

Llangunnoch.

Llangunnoch is properly Llangynog, the church of St. Cynog, who was one of the sons of Brychan Brycheiniog, lord of the country now known as Brecknockshire in the fifth century.

This seems without doubt to be the place mentioned in the *Liber Landavensis*¹ as *Henlennic Cinauc ar Pill*, i.e., Henllan Cynog ar Pill (*the old church of Cynog on the river Pill*), where the boundaries are—

The influx of the Gunnic to the Pill, following Gunnic upwards to the clay pit (*grid pull*), from the clay pit to the ridge of the hill, the boundary of the land of llanngunnohill, following the ridge of the hill towards the west, along to the Pill, following the Pill downwards to the Gunnic where it began.

Llangynog church has long been in ruins; at the present time the chancel arch and the west wall remain, and also part of the south wall with the coigns on one side of the doorway.

On the floor of the chancel is a flat stone still legible:—

HERE LIETH THE BODY OF EDWARD
NICHOLAS LATE OF TRELICKS
GRAINGE IN THE COUNTY OF MON
MOUTH ESQ. WHO ENDED THIS LIFE
THE 18 DAY OF FEBRUARY
ANNO DOM.
1683.

Also in Memory
of HENRY NICHOLAS late
of Crumbland who
died the
1818 Aged

Arms.—*A chevron between 3 ; a crescent for difference.*

Llangunnoch was a manor within the great lordship of Usk. In the *inquisitio post mortem* of

Gilbert de Clare, earl of Hertford and Gloucester, 1296, the manor of Llangunnoch, written *Lancanok*, appears as held by half a knight's fee by John Martel,¹ and in 1314 in the inquisition of Gilbert (son of the above Gilbert), *Lucannouk* and *Bravelston* are held by John Martel by half a knight's fee.²

Llangunnoch belonged in the sixteenth century to David ap Philip Powell of Lanpill (the father of sir William Powell), who was buried in the chapel. His son Harry was of Llangunnoch, and made his will as *Harry David Powell of Langenocke* 15 March, 1604:—

To Cissill my dau. four oxen in the custody of George Waters of llanissen—Elizabeth Harry my dau.—to Cissill my dau. one cottage and five parcels of lands adjoining the churchyard of llangume Echa, and parcels in llangum Echa, late lands of Thomas Skidmor, dec^d—John Harry my son—Samuel Powell my son—Cecil Harry my dau., sole ex^{tr}ix.

It will be observed that the testator calls only one son Samuel by the surname of Powell, while to the rest he, after the Welsh fashion, gives his own christian name Harry as a surname. But his son John, called John Harry by the testator, is called John ap Howel in the pedigree, and was father of Catherine, who married William Nicholas, and took the estate of Llangunnoch and also Lanpill, which came to her or her father from sir William Powell. Llangunnoch descended to Edward Nicholas, son of Philip, son of the above William and Catherine, who was sheriff in 1682 and died the next year, being buried in the chapel. Edward Nicholas sold Llangunnoch to David Lewis of Llanerddil, who by his will, proved in 1708, left it to his second son Thomas Lewis.³

¹ Inq. p.m., vol. iii., no. 371.

² *Ibid.*, no. 538.

³ *Vide* p. 46 for pedigree of Lewis.

¹ *Liber Landavensis*, Latin, p. 241; Eng., p. 517.



THE RUINED CHURCH OF LLANGUNNOCK, THE CHANCEL ARCH.