

1 Traphont a Dyfrbont y Waun

Adeiladwyd y draphont ddŵr yn bwrpasol yn wreiddiol, ond ei hunig bwrpas bellach yw rhoi mwynhad i ymwelwyr. Ei gras achubol oedd ei bod wedi dod yn fwydwyr ar gyfer dŵr yfed. Cyrhaeddodd y rheilffordd y Waun ym 1848, gan arwain at gynnydd enfawr mewn cynhyrchiad yn y diwydiant glo lleol.

Heidiodd pobl leol i draphont ddŵr a gorsaf drenau'r Waun i godi llaw ar y Frenhines Victoria ym 1889 yn llawn balchder o'u pentref a'u tirwedd. Yn anffodus, gwibiodd y trêb brenhinol heibio gyda'r llenni ar gau, gan fethu'r nodweddion naturiol a diwydiannol eithriadol sydd wedi ysbyrdoli peirianwyr ac arlunwyr am genedlaethau.

2 Croesi'r ffin

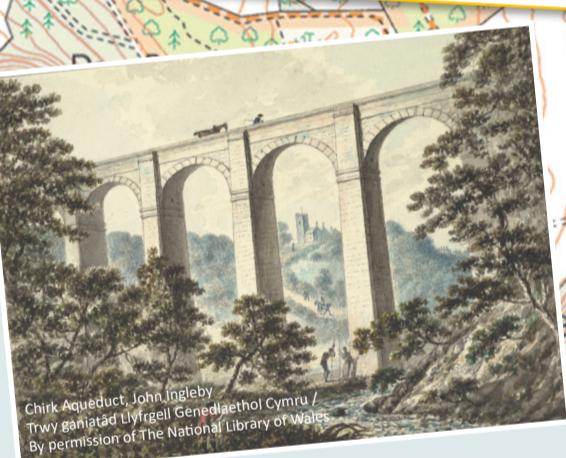
Wrth i chi groesi'r ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr, sydd wedi'i nodi gan Afon Ceiriog isod, byddwch yn mynd heibio rhes o fythynnod brics coch hardd a adeiladwyd ar ddiwedd y 19eg ganrif i letya gweithwyr cynnal a chadw'r gamlas.

Helpodd y 'Nafis' neu'r llyw-wyr i adeiladu'r camlesi mordwyol ar ddechrau'r Chwyldro Diwydiannol.



"The country is finely wooded. Chirk Castle stands on an eminence on its western side, with the Welsh mountains and Glen Ceriog as a background; the whole composing a landscape of great beauty"

Samuel Smiles, "The Life of Thomas Telford, Civil Engineer" 1867



1 Chirk Aqueduct and Viaduct

The aqueduct was originally built for purpose but is now solely for pleasure. Its saving grace was it became a feeder for the drinking water. The railway reached Chirk in 1848, allowing a huge increase in production for the local coal industry.

Proud to show off the village and landscape, locals lined Chirk aqueduct and railway station to wave at Queen Victoria in 1889. Unexpectedly, the royal train sped straight through with the curtains closed, missing the outstanding natural and industrial features that have inspired engineers and artists for generations.

2 Crossing the border

As you cross the border between Wales and England, marked by the River Ceiriog below, you will pass the picturesque row of red-brick cottages built in the late 19th century to house the canal maintenance workers. 'Navvies' or navigators helped build the first navigation canals at the dawn of the Industrial Revolution.



3 Y Trap

Mae tafarn y Bridge Inn yn cael ei hadnabod yn lleol fel y Trap, o bosibl gan fod glowyr a oedd yn dychwelyd o'r pyllau gyda'u cyflog yn cael eu caethiwo a'u denu gan luniaeth y dafarn, neu oherwydd bod gwragedd yn arfer cael eu gweld yn aros y tu allan i gaethiwo'r arian cyn iddo ei wastraffu.

Tan 1961, roedd 'dyddiau Sul sych' yn Sir Ddinbych a oedd yn gwahardd gwerthiant alcohol. Byddai pobl o'r pentrefi cyfagos yn croesi'r ffin i ymweld â'r Bridge Inn, i fanteisio ar 'ddyddiau Sul gwlyb' Lloegr a oedd yn caniatáu gwerthiant alcohol.

