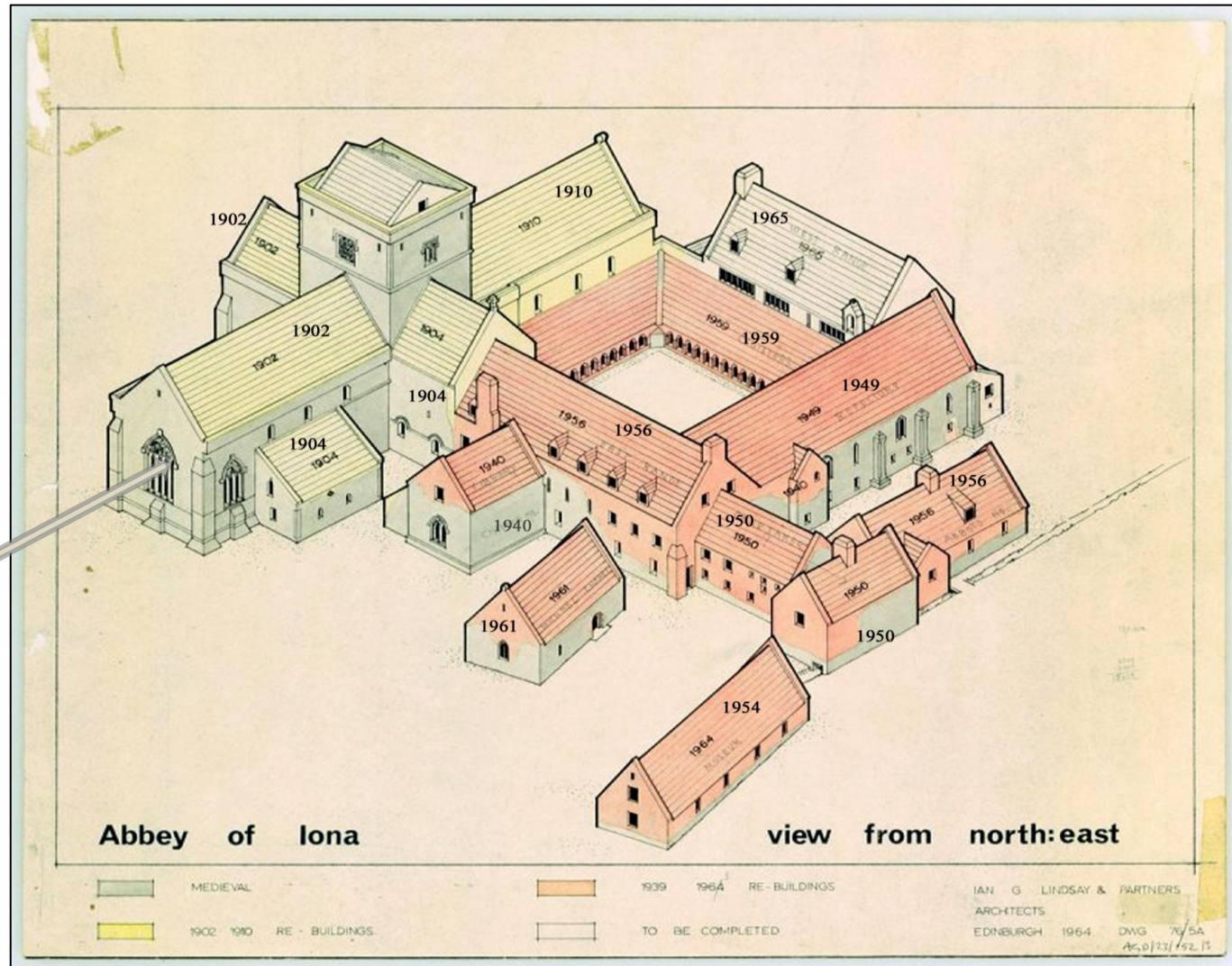


IONA ABBEY, AS YOU SEE IT TODAY, IS CLAN DONALD'S LEGACY 1200-1500 :-

AS RESTORED 20TH C. WITH PUBLIC MONEY & COMMUNITY LABOUR.

