



Grŵp Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig
Discovering Old Welsh Houses Group



Caerfallen,
Ruthin
LL15 1SN



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Edited by Gill. Jones & Ann Morgan
2016

HOUSE HISTORY RESEARCH
Written in the language chosen by the volunteers
and researchers & including information
so far discovered

PLEASE NOTE ALL THE HOUSES IN THIS PROJECT ARE PRIVATE AND
THERE IS NO ADMISSION TO ANY OF THE PROPERTIES

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Contents

	page no.
1. The Name	2
2. Dendrochronology	2
3. The Site and Building Description	3
4. Background History	6
5. 16 th Century	10
5a. The Building of Caerfallen	11
6. 17 th Century	13
7. 18 th Century	17
8. 19 th Century	18
9. 20 th Century	23
10. 21 st Century	25
Appendices	
1. The Royal House of Cunedda	26
2. The De Grey family pedigree	27
3. The Turbridge family pedigree	29
4. Will of John Turbridge 1557	30
5. The Myddleton family pedigree	32
6. The Family of Robert Davies	33
7. Will of Evan Davies 1741	34
8. The West family pedigree	35
9. Will of John Garner 1854	39

1. The Name

Caer'rfallen was also a township which appears to have had an Isaf and Uchaf area which ran towards Llanrydd from Caerfallen.

Potential meaning of Caerfallen

Caerfallen has a number of references to connections with local mills. The 1324 Cayvelyn could be a corruption of Caevelyn Field of the mill or Mill field.

Or

Caer'rafallen could derive from Cae yr Afallen Field of the apple tree.

A recent interpretation by D Gareth Evans in the book *The History of Ruthin* written in 2014 explores the name in relation to the medieval Ruthin park. It states " caer'fallen is just outside the park and its name may derive from *caeraf* = to fortify or encompass with walls and *allan* = outer "

Spelling variations

Cayvelyn – A survey of Ruthin Lordship of 1324 refers to "Cayvelyn". This is thought to be an English interpretation of "Caerfallen" ref. article "Caerfallen", near Ruthin

Caervllaen

Kaer Vallen

Caeifallen

.....

2. Dendrochronology

THE TREE-RING DATING OF CAE'R-AFALLEN, CAERFALLEN RUTHIN, DENBIGHSHIRE (NGR SJ 128 596) RG4 7TX September 2014

Timbers from the roof beams of both wings were dated using dendro dating to 1559/60

Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory
Report 2014/27

Summary

Samples were taken from the roofs of the main range and cross-wing. They were found to be contemporaneous, even though there is a clear building break evident in the structure between the two parts. Felling dates ranged from winter 1558/59, through summer 1559 to winter 1559/60, strongly suggesting construction of the entire building in **1560**, or within a year or two after this date.

Authors: Dr M. C. Bridge FSA and Dr. D. Miles FSA
Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory
Mill Farm

Mapledurham
Oxfordshire

3. The Site and Building Description

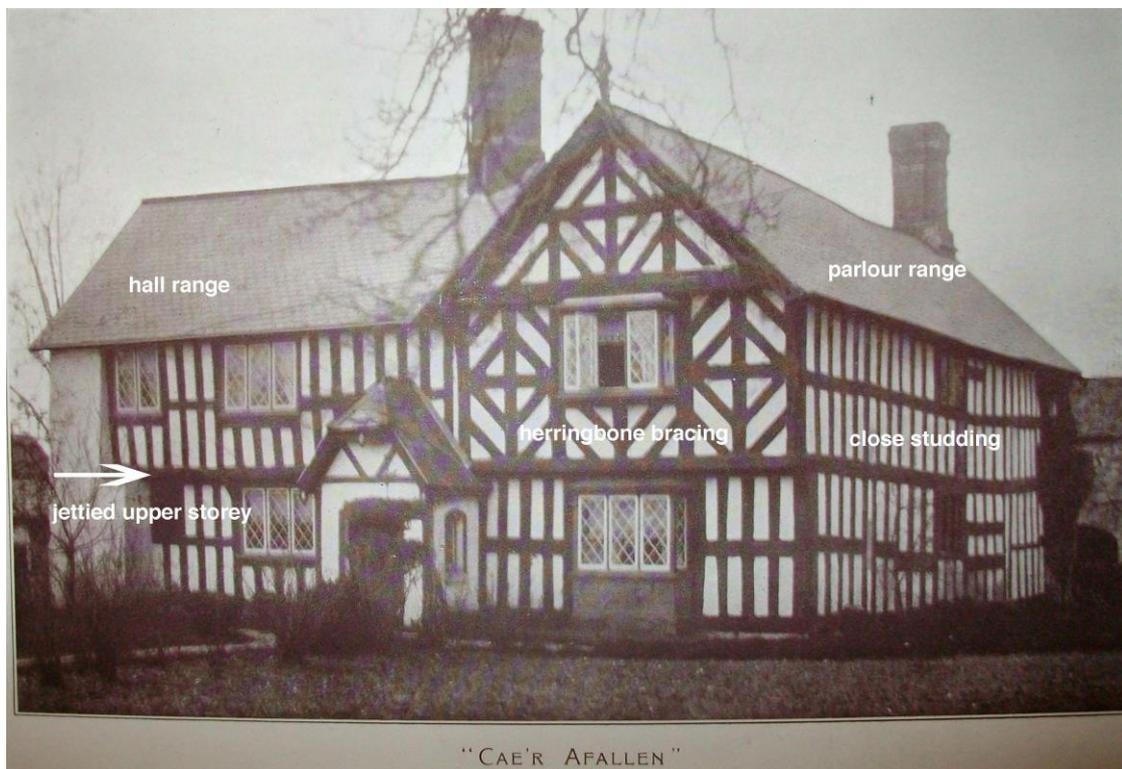
Architectural description and features

Exterior

Caerfallen is an outstanding timber frame house dating from the 16th century. It was part of the estate home which included Plas Towerbridge of The Queens Surveyor of North Wales a Mr Robert Turbridge in 1560 and is believed to have been in his family from when they came to Wales with the De Greys in the 14th century until they sold it to Sir Thomas Myddleton in 1661. It has been a working farm ever since.

The house is listed Grade 2* reflecting its “exceptionally fine” description. The farm buildings consist of 2 major barns one built in 1664 and the other earlier. The house and barns maintain many interesting architectural features.

Cae’rafallen is described in **The Buildings of Wales by Edward Hubbard** as “Timber-framed, partly brick-nogged, with jettied upper storey. Ribbed brick chimneys. Built in two stages, perhaps as unit planning. The earlier, which is of three units, has herringbone bracing on the gable end, and a lateral chimney. Later range at right angles, with central chimney and lobby entry. Farm building round two sides of a court”



1913

Cae’rafallen is listed twice in “Houses of the Welsh Countryside” by Peter Smith. It is listed as a

Denbighshire example of a Half-Timbered house and as a “Regional House type A (lateral chimney and inside cross-passage group of plans) “

Cae’r Afallen is mentioned as an attractive timber framed farm in the Ruthin entry in “The Encyclopaedia of Wales” by John Davies, Nigel Jenkins, Menna Baines and Peredur Lynch 2008 “

In a recent visit (April 2013) by Richard Suggett, of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, Caerfallen was described by Richard as a Parlour cross wing manor house of some significance. He estimated it to be built in approx. 1560/1570s.

Interior – www.coflein.gov.uk

The parlour wing has three intercommunicating rooms: kitchen, central service-room (with cellar under), and parlour. Some good C16th detail has survived. The rooms are unified by the same broad chamfered beams with curved stops.



Chamfered beam and curved stop end

The kitchen has a large dressed-stone fireplace.



The parlour has a ceiling of four panels with intersecting beams and is heated by a laterally-placed fireplace. This is in fact a back to back fireplace that heats both parlour and hall. The main entry is in the lobby-entrance position against the side of this fireplace.

The visitor to Caerfallen entered through the principal doorway and would either be shown into the parlour (right) or (left) into the hall. The principal range had a large hall and inner room (the position of the lost partition between the rooms is indicated by mortices). The beams here are narrower than the beams of the parlour range.

Rooms on the first floor follow the arrangement of the rooms of the ground floor. The principal chamber appears to have been the room over the parlour, which is distinguished by beams with pyramidal stops.

The attics over the parlour range form a series of intercommunicating chambers. The attics over the hall range are now difficult to access. However, the end trusses of both ranges appear similar.

