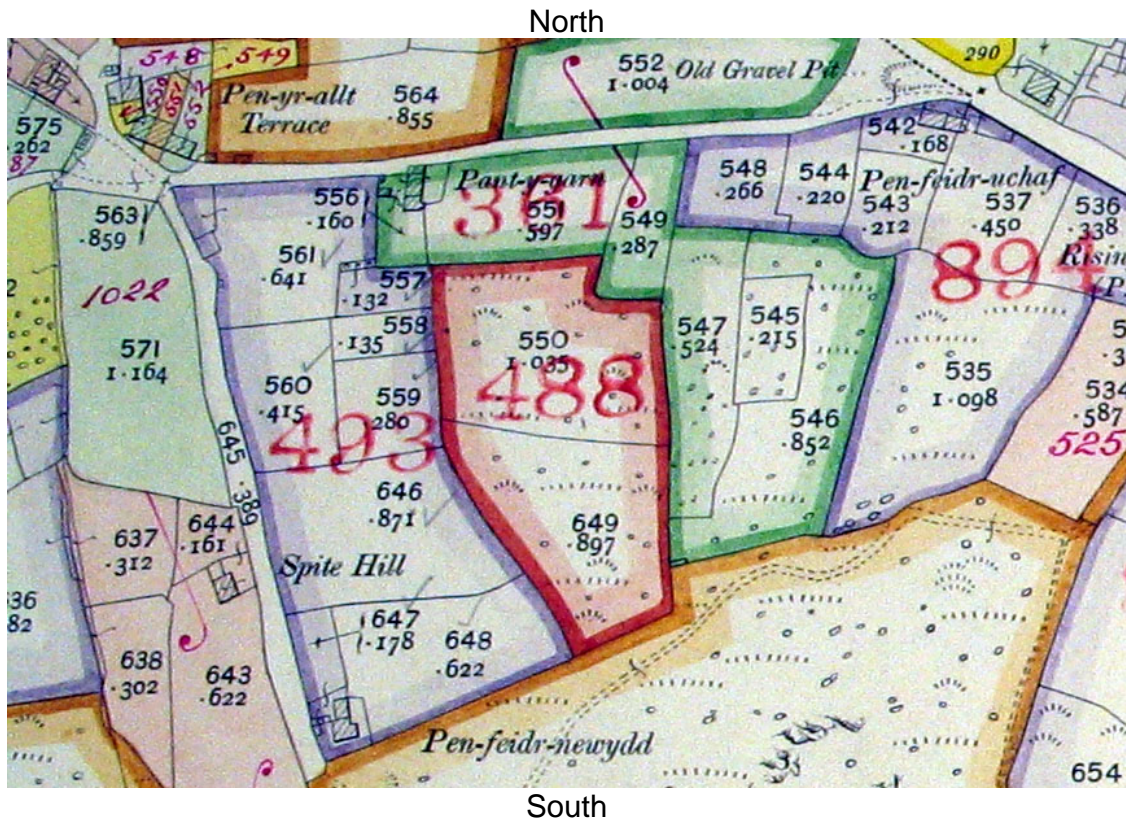


Penfeidir Newydd

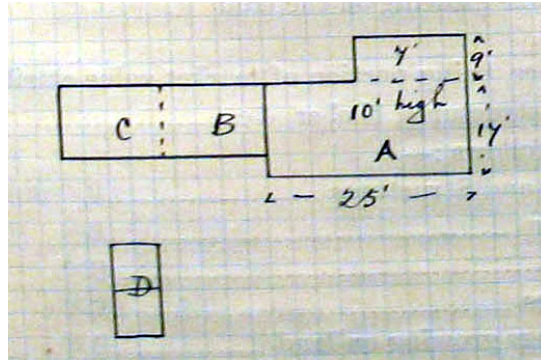
Penfeidir Newydd can be found on the England and Wales Valuation Office Survey of 1910-15, the map below shows the property as red number 493.



According to the schedule number 493 was described as Penfeidirnewydd and Penrallt. It was occupied by Jos? John and owned by Sir M. Lloyd, but the latter name had been crossed out and replaced by Capt W. James, Pleasant View, Newport. It was valued as £200. It was described as:

