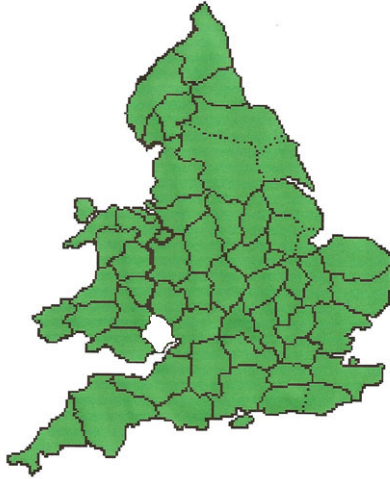


# MONMOUTHSHIRE



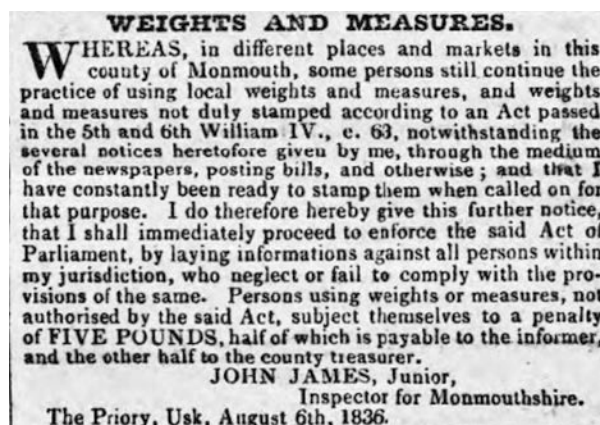
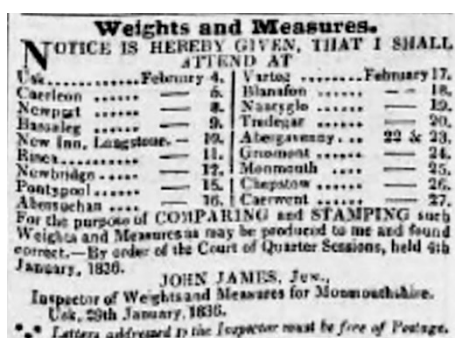
Monmouthshire is traditionally a Welsh county, although it was often considered to be part of England. It is bordered by the Bristol Channel to the south, Glamorgan to the west, Breconshire to the north, and the English counties of Herefordshire and Gloucestershire to the east. The northern and eastern parts are mainly agricultural, but there are substantial deposits of coal and minerals in the south-west.

In 1834 the county appointed a single inspector of Weights and Measures, and this arrangement continued until 1876 when the county police force took over. In 1890 two qualified inspectors were appointed. The ancient boroughs of Monmouth and Newport became municipal boroughs in 1835 and exercised authority over weights and measures. Monmouth transferred its authority to the county in 1881, but Newport became a county borough in 1892 and continued until 1974, when the whole area became part of the new county of Gwent.

The heavy engineering equipment required by industry in the Newport area inevitably attracted the interest of large weighing machine firms from around the country. Bartlett of Bristol, Pooley of Liverpool, and Hodgson & Stead of Salford all had premises in Newport by the 1870s. They also supplied the small machines used by shopkeepers. J.D. Jewitt of Newport began to trade as a scalemaker around the turn of century, and remained independent until taken over by Avery's in 1938. Bartlett, Pooley, and Hodgson & Stead had all become part of the Avery organisation before that.

## A: Inspection by the County of MONMOUTHSHIRE

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1826	One set of standards [58] issued.	<b>C OF M</b>	Monmouthshire is sometimes treated as an English county.
1835	One inspector for the whole county; one set of standards [875] issued.		The inspector appointed under the 1834 Act was John James of Usk, who resigned in 1839 when his salary was cut from £125 to £25 per annum.
1849	Original standards sold [Mon 6/1/49].		William Graham, the crier of the court of quarter sessions as reported in 1868 [4Rep: 404], took office in 1839. Apart from a threatened resignation in 1865, he continued in post until his death in 1875.
1857	Police force set up, but not used for WM inspection.		
1874	One set of standards issued [1524].		Frederick Roberts acted as IWM for nine months, until 29 September, 1876.