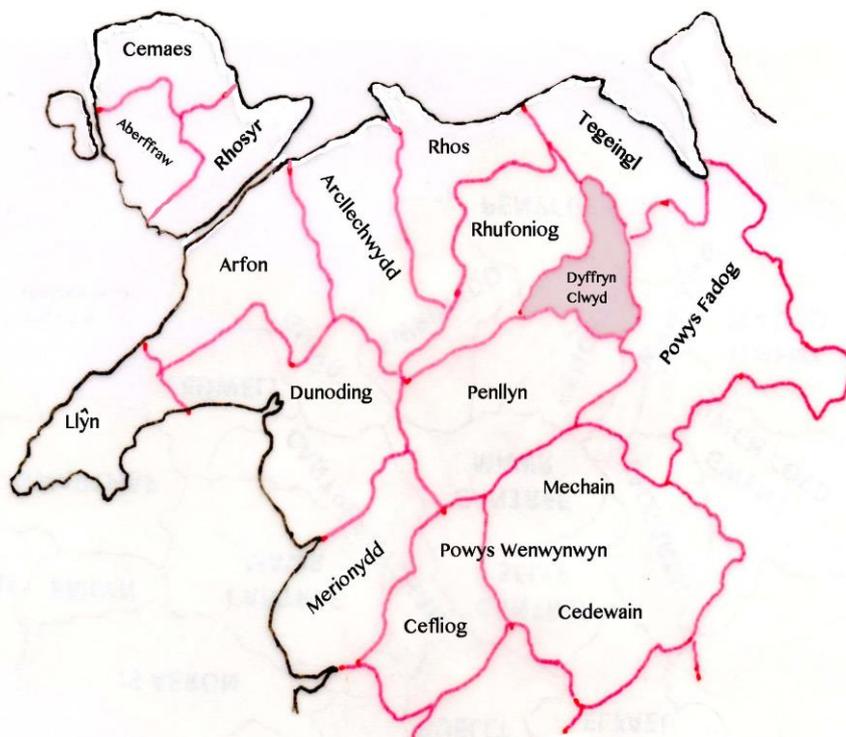
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4. Background History

Medieval Land Division in Wales

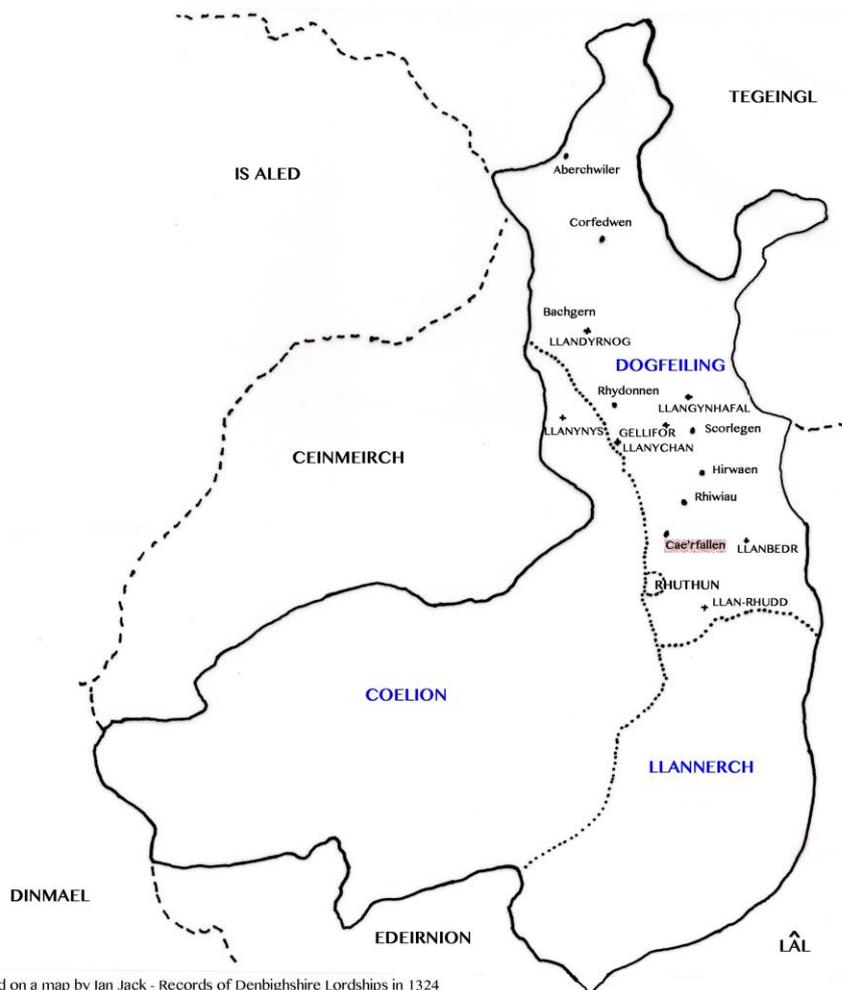
For administrative purposes, the land in Wales was divided up into Cantrefi. Ruthin was in the cantref of Dyffryn Clwyd. This in turn was subdivided into three commotes – Dogfeiling, Coelion and Llanerch. **Caerfallen** was built in the commote of **Dogfeiling**. It was named after Dogfael one of the sons of the first King of Gwynedd, Cunedda, and was first named around 445A.D.

Medieval Cantrefi of North Wales



based on Lloyd's History of Wales, Vol.1 and Koch's Celtic Culture

The Commote of Dogfeiling



based on a map by Ian Jack - Records of Denbighshire Lordships in 1324
 Denbighshire Historical Society - Vol. 17 1968 p.10

The cantrefs of 'Ros (*Rhos*), Rowennyok (*Rhufoniog*), **Deffrenclut** (*Dyffryn Clwyd*) and Anglefeld' were owned in the 13th century by **Owain Goch** and his brother, **Llewelyn ab Gruffydd**, after jointly succeeding their uncle **Dafydd ap Llewelyn** in the principality in the year 1246.¹ In the following year, by the terms of an agreement dated 30th April, they granted these lands to **Henry III** in order to establish 'perpetual peace' between themselves and the King. A few days later, **John de Grey**², Justiciary of Chester, was commanded to put Eynon, son of Oweyn Thuder, son of Edeneut, and Wrennok, son of Kenewerk in possession of these lands.³

In **July 1263**, Prince Edward (*later Edward I*), granted to **Dafydd ab Gruffydd** 'all the lands of **Refrencleyt** (*Dyffryn Clwyd*) and Rowennok, to hold until he shall have his inheritance.' This grant was confirmed by him after Edward became King in the year 1277. This was his reward for joining Henry III in an attack on his brother **Llewelyn ap Gruffydd**. **Dafydd** was later reconciled with his brother and at Easter 1282 took up arms with him against the King and as a result their lands were confiscated. **Llewelyn** was eventually killed on the 10th December 1282 in a battle at Builth Wells, and **Dafydd** was executed for treason on the 3rd October 1283 in Shrewsbury.

On **Friday 23rd October 1282**, Edward I granted the castle of Ruthin and the cantref of Dyffryn Clwyd to **Reginald de Grey** (c.1235-1308), Justiciary of Chester (*son of John de Grey*). He was one of the three commanders appointed by Edward I in his campaign against **Llywelyn ap Gruffydd**, the Prince of Wales and his brother, **Dafydd ap Gruffydd**.

In return for the Lordship, Reginald was to 'render the services of three knight's fees'

On the Friday before, the 16th October, the King made a similar grant of Denbigh and the cantrefs of Rhos and Roewynnok (*Rhufoniog*) and the commote of Dinmael to Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln. The service in this case was six knight's fees.

In **1294** there was another insurrection by the Welsh in North Wales, this time led by **Madoc ap Llewelyn**, a distant relative of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd. Mention is made of the insurgent leader in Court Rolls from Dyffryn Clwyd. These courts were held on different days of the week.

The Court of the English and Great Turn of Dyffryn Clwyd were both held on Monday; the Great Court of Ruthin on Tuesday; the Court of **Dogveylin** on Wednesday; the Court of Colyan on Thursday; the Court of Llannerch on Friday; and the Court of Aberquilar on Saturday. The boundaries of the areas of jurisdiction of each court were not exact and so some place names appear in more than one court roll. Places are described and named in a topographical way.

In the Court Rolls⁴ of **Dogveylin** the following places are named:- groves (*grava*) – Gethlivor (*Gellifor*), Redonnen (*Rhydonnen*), Lanaghan (*Llanychan*); a mill is also mentioned 'Melenium de Redonnen; woods (*boscus*) – Hirwin (*Hirwaen*), Baskerne (*Bachgern*), Coruedwen (*Corfedwen*), Ruwe (*Rhewel/Rhiwiau*) and a forest (*foresta*) – Nantwragh. Villages (*Villata*) – Hyrwin (*Hirwaen*), Scorlegan; a meadow – Ridwalderun; lands – Langanhauel (*Llangynhafal*), the land of the bishop of Keymerch (*Kinmerch*), Landernok (*Llandrynog*), Bagkerue, Rewe and Corued.

1 . Appendix 1 - Pedigree of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd and Dafydd ap Gruffydd

2 . Appendix 2 - The De Grey Family pedigree

3 . Cymmrodorian Record Series No.2 1893 - Ruthin Court Rolls in the time of Edward I – translated by Richard Arthur Roberts; Introduction p.vii

4 . *ibid.* p.xi

Edward I died in **1307** and was succeeded by his son Edward II.

Reginald de Grey was succeeded in the lordship by his son **John de Grey** (c.1258-1323). He died on 28th October **1323**. His eldest son, Henry, was not in England at the time and so his younger son, **Roger de Grey** (1290-1352), claimed the Lordship of Ruthin and his father's English estates. The king released these undisputed possessions to him on 11th March 1324. Within three weeks, he had compiled a register of his Welsh tenants. Dogfeiling was surveyed on 28th March 1324⁵. The survey refers to a “cayvelyn”. This is believed to be an English scribe's attempt at “cae'rfallen”⁶.

Cae'rfallen is shown on the map of Dyffryn-Clwyd (p.6) which describes the Denbighshire lordships in 1324.

Edward II was murdered in **1327** and Edward III became king.

Roger de Grey's son, **Reginald de Grey** (1319-1388) succeeded him to the Lordship of Ruthin in **1352**, and then his son, **Reginald de Grey** (1362-1440) in **1388**.

1377 – Edward III died and Richard II became king.

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Owain Glyndŵr (c.1355-c.1415) and the Lordship of Ruthin

Owain's father, Gruffydd Fychan II was the hereditary prince of Powys Fadog and Lord of Glyndyfrdwy. Members of the family had fought for Llewelyn ap Gruffydd and his brother Dafydd ap Gruffydd and had had their lands confiscated after the defeat of the Welsh in 1283. They eventually regained their lands in north east Wales through a calculated association with some powerful Marcher Lords. Glyndŵr held the the Lordship of Glyndyfrdwy and Cynlaith and had a moated mansion at Sycharth. He became a complete Marcher gentleman and married the daughter of Sir David Hanmer, an Anglo-Welsh judge. In 1384 he enlisted for military service under Sir Gregory Sais in the Marches area. In 1385 he enlisted under the Earl Of Arundel, fighting for King Richard II.