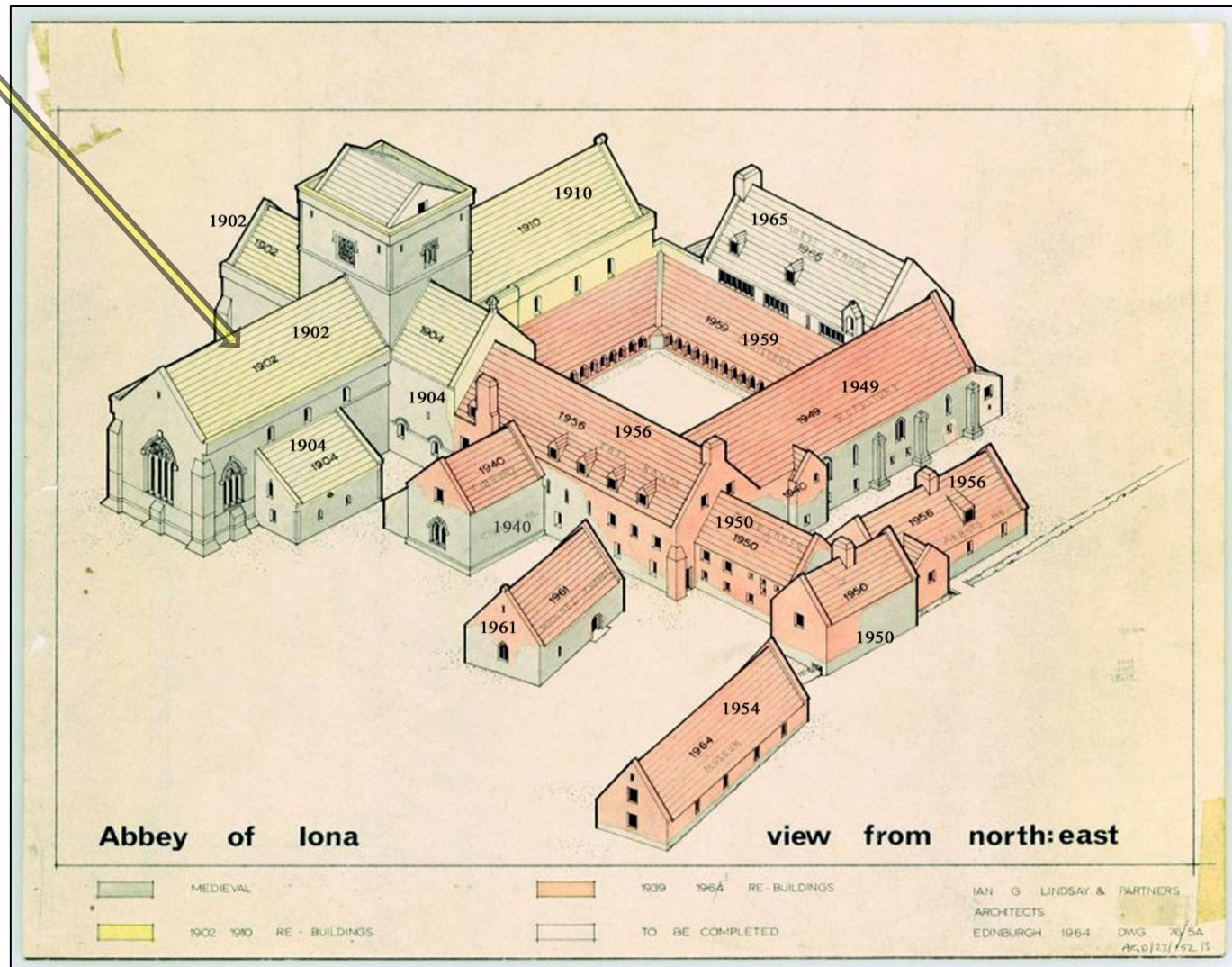
Medieval,
grey parts.



IONA ABBEY, AS YOU SEE IT TODAY, IS CLAN DONALD'S LEGACY 1200-1500 :-

AS RESTORED 20TH C. WITH PUBLIC MONEY & COMMUNITY LABOUR BY :