¶ Two advertisements from the Monmouthshire Merlin,  
 30 January 1836 and 6 August 1836.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**

**N**OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that I shall attend at the

Lion Inn .....	Pontypool .....	Monday, May	14
Ditto .....	Ditto .....	Tuesday "	15
White Hart Inn .....	Abersychan .....	Wednesday "	16
Ditto .....	Ditto .....	Thursday "	17
Newbridge Inn .....	Newbridge .....	Friday "	18
Carpenter's Arms .....	Blackwood .....	Saturday "	19
Castle Inn .....	Rhymney .....	Monday "	21
Ditto .....	Ditto .....	Tuesday "	22
Castle Inn .....	Tredegar .....	Wednesday "	23
Ditto .....	Ditto .....	Thursday "	24
Heol-y-Mioyn .....	Ebbw Vale .....	Friday "	25
Blaina Inn .....	Blaina .....	Saturday "	26
Bush Inn .....	Nantyglo .....	Monday "	28
Old Bell Inn .....	Abercarne .....	Tuesday "	29
Albert Inn .....	Risca .....	Wednesday "	30
Near the Church .....	Bassaleg .....	Thursday "	31
Coach and Horses .....	Castletown .....	Friday, June	1
Ship Inn .....	Caerleon .....	Saturday "	2
Wheat Sheaf Inn .....	Magor .....	Monday "	4
Swan Inn .....	Caerwent .....	Tuesday "	5
Beaufort Arms Inn .....	Chepstow .....	Wednesday "	6
Ditto .....	Ditto .....	Thursday "	7
Reese and Crown .....	Tiateron .....	Friday "	8
Crown Inn .....	Trelleck .....	Saturday "	9
Ship Inn .....	Ragland .....	Monday "	11

For the purpose of comparing and stamping such weights and measures as may be produced to me and found correct.

WILLIAM GRAHAM, Inspector.


Blue Broom, near Ragland,  
April 17th, 1849.

All persons possessing weights and measures in Monmouthshire, are earnestly requested to attend to the above appointments, as the inspector will be compelled by an order of the magistrates, to enforce a strict observance of an Act of 5th and 6th Wm. IV, cap. 63, by laying informations against those who neglect to comply with the provisions of the same.




¶ Advertisement taken from the Monmouthshire Merlin of 5 May, 1849.

¶ Detail from a 2oz brass weight, showing three impressions of the early County mark.

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1876	Police take over WM inspection: four divisions. The four divisional superintendents were initially appointed.		<b>Police inspectors 1876-1890:</b> <b>A: Abergavenny:</b> William C. Freeman (-91) (asst: Insp. William Kynch) <b>B: Pontypool:</b> William McIntosh (-81) George W. Whitfield (1882-87) Victor Bosanquet (1887-8) William James (1888-91) (asst: Insp. Samuel Sheppard (-82) Serg. Joseph Basham (1882-85) PC Charles Bladon (1885- <b>C: Tredegar:</b> Humphrey Fowler (-77) Capt Richard Foll (1877-80) Capt Vincent Parker (1881-91) <b>D: Usk/Monmouth</b> Willoughby Berthon (-91) (asst: J. McEvoy) 1881: <i>Newport</i> Francis P. Gurney (1881-86) Henry G. Hasted (1886-88) Victor Bosanquet (1888-91) (asst: Thomas Povall (1881-85))
1877	Four more sets of standards issued [1610, 1612, 1618-9]; one retained for comparison.		
1882	Reorganisation of WM districts, with the formation of a new district .		



¶ A ½ oz brass weight, showing the original County mark, the mark for the A district of the County (Pontypool), and one for the City of Bristol.

