THE DYFFRYN CLWYD COURT ROLL DATABASE
1294-1422

A MANUAL FOR USERS

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INTRODUCTION

From January 1991 to August 1995 a team of researchers at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, created and developed a database of some of the medieval court rolls of the Marcher Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd, the area around Ruthin in north-east Wales. Two successive projects were funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, whose support enabled the creation of a large, machine-readable calendar of part of a source which is of great importance to students of the social, economic and legal history of late medieval Wales.

This manual sets out to explain the methodology behind the creation of the database, to outline some of the difficulties which have been encountered, and to guide future users of the material. It includes a number of lists which have been created during the course of the projects and unpublished reports on some experiments which were made. It is directed both at those who intend to use the Dyffryn Clwyd database for their own purposes, and at those who propose to establish broadly similar projects or are merely interested in the methodological problems which are likely to be encountered in creating databases from medieval material. The manual is not intended to act as an introduction to the court rolls themselves, nor to interpret the material found within them. These issues are addressed in other publications arising from the projects.

The projects and their objectives

The value of court rolls as a major source for the study of medieval society, especially in England, has been fully recognised for a number of years. Some of the most important studies of the demography of medieval England - for instance those of R. M. Smith and Zvi Razi - have been based almost exclusively on court roll evidence, while the work on medieval society associated with Professor J. A. Rahis and his pupils has likewise been based on material drawn from court rolls. The Dyffryn Clwyd projects have utilised the court rolls of the one area of Wales where it is possible to approach similar topics.

The lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd or Ruthin was one of the forty or so Marcher lordships of Wales in the later Middle Ages, and its court rolls survive on a scale unsurpassed in the Welsh context. Chronologically, they are by far the most complete sequence of medieval court records available for any part of Wales, and bear comparison with the best sequences of court records in England for the same period. Jurisdictionally, they are much wider in scope than are 'private' court records in England, because the Marcher lords of Wales had total judicial authority within their lordship and royal writs did not run there. Their court records, therefore, cover the whole range of civil, criminal and disciplinary powers available in medieval secular courts. Geographically, although Dyffryn Clwyd is fairly small in comparison with some Marcher lordships, it embraces three Welsh commotes (or hundreds), a borough (Ruthin) and some other associated units. It is an agriculturally rich district, lying across the fertile valley of the river Clwyd, and it presents the contrast between an English plantation borough and a thoroughly Welsh hinterland. Its records therefore provide an ideal and unique opportunity for the study of contrasting societies in Wales after the Edwardian Conquest of 1282-83, but the sheer volume of the court rolls was a considerable barrier against their proper exploitation by scholars until the advent of modern computer technology.

The first project, which ran from January 1991 to December 1992, aimed to provide a machine-readable version of some of the fourteenth-century court rolls. Two periods were selected for investigation, namely 1340-52 and 1389-99. These are years for which the rolls survive virtually complete, and are also especially interesting historically: the first period straddles the initial outbreak of the Black Death, the second comprises the decade immediately before the great rebellion of Owain Glyn Dŵr, which opened in September 1400 with an attack on Ruthin and other English boroughs in north-east Wales. The second project extended this work to cover all the surviving courts of the commote of Llannerch (to the south-east of Ruthin) from 1294 to 1422, and the Great Courts, rolls of fines, gai...
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development rolls and other records of criminal jurisdiction over the same period. Although the
limitations of the available resources meant that it was necessary to concentrate on only part of
the corpus of court rolls, the database now gives a uniquely full and detailed insight into the life
of a Marcher lordship from the immediate aftermath of the Edwardian conquest until after the
collapse of Glyn Dŵr’s revolt.

The database thus created has been exploited to provide a securely-documented study of various
aspects of Welsh society in the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries. It is capable of being
further exploited in a myriad of ways and for a wide range of purposes, both by established
scholars and by students and others with an interest in the material or in the region. It is
available through the ESRC’s Data Archive for use by researchers in a number of disciplines, such
as history (including economic, social, agrarian, legal and ecclesiastical history), geography,
topography, social anthropology, onomastics and linguistics. This manual is designed both to
introduce interested persons to the database and to assist them in exploiting it.

The Personnel of the Project Team

The project has been directed by Professor R. R. Davies and Dr Llinos Beverley Smith of the
University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

The research assistants on the first project were Dr A. D. M. Barrell and Dr O. J. Padel. Although
they worked closely together and frequently consulted each other on both general and specific
matters arising from the creation of the database, each was responsible for particular files. During
the creation of the database for 1340-52, Dr Barrell worked on the period 1340-47 and Dr Padel on
the years 1347-52. For the years 1390-99, where the material is arranged somewhat differently,
Dr Padel calendared the Great Courts and the courts of Ruthin town, and Dr Barrell the courts of
Llannerch, Clocaenog, Colion and Dogfeiling. Dr Barrell also calendared the courts of 1389-90,
which are all in the same roll. Both research assistants produced lists of surnames and place-
names from the rolls for which they were responsible, and Dr Padel created a consolidated list of surnames covering the first project as a whole.

Dr Padel left Aberystwyth at the end of the first project, and in due course his place was taken by
Dr M. H. Brown, who was with the team from May 1993 to May 1994. Dr Brown was responsible
for the database version of the 1324 Rental of Dyffryn Clwyd, and was also engaged in
experiments to determine the feasibility of a database of individual persons. All the
calendarings of the Llannerch courts and the records of criminal jurisdiction were undertaken
by Dr Barrell, who continued with the project until August 1995. In addition, he calendared the
separate membranes of land transactions, found in several rolls in the early fourteenth century,
and the lists of grants of escheated land for ploughing or pasturage which appear around
1360. He also extended the consolidated list of surnames to embrace the second project, created
a similar consolidated list of place-names, and attempted to clear up some of the discrepancies
left over from the first project, particularly from its early stages.
THE CREATION OF THE DATABASE

The fundamental challenge for the project team was the creation of the database of the selected court rolls. In particular, decisions had to be taken at an early stage regarding the structure and scope of the database, drawing both upon the project directors’ experience of the Dyffryn Clwyd records and upon the expertise of specialists in computing. None of the project team possessed more than a very basic knowledge of computers and their potential value, and none had used them for historical research. While all were determined to ensure the success of the project, some had - and still have - a healthy scepticism as to the extent to which technology can supplant traditional historiographical approaches. Specialist advice was taken from experts both within and outside the United Kingdom, but even those with historical training were often unaware of the particular problems inherent in creating a database from a complex and heterogeneous medieval source, with all the linguistic difficulties and difficulties of interpretation which such a source contains. Other attempts to use computers for the analysis of medieval material had, for the most part, either dealt with records which are essentially structured (such as ordination lists in episcopal registers), or concentrated on particular questions (such as demography). While the project team was keen to address topics where statistical analysis is possible, it was unwilling to subsume the considerable, and varied, interest of the rolls within the pursuit of a single narrow objective.

It had originally been envisaged that the research assistants would have to transcribe a court roll in order to familiarise themselves with the material and to decide how it could best be computerised. Fortunately, however, a nineteenth-century transcript of one of the rolls (for 1349-50) was available, and this was used instead. In fact, this particular roll is not especially interesting and gives no more than an inkling of the much greater complexity and variation in vocabulary to be found in the series as a whole.

An initial decision had to be made whether to aim for a relational database, more or less structured into several fields, or use a free-text package which would promise a high level of text retrieval but would not, in itself, offer wide possibilities for statistical analysis. The transcript was used to decide what fields might be appropriate for a relational database, and some sample courts were transferred to cards, laid out as the database records might be. Several problems were immediately apparent. Firstly, the number of fields, and the range of possibilities within individual fields, grew alarmingly quickly. Secondly, when transferred to the cards, the material made no sense in itself; it was impossible to reconstruct the order (or, often, even the meaning) of the original entry from the card in question. Thirdly, it was necessary to determine the nature of the entry, in all its particulars, before it could be written on the cards, the significance of every clause and the nature of the role of every person mentioned in the entry had to be determined in advance, which was difficult even with the transcript, and likely to be much more so with the originals, especially when they were faint or damaged.

It seemed, therefore, that a relational database would involve excessive pigeon-holing of material, would force the research assistants into making decisions which might later seem arbitrary or even downright incorrect, and would be a very slow (and very dull) process. It also seemed unlikely that the structure decided upon at the outset would continue to be satisfactory for the duration of the project. The team, therefore, turned to free-text systems, of which two in particular were investigated closely.

One of these was Kleio, a highly sophisticated program developed by Dr Manfred Thaller of the University of Gottingen. Both the program itself and the manuals accompanying it were at that time available only in German, and although this was not a particular problem for the research assistants (both of whom had a working knowledge of German), it was likely to be an obstacle for at least some potential future users. A subsequent discussion between Dr Thaller and two members of the project team confirmed the latter in their suspicions that Kleio was extremely complicated and would take months to master. The project did not really have the necessary time...
at its disposal, and future users were unlikely to have it either. It seemed that *Klesio* would indeed permit detailed analysis of free text, but only after extensive 'flagging' of certain words and phrases, which looked likely to be both extremely time-consuming and liable to error. *Klesio* might have had advantages if the project had aimed to reproduce the Latin text of the court rolls, but it had been decided that only a database in English would have the wide potential usership which the material merited.

The other package was *Idealist*, published by Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd. This was found to have the level of flexibility required for this project, and is extremely easy to use. Even those who had no previous computing experience have been able to master the basics within a few hours at most, and those basics are more than sufficient to begin working on the database itself. As well as allowing records, and fields within them, to be of variable size, *Idealist* has powerful facilities for the export of data to other packages for specific analysis if and when this should be desirable. The team has had no reason to regret the choice of *Idealist* as the main software for the project.

This manual sets out in detail the methodology employed to create the database and the ways in which it can be searched. A few further introductory comments are, however, necessary here.

The database was created on PCs directly from microfilms of the original manuscripts. Workstations therefore included both a computer and a microfilm reader, and one of the great advantages of using a free-text package was that the material could be transferred with much greater rapidity than would have been possible with a relational database. The research assistants were not required to meet any particular targets, and by no means all their time was spent in the raw creation of the database, but it might be of interest to those working on other projects to say that the research assistants involved with the Dyffryn Clwyd project expected, on average, to input around a hundred records a day, equivalent to about two membranes of the original rolls. Working with two screens proved much less physically demanding (especially in terms of eye strain) than was initially feared, but the dangers of over-exertion, especially in the dim light required to read microfilms, should not be underestimated by those undertaking similar projects.

The speed of input was enhanced by the use of *Idealist*’s macro facility, which was valuable for such elements as the manuscript reference and the date of individual courts, which needed to be changed relatively infrequently. The variable nature of the text meant, however, that macros were not used extensively for the main part of the record, except where one was created to facilitate the input of a long sequence of almost identical entries such as attachments of officials.

The nature of the development of the project team’s ideas on the database, as outlined above, and the fact that, at the time when *Idealist* was first tried out, it was not certain that it would continue to be used, meant that the files created at the very outset of the project (especially Roll 10 and Roll 1, but to a lesser extent also Roll 2 and Roll 9) do contain certain discrepancies when compared with files created later. Some of these discrepancies were ultimately eliminated, others are found throughout the files covering the years 1340-52, though not necessarily universally within them. The more serious of these discrepancies are dealt with elsewhere in this manual during discussions of individual aspects of the database.

Fundamentally, there are two reasons for these discrepancies. Firstly, as a legacy of the attempt to create a relational database, there was a tendency in the early stages to ‘improve’ upon the original so that certain key phrases would appear. An example is the inclusion of the word ‘minor’ even where the manuscript uses a phrase such as ‘because of the age of the boy’. Until the full potential of *Idealist*’s synonym facility became apparent, the research assistants tried to determine (in a rather arbitrary way) what future users might wish to search for, and constructed the text of the calendar with that in mind. Later, the Latin was translated rather than paraphrased, although in some instances a word such as ‘minor’ continued to be added to the text of the entry. Old habits die hard, and there was understandably some reluctance to change the
conventions originally agreed upon, even when it became clear that those conventions were more likely to confuse than to enlighten.

The second reason was that it was feared that typing a full rendition of each item would be too time-consuming. In the initial stages of the creation of the database, therefore, some entries were heavily abbreviated on being inputted. This was particularly - and notoriously - the case with land transactions, which were savagely pruned by the excision of what, from the limited experience available, was deemed to be common form. Many short and, on the face of it, unimportant phrases such as *ideo etc* were omitted too. This all meant that the text was little more than a summary of what were deemed to be the significant parts of individual items, and in view of this the order of the material within particular entries in the original was not considered to be sacrosanct (although the order of entries within a court was always preserved). It soon became apparent that these methods were far too drastic, and as the project developed the text of the calendar increasingly came to resemble a full translation of the original rolls. This was, however, a piecemeal development, and land transactions were not calendared in full until the start of the creation of the database for the period 1389-99. Most of the files covering the years 1340-52 have subsequently been updated, at least in part, but some inconsistencies remain. The uninitiated will, however, fail to notice most of them, and only those for whom precise terminology is essential are likely to be inconvenienced. Even the latter should bear in mind that only a few phrases are affected, and most of them are common formulae.

These discrepancies do, however, demonstrate how dangerous it is to make too many decisions at the start of a project. It would have been much simpler (and, in the final analysis, much quicker) to have set out to translate the court rolls word for word, warts and all. This would have obviated the necessity to check the files created early in the project with a view to updating them, and there is no reason to suppose that they would have been less searchable within *Idealist* if the variations and inconsistencies of the original Latin had been allowed to stand. It is relatively straightforward to insert ‘tags’ to mark those records which relate to a particular theme but do not contain distinctive individual words connecting them with that theme, either during the creation of the calendar or subsequently, although (except in very obvious cases) this task can be carried out more appropriately and more accurately by subsequent users of the database who possess specialist knowledge of the issues in question. It is unlikely that, having the full (translated) text of an entry rather than a mere summary, will cause users any particular difficulties, *for even the full text is usually very short*. Anyone planning to create a similar database is, therefore, advised to opt for a full and fairly literal translation. Such advice is given without qualification.
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

The software used for the project was Idealist for DOS, developed and produced by Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EL, United Kingdom. Throughout the duration of the project, the versions used were those issued in 1991, with some later limited updates. The text-editor TED EXE, supplied with the software, proved to be inadequate at an early stage, and BIGTED EXE was used in its place. Idealist is now available for use in the WINDOWS environment, but this facility was not utilised for the project.

The database was created and has been run on IBM-compatible PCs, without any need for a mainframe link. Initially, 386 machines were used, but for the second phase of the project, 486 computers were found to be desirable, especially from the standpoint of greatly increased speed. While 386 machines will undertake most searches in a matter of seconds at the most, they are rather slow when importing, exporting and re-indexing are being undertaken. A mouse is not required within the DOS environment.

The basic software does not use much disk space, but the full database (including the combined files for the 1340s and 1390s) extends to around 60 megabytes. The configuration within IDEALIST INI must be capable of accommodating the maximum number of records within any particular file and the maximum size of any particular record. It is advised that MaxRecords is set at not less than 23000 and RecordSize at not less than 32750. For full and effective exploitation of the database, the record definitions in IDEALIST DEF should conform to those used in the database and detailed elsewhere in this manual.
LIST OF FILES IN THE DATABASE

The list below gives details of all the files in the Dyffryn Clwyd database at the termination of the project in August 1995. The name of the file and its normal abbreviation are followed by a description of the contents, the membranes of the original rolls in the SC2 class in the PRO which are represented in it (or, in the case of the 1324 rental, the printed edition), some statistical information, and the initials of the researcher who was primarily responsible for the creation of the file. The files are listed roughly in chronological order, and include files created by merging other files.

