

## BANNAU BRYCHEINIOG

Many of the names here are for features that may have been affected by industrial activity, particularly in the South, and bear no resemblance to the features that may have been present at one time due to quarrying. The limestone scarps were a useful commodity in steel-making at one time and also used as a general building material for the industrial sites .

### Cerrig Edmwnt SO 062191

*Cerrig* 'stones' + Edmwnt - the personal name Edmond or Edmund; Cefn Edmwnt is on the other side of the mountain.

### Cerrig y Llwyni SO 068128

The word *cerrig* is the plural of *carreg* 'stone, rock', while *llwyni* is the plural of *llwyn* 'thicket; copse, grove'. There would have been far more trees on the mountains at one time.

### Y Chwar Mawr SO 195157

The *chwar* 'quarry' here denotes one of the limestone cliffs used for rock in the industrial development that took place nearby.

### Clo Cadno SO 117164

It may be that the first word here is a corrupted form of the word *clog* 'crag', rather than *clo* 'lock' + *cadno* 'fox'.

### Craig Cwareli SO 046200

This map name gives *craig* 'rock' + *cwareli* 'quarries', a name which may identify the high rocky rim. The rocks may have resembled quarries and stone was often taken from such places for building walls and houses. In some places one can still see the tracks made by the dragging of horse-drawn sledges on the slopes down to the valleys. However, the name might have migrated a little from above the valley Cwm Cwareli (SO 055215). What is of interest is the valley name, this was given as Cwm-gwr-helig on the 1832 OS map, which would give *cwr* 'corner, taper, edge' [lenited to *gwr*] + *helig* 'willow' for the cwm.

### Craig Cwm Cynwyn SO 026206

This is at the very head of the deep trough and is named after the cwm and the river below.

### Craig Cwm Llwhch SO 004215

Once again a cliff is named after the cwm, in this instance this is not the word *llwhch* 'dust, powder' which some have suggested but a totally different term. The alternative word *llwhch* 'pool, lake; mire, bog' is similar in origin to the Old Irish *loch*.

### Craig Cwm Oergwm SO 037200

This deep vale would be shaded for much of the time, especially in winter, thus *oer* 'cold' + *cwm* 'valley' would be a good descriptor.

### Craig Cwm Sere SO 015214

A cliff that has taken its name from the cwm and the river Nant Sere.

### Craig Fan Ddu SO 017190

*Craig* 'cliff' + *ban* 'height' + *du* 'dark'; however, the Fan Ddu does not appear on the hilltop as a name. The only name seen is Cefn Cul which refers to the narrow ridge joining this outlying spur to Corn Du.

### Craig Gwaun Taf SO 008204

A crag located above the *gwaun* 'moor' where the Afon Taf originates. *Gwaun* 'moorland, upland' Old Welsh *guoun*, Cornish *goon*, Breton *geun*.

#### **Craig Pwllfa SO 065204**

*Craig* 'crag' + *pwllfa* 'hollow, trough'; the trough in question is the small but very deep cwm between Cefn Bach and Cefn Edmwnt.

#### **Craig y Byllfa SO 006198**

The deep valley of Blaen Crew is crested by this *craig* 'cliff', either of the terms *pyllfa*, *pwllfa* 'pit, well, ditch, hollow, gorge' would be apt descriptors of the view looking down into the cwm.

#### **Craig y Castell SO 172167**

The rock probably resembled the walls of fortifications for some. Brittonic \**castellon* 'castle'; or, the Middle English *castel*.

#### **Craig y Ciliau SO 185161**

*Cil* 'nook, corner', a reference to the recesses in the cliff; however, one should note it was singular, on the first OS map as *Craig y cil* le 1832. This could refer to the single gap between the crags up to the hilltop.

#### **Craig y Fan SO 071199**

This *craig* 'cliff' does not really have a rocky crag feature, mainly very steep slopes high up above Nant Tarthwynni.

#### **Cwalca SO 161174**

This is a corruption of *gwalca*, the plural of *gwalc* 'edge, wall', borrowed from the Old English *wealca* 'wave, billow'. There is a prominent little scarp of rock across the ridge at this point.

#### **Cwar y Gigfran SO 064197**

The word *cwar* 'cliff' is one borrowed from the English *quar(r)* 'quarry, stone pit'; however, in Welsh the word can also be used to denote a rock or crag in its natural state. The word *cigfran* is derived from *cig* 'meat' + *brân* 'crow' and denotes a raven; in Cornish *brân* 'crow'. In 'Celtic' mythology crows and ravens were linked to foreboding and to death because of their scavenging and also their colouring.

#### **Y Darren SO 208152**

There are many meanings behind the word *tarren*, here seen in its lenited form. Originally it was used to describe poor ground. In this part of South Wales *tarren* denotes a 'cliff, steep slope, scarp, rocky hill, rock'; further North, the word is used more for 'steep hill, hillock, rough ground'.

#### **Y Darren Ciliau SO 201156**

The word *cil* can define a number of features 'nook, angle, corner'; the meaning of *ciliau*, the plural of the word *cil*, was probably a reference to the narrow 'breaches' or changes in angle in the cliff, allowing access to the moorland above. At a later stage a large area of quarries developed here. *Darren y cil* le 1832 OS.

#### **Y Darren Clog Fawr SO 110164**

This *tarren* 'rock, crag, rough ground' has the word *clôg* 'cloak, mantle' in its name; however, this circumflex on the 'o' is probably an error. On the earlier maps the word is *clog* 'cliff', this is to be seen as the name of the farm below, *Clog Fawr*. *Cae y glog vawre* 1664. *Daren Clog-fawr* OS 6" 1840-80.

**Y Darren Ddu SO 109156, SO 221130**

Once again the common cliff descriptor *du* 'dark, black' in the landscape. The first *darren* location probably refers to its shaded aspect, the other because of rock colour.

**Y Darren Disgwylfa SO 218144**

The main interest in this name is the word *disgwylfa* 'lookout'; the lookout could be a sheperding viewpoint or other vantage point, for hunting perhaps. The view from this rock was very good, one could see any approach up or down the valleys leading to Y Fenni.

**Y Darren Fach SO 088164, SO 019105**

This comparative is used in two sites against the larger Y Darren Fawr nearby.

**Y Darren Fawr SO 082164, SO 022100**

Both of these (the) Big Cliff are near a Y Darren Fach.

**Gwalciau'r Cwm SO 065160**

The word *gwalciau* is a plural of the word *gwalc* 'edge, rim, ridge, wall'; borrowed from the Old English *wealca* 'wave, billow' + *cwm* 'valley'.

**Tarren Tormwnt SO 044152**

A tarren named after the hill on which it is located.