

WALK 8: AROUND PANDY

BRING WALKING BOOTS, & CLOTHES SUITABLE FOR THE WEATHER

P PARK near the turn off from the A465 to the old Hereford Road by Offa's Dyke path.

OS map OL 13: Grid Ref SO 33284 21834

Distance: Approx. 4 miles

Duration: 3 hours leisurely

Difficulty: Moderate, with steep bits and stiles

HISTORY WALK

Pandy is a village near the bottom of the Llanthony Valley now bisected by the A465. 'Pandy' is the Welsh word for a watermill used to 'full' wool. In a pandy the cloth was beaten with wooden hammers to cleanse and thicken it. The pandy in Llanvihangel manor was situated behind what is now Pandy Inn, though the village did not exist before the construction of the Abergavenny-Hereford railway line. Pandy station was built in 1854 and many of the stone cottages built in the 1870s housed railway workers.

PANDY

1 Across the A465 from your parking spot and up the little lane is the house where **Raymond Williams** lived as a child **A**. There is an oval plaque by the back door.

2 Walk along the old road passing houses built by the **Welsh Marches Railway Line** for its workers; pass **Hope Presbyterian Chapel C**, **Zoar Baptist Chapel D**, and houses with the initials of Lucia Rosher (LAMR) and Isabella Rosher (IBR).

3 On reaching the main road **turn left** and walk until you are opposite the **bus stop**. Cross with care then go **up the diagonal path** to join the minor road to Grosmont.

4 Pass the back of **Glanhonddu E** on your right and carry on up the steep hill passing **F Penbidwal House** and barn on the left, and **G Little Penbidwal**, a 16th century house, on the right.

5 When you come to a **farm on the left** stop by the gate opposite to **look across** to Treveddw and Trewyn and spot the Skirrid, Bloreng and Sugar Loaf hills; then go back down the road until it reaches the A465, passing the old **Police House G** behind the laurel hedge on your right, reportedly designed by Isabella Rocher in 1872.

6 Cross the A465 and walk towards the **Pandy Inn**; take the road under the railway bridge to find a **path on the right** opposite the caravan site entrance.

7 Follow the path past white willow trees and the sewage works to an open field; **leave the track and go straight on** and, keeping the hedge to your left, continue along the path by the river Honddu. Cross a stile, and walk until you come to a footbridge.

8 Cross the bridge, climb the stile ahead to join a road; turn left and almost immediately reach **Trewyn Mill J** on your right.

9 Take the footpath **through the garden** with the mill on your left, go **through a gate** and take the path **to the left** (towards the oak tree) following the hedge to a gate onto the Longtown road.

10 Turn right, then take the path on the left passing the caravan site on the left; go through the gate and walk through the field with the brook on your right; **climb the stile** to the right of the metal gate and walk up through the parkland to a **black gate** opening on to a road just below **Trewyn K**.

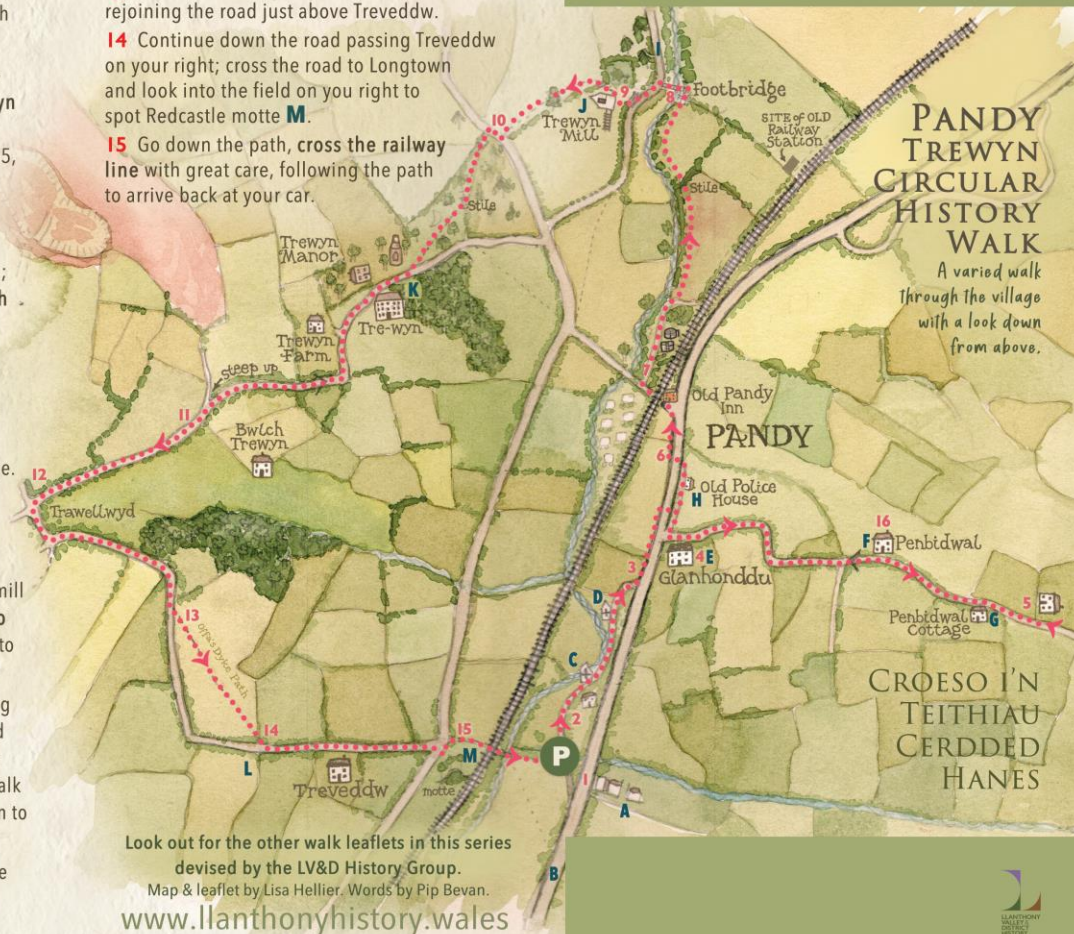
11 Walk up the road to a crossroads at the top of the pass; look down on to the bottom of the Llanthony Valley.