It should be noted that no account is taken of blank sides, either in the list of membranes calendared or in the total number of membranes, and the references should be deemed to comprise both the recto and the dorse. Only if some material which was not calendared appears on the same membrane as some which was is the fact that the membrane was only partially calendared noted here. The figures for numbers of membranes include scraps and other appended material which are separately numbered, but exclude those riders which are not given a separate number in the manuscript. The figures for numbers of courts are taken, where appropriate, from the 'courts' files, and include items such as rolls of fines and individual petitions which were not strictly courts in the normal sense of the word. The number of court sittings calendared is, therefore, lower than the total given, but against this it should be remembered that rolls of fines are usually far longer than the records of single courts.

The main calendar

Llan1 (L1)

Courts of Llananner, 1294-1338

215/64 (the whole), 215/67, m 2, 215/69, m 13-14, 215/71, mm 9-10, 215/72, mm 10-11, 215/73, mm 16-19, 215/74, m 11, 215/75, mm 11-12, 215/76, mm 10-11, 216/1, mm 14-17, 216/2, mm 16-18, 216/3, mm 5-7, 216/4, mm 19-21, 216/5, mm 22-24, 216/6, mm 10-12, 216/9, m 8, 216/10, mm 16-19, 216/12, mm 24-26, 216/13, mm 16-17, 216/14, mm 17-19, 217/3, mm 8-9

53 membranes 213 courts 2639 records Author ADMB

GC1 (G1)

Great Courts, fines, gaol delivery rolls, coroner's rolls and other material relating to criminal jurisdiction, 1296-1339

215/65, m 4 (part), 215/66, m 1 (part), 215/67, mm 6-7, 215/69, m 3 (part), m 15, 215/70, m 4, m 5 (part), 215/71, m 13 (part), mm 14-15, 215/72, m 1, m 2 (part), m 14, 215/73, mm 24-27, 215/74, m 13-18, 215/75, mm 15-17, 215/76, mm 14-16, 216/1, m 19 (scrap appended thereto), m 20 (part), 216/2, m 6, 23, 216/3, mm 17-23, 216/4, mm 1-2, 28-34, 216/5, mm 10-13, 30-33, 216/6, mm 1-3, 18-21, 216/9, mm 11-12, 18, 216/10, mm 24-28, 216/11, m 3, 216/12, mm 14-16, 34-35, 216/13, mm 1-2, 23, 216/14, m 1, 24-25, 217/1, m 1, 12-15, 217/3, mm 10-11, 217/4, mm 15-16, 217/5 (the whole)

97 membranes 117 courts 3941 records Author ADMB

Reliefs (R)

Rolls of land transactions, 1299-1319

215/67, m 8, 215/69, m 5, 215/70, m 1, 215/71, mm 16-17, 215/72, m 15, 215/73, m 1, 215/74, mm 1-3, 215/76, m 1, 216/1, mm 1-2, 216/2, m 1

14 membranes 13 courts 397 records Author ADMB

Rental (REN)

Rental of Dyffryn Clwyd, 1324

Transactions of the Denbighshire Historical Society, xvii (1968), 7-53

924 records Author MHB

Roll1 (I)

Courts for whole lordship, 1340-41

217/6 (the whole)

33 membranes 78 courts 1554 records Author ADMB

7
**Roll2 (2)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1341-42
217/7 (the whole)
40 membranes 89 courts 1808 records Author ADMB

**Roll3 (3)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1342-43
217/8 (the whole)
34 membranes 91 courts 1508 records Author ADMB

**Roll4 (4)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1343-44
217/9 (the whole)
25 membranes 92 courts 1286 records Author ADMB

**Roll5 (5)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1344-45
217/10 (the whole)
31 membranes 96 courts 1649 records Author ADMB

**Roll6 (6)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1345-46
217/11 (the whole)
32 membranes 101 courts 2193 records Author ADMB

**Roll7 (7)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1346-47
217/12 (the whole)
30 membranes 101 courts 2270 records Author ADMB

**Roll8 (8)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1347-48
217/13 (the whole)
31 membranes 94 courts 2126 records Author OJP

**Roll9 (9)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1348-49
217/14 (the whole)
37 membranes 108 courts 2289 records Author OJP

**Roll10 (10)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1349-50
218/1 (the whole)
31 membranes 102 courts 1695 records Author OJP

**Roll11 (11)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1350-51
218/2 (the whole)
27 membranes 94 courts 1459 records Author OJP

**Roll12 (12)**
Courts for whole lordship, 1351-52
218/3 (the whole)
24 membranes 82 courts 1269 records Author OJP

**Forties**
Courts for whole lordship, 1340-52
Formed by combination of 1-12 inclusive
217/6 to 218/3 inclusive (the whole)
37 membranes 1128 courts 21106 records Authors ADMB, OJP

**Llan2 (L2)**
Courts of Llannerch, 1340-52
Formed from 1-12 inclusive, but with some minor changes to the numbers of records
217/6, mm 22-25, 217/7, mm 15-19, 217/8, mm 19-23, 217/9, mm 5-7, 217/10, mm 12-16, 217/11, mm 20-23, 217/12, mm 14-16, 217/13, mm 16-19, 217/14, mm 16-20, 218/1, mm 18-21, 218/2, mm 14-17, 218/3, mm 12-13
47 membranes 177 courts 2753 records Authors ADMB, OJP
Llan3 (L3)
Courts of Llannerch, 1353-64
218/4, mm 14-17, 218/5, mm 9-12, 218/6, mm 19-22, 218/7, mm 17-19, 218/8, m 17 (part), mm 18-22, 218/9, mm 23-26, 28-29, 218/10, mm 16-21, 218/11, mm 18-22, 219/1, mm 16-20
43 membranes 133 courts 2588 records Author ADMB

GC3 (G3)
Great Courts and fines, 1353-64
218/4, mm 26-30, 218/5, mm 17-19, 218/6, mm 25-30, 218/7, mm 26-30, 218/8, mm 32-35, 218/9, mm 36-38, 40, 218/10, mm 29-33, 218/11, mm 1-4, 219/1, mm 27-32
42 membranes 46 courts 2451 records Author ADMB

Herbage (HERB)
Rolls of grants of escheated land for ploughing, sowing or pasture, 1359-62
218/8, mm 36, 218/9, m 39, 218/10, mm 34
3 membranes 3 courts 198 records Author ADMB

Llan4 (L4)
Courts of Llannerch, 1364-76
219/2, mm 19-25, 219/3, mm 20-26, 219/4, mm 18-22, 219/5, mm 22-27, 219/6, mm 23-27, 219/7, mm 18A-22, 219/8, mm 1-5, 219/9, mm 20-23, 219/10, mm 15-18, 219/11, mm 16-19
53 membranes 159 courts 2922 records Author ADMB

GC4 (G4)
Great Courts and fines, 1364-76
219/2, mm 35-40, 219/3, mm 37-42, 219/4, mm 32-36, 219/5, mm 1-5, 219/6, mm 1-5, 219/7, mm 31-36, 219/9, mm 1-7, 219/10, mm 26-30, 219/11, mm 27-31
51 membranes 51 courts 2120 records Author ADMB

Llan5 (L5)
Courts of Llannerch, 1376-90
Partly taken from B
219/12, mm 16-19, 219/13, mm 20-23, 220/1, mm 21-25, 220/3, mm 11-14, 220/4, mm 15-18, 220/5, mm 14-16, 220/6, mm 20-23, 220/7, mm 21-24
32 membranes 121 courts 2292 records Author ADMB

GC5 (G5)
Great Courts and fines, 1376-90
Partly taken from B
219/12, mm 26-30, 219/13, mm 1-5, 220/1, mm 1-5, 220/2, mm 1-2, 220/3, mm 21-25, 220/4, mm 24-28, 220/5, mm 21-25, 220/6, mm 1-5, 220/7, mm 1-5
42 membranes 42 courts 1817 records Author ADMB

RollB (B)
Courts for whole lordship, 1389-90
220/7 (the whole)
- 27 membranes 87 courts 1834 records Author ADMB

RollC (C)
Great Courts, 1390-99
220/8 (the whole)
34 membranes 34 courts 613 records Author OJP

RollD (D)
Courts of Ruthin town, 1390-99
220/9 (the whole)
84 membranes 152 courts 7070 records Author OJP

RollE (E)
Courts of Llannerch, 1390-99
220/10 (the whole)
35 membranes 114 courts 2698 records Author ADMB
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Roll F (F)
Courts of Clocaenog, 1390-99
220/11 (the whole)
13 membranes 146 courts 589 records Author ADMB

Roll G (G)
Courts of Colion, 1390-99
220/12 (the whole)
40 membranes 151 courts 2884 records Author ADMB

Roll H (H)
Courts of DogfellIng, 1391-98
221/1 (the whole)
32 membranes 92 courts 1731 records Author ADMB

Nineties
Courts for whole lordship, 1389-99
Formed by combination of B-H inclusive
220/7 to 221/1 inclusive (the whole)
265 membranes 776 courts 17419 records Authors ADMB, OJP

Llan7 (L7)
Courts of Llannerch, 1408-22
221/6, mm 10-11, 221/8 (the whole)
42 membranes 208 courts 2572 records Author ADMB

GC7 (G7)
Great Courts and fines, 1408-22
221/6, mm 15-17, 221/7 (the whole), 221/11 (the whole)
26 membranes 51 courts 795 records Author ADMB

The names files

Names
Lists of surnames and place-names relating to all the individual files listed above
68 records Authors ADMB, OJP

PNS
Consolidated list of place-names for the database as a whole
674 records Author ADMB

Surnames
Consolidated list of surnames for the database as a whole
2381 records Authors ADMB, OJP

The courts files

The following are available, the numbers and letters at the end of the file name corresponding to the abbreviated title of the files listed above
Author ADMB

Courts L1
Courts G1
Courts R
Courts 1
Courts 2
Courts 3
Courts 4
Courts 5
Courts 6
Courts 7
Courts 8
Courts L2
Courts L3
Courts G3
Cts-HERB
Courts L 4
Courts G4
Courts L 5
Courts G 5
Courts B
Courts E
Courts F
Courts G
Courts H
Courts L 7
Courts G 7
CONCORDANCES

The file called Llan2, containing the Llannerch courts from 1340 to 1352, was created from the files covering those years which had already been completed. The records were then renumbered for the new file, although they remained, of course, in the original files as well, a very few were divided for the purposes of Llan2, although they were not so treated in the original files. The list below gives a concordance between the numbers of the respective copies of these records. Consideration was also given to creating a file GC2, covering the Great Courts and fines from the same period, but this was not in fact done.

Both Llan5 and GC5 drew partly on the relevant records for the year 1389-90, already calendared in Roll B. This was so that users would not have to access Roll B (which is the only roll from the period 1389-99 which is arranged by year rather than by unit of jurisdiction) if they wished to concentrate on either Llannerch or the Great Courts. Renumbering was again necessary, and concordances are presented below.

Concordance between numbers in original files and numbers in Llan2

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Concordance between numbers in Roll B and numbers in **Llan5**

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FILE AND RECORD STRUCTURE

The structure of records within the database can be much simpler in the case of a free-text calendar than would be necessary in a relational database of similar material. Indeed, because the principal justification for using a free-text package is that the arrangement of the original manuscript can be preserved as far as possible, it would be inappropriate to devise a record structure which unduly complicated the presentation of the material of the manuscript.

Record structure

The basic record structure is very simple, and is determined in IDEALIST DEF as follows:

```
A1normal
reference=free,unindexed
number=number
court=
date=date
persons=
text=concat
extra=
```

The great majority of records within the database are in this format, although some use has been made of other record types, particularly where the date is not recoverable (see the section below on dates and dating problems) The fields basically contain the following information:

- **reference**: the manuscript class reference and membrane number
- **number**: the unique number of the record within the file
- **court**
- **date**
- **persons**: a list of the individuals named in the entry
- **text**: the calendar of the entry, with the persons in the preceding field identified by the letter p and a number, e.g. p1, p2 etc., together with any necessary editorial comments
- **extra**: for the addition of interpretative phrases

It can, therefore, be seen that the only alteration to the structure of the original court roll entry has been to extract the names of persons mentioned in it. This was desirable because it aids the compilation of lists of surnames which have been made for each file, assists in the study of individual persons, and provides the option of exporting the names alone to another package for alphabetical sorting or other analysis such as the frequency of occurrence of individual Christian names and surnames within the rolls. It also means that information in the 'persons' field can be searched for within IDEALIST in isolation from the material in other fields, should this be desirable.

The 'reference' field is unindexed. This is because at the outset it was believed that it was unlikely that anyone would wish to search on the PRO reference (here represented solely by the number of the document within the SC2 class, along with the membrane number). The project was advised that indexing the 'reference' field would slow down the operation of the program, but this would not have been a problem in practice. It would, with hindsight, have been preferable to have indexed the 'reference' field, in order to provide an added dimension to searching, especially in files which contain material from more than one court roll.

The 'number' field contains the unique number of each record within a particular file, and most citations of material in the database have used this number in conjunction with numbers or letters relating to the file in question. IDEALIST does not permit any material other than a simple number to appear in a 'number=number' field, but does allow the records within a file to be sorted by number. This has been very useful on occasions, especially when it has been necessary to insert records at the appropriate point within the file, for IDEALIST always places new records at the end, irrespective of their number. Users should note that if a file is reindexed, the order of the records within it will be changed, if it is necessary to preserve the original order, the file should be exported and then imported into a new file in accordance with the instructions supplied with the software.
The disadvantage of using a 'number=number' field is that the numbers or letters representing the file cannot be added to it when a number of files are merged together. Merged files contain, therefore, several records with the same number. This does not apply, however, to Llan2, which was created from other files but renumbered, nor does it affect those parts of Llan5 and GC5 which are also in Roll B.

The 'courts' field gives the name of the series to which the record belongs: Aberchwiler, Colion, Dogfeiling, Llaneracl, Ruthin, Great Court of DC, Great Court of Ruthin. The Trefor and Clocaenog series is described in the manuscript in different ways at different times, and some of these variations are preserved in the calendar, although the spellings of the place-names are always standardized. Rolls of fines and other business not connected with individual court sittings are given headings as in the manuscript. It is often useful to search on the 'courts' field alone to obtain entries in a particular series, either as an initial search or to narrow a hit list by isolating those records within it which relate to a particular series (which can be very useful in the identification of individuals with the same or similar names).

Subsequent sections of the manual discuss the material in the 'date', 'persons' and 'text' fields, and outline some of the problems encountered under those heads. The 'extra' field at the foot of each record, for the addition of interpretative phrases and comments, is blank in the basic copy of the database, but has been used in a number of private investigations of particular aspects of the material. One of the methodological reports below gives details of one exercise where the 'extra' field was used.

The creation of files and records

In the first project, each court roll was made a separate file within the database. These are numbered Roll 1 to Roll 12 inclusive (for 1340-52), and Roll B to Roll H inclusive (for 1389-99). In the second project, when only sections of particular rolls were calendared, files were created both for Llanerch on the one hand and for the Great Courts and other criminal business on the other. These files each cover a period of years, broken at 1340, 1352, 1364, 1376, 1390 and 1399, at Michaelmas in each case. This meant that the file called Llan2 could comprise the Llanerch courts from 1340 to 1352 (which had already been calendared for the first project), and that Roll C (Great Courts) and Roll E (Llanerch) could take their place within a series of files without alteration or renumbering. With the Llanerch files, it proved convenient to limit the size of files to about 1.5 megabytes of data because, at least at the creation stage, larger files are slow to operate, on the other hand, it was important not to have too many files, for switching from one to another is generally irksome and time-consuming. The calendar of the Great Courts was broken down at the same dates as those used for the Llanerch series, even though as a result some files are much larger than others.