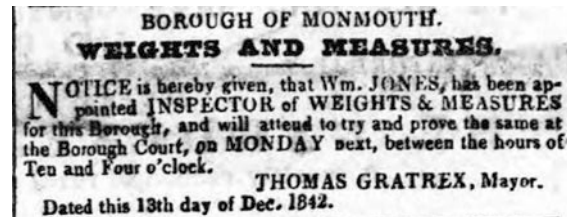
Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1890	Nos 512 and 513 issued; two qualified inspectors		<b>Qualified inspectors:</b> <i>A district: Pontypool, No.513</i>
1891	No. 563 issued, but apparently not used.		T.H. Lewis (q1890, died in office 1931) [MR 31:40] G.C. Jenkins (1925-39 then chief)
1905	Realignment of the two districts to equalize work of the two IWMs.		R.J. Bullen (adj. 1934-39, 1939-60 then chief)
1907	In 1907, a third district (C – Newport, No.563) was established. This was operating from Rogerstone by 1920.		<i>B district: Ebbw Vale, No.512</i> T.E. Serjent (q1890, moved to C district in 1907) J. Bull (1907-11) G.G. Probert (q. 1890, adj. 1891-1911, 1911-26) [MR 26:16] T.R. Davies (adj. 1914-23, 1923-moved to C district 1938) A.W. Prosser (adj 1931-38, 1938-47 then chief)
1930	No. 510 issued, used by the inspector of petrol pumps only.		<i>C district: Newport, No. 563</i> T.E. Serjent (moved from B district 1907-23) [MR 23:43] J.R. Gamble (q1906, adj. 1910-23, i/c district 1923-1937) [MR 56:231] T.R. Davies (1938-47-) R.G. Chaloner (1937-72) [MR 74: 164]
1939	First chief inspector appointed.		
1950	Nos. 510, 512,513, 563 all in use.		<b>Chief inspectors:</b> G.C. Jenkins (1939-47) [MR 75:26] A.W. Prosser (1947-60 died in office) [MR 60:159] R.J. Bullen (1960-70) [MR 60:267; 70:279]
1974	Authority transferred to Gwent County Council.		




¶ A ½ lb brass weight, with the marks for the Abergavenny district of the County and the later uniform verification mark 512.



## B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of MONMOUTHSHIRE



¶ Advertisements from the Monmouthshire Merlin, f 27 December 1834 and 17 December 1842.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Monmouth</b>	AncBo MB:1835 cp	 ?	---	s:1826 [199]
<p>In 1835 the inspector appointed was William Jones, sergeant-at-mace, assisted by two others. Previously the town bealdes had been appointed as examiners. In 1839 it was claimed that there were only two IWMs in Monmouthshire, the County Inspector and the one for the borough of Newport [<i>Mon</i> 5/1/39], but William Jones was re-appointed in 1842 [<i>Mon</i> 17/12/42]. When William Gilbert, one of the mace-bearers, died in 1849, William Clark was appointed to the vacant office of IWM [<i>Mon</i> 3/2/49]. The standards, valued variously at £10 and £20, were stolen in 1857 [<i>Mon</i> 31/10/57]. In 1861, the borough decided that the superintendent of police would henceforth act as IWM [<i>Mon</i> 26/10/61], that post being held by Edmund Wheeldon. The standards were readjusted and Wheeldon began work in 1862 [<i>Mon</i> 15/3/62]; although he tendered his resignation in 1872, he was appeased by an increase in salary from £5 to £7 per annum for his WM work [<i>MCA</i> 17/2/72] and continued in post until the police force was amalgamated with the county in 1881. Supt Berthon of the county police was then appointed as the IWM for the borough [<i>WM</i> 22/11/81].</p>				

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Newport</b>	AncBo MB:1835 cp CB:1891	<b>N † B</b> <b>o</b>	236	s:1835 [654], 1867 [1396], 1890 [2140]  n:1879-1974

The mark has also been seen with the letter O replaced by an N.

