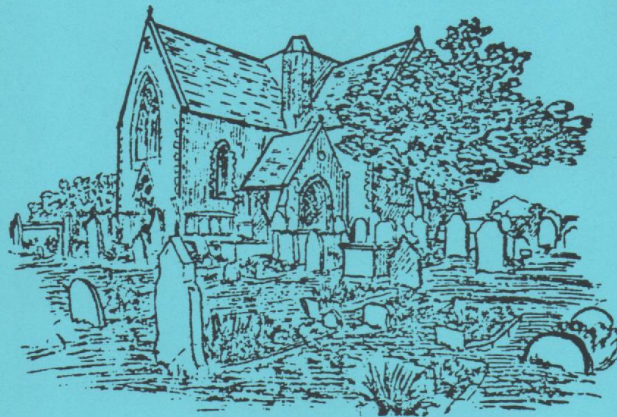


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# ROATH LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY PROJECT NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1985

Vol.2 No.4



ROATH CHURCH

## **ROATH LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

The officers of the Society re-elected at the A.G.M. on 26 September 1985 were:

### **Secretary:**

Jeff Childs  
13 Harlech Drive, Dinas Powys, S. Glam CF6 4NZ  
Tel: 513840

### **Treasurer:**

Margaret Reeves  
82 Strathnairn Street, Roath, Cardiff CF2 3JUP

### **Chairman and Newsletter Editor:**

Alec Keir  
6 Melrose Avenue, Pen-y-lan, Cardiff CF3 7AR  
Tel. 482265

We are grateful to all members who have renewed their subscriptions for 1985/6 and extend a warm welcome to new members. The total membership at present is 35. We continue to meet weekly on Thursdays at 7.15 p.m. at Howardian High School during school term. At present we are completing a group project compiling a Surname Index to the 1871 Census for Roath, while some members are engaged on individual projects; for example, Judith Hunt is working on the 'Meredith' family, and Ian Myrhe is making good headway with a long-term project on the History of Education in Roath.

## **DATA PROTECTION ACT 1985**

A list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members of the Roath local History Society and recipients of its Project Newsletters is stored on a computer floppy disc by the Editor at his above address. The information is so stored solely for use by the Society and its officers for the purpose of maintaining an up-to-date record of members and to serve as a private mail distribution list. Any member or addressee having any objection should write without delay to the Editor.

## **A PRINTING DEFECT**

In some copies of the last issue, the bottom lines of pages 84 & 85 were not reproduced. They are:

p.84:

It cannot be too distinctly recognised that a high local mortality of child-

p.85:

The total cases of smallpox reported in the Roath district during the epi-

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AN INDEX WILL BE PREPARED FOR VOLUME 2 BUT WILL NOT BE READY UNTIL 1986.  
SUBSCRIBERS THINKING OF HAVING THEIR NEWSLETTERS BOUND MAY WISH TO DELAY DOING SO  
UNTIL THE INDEX IS AVAILABLE.

A CUMULATIVE INDEX FOR VOLUMES 1 AND 2 IS ALSO UNDER CONSIDERATION

## **PHOTOGRAPHS OF ROATH IN STEWART WILLIAMS' "CARDIFF YESTERDAY"**

In the Spring issue (Vol.2 No.2, pp.32 et seq.) we published a list of photographs relating to Roath. Unfortunately, there were quite a few omissions. Here, then, is a supplementary list and one or two corrections:

### **Volume 1**

- 21. Pengam Farm. Aerial photo. June 1930
- 24. Russell Street, ("Patriots' Avenue") c.1900
- 31. Railway Street, showing Splott Council School & Baptist Church schoolroom. c.1890
- 32. Nora street & Helen Street May 1892
- 33. Nora Street & Helen Street May 1892
- 34. Nora Street & Helen Street May 1892
- 37. Pearl Street. A street trader near Splott Bridge 1891
- 38. Dowlais Cottages (Portmanmoor Road), showing Sportsmans' betting shop n.d.
- 70. Corfield & Morgan's slate works in Metal Street Oct. 1893
- 72. Newport Road. Two-horse tram-car of Cardiff Tramways c.1895
- 74. Newport Road. New electric tram taking over from horse-tram near Royal Oak c.1902

### **Volume 2**

- 91. East Moors Hall. Sunday School Anniversary 8 July 1913
- 93. included in error in list on p.33. Eleanor Street was in Docks, not Roath
- 143. Roath Park Recreation Ground. Pen-y-lan v Grange Albion baseball match 1953

### **Volume 3**

- 20. Clifton Street 1909
- 23. City Road, looking north c.1912
- 25. Albany Road, showing horse- and hand-carts 1910
- 42. Splott Park. The band-stand c.1911
- 43. Roath Park Recreation Ground before Ty-draw Road was built c.1905
- 72. Albany Road, corner of Diana Street. David Jones' tailor's shop. 1911
- 92. Moorland Road. Presbyterian Forward Movement Hall. 1905
- 146. Splott Park bowling green c.1911

### **Volume 4**

- 89. Marlborough Road Schools 1903
- 185. Crofts Street. Cardiff Harriers Cycling Club outside Crofts Hotel c.1900
- 188. Shakespeare Street. Skittles team outside White Swan (demolished 1973) c.1937
- 229. Dunsmuir Road, Tremorfa. V.E. street party May 1945
- 232. Cottrell Road. V.J. day street party May 1945
- 233. Bertram Street. Coronation street party 1937

### **Volume 5**

- 79. East Moors Road. Bird & Son Ltd. Monitor Motor Oil works 1930's
- 87. Tremorfa Estate. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth inspecting master apprentice scheme houses 14 Nov.1945
- 88. Huxley Turner, builder, and tradesmen involved in above Tremorfa scheme. 1945
- 144. St Peter 's Church c.1870/71
- 206. Neath Street. Children outside Splott Labour Hall
- 207/208. Albany Road School. First World War military hospital. Staff and patients Xmas 1916

### **Volume 6**

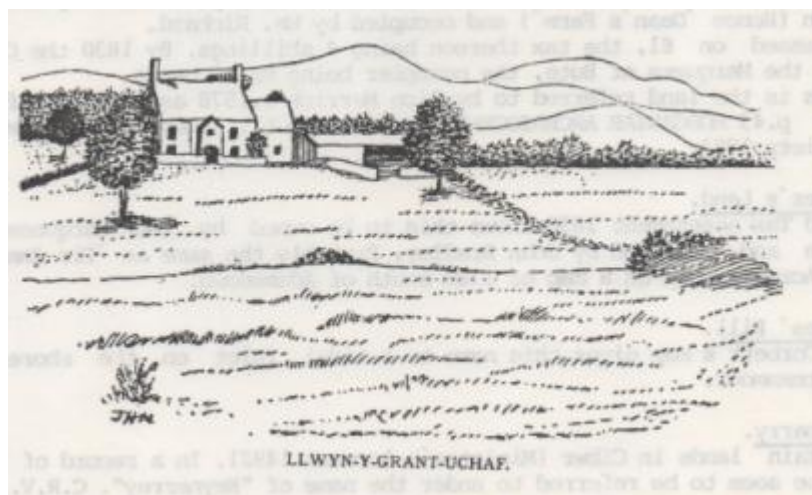
- 28. Rumney Bridge 1914
- 73. Newport Road, Pengam. Interior of Roath tram depot 1937
- 75. Roath Road Methodist Church - temperance pledge certificate 1911. (wrongly shown as No. 72 in Newsletter Vol.2)
- 196. Bridgend Street Mission, Splott. A.R.P wardens 1940
- 202/3. Bridgend Street Mission Youth Club, Xmas party c.1948

### **Volume 7**

- 136. Cardiff Royal Infirmary c.1900

### **Volume 12** (published September 1985)

- 103. Splott Cinema 1913-1961, then Bingo Hall. Part of Roath Carlylian Club on right. n.d.
- 210. Bradley Street. V.E.day celebration May 1945



### A to Z of Place-names (Continued)

#### Hayward's Plot.

A meadow in the lordship of Roath named in a Minister's Account of 1492. It belonged to the office of Prevost of Cardiff. C.R.V.377

#### Hillwood.

1840 Tithe Appt. Plot No.347. A wood of 5a.1r.10p. in Lilwynygrant. Owner: Thos. Wm. Edwards.

#### Hogs 4 Acres.

Tithe Appt. Plot No. 368. Meadow 4a.1r.1p. part of Lower Llwynygrant.

#### Holmead. Holemead, Great and Little.

Two meadows in the lordship of Roath (Minister's Account 1492). Mr Corbett marks Great Holmead as lying in Roath Moors on the south east of the G.W.R. adjoining Brundon lands on the north; with a smaller Holmead adjoining it on the south east corner. C.R.V.380. Tithe Appt. Plot 110 is described as "Pump Erwr holmead". Arable 7a.0r.13p. part of Pengam.

#### Howell Leg.

Tithe Appt. Plot No.333. Pasture. Part of Upper Llwynygrant 1a. 3r.0p.  
Owner: Thos. Wm. Edwards. Occupier: Wm. David.

#### Island, The.

Piece of pasture-land for sheep in the Severn marshes in the lordship of Roath (Ministers Account 1492).

Mr Corbett 's map shows this as the land between Newport Road and Richards Terrace with Stacey Road running across the middle of it. C.R.V. 381.

Other plots with the same name are shown in the Tithe Appt. Plot No. 367. Meadow. 3a.3r.27p. and Plot No.372. Arable., both part of Lower Llwynygrant. Owner: Thos. Wm Edwards. Occupier: Wm. Richards.

#### Ivor 's Moor. (See also reference to under "Griffithsmoor").

In the Land Tax assessments from 1788 to 1810, a plot owned by Anthony Dean (Hence "Dean's Farm') and occupied by Wm. Richard.

Assessed on £1, the tax thereon being 4 shillings. By 1830 the Owner was the Marquess of Bute, the occupier being Mr Richards.

This is the land referred to by Rice Merrick c.1578 as "'Morfa Ifor".

See p.43 MORGANIAE ARCHAIOGRAPHIA ed. Brian Ll. James. S.Wales Record Society 1983.

#### James's Land.

Land Tax assessment 1830 shows this to be owned by the Marquess of Bute and occupied by John Bradley. Probably the same as 'Tir James's 16 Acres' shown on a map of 1789 south of Adamsdown.