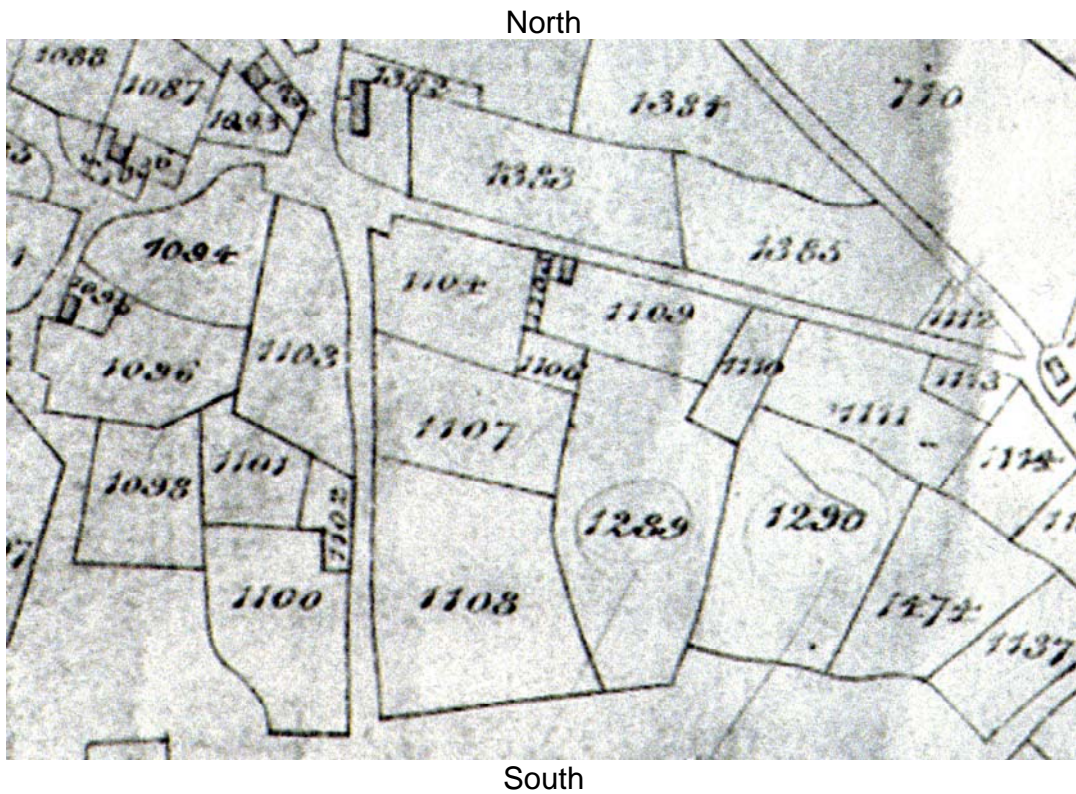
A small holding (of 3.274 acres) near Newport. An old cottage with a few acres of good pasture. [The cottage was described as] a 2 roomed cottage with dairy half roof. Stone built, lime washed, slate grouted roof, fair repair.

A sketch plan was included thus:



- A. House
- B. Barn
- C. Cow house 3 ties. Stone built in fair repairs, slated grouted roof.
- D. Pigcot. Stone built in fair repairs, slated grouted roof.

The tithe map of 1845 below shows the property as number 1108.



The tithe apportionments show that it was owned by Thomas Lloyd, (Lord Marcher of Cemaes) and occupied by John Beynon. It was described as

“Penfeidir Penrallt House etc” and comprised of 1 acre 2 rods 31 poles, i.e. just over one and a half acres.

At the 1841 census twenty nine year old John Beynon lived at a property called Penfeidir with his wife Margaret and five children all under seven years old. He was a shipwright. They had three further children born at Newport until 1847. All of the children were baptised at St Mary’s church Newport and according to the baptismal register the abode of the family from 1833 to 1847 was always (bar once) called Penrallt. Presumably he was living at the Penrallt House mentioned in tithe records in Penfeidir at the dwelling which would become known as Penfeidir Newydd.

From 1847 John and his family disappear from Newport records, and are never again found living at Newport. The launch of the last vessel built at Newport had taken place in 1846 and the last shipbuilder at Newport, Levi Havard, moved to Milford so that he could build larger vessels. Perhaps John had to move to follow Levi if he was to remain a shipwright. John Beynon and his family were indeed found living at Pill near Milford at both the 1851 and 1861 census and he was employed as a ship’s carpenter. It seems very possible that he was employed by Levi Havard. This is the first example I have found of a shipwright leaving Newport following the end of shipbuilding at the town.

At the 1851 census at the dwelling house called Penyrallt near Spite Hill the occupiers were a Sarah Jones aged 40, a householder and her niece Anne Davies.

The 1861 census for the whole of the enumeration district for the eastern rural part of Newport parish has been lost. This census was known to be poorly looked after.

A key to the next developments of Penfeidir Newydd comes from a postnuptial settlement made on 9 July 1870. This settlement was made between Thomas Williams, a master mariner of Lower High Street (today Long Street) and his wife Ann Williams. It appears that in leases of 1866 and 1869 Anne Williams (by her then name of Anne Thomas) became owner of a dwelling house and garden with a piece of ground attached situated in High St. (otherwise Long St.), together with Penfeidirnewydd and Garddygarn and the dwelling house and buildings erected thereon by a John Morgans deceased.

