

## Frontier Country



Moel Arthur



Trimley Hall, Llanfynydd  
Plas Trimley, Llanfynydd

### Border Lands

Flintshire is remarkably rich in historical remains, simply because it has been frontier country for centuries.

Strategically placed Iron Age hillforts, such as Penycloddiau and Moel y Gaer, dominate the skyline of the Clwydians and Halkyn Mountain.

The Romans marched through the area for more than three hundred years, leaving numerous remains.

Parts of Offa's and Wat's Dykes can still be seen. These once massive earth banks and ditches were constructed by the Saxons in the 8th century to mark the boundary with Wales.

Flintshire is dotted with castles built during the ongoing power struggle between the Welsh princes and

Norman kings. Ewloe and Caergwrle were Welsh castles but Flint and Hawarden were Norman. Imposing Flint Castle was the first of Edward I's string of castles along the Welsh coast, built during his first onslaught into Wales in 1277. It was impregnable and, although besieged, was never taken, unlike Hawarden that was captured in 1282.

Flintshire was important spiritually too. St Winefride's Well was one of the most revered places of Christian pilgrimage in Europe and the now ruined Basingwerk Abbey was wealthy and influential. The picturesque village churches and chapels bear testament to the key role religion played in everyday life.

# Tir y Gororau



Caergwrle Castle  
Castell Caergwrle



St Winefride's Well  
Ffynnon Gwenfrewi

## Y Gororau

Mae Sir y Fflint yn sir ryfeddol o gyfoethog o ran olion hanesyddol am iddi fod yn wlad y gororau ers canrifoedd. Ar Fryniau Clwyd a Mynydd Helygain saif Ceyrydd Oes yr Haearn fel Penycloddiau a Moel y Gaer yn drawiadol yn erbyn yr awyr.

Bu'r Rhufeiniaid yn gorymdeithio drwy'r ardal am fwy na thair canrif gan adael nifer fawr o'u holion.

Gellir gweld rhannau o Glawdd Offa a Chlawdd Wat hyd heddiw. Y Saeson a greodd y cloddiau a'r ffosydd anferth hyn yn yr wythfed ganrif i nodi'r ffin gyda Chymru.

Mae Sir y Fflint yn frith o hen gestyll a godwyd yn ystod y brwydro am rym a fu rhwng tywysogion Cymru a Brenhinoedd y Normaniaid. Roedd Cestyll Ewloe a Chaergwrle'n gestyll Cymreig ond rhai

Normanaidd oedd Fflint a Phenarlâg. Castell mawreddog y Fflint oedd y cyntaf o gadwyn o gestyll a gododd y Brenin Iorwerth I ar hyd glannau môr Cymru. Adeiladwyd Castell y Fflint yn ystod ymosodiad 1277 ar Gymru. Roedd yn gastell hollol gadarn ac er iddo fod o dan warchae nis cymerwyd erioed. Fel arall fu hanes castell Penarlâg a gipiwyd yn 1282.

O ran y bywyd ysbrydol hefyd, mae Sir y Fflint yn bwysig. Roedd pererindod i Ffynnon Gwenfrewi yn un o'r rhai a barchwyd fwyaf ymhlith holl bererindodau Cristnogol Ewrop. Roedd Abaty Dinas Basing yntau'n gyfoethog ac yn ddylanwadol dros ben. Saif eglwysi a chapeli tlws y pentrefi'n dyst i'r rhan bwysig a fu i grefydd ym mywyd bob dydd.

## Discover our Villages



Cilcain



Flintshire has many charming villages for you to discover and enjoy as part of your walking day. Most have thriving local shops and inns, and their buildings reflect a wealth of local history and architecture.

Some of our settlements are well over 900 yrs old and are mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1085. Many are now fascinating conservation areas which range from Edward I's strongholds, such as Caerwys; to estate villages, such as Llanasa and Hawarden; and to places with strong monastic associations, such as Holywell and Pantasaph. Some also lie nestled within the picturesque Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, such as Gwaenysgor

and Cilcain. In addition, the London to Holyhead post road passed through Northop, Caerwys and Ysceifiog. To this day they retain buildings that were once 17th and 18th century coaching inns.

Two local rocks have been used in many of the older buildings. Soft, grey limestone is plentiful in the county, and is commonly used in Cilcain, Nannerch and much of Halkyn. Whitford's church and much of Llanasa was built with an attractive yellow sandstone, quarried from northern Flintshire.

# Darganfod ein Pentrefi



Halkyn Church  
Eglwys Helygain



Llanasa

Ar eich teithiau cerdded drwy Sir y Fflint fe ddowch ar draws lawer o bentrefi swynol i'w mwynhau. Yn y mwyafrif ohonynt cechw siopau lleol, tafarnau ffyniannus ac adeiladau sy'n adlewyrchu golud o hanes lleol.