#### Jones' Pill.

Mr Corbett's map gives this name to a tidal inlet on the shore of Portmanmoor.

Kaybarry.

Certain lands in Cibwr (Minister's Account 1492). In a record of 1550 these seem to be referred to under the name of "Keynerrey". C.R.V.381.

Kevin Coed. See Cyn-coed

Kegdwow. (? caeau duon).

Lands in the parish of Roath and manor of Roath Keynsham. 1702. C.R.V.381.

Ketchcroft.

Casecroft. A big piece of pasture land close to the east side of Pengam House (1900). It is named "Catch Croft" in a document of 1809. Mr Corbett marks "Keechcroft" or "Casecroft" a piece of land on the Rhymney River's right bank, north-east of Pengam farmhouse. C.R.V. 382.

Kingcoyd. See Cyn-coed.

Kytte. The.

Land demised with the Severn marshes within the lordship of Roath (Minister's Account 1492).C.R.V.382.

Kiln. See "Odyn".

King Wood 3 Acres.

Tithe Appt. Plot 332. Pasture. Part of Upper Llwynygrant 3a.2r.32p. Owner: Thos. Wm Edwards. Occ: Wm David. The present King Wood Close (a cul-de-sac) at Llanedeyrn is the location of the farmstead of Lower Llwynygrant, part of which was cut through when the Eastern Avenue (A48 M) was constructed.

Lancross. Probably a misspelling of "Longcross" q.v.

Landmead. (? Longmead).

Two acres of meadow at Adamsdown named in Minister's Account of 1492 and then lately occupied by the Gatekeeper of Cardiff Castle. C.R.V. 383.

Linches. The.

A piece of land on Pengam Moor (1809). Mr Corbett marks his on his map as a series of plots of land just above ordinary high water mark on the East Moors, and as being the lowest marsh on this shore. C.R.V. 384.

Littlecroft.

Two and a half acres of land in the lordship of Roath (1492). C.R.V. 384.

Little Tredegar.

A tenement near Roath parish church. (1809). C.R.V.384.

In the Heath Enclosure Act 1801 under the heading of 'List and Description of New Roads' occurs "private road at Little Tredegar".

#### Little Wood.

Tithe Appt. Plot No.36l.

Wood 1a.3r.5p. Llwynygrant. Owner: Ths. Wn. Edwards.

#### Llanforda. (also "Lambordan" )

An ancient chapel at Coed-y-gores in the parish of Roath referred to in a Minister's Account of 1392. It is now (1900) a cottage called Ty'r-capel - "the chapel house". C.R.V. 386.

#### Llwyn-y-grant. Llwyn Grawnt = Grant's Bush or Grove.

The name of three farms - Upper (Uchaf) Lower (Isaf), and Middle (Kenol), called after the surname of a Norman-Welsh family long extinct. (C.R.V.388).

The upper farm (Llwyn-y-grant Uchaf) stood on the summit of a hill at a point close to the present Ael-y-Bryn and Llanedeyrn Primary School on the Llanedeyrn housing estate. (Location: O.S.199.796). The farmstead was in the parish of Llanedeyrn but its land extended into parish of Roath.

The lower farm (Llwyn-y-Grant Isaf) stood on a site now cut through by the A48(M) Eastern Avenue at the end of Kingwood Close (between Llanedeyrn Road and Eastern Avenue). (Location: O.S.283.789). Probably the only surviving virgin plot of woodland in Roath is one originally constituting part of Lower Llwyn-y-grant and is now the Howardian Nature Reserve between Howardian High School and Eastern Avenue adjoining Whitbread's Depot. The trees there are elm, oak, ash, maple, Silver birch, elderberry, hazel and holly. The land appears now (November 1985) to be under threat of sale by the South Glamorgan County Council to private housebuilders.

A letter from a correspondent in the CARDIFF TIMES, 13 July 1935, states

"Apart from the Castle, the oldest inhabited house within the precincts of the city is believed to be that named Llwynygrant at Penylan. In the 16th century it was reported and described as an old house."

In "THE GENEALOGIES OF MORGAN & GLAMORGAN" by G.T.Clark, 1886, occurs the following passage under the heading of Sir Gwrgy Grant of Llwyn-y-Grant.

(See Newsletter Vol.1. No.7 p.60)

It appears that a dragon flourished on the land of Sir Ralph Mayloc, Lord of Cibwr, and made a great part of it desolate, destroying men and beasts. This dragon Sir Gwrgy sought and slew in a place called afterwards Lloyn-y-Grant, or Grant's Bush. Sir Ralph, as was quite proper and to be expected, gave him his daughter, Edwyn, and with her half Cibwr. He settled at Lloyn-y-Grant and built a castle there. His son Iwan was a retainer of Richard de Clare in 1240.

The Roath Keynsham Surveys of 1650 and 1702 refer to Llwyn -y- Grant Isha (Project Newsletter Vol.1.p.99(2)), Llwyn-y-Grant Kenol (Vol.1.pp.88,97(2) & 99(1)) and Llwyn-y-Grant ycha (Vol.1. pp. 87,99(1)).



In the 1650 Survey Llwyn-y-Grant ycha and Tir y Capell (i.e.Lanborda) were two tenements of William Vaughan tenanted by Thomas Mathew and Lewelin David.

Llwyn-y-Grant Kenol, described as in Roath, was in 1650 in the tenure of Morgan Williams.

In 1703 Llwyn-y-Grant-isha was held by Mrs Grace Lewis, widow, and was in the tenure of Rees Thomas, while Llwyn-y-Grant-Ycha (and Tyr-y-Capel ) had been purchased by William Morgan of Coed-y-gores from the personal representatives of Charles Vaughan, deceased.

The middle farm (Llwyn-y-Grant Kenol) was held by Thomas Morgan Esq., of Llanrumney and was in the tenure of John William.

When John William(s), made his will on 11 August 1712, he described himself as "late of Llwyn-y-Grant in the parish of Roath but now of Cardiff, yeoman." (C.R.III.153)

Land Tax assessments for 1784/86 give Anthony Dean as owner and John Claxon as occupier. William Richard is shown as the occupier 1788 to 1820. The notional rental valuation for tax purposes is £12.5s and the tax charged thereon of £2.9s. remains the same from 1784 until 1820. (The assessments for 1821 to 1829 have not been inspected).

By 1830, both Lower and Upper Llwyn-y-Grant were in the ownership of the Marquess of Bute, Mr Richards occupying the former and William David the latter farm.

An advertisement for a sale by auction of both farms by the Marquess of Bute in 1835 (G.R.O. D/D cE/64) describes the Upper farm as 219 acres of arable, meadow and woodland. The woodland alone occupied 80 to 100 acres. The rest of the farm was in the occupation of William David, as tenant from year to year at an annual rent of £55. The advertiser commends the property with a glowing description:

----- beautifully situate, commanding the most charming and extensive land and marine Scenery. The Promontory of Pennarth, with its extensive Harbour, the Flat and Steep Holmes, Weston-super-Mere, Clevedon, and other places of fashionable resort in the Bristol Channel, together with the Shipping passing daily to and from the Ports of Bristol, Gloucester, Newport and Cardiff, form a lively and interesting Panorama. This Farm is also celebrated for the growth of fine Timber, particularly Oak; and care was taken at the last fall to reserve many hundreds of stores, which are now in a fine condition. Upward of £100 was laid out last spring in making good deep Ditches with White Thorn Quicks, well protected, which can thrive rapidly.

In this same catalogue, the lower farm is described as 168 acres of arable, meadow, pasture and woodland in the occupation of William Richards under a 21 year lease from 2 February 1825 at an annual rent of £125.

The above Farms adjoin each other, are in a Ring Fence, and within Three Miles of the Sea Port of Cardiff. Lower Llwyn-y-Grant is bounded on the east by the River Rumney, and within a short distance of Rumney Bridge, on the road from Cardiff to Newport.

The Two last Lots would make One most desirable Investment - the Buildings good - the Land capital, including same with Meadow, adjoining the River Rumney - Both Farms are well supplied with

Water, are within a short distance of the noble Mansions of Ruperra and Cefmmably, where are kept Two Packs of Hounds and Harriers.....

The Glamorganshire Canal, from Cardiff to Merthyr Tydfil is within three miles of Lots 11 and 12; and either Lot, from the beauty of its situation, and contiguity to Cardiff, affords a desirable spot for building a gentleman's residence.

The William Richards referred to as the tenant was buried 19 April 1839 at Llanedeyrn aged 84. (B.T's). His will mentions his wife Alice, his son, William, his daughter, Alice Lewis and his grandson, John Thomas, who was later to succeed to the lower farm.

1840. Tithe Appt: Lower Llwyn-y-Grant. Plot 349. House & garden 3r.38p. with total farmlands (Plots 350 - 380) of 160 acres. Owner: Thos. Wm. Edwards. Occupier: Wm. Richards.

1841 Census: the occupiers of Llwyn-y-grant were William Richards, age 36, Alice Richards, age 80, two female servants and five male servants, one of them being 10 year old David Richards.

1851 Census: head of the household of the lower farm was John Thomas. With him were his wife, two sons, two daughters and one agricultural labourer/waggoner. He was farming 125 acres and employing three men.

The 1861 Census tells us that John Thomas aged 43 was still there with his wife and family. By then he had three daughters and two sons and was employing two servants to farm 125 acres.

John Thomas died 20 January 1878 aged 61 and his wife, Mary, died 20 December 1879 at the age of 63. Both were buried in the Roath churchyard in the same grave as their infant daughter, Louisa, who died 12 December 1854 at the age of 20 months. (Mon. Inscrs. C.V.Appleton)

#### Llwyn-Celyn. (Hollybush).

A farm on the Nant-mawr (Roath brook) in the parish of Roath, on the eastern boundary of the manor of Llystalybont. (1653). C.R.V.387.

#### Llys-Du. (The black court).

According to J.H.M. in C.R.V.388.

"Also called Ty-mawr, Great House. A picturesque old house adjoining Roath churchyard on the south-east, between it and Cwrt-bach."

Evidence from Land Tax assessments does not bear this out, however. Llys-du (or sometimes "Llys ddu") was undoubtedly the tenement shown in the assessments as "Black Hall", on which the tax charged for the years 1782 to 1791 was 6d.