Standards were acquired in 1835 and an inspector, Thomas Hawkins, was appointed. In 1836 the borough bought the standards from him, for the use of a new inspector, Evan Williams, a watchmaker [*Mon*: 27/8/36]. The first of many letters of complaint about the state of the Newport inspection came in 1841, resulting in police officers inspecting the WM of the shopkeepers [*Mon* 11/9/41; 18/12/41]. This suggests that the police took over at this stage, under the superintendent of the borough police, Edward Hopkins (CC: 1837-1848), named as IWM and billet-master 1848/9 [H]. He was succeeded by Stephen English (CC 1848-52), who rapidly relinquished the post of IWM in 1850 [*Mon* 6/7/50], despite Hopkins being named in 1852 [Sc]. William Stockwell, a bell-hanger and whitesmith, who had acted as adjuster for English, was appointed in his stead [*Mon* 8/6/50] and is named in 1852 [L]. In 1854, Stockwell and John Huxtable, the superintendent of the borough police, launched a campaign against unjust WM [*Mon* 24/2/54]. William Stockwell continued in post until 1863 [*Mon* 7/11/63], although, in 1858/9 [SI], the role was allegedly held by the billet-master, Thomas Stockwell.

Against a background of growing unrest with the state of inspection within the borough, John Huxtable (CC 1852-1875) was appointed to the post in 1863 [*Mon* 7/11/63], the Town Council exercising its new rights to appoint to this office, rather than relying on the magistrates. When he assumed office in 1864, his first act was to send the standards for reverification [*Mon* 16/1/64]; in 1867, he reported a new set of standards weights had been obtained, the old ones also having been verified [*Mon* 19/10/67]. Huxtable intended to resign as IWM in 1872 [*Mon* 2/2/72] but agreed to continue until his retirement in 1875 [*Mon* 13/8/75]. Although he initially refused the post, Inspector Williams did assume it but soon complained of his workload; DS Thomas H. Jones was appointed in his stead [*WM* 27/6/77]. W. Niblett continued to act as the adjuster for a year [*Mon* 16/8/78], when Jones assumed responsibility for the adjusting, paying for the necessary labour from the fees levied; in 1881, a blacksmith, James Andrews was engaged in this role [*WM* 18/11/81]. In October, 1885, the borough decided to appoint a civilian inspector so that Jones could focus on his police work.

John C. Boyns was appointed in November, 1885. He qualified in 1890/1 and died in 1922 [*MR* 22:15]. D.W. Ball was the chief inspector 1922-61 [*MR* 61:160], followed by G.T. Clarke 1961-69 [*MR* 61:159; 69:51] and W.B.E. Thomas 1969- [KN].



¶ Details from two brass weights, showing the two variants of the N†B mark for the borough of Newport.



¶ Detail from a 4oz brass weight, showing the uniform verification mark 236 for the borough of Newport.



