

72488. THOMAS MORGAN

Born

Died

Married 72489. Joan (Jane) Herbert

Born

Died

Children (order of birth unknown):

(son) Morgan

b.

d.

m.

36244. John Morgan

b. (1519?)

d. (c1525?)

m. (1) 32645. Elizabeth (Ely) Lewis
(2) Janet David

Margaret Morgan

b.

d.

m. Morgan John

Sir Thomas Morgan of Langstone and Pencoed (Pencoyd) was a son of Morgan ap Jenkin of Langstone and his wife Elizabeth Vaughn, daughter of Sir Roger Vaughn. Joan(Jane) Herbert was the daughter and heir of John ap Gwilym Herbert of Itton in Monmouthshire.ⁱ

The home of Sir Thomas Morgan, who was knighted in 1495,ⁱⁱ has been given as Pencoyd,ⁱⁱⁱ Pencoed^{iv} and Pen-y-coed Castle in Monmouthshire,^v which probably were alternative spellings for the same place. Pen-y-coed does not appear in Gwent (formerly Monmouthshire) on modern maps, but there is a village named Pencoed northeast of Bridgend in Glamorganshire, Wales, and a town called Pencoyd in Herefordshire, about eight miles directly north of the city of Monmouth and five miles from the Monnow River, which separates Monmouthshire and Herefordshire, but neither seem to apply to a location described as in Monmouthshire, unless the boundary between Monmouthshire and Herefordshire has been altered. Pencoyd is approximately thirty miles from Llantarnam and nearly half way between the cities of Monmouth and Hereford.^{vi}

The reference to Pen-y-coed pertains to the Morgan family of Tymawr in the parish of Tredunnoch in Monmouthshire which was described as a branch of the Morgans of Pen-y-coed Castle in Monmouthshire from whom also sprang the Morgan family of Llantarnam.^{vii} The Morgan family of Tredunnoch was established by John Morgan, son of Morgan ap Jenkin by his third wife and half-brother of Thomas Morgan of Pencoyd.^{viii} Although Morgan ap Jenkin has been described as of Langstone,^{ix} this implies that he was of Pen-y-coed Castle, which may be true.

In addition to the extensive land-holdings that Sir Thomas Morgan's grandson William Morgan held at Llantarnam, and passed to his successors, the Morgan family also owned, later at least, the castle at Pencoyd, which, perhaps, descended to them from Sir Thomas Morgan of Pencoyd. As Roman Catholics, who were persecuted by the English rulers after King Henry VIII established the Church of England, the subsequent Morgans of Llantarnam were subjected continually to the sequestration of their estates by Parliament for being non-jurors and recusants. By frequent compoundings or settlements they managed to retain their property from seizure. The largest settlement paid by the Morgans was 1007 pounds in 1666 when Pencoyd Castle was sequestered.^x Non-jurors were persons who refused to take an oath of allegiance to their ruler or government and recusants were Roman Catholics who refused to attend the services of the Church of England or to acknowledge the ecclesiastical supremacy of the Crown.

However, when William Morgan, who had purchased the whole of the valuable property of Llantarnam Abbey, died on 29 March 1582 his assets, which were determined by a post mortem inquiry dated 15 October of the same year, contained no reference to ownership of Pencoyd Castle.^{xi}

that the aforesaid William Morgan was seised in his demesne as of fee of and in the site and capital messuage of the late monastery of Lanternam and lands in the parish of St. Michael's next Lanternam, and of and in one tenement called Kidlonedd in the parish of Mynythusloyne, and also of and in all the manor of Magna Porta and the manor or grange of Pulpen in the parish of Christchurch, and of and in all that grange of Kevenminnick (Cefn-y-mynach) in the parish of St. Michael's next Lanternam, and also of and in all that park called Park Pen y beall (Pen-y-pil) in the parish of St. Cadoc next Carlion, and also of and in all that manor of Kemes Com'ander, and also of and in the manors of Edlogan and Langston, Witston (Whitson), Kilpale and Porton, and of lands, &c., in Christchurch, Nashe, Kemmis Yssa, Henllis, Mynythusloyne, Malpas, Bettws, &c. the said William Morgan died on the 29th day of March last, and Edward Morgan, aged 32, is only son and heir of the said William.

Since Pencoyd Castle was not listed among the assets of William Morgan, perhaps it did not descend to the heirs of John Morgan through him and his son William but was acquired indirectly by a later generation. Since John Morgan was identified as the second son of Sir Thomas Morgan and a resident of Caerleon, perhaps his elder brother inherited Pencoyd land and lived there.