Each entry within the roll has usually been assigned a separate record, although a certain amount of flexibility has had to be exercised. Large blocks of text which deal with a number of separate items of business, such as presentments of felonies and trespasses in the Great Courts, are more manageable as a number of separate records, but it has been more convenient to deal with lists of those amerced for breaking the assizes of meat, bread or ale by using a single record to cover all those presented for breach of each assize. Within these broad guidelines, however, there are a few anomalies, caused mainly by the variable nature of the original source. Some of these are outlined below, but it is impossible (either here or in the calendar) to explain why a decision was made in individual instances either to unite items or to divide blocks of text. The intention of the database is to present the information in the court rolls, not to describe their precise form or arrangement. It is inevitable that the original layout is sacrificed when the material is broken down into computer records, for the computer is not as haphazard (nor as imaginative) in its operations as human scribes with parchment and quill.

The order of individual entries within the rolls has been deemed to be sacrosanct. It may not be logical, and from the standpoint of computing it may not be convenient, but the project team would have failed in its duty to historians if it had meddled (or allowed the computer to meddle) with the order of entries.
some membranes are in an incorrect order, others are bound back to front. Because it is useful to be able to follow through cases in the order in which the business was transacted, the material within individual series has been rearranged so that the courts are in chronological order. The order of series within individual rolls has not, however, been altered, for that would have been unnecessary. The rearrangement within series is justified not only in terms of usefulness and logic, but also because the current binding is fairly recent, and so the order of membranes has much less historical significance than the order of individual entries within courts.

During the first project, there was a tendency to place the two Ruthin Great Courts consecutively, followed (or preceded by, depending on the order in the roll) the two Dyffryn Clwyd Great Courts. This was done by analogy with other series of courts, where a misplaced membrane would be, in effect, moved to its true place in the series. In the second project, when large numbers of Great Courts were calendared, it was not feasible to apply this (or any other similar) principle with any degree of regularity. Sometimes a Ruthin Great Court is on the dorse of a membrane containing another Ruthin Great Court, sometimes a Ruthin Great Court is on the recto and a Dyffryn Clwyd Great Court on the dorse. If only one year is calendared in a single file, a way can be found to deal with this idiosyncrasy, if several years are calendared in the same file, the problems mount. Increasingly, therefore, the Great Courts were calendared in the order in which they appear, except where one or more properly pertain to a different year (from Michaelmas to Michaelmas). However, whatever order the courts themselves appear in, the order of entries within particular courts has been preserved at all times.

It was hoped that it would never be necessary to calendar only part of any membrane, because of the potential confusion which might ensue if, at any future time, the database is extended. However, in the early fourteenth century, the Ruthin Great Courts formed part of the regular series of town courts, both in terms of business and in their physical arrangement on the membranes. In these instances, it was necessary to calendar only the portions of the membranes in question relating to the Great Court. The same principle applied where a court of Llannerch appears on the same membrane as one from another series, but this is exceptionally rare.

Problems with breaking the material into individual records

One of the features of the court rolls is that an entry is frequently followed by another (or, indeed, several) relating back to the first, using such phrases as pro eodem (for the same), ibidem (there), or in eadem foresta (in the same forest). Because it is important for each record to be self-contained, it has been necessary to expand such phrases as appropriate, although pro eodem or the like has usually been added in round brackets. To some users, this addition may seem pedantic, but it has been done with the intention of preserving, as far as possible, the integrity of the original. Occasionally, however, a number of similar items have been grouped together into a single record. This has been done especially (though not exclusively) if a marginal comment or other addition brackets together two or more items, and so connects them more closely than is normal with items of their type. If what might seem to be discrete items run on without a break of line (except in the case of indictments), it has been normal to put them into one record.

In the context of Great Courts, the names of those on the grand inquisition have usually been put in a separate record, but sometimes their first presentment is included in that record as well. Where junes are named in commotai courts, their presentments are included with the list of names on some occasions, but not on others. Determining factors include the number of presentments which follow and the precise language of the manuscript. The names of the jurors are not repeated in subsequent records, although a cross-reference is added to the record which contains their names if the language of the rolls and the context warrant it.

Where villus is listed in Great Courts (as is normal from the late 1330s), and several presented nothing, it has been normal to group them all in one record (provided that the sequence of vills not making presentments is uninterrupted). An example is given below in Appendix I.

15
On occasions, several distinct, but consecutive, entries relating to the same individuals are included in the same record. This is done normally only if

- the entries relate to what seems to be one incident, or a very closely related series of incidents, usually involving violence,
- the same individuals were involved in several civil suits against each other simultaneously, although it should be noted that this does not necessarily imply that the suits were connected,
- an item was inadvertently omitted from the calendar and later inserted, if this was not noticed soon enough to make renumbering feasible, normally an attempt was made in such cases to join two connected items rather than two totally unconnected ones, even if this necessitated a certain amount of adjustment to adjacent records

An example of the first category is given below in Appendix I. It should, however, be noted that the practice of grouping together entries for the first two reasons was largely abandoned after the end of the first project.

Material omitted from the basic calendar

The basic calendar does not include the following information which is to be found in the manuscript, largely because the structure of records and files did not permit its inclusion

- the total of receipts for each court,
- other comments not connected with particular courts, or at least not with individual items within them, including later archival additions and classifications and tags added to identify particular rolls

This information (except for the precise manuscript version of the date) has been gathered together in the 'courts' files, records in which have the following structure

A2courts
reference=free,unindexed
court=
date=
number=number
persons=
text=concat
receipts=
extra=

A sample record is given below in Appendix II

Such files have been compiled to correspond with all files in the main database except Roll 9 to Roll 12 inclusive, Roll C and Roll D. It must be conceded, however, that they are of relatively limited interest, except insofar as they contain information about the steward or other presiding official and detail the total receipts. Some consideration was given towards incorporating them into the files in the main database, since Idealist can tolerate different record structures within the same file. The task would have been, however, impracticable. It would have run the numbering system and been extremely laborious into the bargain. Had the practice been followed from the very outset, it might have been advantageous to include material relating to the court as a whole with the calendar of individual records within it, in the event, users will have to be content with separate lists and when they require the information contained in them.
APPENDIX I

Illustrative examples, showing where discrete items are combined into a single record

A1normal
219/2, m 38
74
Great Court of DC
3rd Oct 1364
Dogfeiling Vills of Rewbeblgh, Basch', Lankenauell', Beuder, Scorlegan, Bodeigat', Rewe, nothing

A1normal
218/3, m 18d
882
Aberchwiler
11th Jul 1352
Erddylad ferch Cyn ap Gronw
Dd ap Dd ap Madog
Established by inquisition that p1 drew blood from p2, damages to p2 of 6d Decded that p2 is to recover the said damages, p1 mis 12d, gaol ffe
Established by the same that p2 unjustly beat p1, damages 6d Decded etc , p2 mis 6d

APPENDIX II

Example of record from 'courts' files

A2courts
220/10, m 20
Llannerch - held at Ruthun
Fri 1st Dec 1396
67
John de Eulowe, steward of DC
Nos 1521-1552
[4s 3d deleted] 3s 6d Probatur
DATES AND DATING PROBLEMS

The settings of the courts recorded in the Dyffryn Clwyd rolls are almost always dated. Dates are also given in individual entries, albeit only on an occasional basis, normally when referring back to an earlier court at which the business at issue had been raised, or when recording a felony or trespass against the lord which had led to an indictment in the Great Court or in a commotial court. Coroner's inquests are often dated, because they frequently took place on a different day from that on which the court sat, and the rare records of exchequer business are sometimes dated too. Deeds and other formal documents were sometimes copied into the rolls, with their original dates, these were sometimes many years before the transcription.

The vast majority of dates are given according to the ecclesiastical calendar. Most refer to the major feasts of the church, but some local saints' days are mentioned occasionally. An inquisition reported on 28 June 1397 about an event on St Trillo's day (15 June) in 1389 (G/1966), a feat of memory which (whether accurate or not) surely points to a local celebration of the feast-day of that particular saint. A court of Llannerch was held on the vigil of St Cynhafal's day (the feast fell on 5 October) in 1464 (SC2/223/4, m 7), and in 1421 a crime was said to have been committed on St Cynhafal's day (G/7753).

Dates in the database

Idealist offers a facility whereby files can be sorted according to date, provided that the dates appear in a field defined as 'date=date' and are always in a form which includes day, month and year. Idealist cannot tolerate any other format, but simply deletes the date or converts it (at least in our version) to 1st Jan in a year of its choosing, usually 1903. The project was urged by its specialist adviser to use the 'date=date' facility, and duly did so, but with hindsight it would have been greatly preferable to have resisted this temptation. The sorting of files or hit lists into chronological order has not been necessary, moreover, the presence of considerable numbers of records without a precise date (for instance in rolls of fines) means that sorting by date is only partial and therefore of limited usefulness.

The use of Idealist's dating conventions has had a number of disadvantages. Firstly, and most fundamentally, the dates had to be converted into modern form, without the opportunity to retain the original wording. While conversion was highly desirable for the benefit of users, it has had the effect either of glossing over the considerable problems found with the dating conventions (discussed more fully below), or of rendering necessary lengthy and complex notes drawing attention to particular errors or uncertainties, sometimes in every single record relating to a particular court. Secondly, it was sensible, if only from the standpoint of consistency, to convert dates elsewhere in the record in the same way (although retaining the day of the week where given in the manuscript). Some users may regret this, but it has to be said that to have supplied dates in two forms would have been wasteful of space in the database and might have seemed unduly pedantic.

Other problems with using a 'date=date' field include the inability to:

- indicate in the date field instances where the date is supplied, the manuscript being damaged or indecipherable,
- add notes of query or qualifications such as 'probably' to a particular date,
- include a date which is only partially recoverable from the manuscript and cannot, on the basis of any other evidence, be fully supplied,
- show when the manuscript date has been deemed erroneous.

The dates of courts as they appear in the database are sometimes, therefore, not as definite as they might seem. Lost or illegible dates have been reconstructed where possible by a combination of likelihood from the sequence of other courts of the same series and of analogy with other series. Both methods are, however, fraught with difficulty. The courts did not take place in an entirely regular sequence, and courts of different commotes did not necessarily take place in the same order. In the fourteenth century, Ruthen...
courts were usually on Tuesdays, those for Dogfeilng and Aberchwiler on Wednesdays, and the others on Thursdays, but feast days and other factors could occasion postponement to subsequent days, including Saturdays. And, while the courts of, say, Cohon and Llannerch usually took place on the same day, it is risky to assume that the legible date of a Cohon court can be applied also to its Llannerch counterpart. But the method adopted at the outset forced those working on the project to make these assumptions and to perpetuate in the database any ensuing error.

These problems must not be viewed out of proportion. Most dates are visible, and notes in the ‘text’ field sometimes (though by no means always) point out particular problems. The ‘courts’ files, where the ‘date=date’ convention was not used, show which dates contain an element of doubt, as well as providing the day of the week. But it was still necessary, as the project developed, to create a different type of record to deal with those instances where only part of the date was visible and where the full date could not be supplied. These records are in the form:

A4scraps
reference = free, unindexed
number = number
court =
date =
persons =
text = concat
extra =

Users of the database in Idealist should ensure that any exp or imp files which they create to transfer files or parts of files are capable of dealing with both A1normal and A4scraps.

**Dating problems**

The system of dating by reference to the church calendar is not always the easiest to use, and errors and inconsistencies are legion. Even on the rare occasions where dates are given in accordance with modern practice, they are not error-free. Regnal years too are sometimes incorrect, especially (though not exclusively) around the time of the anniversary of a king’s accession. Examples of errors are given below. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that not all the membranes are at present bound in the correct rolls, and it is sometimes necessary to verify the date by reference to neighbouring courts or, for instance, rolls of fines. Several errors of binding have been discovered in the series which have been calendared, and it must be assumed that there are similar errors in other series as well.

There is reason to suppose that the scribes frequently made one particular error in dating the courts, that of blindly repeating the form of the date from one series to the next, even when this logically failed. Two examples from consecutive courts will suffice. A court of Ruthin was held on the Tuesday after the Conversion of St Paul (31 January) 1352, and the court of Aberchwiler (that of Dogfeilng is lost) on the Wednesday after the same feast (1 February). The courts for the other commotes are said to have taken place on the Thursday after Paul, which strictly was 26 January, however, it would be more logical if they were held on the Thursday after the courts for the other commotes. The next town court is said to be on the Tuesday after St Valentine (21 February) 1352, and the courts of Aberchwiler, Cohon, and Trefor and Clocaenog (the others are lost) are also said to be ‘after Valentine’, although this would place them in the previous week. The following table, showing the dates on which courts were (according to the manuscript) held in 1346-7, indicates other similar problems:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1346</td>
<td>October 17, 18, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 7, 8, 9, 28, 29, 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 14, 19, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1347</td>
<td>January 10, 11, 12, 27, 30, 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 15, 20, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March 13, 14, 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 10, 12, 17, 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 2, 3, 8, 22, 24, 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 12, 13, 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 3, 4, 5, 24, 25, 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August 14, 15, 16, 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 25, 26, 27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At first, it was believed that these inconsistencies could be blamed on scribal error, that courts were held regularly (usually in a three-week cycle) and that all series of courts were held in the same week. Some instances can, therefore, be found in the rolls which were calendared early in the project where the date given in the database does
not strictly correspond to the manuscript date. But subsequent work has made this assumption appear ever more troublesome. It is not provable that the practice of holding all the series of courts in the same week was universally followed. While it would make sense for this to be the case, it was also possible to decree that courts would be held on the normal day of the week after, say, Midsummer, and thereby in some years hold the Llannerch court, for instance, before the Ruthin one. The normal practice followed in calendaring has, therefore, been to trust the scribe’s dating and interpret it literally, the calendar indicates where this method has not been followed (Roll 12 contains several examples besides the ones given above, and this is the file which contains the greatest number of alterations of dates in the manuscript). The problem is that only occasionally is the sequence of courts so regular as to allow the dates to be altered with confidence, the three-week cycle cannot usually be relied on, as it is not regular even where the dating is unambiguous. It is unlikely that two courts of Llannerch were held within three days, as is said to have happened in June 1416 (SC2/221/8, m 21), but the scribe’s dates have been used in the calendar pending better information. Because for most of the period covered by the database the courts of Llannerch commote alone have been calendared, it would have been laborious in the extreme to examine the dates of all the series with a view to identifying scribal errors, and uncertainties would still remain.

Sometimes, however, the scribe is clearly in error, as when he states that a particular day of the week was a certain feast day (or the vigil or morrow of one) when it was not in that year. On one of the very rare occasions where a court is dated by the modern convention a similar error is made: the Ruthin Great Court after Easter 1334 is dated ‘Tuesday 18 April’ (SC2/216/14, m 24d), but in that year 18 April was a Monday, it is most likely that the court was held on Tuesday 19 April, for a Great Court on a Monday at that time would have been exceptional. The regnal year is sometimes incorrectly given. The Llannerch court of 11 January 1313 is ascribed to 5 Edward II, almost certainly wrongly because the previous court on the same membrane is said to have taken place in 6 Edward II (SC2/215/72, m 10). News of the death of kings was sometimes slow to reach Dyffryn Clwyd although Edward I died on 7 July 1307, the Llannerch court of 26 July was still said to have been held in 35 Edward I (SC2/215/69, m 14d). The heading of a Ruthin court in October 1399 was altered from ‘23 Richard II’ to ‘1 Henry IV’ (SC2/221/4, m 1).