The year **1399** saw the dethronement of Richard II and the seizure of the throne by **Henry IV**, the Lord of Brecon, Monmouth, Cydweli and Ogwr.

In **1399-1400**, **Glyndŵr** ran up against his powerful neighbour, **Reginald de Grey**, Lord of Ruthin, who was an intimate friend of the new King Henry IV. They quarrelled over land which Glyndŵr claimed Reginald had stolen. He could get no justice from the king or parliament and so raised his standard on 16th September 1400 and attacked Ruthin with several hundred men and went on to savage every town in north east Wales. His followers proclaimed him Prince of Wales.

Henry IV confiscated the estates of Glyndŵr's supporters, and granted them to John Beaufort, his half-brother. The rebellion spread and by **1402** **Glyndŵr** had captured his arch enemy, **Reginald de Grey**, 3rd Baron Grey de Ruthyn in an ambush. He held him for a year until he received a substantial ransom from King Henry.

1440 – Reginald de Grey (1362-1440) died. His eldest son, John, had predeceased him and so his grandson, **Sir Edmund de Grey**, became Lord of Ruthin.

5 . Denbighshire Historical Society – Vol.17 pp.7-11 The Records of Denbighshire Lordships by R. Ian Jack

6 . Taken from an article on Caerfallen, Ruthin published in “rthuthun Local History Broad sheet 1985-2003 no.38 held in Ruthin library

1490 – Sir Edmund de Grey died and as his eldest son had also predeceased him, the Lordship was passed to his younger son, **Sir George de Grey**.

1495 - In the Caerfallen sales particulars of 1955 when the farm was sold to Mr W.L. Henderson it is stated that “ records show that in 1495 it was occupied by the Governor of Wales” Unfortunately up to the date of writing (2016) such records have not been found. At the time the title Governor of Wales had been bestowed by Henry Tudor (King Henry VII) on Rhys ap Thomas on the battlefield of Bosworth in recognition of his support. Sir Rhys ap Thomas was a Welsh military leader who had inherited the Dinefwr Estates including Carew Castle in South Wales. Again to date there is no connection to Caerfallen. A potential lead to be pursued is a document⁷ described as a power of attorney “to give Robert Wynn ap Thomas of **Kayr Vallen** , gent to deliver seisin”. Seisin being the word used to denote legal possession of a feudal fiefdom. Unfortunately the document is in latin.

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5. 16th Century

1503 – Sir George de Grey died and his son, **Richard de Grey**, became Lord of Ruthin.

1507 – The Lordship of Ruthin became bankrupt, because the De Grey family had never fully recovered from the severe loss inflicted by the heavy ransome paid to Owain Glyndŵr, and so the Lordship was purchased by the Crown.

1508 – Henry VII signed a charter which swept away legal discrimination against Welshmen in the Lordship of Ruthin. It also contained a statement that 'he may grind his corn at our mill in Ruthin for one twentieth part and whoever is able to grind his corn in his own house may do so without paying any fine into our hamper'.

The family whose name first appears in relation to Caerfallen is that of the **Turbridges**. Information about the family is somewhat scanty and the use of the same Christian names by successive generations tends to make the identification of individuals speculative.⁸

The **Turbridge** family may have come to Wales in the mid 15th century as manorial officials, when the Welsh border country was recovering from turmoil and pestilence, and trade was developing, and when **Robert Turbridge** was Baron of the North Wales Exchequer⁹. The family variously spelled their name Towerbridge, Turbridge, Tourbridge

7 . Document within the Bachymbyd collection in the National Library of Wales no.65

8 . Appendix 3 – The Turbridge family pedigree

9 . Taken from www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/turbridge-john



It is likely that their earliest family home was Plas Towerbridge which is very close to Caerfallen. The family of Towerbridge is said to have derived its name and armorial bearings of a tower and a bridge from having had custody of these appendages to a fortress¹⁰. In this same reference it suggests the family was introduced by Earl Lacy at Denbigh. However, it goes on to say that as their family seat of Plas Towerbridge was called Plas Sion Grey in the pedigree of Parry of Llanbedr it is likely that the family was connected with the De Greys of Ruthin castle rather than Denbigh¹¹.

Caerfallen may have been originally detached from the Plas Towerbridge estate as a dwelling for a dowager or a younger son.

1557 – A **John Turbridge**, father of Robert (*mentioned above*), died and left a will which itemised a long list of debts owing to him and a much smaller list which he owed to others¹². He was married to Marged verch David Lloyd ap Meredydd of Eglwysbach, but when he died, he mentions five daughters by his wife, Margaret verch John Salusbury. He also appears to name two sons called Robert, as well as an Edward and a David Lloyd Turbridge.

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5a. The Building of Caerfallen

1559/60 - This is potentially the year that Caerfallen in its timber frame form of today was built into its current form. In 2014 Dendrochronology dated the timbers of the roof in both wings to 1559/60. This means the oak trees used to make the major timbers in the roof were cut down in 1559/60. As green oak was used for building in those days it is likely that this was the year that the roof was installed.

This suggests that **Robert Turbridge** (Queen's surveyor) was probably responsible for having it built. He established the family fortune by his appointment in **1562** to the surveyorship of crown lands in recognition of his “constant diligence about the Queen's affairs (*i.e. Elizabeth I*) in said counties” presumably in his capacity as Baron of the North Wales Exchequer.

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Robert Turbridge is said to have been married to **Ann** (or Jane) daughter of Humphrey Dymock of

10 . p.27 of Nineteenth century Ruthin. A reprint combining the books “Ruthin and Vicinity & An Account of the Castle and town of Ruthin” Cromwell Press 1992

11 . Richard Newcome - An Account of the Castle and Town of Ruthin

12 . Appendix 4 – transcript of the Will of John Turbridge

Lleweni Green. They are reputed to have had 9 children.

1563 – The Lordship of Ruthin was granted to Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick.

1571 – **Robert Turbridge** purchased more land near Ruthin from John ap Harry ap Robert of Rhissa, yeoman. Lands in Rhiwissa near Moore Mill¹³.

John Turbridge, eldest son and heir of Robert, was educated at Shrewsbury in **1577**, Furnivals Inn, and Lincolns Inn in **1582**. He married Margaret, daughter and heir of John Lloyd of Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd. They had two daughters but no son so succession was maintained through his younger brother **Robert** who is said to have married into the Conways of Bodrhyddan. In another document¹⁴ his wife is described as “Sir William Gerard's half sister by the mother¹⁵ and in yet another, as the “soror of William Gerard, Milit.”¹⁶. This **Robert Turbridge** had at least three children, Dorothy, Robert, and **John** who is described as “of Caerfallen in 1653”¹⁷. (see p.13) It also suggests that he was an MP but there appears to be no evidence of this and is likely a mix up with his uncle John who was an MP in 1588.

1585 – As the owner of the land, the Turbridges were responsible for the maintenance of any route crossing their property. It was recorded that road repairs were needed to Pont Turbridge¹⁸.

1588 - **John Turbridge** of Caervllaen was elected an MP. There is also a record of a John Turbridge of Dogfeilin, Llanrudd.

1589 – A **Robert Turbridge** is mentioned as 'Queen's Officer' in the Lordship of Bromfield and Yale – *an area of today's Wrexham* – and being partly responsible for the survey that year.

N.B. A Queen's Officer was a person holding a position of authority and trust, not paid by the crown but responsible for assessing areas of land and its worth and for collecting rents from the owners or tenants.

1592 – Parish registers were first required to be kept from 1538 but the first reference to a Turbridge is a record of the burial of a **Katrin Turbridge**, not in Llanbedr church but in Ruthin Parish Registers. (RPR) She was buried on the 29th September.

It is not known where Katrin fitted into the Turbridge family.

1593 – Robert Turbridge (*perhaps the above Robert's son*) gained a B.A. From St. Edmunds Hall, Oxford and was a student of Lincoln's Inn the following year.

A number of other Turbridges are recorded in the Ruthin registers but the identity of some of the people mentioned has not yet been established.

1593 – Gabriel Roberts married **Dorothy Turbridge** on the 4th June. (RPR)

13 . Ruthin Archives – DD/WY/259

14 . NLW - Maesannod and Rhydnonnen Collection – a pedigree of the families of Turbridge, Plas Turbridge, Caerfallon and Maesanod, Vales of Clwyd.

15 . The History of the Gwydir Family p.79

16 . Gentlemans Magazine 1823 Vol.93 Part 2 p.513 – George Owen's Survey of Denbighshire 1602

17 . NLW - Chirk Castle Accounts 1666-1753 on-line & Chirk Castle (group F) No.896

18 . Ruthin Archives – DD/WY/6221

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6. 17th Century

1601 – July 19th **Elenor Turbridge** d/o Robert was baptised. (RPR)

1603 – November 25th - A letter to **Robert Turbridge** at Caervallen is recorded in the Wynns of Gwydir records¹⁹. Mary Wynn to Robert Turbridge at Caervallen begging him to visit her Uncle Wynn and to bring about a reconciliation between him and her husband, so that the latter may be set at liberty. Underneath: A note by William Gerard begging Turbridge with his sister's request.

William Gerard was born in Ireland about 1524; created Bart. 1611; died 1626 aged 73 years and was buried at Llanrwst. The names of his wife and parents are unknown but he had a daughter named Sydney who married Sir John Wynn of Gwydir. Was Mary Wynn the half sister mentioned in relation to the marriage of Robert Turbridge. If so, then she may have been the mother of John, Dorothy and Robert rather than Mary Conway.

