

COWBRIDGE & DISTRICT MUSEUM

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 517702

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES COMMISSION NO. 154

CURATOR: MARION A. EVELEIGH M.B.E.

PENLLYNE CASTLE, early 12th century (before 1135).

The Manor of Sir Robert Norris.

It remained in the Norris family till c.1400 when the male line died out. Lucy Norris married Tomkin Turberville, taking with her Penllyne Castle as part of her dowry.

In 1535 when owned by Christopher Turberville it was set on fire. The Keep survived and was incorporated into the large Manor house subsequently built by the Turbeville's.

The Turbevilles owned the castle until 1723. After which it changed hands several times.

The castle was derelict in 1786 but the Norman Keep was still standing. In 1789 Miss Gwinnett inherited the castle from her friend Lady Vernon, daughter of the last Lord Mansel. Miss Gwinnett built a modern mansion on the site.

In 1846 John Homfray purchased the castle and built the present castellated mansion which incorporates part of the Norman keep.

In 1960/70 Major Frank Homfray sold the castle to Mr. Christopher Cory and moved to Penllyne Court where he lives today. He retained the estates which he farms. He has a son John Homfray.

Colonel H.R. Homfray , grandfather of Major Homfray was made a Freeman of Cowbridge in 1935 and he was Mayor in 1938 and 1939. He is the only Mayor to be elected from the people of the Town not the Town Council as is common practice.

FRANCIS HOMFRAY 1726---1798.

Sons, Jeremiah, Samuel and Thomas.

The Homfrays were a well known Yorkshire family believed to be of Norman descent.

Francis Homfray, Iron Master of Wollaston Hall, Worcestershire, married Miss Hannah Popkin of Coytrehen Nr. Bridgend, Glamorganshire.

In 1749 Francis Homfray with a partner bought the newly established Melingriffith Forge a few miles from Cardiff.

1784 Francis and sons formed the Penydarren Iron works near Merthyr. They were instrumental in building both the Glamorgan and Aberdare canals and also local tramways.

JEREMIAH HOMFRAY married Mary, daughter of John Richards of Cardiff and lived at Llandaff near Cardiff. He was Sheriff of Glamorgan

in 1809. (Sheriff is a position held for one year) He became Sir Jeremiah Homfray Knt. in 1810. He died in 1833, his heir was his son John. JOHN RICHARDS HOMFRAY married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Glynne Earle Welby, Bart., of Denton Hall Lincolnshire. He was Sheriff of Glamorgan in 1843 when he was described as of Llandaff Court. In 1846 he bought Pennlyne Castle. His heir was his son John Richards Homfray.

I have no knowledge of the following descendants until Colonel H.R. Homfray who died in 1940. He was succeeded by his son Captain Homfray who died about 1970. His son and heir is Major Frank Homfray who resides at Pennlyne Court. He has a son John.

PENLLYNE is a village two miles or so from Cowbridge. Cowbridge is overlooked to the north by Penllyne Castle and to the South by the Iron Age Hill Fort of Llanblethian. (CAER- DYNNAF)

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The History and Antiquities of Glamorgan by Thomas Nicholas.
Glamorgan County History. Volume V. Industrial Glamorgan.
Records of Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council.

chs 05383-1 Homfray family of Penllyn Castle research

1913, October 1st Frank Richard Homfray, 16, son of Colonel Homfray of Penlline castle, has died of injuries in a collision with a car whilst riding a motor cycle *Western Times*

Members of the Homfray family in Australia :

Robert (? Homfray) married Annie (? Glynn) in 1891 in Victoria, Australia. He was born in 1870, and died 1936. Annie, born 1869, died 1933.

Their children were – Myrtle (born 1899, died 1929), Florence Vera (born 1894, died 1943), Robert Gordon (born 1897, died 1952), Gladys (born 1892, died 1946), Ruby (born 1898, died 1967), Agnes Maud (born 1905, died 1999), Queenie (Lucy – born 1903, died 1932) and Olga (born 1909, death unsure date) *Information from Sharon Dillon, great granddaughter of Ruby).*

Compiled by David J. Evans, of 26, Granville Rd., Sevenoaks Kent. April 1982. *D.J.E.*

Charles Crofts WILLIAMS, of Rooth Court, Cardiff. b. 1798 d. 1860 = ① Sarah, da of Thomas CHARLES b. d. = ② Blanche, da of Henry PHILLIPS of Llantarnam, Gwent b. d.