Dating problems are also found within the record of courts, especially in the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries, when presentments by inquisitions in criminal cases normally include the date and location of the offence. The scribe informs us that an inquest met on the Tuesday before St Matthias (20 February) 1397 to report on a death which did not occur until the following Friday (G/1849, but see note there for the possibility that St Matthew 1396 is referred to). The date is occasionally logically impossible. There was never such a day as the Wednesday before the Nativity of St John the Baptist in 18 Richard II (G/1303), for in 1394 the previous Wednesday fell on 17 June (and so in 17 Richard II), and in 1395 it fell on 23 June (and so in the nineteenth year). In such a system as was employed, errors are inevitable, but not all are explained simply by alleging carelessness, and the problems of dating must be examined in the context of the administrative practices of the scribes and their masters.

The problem of the leap year also rears its ugly head, as it cannot be assumed in any medieval source that the principle of the extra day was regularly applied. In Dyffryn Clwyd it seems generally to have been inserted every four years in years which in the modern calendar would be leap, even though contemporaries reckoned from the Annunciation, however, the dates of some of the courts in the early part of 1364 (SC2/219/1) make more sense if we surmise that no day was in fact added that February.

Despite the frustrations caused by them, dating problems must not be allowed to undermine the value either of the database or the material from which it is derived. Few of the dates in the calendar, especially the dates of courts, are likely to be more than a week out at most. Given that the rolls themselves refer to misdeeds, disputes and happenings which had occurred before - often well before - the date of the court which dealt with them, the errors and inconsistencies in the dates of courts are but a minor inconvenience.
PERSONAL AND PLACE-NAMES:
GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Introduction

The court rolls are full of names of people and places, and most work using the database involves, to a greater or lesser extent, searching for individuals. While inconsistencies, errors and omissions on the part of the original scribes are legion and must, in the nature of this project, be faithfully reproduced, it was incumbent upon those creating the database to devise and follow a methodology in the treatment of names which would expedite the searching of the machine-readable calendar. Wider problems, such as those occasioned by a single person being known by more than one distinct name, or different persons bearing the same name, are inherent in any study of court rolls (and other similar sources) and will not be dealt with here.

The 'persons' field

The 'persons' field contains the names of all persons mentioned in the item which is being calendared. Each line within the field contains the name of one person, subsequently referred to in the 'text' field, in order, as p1, p2, p3, and so on. Sometimes these designations are given in the 'persons' field, especially where the number of people mentioned is large or the business in question is complicated, but usually they are not. A totally missing or illegible name, represented in the 'persons' field merely by dots of omission, should be counted as part of the sequence unless otherwise stated, but in general efforts have been made not to include totally lost names in the 'persons' field. Dots of omission in the 'text' field indicate the location of any hiatus, and those using the database must judge for themselves what information originally lay in the lost or indecipherable portions.

Various descriptions are appended, where appropriate, to the names in the 'persons' field. These include:

- terms of personal relationship,
- offices and benefices,
- status and tenural or domestic relationships,
- evidence that the individual is deceased,
- unusual forms of Christian names,
- other information designed to aid searching,
- comments on the manuscript

The terms of personal relationship are, perhaps, the most significant. Most are self-explanatory, and abbreviations such as dau, bro and sis should pose no problems. The abbreviation qfu (which denotes que fuit uxor or its equivalent quondam uxor) is quite common, and is used also where the scribe wrote phrases such as nuper uxor, although in the latter case (fairly frequent in the early fifteenth century) the translation 'lately wife' is added at the end of the line. This is to attempt to preserve the integrity of the manuscript while not unduly complicating searching. Relict (which is quite rare) is, however, kept distinct, since qfu does not necessarily imply that the husband was dead.

In Welsh patronymic names, ap (son of) is very common. Although in modern Welsh the form ab is normally used before a vowel, the word is standardised in the database as ap. This is partly because it is almost universally so spelt in the rolls (where ab is found attention is drawn to it in a note), and partly because users who are not familiar with the Welsh language might find the variant form an additional difficulty when searching the database. The same principle applies with ferch (daughter of), which is also very common and is usually spelt vergh or merely v' in the original. Other Welsh terms of relationship, such as llysfab (godson) and gwrraig (wife) are so rare that they are translated into English where they occur, to aid searching, but the manuscript form is given at the end of the line where appropriate. Mutations of Welsh names, whereby the first letter of a word is changed in certain circumstances, have been ignored, it is hoped that Welsh speakers will...
appreciate that to have employed mutations would have made the database much harder to use by those unfamiliar with the grammatical conventions.

Where a named individual is identified with an office or an ecclesiastical benefice, this information is normally put in the 'persons' field as part of the name Frater (in the sense of regular clergy) is rendered as Br. In some cases where an individual is known from other evidence to be a cleric but is not so identified in the item in question, a 'tag' is added in square brackets, for instance [capellanus] or [dominus], depending on how the person is usually described. This principle has by no means been universally applied, and the information provided should be viewed in this light.

Officials are frequently mentioned in the court rolls without being named, often in a formal capacity and in contexts which do not necessarily imply the direct involvement of a particular individual. In these cases, they are usually mentioned only in the 'text' field, although there are exceptions, usually where the official personally seems to have played an important part in the events described. Similar considerations apply to other unnamed people. 'A certain woman' is so vague that she would probably be mentioned only in the text, but 'a woman from the lordship of Denbigh' might earn herself a place in the 'persons' field. Absolute consistency in such cases is impossible and should not be expected.

Where personal status, e.g., free, bond, English, Welsh, is ascribed to an individual, this is normally noted beside the name, and the same applies to descriptions such as 'tenant of the bishop' or 'servant of the lord.' Descriptions of people as being from outside the lordship (extranei) are also sometimes noted in the 'persons' field. But again absolute consistency is unattainable, and in the following circumstances the status or tenural relationship is likely to be found only in the 'text' field:

- if the point at issue in the case in question concerns status or tenural relationship,
- if the description refers to a large number of named individuals,
- if the description is too long or too complicated to appear on the single line allowed for each name,
- where the level of amercement is affected by such factors as the culprit being a 'man of the prior.'

Where the item refers to the death of a particular individual, usually in connection with his land, the word 'dec' (deceased) is appended to the name. It was originally intended to use this widely, to assist those using the database by identifying, from all evidence available, any person who was no longer alive at the date of the court in question. But the problems of identification of individuals, and the very real possibility of numerous misleading errors, meant that a decision was taken to use 'dec' only in the limited circumstances indicated above. The supplied ['dec'] is now used only where the item would almost certainly refer to the person's death. It was not for scribal omission, or loss or illegibility of the manuscript, or where executors of a will are mentioned, although users may still find remnants of the earlier policy in parts of the calendar which were produced in the first few months of the project.

Manuscript spellings of unusual Christian names, or unusual spellings of common Christian names, are added in round brackets after the whole name, irrespective of which element is referred to. This convention is fully dealt with in the section on Christian names below.

Lost or illegible parts of names are indicated by dots of omission. Where possible, however, the missing elements have been provided from other entries relating to the same case, square brackets are then used. Square brackets are used also to supply alternative forms of names in more readily searchable form. For example, if the scribe has written 'Ieuan Mad' instead of 'Ieuan ap Mad', it has been the normal practice to supply the addition ['Ieuan ap Madog']. Very occasionally the missing ap has been supplied, e.g., 'Ieuan [ap] Madog.' In other words, the scribal peculiarity has not been preserved. In general, however, it was seen as undesirable to alter names in this way, because some Christian names came eventually to be used as hereditary surnames without ap, the form 'Ieuan [ap] Madog' normally...
implies, therefore, that the ap is illegible or lost but can reasonably be assumed. Other scribal alterations or deletions are usually noted, either in the 'persons' field or, if the note is long or complicated, in the 'text' field.

Where the scribe indicates that a person or persons mentioned in one item are the same as those in a previous item, this is indicated in the 'persons' field by the addition of '[as in no 247]' or the like. The name is extended to the form as written on its first occurrence, as subsequently the scribes sometimes write merely 'idem leuan' or 'predictus Dd'. The same convention is also used in cases where a new item refers to 'Bleddyn frater eius' or uses similar wording linking it with a name in the previous entry.

Place-names appear in the 'persons' field only if they are appended to the name of an individual, as in 'rector of church of Murrok' or 'steward of DC', or if they fall into a phrase indicating status, such as 'lord's bondman of Lanruth'. Most true place-names appear in the text, although (especially in the case of the Welsh) elements such as 'de Lannanneys', tagged on to the end of a name in some lists of names, appear merely 'idem leuan' or 'predictus Dd'. The same convention is also used in cases where a new item refers to 'Bleddyn frater eius' or uses similar wording linking it with a name in the previous entry.

In some lists of names, an annotation such as 'de Yale' might refer to several individuals, although in the database it will be ascribed only to the last such individual, the one to whose name it is most closely connected. This can be misleading, but usually there is no means of telling whether the place-name element does in fact refer to more than one individual. Only where it is clear that the place-name does refer to several persons is the practice different, in these cases it is either supplied to each name (in square brackets except in the final instance) or placed in the 'text' field in phrases such as 'pi- p6, from Yale'.

**Standardisation**

The fundamental principle in dealing with names has been to follow the accepted current practice of modernising Christian names, which are mainly drawn from a limited stock of standard names, and which are usually abbreviated in the manuscript, while retaining the surnames, of whatever type, as they appear in the source. Place-names, too, have been treated in the usual way, the spelling being given exactly as it appears in the source, except in the case of a few major and frequently-occurring names. Because place-names usually consist of a single word, variations of spelling can more easily be managed by a computer than in the multiple-word phrases which constitute personal names, and so it is the personal names which have posed the greater challenges for those creating the database. The existence of both English and Welsh names and naming-patterns, side by side and to some extent overlapping, has added a further element of difficulty. Standardising Christian names, especially in a society which used patronymics so extensively, would seem to be straightforward, the discussion in the next section of this manual shows that this is not the case, and should serve as a salutary warning to those who advocate overzealous standardisation even of surnames and place-names. It was, of course, necessary to decide policies at the outset, on the basis of very limited experience, and subsequently to stick to them, even though this has led to an inconsistent approach to some matters. Fuller information about standardisation, and the problems raised by it, is given in subsequent sections.

Standardised forms of Christian names are listed as an Appendix to the section dealing with Christian names. The lists of surnames and place-names for each file can be found in the file called Names, and consolidated lists of surnames and place-names from the entire database are provided in the files called Surnames and PNS respectively. Some surnames and place-names, with their variant forms, have been entered into the synonym list within Idealist, and can, therefore, be searched for with ease.

The above account, in conjunction with the lists and other aids referred to, should enable users to search for names and know how to deal with variant forms of names. The following sections of the manual are intended to elaborate on the thoughts behind the methodology employed to deal with Christian names, surnames and place-names respectively. They are likely to be of particular interest to specialists in onomastics, although anyone who proposes to use the database extensively would be advised at least to glance at them.
Note on the extension of abbreviations and problematic characters in names

If the form of the surname or place-name ends with a mark of suspension, whether a flourish or a line above the last letter, it has frequently been marked in the database with a final apostrophe. The tendency of the scribes to finish a name with a flourish has, however, meant that some judgement has had to be exercised, inevitably leading to a certain degree of inconsistency. A line over the final letter usually implies the omission of an (optional) final -e, at least as far as this can be ascertained.

Where the extension is clear, as with a final -er or -ur, it has been made, hence Salt’ is rendered as Salter, Glou’ as Glouter, and Panno’ as Pannour. In cases of doubt, however, no extension has been made. There has been a tendency to extend abbreviations within words, because of searching problems if an apostrophe (treated by Idealist as punctuation) comes in the middle of a word. Where a hook is used in a name like M’rok, which is spelt in full as both Morrok and Murrok, -ur- has normally been preferred.

An initial Ff has been rendered as F, but -ff- at any other point in the word has been retained.

The occasional use of the English characters thorn and yogh has posed some problems. Thorn (which is rare in these court rolls) has been rendered th, with a note in square brackets where appropriate. Yogh (or a character resembling it) seems to have been used in several contexts. Most usually, especially at the start of a word, it is the equivalent of y, as in Yale, and has normally been so rendered, despite the creation of unlikely spellings of some names such as Yelewel. In the middle or at the end of words it can also stand for z, as in Mazen, but sometimes is used to render h, on occasions gh or th might make more sense than a mere h, but not always, and so h has normally been used where y or z seemed inappropriate. Some editorial notes have been added in the case of unusual names. Cf generally OED, s.vv y, z.
CHRISTIAN NAMES

Introduction

The project has followed the accepted modern practice of standardising Christian names. This is because most are drawn from a limited stock of standard names, and because they are usually abbreviated in the manuscript. Given that the principle behind the creation of the database was that it should be as readily searchable as possible, it would have been pedantic and unhelpful to have preserved all the scribal peculiarities in rendering Christian names. However, it was decided at a fairly early stage that unusual forms of Christian names should be entered into the calendar, in addition to the standardised spelling, and that the same policy would apply to all forms of very rare Christian names. This was done partly because of the potential interest to scholars of rare forms, and partly because some of the forms are so unusual as to allow a certain doubt about the validity of the standardisation.

The approved forms of Christian names are listed as an appendix to this section, with male and female names given separately. These are followed by a list of the unusual forms which have been noted in the calendar, with the numbers of the files in which they appear, in alphabetical order (with male and female names in one single sequence). These are in turn followed by lists of Christian names or possible Christian names which have not been standardised, and of instances where what seems to be a surname or nickname is used where a Christian name might be expected as the first or only name, or after a word or phrase of relationship such as ‘wife of’. Non-Christian names immediately following ap or ferch are too numerous to list, and ap in particular came frequently to be used almost redundantly before what was in effect an inherited surname (see also below).

Manuscript spellings of unusual Christian names, or unusual spellings of common Christian names, are added in round brackets after the whole name (unless, exceptionally, this would be too confusing), irrespective of which element is referred to. The reasons for this are:

- it is desirable to be able to search for the whole name as a single string, especially in the case of patronymics where the components are in a standardised form, and therefore easily searchable,
- alphabetical lists of names, either produced by the method devised for the project by Frank Bott of the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, or simply sorted line-by-line with a word-processor, are much easier to use if the first name (in particular) is standardised.

For instance, Wlatton is occasionally used as a form of Gwladus. The original method, using either the form ‘Wlatton [Gwladus]’ or ‘(Wlatton) Gwladus’, allowed the name to be searched for, but was unhelpful in a list of names arranged in alphabetical order. It has not been possible fully to update Roll D in this regard, and so remnants of the former practice may still be encountered in that file, and the unusual spellings in Roll D are not necessarily on the lists of variants, although some of them are. Where a particular Christian name appears more than once in a string, as in ‘Dd ap Ieuan ap Dd’, and is given an unusual form on only one occasion, this is indicated either by the manuscript form of the whole name being included in round brackets, or by an ap being included before the variant to indicate that it is the second occurrence which is so spelt. The inclusion of variant forms of certain Christian names is discussed more fully below in the notes for the names in question.

Standardisation and the problems raised by it

Most English Christian names appear in the rolls in a Latinised and/or abbreviated form. Many were in common use in the Middle Ages and still are today. Some, such as Thomas and Robert, are also found in Welsh families, but have been standardised on modern English spellings for convenience of use. Any interesting contemporary forms, often found in the context of Welsh families, are provided in round brackets in the ‘persons’ field. In the case of rarer names, recourse has been had to...
The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422: a manual for users


which gives notes, including early forms and dates, on English Christian names. A very few names no longer in common use, such as the one rendered in the database as Quenhld, have been standardised on a contemporary form because the Anglo-Saxon spelling (which would otherwise be the most appropriate standardisation) would look very archaic in a calendar of a fourteenth-century source.