The Great House and its land was a separate assessment under which the tax charged was £1.10s.6d. The owner and occupier for each of the years indicated below are as shown in the Land Tax assessments.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Occupier</u>
1782 & 1783	Wm.Richard Powell	Wm. Howard
1784 & 1785	Rep. of Wm.Richard Powell	Wm. Howard
1786	late Wm.Richard Powell	Wm Howard
1788	Capt. Richard	Mrs Howard
1789	John Morgan	Wm Howard

#### Long Close.

A meadow near Adamsdown (1542) C.R.V.388.

#### Longcross.

In the Cardiff municipal charter of 1340, reference is made to Payn's Cross. The name also occurs in ancient legal documents. J.H.M. (in C.R.V.388-9) states that the cross was probably erected by Sir Payn de Turberville at the beginning of the 14th century. It was a tall stone cross on the western boundary of the parish of Roath where it touches the parish of St.John the Baptist and stood at the junction of what is now Newport Road and City Road near the present Cardiff Royal Infirmary. At the crossways here suicides are said to have been interred.

The Cardiff municipal charter of 1340 sets out in considerable detail the rights, privileges and duties of the burgesses of the Vill of Cardiff granted by Hugh le Despenser, Lord of Glamorgan. The liberties of the borough extended well beyond the confines of the walled town, as indicated in the following translation of the relevant part of the Charter:

And that our burgesses must not be constrained to go outside the ancient bounds of the Liberties of the aforesaid Vill, against their will, to do anything. And these are the bounds of their Liberties, to wit:

From the place called Appledore, (i.e.Maindy) nigh Listelbont, on the north, as far as the Bradestrem in the sea on the south; and from Paynecros on the east, as far as the cross nigh the Friars Preachers on the west."

The other boundary cross at the junction of Cathays Terrace, Crwys Road and Fair Oak Road was known as the Crwys Bychan, the small cross.

Some references in approximate chronological order are given below:

In a list of 1550 of lands and tenements belonging to St. John's church, Cardiff, and tenanted by a certain John Wastell were "6 acres of land by the cross called 'the long crosse'". (C.R.1.257). Five years later, a Thomas Baghe of Pentyrch was indicted at the Quarter Sessions for stealing an ox, a cow and a calf from William Corne at Cardiff, "in a place there called the Longe Cross". He was acquitted. (C.R.III. 64).

In 1563 we have a record in the Patent Rolls of a royal grant to William Morgan and William Moris of the manor of Roath Dogfield and lands formerly owned by Keynsham Abbey and a number of other plots in Cardiff which included

"2 acres 1 rood arable land near longe Crosse in the tenure of John Robert ap luean".(C.R.1.474).

May 11th 1714 - an entry in the accounts of the Overseers of the Poor for the parish of St John reads "For our Dinners att the Longcross. 3s." This would have been the point at which the overseers would have handed over vagrants to the overseers of the adjoining parish of Roath. If Roath was not their home parish, the wretched paupers would be escorted to the boundary at Rumney Bridge and again handed over, under the provisions of the 1662 Act of Settlement.

An entry in Thomas Morgan's diary of 24 August 1734 reads enigmatically: "paid the Girl of the Longcross for whey six and a half pence." (C.R.II.505).

In 1758 Elizabeth William, a servant accused of stealing from her master was found in the house of Miles Morgan at the Long Cross. (C.R.II.210/1).

Evidence from Land Tax assessments indicates that in 1789 the owner was Edmd. Griffiths Esq. and the occupier Evan Rimbron. Mrs Mary Jones was owner from 1800 and she seems to have had several different tenants during the following two decades. Information is scanty. Richard Hill was occupier 1810 (L.T.asst.)

Richard Neave Parris was living there in 1810 (L.T. asst.) and 1811, when he was made freeman of Cardiff (C.R.IV.364) but according to the 1813 Directory of Thomas Ridd, "Roath Villa" was the name of the residence of R.N.Parris. We know from the Bishop's Transcripts that Richard Neave Parris had married Fanny Henrietta Hollier on 21 April 1804. There were family connections therefore with the Holliers of Adamsdown (Newsletter Vol.1.p.18).

An infant daughter, Fanny Henrietta, was buried at Roath on December 1st 1805. The names and dates of baptism of their three sons were:

George Henry. 29 June 1807.

Henry James. 19 February 1811.

James Henry. 29 September 1813.

Other members of the Parris family, Elizabeth and Richard Hollier Parris were buried at Llandaff churchyard. (C.R.III.579).

Sarah Jones of 'Little Longcross' was buried in Roath churchyard 7 September 1813. Thomas Ridd's Directory of 1813 refers to Longcross House, near Adamsdown House, as being the residence of Mrs Ashwell and Mrs Cole.

I have a note (source unidentified at present) that on 20 February 1817 the Corporation with great trouble regained possession of the house formerly in the occupation of Mrs Jones of the Longcross and it was ordered to be pulled down.

William Head Deacon and his wife Eliza were at Longcross House in 1826 when their son John was baptised. The child only lived until the age of five and was interred in Roath churchyard. According to the monumental inscription, the child was the grandson of John Bennet of Laleston. G.T.Clark's "Genealogies of Glamorgan" p.479 confirms that Eliza, the daughter of John Benet, sheriff in 1825, married William Head Deacon, described, though, as of "Longcross House, Cosham"!

1840 Tithe Appt: Plot No.61: House. 2r.3p. Plot Nos.62 -64: Garden & fields. owner/occupier: Wm. Head Deacon who also occupied a cottage & garden at Plot No.29.

1841. A Council minute of August 2nd. ordered that Mr Strawson be ordered to map and survey the whole of the wastes from Longcross and Adamsdown to the Custom House.

#### Longcross House.

There was more than one house at various times on the same site near the Cross, not far from Adamsdown House and separated from it by Longcross Common. They fronted the highway from Newport to Cardiff. One was demolished in 1844 to make way for artillery barracks.

In 1835 there was a piece of waste land between the house and the road to Adamsdown Farm (now Glossop Road, formerly Adamsdown Street, and Longcross Street).

The waste, known as Longcross Common, was used by Cardiff Council for depositing street sweepings in 1850.(C.R.1V.539).

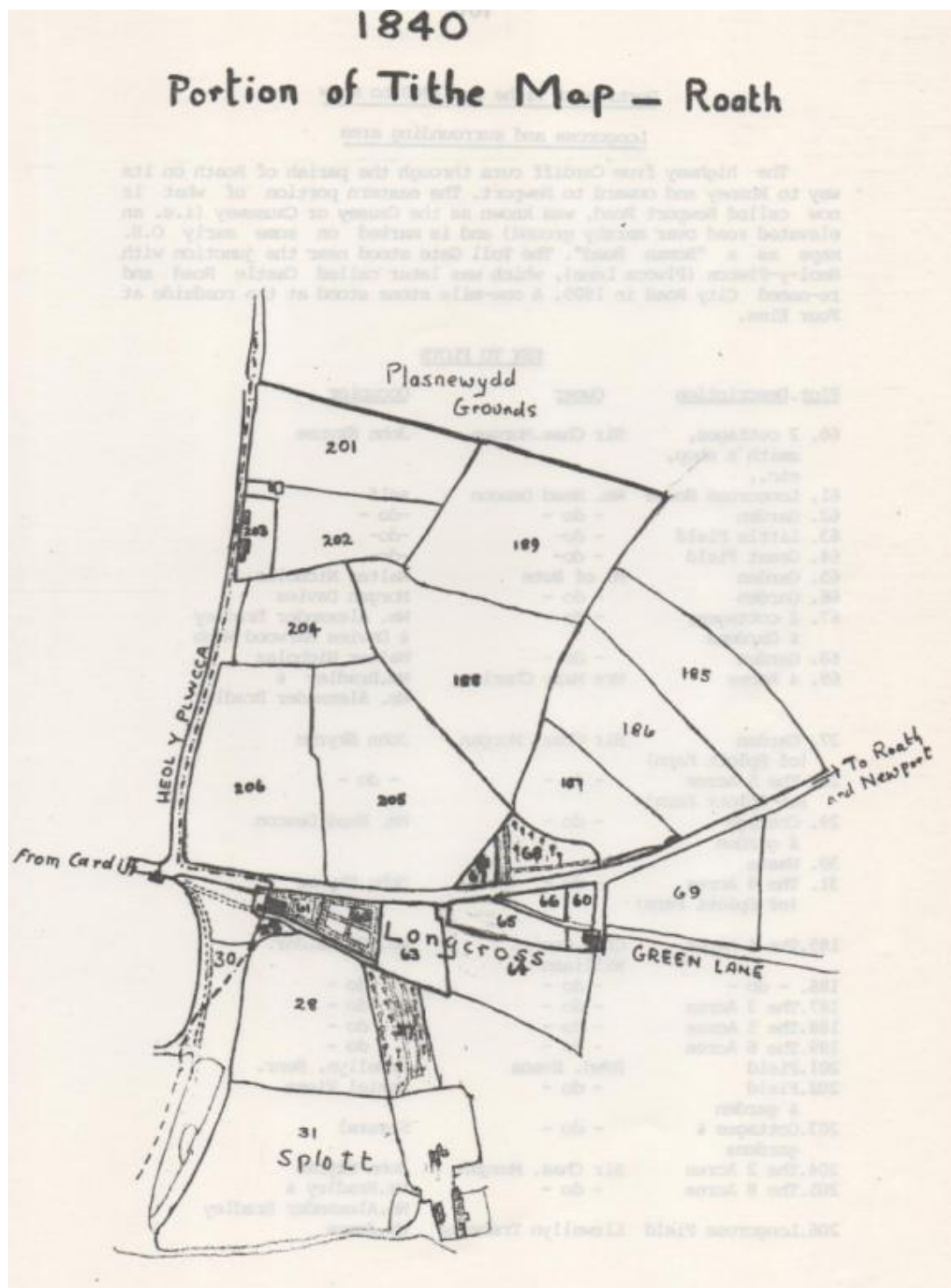
A Cardiff Council meeting minute of December 8th 1835 records that William Head Deacon, esq., on behalf of his father, took a lease of part of the waste adjoining Longcross, bounded North by the turnpike road, East by Longcross house, cottage, garden and pigstye, West by a road leading to Adamsdown Farm, and South by other part of the waste; for 21 years at two guineas. A road of 12 feet from the road to Adamsdown to Brinden Lane, was reserved. (C.R.IV. 408-9).