The settlement included an agreement that a Mary Salmon was allowed reside with said Thomas Williams as long as she wished, and a Mary Williams and an Ann Williams the daughters of the said Thomas Williams were also allowed to reside in the dwelling house. This indicates that Thomas Williams was very likely a widow when he married Ann Thomas.

Although a Penfeidir Newydd is not mentioned at the 1871 census a Penffordd Newydd was enumerated. This place name is never again found in any Newport census return. This was the abode of Anne Williams, a mariner's wife; most likely the wife of Captain the aforesaid Thomas Williams. Living with Anne was her unmarried sister Mary Salmon, a charwoman. From their ages and birthplace they appear to be daughters of a David Salmon a weaver of Trefelyn, Nevern. This suggests that Ann Williams, who was previously Anne Thomas, was before that called Ann Salmon.

But how did a weaver's daughter become the owner of the properties described above? Who was the John Morgans deceased who built the houses? We need to find John's will and the marriage certificate of Thomas and Ann Williams.

Anne's husband Thomas Williams was a well traveled master mariner. Born in 1816 he had held a Board of Trade certificate of service as master mariner before he passed the examinations which allowed him to hold a certificate of competency as a master mariner in 1856. His service record before 1856 has not yet been examined. In 1856 he sailed as a mate to Valparaiso in the *Sea Snake* of Liverpool, thereby becoming a Cape Horner. He then sailed between 1859 and 1863 as a mate and master on the *Meliora* to Buenos Ayres, Hong Kong and Venice. Between 1867 and 1869 he was master of the *Croydon* sailing to South Africa. From 1871-74 he sailed mainly in the Mediterranean but later sailed to the Americas as a mate. His last recorded voyage in the Board of Trade records was in 1877.

But whether this was his last stint as a master is unclear. The 1881 census for Milford shows the master of the *Price Jones*, a well known Newport vessel, as Thomas Williams, married, aged 64, and born at Newport. This may be him.

At that 1881 census many houses in the area of Penfeidir Newydd were recorded as Penrallt and Ann Williams, described as a master mariner's wife lived alone in one of them.

Penfidir Newydd is actually named at the 1891 census and both Thomas and Ann were resident, Thomas being described as a retired mariner. The dwelling comprised of two rooms. Thomas died in 1897 and his widow lived alone at Penfidir Newydd at the 1901 census.

To make further progress on the house history begun here an examination of the house deeds will be essential. These will give the ownership of the property and often the names of past tenants.

Completed by Dr Reginald Davies, 27 Princes Avenue, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey, SM5 4NZ in October 2007. E-mail: regandpaddy@btinternet.com

Website of Welsh mariners at www.welshmariners.org.uk

m/11932?/Sea Snake of Liverpool/1856-9, Valparaiso, Rio, (log).
m&C/19142/Meliora/1859-63, B.Ayres, (log60), H.Kong (Log61), M.Video,
Venice. m/229469/Ravensbourne/1864-5. C/14160/Stately/1865-7, Med,
St.Helena, Trinidad. C/44016/Croydon/1867-9, Cape, Honeklip.
m/44165/Albert/1869-70, Pernambuco, SA. (1871-4, Med service).
m/56026/Fanny/1875-6, SA. m/65536/Margam/1874, B.Ayres.
m/57100/Laura/1875, NA. m/71403/Collingwood/1877, A. = of Swansea of 293
tons Bg built PE Island 1874.
Stately of Sunderland, 373 tons, barque

Settlement of messuage 9 July 1870. Settlement Post marriage in High St (or Long St) in tN and houses and lands called Penfeidir newydd in pN.

1. Thomas Williams of Lower High St, MM
2. The said Thomas Williams and Anne his wife
3. Rev James Jenkins of Spring Hill, MofG. Signed parties 1 & 2 (AW by mark).

Indenture 16 Aug 1866 between Sir Th. Davies Lloyd (1) and said Anne Williams (by her there name of Anne Thomas) of (2). The heredit were demised during the lives of said Anne Thomas, & Mary Salmon & John Llewellyn & their survivors.

Indenture ? March 1869 between Mary Bowen, the rev John Morgans Henry John Walter and William Lloyd (the presonal reps of John Morgan decd) of (1) and said Anne Williams (then Anne Thomas). All that M or DH & G with a piece of ground attached situated in High St., otherwise Long St.,. Also Penfeidirnewydd. Also Garddygarn in pN & the DH and buildings erected thereon by the said John Morgans decd. Mary Salmon may reside with said Thomas Williams as long as she wishes.

Indenture of lease 16 Aug 1866 has late mention of Mary Williams and Ann Williams the daurs of said Thomas Williams may wish to reside in the DH.
A long complex document partially examined in 2007.

The owner of Pengwaunydd according to the tithe awards of 1845 was Thomas Lloyd, probably the Lord Marcher of the Barony of Cemaes.