Welsh Christian names are rarely Latinised, although they are often abbreviated. No convenient single list of them could be found, so our list in some respects breaks new ground. For guidance and parallels a number of works were consulted. Some help was obtained from T J Morgan and Prys Morgan, Welsh Surnames (Cardiff, 1985)

but we normally turned to modern editions of medieval sources, in particular:

The Merioneth Lay Subsidy Roll, 1292-3, ed K Williams-Jones (Cardiff, 1976)

Early Welsh Genealogical Tracts, ed P C Bartrum (Cardiff, 1966)

The Black Book of St David's, ed J W Willis-Bund (Cymmrodorion Record Series, v, 1902)

and we also consulted the index of:

P C Bartrum, Welsh Genealogues, A D 300-1400 (8 vols, [Cardiff, 1974)

The Merioneth volume was usually the first point of reference, because the material it contains is not too distant from the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls in place and time, and also because of its useful lists of contemporary spellings. On the whole we adopted the editor’s standardisations, except in names like Heilyn, where, after consultation, we preferred a -yn ending to the -in in the Merioneth edition, we also opted for Tawysil rather than Tawisl. The indexes in Bartrum’s books were useful also, although many of the genealogies outlined date back to much earlier periods, and so caution had to be exercised before a form was agreed upon.

Most of the forms adopted for this project are uncontroversial, and the use of them should be easily comprehensible. Some names which were widely used by both the English and the Welsh have, however, been treated rather differently:

- Dd has been used for both David and Dafydd,
- Wm has been used for both William and Gwilym,
- Adam has been used in English-looking names and Adda in Welsh-looking names, unless it is clear from the manuscript that the scribe wrote the other form, in such cases it has been normal to use phrases like ‘(Adam) Adda ap Heilyn’ or Adam [Adda] ap Heilyn’ to aid searching.

The reasoning behind this calls for some explanation. Basically, it was felt that scribal practice did not allow us to distinguish between English and Welsh forms of the first two names, but that we could draw a line between Adda and Adam. Whether we were justified in this assumption is a matter of opinion, but this was the adopted method.

The abbreviated forms of certain other Welsh names caused problems, and these have been dealt with as follows:

- Cad’ has been rendered as Cadwgan. It is often extended to Cadug’ or Cadog’, and it is assumed that Cadafel and Cadwal (very rare in this material) are usually spelt out in full.
- Edn’ or Eden’ have been rendered as Ednyfed, as other Edn- names seem to be very rare.
- Cases where Ednyfed is spelt out in full are usually noted.
- Ll’ has been rendered as Llywelyn rather than as Llywarch.
- Ken’ or Kn’ has been standardised as Cyn. It appears to be usual to assume that this is an abbreviation for Cynwrig, but so many Cyn- names appear in the rolls that this assumption seemed unwarranted, although Cynwrig is the most likely extension of Cyn.

Where
Cynwarig does not appear in the database it is because the names are spelled out in full. Note that the scribes would write Ken' in exactly the same way as Keu', which could imply Cyswern. Included under this general head are the rare Kena, Kena, and Cona, which some of our evidence suggests are variants of Cyn (and on one occasion of Cynin), these are standardized as Cyn, though with the spelling in brackets. Note that Bartrum uses a form Cuna.

Some similar, but distinct, names pose difficulties because of the imprecise way in which some scribes used them. Seeking individuals with such names may well, therefore, involve more than one search. The main examples are

- **Gruffydd** and **Griffri** At times it seems that these two names were even used interchangably, more often they are abbreviated. The normal policy has been to render Gruffydd or Griffri as Gruffydd and Griffri and the like as Griffri, unless other evidence suggests that a particular Griff 'or Griff' is in fact normally called Griffri, when the latter is used with the spelling in brackets.

- **Amelina** and **Amy** It is not clear that names of this type are in fact distinct in fourteenth-century Duffryn Clwyd, but we have endeavoured to reproduce the name in the manuscript as nearly as possible. The forms of Amy are often in the form Amic' (which is palaeographically indistinguishable from Auc') rather than Amic. Users are referred to the list of variant forms.

- **Margery** and **Margaret** It appears that it was intended to distinguish these, although this was not always done in fact Marg (which at some periods is the standard abbreviation) is rendered as Margaret unless other evidence suggests Margery. Under Margaret are included (with forms in brackets) Welsh equivalents such as Marret and Maruret, and English forms such as Magot, Maht, which has been kept as a separate name, also seems sometimes to be interchangeable with Margaret.

Some other names are occasionally confused, usually through excessive abbreviation by the scribes and subsequent copying errors. These include Agnes and Angharad. Various forms of names like Mabel, Emma and Edith are found in the rolls, as well as variants such as Dillet for Erdylad, and in the main they are noted along with the standardized form. It should be pointed out that the scribes were frequently very vague in giving the Christian names of women, which doubtless partly explains the large number of difficulties we have had in dealing with female names.

Diminutives like Adkin and Hitchcock have proved a major problem. Some scribes appear to have been more fond of them than others, and so some individuals are called, for example, Wm and Wilcock. The cross-references in the list of approved names (though not exhaustive) should help the user to look for possible alternative designations of a particular individual, although at most periods the diminutives are rare. Moreover, while some (like Forwerth and Lociyn) are genuinely interchangeable, most diminutives are used almost as surnames. Therefore, in the list of approved names, ap appears before those -kin or -cok names which have not been found as a Christian name in their own right, in order to reserve the possibility that they were never regarded as true Christian names. It should be pointed out, however, that many of the rarer Welsh names, such as Rhudallon and Traeearn, do not appear as first names in our material either, and may well also have been used almost as surnames by this period, a similar phenomenon would explain also why some women's names are followed by ap, a peculiarity which, though rare, is sufficiently frequent to indicate that in these instances ap had lost its original, gender-specific, meaning.

Most of the diminutives have been rendered in an English form, with Hopkin being preferred to Hopcyn, even though the names are usually used with the Welsh ap. Exceptions include Huwlecyn, Hywyn and Lociyn. The list of approved forms should be consulted. Most of the names of this type refer to men, but note the pairs Gwenllian and Llinno (the name here rendered Lea is probably a further variant), and Isabel and Sybil.

The user should, however, bear in mind that not all -kin and -cok names have been treated in the same way. The rare Fflynyn, for instance, has been treated as a variant of Philip (where not used as a true surname), and Blethekyn as a form of
Bleddyn: This was to prevent an unusually large number of standardised variants on which the user might need to search. The same requirements dictated that several late-fourteenth- and early-fifteenth-century variants of *Dd*, such as *Dykus*, *Dykus*, and *Dyo*, should be standardised on *Dd*, but with the form in round brackets after the name *Dykin*, however, which turned up earlier in the project, is treated as a separate name, although it is clearly a form of *Dd*. Note also that *Dicon* (unlike *Dykus*) is a form of Richard.

The evidence suggests that *Iak* and similar forms relate to persons called *John*. Such forms have, therefore, been standardised as *John*, with the manuscript spelling in round brackets, even though there are several persons called *Iak* who cannot conclusively be linked with a *John*. The decision may, therefore, seem rash, but problems with variants of *John* and its Welsh equivalent, *leuan*, are numerous and complex, and an element of standardisation is desirable for searching purposes. More generally, it seems that *lankin* is a form of *John* and *lankin of leuan*, but *John* and *leuan* are to some extent interchangeable, and in the early fifteenth century we have *leuan ap lankin de Butterley*, an Englishman with two apparently Welsh elements in his name (as well as ap), who earlier would have been called 'John son of John de Butterley' *Iohan* is also a variant of *John*, but has been kept as a separate name. Whether *Ianyn* belongs to this group is unclear. In the fourteenth century, no distinction can normally be made palaeographically between names sometimes distinguished as *leuan*, *leuaf* and *leuan*, and so none is attempted - *af* and - *u* are occasionally found in such names in the early years of the court rolls, and this is noted where it occurs. See also the notes below under *leua*.

The following observations may also be of value to users:

- *Efa* is given in a Welsh form, though without prejudice to some of its bearers being English and called *Eve*.
- *Elen* is given a Welsh spelling, but was sometimes used by English women, and occasionally comes in forms such as *Helena*.
- *Gwion* is normally a man's name, but there is one instance where one *Wyon* (a common spelling for *Gwion*) is someone's former wife (G4/27), and this individual subsequently appears several times in the Great Courts of Ruthin. There is a further instance of *Wyon* being someone's concubine (G5/524). The original references to the individuals being women could be errors, but it is possible that *Gwion* was used for both sexes.
- Forms such as *Huchon* and *Hochon* may be used for both *Hochyn* and Hugh (or Hugyn). The evidence is very hard to interpret, and the standardisation has had to be based on what seemed the more likely option in each case, taking into account such factors as location and the normal activities of the individuals in question. The forms are listed as variants.
- *Ieuaf* has been regarded as a distinctive name, but the possibilities of confusion with *leuan* are great. In 1408-9, when a very careless scribe often omitted minims, it was decided to treat all potential instances of *leua* as forms of *leuan*, and this policy was adopted also where the writing seemed similarly careless or *leua* seemed to be used for persons normally called *leuan*. In the main we have tried to preserve a distinction between the two names, but it cannot be guaranteed that all instances of *leua* (whether as a name in its own right or for *leuan*) have been spotted, especially where the text is faded. Furthermore, *leuaf* has been standardised as *leuan*, on the grounds that the spelling *leuau* is indistinguishable in the manuscript from *leuan*, although *leuaf* should logically be rendered *leua* (cf. the spelling *Adaf* as an early form of *Adda*).
- *Matilda* is rendered as *Maud*.
In general, forms are given for the male name Tegwared and the female Tangwystl. This is because, especially in the 1340s and 1350s, Tegwared sometimes appears with forms beginning Tang-, so it is not always clear whether a man or a woman is referred to, especially where the common abbreviation Tang' is employed without a gender-specific term of relationship such as ferch. Forms such as Tanny seem to be derived from Tangwystl and are standardised on the latter.

Very unusual first names have sometimes been standardised in the database in manuscript form, for instance Honde, Nestik and Volinya. Where several contemporary forms are found, the name has been standardised on one of them, with variants in brackets, examples include Diota, Hoen, Tege and Wymark (all women's names in our material). This method has been adopted, despite there being no modern equivalent, in order to reduce the number of names whose fate remains undecided. A few others have, however, been kept on one side, pending further information or enlightenment, and these are listed below among the 'problem' Christian names.

Many names appear after ap (and some after ferch or an English term of relationship) which are clearly surnames. Examples are ap Loppan, dau of Fulwys, wife of Map Cramp, son of Couhope. In these instances and many others like them, either a Christian name has been omitted, or the need for identification did not require a Christian name. The ap is often virtually redundant, preceding what is, to all intents and purposes, a normal (even hereditary) surname. In these cases the name is treated as a surname, kept in manuscript form, and recorded in the lists of surnames. Other surnames and nicknames appear as first or only name, in circumstances such as these:

- where a single name sufficed to identify the individual (especially common in the early fourteenth century or where low-born criminals were involved) e.g. Beckabacka, Cragghothel, Flousyn, Map Camrouth, Voilfrez,
- surnames used alone, often in marginalia, for the sake of brevity e.g. Wodeford, Smalwode, Lippa,
- where a Christian name is clearly omitted, presumably accidentally e.g. Vaghan ap Heilyn,
- where a name becomes garbled e.g. a name rendered as Belyn Gour becomes Bollegour, Bolgour etc.,
- (rarely), where a nickname takes the place of a Christian name, most frequently with Hagerin and Loyden.

These names are recorded among the other surnames, but a separate list of such occurrences has also been kept in the Appendix, along with an indication of the files (or, in the few cases where such a name was noted from rolls which were not calendared, the membrane) in which the names are found. It is hoped that users of the database may be able to cast light on some of these unusual usages.

A few names remain in limbo, on the grounds that they look to be possible Christian names. Some follow ap (or ferch, or occasionally some other term of relationship) and are included among the surnames, such as ap Edrth, this group includes Annot, Maykyn and Llydan, even though there is reason to suppose that these sometimes functioned as true Christian names. Others, which are used as the first or only name, have been deemed to be nicknames or surnames used in place of a first name, and likewise are to be found among the surnames, although these are also listed below for reference. It is accepted that some rare Christian names may thereby have been consigned to the lists of surnames without justification, but it seemed desirable to reduce as far as possible the number of names whose fate remained undecided. The list below of 'problem' Christian names presents those names which we believe are likely to be Christian names, even though some follow a term of relationship, these do not appear on the surname lists, but the files in which they appear are noted. They are arranged by names of men (although it is not always certain that they refer to males), names of women, and names which might refer to either sex, terms of relationship which are included if they precede the 'problem' name. Such 'problem' names include:

- Beckabacka,
- Cragghothel,
- Flousyn,
- Map Camrouth,
- Voilfrez,
- Wodeford,
- Smalwode,
- Lippa,
names like Matto and Jacko, which are probably forms of other, common names, but on which a final decision has not been taken,

- names like Merriavon, which appears to be a perfectly respectable female Christian name, but for which no other reference has yet been found,

- very strange first names which may always defy the best efforts of scholarship, in some cases, e.g. Welkan, Grad, Weyan, we have been unable to establish even the sex of the person involved.

These aberrations are, thankfully, rare Users are unlikely to come across them, and even less likely to want to search for them.

**Conclusion**

The dangers of an over-exuberant desire to standardise are only too clear. It was a long time before the full complexity of the use of Christian names became apparent, and this explains why the policy adopted departs on occasions from the path of brutal logic. It is hoped, however, that the list of approved forms will prove adequate for most purposes, especially if problems like the confusion between Gruffydd and Griffri are fully borne in mind. Those with a particular interest in contemporary forms of Christian names can consult the consolidated list of variants which has been compiled from the database and which is given below in the Appendix. This is not, of course, comprehensive, it merely gives the variants which were calendared, and it should be remembered that sometimes a new form was calendared on its first few occurrences and not thereafter, it is, moreover, incomplete for Roll D. Nonetheless, the list gives the more unusual variants, and those with a particular interest in the subject may find perusal of it both profitable and instructive. Those who wish to use the database for other purposes may rest assured that the great majority of Christian names have been standardised, and that in almost every case no reasonable doubt remains about the correctness of the standardisation.
## APPENDIX

**Approved names: men**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adam [see also Adda]</th>
<th>Edmund</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adda [see also Adam]</td>
<td>Ednowan</td>
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<td>Adkin</td>
<td>Ednyfed</td>
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<td>Alan</td>
<td>Ednyfedin</td>
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<td>Alexander</td>
<td>Edward</td>
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<td>Almary</td>
<td>Emion</td>
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<td>Andrew</td>
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<td>Anger</td>
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<td>Aylwin</td>
<td>Fulke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badri</td>
<td>Geoffrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belyn [see also Bleddyn]</td>
<td>German</td>
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<td>Benet</td>
<td>Gervase</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bleddyn [see also Belyn]</td>
<td>Gilbert</td>
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<td>Brian</td>
<td>Giles</td>
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<td>Cadafel</td>
<td>Gregory</td>
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<td>Cadwal</td>
<td>Gruffi [see also Gruffydd]</td>
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<td>Gronw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caradog</td>
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<td>Guy</td>
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<td>Cedifor</td>
<td>Gwion</td>
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<td>Gwrgenau</td>
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<td>Cok</td>
<td>Gwyddelyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colin [see also Nicholas]</td>
<td>Gwyn</td>
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<td>Cudyn</td>
<td>Hamelin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuhelyn</td>
<td>ap Hancock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cymerth</td>
<td>Hawkjun [see also Ralph]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyn</td>
<td>Heielyn</td>
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<td>Cynddelw</td>
<td>Henry</td>
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<td>Hereward</td>
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<td>Cynun</td>
<td>Hichcok</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cynon</td>
<td>Hochkun [see also Roger]</td>
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<td>Cynwng</td>
<td>Hodkun</td>
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<td>Cywryd</td>
<td>Hoedlyw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawkin [see also Ralph]</td>
<td>Honde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dd [see also Deykin]</td>
<td>Hopkin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deykin [see also Dd]</td>
<td>Hugh [see also Hugyn]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dicon [see also Richard]</td>
<td>Hugyn [see also Hugh]</td>
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<td>Donald</td>
<td>Hwfa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drake</td>
<td>Hwl cyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dwywg</td>
<td>Hywel [see also Hywin]</td>
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<td>Hywin [see also Hywel]</td>
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Iago
Iankn [see also Ieuan]
Iany
Idddig
Ieu [see also Ieuan]
Ieuan [see also Iankn, Ieu and John]
Ifor
Iorwerth
locyn [see also Iorwerth]
Iohan [see also John]
Iolo
Ioly
Ionkin [see also John]
Iorwerth [see also locyn]
Ithel

