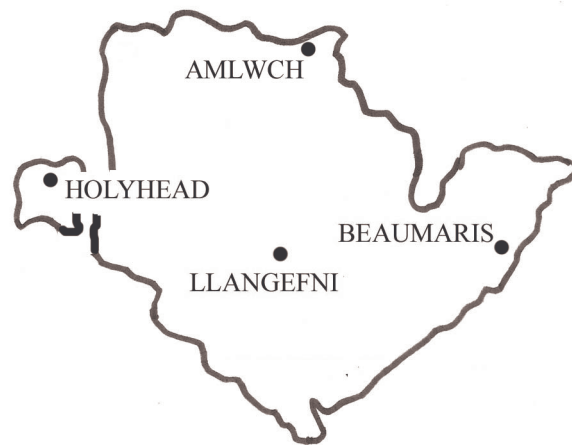


# ANGLESEY








Anglesey is the most northerly county in Wales. It is an island, separated by a narrow strip of water from the neighbouring county of Caernarvonshire. The rural and seafaring economy was invaded by large copper mines in the late eighteenth century, and the building of the main-line railway to Dublin via Holyhead in the nineteenth century, but no evidence of a specialist trade in weights and measures has been found..

The county police took over inspection of weights and measures in 1858, and continued until a qualified inspector was appointed in 1898. The inspector was based at the Shire Hall in Llangefni.

The historic town of Beaumaris had separate jurisdiction and was created a municipal borough in 1835. However, there is no evidence that the borough acted as a WM authority.

## A: Inspection by the County of ANGLESEY

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1826	One set of standards [179] obtained.		<b><i>Inspectors 1835-1857:</i></b>
1835	One inspector appointed for the county, excluding Beaumaris.		
1857	County police force set up.		The inspector appointed in 1835 was John Forsyth, described as a shopkeeper [1828 P] of Llanerchymedd. He was sacked in 1839, having been accused of fraud [W/QS].
1859	A short set of standards [1270] issued, suggesting that the police were taking on WM duties, and that there were two divisions.		Forsyth was succeeded by David Roberts of Beaumaris, who was also a surveyor for the county. He probably continued until 1857.
1866	Two police officers acted as WM inspectors.		<b><i>Police officers acting as inspectors (1858-1898):</i></b>
1879	No.283 issued.		
1889	Anglesey CC formed. Two former inspectors still in post, both based in Holyhead.		Joseph Parry (-1872-75-) Robert Davies, the deputy chief constable, served as IWM (-1881-92-).
1896	One inspector only, based in the police station, Holyhead.		In 1892 [AR] the inspectors were Divn 1: J. Jones Divn 2: Robert Davies
1898	Qualified. inspector appointed, based in Llangefni.		In 1896 [AR] Jones was the sole inspector.
	In the 1920s the WM Office was in the Shire Hall, Llangefni.		<b><i>Qualified inspectors:</i></b> Hugh Pritchard (q1898 -1939) H.A. Thomas (1939-1974) [MR 74:51]
1974	Authority transferred to the new county of Gwynedd.		The letters accompanying the uniform marks are date codes [1912 Hbk].



¶ A 4oz brass weight verified in Anglesey, showing date marks for (18)62, 64, 66, 68, 70, and later uniform VR283 marks.

¶ A 4 oz brass weight with uniform number 283 marks, and date codes. The letter A probably indicates 1899, and C indicates 1901.



## **B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of ANGLESEY**

**Beaumaris** was an ancient borough, the county town, and in 1588 the county standards had been deposited there.

The office of Clerk of the Market still existed in 1835, when Beaumaris became a municipal borough, although it was not granted a commission of the peace. The appointment of the county inspector in 1834/5 specifically excludes Beaumaris from his jurisdiction, but no other person was appointed for the town, and no standards were obtained. It must be assumed that in practice the county inspector was responsible. David Roberts, the inspector from 1839 onwards, was a resident of Beaumaris [1844 P].

The towns of Amlwch, Holyhead, and Llangefni never had any form of local authority.

## **C: The trade in Anglesey**

No records of firms dealing in scales and weights have been found, It must be assumed that local ironmongers provided for the needs of the retail trade, with items being supplied from sources further east. Adjustments and repairs may also have been carried out by local tradesmen,

## References for Anglesey

### *Published works*

#### *Directories*

- P. Pigot's Directory of ... N & S. Wales. [N47] 1828, [N78] 1844.  
S. Slater's Directory of ... N & S Wales. [ST48], 1868.  
E. Eyre's Wales Register and Guide. [ST1693] 1878.

### *Original documents*

#### *Anglesey County Record Office*

WQ/S/1820/H/60: Mention of: John Edwards, inspector for the Hundred of Menai.

WQ/S/\*: Records of the Quarter Sessions. Many references to the appointment and activities of inspectors, including the following.

WQ/S/1834/M/220, WQ/S/1834/M/232, WQ/S/1835/H/44, WQ/S/1835/M/164.

WQ/S/1835/E/58: Activities of John Forsyth as inspector.

WQ/S/1839/H/43, WQ/S/1839/M/169: Documents relating to the dismissal of John Forsyth.

WQ/S/1840/H/3: Appointment of David Roberts as inspector.

WQ/S/1842/M/252, WQ/S/1842/E/55, WQ/S/1842/E/92, WQ/S/1850/H/11: Activities of David Roberts as inspector.:

WQ/S/1872/E/120-3, WQ/S/1873/T/167-68,170, 172-74,191-203, WQ/S/1875/T/279:  
Activities of Joseph Parry as inspector. .:

WQ/S/1881/E217: Activities of Robert Daniel Davies as inspector.

#### *Bangor University, Department of Manuscripts*

The records of the Borough of Beaumaris are deposited here. They may contain references to WM activity before 1835.