1606 – August 4th **John Turbridge** s/o Robert was baptised. (RPR)

1606/7 - **Robert Turbridge** is described as Justice of Peace for Denbighshire and of Caervallen.

1610 – **Griffith Turbridge** was buried. (RPR)

¹⁹ . A letter to Robert Turbridge of Caevallen in the Wynn of Gwydir records held at the National Library of Wales

1612 – December 27th **Robert Turbridge** s/o Robert was baptised. (RPR)

1614 – May 19th **Robert Turbridge** was buried. (RPR) (*This could have been Robert the surveyor*)

1615 – **Gabriel Turbridge** s/o Robert was baptised. (RPR)

1615 – August 20th **Dorothy** Turbridge was buried.

September 7th **Gabriel** Turbridge was buried.

September 20th **Agnes** Turbridge was buried. (RPR)

1624 – May 18th **Dorothy Turbridge** d/o John was baptised and buried. (RPR)

1625 – February 20th **John Turbridge** s/o John was baptised. (RPR)

1632 - **Robert Turbridge the younger**, is recorded as “of Caervellen” in a feoffment (*which is a mode of conveying a freehold estate by a formal transfer of possession.*) It appears that he and his son John bought a burgage in Ruthin.

(i) Robert Turbridge of Caervellen, co. Denbigh, Esq. and John Turbridge of Llanbedr, gent. his son and heir apparent.

(ii) Agnes verch Edward of Ruthin, widow.

Consideration £12020

1638 - **Mary Turbridge** of Caer y fallen buried on November 24th. It records her father as Robert. (RPR)

1639 – October 19th Baptism of Charles Turbridge (Watsun) illegitimate son of Samuel Watsun and Margaret Turbridge. (RPR)

1641 - A bond records **John Turbridge** of Caervallen²¹.

John s/o Robert married Mary d & hrs of Hugh Heaton of Llanwern. His sister, Dorothy, married Thomas Ashpool of Llandyrnog.

Mary Conway w/o Robert Turbridge died in 1649. It seems likely that Robert had first married the half sister of Sir William Gerard, (see p.13) and that after she had died, Robert married Mary Conway.

1649 - 16th February Mary Conway w/o Robert Turbridge of Llan yr fallen was buried at Ruthin church. (RPR)

1649 – **Robert Turbridge** of St.Martin-in-the-Fields purchased Oatlands Palace in Weybridge for £4,023 18s 0d after the execution of Charles I. He demolished it to ground level and sold the recovered building materials (*Tudor red bricks*) to Sir Richard Weston of Sutton Place near Guildford to build locks.

Oatlands was a former Stuart and Tudor royal palace. Henry VIII acquired it in 1538 and rebuilt it for Anne of Cleves. It also became the residence of Mary I, Elizabeth I, James I. Charles I used it for his queen's residence and later was imprisoned there until his execution. Robert Turbridge was

20 . Ruthin Archives – DD/WY/1547

21 . Records from Ruthin held in the Library of Wales Archives no.569

the brother of John Turbridge and son of Robert & Mary. He is named in a document dated 1652/3 with his father and brother and nephew.

1652/3 – March 20

1. **Robert Turbridge** of Caer vallen, esq., **John Turbridge** of Llanbedr, gent., and **Mary** his wife, and **Robert Turbridge** gent., son and heir apparent of the said John, all of co. Denbigh.
2. Edward Davies of Wrexham Abbott and Hugh Jones of Stanstie, both in the co. Denbigh, gentlemen.
3. Peter Evans, Receiver General of South Wales, and **Robert Turbridge** of the parish of St.Martin-in-the-Fields, co. Middlesex, gent., **brother of the aforesaid John Turbridge.**

COVENANT for the levying of a fine and the suffering of a recovery upon the capital messuage called **Kaer-vallen**, several parcels of land called kay sarne ddu, kay shanell, y deg Aker, gwerne y deg aker, gwerglodd y modrib Shonet, y kaie melynion, y werglodd hir, gwerne yr ychen, y ddwy wern, y mawn, kae yr skibor, y Eithin, penn yr Eithin, kae y Groes, kaer pendist, yr Eithin wrth y velin and gwern kay'r pendist, a water corn mill called Melin y Pryor, and a messuage with a parcel of land called Gwerne y melinith, all in Rhoslleveirion, co. Denbigh.²²

1653 – May 26th **Robert Turbridge** gentleman was buried. (RPR)

1661 - April 1st 1661 **Caerfallen** was sold to the **Myddletons** of Chirk Castle²³. Sir Thomas Myddelton (1586 – 1666) paid Robert Turbridge of Llanbeder £1,300 for a “messuage called Kaer Vallen and parcels of land adjoining”.²⁴

Robert Turbridge may have had to sell Caerfallen because of debts. In 1653 he had to take out a mortgage for the property. If he defaulted on the payments he would have been required to relinquish it.

1653 – July 8th

1. John Turbridge of Lambeder, co. Denbigh, gent., and Robert Turbridge, the younger, his son.
2. Peter Evans of the parish of Asteed, co. Surrey, esq., and Robert Turbridge, the elder, of the parish of St.Martyn in the ffields, co. Middlesex., gent.
3. The Rt. Hon. Phillip, Lord Viscount Lisle, and Robert Raworth of Grayes Inne, esq.

MORTGAGE by way of a lease for 100years of a messuage called kaer Vallen, parcels of land called Kay sarne dda, Kay shanell, y deg Aker, Gwerne y deg aker, gwerglodd y modribb shonett, y Kaie Melynion, y Werglodd her, gwerne yr ychen, y ddwy wern, y mawen, Kae yr skibor, y Eithin, penn yr Eithin, kae yr Groes, Kaer Pendist, yr Eithin eith y velin, and ~gwerne Kaer Pendist, a mill called Melin y Pryor, and a cottage and parcel called Gwerne y Melinith, all in Rhosellevirion, co. Denbigh.

Robert Turbridge (1624-1679) subsequently made his home at Henblas, Llanbedr.

From this time until 1913 Caerfallen is owned by the Chirk Castle Estate²⁵ and is rented out to a succession of tenants. The first appears to be a **Mr Richard Green** who held Caerfallen on lease. In **1657** - he was made an Alderman of Ruthin.

1660 - 21st November his daughter, Dorothy, was baptised. His abode was recorded as Caerfallen and he was described as a 'gentleman and Alderman of Ruthin'.

1662 and 1676 he was Under-Sheriff for Denbighshire. He was the son of Henry Green and his

22 . Chirk Castle Accounts ibid. no.896

23 . Chirk Castle Accounts ibid. no.6449

24 . Appendix 5 - The Myddleton Family pedigree

25 . Appendix 5 - The Myddletons of Chirk Castle

wife Dorothy, the daughter of John Wynne of Eyarth. He married Hester Thelwall of Maesmaencymro and they had 7 children. Their eldest son, **James**, was described as 'of Caerfallen' which he too occupied as a tenant.

1662 – July 17th **Robert Turbridge** s/o John was born and died. (RPR)

1664 - January 28th - The building to the North of the yard was built. In the Chirk castle accounts, on January 28th 1664, it is recorded that **Mr Richard Green** of Ruthin was paid his bill for making five bays of new buildings at Caerfallen by allowing the sum of £38 19s in his rent. This is believed to be the 5 bays from the west end. It is not known when the attached section of the building with the cart house doors was built. Alternatively it could be the bottom building as that also has 5 bays.

1669 - 26th June - It is shown in the Chirk Castle accounts that on June 26th Mr Robert Turbridge of Llanrydd was paid £140 for his mill at Caerfallen and Kilne and “land thervnto belonging”.

1675 – September 21st **Elizabeth Turbridge**, spinster, was buried. (RPR)

1679 – July 15th **Robert Turbridge** gentleman was buried. RPR There is reputed to be a monument to him in Ruthin church with the following inscription.²⁶

“Here lieth the body of Robert Tourbridge, of Caervallen, Esq. son & heire of John, son & heire of Robert, son & heire of Robert Tourbridge, Esq. Baron of Exchequere and Surveyor of North Wales, who married Ann dau^r. of Samuel Mostyn of Calcote, Esq. by whom he had issue Ann, his only dau^r. and heire. He died y^e 20 of July, A.D. 1679, in y^e 55th year of his age.”

1681 - **Richard Green** is referenced at Caervallen with his occupation as Gent.²⁷

Richard Green was buried at Ruthin 11th February 1706/7 aged 79, his wife having predeceased him in December 1680. It is possible that he left Caerfallen soon after his wife's demise because by 1688 Richard Lloyd was the tenant.

1685 – **Robert Turbridge's** only daughter, Anne, married John Myddleton of Gwaenynog in 1685.

1688 - Chirk Castle Accounts - **Richard Lloyd** of Caerfallen - it is said that the rent was £54 per annum.²⁸ There is also a record of £100 being spent on the “mansion House and mill”. Lloyd was not successful at farming and the farm was split into small holdings although he retained the mill and two fields at a rent of £3.10s

1694 – September 7th **Edward Turbridge** gent. was buried. (RPR)

At this point the Turbridge name seems to have died out.

1694 - Richard Lloyd gave up the tenancy of Caerfallen and was succeeded by **Robert Davies**, a drover²⁹. Davies stood at the county election in 1680 representing the Myddelton interest. He was sworn in as Alderman of Ruthin on 15th October 1698. He was married to Mary and had at least a

26 . The Medieval History of Denbighshire 1860 p.75

27 . Denbighshire County Council ref. DD/CP/534

28 . Local History Broadsheet Caerfallen, near Ruthin - Ibid.