The 1861 census tells us that the "Longcross House Academy" was under the charge of George Sparks, described as Rector of Llansantffraed and Schoolmaster. This seems to have been a large new house which was in turn pulled down c.1880 to make room for the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Infirmary.

In 1872 the Marquess of Bute offered to sell 4 acres of land on Longcross Common for the sum of £5,000 - said to be half of its value on the open market - and the following year a meeting of subscribers resolved to build a new Infirmary to replace the old, inadequate Glamorgan & Monmouthshire Infirmary and Dispensary which was in Newport Road, near the old Rhymney Railway station.

On 24 December 1880 the Marquess offered to let the site on an 850-year lease at a peppercorn rent of £15 per annum. In July 1882 work started on the new Infirmary and Bute laid the foundation stone 31 January 1883. It was opened in September 1883.

For the history of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, see "Cardiff Royal Infirmary, 1883 - 1983" by Arnold S. Aldis. Cardiff U.W.P.1984 and The Welsh History Review, Vol.9 No.1. (June 1979) - contribution by Neil Evans "The First Charity in Wales: Cardiff Infirmary and South Wales Society, 1837 - 1914."



Portion of Tithe Map 1640 to show Longcross and surrounding area

The highway from Cardiff cuts through the parish of Roath on its way to Rumney and onward to Newport. The eastern portion of what is now called Newport Road, was known as the Causey or Causeway (i.e. an elevated road over marshy ground) and is marked on same early O.S. maps as a "Roman Road". The Toll Gate stood near the junction with Heol-y-Plwcca (Plwcca Lane), which was later called Castle Road and re-named City Road in 1905. A one-mile stone stood at the roadside at Four Elms.

# KEY TO PLOTS

<u>Plot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Occupier</u>
60.	2 cottages, smith's shop etc	Sir Chas.Morgan	John Skyrme
61.	Longcross House	Wm. Head Deacon	self
62.	Garden	- do -	-do -
63.	Little Field	- do-	-do-
64.	Great Field	- do-	-do-
65.	Garden	M. of Bute	Walter Nicholas
66.	Garden	- do -	Morgan Davies
67.	2 cottages & Gardens	- do -	Wm. Alexander Bradley & Davies Harwood Webb
68.	Garden	- do -	Walter Nicholas
69.	4 Acres	Mrs Mary Charles .	Wm.Bradley & Wm. Alexander Bradley
27.	Garden	Sir Chas. Morgan	John Skyrme,(of Splott Farm)
28.	The 5 Acres (of Splott Farm)	- do -	- do -
29.	Cottage & garden	- do -	Wm. Head Deacon
30.	Waste		
31.	The 8 Acres (of Splott Farm)	- do-	John Skyrme
185.	The 4 Acres	Chas.Crofts Williams	Wm. Evans,Jnr.
186.	- do -	- do -	- do -
187.	The 3 Acres	- do -	- do -
188.	The 5 Acres	- do -	- do -
189.	The 6 Acres	- dc -	- do -
201.	Field	Edwd. Evans	Lewellyn, Senr.
202.	Field & garden	- do -	Daniel Vines
203.	.Cottages & gardens	- do -	Several
204.	The 2 Acres	Sir Chas. Morgan	John Skyrme
205.	The 8 Acres	- do -	Wm.Bradley & Wm.Alexander Bradley
206.	Longcross Field	Llewellyn Traherne	Wm.James



The Winter 1985/6 issue of the Project Newsletter will be No.1 of Volume 3. and should be ready in February 1986. It will contain a paper by Jeff Childs on "ROATH PROBATE INVENTORIES 1600-1700" and notes and sketch maps on the neighbouring parishes of Lisvane, Llanedeyrn and Whitchurch.

#### LONGCROSS BARRACKS. (Illus. p.69 Vol.1)

It was the Chartist rising of 1839 that prompted the building of the Longcross Barracks on part of the site of the present Cardiff Royal Infirmary (built 1883). The Bute agent, Edward Priest Richards, had written to the second Marquess "it is fortunate for us that the Chartists did not come, as we were wholly unprepared for them". Bute resolutely exercised his political influence to ensure that there could be barracks in Glamorgan. Meanwhile he exerted local pressure for the county to recruit a regular police force and for the appointment of a chief constable and four Superintendents, each responsible for a district.

14 August 1843: The Cardiff Town Council minutes show that Longcross House and land had been purchased by the Ordnance Department for the purpose of erecting barracks.

2 August 1847: A Council minute records that application was to be made to the Treasury for their sanction to the sale of a number of Corporation properties which included "Several parcels of land at or near Longcross in the said parish of St John, containing 3r. 13p. in the occupation of the Ordnance Department of the War Office. C.R.IV.433

A further minute of 22 February 1848 records that the Lords of the Treasury did not consent to the sale of the land near the Longcross held by the Board of Ordnance. C.R.IV.434.



In 1850, two companies of the 77th Infantry Regiment arrived at the Longcross Barracks - 125 officers and men under Major Stratton. They were succeeded soon afterwards by the 26th Cameronians.

103 persons were at the barracks when the census was taken on March 30th. 1851. 82 were soldiers, most of whom were Irish, and the remainder were wives and families.

In 1854 the barracks were full of soldiers in transit from Brecon or other military centres to Crimea. (The 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers were mustered at Portsmouth).

21 June 1854. A company of the 11th Regiment (157 officers and men) embarked at Cardiff for Bristol and then Crimea.

Also embarking was a detachment of militia - Royal Glamorgan Light Infantry - of 169 men and 50 men of the 31st Regiment to join the 1st Royals.

19 July 1856. The 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers arrived home 19 July 1856. (20 officers and 771 N.C.O.'s and men).

14 April 1858. 130 men of 80th Foot Regiment left for India.

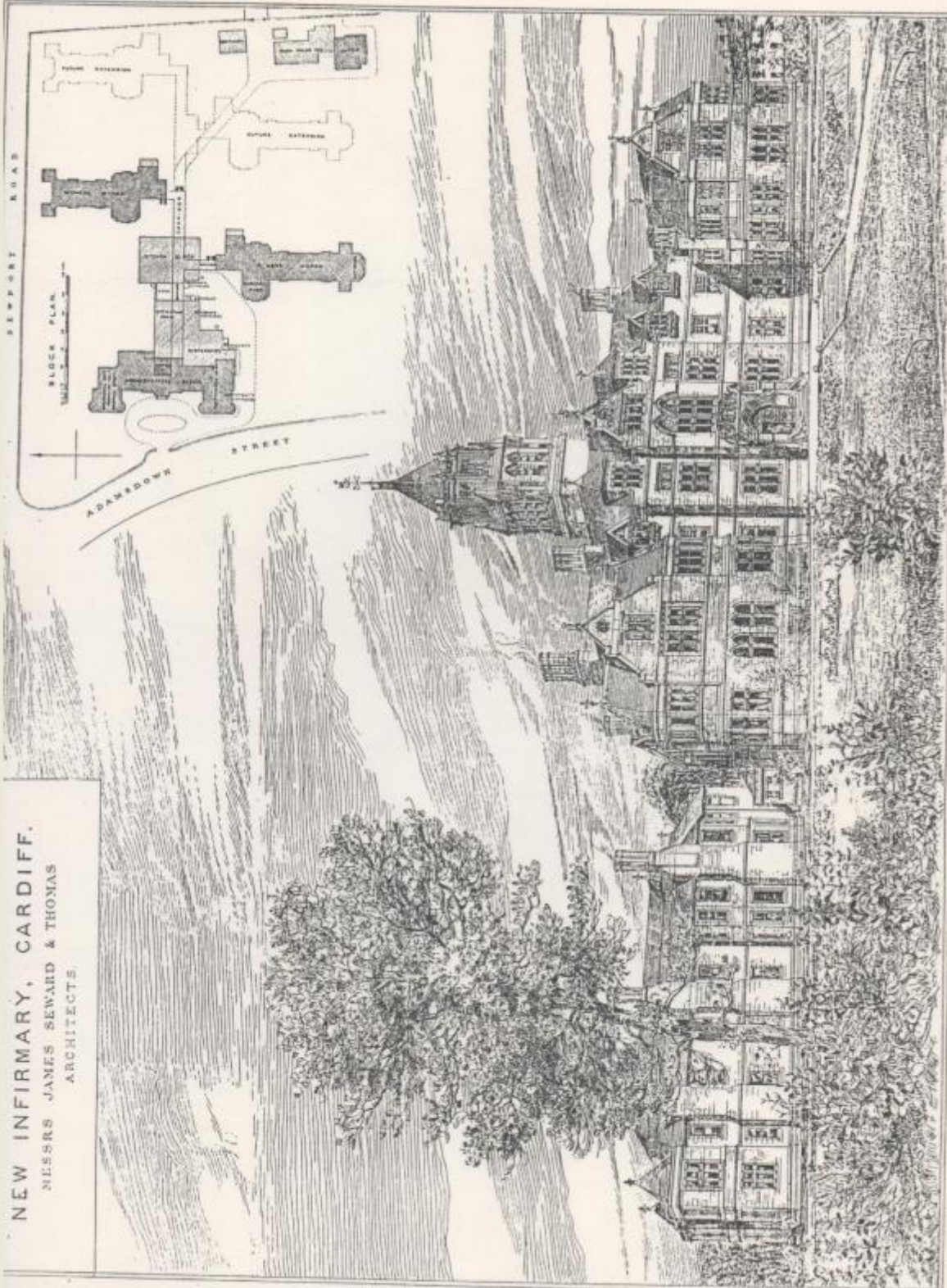
September 1858. Glamorgan Light Infantry was undergoing annual training at the barracks.

20 June 1859. 164 officers and men of the North British Fusiliers were at Longcross Barracks.

Source: W.J. Trounce. "Cardiff in the 50's". Western Mail Ltd. Cardiff 1918.

On the night of Sunday April 7th 1861, the only persons at the barracks were three Chelsea Pensioners.

NEW INFIRMARY, CARDIFF.  
MESSRS JAMES SEWARD & THOMAS  
ARCHITECTS



### LONGCROSS FIELD.

A plot of about 7 acres on the corner of City Road and Newport Road now (1985) occupied by Longcross Court.