James
John [see also Ieuan, Iohan and Ionkin]
Jordan
Laurence
Lewis
Llywarch
Llywelyn

Madog
Maredudd
Martin
Masy
Matthew
Melyr
Meung
Michael
Morfran
Morgan
Moridddig
Morys

Nicholas [see also Colin]
Nynnyaw

Owain

ap Parkin [see also Peter]
Patrick
Peter [see also Parkin]
Philip
Pyll

Ralph [see also Dawkin and Hawkun]
Reginald
Rhuid

Rhiwallon
Rhydderch
Rhys
Richard [see also Duced]
Robert [see also Robin]
Robyn [see also Robert]
Roger [see also Hochkin]

Seusyll
Simon
Stephen

Tegwared
Thomas
Thurstan
Tony
Trahaearn
Tudur
Twna

Walter [see also Watkin]
ap Watkin [see also Walter]
Wilcok [see also Wm]
Wilkin [see also Wm]
Wm [see also Wilcok and Wilkin]

Ynyr

Approved names: women

Agnes
Alice
Almane
Amelina [see also Amy]
Amy [see also Amelina]
Anabil
Angharad

Beatrice
Bethin

Cecily
Christine
Clare
Clarice
Clamence

Dyota
Dyddgu
Edith
Eva
Eleanor
Elen
Elizabeth
Emecus [see also Emma]
Emery
Emma [see also Emecus]
Eniana
Erddylad
Felicia
Genevys
Genilies
Godith
Gwenhwyfar
Gwenllian [see also Lea and Lleucu]
Gwerful
Gwladus
Gwledyz
Hawis
Hilda
Hoyn
Honona
Hulyn
Hunydd
Idonea
Isabel [see also Sybll]
Isoud
Iwerydd
Joan
Juliana
Katherme
Lea [see also Gwenllian]
Lehtna
Lleucu [see also Lucy]
Lleuono [see also Gwenllian]
Lucy [see also Lleucu]
Mabel [see also Mabot]
Mabot [see also Mabel]
Madrun
Mali
Malkin [see also Maud]
Manny
Margaret [see also Margery]
Margery [see also Margaret]
Manon [see also Mary]
Mary [see also Marion]
Materen
Maud [see also Malkin]
Meddefus
Morfudd
Myfanwy
Nest
Nestik
Nicola
Olive
Paula
Petronilla
Quenhild
Rose
Sarah
Susan
Sybil [see also Isabel]
Tandreg
Tangwystl
Tege
Tibot
Voylina
Wymark

Variant forms of Christian names recorded in the calendar

The list below gives all unusual forms of common Christian names and forms of rarer Christian names which have been recorded in the calendar. It does not aim to give all the forms of standardised names, nor is it necessarily consistent between rolls, although in the case of the asterisked names (most of which are rare) the intention has been that all variants should be noted in the calendar and here, any instances in the calendar where a MS form is not given should, therefore, indicate that the name is spelt as in the standardised form or that it is partly or wholly illegible
ADAM
Ada 5
Addi R G1
Adi L1
Ady L1 G1
Ade L3
Atha C

ADDA
Adaf L1 R G1 1 5 6 L2
Adaff L1
Adauny L1
Adha L3
Batha 5

ADKIN
Adekyn L1 G1 11 12
Atekyn L1 10
Atkykyn C
Attykyn G5

AGNES
Agn' L4 G4 L5
Agneyes 11
Ang' L4 L5 G5
Angnes G1
Anguer L1 G1 L4
Anguer L1 G5 B
Anguet' G1
Annes G4
Anneye G5 8 L5 G7
Annot G1

ALAN
Alany G4
Alayn G1 6
Alein G1
Aley 10 B L7 G7
Aly G1

ALEXANDER
Alexandr' 2
Alissandr' 2
Alissand' G1

ALICE
Alia 12
Alis G1 3 5 6 7 12 L3
Alle G5
Alli' G3
Aly G4
Alys G1 8 9 12 L3

ALMARIE
Almar' G1 1 10 11 12 L3
Almaric G1 10 11 L3
Almarca G1 1 10 11 12
Almarcus 10
Amar' G1
Amarica G1
Amera G1
Amory 8
Amory G7

ALMARY
Alamar' L5
Alammar' L5
Aland' G5
Almaric L5 B
Almor' L4 L5 B
Almonc L5 B
Almoncus L5 B
Amar' L4
Amarye L7
Amer' 1
Ammony 8 L2
Amorry L2
Amor' L5 G5 B
Amori G1
Amorica' L3
Amorncy L4
Amory L4
Murre L7 G7

AMELINA
Amelia G1
Amell' G4
Amelya R
Amelyn G7
Amul' G1
Amulia R G1
Amlyyn G5

AMY
Almu' 3
Ame G5
Amua C
Amu' 3
Amuc 10 11 12
Amucia 10 11 L2
Amucya G4
Amus' G1
| Amisia G1 | AWR* |
| Amuta 11 | Avre G7 |
| Amuta 11 | |
| Amota 7 | |
| Amye G1 12 | AYLWIN* |
| Amysia G1 | Aylwyn 1 |
| Anc’ L R G1 | Haiwyn G1 |
| Ancia G1 3 4 | Haylwyn 1 |
| Ancia G1 10 | Heilewin R |
| Ancia G4 B | Heilewine G1 |
| Ans’ G1 | BADI* |
| Ansia G1 | Bady L7 G7 |
| Anuta 11 | |
| Anol 8 12 | |
| Anyca G4 G5 | BEATRICE |
| Anyis G5 | Beatrix G3 C |
| Anyysca G5 | Betona G1 |
| | Betrix G4 |
| ANABIL | BELYN* |
| Anabilia 10 | Bell E |
| ANGARAD | Belyn G4 C L7 G7 |
| Agharet G1 | Bolle L4 G4 |
| Agn’ L5 | |
| Agn’ L4 | |
| Ancarat L3 | |
| Anch’ L3 | |
| Ancharath 8 | |
| Ang’ L4 G4 L5 | |
| Angar’ L1 G3 | |
| Angaret G3 | |
| Angareth 6 | |
| Angn’ L4 | |
| Angr’ L4 | |
| Angret G4 | |
| Anguareth G1 | |
| Anguarr’ G3 | |
| Angur’ G4 | |
| Ankarad G5 B | |
| Ankaret G4 | |
| Ankered B | |
| Ankeret B | |
| Car’ G7 | |
| Care G7 | |
| Cary C G G7 | |
| Cay G | |
| Hangarat 5 | |
| Hangharat L1 G1 | |
| Hangharet L1 G1 | |
| Hanhetar L1 | |
| Kare G3 G4 G5 | |
| Kari 8 12 | |
| Kary 7 11 L3 G3 G4 G5 | |
| | |

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Dogan G1 G7
Dogen G4
Dogg’ G5
Dogyn G5 B
Dogyn G5 B
Kadogen G5

CARADOG*  
Caryadoc L1
Cradoc L1
Kradoc 2

CARWED  
Careuet G3
Caruayt 1
Carwert L1
Carweth 8 L2
Karawey L1
Kareweith G1 B
Karewet G1
Karwat G1

CECILY  
Cecily G7
Cecil’ 5
Cescil’ G1
Cesl’ G1 7
Cesilia 7 9 10 L2
Sicilia B
Sisilia B
Siscilla G5 B
Sisly G5

CEDIFOR*  
Cadeuor G1
Kedevor C D
Keduor 10
Kedyuor G1

CELYNIN*  
Kellenin G1
Kellennyn G1 2
Keluin 7
Kelynnin 8

CHRISTINE*  
Crist’ 2 4 G3
Cristan’ G1 2 3 4 8 10 G3
Cristana L1 R G1 4 5 7 8 12 G3
Cristn’ 2 7 G3
Cristna 4 9 10 11 12 G3
Cristyn 7
Crystyn 4

Xian’ G1
Xiana L1 G1
Xpi’ G1
Xpiana G1 4
Xpiana G5
Xpi R G4

CLARICE*  
Clarys G3 G5

CLEMENCE*  
Clemencia R

COK  
Kok 6

COLIN*  
Collyn B
Colyn 4 6 B G H

CUDYN  
Cud’ G1 G3
Cudnn G1
Kedyn G3
Kydyn G1

CUHELYN  
C’len 7
Cuelyn L4
Elen 7
Keelem 8
Keelm 8
Keelyn 5 8 9 10 L2
Keheleyn L4
Kehelin L1 7
Kehelyn L1 L3 L4
Keheyleyn L1
Keley L4
Keelyn L5
Keulyn 12
Keylyn L1
Kuelyn L1 6 11 L2
Kuelyn 9 10 L2
Kuethlyn 7
Kuhelin L1
Kuhelin L1 6 L2

CYFNERTH*  
Keffnerth B G H
Kefnarth 10
Kenarath 7
Keurard G1
Keuenarch 3
Keuenard G1 1
Keuenargh 2 3 4 7 G3
Keuenarth L1
Keuenarth G1 REN 2 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 G3 B
Keuenerath 8 10
Keuenergh G3 G4 G5
Keuenergh G5
Keuenerth G1 1 7 11 G3 G5
Keueneth G1
Keuennarth 8
Keuernath G1
Keuernath G1
Keuenar G1
Keuenarth G1
Keynerth 7
Kyuenargh G3

CYN
Cona G3 HERB G4 G5 G7
Keen R
Kena L7 G7
Kane G3
Kona 5 L3 G3 HERB L7

CYNDDELW
Candel 8
Kembel G1
Kendel 2
Kendell C

CYNFELYN*
Keuelyn G1

CYNGEN*
Kengen 8
Kengeyn 6

CYNIN
Conn G1
Conyg G1
Conyn L1 G1 1 2 10 G3 F G
Conyng G1 10
Kona G3
Kony 8
Konyyn 5 6 9 G3

CYNON*
Kenon 8

CYNWRIG*
Kene 1
Kenerrek 8
Kenerrik L1
Kenerwik L1

Kenewerik 12
Kenewerik L1
Kenewerik L1
Kenewrekl 1 1 L3
Kenewreyg 1
Kenewric G1
Kenewricus G1
Kenewrnik 3 5 9 11 L2
Kenw’l L1
Kenwric G3

CYNWRYD*
Keuenth 8 L2
Keurid G1
Keuryd G1
Kewernik L1
Kewenthal 8 L2

DAWKIN
Daukyn G4
Dukyn 6

DD
Daud L1 L4
Daut G1 3 5 6 L2 L3 G5 H
Dau’t 7
Dauy G1
Dauyd L1 G3
Dawe G1
Dayd B
Decus G5
Dekyn G5
Deykus G3 L5 B G L7
Deyo L7 G7
Dicus B
Dio L5 L7
Dow G5 B
Dycus G5 L7 G7
Dyk L7 G7
Dykes G7
Dykus C D E F G H
Dykyn L5 G5 B L7 G7
Dyo G5 B E G L7 G7
Dyow G5
Dyyo B

DEYKIN
Daykyn L1
Deyk’ L7
Deyky L1
Deykyn L1

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DICON
Dekun L5 G5 B
Dicon L1
Dykon 7
Dykon L1 L2
Dykon L5 G5

DIOTA*
Diot G1
Dyot L1 G1
Dyota L1 G1

DONALD*
Downald 5

DWWYG
Dewok 7
Dogyok B
Doglyok B
Dollkyog B
Dowok' G4
Dowyg B
Dowyoge B
Doyok L4
Duyok G1 7
Dyok L4

DYDDGU
Dodge 5
Dogdy L1 G1
Dog' L4 L5 G5 B
Dogg' L5 G5
Doggy G4
Doghy 3
Dogy G4
Doghy L1
Doug' L3 L4 L5
Douge L4 G4
DougI L4
Dudgi L5 B
Dog' L3 L4 L5 G5 L7 G7
Dugeyn G1
Dugg' L5
Dugge L4
Dugh' L7
Dughu G1
Dugy 10
Dughy 10 L2
Dughy 10 L2
Tedegi L1
Thuthkin 8
Tothegi G1
Tudegi L1 G1 REN

Tudegy L1 R G1 REN
Tudthegy L1
Tughy G1
Tuthegy L1 G1

EDITH
Ecckm 5
Edcus G1 1 2 G3
Edecus G1 12
Edecusa G1
Edek' G1
Edekos 11
Edekous 7 10 11
Edekoys 10
Edekus 12
Edekyyn G1 1
Edeth' G1
Edkos G4
Edkus 1 2 4
Edkyyn G1 2
Edoc G1
Edus G1
Ekous G5
Ethutha L4
Ethkyn 5
Ethk G3
Etkos G4
Ethkous G5
Ethkus 12 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 L3 G3 G4 G5 B
Ethks G3
Ethkyn G1 7
Ettus G1
Eykus 11

EDMUND
Edm' G3

EDNOWAIN*
Eddeneven 1
Eddenowen 2
Edenewen G1 R
Edenewen R G1 1
Edenewayn G1
Edenowen 2 6
Edenowey L1
Edenowyn 4
Ednowyn 7
Ednewen 7
Ednewyn 5
Ednewyn 10
Ednouwen L1
Ednouweyn G1
Ednowayn G1
Ednowen 5 G4
Ednoweyn G1 2
Enedeueyn L3

EDNYFED
Edd’ G1
Edde G1
Eddeneuet G1
Edeneuett G1
Edm’ G4
Edneu’ L1
Edneuet L1 G1 4 11 L2 L5 B D
Eeden’ 5
Een’ 5
Euden’ G1
Eyden 3

EDNYFEDIN*
Eden’ 9
Edeneuedin 9
Edneuedin 9

EDWARD
Eward G7

EFA
Eeua 6
Euaa L4 G4

EINION
Ainan L1
Aninanus R 1 3 4 L2
Engnon G1
Engn’ 12

ELEANOR
Alianor L5 B

ELEN
Elenan G1
Elyn G5
Elot L1
Eota G1
Elyn G5
Helena R G1 6 7 L2 G4 B

ELIAS
Alcok G1
Elie G4
Elcoc G1
Elcoc G1
Eleys 10

Ekoc L1 G1 6
Hel’ G1
Helye 6

ELIDIR*
Elder G1
Elyder 2 3 L2 G4

ELISE
Elissen G1
Elle G1
Elys G1
Elysssa G1
Elyssen G1

ELIZABETH
Elisabet G4

EMECUS*
Ameeco G1
Amecous G1
Amecusa G1
Amekous G1
Ametus G1
Emecous G1
Emecous G1
Emecusa L1
Emekus G1
Emmecous G1

EMERY*
Emerea G7
Emeca G7

EMMA
Ema G4
Emmot 4 8 L2 G3 L4 G4 G5 B
Emmota 10 B
Emmote 2
Emnot’ G5
Emot 1 L2 G3 L4 B
Emota B
Emott L4
Ennot G4

ERDDYLAD
Arthelat 3
Dellen 11 G3
Dellyn G5
Dilet L1
Dilla G5
Dillen 9 G3 G4 G5 B
Dull’ G3
Dylen 2
Dylla G5
Dyllen G3 G4 C L7
Erdell' G1
Erdellat G1
Erdelot G1
Erthalat L7
Erhelot G4
Erhelot 4 5 HERB
Ertholet G1
Herdelot L1 G1
Herhel G1
Herthelad G1