Mae nifer o'n haneddiadau ymhell dros 900 oed a cheir cyfeiriad at rai yn The Domesday Book, 1085. Mae llawer ohonynt yn leoedd cadwraeth diddorol erbyn hyn sy'n amrywio o gadarnleoedd lorwerth I, fel Caerwys; i bentrefi stadau fel Llanasa a Phenarlâg; i leoedd sydd â thraddodiadau mynachaid cryf fel Treffynnon a Phantasaph. Mae rhai'n gorwedd o fewn Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol Bryniau Clwyd, fel Gwaenysgor a Chilcain. Rhed ffordd

dyrpeg Llundain i Gaerdybi drwy Laneurgain, Caerwys ac Ysgeifiog. Hyd heddiw mae yma adeiladau a oedd yn dafarnau'r goets fawr yn ystod yr 17eg a'r 18fed ganrif.

Codwyd llawer o'r hen adeiladau gan ddefnyddio dau fath o graig leol. Mae digonedd o'r garreg lwyd feddal yn y Sir ac fe'i defnyddid yn gyffredin yng Nghilcain, Nannerch a Helygain. Codwyd Eglwys Chwitfordd a rhan helaeth o Eglwys Llanasa o dywodfaen melyn deniadol a gloddiwyd yng ngogledd Sir y Fflint.

## An Industrial Past



Lower Cotton Mill, Greenfield  
*Y Felin Gotwm Isaf, Maesglas*



The underlying rocks and the navigable Dee Estuary brought industry and wealth to rural Flintshire.

Rich veins of lead, silver and zinc within Halkyn's limestone were mined intensively, leaving the scars of shafts, spoil and old roads on its landscape. Long-disused limekilns once turned the rock itself into a useful fertilizer.

Copper, brought mainly from Anglesey, combined with power from a fast stream and access to the coast, provided the impetus for Greenfield Valley. It quickly became the cradle of the Industrial Revolution in North Wales, with mills producing metal wire, cotton, brass pots and pans.

Valuable coal and oil deposits at Point of Ayr, Coed Talon and Llanfynydd gave rise to a local network of railways and factories, including the magnificent viaducts at Ffrith and Cefn-y-bedd.

Thick deposits of clay were found under Knowle Hill at Buckley, upon which grew a successful pottery and brick-making industry. Millions of Buckley bricks have been exported far and wide from the now quiet quaysides of the Dee.

Many of the mills, factories and brickworks have long gone but reminders of this fascinating industrial past can still be found in the heart of our now largely rural county.



# Y Gorffennol Diwydiannol



Waen Brodlas limekilns, Halkyn  
Odynnau calch Waun Brodlas, Helygain



Oherwydd y creigiau sydd o dan y ddaear ac Aber yr Afon Ddyfrdwy sy'n fordwyol, daeth diwydiant a chyfoeth i gefn gwlad Sir y Fflint.

Bu cloddio dwys ar wythiennau cyfoethog o blwm, arian, a sinc o fewn calchfaen Helygain, gan adael creithiau'r siafftau, y tomenni sbwriel a'r hen ffyrdd ar y dirwedd. Mewn odynnau calch, nas defnyddiwyd ers talwm, roedd y graig ei hunan yn cael ei throï'n wrtaith defnyddiol.

Cyrchwyd y rhan fwyaf o'r copr o Fôn a gan fod yma nant gyflym a mynediad hawdd i lan y môr dyma'r ysgogiad ar gyfer datblygu Dyffryn Maesglas. Cyn hir yr ardal hon oedd crud Chwyldro Diwydiannol Gogledd Cymru gyda'r melinau'n cynhyrchu gwifren fetel, cotwm, padelli a llestri pres.

Yn sgil cloddio'r gwythiennau glo gwerthfawr yn y Parlwr Du, Coed Talon a Llanfynydd cododd rhwydwaith o reilffyrdd a ffatrioedd gan gynnwys pontydd cario dŵr rhyfeddol yn y Ffrith a Chefn-y-bedd.

Darganfuwyd dyddodion o glai o dan Knowle Hill ym Mwcle ac ar hwn tyfodd diwydiant llwyddiannus y llestri a'r briciau. Allforiwyd miliynau o frics i bell ac agos o lanfeydd yr Afon Ddyfrdwy, sy bellach mor dawel.

Diflannodd llawer o'r melinau, y ffatrioedd a'r gweithfeydd brics ers talwm iawn ond gwelir olion difyr y diwydiant hyd heddiw yng nghanol ein sir sy bellach mor wledig.