29 . Appendix 6. - The Family of Robert Davies

son and two daughters. He fell into arrears of rent, a debt of £32. 4s which was cleared by his daughter Anne.

1696 - In the Chirk Castle Accounts, there is a record in March of 1696 of repairs at Caerfallen by William Powell.

1698 - Mary Davies, wife of Robert of Caervallen was buried on September 15th 1698.

.....

7. 18th Century

Evan Davies is recorded as 'of Caerfallen' when his daughter. Shonet/Jonet was baptised in 1708. Evan Davies & his wife, Anne Davies, had married in Ruthin on the 29th May 1705. Evan was recorded as 'of Henllan' and Mary as OTP. When their first daughter was born, they were living at Plas y Ward.

Evan may have been the son of Robert and Mary Davies.

1706 - 24th April **Mary** d/o Evan was baptised - of Place y Ward (RPR)

1708 - 20th May **Shonet (Jonet)** d/o Evan Davies of Caerfallen was baptised. (RPR)

1710 - 17th September **Robert** s/o Evan Davies was baptised. (RPR)

1713 - 13th November **David** s/o Evan Davies was baptised (RPR)

1716 - 2nd September **Evan** s/o Evan Davies was baptised. (RPR)

Jonet died in her 9th year and was buried on the 20/10/1717 in Ruthin.

1718 - 17th October **Elizabeth** d/o Evan & Anne was baptised. (RPR)

1722 - **Robert** died in his 12th year and was buried on the 1st January. Another son, **John**, was buried 6 days later on the 7th January 1722. (RPR)

1740 – Will of **Evan Davies** late of Cae'rfallen.30 Probate granted 1741. Evan mentioned his wife, Anne, and three of his children – David , Evan & Elizabeth and a grandson.

1741 – A **William Myddleton** “of Plas Towerbridge” became the High Sheriff of Denbighshire. One of his sons, John Myddleton, had a son, Robert, who became a clerk in Holy Orders and inherited the property.

1752 – **Richard Jones**, slater, was recorded at Caerfallen in the Lordship of Ruthin Records, and paid £1 4s rent.

1763 – **Edward Roberts**, farmer, was living at Caerfallen. He was originally of Grug, Cilcain and had been baptised on the 28th November 1725. He married Margaret Wynne (bap.17/11/1717) on 31/1/1743. They had the following children.

Rev. Robert Roberts of Grug Issa baptised – 7/5/1763. He had a son named Lewis.

Edward Roberts who died before 1827.

Margaret Roberts who married Samuel Parry

Goodman Roberts - baptised in Ruthin Church 7/5/1763. Their abode was recorded as – Carvallen.

Ellinor Roberts – baptised 23/3/1765 in Ruthin Church. She married twice 1. Robert Edwards and had a daughter – Amelia; 2. John Roberts

1772 – Edward Roberts had left the house by 1772. When his son, Peter, was baptised, their abode was recorded as 'late of Cae'rfallen'.

Peter Roberts – baptised 6/7/1772 (RPR)

John Ellis Roberts – baptised 30/1/1774 (RPR)

Edward Ellis appears to have been the next tenant.

1774 – Baptism: John s/o **Edward Ellis** and his wife Mary - farmer of Caerfallen. (RPR)

1796 - The last male heir of Chirk Castle, **Richard Myddleton** the younger, died. His father, Richard Myddleton, the elder (1726-1795), had inherited the Chirk Castle estate from his father, John (1685-1747). John had inherited it from his brother Robert who died unmarried in 1733. He in turn inherited it from Sir William Myddleton, a relative, who also died unmarried in 1718. However, the baronetcy became extinct on the death of Sir William.

Richard married twice. His first marriage was to Elizabeth Rushout in 1761. She bore him three children – **Richard** b.1764; Charlotte b.1770; and Maria b.1772. Elizabeth died in 1772 probably as a result of the birth of her youngest daughter. Richard then married Mary Lloyd of Rhywriel. She had a daughter named **Harriet**.

After Richard the younger's death, Charlotte was bequeathed Chirk Castle; Maria the Llanarman Dyffryn Ceiriog estate; and **Harriett Myddleton** the Ruthin Castle and Foxhall estates. Caerfallen was part of the Ruthin Castle estate.

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8. 19th Century

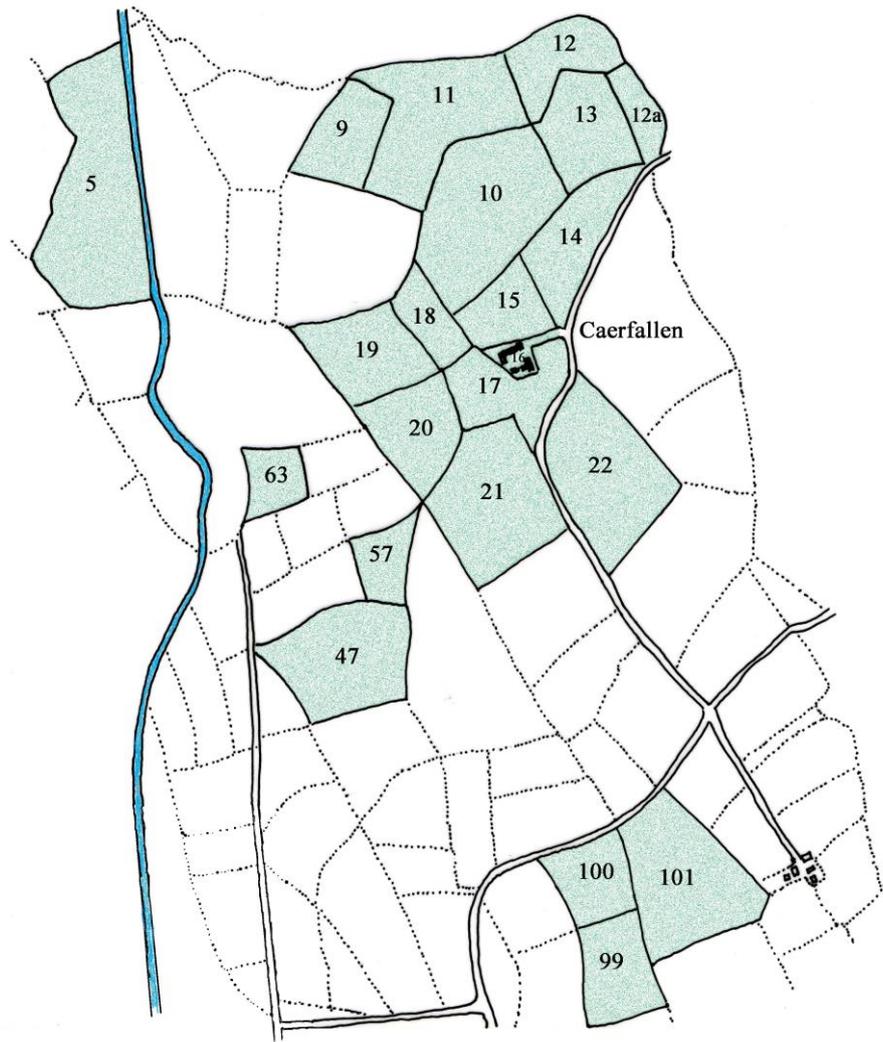
1803 – The Rev. Robert Myddleton sold the Plas Towerbridge estate on the 4th March, to the Rev. Hugh Jones of Hawarden - “The manor of Plas Towerbridge, a mansion and 31 acres, also 109 acres near Ruthin.” The price was 6,000 guineas.

1808 – Ownership passed on to Sarah Youde and Henry Jones of Plas Tower, farmer.

1827 - There is a reference to **Thomas Danily**, late of Caerfallen, in the Parish of Ruthin, in the Denbighshire, Farmer. <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/18376/page/1479/data.pdf>

1839

The Tithe map from Denbighshire tithe apportionment No. 16 shows Caerfallen in Llanrhydd Parish. The landowner is listed as **Miss Harriet Middleton** and the occupier as **John Garner**. The premises are described as “House yard”



**Tithe Schedule
1841**

Ruthin and Llanrydd (Ruthin Archives - reel 740)

owner: **Miss Harriett Myddleton**

tenant: **John Garner**

		A	R	P	£	s	d
22	arable	18	-	38	3	3	-
20	" & pasture	18	1	7	2	14	-
5	arable	10	1	24	2	6	-
9	"	4	-	13	0	12	8
10	"	13	2	11	3	10	-
11	" & pasture	4	1	35	0	18	-
		70	-	8	13	3	8

12		old pasture	4	-	10	-	7	7
13		“ & arable	5	1	20	1	6	-
12a		old pasture	2	1	12	-	4	6
14		pasture	6	2	16	2	1	-
15		arable	3	2	10	1	2	2
16		house & yard etc	1	3	15	-	1	4
17		old pasture	4	-	37	1	1	3
18		pasture	3	-	25	-	17	-
19		“	8	-	-	1	12	-
20		“	6	1	1	1	5	3
21		arable	11	3	12	3	13	3
57	Gwern Clobert Dolben	old pasture	3	-	24	-	6	-
63	Gwernydd Ivor	pasture	15	2	26	4	1	-
47	Field	old pasture	9	1	34	-	18	-
99	Fedw Ucha	pasture	4	-	-	1	4	-
100	“	arable	5	1	1	1	9	10
101	Bodwynys	pasture	11	3	9	3	9	2
			176	2	20	38	3	-

40 perches + 1 rood

4 roods + 1 acre

John Garner married Mary Jones.