Charles Henry WILLIAMS D.L.J.P. of Rooth Court, Cardiff. b. 1837 d. 1908 = Millicent Frances da. of Robert HERRING of Cromer, Norfolk. b. d. 1930

George Crofts WILLIAMS M.A. (Oxon.) J.P. of Llantarnam Hall, Gwent. b. 1829 d. 1913

Charles Crofts WILLIAMS D.L.J.P. of Rooth Court, Cardiff. b. 1837 d. 1908 = Rose Maud Mary da. of G.W.G. THOMAS of Ystrad Mynach, Glam. b. d. 1947

Robert Henry WILLIAMS J.P. of Bawdler, Glam. b. 1871 d. 1962 = Dorothy Marie da. of Edward POOLE of Wivelstonk. b. d. 1976

Claude WILLIAMS b. d. 1952

Rose WILLIAMS b. d. 1958

Blanche Jessie WILLIAMS b. d. 1947 = Lt. Col. Herbert Richards HOMFRAY D.L.J.P. of Pullyn Castle, Glam. b. 1864 d. 1940

Mabel Millicent WILLIAMS b. 1864 d. 1962 = Henry Hastings CLAY M.A. (Oxon.) H.S.D.L.J.P. of Oak Grove, Gwent. b. 1864 d. 1943

Diana WILLIAMS b. d. 1931 = Capt. James C. REYNOLDS of Wainor, Thornbury. b. d.

Charles Crofts WILLIAMS D.L.J.P. of Rooth Court, Cardiff. b. 1837 d. 1908 = ① Syssyllt Ada da. of Col. Charles RICHARD FRANKLEN D.L.J.P. of Clewston, Glam. (div) b. d. = ② Susan Eva da. of Robert H. WILLIAMS of Bawdler, Glam. LL.H.S.D.L.J.P. b. 1915 *

Violet Vera WILLIAMS b. 1896 d. = Major Edouard John CARL DAVID of Fairwalle *

Susan Eva WILLIAMS b. 1915 = Joan Anne WILLIAMS O.B.E. b. 1916 = David Treharne LLEWELLYN M.A. (Oxon.) K.B. b. 1916 = Mary Victoria WILLIAMS b. 1921 = Charles Bronkie RODGER b.

Capt. Herbert Charles Richards HOMFRAY of Pullyn Castle b. 1890 d. 1960 = ① Hilda Evelyn Gwendolen da. of Lt. Col. Charles Richard FRANKLEN D.L.J.P. of Clewston, Glam. b. d. = ② Selma Margriet da. of Sir Seymour W.B. Boothby 1/4 Lt. b.

John Richards HOMFRAY b. 1893 d. 1914 (K.I.A.)

Winifred Mary HOMFRAY b. 1895 d. 1945

Francis Richards HOMFRAY b. 1897 d. 1913

Blanche Jessie WILLIAMS b. d. 1947 = Lt. Col. Herbert Richards HOMFRAY D.L.J.P. of Pullyn Castle, Glam. b. 1864 d. 1940

Gwenlan Mary HOMFRAY b. 1905 = John Charles CLAY D.L.J.P. of St. Hilary, Glam. b. 1898 d. 1973

Henry Charles Hastings CLAY of Ainton, Yorks b. 1895 = Florence Edith da. of C.H. RICHARDS b. d. = Richard Leigh CLAY of Golden Hill, Gwent b. 1898 = Ann Flora da. of Sir Thomas WILLIAM ALLEN J.P. b. 1896

Mabel Edith Mary CLAY b. 1891 d. 1957 = Guy Lancelot Brunton FRANCIS of Chelston, Gwent b. 1886 d. 1962