1. THE CATHEDRAL TRUST (1902-1910).... Yellow.

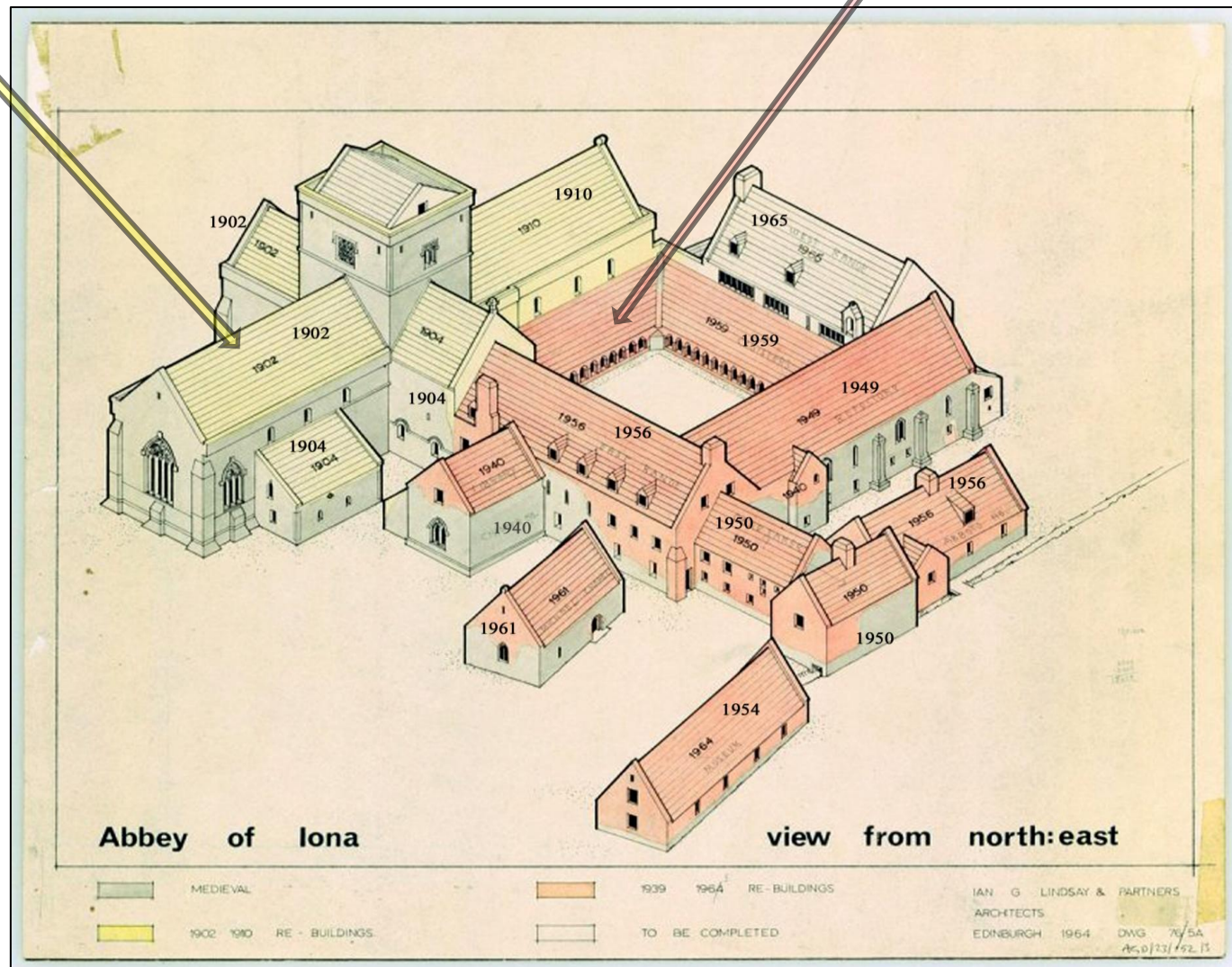


IONA ABBEY, AS YOU SEE IT TODAY, IS CLAN DONALD'S LEGACY :-

AS RESTORED 20TH C. WITH PUBLIC MONEY & COMMUNITY LABOUR BY :

1. THE CATHEDRAL TRUST (1902-1910).

2. THE IONA COMMUNITY (1938-1965)



OR IS IT HIS LEGACY?



“Iona Abbey, as you see it today, is largely due to the vision of the 8th Duke of Argyll.”

“In 1874 the island’s owner, the Duke of Argyll, began reconstructing the abbey church, with the intention that it be used for ecumenical worship”.

THE REALITY

**AFTER '*INCREASING PRESSURE*' BY ANTIQUARIAN DIGNITARIES
AND REPEATED '*LOUD CALLS*' FROM THE PUBLIC OVER 1850-1900 :-**

1. **THE 8th DUKE OF ARGYLL WAS PRESSURED AND FORCED TO HALT FURTHER ABBEY DECAY. HE REACTED ON JUST TWO OCCASIONS OVER 50 YEARS.**

THE REALITY

**AFTER ‘*INCREASING PRESSURE*’ BY ANTIQUARIAN DIGNITARIES;
AND REPEATED ‘*LOUD CALLS*’ FROM THE PUBLIC OVER 1850-1900**

1. **THE 8th DUKE OF ARGYLL** WAS PRESSURED AND FORCED TO HALT FURTHER ABBEY DECAY. HE REACTED ON JUST TWO OCCASIONS OVER 50 YEARS.
2. RESPONDED TO PRESSURE TO ALLOW UNEQUAL ACCESS TO “REFEREED” AND SEGREGATED DENOMINATIONAL SERVICES ON IONA. IT WAS NOT ECUMENISM – BUT APPEASEMENT.