A deed held at the G.R.O. (D/D 7BN 291) dated 13 September 1802 is a lease for 21 years granted by Mary Llewellyn of Coedriglan, widow, and Llewellyn Traherne of St Hilary Esq., to Henry Hollier of Cardiff esq. in respect of "Lancross Field" (6 acres) described as adjoining on the East the lands of Marmaduke Gwyn of Roath, Esq., on the North the lands of Charles Morgan of Ruperra, Esq. on the South the turnpike road from Cardiff to Newport and the West, Plwck Hallog Lane.

The 1840 Tithe Appt. describes the plot (No.206) as Longcross Field, its area being 7a.2r.10p. Owner: Llewellyn Traherne. Occupier: Wm. James. It was the only land held by Llewellyn Traherne in Roath.

In April 1981, Mr M.V.Golder of Atkins Sheppard Fidler and Associates, architects, approached the chairman of the Roath L.H.S. to seek historical background information about the site with a view to making an appropriate choice of name for the building to be erected there. After a meeting at which the results of our researches were conveyed to Mr Golder, the name "Longcross Court" was decided on. It is gratifying to know that local historians can assist heritage-conscious property developers choose names that preserve same continuity with the past.

### LORDS HENGGE, The

A fishery on the sea shore in the lordship of Roath between "Pulkye" on the east and the "Weydram" on the south. Mentioned in the Account of 1542 as having been leased to Rawlins White by Edmund Turner deceased, and therefore belonging to the King. In a footnote to the entry in C.R.V.389, J.H.M. mentions that "Rawlin Fyshe" is named in the same document as the tenant of half a burgage in West Street, Cardiff. He says that these are the only allusions he has met with in the records to the Cardiff Protestant martyr immortalised by John Foxe.

### LYNCH (also occurs as ERW'R LYNCH)

Tithe Appt. Plot 124. Pasture 43a.l.r.0p. part of Pengam.

### MARGERIE'S LAND.

In Ministers Accounts of 1492:

"..... 2 acres of meadow in great Holemead. and the land called Margeryeslonde, so demised unto Morgan ap John Gwynne for a term of (blank) years, by record of the Exchequer." (C.R.V.1.182)

In Ministers' Accounts of 1542/3:

" .....2 acres of meadow in Great Holemeade, and the land called Margeryslonde, late in the hands of Llywelyn Kemmes, lying within the lordship of Roth; so demised to farm unto Margaret vergh Morgan by letters patent of our lord the late King Henry VII, granted to her for the term of 99

years, given on the 16th day of November in the 19th year of the reign of the aforesaid late King, as in the said letters more fully appeareth;....."

C.R.I.232)

Mr Corbett on his annotated map marks this as lying in three detached portions; one south-east of Broadway on the north-west side of the railway; another on the other side of the line and a little further north-east; and a third further south-east, just north of the Splot.

C.R.V. 391

#### MEWESLESE.

Certain pasture land in the lordship of Roath. (Ministers' Account 1492) (C.R.1.184.186. C.R.V. 391)

#### MILL.

"Roath Mill was an ancient water grist-mill which stood on the northern arm of the Nant-mawr (Roath brook), a little north-west of Roath Church. It was the lord's mill for the Manor of Roath. Some remains of the original structure were to be seen, but the later building dated from the 18th century. It was demolished in 1897, after a useful existence of a thousand years." C.R.V.411.

A confirmatory charter of c.1102 (G.T.Clark's "Cartae' 1. p.39) from Henry I to the Abbot of Tewkesbury (confirming an earlier charter by Robert FitzHamon) refers to the mill of Raz (Roath) being given by Robert de Haia to Tewkesbury.

J.H.M. says (C.R.II.14) "What mill is here referred to is doubtful; for although an ancient mill was standing in Roath, not far from the church, until 1897, that mill was in Roath Keynsham"

It is difficult to imagine that any mill other than that near the parish church in the heart of the village could be described as the 'mill of Roath'. It is true that a seventeenth century survey of the manor of Roath Keynsham describes the lord's corn grist mill as being within that manor. But Roath Keynsham manor was created at least 100 years after Roath Tewkesbury during the time of Gilbert de Clare - 1217-30.

In the Account of John Giffard de Brimesfeld in 1316, at a time when the ravages of Llewellyn Bren's uprising were being felt, under the heading of "The Manor of Roath", he has an entry:

The Lord's Mills: For the fulling-mill nothing, because it is not yet made.

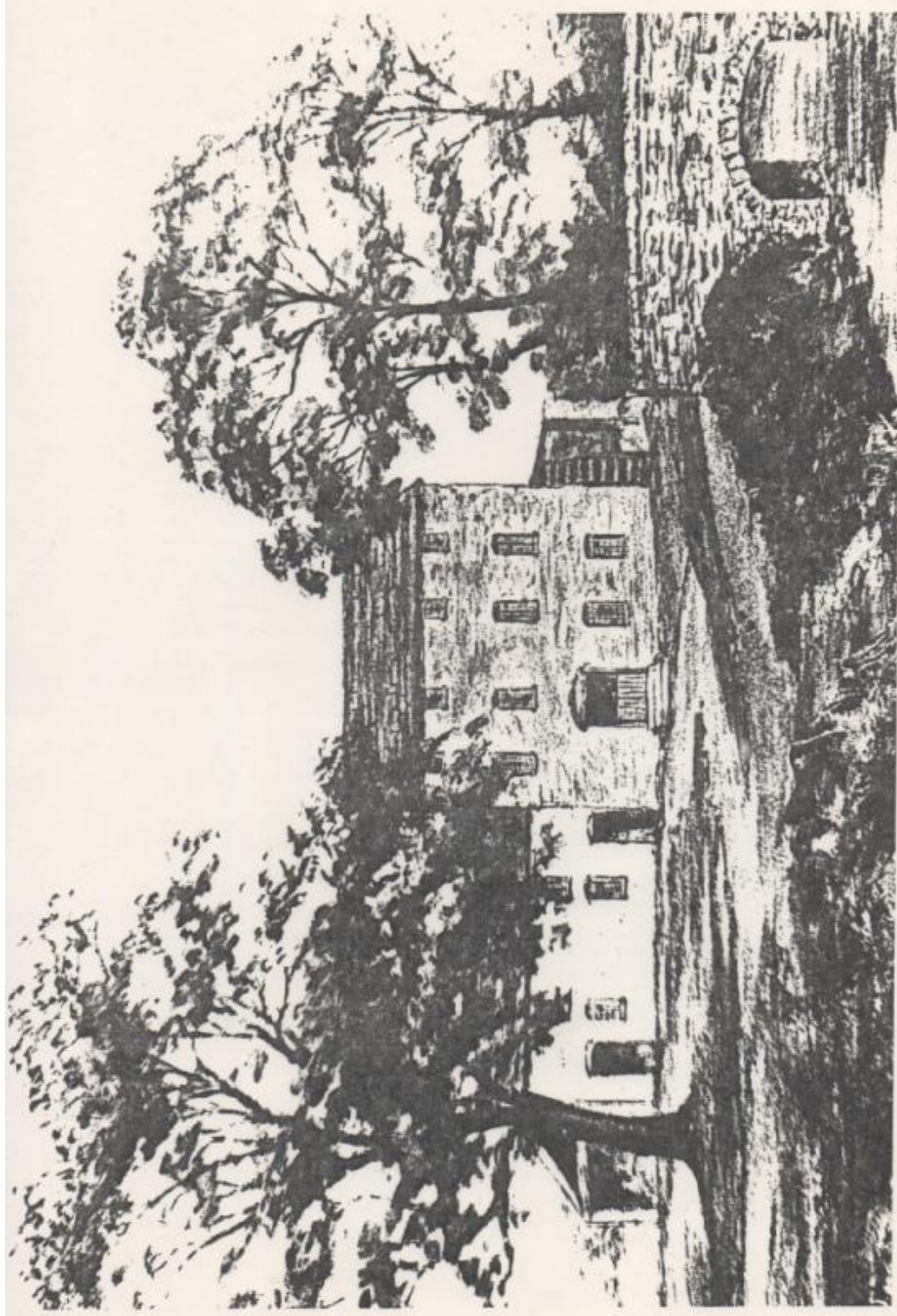
The same mill is referred to in the Inquisition Post Mortem of Gilbert de Clare in 1314.(C.R.I.279) under "Raath, to wit."

..... And there is a certain fulling mill begun, which is let to Richard Toukere and his son, by letter of the said Earl (i.e.Gilbert de Clare), to hold for the term of his life with a certain island which is called Annotesham; and they shall render therefor by the year, when the said mill shall have been completed, £4 at the four terms of the year....

In the 1349 I.P.M. of Hugh le Despenser:

And there is a certain weak fulling mill which is worth by the year 6s.8d.





RONTH MILL, 1886

From an Original Water Colour by William Bowen Hodgkinson.

From the print collection Cardiff Central Library. By permission of South Glamorgan County Librarian.

Fulling was the process of teasing and burling cloth to remove oil and grease and improve its texture. A person engaged in fulling was called a "tucker." Here we see an example of how English occupational surnames arose. Richard the tucker becomes Richard Tucker.

We cannot say, on this sparse evidence, where the fulling mill in Roath was situated. Although corn grist mills were sometimes converted to fulling mills and vice versa, it would seem unlikely that the mill on the Roath Brook in the village was ever a fulling mill. It was certainly a corn mill in the 19th century as is indicated on the O.S. map of 1879.

The fact that the fulling mill seems to have been associated with "an island called Annotesham" does not help to identify it because the location of Annotesham itself is unknown. It is just possible that the "island" was a plot of land called "Yelonde" or "The Island". (See above under "Island")

In the Land Tax assessment for 1784, the owner of Roath mill is shown as Henry Charles Morgan and the occupier as William Harris. In later assessments the occupier appears as a Mrs Jane Harris.

References to the mill and mill lands in the Tithe Apportionment of 1840 are:

Plot 268. Waun-y-Felin. (=Mill meadow). Pasture. 5a.3r.6p.

Plot 271. Mill. 1r.25p.

Plot 272. Mill Pond. 3r.20p.

These three are listed under the heading of "The Great House" the owner of which was Wm. Evans, Junior.