12 Turn left and follow the road which turns down towards Treveddw.

13 Follow **Offa's Dyke** path across the field rejoining the road just above Treveddw.

14 Continue down the road passing Treveddw on your right; cross the road to Longtown and look into the field on your right to spot Redcastle motte **M**.

15 Go down the path, cross the railway line with great care, following the path to arrive back at your car.



HISTORY WALKS IN
THE LLANTHONY VALLEY
& ENVIRONS

8

PANDY
TREWYN
CIRCULAR
HISTORY
WALK

A varied walk
through the village
with a look down
from above.

CROESO I'N
TEITHIAU
CERDDDED
HANES

Look out for the other walk leaflets in this series
devised by the LV&D History Group.
Map & leaflet by Lisa Hellier. Words by Pip Bevan.

www.llanthonyhistory.wales



A RAYMOND WILLIAMS HOME



The academic and novel writer was born in No 2 Llwyn Derw in 1921. His father was a signalman and Raymond was known locally as Jim. His novel *Border Country* is based on his childhood in Pandy.

B OLD PANDY SCHOOL



The school was closed in 1967 when pupils moved to the new school at Wern Gifford. The building was demolished to make way for the A465.

C HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The foundation stone was laid in 1865 in front of over 1,000 people. The finished building cost £600. By 1869, when the Rev John Davies came to Pandy, the Hope church was linked with the Forest Coalpit Calvinistic Methodist chapel. For 47 years he served at Pandy and Forest Coalpit walking the 4 miles between the two chapels.



Glanhonddu

D ZOAR BAPTIST CHAPEL

The chapel was built in 1837 on a bank of the Honddu river. 50 local men were involved in the supply of materials and the work. In 1843 there were 68 members.

In the 1840s 5 were dismissed for fornication, 3 for drunkenness, and 2 for non-attendance. By the 1860s it had as much support as St Michael's church including many leading farmers.



E GLANHONDDU (OLD PARK HOTEL)

(Image at top) The home of Lucia Anna Maria Rosher (Morgan), third wife of Jeremiah Burch Rosher. Her initials appear on some houses you can see along the Old Hereford Road.

F PENBIDWAL HOUSE

Built in the 1870s by the Rosher family. A local rumour has it that it was built for a 'ladyfriend'.



G LITTLE PENBIDWAL

The original building dates back to the 16th century; reputedly it has been a chapel, pub and Post Office.

H POLICE HOUSE

Reputedly designed by a female member of the Rosher family, probably Isabella Belinda (1807-1881) who married William Rosher; she also allegedly designed changes at Trewyn House.



I ALLT-YR-YNYS



The house has a C16 core re-modelled in the late C17 or early C18. It was the home of the Sitsyllts (Cecils), then occupied by the Delahay family until 1720, after which it became a farmhouse.

J TREWYN MILL

The corn mill was built before 1720; a half-mile water-course from the Honddu drove the wheel, while the water exited the mill into the Monnow. The mill is now a private residence and most of the machinery has gone, though the initials of many of the millers who leased the mill can be seen on the beams.

K TREWYN

Bwlch Trewyn, a manor and hamlet of 640 acres, was part of Ewyas Lacy lordship during the Middle Ages. There was a house on the site of Trewyn Manor pre-1500. The Delahays of Allt-yr-ynys owned the estate from 1609-1738 and four Jeremiah Roshers



owned it between 1775 and 1895. An important local figure, Mrs Molyneux, widowed in 1928, lived in the house between 1927 and 1980.

L TREVEDDW

The original 3-storey manor house was in a field a little distance from the farm buildings where the family built a more comfortable house. The manor house was empty for many years and it was knocked down in the 1950s.



M REDCASTLE MOTTE

Below Treveddwr next to the railway line there is a motte which could have been the site of Red Castle before the Normans came.



View into Llanthony Valley