1841

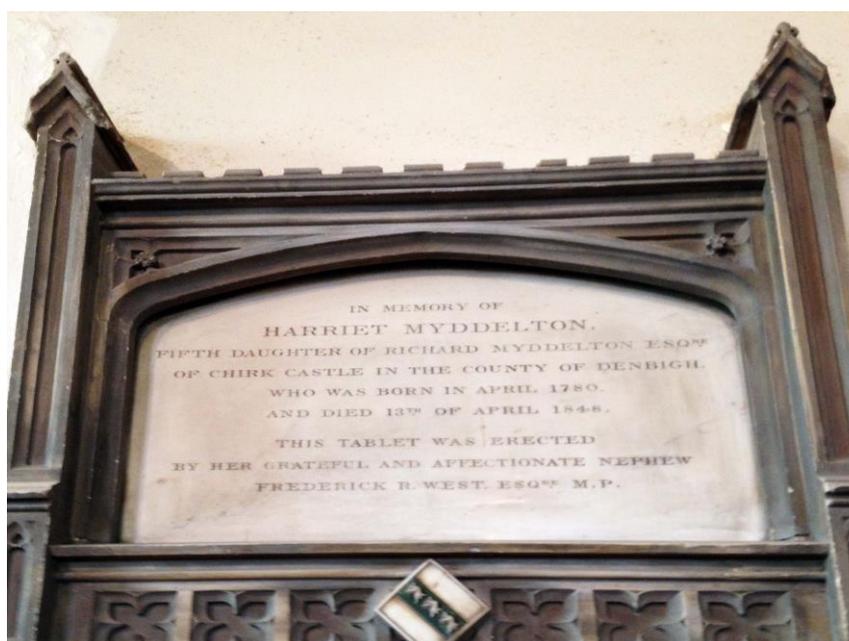
The 1841 census shows for Caerfallen

Name	Age	Occupation
John Garner	60	farmer
Mary Garner	60	farmer
William Garner	30	Farmer
Elizabeth Garner	40	farmer
Joseph Garner	25	farmer
John Garner	20	farmer
Thomas Garner	20	farmer
Emma Garner	15	farmer
Ann Garner	15	farmer
William Williams	30	servant
Isaiah Davies	20	servant

Ellen Davies	15	servant
Mary Garner	10	
?Frances Garner	50	Independent
William Garner	10	

1845 - 8th November - marriage of Thomas Garner, son of John Garner, farmer of Caerfallyn and Ann Jones of Bryn Clwyd, daughter of William Jones.³¹

1848 – **Harriett Myddleton** died. Both of her sisters had predeceased her and so Harriett bequeathed the Ruthin Castle and Foxhall estates to her nephew, **Frederick Richard West**. His mother, Maria Myddleton (*Harriett's half-sister*), had married Frederick West in 1798.³²



Memorial to Harriett Myddleton in Ruthin Church

1851 - The 1851 census of Ruthin district 4b page 34 shows Caerfallen to have 167 acres and 2 employees.

Name	Position	Age	Occupation	From
John Garner	Married Head	74	Farmer	Ruthin
Mary Garner	Wife	69		Cheshire
Elizabeth Garner	Daughter	40		
William Garner	Son	36	Assistant to father	Wrexham

³¹ . Clocaenog Parish Records on microfiche film 471 at the Ruthin Records Office

³² . Appendix 8 – The West Family of Ruthin Castle

Joseph Garner	Son	35	Assistant to father	Wrexham
John Garner	Son	32	Assistant to father	Wrexham
Joseph Jones	Servant	16	Farm servant	
Emma Garner	Daughter	25	Dairymaid	Llanbedr
Ann Garner	Daughter	22	Dairymaid	Llanbedr
John Jones		14	General servant	

1854 - John Garner died on 11th September 1854 aged 77 years. His will is held in the Library of Wales Archives.³³ He left his possessions to his wife and the six children still living with him. His wife, Mary, died soon afterwards on the 10th February 1855.

1861 – John's son, **Joseph**, took over the tenancy of Caerfallen. The Ruthin census shows everyone in the house is unmarried.

Name	Position	Marital	Age	Occupation	Other
Joseph Garner	Head	Unmarried	45	Farmer	Cyfyfliog, Denbs.
John Garner	Brother	Unmarried	39	Farmer	
Elizabeth Garner	Sister	Unmarried	55		
William Garner	Brother	Unmarried	54	Farmer	
Emma Garner	Sister	Unmarried	55		Llanbedr
Anne Garner	Sister	Unmarried	32		Llanbedr
Elizabeth	Servant	Unmarried	16	Servant	

1862 – Frederick Richard West died. The Ruthin Castle estate passed to his eldest son, **Frederick Myddleton West**. There is a letter dated 19 July 1857 from William Smith, Ruthin to Edward Williams esq. concerning **Mr.F.M.West** still being in the neighbourhood, his vice of drinking, debts and accusations against the writer.³⁴

1866 – Wrexham and Denbighshire Advertisers & Chester, Shropshire & North Wales Register. 27th October.

PETTY SESSIONS, MONDAY - Thomas Chapman was charged by Edward Roberts, gamekeeper to Captain West, with trespassing in pursuit of game on **Caerfallen** farm, on the 15th September last. Mr Louis appeared for the complainant, and elicited from Roberts and a gamewatcher that defendant was seen going along the edge of the above farm, beating for game. He had a double-barrelled gun in his pocket, loaded, and capped. The gun was taken from him. Defendant denied being in pursuit of game at all, but had borrowed the gun from William Jones the ratcatcher's wife, and was on his way to Plasyresgob to shoot wild pigeons. Fined 10s. and 9s. 6d. costs

³³ . Appendix 9 - Transcript of the will of John Garner

³⁴ . Ruthin Castle MSS – DD/RC/1073

1868 – Frederick Myddleton West died unmarried leaving considerable debts. He was succeeded by his brother **William Cornwallis West**.

1871 Census

Name	Position	Age	Occupation	Other
Joseph Garner	Head	60	Farmer	Wrexham
John Garner	Brother	53	Farmer	Wrexham
Elizabeth Garner	Sister	65	Farmer	Wrexham
Anne Garner	Sister	45		Llanbedr
John Garner	Visitor	17	Farmer	Liverpool

1881 Census - The Ruthin Enumeration District No 8 Ruthin east District.
The farm was recorded as 125acres and the tenant was now Thomas Edwards.

Name	Age	Marital Status	Occupation	Born
Thomas Edwards	59	Unmarried	Farmer	Efernechtyd
Margaret Thomas	32	Unmarried	General Servant	Bangor
Edward Edwards	25	Unmarried	Farm Servant	Llansanffraid
Robert Hughes	34	Unmarried	Farm Servant	Bala

1891 Census - Ruthin District 8 page 15. The tenancy had changed again.

Name		Marital Status	Age	Occupation	Born
Edward Thomas	Head	Married	33	Farmer	Bryn Eglwys
Jemma Thomas	Wife	Married	30		Bryn Eglwys
Mary Thomas	Daughter		2		Ruthin
Lititia M. Thomas	Daughter		2		Ruthin
Michael R. Thomas	Son		7		Ruthin
Cornelius O'Donnell	Servant	Single	43	Wagoner farm servant	Ireland
Robert Roberts	Servant	Married	27	Wagoner farm servant	Llanarmon
Henry Hughes	Servant	Single	23	General servant	Llanarmon
Mary Williams	Servant	Single	21	General servant	Llanrhaiadr
Ann Lloyd	Servant	Single	15	Nurse domestic	Llanferres

1895 - Denbighshire Free Press 9th November
The Coming of Age of Mr. George Frederick Cornwallis West. Amongst the list of subscribers to

this event was:- **Mr.E.W.Thomas** – Carfallen. He contributed £1. 1s.

1896 – Denbighshire Free Press 9th May

Grand Ball at the Castle – The Coming of Age of Mr. George Cornwallis West.

Last night (Thursday) a grand ball took place at the Castle which was attended by the county families and leading residents of the district. Col and Mrs Cornwallis West have been entertaining a large house party during the week, who were also present at the ball.

The Executive Committee who carried out the arrangements included **Mr. E.W.Thomas** of Caerfallen.

1896 – Denbighshire Free Press 5th December

THE MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT. A DANGEROUS SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY. Dr William D Jones reported that in the two months ending that day, 8 births had occurred in the town, and 14 deaths. Six of the latter occurred in infants of a few years of age, and the remaining number occurred in people of advanced age, and from natural causes. Five cases of scarlet fever had occurred, one in Railway terrace, three at **Caerfallen**, and one in Rhos street. It appeared that these children attended the Board School, and probably the disease was communicated to them by children attending the school from outside districts where the disease had been prevalent. He observed that the water supply of **Caerfallen** was drawn from a well which was surrounded by decomposed manure. He pointed out to the tenant the risk he ran in using this water which evidently must be contaminated. When he went over **Caerfallen**, he was surprised to see that pump, which stood in the yard, surrounded with sewerage. He informed the tenant, who was a very intelligent man, that although he did not connect the scarlet fever with this, still the ulterior effects of drinking water from a well which must be polluted, could not fail to be serious. The tenant himself told him that at times the water was so filthy that they could not drink it.

9. 20th Century

1901 Census - Denbighshire District 6 page 32. Once again the tenancy had changed hands.

Name	Position	Marital status	Age	Occupation	Born
------	----------	----------------	-----	------------	------

Gwen Bonner	Head	Widow	68		Llansntth???
John W. Bonner	Son	Married	25	Son	Bryn Eglwys
Anne Lloyd Bonner	Wife	Married	20		Trawsfynnydd
John Lloyd Bonner	Son		1		Ruthin
Hugh Roberts	Servant	Single	25	Worker	Llanbedr
David Parry	Servant	Single	22	On farm	Rhewl

Note in 1881 census John Bonner 48 and Gwen Bonner were at Plas Yn Llan, Efenechtyd. John William Bonner was 5.