4 Castell y Waun 'Giatiau Prydferth'

I nodi'r fynedfa i Ystâd Castell y Waun, cafodd y 'giatiau prydferth' eu peintio'n ddu yn yr Ail Ryfel Byd, gan eu bod ar lwybr hedfan yr awyrennau bomio i Lerwl. Cafodd y giatiau eu symud dair gwaith a'u hail-osod yma ar y trac uniongyrchol o Gastell y Waun i'r dref yn 1888, gan elwa o'r cysylltiadau diwydiannol a oedd yn datblygu o'r orsaf drenau a'r gamlas.

5 Gorsaf y Waun

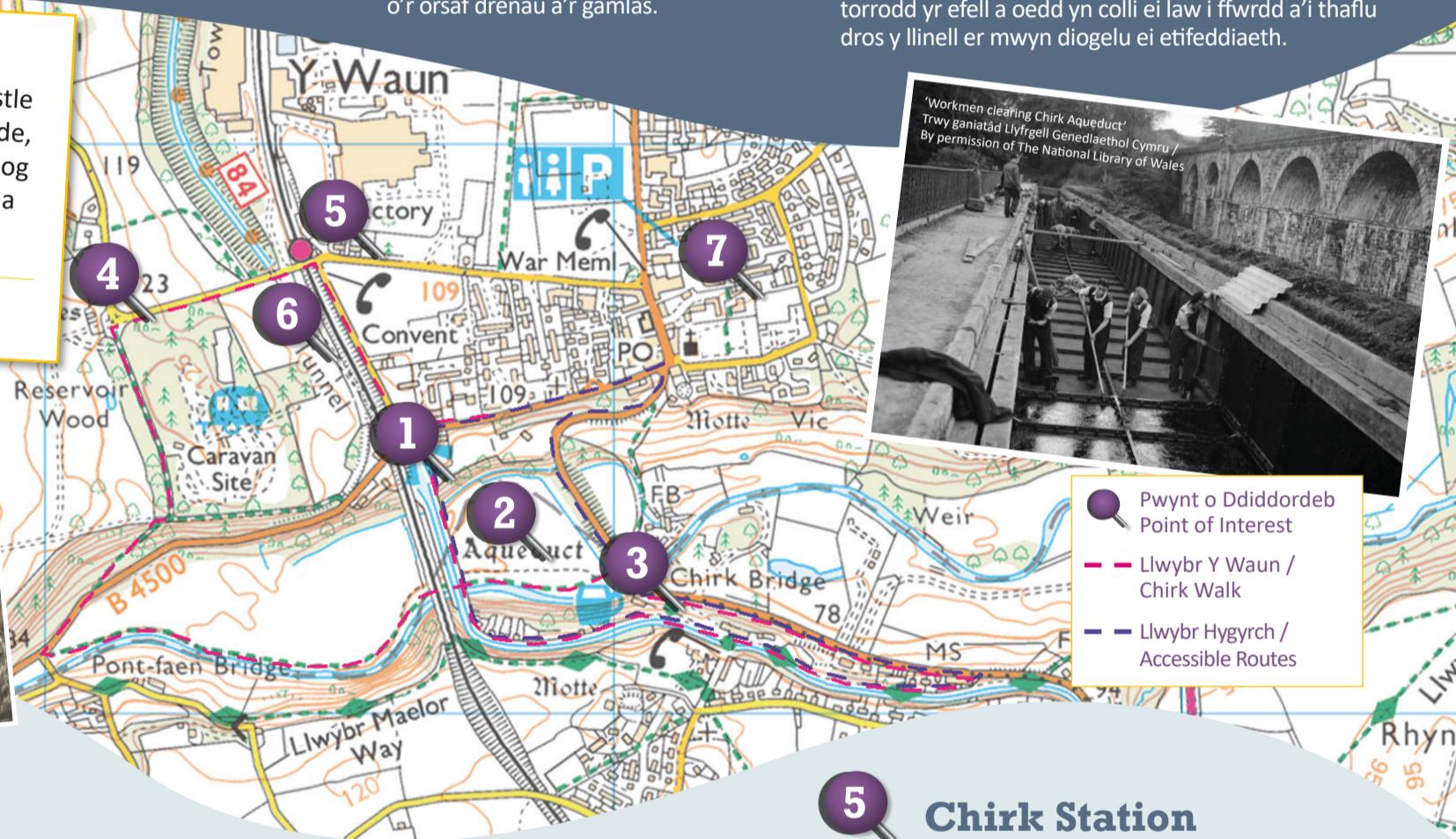
O 1873, roedd trenau bach wedi'u llwytho â llechi a gwenithfaen o chwareli cyfagos yn cael eu tynnu gan geffylau ar hyd tramffordd gul Dyffryn Ceiriog. Roedd y rheilffordd yn cysylltu'r chwareli â'r gamlas yn Chirk Bank yn wreiddiol, ond yn 1888 cafodd ei throsi yn reilffordd stêm a'i dargyfeirio i derfynu yng Ngorsaf y Waun, ble roedd yn cysylltu ag ymerodraeth nerthol y Great Western Railway.