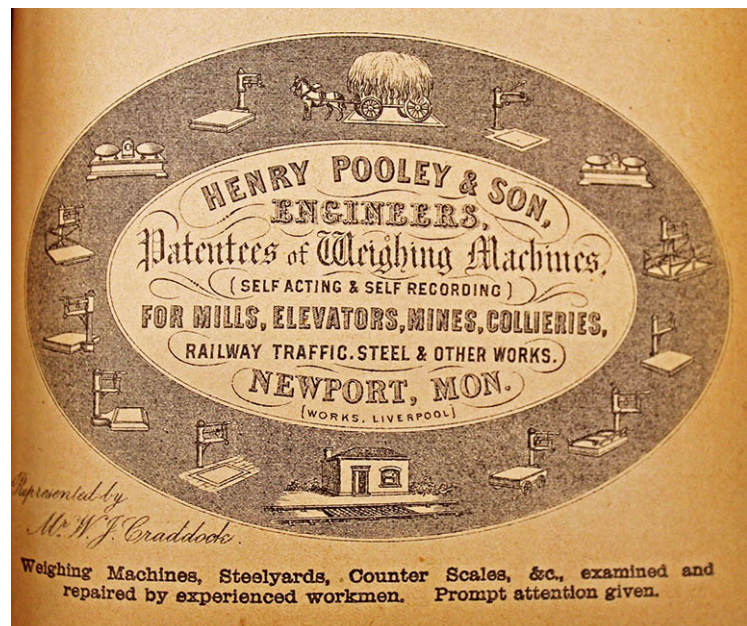
## C:The trade in MONMOUTHSHIRE

<b>NEWPORT</b>	
<b>Bartlett</b>	<p>J.S. Stone advertised in 1855 as the Newport agent for weighing machines made by Bartlett of Bristol [<i>Mon: 8/9/55</i>]. The previous year he had advertised that he kept these in stock.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Dock St. &lt;1854-55&gt;</li> </ul> <p>Bartlett's seem to have maintained a presence in Newport, but the details are unclear. In 1916 [J] they were listed in Skinner Street, although by that time they had been taken over, first by <b>Pooley</b>, and then by <b>Avery</b> in 1914.</p>
<b>Pooley</b>	<p>Henry Pooley &amp; Son advertised in 1857 [<i>Mon: 13/1/57</i>] .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canal Parade, Corn St &lt;1857&gt;</li> <li>• 20, Commercial St &lt;1857-62&gt;</li> <li>• 10, Commercial St &lt;1891-95&gt;</li> <li>• 13, Skinner St &lt;1901-16&gt;</li> <li>• 45, Dock St &lt;1920-3&gt;</li> <li>• Union St &lt;1926-46&gt;.</li> </ul> <p>Bought, with its subsidiaries, by <b>Avery</b> in 1914.</p>
<b>Hodgson &amp; Stead</b>	<p>In 1875 the Salford/Manchester firm of Hodgson and Stead advertised that they had set up a depot in Dock Street, Newport [Kelly, Somerset 1875]. In the Inspectors Handbooks for 1908-10 the firm's address was given as 13 Dock Street. This address was also used by George L. <b>Scott</b> from 1906 to 1916 [K]. The company was taken over by <b>Pooley</b> and then by <b>Avery</b>, and the premises were later occupied by <b>Ashworth</b>.</p>
<b>Jewitt</b>	<p>John David Jewitt was listed as a shopkeeper in 1901 [K], and J.D. Jewitt &amp; Son as weighing machine manufacturers in 1906 [K]. The company was acquired by <b>Avery</b> in 1938.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5, East St &lt;1901-10&gt;</li> <li>• 55, Emllyn St &lt;1914-38.</li> </ul> <p>Clarence <b>Jewitt Jones</b> was listed as a scale and weight maker in 1926 [K].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 47, St Edward St &lt;1926-34&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Ashworth</b>	<p>Ashworth Son &amp; Co., a large firm based in Dewsbury, first advertised in 1920 [K]. Part of the firm was acquired by <b>Avery</b> in 1923, and later became <b>Ashworth Ross and Co Ltd</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13, Dock St &lt;1920-55-&gt;</li> <li>• 7/7A, West Park Road &lt;1957-74&gt;.</li> </ul> <p>Another branch of the firm, <b>E. and A. Ashworth</b>, apparently remained independent. They are mentioned in 1937 [J,K], expanding in the late 1940s.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32, Dock St &lt;1937-46&gt;</li> <li>• 32 &amp; 33, Dock St &lt;1950-67</li> <li>• 18, George St 1968-74&gt;.</li> </ul>
<b>Avery</b>	<p>First noted under this name in 1923.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13, Skinner St &lt;1923&gt;</li> <li>• 45, Dock St &lt;1926-46&gt;</li> <li>• 44, Dock St &lt;1950-67&gt;</li> <li>• 188, Corporation Road &lt;1968-74&gt;.</li> </ul>