IMPOSED, REFEREED, UNEQUAL ACCESS TO A LOCATION, WHICH WAS ALSO SEGREGATED, IS NOT EMBRYONIC ECUMENISM OR ANYTHING RESEMBLING A NASCENT, 40 YEAR LATER, IONA COMMUNITY.

“UNIFICATION” IT WAS NOT.

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3. RETURNED THE PROPERTY WITHOUT RESTITUTION 1899...AND “ENTRUSTED” THE RESTORATION.

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4. IT WAS RESTORED WITH PUBLIC FUNDS : BY THE *CATHEDRAL TRUST* & THE *IONA COMMUNITY*.
5. THE 8TH DUKE DID **NOT** SUPPORT **ECUMENISM**. OR HAVE ANY *VISION* TO INITIATE IT ON IONA. HE CALLED IT A ‘***RECRUDESCENCE OF THE ROMANISING TENDENANCY***’.

IT STARTED **40 YEARS** AFTER HE DIED – FROM STOPPING ATTEMPTS OF THAT SAME YEAR 1938 TO TURN IONA INTO A CATHOLIC SEMINARY BY THE MARQUESS OF BUTE.... a “perceived threat of Popery.”

THE REALITY

**AFTER ‘INCREASING PRESSURE’ BY ANTIQUARIAN DIGNITARIES,
AND REPEATED ‘LOUD CALLS’ FROM THE PUBLIC OVER 1850-1900**

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IT STARTED **40 YEARS** AFTER HE DIED – FROM STOPPING ATTEMPTS OF THAT SAME YEAR 1938 TO TURN IONA INTO A CATHOLIC SEMINARY BY THE MARQUESS OF BUTE : "*There was alarm that Iona might be turned into a Catholic seminary*"!

THERE IS A GLARING INTERPRETATIVE DISJUNCT.

WHICH GIVES A FALSE IMPRESSION OF :-

- THE DUKE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE ABBEY'S RESTORATION WHICH WAS ALWAYS FORCED AND RELATIVELY MINOR (2 stabilisations over 50 years); and
- THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE EARLIER ARGYLL EARLS', WHICH WAS NOTHING – EXCEPT TO POSITION THEMSELVES FOR ITS ASSET STRIPPING AND FINAL DESTRUCTION AND LOOTING; and
- THE 8th DUKE HAVING A *VISION* FOR ECUMENISM ON IONA WHEN IN FACT HE OBJECTED TO THE MOVEMENT & CONCEPT :- Duke's memoirs, 1906 *: on its precursors, the *Oxford Movement*, *Puseyism* –

“A recrudescence of the Romanising tendency”; and it

“Could not make on me, any favourable impression”.

*

“George Douglas, Eighth Duke of Argyll, K.G., K.T. (1823-1900): autobiography and memoirs”; Ed. Ina, the Dowager Duchess of Argyll; 1906.)

DESPITE ALL THE ABOVE, THE 8th DUKE'S LARGE WHITE CARRARA MARBLE EFFIGY :

- DOMINATES THE WHOLE SOUTH TRANSEPT OF THE CATHEDRAL;
- EVEN THOUGH HE IS NOT BURIED THERE;
(HIS 3rd WIFE INA IS)
- IS IN DISPARITY TO HIS NEGATIVITY TOWARDS THE EXISTING MEDIEVAL ABBEY AND CHIEFLY WHAT HE REGARDED IT HAD, AND FOR SOME 400 YEARS, STILL STOOD FOR. HE SAID :



“THE CORRUPT MONOTONY OF MEDIEVAL ROMANISM”.

He would have been quite satisfied if the medieval abbey had never existed.

He was not alone in having a *Love Columba, Hate Pope* relationship with Iona.

1885 - Disestablishment of the Church of Scotland
speech by the 8th Duke of Argyll (*Memoirs*; pps 450-56):-

“The establishment of Presbyterianism in Scotland has been the glory of our national history”. “Do not think that I am wishing to revive sectarian jealousies when I remind you simply of historical facts.

What is the equality of the Roman Catholic Church? What has the Roman Catholic Church done for Scotland? She burned our martyrs.

What did the Episcopal Church do for Scotland? She tried to suppress our liberties”.

*“Iona Abbey, as you see it today,
is (**NOT**) largely due to the vision
of the 8th Duke of Argyll.”*



**IT IS HYPERBOLE TO CREDIT HIM FOR IONA ABBEY'S RESTORATION,
BUT EVEN MORE SO TO EXPOUND THAT HIS PURPOSE WAS
TO ALLOW 'ECUMENICAL' WORSHIP.**