EUSTACE
Eustas 3 11
Heustacus 4
Hustas 4

FELICIA
Fels G5 B
Felot G1
Filc' L5
Filot G1 1 4 6 G4
Fylot G1
Phelic' 5 12

FULKE*
Fulco R

GENERYS*
Geners 5
Keneres G3
Kenance G1
Keners L1 5 H
Kenenth L1
Kenerz L1
Keners G4 G5
Kenersys C H
Keners G3
Kneres 5 10 11
Knerce L1
Kners L1 G1 1 5 7 8 12 L2
Kners 7 12 G3
Knerys G1 2 3 7 8 12 L2 G3 G4

GENILLES*
Kenithles G1
Kenytles G1
Kynithles L1
Kynitlles L1

GEOFFREY
Geffr' G7
Geffray G

GERVASE*
Geruays L5
Geruas L5 E
Gerveys G7

GILES*
Gyles G3

GODYTH
Godith G1
Godith 11 L2 L3
Goditha 1

GRIFFRI
Gniffre G4 G5
Greffre G1
Greffr' L1
Greffre L3
Gniff' L1 3 4 5 6 8 10 11 12 L2 L3 G3
Gniffnt L4 L5
Gniffry L1 G5
Gniff' 1 L5 G5 B
Grufty G5
Gryfr G7
Gryfr' L1

GRONW
Cron' G4 G5 B
Grev' 5
Grom' 5 L5 B
Gronou L1
Gronow L1
Groon' G1

GRUFFYDD
Cniff' L1 L3
Cniffid L1
Cruffidyn G5
Friff' L5
Gr' L7 G7
Greff' G1 G3
Gniffid L1 R G4
Gniffdyn G4 G5
Gniffli' G5
Gniffin L1 2 L2 L3
Gniffinus G1 7 L2
Gnifft L1 G1 L4 G4
Gniffud L1 R G1

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Gruffut L5
Gruffuth G1
Gruffydyn G4
Gruffydyn L5
Grufyty L5
Grufidyn G4
Gruffidyn G4
Gruffud 7
Gruffut L5
Gruffuth G5 B
Gruffyd 7
Gruffydyn G4
Gruffyth 10
Gruffyth L5

GUY
Guta G1
Guydo G1

GWENHWYFAR
Gwenheuar G1
Gwenou' L7
Wanhouar G1
Weneuar 8
Wen't B E F G H
Wenheuar 7 8
Wenhewar 7
Wenhewar 7
Wenhoyuar 5
Wenhouar B
Wenhuuarth G1
Wenou' L7
Wencyuuer G1
Wenhuer 7

GWENLILIAN
Gwenlle L7
Gwenthelean 8 L2
Menthel L5
Thlyan G3
Tylyan G3
Venhanha L1
Venlean L5
Venlan' G1
Venlean L5
Venleean L5
Venlle L7
Wently G3
Wentllean G1
Wenlyan G1
Wenthe G1 L4 L5
Wentheana 5
Wentheleana 5

Wenthel L5
Wenthell' L5
Wenthilion' 10 L2
Wenthin L5
Wenthle L5
Wenthilean L5
Wenthli L3 L4
Wenthliy L3 G3
Wenthlyan L5
Wenththi L4
Wenthlean L5
Wenthla G1
Wenthlean L5 B
Wenththilian' 11 L2
Wynthle G5

GWERFUL
Gerwyull' L7
Gweruul L1
Verul 5
Vruull B
Werly G5
Wervl L1
Wervil L1
Werwill L3
Werwyl G1
Weuernyl 1
Weyreul L3
Weyrill G1
Weyrwl 5
Wyrle G7
Wyrh G4
Wiry G3 G4 G5
Wyrle L7 G7
Wyrley L7
Wyrly G3 L4 G4
Wyrul 5
Wyrwyl L7
Wyrwyl G7

GWION
Gwehan'L7
Gween G3
Gweon G5
Vion G4 L5 G5
Vion [apparently as name for a woman] G5
Vyon L4 G4 G5
Vywon G5
Weon L5 B
Wian L1
Wyan L1 G1 5 6
Wyon [apparently as name for a woman] G4 G5

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GWladus
Glad’ L7
Glwad’ L7
Wadas G5
Waid’ 7
Waldus G1
Wlatten B
Wlaton 12 G5 B

Gwledyr
Gwedir L1
Gwedyr L1
Wleder G1 2 9 12 G3 G4
Wieder L1
Wledur 3 11 12

Gwrgena
Goregenn L7 G7
Goregenny L7 G7
Gorg’ L1
Gorgen’ 11
Gorgene 5
Gorgenne L7
Gorgenny L7
Gorgeneu L1
Gourgeyner 3
Gourkene 12
Gurgenneu G1
Gurgenu G1

Gwyddelyn
Geuyhlyn G1
Gothelin 8
Gothel’ 1
Gothelin G1 6 7 8 L2
Gothelyn G1 1 10
Gouthelin REN
Gouthelyn 7 L2
Goythel 5
Goythelin 5 6 7 8 9 L2
Goythelyn 3 4 5 6 8 L2
Goythlin 7 L2
Guthelin L1
Gwethelyn G5

Gwyn
Guean G1
Guen G1
Guyn L1 G1 4 6 7 8 9 L2
Gwyn L1

Gwyn L3 L5
Gwyn L7
Vin L1
Vyn G1 G3 L4 G4 L5 G5
Wen L1
Wen L1 R G1 REN
Win R 3 5 L2
Wy G4
Wyn L1 G1
Wynn G4

Hamelin
Hamelinus L7
Hamelyns L7

Hawis
Auwisa G1
Hauhota G1
Hauhsia 12
Hauot 5
Hauota R G1 6
Hauws’ G1
Hauwota G1
Hauysa G1
Hawisa G1 8 9 10 12 B
Hawot G1 2 5 6 8 9
Hawota R G1 4
Hawote 2 4
Hawsdia G3
Hawys L1 G1 12 B
Hawysa G1 9
Howota G1
Howote 4

Hawkin
Haukyn G1
Haukyn 5
Haykyn G1

Heilyn
Aheyleyn L1
Ellin B
Hayynyn 7
Heily G
Heli’ G4
Helyn L7
Heyleyyn L1
Heylym L1 G
Hill’ L4
Hillin L5
Hillyn G3 L4 G4 L5 H L7
Hullyn L4
Hyllin L4
Hyllyn L7
Hyllyn L4 G4 L5 H L7
Hyllyn L7 G7

HENRY
Hame L4
Han I G3 G4
Hann G3
Hanne L1 G1 5 9 L2 G3 L4 G4 L5 G5 G
Harr' L7
Henri G1 7 L2
Herr' D

HEREWARD*
Ereward G1
Herward G1

HEYNE*
Heyn G1

HICHCOCK
Hechek' G4
Hechekoc G3 G4
Hechoc' G4 G5
Hechok' G4
Hecok G5
Hekoc' G4
Hic ch C
Hich ecok 10
Hichekoc 10
Hicoc G
Hicok G1 6 8 10 12 L3 G3
Hicoke G4
Hik L7
Hike L7
Hikok 11 12
Hiscok G1
Hisecok G3
Hyccok G
Hyche cot L1
Hyckok H
Hyck 10 11 G3
Hyk C E L7 G7
Hy kok G3 G4
Hyll' L7
Pechekoc L5 B

HILDA*
Hilde G1

HOCHKIN
Hochek G3
Hochen G5

Hochon G3
Hochy G4
Hochyn L3 HERB L4 G4 L5 G5
Hockin L3
Hogekyn G1 L3
Hoggekyn L5 B H
Huchon G3 HERB
Huchoun G3
logekyn G1

HODKIN*
Houdekyn L1 G1

HOEDLYW*
Aydelou 7
Hodelo R
Hoidelo 7
Hoidelou REN
Hoydelo 1 3
Hoydelou G1
Hoydelow 11
Hoydlou 7
Hoydolo 1
Hoylow 3

HOEN*
Honen G4 L5 G5

HONORIA*
Annor G1
Anorra R
Anor R G1
Anora R G1

HOPKIN
Hobekin R
Hobekyn 5
Opkin 8
Opkyn 8 9

HUGH
Hochon G5
Houg' L4
Huch' G7
Huchon 9 G5
Huchyn G5

HUGYN
Huchoun 11
Huchun 11
Hugin G1
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<td>HULYN*</td>
<td>Ianeky L3</td>
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<td>HWLCYN*</td>
<td>IARDDUR*</td>
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<td>Iarth’ G1</td>
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The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database 1294-1422 a manual for users

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Tagustull G4
Tamme L1

Tang’ L1 G1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 L2 L3 G3 HERB L4
G4 G5 L5 C E F G H L7 G7
Tangstel G1
Tangustel L1
Tangstel G1 L3 G3
Tanguestla G1
Tanguestle G1
Tangusstull G5 B
Tangust’ L1 G1 1 4 5 6 7 9 L2 L4 G4
Tangustel L1 G1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 L2 L3 G3 L4
Tangustell 6 7 8 9 10 11 L2 L3 G3 L4 G4
Tangustil L1 G1 1 3 5 6 L5 B
Tangustull L5 G5 B
Tangustil’ L1 G1
Tangustul L4 G4
Tangustull G4 L5 G5
Tangustel L1 R G1
Tangustil 1 2 4 L2
Tangustill 1 2 3 4 L2 G5 B
Tangustil’ L5
Tangustul L1 L5
Tangustull L1 G1 1 L5 G5 B
Tanguyst’ G1
Tangweste G1
Tangwist L1
Tangwiste G1
Tangwistel G1 R 12 G3
Tangwistell G3 G5 B C
Tangwistul 5 G5
Tangwistul G1
Tangwistle G1
Tangwistul L3 G4
Tangwistull’ G4
Tangwystull G4
Tanne G5 B
Tanni G1
Tanno L7 G7
Tanny G1 3
Tang’ L4
Tanquar’ L4
Tanwist’ G1
Tanwistull’ G5
Taquestel L1

TEGE

Tegew 8

TEGWARED

Taguaret 5 L5
Tang’ 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 L2 L3 G3 HERB
Tangar’ 10 L2
Tangauet G3
Tangharat HERB
Tangr' 10 G3
Tanguar 3 5 6 7 8 9 10 12 L2
Tanguarat 7 L4
Tanguaret 4 6 7 11 12 L2 L5
Tangwar 2 6 7 11 12 L3 G3
Tangwaret G1 4 HERB
Tangwareth 4
Tangwarret G1
Tankwaret G5
Tanq' L4 G4 G5
Tanqur 1 2 6 7 9 10 L3 G4 L5
Tanquarat G1 1 9
Tanquaret G1 L3 HERB L4 G4 L5 G5
Tanqurr' G3 HERB
Tanquarret G3
Taquaret G3
Teg' L1 G1 3 5 G3 B C E G H
Tegewaret L7
Tegg' G3
Teguar' 1 3 6
Teguaret G3
Tegwar' L1 R G1 2 3
Tegwared L1 R G1 1 2 3 4 5 L2
Tegwarret G1
Tengareth G1
Tenguar' G1
Tenguareth G1
Tewaret G1

THOMAS
Thomelyn L7 G7
Thomlyn G7
Thommyn L3 L7 G7
Thomyn L3 G5
Tom 10 L2 L3 G5
Tommas G4
Tomme L3
Tommy L3
Tommy L3 G5
Tomme L3
Tomme L4

TIBOT
Tebot' G3

TRAHAEARN*
Thrahaern R
Traern L1
Trahaer G1
Trahaern L1 5 6 L2 L3
Trahaern' 5 6 L2
Trahaern' L5 B E
Trahaern' L4 L5

TRAHAERAN
Trahaerin L5
Trahaern' L5
Trahaeren L1
Trahaerne L1 G1
Trahayern L1 2 L2 G
Trahayern 6 12 L5
Trahayern L1
Traherrn' L1 G1 L3
Trahern L1 G1

TUDUR
Tod' G1
Toder G1
Todre 1
Turd' G1
Turdur L4

TWNA*
Tona L7 G7

WALTER
Walter 5
Warter L4
Wat' 5
Waterus G4
Waulter 10

WATKIN
Hatky L2
Vatkyn G4
Watekyn 10

WM
Gwyllyn L5 G5
Gwyllyn E G
Gwyllyn G5
Gwyllyn G5 L7 G7
Gwyllyn G5
Vyllym L1
Vleym G5
Wille C H
William L1 G1 2 10 G4 L5 B L7 G7
William G1
Willy L1 L4
Willym G4
Willyn L3
Wyle H
Wylliam G1 L7 G7
Wylliam L7
Wyllyn L7 G7

WYMARK*
Wymerk L1
YNYR*  
Ener L3  
Ener G1 L3  
Enner L4 G4  
Enyr L3 G3  
Eynnr L1  
Oner L7  

‘Problem’ Christian names

Men  
Anll’ G3  
Aus G3  
By’ G1  
Ciama G1  
Deyne G1 wife of Deyne G1  
ap Gyon D  
ap Hegyn G4 G5  
Hobbod 11 [reading uncertain]  
Hok’ G1  
ferch lacko G1  
ap Ioen G1 dau of Ioen G1  
Matto D L7 Mattow G5 Mattowe G7  
Noke 3 Nokke 5  
Noun G1  
Rikkyn 9 Rkyn G5  
Ynous G7  
Yossyn G5 B Iossyn L7 G7

Women  
Bleder 12  
Chuchoc G1  
Coyan G1  
Dade G7  
Della 7 [reading uncertain]  
Eudon G7  
Menavon D Merravon D  
Methea G1  
Mokken 6 Motkayn G5 Motkyn G5 ap Mokkyn G1  
Sidde G1

Sex unknown  
Cheny 7  
Colede L1  
Edyyn G1  
Geelyn 7 T lyn 7 [readings uncertain]  
Grad 7  
ap Hilla C H Hylla H Hylle G1  
Ious L7  
ap Kenerews G3

Lambe G1  
Loken G5  
Lyle G3  
Meukent G3  
Moruc 9  
Morwel L1  
Tangharet L1  
Welkan 5  
Welyn 5  
Weyan G1

Nicknames used as first or only name, or elsewhere when Christian name might be expected, but excluding names appearing after ap or ferch

[son of] Alysot G1  
Balghaghalloo [stated to be nickname] G  
Bardon’ G5  
Beckabacka C E  
[bercarlus] Berleye G1  
Blakemon G3 G4 Blakmon G4  
Bledrous [219/4, m 26d] Bledros [219/4, m 27]  
Boden Bancaro G5  
Boleyr G1  
Bole Thom G1  
[seemingly for Belyn Gour]  
Bellous Salter L7  
Bolleblait L4 Bolleblait L4 Bolbleit L4 Boleblaagh L4 Bole Blaith L4 Bolebhit L4 Boleblait’ L4  
Bolbait’ L4  
[wife of] Bongam G1 [qfu] Bongam L3  
Borthmon’ Bach G7  
[wife of] Box G1  
dau of Breton G1  
Bron G4  
Brunrobyn G4  
Buder Baylet G1  
Bustagh G1

Cadic Cutta G1  
[son of] Calcate L1  
Cam Loyt de Glindouerdo G1 Camloit G1  
[son of] capellanus G1  
Clisiten G1 Clustien G1
Cochyn de Lanuer L1 Dd ap Coghyn ap Ednyfed
L7 Cogyn ap Dd ap Llywarch Gogh de Kelowe
G1
Coghscowyn G5
Collocflok' G5 Colthocolk' G5
Costokenneys G1
[son of] Couhope G1
[wife of] Couplond G1
Craghdelin G4 Cratdelyn G4 Cratdellyn G5
Craghgothel G1
[son of] Craghpees 1
Craghyvwa G3 Craghybwla [218/10, m 14] [wife of] Cracboa G3 [wife of] Crathbowa G3 [fil']
Cratboa G3
[son of] Crast' G3
[wife of] Cregh 8 [wife of] Greth Gam 9
[dau of] Crekys 8
Crote G3
[son of] Cullchet G1
Cutpes L1 R [son of] Cutpez L1
Cutuerner L1 [qfu] Cutwerny L1
Cynrh de Clapan G6