CANAL-PARADE, CORN-STREET, NEWPORT, MON.  
 BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.  
 EXHIBITION  
 PRIZE MEDAL WEIGHING MACHINES.  
 To Manufacturers, Iron Masters, Colliery Proprietors,  
 Merchants, Whorlfingers, Shopkeepers, &c.  
**HENRY POOLEY and SON'S PATENT**  
 PLATFORM WEIGHING MACHINES, WITH  
 or WITHOUT LOOSE WEIGHTS. Makers to H.M.  
 Board of Ordnance, Customs, Navy and Dockyards &c.  
 WEIGH-BRIDGES for Railways, Roads, Collieries,  
 &c., to every required Dimensions, Power, or Situation.  
 Pooley's Patent Counter Scales, well adapted for retail  
 business: prices reasonable.  
 Repairs and Adjustments, by Annual Contract or other-  
 wise, on moderate terms. [1015]

¶ Pooley's advertisement in the Monmouthshire Merlin 31 January 1857, page 1.

¶ Advertisement that appeared in Johns' Newport Directory, 1894, p.324a. At this date, the company was at 10a, Commercial St, Newport.



Ashworth Oil Bath Weighbridge for Road & Rail	Phone : 2916 <b>ASHWORTH, SON &amp; CO., LTD.</b> Patentees and Sole Makers of Weighing Apparatus. Contractors to Government and Leading Railways. <b>13 DOCK STREET, NEWPORT</b>	Established 1879 Contractors for Repairs and Maintenance
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¶ Advertisement from the 1926 edition of Kelly's Directory for Monmouthshire and South Wales, p.1719

**INVOICE**

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FIRM OR COMBINE

TELEPHONE DEWSBURY 2143-4 DIRECTORS E. F. ASHWORTH W. A. ASHWORTH C. B. MINTON J. L. LEAKE W. S. ASHWORTH	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>E.&amp;A. ASHWORTH LTD.</b> </div>	TELEGRAMS SCALES DEWSBURY ALSO AT NEW HOUSE 67-68 HATTON GARDEN HOLBORN, LONDON E.C.1 AND 32 DOCK STREET NEWPORT - MON
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MAKERS OF HIGH GRADE WEIGHBRIDGES & WEIGHING MACHINES  
 CONTRACTORS FOR REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE OF ANY TYPE OR MAKE

**CROWN ENGINEERING WORKS**  
 STAINCLIFFE ROAD  
 DEWSBURY

¶ Billhead from E.&A. Ashworth, 1950. Note that Newport was one of their main bases, and they claimed to have 'no connection with any other firm or combine'.

PONTYPOOL	
<b>Avery</b>	W&T. Avery had premises in Osborne Street in 1965.

## References for MONMOUTHSHIRE

### *Published works*

#### *Directories*

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- H. Hunt & Co.'s City of Bristol, Newport and Welsh Towns Directory [N863] 1848.
- J. Johns' Newport Directory [ST1758] 1894-1946.
- K. Kelly's Directory of Monmouthshire and South Wales [ST1689] 1871-1937.
- KN. Kelly's Directory of Newport [ST1763] 1950-74.
- L. Lascelles & Co.'s Directory and Gazetteer of the County of Monmouth [N556] 1852.
- Sc. Scammell & Co.'s City of Bristol and South Wales Directory [N317] 1852.
- Sl. Slater's Directory of ... Monmouthshire ... [ST39] 1858, 1880

#### *Newspapers*

- MCA* County Observer and Monmouth Central Advertiser, .... 1868-1907
- Mon* Monmouthshire Merlin 1834-84
- Pon* Pontypool Free Press and Herald of the Hills 1877
- SWDN* South Wales Daily News 1880-91
- Usk* The Illustrated Usk Observer and Raglan Herald 1856-66
- WM* The Western Mail 1870-95

### *Original documents*

#### *Gwent Archives (Ebbw Vale)*

- Q/MB/\*\*: Monmouthshire Quarter Sessions Minute Books
- Q/RB/\*\*: Monmouthshire Quarter Sessions Record Books