6 Twnnel y Waun

Mae'r twnnel yn 421 metr o dywyllwch pur ac mae'n arwyddocaol gan ei fod yn un o'r twneli camlas cyntaf ym Mhrydain i gynnwys llwybr tynnu. Roedd y teulu Myddleton yng Nghastell y Waun wedi mynnu i'r twnnel gael ei adeiladu er mwyn sicrhau nad oedd eu golygfeydd godidog yn cael eu rhwystro gan arglawdd y gamlas.

7 Gwesty'r Hand

Un o'r gwestai hynaf yng Nghymru. Y 'llaw goch' uwchben y drws yw arwyddlon teulu Myddleton, perchnogion diwethaf y castell. Y chwedl yw bod Arglwydd a oedd yn marw wedi cynnal ras rhwng ei efeiliaid i benderfynu pwy fyddai'n etifeddu'r ystâd, y llaw gyntaf i groesi'r llinell fyddai'n ennill. Yn ystod y ras, torrodd yr efell a oedd yn colli ei law i ffwrdd a'i thaflu dros y llinell er mwyn diogelu ei etifeddiaeth.



3 The Trap

The Bridge Inn is known locally as the Trap, possibly because miners returning from the pits with their pay packets could be trapped by the lure of the pub's refreshments, or because wives could be found waiting outside to trap the funds before they were squandered!

Until 1961, Denbighshire had 'dry Sundays' when the sale of alcohol was forbidden. People from the surrounding villages would descend on the border to visit the Inn, taking advantage of England's 'wet Sundays' where alcohol could be sold.

4 Chirk Castle 'Pretty Gates'

Marking the entrance to Chirk Castle estates, the 'pretty gates' were painted black in the Second World War as they were on the bombers flight path to Liverpool. The gates have moved location three times and were re-sited here on the direct track from Chirk Castle to town in 1888, making use of the advancing industrial links from the railway station and canal.



5 Chirk Station

From 1873, tiny trains loaded with slate and granite from nearby quarries were hauled by horses along the narrow gauge Glyn Valley Tramway. The line originally connected the quarries to the canal at Chirk Bank, but in 1888 was converted to steam and diverted to terminate at Chirk Station, where it linked up with the mighty Great Western Railway empire.

6 Chirk Tunnel

The tunnel is 421 metres of extreme darkness and is significant in being one of the first canal tunnels in Britain to incorporate a towpath. The Myddeltons of Chirk Castle insisted that the tunnel be built so their picturesque views were not obstructed by the canal embankment.

7 The Hand Hotel

One of the oldest hotels in Wales. The 'red hand' above the door is the emblem of the Myddleton family, the last owners of the castle. Legend has it that a dying Lord held a race between his twin sons to determine who would inherit his estate, the first hand to cross the finish line would win. During the race, the trailing twin chopped off his own hand and threw it across the line in a desperate attempt to secure his inheritance.