Elizabeth Lewis, the first wife of John Morgan of Caerleon, Esquire, who served as Member of Parliament for Monmouthshire in 1553-4, was a daughter of Lewis ap Richard Gwyn of the Van, Esquire. Janet David, his second wife, was a daughter of David ap Morgan Philip Rees of Caio.^{xii} The parents of Janet David also have been identified as David Morgan ap Rhys ap Philip ap Rhysvychan of Caio.^{xiii}

Edward Lewis of the Van, son of Lewis ap Richard Gwyn and a brother of Elizabeth Lewis who married John Morgan, married Anne Morgan, daughter of William Morgan, Knight, of Pencoed.^{xiv} Since William Morgan of Pencoed was of the same generation as Thomas Morgan of Pencoed they probably were brothers:

William Morgan of Pencoed : Lewis ap Richard Gwyn : Thomas Morgan of Pencoed
/ / / /
Anne Morgan = Edward Lewis Elizabeth Lewis = John Morgan

It may be possible that William Morgan of Pencoed whose daughter Anne married Edward Lewis was the elder son of Thomas Morgan, rather than his brother, although that does not seem logical generationally.

Although John Gwilym Herbert of Itton was a contemporary of Sir William Herbert, 2nd Earl of Pembroke, he has not been connected with his family. Sir William was the son and heir of Sir William Herbert, 1st Earl of Pembroke, was the son of Sir William ap Thomas Herbert, who was the son of Sir Thomas ap Gwyllym Herbert. The genealogy of the earls of Pembroke does not include a John William (Gwilym) Herbert nor does it refer to the place named Itton.^{xv} There is a village named Itton Common northwest of Chepstow in Gwent^{xvi} which may have been the home of John Gwilym Herbert. The fact that Sir William Herbert, 1st Earl of Pembroke, was titled Baron Herbert of Chepstow^{xvii} suggests that John Gwilym Herbert of Itton may have been of a branch of his family.

Sir Morgan ap John who married Margaret Morgan was the eldest son of Sir John Morgan of Tredegar, Knight of the Sepulchre in 1448, and his wife Jenet, daughter and co-heir of John ap David Mathew of Llandaff. Sir Morgan John was knighted on 22 June 1497 after Blackheath. John Morgan, son of Sir Morgan John and Margaret Morgan, married Letitia (Lettice) Herbert, daughter of Sir George Herbert of St. Julians. Thomas Morgan of Tredegar and Machen, Esquire, second son of Sir John Morgan and his wife Jenet, married Elizabeth Vaughn, daughter of Roger Vaughn of Porthaml, and was living in 1538. Their daughter Constance Morgan married William Jones of Treowen^{xviii} and had John Jones who married Anne Dodington,^{xix} daughter of Giles Dodington of Fayland in Somersetshire, Esquire, and Jane Morgan, who was a granddaughter of Sir Thomas Morgan of Pencoyd.^{xx}

NOTES

- i. *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, Ireland and Scotland*, John Burke, Esq., and John Bernard Burke, Esq., London, 1841, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1977.
- ii. Source missing.
- iii. *A History of Monmouthshire From the Coming of the Normans into Wales Down to the Present Time*, Joseph Alfred Bradney, C.B., M.A., F.S.A., Volume III, Part 2, comprising 16 parishes and hamlets in the Hundred of Usk, including

Llanfihangel Llantarnam, Mitchell, Hughes and Clarke, London, 1923.

iv. Supra note 1.

v. *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, John Burke, Esq., London 1834-38, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1977, Volume IV, page 650.

vi. Royal Auto Club maps.

vii. Supra note 5.

viii. Supra note 1.

ix. *ibid.*

x. *A History of the Family of Morgan*, James Appleton Morgan, privately, New York, c1902.

xi. Supra note 2.

xii. *ibid.*

xiii. Supra note 10.

xiv. Supra note 5, Volume III, page 387.

xv. *A Genealogical History of the Dormant, Abeyant, Forfeited, and Extinct Peerages of the British Empire*, Sir Bernard Burke, C.B.,LL.D., London, 1883, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1978

xvi. Supra note 6.

xvii. Supra note 5, Volume IV, page 727.

xviii. Supra note 10.

xix. Supra note 17.

xx. Supra note 3.