Plot 276. Deg Erwr Felin (=Ten mill acres) 13a 0r.20p. was a large arable plot - one of many owned by Sir Chas. Morgan and leased to Miss Jennet Morgan. (See Vol.1.No.2 p.15). The name clearly relates to the ancient customary acreage of the plot.

The use of the Welsh word "melin" (in its mutated form "felin") is significant in providing evidence that this mill was not a fulling mill, which in Welsh place-names is invariably rendered as "pandy".

Precisely who was in physical occupation of the mill is not indicated in the Tithe Apportionment schedule. For such information we have to turn to the 1841 Census. Here we find the head of the household is given a John Evans. His age is given as 19 and his occupation as "miller". Also living in the mill was John Hier age 45, a clerk, and Catherine Lewis age 45, the village schoolmistress. It could be that young Evans, the miller was a member of the family in the Great House. The "Hiers" were also certainly related to the Evans family.

In the 1851 census, Mill House is shown as being occupied by a shepherd, Edward Phillips age 27, Sarah, his wife age 22 and their one year old daughter Martilda (sic). Elsewhere in the parish in 1851 but at an address not specified, was William Morgan, a 27 year old miller and his wife, Jane. He was born in St. Nicholas and his wife in Llanishen.

An earlier miller was William Williams of Plwcca Lane whose son, William, was apprenticed in 1818 to Samuel Dimond, baker and confectioner. (List of Apprenticeship Indentures C.R.II.317)

Trade directories for 1891 - 1895 show George Burfitt as being at Roath Mill. He was the last occupier there. The mill does not appear in the 1896 and subsequent directories.

#### Mill Field.

Two plots belonging to Upper Llwyn-y-Grant but within the parish of Roath are shown in the Tithe Appt., viz:

Little Mill Field. Plot 345. Pasture. 7a.0.6p.

Great Mill Field. Plot 346. Arable. 10a.0r.5p.

The owner of both was Thos. Wm. Edwards and the Occupier was Wm. David.

The field names are a positive indication that there must have been a mill at one time on the lands of Upper Llwyn-y-Grant perhaps somewhere near the present St Teilo's School in Llanedeyrn Road.

#### MOOR HENG, The

A fishery on the sea shore in the lordship of Roath (1542). C.R.V. 393

#### MOREWLESE

A cloose of meadowland in the lordship of Cardiff and Roath, referred to in a Minister's Account of 1392. C.R.V.393

#### NABBS, The

A fishery on the sea shore in the lordship of Roath (1542). C.R.V. 394

#### NANT FAWR. (Great Brook)

Nant Mawr (colloquial & ungrammatical), Nant Lleici, Nant Lleuchu, Nant Lecky, Nant Derwen Deg (Fairoak Brook), and Roath Brook are all names given at various times to various stretches of the stream which, rising in the Cefn range, flows to the south east and into the Llanishen reservoir, Roath Park Lake, and joins with the Wedal brook near Fairoak, flows through Roath Park Recreation Ground between Ninian Road and Ty Draw Road, under Pen-y-lan Road (at what was Pont Lleici) and through Waterloo Gardens. A straight artificial channel to the Rhymney River runs off to the east in the area in front of the Home-Base store and Sainsbury's Supermarket in Colchester Avenue. It is tidal up to this point. But the old channel still goes under Newport Road near the Bus Depot and the former site of Roath Power Station, across what was formerly the land of Pengam Farm and discharges into the River Rhymney near the right bank of the estuary.

J.H.M. (C.R.V.394) tell us that Nant Lleici is the name given to the brook where it flows under and near Pont Lleici - a bridge which gave its name to an old cottage nearby which stood on a site close to the corner of Westville Walk and was occupied by a William Oram in the mid-19th century. The brook originally ran along the centre of the Recreation Ground but its course was diverted along a channel closer to Tydraw Road at the turn of the century.

On December 8th 1889 the Cardiff Borough Council instructed its engineer to carry out plans already approved for widening Pen-y-lan Road and to construct a new bridge over the Roath Brook adjoining

Roath Park Recreation Ground. A minute of November 9th 1891 records that this work was at that time in full progress.

J.H.M. associates Lleici with Saint Lleici or Lucy's Brook. The name "Lleici" may have related firstly to the bridge and later to the water that flowed beneath it.

Wells, springs and bridges were frequently named after persons having some association with them. Was Ffynnon Bren (which was in Albany Road opposite Claude Road) named after the famous Llewellyn Bren ? If so, could Pont Lleici have been named after his wife Lucy ?

William Rees in CARDIFF - A HISTORY OF THE CITY 2nd Ed. 1969 p.15 seems to have found references (but as usual does not quote his sources) to the brook being called "Llechau" or "Kenelechau" which he says had become corrupted to "Lleucu" or "Licky". In one of his famous foot-notes, he goes to town on the derivation of the name:

This stream, the Nant Fawr, was still known locally as Nant Lecky as late as the 18th century. The prefix "ken" (possibly early Welsh cyn, as in the Cynon) is an interesting element in early river-names, probably of British origin. The term "llech" may be the same as "llwch" (=a pool) and in the form "lake", in the sense of a stream, occurs at many points along the South Wales coast.

The Upper Lecky Bridge - Upper Pont Lecky- crossed the brook at Penylan Road and the Lower Pont (alias Popitt) stood on the site near Roath Church.

Old inhabitants interviewed in 1896 (See Vol.1.No.3. p.23 taken from C.R.V. p.329) refer to the bridge over the Nant Mawr on the Newport Road by Pengam Lane as "Pont-y-Rhath". The bridge at the foot of Pen-y-lan Hill is pronounced by one as "Pont Licky" and by another as "Pont Lecky".

The Roath Brook, as it is now called, was from ancient times an important boundary.

The Tithe Apportionment Agreement of 11 March 1839 recites the particulars of the tithe-owners and their holdings, etc.

It declares the portion of the parish south of the Roath Brook (with certain exceptions) to be subject to payment of tithes to Gloucester Cathedral or their lessees. The portion north of the Roath Brook (with certain exceptions) was subject to tithes payable to the Marquess of Bute.

The brook, then, may have been, at least for a part of its course, the boundary of the manor of Roath Tewkesbury, the collection of tithes originally due to Tewkesbury having been taken over by Gloucester.

#### NANT PANT BACH

A brook flowing through Well Wood, Llanedeyrn, crossing under Llanedeyrn Road.( O.S.2035 7928) and discharging into the Rhymney River.



It formed the County Borough and Borough Constituency boundary and the old parochial boundary between Roath and Llanedeyrn in the north-east of the parish.

NANT-Y-KYHALE

A brook referred to in the Roath Keynsham Survey of 1650.

NAWER Y BOTOM (? NAW ERW) = 9 acres (at) the bottom.

A field in Splott. Plot No.34 consisting of 10a.2r.10p.in the Splott Tredegar Survey of 1777.(N.L.W.TRED. 56/442).

NERHER BENGLOG

The second word in the place-name is Welsh for "skull". The meaning of "Nerher" is obscure. It was a very small plot in the moors in the south of the parish shown on the Tithe Map as Plot No.134 consisting of 3 roods of meadow leased to Miss Jennett Morgan but owned by Edward Henry Lee in 1840.

NEWCROFT

Twelve and a half acres of land in the lordship of Roath. (1492). C.R.V.395.

NEWMEAD

Four acres of pasture in the lordship of Roath (1492). C.R.V.395.

### MORE NOTES ON ST.MARGARET'S CHURCH

Lewis's Topographical Dictionary of 1833 states under "Roath":

.....The church, dedicated to St Margaret, is a small neat structure; the chancel was rebuilt by the late Marquis of Bute (i.e. the 1st Marquis), who also erected on the northern side of it, a splendid mausoleum for his family where he and the late Marchioness and Lord Mountstuart are interred.....

Although now within the precincts of the re-built church, this large vaulted mortuary chapel remains the private property of the Bute family and, as such, must surely be something of an embarrassment to the vicar, the congregation and the Church in Wales.

Commissioned by the 3rd Marquess of Bute, it was built in 1883 by Prichard in the elaborate Gothic style in which he revelled, to replace the earlier private vault. It has a pavement of black and white tiles, a fine vaulted roof (too ill-lit to be appreciated) and is separated from the chancel by a large lockable gilt wrought iron screen. Within it, with little room to spare between them, lie the massive table tombs of the Bute family.

Peter Howell and Elizabeth Beazley in their COMPANION GUIDE TO SOUTH WALES write:

They (Bute's ancestors) were put beneath monstrous granite blocks, which have been well compared to a herd of elephants with a baby bringing up the rear.

Re-interment entries in parish registers are rare. The Roath registers record:

Charlotte Jane, late Marchioness of Bute	re-interred 5 Sept. 1800
--	--------------------------

Rt. Hon. John, Lord Viscount Mountstuart	re-interred 5 Sept. 1800
--	--------------------------

Hon. Elizabeth Stuart	re-interred 5 Sept. 1800
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Lady Gertrude Amelia Stuart	re-interred 8 Sept. 1800
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Marquess of Bute, Cardiff Castle	20 Dec. 1814
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Frances, dowager Marchioness Marchioness of Bute (relict of John, 1st.Marquess of Bute) of Petersham, Kent.	24 Nov. 1832
---	--------------

Charlotte Jane (nee Windsor), the wife of the 1st Marquess of Bute died 28 January 1800 in London at the age of 54. Her body and that of her son, John ,who had died in 1794 were re-interred with the greatest privacy at early dawn on 5 September 1800.

John, Lord Mounstuart, had died at the age of 25 following a fall from his horse in February 1794. In October 1792 he had married Elizabeth, heiress of Patrick Crichton, sixth earl of Dumfries. He left one son, John, born 10 August 1793 - the future 2nd Marquess.

His second son, James Patrick Herbert, was born posthumously on 25 August 1794.

Within two weeks of having his first wife re-interred, the 56 year old Marquess married Frances, daughter of the wealthy banker, Thomas Coutts. In November 1814 the 1st Marquess died at Geneva at the age of 70 and a month later his body was buried alongside that of his first wife, Charlotte. In 1832, they were joined by his second wife, Frances, the last of the Bute family to be buried at Roath. The 1st Marquess had seven sons and two daughters (one of whom was Gertrude Amelia, who died in infancy), by his first wife and a son and a daughter by his second.