Phyllis Irene CLAY b. 1900 = Beryl REYNOLDS b. 1900 d. 1969 = Dudley REYNOLDS O.B.E. = Ruth da. of FAWCETT b. d. = Claude REYNOLDS b. d. 1979 = George REYNOLDS

Charles Thomas Crofts WILLIAMS b. 1923 d. 1923 = Emma Victoria Marie LLEWELLYN b. 1951 = Bruce H. DINWIDDY b. = Robert Crofts WILLIAMS LLEWELLYN b. 1952 = ① Susan Constance da. of H. MILLER-STIRLING of South Africa b. d. 1980 = ② Lucinda da. of Alexander GILMORE b. = David Rhidian LLEWELLYN b. 1957 = Peter Robert Charles RODGER b. 1951 = Prudence da. of Dr. J. CRABTREE of Exmouth, Devon. b. 1951

Evelyn Anne HOMFRAY b. 1917 = Sir Hugo Robert Brooke BOOTHBY M.A. (Oxon.) 15th Lt. LL.H.S. J.P. of Farnham Castle, Glam. b. 1906 = Capt. John Charles Richards HOMFRAY b. 1918 d. 1944 (K.I.A.)

Major Herbert Franklin Richards HOMFRAY M.A. Oxon b. 1922 = Angela Mary da. of George Cock GIBSON of Landwehr Hall, Suffolk b. = Rosalie da. of Lt. Col. I.S.B. LEWIN b. 1931 = William Leigh Strudwick CLAY of St. Hilary, Glam. b. 1933

Michael John CLAY of Llanidloes, Powys b. 1929 FCA, C.S.F., D.L. H.S. = Anne Mary Amelia da. of Lt. Col. H.M. GILLESPIE O.B.E. K.O.S. b. 1934 (div) = Catherine Vivian Lindsay da. of Lt. Col. E.D. CORKERY M.C. b. 1929

Glynis Herbert CLAY of Alington, Gwent b. 1931 = Rosalie da. of Lt. Col. I.S.B. LEWIN b. 1931 = William Leigh Strudwick CLAY of St. Hilary, Glam. b. 1933

Gillian Ella St. Claire da. of Gervas Charles Robert CLAY of Ford Summit b. 1937 D.L. = Henry Owen Richards Hastings CLAY b. 1930 = Anthony Hastings CLAY b. 1936 = Jane CLAY b. 1927 = Dr. Phillip Arthur ZORAB M.D. b. 1915

Richard Hastings Brunton FRANCIS of Fair Acre, Pembrokeshire b. 1916 = Pauline da. of Lt. Col. O.F. SPASHETT of Oulton Broad, Suffolk b. = George Curwender FRANCIS of East Cliff, Pembrokeshire b. 1929 = Barbara Margaret da. of J.F. Brooke of Lewis Sussex b. 1931

Celia DINWIDDY b. 1976 = Thomas DINWIDDY b. 1979 = Cdr. Timothy HALE (div) b. = Caroline Second BOOTHBY b. 1941 = ① Hor LEWIS (div) b. = ② Richard PARRY of Manton, Wilts b. = Brooke Charles BOOTHBY M.A. b. 1949 = Georgiana dau. of Sir John Russell, K.C.M.G. b. = Josephine da. of Anthony CHENEVIX TRENCH J.P. b. 1954 = Diana Mary HOMFRAY b. 1955 = Timothy Woolcott b. = Tessa Frances Rose HOMFRAY b. 1959 = Lucy Anne HOMFRAY b. 1967 = Annabel Charlotte Mary CLAY b. 1958 = Alexander Charles Douglas CLAY b. 1964 = Anthony John CLAY b. 1959 = Robin Ivan CLAY b. 1961 = Daphne Stella CLAY b. 1967 = Veronica Anne LESLEY HALE b. 1960 = Vivienne Second LEWIS b. 1966 = Curma Cecilia LEWIS b. 1969 = Aiki Anne Charlotte BOOTHBY b. 1977 = Matthew HOMFRAY b. 1980 = Frances Woolcot b. 1979

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