod. Bu farw ym  
1824.

William Paxton must  
have foreseen that he  
would not recoup what  
he spent in Tenby. He  
died in 1824.