The body of the 2nd Marquess, who died on 18 March 1848 was taken to Kirtling, near Cambridge, to be buried alongside his first wife, Maria, who had died in 1841.

Although he had borne the cost of the new St Margaret's Church and the new family Mausoleum, the 3rd Marquess was not interred in the Roath family mausoleum. There was no room there.

#### PRIORY OF ST TEILO and CHURCH TERRACE

Tucked away in a secluded backwater behind St Margaret's Church is a property closely associated with the church. During the time of Vicar Smythie's incumbency (1880 - 1883), it was known as "St Margarets House" and had been presented by Lord Tredegar to the Society of St Margaret - an order of nuns centred in East Grinstead.

Here were two Victorian houses, (No, 3 and 4 Church Terrace), each known later as Cottage Homes for girls and each with a matron in charge. Alongside was St Margaret's House of Mercy (1891) and a Children's Home (1894) under the charge of the East Grinstead sisters who ran it originally as a reform school for wayward girls and later as an orphanage up to 1934. The Roath Parish Magazine of April 1894 contains the following announcement:

#### ST.MARGARET'S HOUSE OF MERCY

Orders for plain needlework will be gladly received. Another family's washing can be taken early in April. - Apply to the Sister-in-Charge.

The August 1894 number contains another announcement:

#### HOUSE OF MERCY

The Sister-in-Charge will be glad to have more orders for plain needle-work, surplices, etc. She also wishes it to be known that they can take a little more laundry work till November, owing to the absence from home of some of the regular families.

In the following month's magazine the following appeal appears:

CHILDREN'S HOME,  
In Connection With  
ST. MARGARET'S HOUSE OF MERCY, ROATH, CARDIFF,  
Under the charge of the Sisters of S. Margaret's, East Grinstead.

In the Autumn of 1891, a Temporary Home was opened at 78, Claude Road, for the reception and training of eight little girls between the age of 8 and 14.

These children are admitted from any locality, being rescued from evil surroundings, etc. New Buildings are urgently needed for this Home, over thirty most suitable cases having been refused for want of room. Lord Tredegar has generously given a site for this purpose, adjoining the House of Mercy.

Plain and practical Plans have been prepared by Messrs Veall & Sant (and passed by the Public Works Committee), providing accommodation for thirty children and workers, with a convenient Laundry and small Infirmary.

The cost of these new buildings will be at least £2,000, exclusive of the boundary wall, and of the much needed covered way connecting the Home with the House of Mercy.

Towards this sum the Sisters beg most earnestly for generous contributions from all who in England and Wales wish to aid in the rescue and training of these children.

Already £650 has been placed to the Building Account from the "General Fund" of the House of Mercy. A grant of £60 has been promised by the Church Penitentiary Association, and about £150 has been added to special contributions. Donations to the Building Fund will be thankfully acknowledged by the Sister-in-Charge.

St Margaret's House of Mercy. Roath, Cardiff.

Cheques to be paid to Mr George David, Hon. Treasurer.

Nos. 3 and 4 Church Terrace were later to become private residences and between 1935 and 1945 the main building was used as a student hostel, known as St Teilo's Hall, under the charge of a clergyman who acted as a warden. It was then taken over by the Community of the Resurrection, an Anglican order of monks, based at Mirfield, Yorkshire, who continued to run it as a hostel until 1958. The last warden there was Fr. Richard L. Barnes. It then became a retreat house run by the sisters of the Community of the Holy Order and was open to anyone in England and Wales who wished to seek inner tranquillity in Silence and prayer - "far from the madding crowd". The nuns returned in July 1978 to their Anglican mother house at Malvern, Worcestershire, leaving the trustees no option but to place the property on the open market in 1979.

In Church Terrace are what are rarely found in Roath - houses bearing a date plaque. In this instance, 1881. Cardiff Corporation Public Works Committee minutes show that a plan for drainage was approved in January 1888 and a further plan for drainage to two houses (not specified) in October 1895. A Plan for extension of the road and for six houses by H. B. Tucker was submitted and approved 18 December 1930. No.4 is known to be freehold (possibly others are as well).

### ANGLICAN CHURCHES IN ROATH in 1913

In 1913 there were five parishes in what was once the old single ecclesiastical parish of Roath.

#### 1. Parish of Roath.

- Parish Church: St Margaret's, Roath.
- St Annes, Crofts Street
- St Agnes Mission Church, Bertram Street
- (St Edwards, Blenheim Road , came later - in 1915)

#### 2. Parish of St Martin

- Parish Church: St Martin's, Albany Road
- St Cyprian's Church, Monthermer Road
- Mission Room: Crwys Bridge.

#### 3. St German

- Parish Church: Roath St German's, Star Street

#### 4. St Saviour

- Parish Church: St Saviour's, Splott Road
- St Francis' Mission Church, Singleton Road
- St Columba's Mission Church, Sanquahar Street.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

(Cardiff then (1913) formed part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Newport )

- St. Peter's. ( It was just outside the boundary of the former Anglican parish of Roath.)
- St Alban's, East Moors
- Convent: The Convent of the Good Shepherd, Ty-Gwyn Road, Pen-y-lan

## NON-CONFORMIST CHAPELS AND CHURCHES IN ROATH

In this issue we start a new series of articles on Non-conformist places of worship in Roath.

Although we normally take as our geographical unit of historical study the old ecclesiastical parish of Roath, such a boundary is somewhat artificial after 1875 when Roath was absorbed into Cardiff.

This is particularly noticeable when it comes to deciding what Non-conformist churches and chapels to include within the area of "Roath". The choice of where to draw the limits has to be somewhat arbitrary. Even with the churches of The Church in Wales, listed above, where there should be no difficulty, the Church of All Saints, with one entrance in Adamsdown Square and another in Windsor Road, although on the borderline, has been excluded from the list because it was a parish church in its own right and the parish of All Saints was outside the old ecclesiastical parish of Roath.

Some of the Non-conformist chapels are of considerable architectural interest. Several of them are ornate grandiose structures, capped with spires imposingly high in the decorated Gothic style more usually associated with Episcopalian churches. In this respect the chapel architecture in Roath is in complete contrast to that found in the Welsh mining valleys with their solid, plain Classical style chapels so familiar in the landscape of the coal mining communities in South Wales.

For the historical researcher, non-conformist churches generally present more of a problem than the Church of England (and, since disestablishment, the Church in Wales). Some denominations have been considerate enough to channel their old records into their own central depository; others have found their way into the National Library of Wales, County Record Offices or local libraries, but many non-conformist records are still held by deacons, elders, chapel secretaries, ministers and other individuals; such records come to light, if at all, either fortuitously or as the result of prolonged and persistent enquiries.

Many churches and chapels have at same time published a booklet to commemorate a 25th or 50th anniversary and if such publications can be found, they often prove to be of interest to the local historian.

Unfortunately they were not written specifically for the use of future historians, so that the interpretation and selection of historical data may be coloured by the religious leanings of the writer and are sometimes wrapped in moralising and proselytising language - a trait by no means confined to non-conformists.

The sheer multiplicity of denominations and sub-denominations in the late 19th and early 20th centuries can in itself be daunting to the student of local Non-conformist chapel history.

Taking 1913 as a peak year in Roath for attendance at non-conformist places of worship, we find from the WESTERN MAIL CARDIFF DIRECTORY for that year that the following are listed:

### UNITED METHODIST

- Diamond Street Chapel
- Mission Hall, Swansea Street
- Newport Road & Cathays

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WALES or ENGLISH CALVINISTIC METHODIST CHURCH

- Clifton Chapel, Newport Road
- Mission Church, Metal Street
- Plasnewydd Chapel, Keppoch Street

#### Forward Movement Halls:

- East Moors Hall
- Crwys Hall, Monthermer Road
- Fitzroy Street Mission, Cathays
- Moorland Road Hall

### WELSH CALVINISTIC METHODISTS

- Crwys Chapel, Cathays

### UNSECTARIAN GOSPEL HALLS

#### Cardiff City Mission Halls:

- May Street
- 46, Milton Street

### THE SALVATION ARMY

#### Gospel Halls:-

- Kames Place, Adamsdown
- Mackintosh Place, Roath Park
- 51 Clifton Street

#### Mission Rooms:-

- 12, Railway Street
- Welcome Mission Room, Tavistock Street

Barracks:- 71, Cecil Street

Rescue Home:- 81, Newport Road

### ENGLISH BAPTIST

- Albany Road (founded 1894)
- Longcross Street
- Pearl Street
- Splott Road
- Woodville Road

### WELSH BAPTIST

- Salem, Moira Terrace.
- Ainon, Walker Road.

### WESLEYAN METHODIST

Wesley Circuit:-

- Cathays, Crwys Road
- Roath Park, Albany Road/Wellfield Road.

Roath Road Circuit:-

- Roath Road Chapel (Corner City Road)
- Broadway Chapel
- Splott Road

### PRIMITIVE METHODIST

- Mount Tabor, Moira Terrace
- Dalton Street
- Mount Hermon, Pearl Street
- Mount Zion, Aberdovey Street

### CONGREGATIONAL (ENGLISH)

- Roath Church, Stacey Road
- Star Street Church
- Roath Park Church

### CONGREGATIONAL (WELSH)

- Minny Street
- Bethlehem, Eyre Street

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND

- Roath Park, Pen-y-lan Road



ST ANDREW'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
formerly  
ROATH PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbyterian Church of England – local background

It was in 1864 that the Presbyterian Church of England first obtained a footing in Cardiff, the meetings being held in the Cardiff Arms Rooms. On October 5th, 1866 the building in Windsor Place was opened for public worship, when the Rev. Dr Guthrie of Edinburgh and the Rev. Dr James Hamilton preached. But it was to the Rev. J.D.Watters, M.A., that the prosperity of the church is mainly due. After a brilliant University career he was ordained minister of Windsor Place in October, 1881, and, under his influence, the church became one of the most influential in the town. In 1887, a mission was opened under the auspices of the church in Harriet Street, Cathays, and in 1893 a splendid block of buildings for work among the young was erected in Windsor Place. As soon as the debt was cleared, the way was left open to found a new cause at Pen-y-lan.