1908 – Denbighshire Free Press 28th March

SUDDEN DEATH. Yesterday (Thursday), William Roberts, of Pwllglas, a serving man at **Caerfallen**, died somewhat suddenly, after only two day's illness,

1911 Census - Enumeration District 4 Ruthin and Llanbedr. Denbighshire Llanynys Urban and Ruthin Urban or District.

Name	Position	Marital status	Age	Occupation	Born
Gwen Bonner	Head	Widow	79		Carrog, Merioneth
John W. Bonner	Son	Married	35	Farmer Employer	Bryn Eglwys
Anne Lloyd Bonner	Wife	Married	31		Trawsfynnydd
John Lloyd Bonner	Son		11	School	Ruthin
H.A.Griffiths	Servant	Single	17	General domestic	Llanarmon
John Williams	Servant	Single	28	Cowman worker	Clawdnewydd
Daniel Jones	Servant	Single	26	Waggoner on farm	Llandyrnog

1913 - Caerfallen was still owned by Col. Cornwallis West. Over June 10th, 11th and 12th 1913 a major portion of the Ruthin Estate including Caerfallen was sold at auction. Caerfallen was bought with 137 acres by **Mr W G Lecomber** for £5000.

Mr Bonner who held the farm on an annual tenancy continued in the tenancy under the Lecomber ownership.

1915 – Denbighshire Free Press 18th September

Married Woman's Desperate Struggle. Assaulted by a Drunken Man.

John Hilton, farm labourer, was charged in custody with attempting to commit a rape upon Mrs Smith, the wife of Mr David Smith, coachman at Plas Draw, on the 7th inst. on the night in question she and her two children were retiring home from Ruthin about 9.40 and whilst on the **Caerfallen** road two men passed them. immediately afterwards she heard one of the men hurrying after them. he threw her down twice or three times, and then pushed her to the hedge. He knocked her hat off and gave her several blows with his fist. Her eldest daughter ran to **Caerfallen** for help..... **David T. Morris**, bank accountant, residing at **Caerfallen farm**, said that about 10 o'clock on the night in question he heard cries outside, and opened the door. The cries for help came from a little girl who was evidently in a very frightened condition. She said that

somebody was murdering her mother up the road..... The Bench committed the prisoner for trial at the Assizes.

1915 – Denbighshire Free Press 15th November

ALLEGED PIG STEALING. ANOTHER REMAND. Lily Wilson was brought up on remand charged with stealing two store pigs, the property of **Mr Bonner, Caerfallen**. She had been remanded to give the police an opportunity of arresting her husband, James Wilson, on the same charge. Mr A O Evans said the police had not arrested the male defendant, and asked for another remand. Mr Garth Jones, for the prisoner, said he would agree to the adjournment if Mrs Wilson was let out on her own recognizances. Mr A O Evans objected, and said that in all probability she would join her husband. The Bench remanded Mrs Wilson for another week in custody. Mr Garth Jones said he must report the matter to the Home Secretary, who advised justices generally to let prisoners out on bail on their own recognizances.

1917 – Denbighshire Free Press 15th December

Ruthin Soldiers Home on Leave

James Jones, Royal Artillery, late of Caerfallen, who has served 13 months in France.

1925

William Godfrey Lecomber died January 8th 1925 and his estate was distributed later in the year including the sale of Caerfallen.

1925 sees the start of the **Hooson** time at Caerfallen. The farm was bought with 141 acres by **John Mahler** as a wedding present for his daughter **Kathleen Mahler** and son in law **George Hooson**. On taking possession of the farm George and Kathleen were allocated only one sitting room and one bedroom as the Bonners continued to live there for a short period as was the custom.

Two privately published books “I Remember” by Kathleen Hooson and “The memoirs of A Very Fortunate Man” by George Hooson record much about life at Caerfallen from 1925 until 1955.

“Caerfallen was an Elizabethan half timbered house that was the home of a Mr. Trowbridge. After his day many different people had either painted or lime-washed the beautiful oak beams and completely covered a magnificent sandstone arch over the open hearth in the kitchen. I was very thrilled when I found the arch and gave it a re-birth. I've only seen two more (Chirk Castle for one) and they are exactly the same width During the excavation, while the great chimney was open, I wrote some Welsh verses, date etc., on parchment sealed in a milk bottle and left it on a ledge inside. Three massive stone gables were built to house the chimneys. As you look at this wall (*one of the stone gables*) from outside you can see one block of sandstone set in a small alcove, blocking what was one of the first upstairs toilets from which the 'waste' would trickle down the wall outside. When putting in a bathroom I carefully took out a square of (2'x2') panel of wattle and daub as soon as I noticed it and asked one of the assistants to leave it intact for me to frame in a glass case but in the meantime another assistant came along and smashed it! After that I kept some of the wattles which were still definitely pliable after five hundred years or so. I placed this in a store

but in about twelve months they had turned to powder. The preservative quality of the lime and clay must have worked incredibly well. one original oak floor is still in use but far from level; and even the attics were once floored with oak, but I guess the leaking thatch had caused them to rot and they had been renewed. The fine beams that held up the attics were uncovered by removing 30cwt of lime plaster and thin laths.”

The farm became a busy and successful dairy and market garden delivering produce to Ruthin and Denbigh. Often more than a dozen people were living in the house.

During the Second World War many German and Italian prisoners of war worked on the farm.

Water supply – In 1925 water was pumped by hand from a well in the dairy floor.
Question was this in the house?

A new water supply was developed by Mr Hooson after he recognised that a spring Ffynnon Y Wern rose in a neighbours field. An hydraulic ram was installed to pump water to the farm. This was still operating in the 1960s.

1955 - Caerfallen was bought by **Mr. W. L. Henderson** for £12,500 starting the current Henderson ownership.

The farm has primarily been a stock farm rearing calves to beef stores from 1963 when dairying ceased until 2000 when D. L. Henderson retired.

Modern farming is impossible in the old buildings at Caerfallen and today the land is farmed on a grazing let basis.

1978 - Caerfallen House was listed by the Secretary of State for Wales as a Grade II*.

.....

10. 21st Century

2005 - The buildings at Caerfallen were listed Grade II in their own right. The long range of west side buildings that were known as “The Shippon” were listed for their group value with Caer’afallen as part of a complete farmstead group.

The North side range which we now know was partially built in 1664 was also listed as “a large multi-purpose farm building and cart shed, well detailed and retaining its agricultural character. Group value with Caer’afallen farmhouse and L-Shaped farm range to SW”. This group of buildings are known as the Piggeries, the stables and the garages going from West to East.

2012 - Notes

David Henderson (DLH) mentioned the following:-

1. Mr Hooson said there is a massive stone “the size of Caerfallen house” in the top corner of Cae Canol near the water trough. DLH has hit a large stone when ploughing the area.
2. There are many large stones near the road hedge in the cross the road field which made knocking in fence posts very hard. Indeed several large (approx. 50cm round) were ploughed up in 2012. They are in the bottom far corner now.
3. The back playing field of Ruthin School has been seen described as “Caerfallen field” on a map.

2013 - The 11.23 acre “Cross the Road Field “ was sold at auction on May 8th 2013 for £16500 per acre to Tudor Jones of Cae Groes.

2014

June 25th 2014 Caerfallen house and the front field became the property by purchase of **Zoë Henderson** daughter of David and Wendy Henderson

.....
June 2016

Appendix 1

The Royal House of Cunedda

Rhodri Mawr

b.abt.789 d.abt.878 killed in battle with the English

Gruffydd ap Cynan m. Angharad (of Flint) vch Owain
 b.abt.1055 d.1136 aged 82 yrs
 bur. Bangor Cathedral

I

Owain Gruffydd (Fawr) Gwynedd ap Gruffydd m. Gwladys vch Llywarch (of North Wales)
 b.abt. 1100 d.1169 bur. Bangor

I

Iorwerth 'Drwyndwn' ap Owain m. Margred vch Madog of Powys
 Prince of Gwynedd
 b.abt.1135 d.abt.1177

I

Llewelyn Fawr Prince of Gwynedd
 b.abt.1173 Dolwydellan m. 1. Tanglwystl vch Llywarch
 d.1240 Caernarvon

.....I

m. 2. Joan of North Wales

I

I

Gruffydd
 b.abt.1205 d.1244

Dafydd Prince of Gwynedd
 b.1209 d.1246

m.

Senena vch Man

I

.....
Owain Goch	Llewelyn Prince of Gwynedd	Dafydd	Rhodri
	the Last	Sir	
	b.? d.1282	b.1227 d.1284	1230-1315
	m.	m.	m.
	Eleanor de Montford	Elizabeth de Ferrers	Beatrice de Malpas
	I	I	I
.....
Gwenllian	Llewelyn Owain	Gladys	Tomos
1282-1337			
			I
		
			Owain
			1330-1378

Appendix 2

The de Grey Family

Sir John de Grey Chief Justice of Chester, Sheriff of Herefordshire
 b.abt.1205 Shirland, Derbyshire d.18/3/1266

I

Sir Richard de Grey

d.1524

6th Baron of Ruthin

3rd Earl of Kent

m.