The New Roath Park Church

Many of the following notes are derived from an excellent little booklet published in 1947 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the church. It was kindly lent to me by one of their members, Mrs M.S.Newton, for the purpose of extracting information for this Newsletter and it covers the period from the foundation in 1897 until 1947. I regret that the subsequent history of the church is not immediately available but the present Interim Moderator, Allen Powell, who is a history graduate, intends to make some enquiries and will make the results available to the Society.

Architecture

The church stands on the corner of Pen-y-lan Road and Marlborough Road facing the junction of Wellfield Road and Ninian Road. Its fine 150 feet spire with its corner spirelets and its three horizontal bands of Red Mansfield stone is the tallest of any non-conformist church in Cardiff.

The building was completed in 1900 to the plans of E.H. Fawckner, of W.G.Habershon and Fawckner, who were, incidentally, architects of the Park Hotel, Cardiff (1885). Habershon, who was Lord Tredegar's architect, had the honour of having a street in Splott named after him. The doorway, like most of the external stone, is in need of a good clean to exhibit to its best advantage its traceried arch and decorated panels. It is a copy of the 13th century west door of Tintern Abbey and the great window above is a copy of the transept windows in Melrose Abbey in Scotland. Some may discern the hint of an apparent theological incongruity in copying architectural features from two great Roman Catholic Abbeys destroyed by the Reformers.

The interior gives an immediate impression of spaciousness. The sheer expanse and rich colour of the matching woodwork of the seating, the massive balcony, the roof and the organ case is almost overwhelming. The organ, which cost £800, and was opened on 19th September 1900 at a special service conducted by the Rev. Dr. George Hanson, of Marylebone Church, London, is a masterpiece of Messrs Harrison and Harrison.

### The times and the locality

In the 1890's, Wellfield Road had not been built. Lord Tredegar was proposing to open up the Pen-y-lan area for house building. Pen-y-lan Hill, from the Taff Vale Railway bridge near Ty Gwyn Road, was a narrow country lane with high hedges. The same was true of the present Cyncoed Road, on which, when they came into use, motor cars had difficulty in passing one other. The upper part of what is now Waterloo Road was a narrow footpath straggling up from the old bridge (demolished October 1985) between wire fences through allotments to the top of the hill.

### First steps

As already mentioned, the initiative for founding a new church in the area came from the Presbyterian Church of England at Windsor Place. That church was flourishing. Although their church had been enlarged, it was still inadequate. It was clear, in the words of a contemporary record that "if Presbyterianism was to grow in Cardiff it could only be done by starting a new cause."

The architect having been engaged, and a site having already been chosen, with "sufficient space for the church hall, class rooms, manse and caretaker's house," in addition to the space for the future church itself, a meeting of 41 interested persons was held at Windsor Place Church on 10th February 1896, presided over by the pastor, the Rev. J. Douglas Watters. They had to seek the official sanction of the Presbytery of Bristol for the opening of a new cause. Meanwhile they ordered specifications to be prepared for a hall and class rooms and appointed a strong Building Committee of 23 members chaired by the pastor.

### A pioneer of the cause.

The Rev. J. Douglas Watters, M.A., who guided so ably the planning and development of the new church did not live long enough to see the fruition of his work. He died on September 5th, 1898, at the age of 47. He had rendered yeoman service to the University College, Cardiff, from its foundation and had taken a leading part in establishing the Faculty of Theology, to which he acted as Honorary Secretary up to the time of his death.

A group of Elders of Windsor Place, led by Sir John Gunn and Mr James Manuel fulfilled the duties of a Kirk Session until the new congregation was in a position to elect its own. In the first minutes appear the names of those who were to become prominent in the affairs of the new church:-

W.W.Pettigrew (Parks Superintendent), William McKenzie (Chief Constable of Cardiff), William Young, the fruit and potato merchant of Oldwell", Pen-y-lan, T.B. and W.E. Leitch of Cressy Road, James Strachan of Pen-y-lan, and others.

### The Hall

The memorial stone of the new Hall was laid by Lord Windsor on 24th March, 1897; and the Hall itself was opened, free of debt, on 5th September in the same year. The opening service in the Hall, which had a narrow platform with small preaching desk, was taken by the Rev. J. Douglas Watters on 5th September, 1897.

Three days later, the congregation received official recognition by the Presbytery "raising the cause to the status of a sanctioned charge."

The congregation had made up its mind on a pastor, and, on 27th January, 1898, the Rev. W.E.Shaw (from St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Swansea) was inducted to the Pastoral Charge.

Attendances were so good at the first services that the seating accommodation in the Hall soon became inadequate, making it necessary to press on with the erection of the Church.

### Church building

Two foundation stones of the Church were laid on 12 April, 1899 by Lord Tredegar and Henry Robson of London who for many years was in charge of the Synod 's Church Extension work. Already half of the contract price of over £8,000 had been subscribed or promised, personal guarantees had been signed for £5,000, and the provision of 800-900 sittings did not seem too rash an undertaking. Another memorial stone records "Builder: Jas. Allan. Erected 1900".

### Dedication of the Church

On Wednesday, 20th June 1900, the Rev. John Watson, D.D., of Sefton Park Church, Liverpool, the Moderator of Synod for that year conducted the Dedication Service. He was at the height of his fame, preacher, but as "Ian Maclaren", author of several popular stories.

The First Session had been appointed on the previous Sunday, 17th June, 1900 by the induction of Mr James Manuel, and the ordination and induction of Messrs Thomas Burns, Albert Gardner, David Ireland, W.W.Pettigrew and William McKenzie (Session Clerk).

The initial membership of 60 had risen to 79 in January 1898, and, five months later, to 119. The trend continued thus:

1900 – 150, 1905 – 276, 1910 – 341, 1913 – 367

Mr Shaw 's pastorate lasted from January, 1898 to December 1907 when he went to a church in St Leonards-on-sea, where he remained until 1922 after which he was in retirement until his death in 1937. The Rev Lewis Robertson, M.A., Minister of Windsor Place Church acted as interim-moderator until the congregation's new choice, the Rev J. Reynolds McLean, from Park Terrace Church, Gateshead, was inducted to the pastoral charge on 30th April, 1908.

A disastrous fire destroyed the Windsor Place Church on 20th February, 1910 and the Roath Park Church gave what assistance they could to their mother church. They had to come to the rescue in May, 1910 to house the meetings of the Annual Synod (later called the "General Assembly") of the Presbyterian Church of England, which had been planned to be held in Cardiff.

The year 1913 was the peak year for membership; the number 367 was never exceeded; and in fact, in the next period, a slow but steady decline set in. Church membership is not the same thing as church attendance; and the peak of average church attendance had probably come a few years before 1913, as indicated by the concern being shown by the office-bearers at that time. Attendances fell sadly below the accommodation for 800 – 900 people. The gallery itself had been built to provide seating for about 200 people.

During the first World War, J.R. McClean, because of his heavy national commitments, called in the help of D.T.Davies and J.Reid Howatt. The latter, a retired minister, but vigorous in his old age, served from December 1916 to January 1918. McClean resigned from the pastorate in September, 1917 and died with tragic suddenness in July, 1921.

### The Sunday School

Mr Davies, who later became pastor of Forest Hill Church, London, acted as assistant pastor from June 1915 to January 1916, when he accepted a call to Manchester. It was he who re-modelled the Sunday School to help stem the rapid decline in numbers, setting up a "Primary Department", leading to a new concept of Sunday School work with regular training classes for teachers and grading of pupils. The new approach was successful. The drift was arrested and the school gained a reputation in Cardiff and beyond for efficiency.

### Scouts and Guides

Which is the oldest Scout Troop in Cardiff? Both St Martin's, Albany Road and St Andrew's claim the honour. Somebody should investigate and adjudicate. The history of the Boy Scout movement in Cardiff, as far as I know, has yet to be written. Our Society holds some information about the early Scout Movement at St Martin's. This will be referred to when we produce some notes on that Church. Meanwhile, the Jubilee Booklet of the Roath Park Presbyterian Church does not specify dates. It merely records that the period of the First World War saw the establishment of the Scout movement at Roath Park.

### The Inter-War Period, 1918-1939

The main part of the period between the wars was bridged by three short ministries, those of the Revs. J. Macara Gardner, M.A., John R.Coates, M.A., and ELL. Allen, M.A., Ph.D., D.D.

Mr Gardner came in January, 1918 and left in June, 1922 to take up a pastorate at Palmers Green London.

Mr Coates's ministry lasted from September, 1923 till January, 1928, when he was appointed Professor of Old Testament Studies on the central staff of the Selly Oak College, Birmingham, where he continued until 1945.

Dr Allen, who succeeded him in September, 1928, left in November 1931 to take up the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church in Kowloon in Hong Kong, and later became lecturer in theology at King's College, Newcastle (University of Durham).

At the time of the Jubilee Booklet (1947) the Rev. Sydney J. Haggis, M.A., had been with the church since October 1932. The decline in membership, after a sharp rise and fall in the mid twenties, was arrested about half way between the two wars. Since then, for about twenty years, it remained about the 200 mark.

### The Second World War, 1939 – 1945

Despite war damage in the vicinity, including houses in Pen-y-lan Road, the church buildings, almost miraculously, escaped all serious damage from enemy bombers.

One of the most outstanding activities during the war was the setting up and running of the Canteen for service-men. It was a co-operative enterprise with members of the nearby Roath Park Methodist Church. Here, men and woman in uniform from the U.K., all parts of the Commonwealth and the United States and other countries were welcomed with refreshments and hospitality. The number of those helped frequently reached as many as 500 to 600 in one evening.

In 1944, the Roath Park Christian Forum was formed, a war-time prayer meeting of the five local Free Churches.

When it became part of the United Free Church movement, the elders had to consider re-naming the church so as to avoid confusion with chapels of other denominational origin bearing the name “Roath Park”. The name chosen was “St Andrew’s” – an appropriate name for an English Presbyterian Church in Wales whose congregation, like that of its mother church in Windsor Place included so many Cardiff Scots. And with a minister by the name of “Haggis”, is it any wonder that Cardiffians came to call it, rather affectionately, the “Scottish Presbyterian Church”

### MINISTERS 1898 to 1947

- 1898-1907: W.E.Shaw
- 1908- 1917: J. Reynolds McClean
- 1918-1922: John R. Coates
- 1928-1931: E.L.Allen
- 1932 : Sydney J. Haggis