1. Elizabeth Hussey

2. Margaret Finch

no issue

Anne

Sir Henry

George

Anthony

of Wrest Park, Bedfordshire

b.1495 d.1562

4th Earl of Kent

Appendix 3

The Turbridge Family

John Turbridge m. Marged vch David Lloyd ap Meredydd of Eglwysbach
will 1557 I and/or Margaret vch John Salusbury

.....
Robert Turbridge

Jane

Baron of the Exchequer, Queen's surveyor of Wales

b.Plas Turbridge/Plas Towerbridge, Llanbedr
d. ?1612

m.
Ann (Jane) d & hrs of Humffrey Dymmock
I

m.
Thomas Salusbury

.....
John **Robert** Elinor
MP 1588 grad. St.Edmunds Hall 1593
m. m. m.
Margaret Sir Wm. Gerard's half sister **Robert Lloyd**
d & hrs of John Lloyd of Lleweni Green of Llanrhaiadr of Kimmerch
of Llanbedr Dyffryn and/or Deputy surveyor of Wales
Clwyd **Mary Conway** I
 of Bodrhyddan Hall I I
I I
I I **John Lloyd of Rhydonnen d.1691**

.....
Dorothei Elinor **John** Dorothy **Robert**
 of Caerfallen of St.Martin-in-the-Fields

 m. m.
 Mary **Thomas Ashpool**
 d/o Hugh Heaton of Llanwern of Llandyrnog
 d.10/9/1657
 I

.....
Sold Caerfallen 1661 **Robert** **Richard** **Luce**
made his home at b.1624/5 b.1631
Henblas, Llanbedr d.1679 aged 55 years d.1674 aged 43 years
 m. vicar of Tremeirchion
 Ann d/o Samuel Mostyn
 of Calcote
 I
.....
 Ann
 b.1623
 m.1685
 John Myddleton of Gwaenynog
 I
.....
 10 children

Appendix 4

John Turbridge – Will 27th March 1557 (The National Archives ref. Prob/11/39)

John Turbridge of town of Ruthyn
sick in body a last will
soul to God & blessed highway? to of heaven (catholic)
Body to be buried in parish church of Ruthin where my executors shall be most convenient
I bequeath to repair of church 10s

I bequeath to either of 5 eldest daughters by Margaret verch John Salusbury 500 sheep that is 100 to each and 20 mares to each.

I give to Agnus younger daughter £18

All residue of goods movable & unmovable I give and bequeath to Margaret my wife & David Lloyd my son whom I do ordain my true and lawful executors. They to dispose said goods as most convenient

this being witnessed by Sir Richard Robinson, Edward ap Harry gervin

Debts due unto me

Mr John Salysbury £50

Ieuan Lloyd Griffith £25

paid said Ieuan £5

Thomas vachan Salysbry 13s 4d

John Wynne David ap ??? 40s

Thomas ap William aop Howell 40s (*£s may be shillings*)

Richard Jonys 40s

John Hyne 7s 2d

Peers Salysbury 9s

Faulk Salysbury 6s 8d

John Thelwall the elder 33s

John ap Ieuan ap Howel 2s 8d

John ap David ap Robyn 16s 4d

Harry ap David ap Howel 20s

Robert ap Harry ?s

Falke ap John ap Toua? 5s

Ieuan ap Robert

Peers Boboyth 13s 4d

The said John Salysbury 33s 4d

Robert ap Edward 26s 8d

William ap David ap Howel ?25s

David Voyle 13s 3d

?ap Ieuan ap Howell 13s 4d

Lewys ap David Lloyd 6s 8d

John ap David ap Robyn 16s 4d

William ap Robert ?11s

Richard? Ap John ap Howel 10s

William ap Robert? 11s

and upon said William for 2 lambs 2s

and for 2 sheep 2s and 8d

Richard ap Ieuan ap Howel 8d

William ap Robert Gyo? 2s 8d

William ap David ap Howell 6s 8d

Huw ap Meredith ap Ieuan ap Robert £50

and the price of a horse

Debtors upon me the said J.Turbridge

Item to Thomas Salysbury my son in law £4

to John ap David ap Robert 5 nobles and 40d

Item Robert my son hath in my hands 20 nobles and of that he must allow me 30s for carriage of the sheep

Item 2 a man of Cheshire 4 ?hamblet?? 51s 8d, to the said man for cloth 27s 6d

Item for velvet 15s 8d

also I give to Agnus youngest daughter 40s yearly out of Llantwrog from David Lloyd ap ? And Lwys his son, and in default of her to Robert the younger and Edward my sons and to their heirs

Item my will is that Robert T'bridge my eldest son shall pay to Edward T'bridge my son £40 and shall find him at his custody til he be able to get his living

Item I will that David Lloyd Turbridge shall pay to Robert my younger son £40 (*there are 2 Roberts*) and find him until he is to get his living

Item I ordain and name Robert Robinson and Edward ap Harry Gerysc overseerers of the goods of my 5 daughters by me John Turbridge

probate granted in Canterbury the 20th day of June 1557

to John Salysbury gentleman, procurator, Margaret and Robert because David Lloyd is a minor.

Appendix 5

The Myddletons of Chirk Castle

General Sir Thomas Myddleton

1586-1666

m.

1. Margaret Savile d/o George Savile of Wakefield, Yorks.

Died in childbirth 1613

I

2. Mary Napier d/o Sir Robert Napier, 1st baronet of Luton Hoo

I
I

Bedfordshire

I

.....
Thomas
d.1613

Sir Thomas Myddleton
1st baronet
1624-1663

Richard + 5 other sons & 6 daughters
of Llysfass
1631-1700

m.

m.

1. Mary Cholmonley

Elizabeth Ryder

I 2. Jane Trevor

I

I

I

.....
Sir Thomas Myddleton
2nd baronet

Sir Richard Myddleton
3rd baronet alderman of Denbigh 1684
sheriff of Denbigh 1688 MP for Denbigh 1685-1716

Robert
d.1733 unm.

John
1685-1747

1651-1684

1655-1716

m.

m.

m.1723

1. 1673 Elizabeth Wilbraham

Frances Whitmore

Mary Liddel

I

I

I

.....
Thomas
predeceased his father
d.1675

.....
Sir William Myddleton
4th baronet
1694-1718
unmarried

Frances Mary

.....
Richard

1796-1795

m.1761

baronetcy became extinct.

1. 1761 - Elizabeth Rushout

The estates passed to his relative Robert Myddleton

I 1730-1772

I m.1778

I 2. Mary Lloyd of Rhydwrhel

I d.1788

I I

.....
Richard
1764-1796

Charlotte
1770-1843

Maria
1772-1843

.....
Harriet
d.1848

m. 1801

m. 1798

unmarried

Sir Robert Myddleton Biddulph

Hon, Frederick West
1767-1852

I

.....
William John West
died an infant

Frederick Richard West
1799-1862

Appendix 6

The Family of Robert Davies

Robert Davies m. Mary
bur.15th September 1698

I

.....
son

Anne

daughter

possibly the son of Robert
& Mary Davies

29/5/1706 Ruthin
Evan Davies m. Anne
bur.2/5/1740 bur. 26/3/1745
..... Ruthin

Will dated 1740

I

.....
Mary Jonet Robert David Evan John Elizabeth
bap. 24/4/1706 20/5/1708 17/9/1710 13/11/1713 2/9/1716 7/1/1722 17/10/1718
bur. 20/10/1717 1/1/1722
..... Ruthin

m.
Jane
I

.....
John Anne
bap. 6/9/1740 bur. 11/4/1748
..... Ruthin

Appendix 7

Evan Davies – Will 1741 (NLW ref. B/1741/102/W)

In the name of God Amen. I Evan Davies late of Cae'rfallen in the County of Denbigh gent. and being of a mind do make this my last will in manner following, **first** I give devise and bequeath unto my wife Anne Davies all my messuages, burgages and dwelling houses situate lying and being in the several parishes of Llanrhaiader, Ruthin and Llanrhudd for and during her natural life and from and after her decease I give and devise for the same unto my son David Davies and his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said son David Davies all my messuages lands tenements situate

in the parish of Llanvair Dyffryn Clwyd in the said county heretofore mortgaged to me being part of the estate of my late son in law John Price to hold to him and his heirs forever subject to the equity of exemption in the said deed of mortgage my further will and meaning that if the heirs of the said John Price shall be to their promises, all the money due on the said mortgage shall be paid belong and appertain unto my said son David Davies and his heirs forever.

Item I give to my dear Mary Maddocks twenty shillings and twenty shillings to her son John Price.

Item I give to my grandson Thomas Maddocks fifty shillings.

Item I give to my son Evan one shilling.

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Davies eighty pounds to be paid by my executors

And all the rest residue and remainder of my personal estate I give and bequeath unto my wife Anne Davies and son David Davies share and share alike whom I do hereby constitute to of this my will In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the twenty ninth day of in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty.

Signed sealed published and declared
by the said testator to be his last will
and testament in the presence of us
who have subscribed our names
as witnesses thereto in the presence
of the said testator

Hugh Lloyd
John Bance?
Edward Conway

Appendix 8

The West family of Ruthin Castle

John West 2nd Earl de la Warr m. 1. Lady Charlotte McCarthy
1729 – 1777
politician and army officer m. 1756 2. Mary Wynyard d/o Lt. Gen. John Wynyard
- 1784

I

appoint my daughter Elizabeth Garner and my son Joseph Garner Executors of this my Will and I hereby revoke all former Wills by me at any time made. In Witness whereof I have hereto set my hand this thirty first day of January 1853.

John Garner (*signed*)

Signed by the testator in our presence both of us being present at the same time, subscribing our names as Witnesses in his presence, and in that of each other.

Thomas Hughes (*signed*)

John Bryan (*signed*)

On the 21st day of October in the year of our Lord 1854 the within Will was insinuated, proved, approved, and in common form of law decreed valid and administration granted to the within named Executors, Elizabeth Garner & Joseph Garner, they being first sworn in common form of law, and that the whole of the goods, chattels & credits of the said deceased do not amount in value to £450 - before me.

James Jones surrogate

The deceased died the eleventh day of Sept. 1854