Eremute 12
[son of] Ermely G1
[wife of] excubia G1 [girl-friend of] excubia G1
[wife of] excubator G1
Filkyn G4 [on this occasion apparently as surname standing alone]
[wife of] le Flitheler G1 [wife of] filator G1
Flousin L1 Flousyn 3 L2 Floucy 3 L2 [wife of] Flousin 8 L2
[wife of] Flytynewik G1
[son of] Fox 6
[wife of] Foxin L1 G1
Fulwich G1 Fulwys G1 [dau of] Folewys G1 [dau of] Fulwys G1
[wife of] fulborator G1
[dau of] gardmananus 12
[wife of] Goh Turrek G1
Goyneth B [for Dd Goyneth]
Grathcornu L1 Grachh Cornoch L1
Gauyl' L5 G5 Gauy G5

Grobe G5
[wife of] Gurguwetetha G5 [for wife of Gwrge nau Wethe]
Haggeleyr R Hagg' G1
Hagerm G1 Hagryn G1 Hagrin G3
Hagerm Ringild G1
Hagreym le Taylour L1 Hagerin le Taliour 2
Haugerym Taliour L2
Hagryn ap Gronw L1 Hagreym ap Gronw L1
[wife of] Hagur 4
[qfu] Haighton' G7
Harnes G4 G5
Heuros de Dynmail G1
Hulemon L1 [probably for Hugh le Mon]
[wrayk] Ioboy G1
[dau of] Iohot G4
Kadenaw de Yal L4
Kenuis 12 Kennous G3 Conus ap Ieuan ap Owaun G7
[wife of] Kerhen G5
Kestla Wermold G1
Ketyrounten G5 Kethnounten G5
Kew Barcut 2 L2 Cuybarcuyt L3
Kew Cochyn L1
Kewen Paly G3
[qfu] Knycht molendinarus G1
Koygyn servant of John ap lorwerth 11 Koygen servant of John ap lorwerth 11 Coygan G1
Kueagh Cripeil G1

Legelew capellanus 6 7 Legelew 8 9
Legetgourda 9
Leget Kewen G1 Leget Kewyn G1
Loppan L1 G1 R G3 Llophan [216/9, m 9]
Loyden L1 Lloydin L1 Thloycyd L3 Loydyn B
Loyden Pannor G5 Loyden Pannour G5 Loydin Pannor G5 Loytdyn Pannour D
Loydin fil' textrix G1
Loyt ap Ednyfed F
Lyppa 2 L2 Lippy 2 L2 Lippa 3 L2

Mab Ager 8
Madwyth REN
[concubine of] magister G5
Map Camrowth 8
[wife of] Map Cromp’ Gl [wife of] Map Crom
G1 [wife of] Crom G1 [wife of] Map Crum
G1 [wife of] Map Dd Wht G1
[wife of] Map Galthoun G1
Map Goue L1
Map Guasneyr G1
Map Gwyn Greeth G
Map Hon’ G1 [wife of] Map Bonur G1 [wife of]
Map Onor G1 [qfu] Map Onor G1 [wife of]
Map Honour G1
Map Parla G1
[wife of] Map Tornor G1
Martyr de Yal G4 [wife of] Martur G4
[dau of] medicus G1
Mergh Sgwyer G3
Molagaan G1 [dau of] Moylagan 5
Moligrum G1 R Moligrun G1 Moligrum R
Moligr’ G1 Moligr’ G1 [land of] Moligrum
REN
Molwenhauot’ G4 Molwynhauot’ G4
[son of] molendinarius G1 8 L2 G3
Moslida G5
[wife of] Moylmethodow G1
Orm de Wigan G1 Orm sutor G1 Horm sutor 5
[wife of] Orm sutor G1 [wife of] Orm G1 [wife
of] Oerm G1 [son of] Orm sutor R [son of]
Orm G1 [dau of] Orm 5
Pauun G1 Payun G1
Passauint L1
[dau of] Pedithel G1
del Pek’ G1
[wife of] Penbras G1
Pendant G3
Pengethu G5 Pennecod [220/1, m 28]
Penne carectarus G1
Penyfadur G5
Perwyr L1
Peylin de Kilk’n G1
[qfu] Piolath G3
Pokkyenryn G4
de Postern’ de Nantclloyd 6 L2
Prussuryn 1 L2 Prussuryn 7 L2
[wife of] Purcas G4

Redley G7
Rusdwy G3 [Rhys Duy]
Ryngelth’ G1 Ryngelli’ G1

Saeregyn G5 Seyrhyn gen ap Emon G5
[wife of] Samon 2 Sampmon 12
[son of] Scot 7
[dau of] Sludercoc G1
Smallode L1 6
Strebyn G1

[son of] Tailliour G3
Talenoll L1
Tegebore de Pentyn G4
Thlidan Traunter 12 Thliden le Traunter G3
Thloden le Traunter G3 Thlyden Traunter G3
Thlyden Traunter G3 Tlyden Traunter G3
Lydan wife of Iorwerth ap Emon G4

[maid of] Toppyn 9
Toppyn Tuder 4
Trussa G1
[dau of] Tymbultas G1

Unwen G1

Vaghan ap Heilyn 9 L2
[quidam ignotus de Edmnon] yap Ad’ Voyl G1
Volifrez G1

Wade G4
Was Tew 9
Wenelawen G4 Weney Lawen G4
Wodeford 6 7 8 12 L2 Wodford 11 L2
Wympton’ G1
[wife of] ap Wyne 7
Wynselour G3

[son of] le Yargh G4
Ykeuanneth 6
Ypendelo G1
[qfu] Ywynon L1 [qfu] Ywynon L1
SURNAMES

Introduction

The Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls are a rich source for the study of medieval surnames, both those used among the English settlers and those applied to the native Welsh. Well over two thousand different surnames have been identified in the rolls calendared, although some are, to all intents and purposes, equivalents in different languages. All the major types of surname are represented: patronymics, occupational surnames, descriptive epithets, and surnames derived from place-names.

Standardisation

The policy of the project has been to leave surnames (including nicknames and other epithets) in their manuscript form on being entered into the database. Some abbreviations have been extended, especially in the middle of words, but only where the extension seemed unambiguous. A final apostrophe indicates a flourish in the original manuscript, but has not always been included. With these exceptions, almost all surnames appear in the database in the form used by the scribe of the court rolls. This means that the description of the methodology can be much briefer and much more straightforward than in the case of Christian names. The following conventions should, however, be borne in mind.

Surnames of relationship have been treated like other surnames if they appear in English, otherwise they have been translated if in Latin or left with ap if in Welsh. This was by far the simplest policy, and probably the only workable one, but it does mean that the same man may appear both as son of Wm and as Williamson. Admittedly, this poses some problems for searching, but they are by no means the least surmountable of such difficulties. English patronymic surnames are relatively rare in the Dyffryn Clwyd rolls, and in some cases it may be that the name was already functioning as an inherited surname rather than as a true patronymic phrase. It seems that if the concept 'son of' needed to be conveyed, it was normal for the scribes either to express it in Welsh with ap or translate it into Latin.

Problems

Occasionally, a Welsh name which is usually a Christian name appears in a position which implies that it is used as an epithet. Often this is down to scribal error (usually the omission of ap), either this is corrected or the presumed correct name is given in square brackets. This feature occurs more frequently with some names than others, often where there are some grounds for uncertainty, perhaps even in the mind of the original scribe. For instance, Gwilym may or may not be equivalent to ap Gwyyddeilwyn, and there is some confusion between certain forms of the Christian name Cyfrn and the surname Cyfrinaid. All we have been able to do is attempt to reproduce the words of the court roll, even if this has necessitated perpetuating the confusion. Gwen is a common Christian name, but it could also be a surname meaning 'fair'. The surname is rare in our source, but where it does occur the name is, of course, left unaltered.

Latin surnames, usually denoting occupations, are normally extended, so that mol' and molend' are both rendered molendinarius, and purcar' becomes parcarius. The form capellanus has been standardised, even though occasionally the scribe wrote cappellanus, this is because the word is usually heavily abbreviated. A distinction has, however, been retained between, for instance, carpentarius and carpuntarius, and between cissor and scissor. Latin names can be identified in the database through their being given a lower-case initial letter.

Problems sometimes arise where the abbreviation could imply a name in either English or Latin. Carpent' could stand for either English Carpenter or Latin carpentarius, and for' for either forestarius or Forester. A certain amount of discretion has had to be exercised in these cases, but on the whole the approach has erred on the side of caution. Except in so far as the nature of
the abbreviation has permitted it, English names have not been extended

Sometimes a name which is apparently a surname stands alone, for instance in a marginal comment, or as the first element of a name. These are discussed more fully in the section on Christian names above, but some instances where what is clearly a surname is used in such contexts may not have been noted when the lists of surnames were being compiled; in such cases, the fact that a surname is so used will not be remarked upon in the lists and cumulative index (discussed below), nor in the Appendix to the section on the Christian names, but the surname itself should always be listed

Very rarely, a surname has had to be amended for searching purposes. If the name *Marreys* appears as *Mar*, a ‘tag’ in square brackets supplies a fuller form, for a search on *Mar* would bring up all references also to the month, which is so abbreviated in the calendar, this is particularly undesirable where synonyms are used. Some spellings of common Welsh names happen to be the same as modern English words which appear in the database, and the usual method of dealing with these has been in the form *Saís* (‘Says’), denoting that the manuscript spelling was *Says*. Others problems of this type include *Cût*, which is rendered as *Cuyt*, *Her*, *Heir* and *Here*, which are amended to *Hir*, and *Owe*, which is changed to *Oue*. In the case of *With*, the modern form *Chwith* is supplied in square brackets, normally at the end of the name, although the epithet sometimes appears in the middle. Different methods have been used with different problems because the main aim must be to provide a searchable word in the clearest and most economical way, and the demands vary from name to name and even from record to record. The same basic principle has been used where it has been necessary to provide a full (or fuller) version of a surname where the manuscript is damaged. Tags and alterations to surnames are discussed more fully below.

The lists for each file

After the completion of each file within the database, a list of surnames appearing within it was made. These lists (which are found in the file called *Names*) are presented in broadly alphabetical order (using English order rather than Welsh), although variant spellings of the same name are placed together, and these are not necessarily listed in alphabetical order. If the name in question occurs with more than one initial letter (such as *Megl* and *Voyl*), all the forms are listed together, but with a cross-reference given from the forms with a different initial character. Cross-references are, however, not provided for variant spellings with the same initial letter, even if in strict alphabetical sequence such spellings would have appeared at some distance from the form under which they are listed. It has not been possible to be consistent in determining which spelling should be the first form given (and therefore the place of the various forms of the name in the alphabetical list) this is partly because different forms appear in different files, and partly because the creation and application of particular conventions would have been too time-consuming to be justified in terms of the ultimate convenience gained. Where two surnames appear to be equivalent in a particular file, but would not normally be so considered, cross-references are given with ‘cf.’ rather than the ‘see also’ note used for cross-references from one initial letter to another. Exceptionally, a name-element which *could* have been considered a surname has been treated as a place-name, and is listed with the other place-names, most frequently in references to the Earl of Arundel.

If a word appears in round brackets, such as in *(le) Forester*, this implies that the file in question contains both the surname ‘le Forester’ and the surname ‘Forester’ (without ‘le’).

The lists in *Names* include surnames found in the ‘courts’ file corresponding to the file in question, for the sake of completeness, these are normally only forms of the name of the steward who presided over the courts, and in many cases the form appears in the main file as well. Even in the case of those files for which no ‘courts’ file has been compiled, the names of stewards have been included in *Names*.

Surnames deemed to be equivalent in different languages, for instance *carnifex*, *Cigyd* and *Flessheuer*, are sometimes placed together, but not always. While the lists in *Names* are meant to be helpful to the user, they are not designed
in themselves to indicate names which were equivalent in Latin, Welsh and English. The cumulative index (see below) aims to point users towards names which had the same or similar meanings in different languages.

It was inevitable that, as the project moved on and expertise among the project team developed, the lists came to be out of kilter and to contain a number of discrepancies and idiosyncrasies. In addition, the researchers who drew up the original lists had slightly different methods and listed the surnames in marginally different formats. There was, for instance, no fixed policy on whether to include fragmentary spellings of surnames, especially where the full form was also supplied in square brackets. However, at the end of the project, when the cumulative index was being finalised, the opportunity was taken to standardise the lists, as far as possible, in accordance with the conventions outlined above. But it must be admitted that changes and corrections to the original files have sometimes necessitated changes to the lists of names, and the high level of concentration required to note down and then make these amendments has inevitably led to a certain degree of error. Some such errors have been detected and rectified, and it is hoped that any others which remain are not numerous.

The cumulative index of surnames

To some extent, the lists of surnames in individual files have been superseded by the creation of the cumulative index for the whole database (the file called Surnames). The index aims to include all the forms of surnames in the individual lists, including names which are only partly legible provided that these can be identified with a particular name with some degree of confidence. A few other fragments are included too, but not hopelessly vague ones such as D or Ke or ton. These were deemed to be useless for index purposes and, moreover, were not always noted during the compilation of the lists of names in individual files. Where they were noted, they remain on the earlier lists but not in Surnames.

The record structure of Surnames within Idealist is as follows:

- Name
  - lemma=
  - forms=
  - comments=
  - extra=

The records give the modern form of the surname (if known) or another form (either one of the manuscript spellings or a possible modern equivalent of the original spellings), the various forms found in the manuscripts (with file number, the files being listed in roughly chronological order), some explanatory notes, and (in some cases) an indication of the type of surname and whether it is English or Welsh.

The general principle has been to keep English and Welsh surnames separate, even if they are equivalent in meaning and were applied to the same individuals. The same applies to surnames in the same language which may have been equivalent also, such as Souter and Coriser. Cross-references and notes have been added in these cases, and searches within Idealist on the form of particular surnames as given in the 'lemma' field will locate them. Very closely connected surnames have, however, been listed together. These include masculine and feminine equivalents such as Gwehydd and Gwehyddes (and also vannator and ventilatrix), and patronymic surnames such as Robert, Robertson and Robinson, or Madog and Madynson. Latinised surnames, usually occupational, have normally been given along with one of the vernacular forms, but this has not been done in uncertain cases, nor (needless to say) where no equivalent English or Welsh surname has been found. In the case of locative surnames, the (pre-1974) county is given where possible, or (within the context of Dyffryn Clwyd itself) the commote or, occasionally, the vill or township. Cross-references have not been provided for variant spellings of individual names, because it is intended that anyone wishing to know what other forms are found for any particular surname (in any spelling) will search on that spelling and thereby find the record in question. The 'lemma' field has been sorted into alphabetical order, or at least into the computer's definition of it. Within each record, the forms are listed basically in alphabetical order, with fragmentary forms (where noted on the lists for individual files) within the sequence.
It will be seen from the above that the cumulative index does not precisely correspond to the lists derived from each individual file, particularly from the standpoint of the grouping together of equivalent surnames. However, with the exception of useless fragments, all the surnames found in Names should be in Surnames also.

A number of supplementary notes and observations have been added, mainly in the ‘comments’ field. These should not be seen as comprehensive, merely as notes which will hopefully be of assistance both to users of the database and to those working on the names themselves. They include references to similar names in other local sources, particularly in the survey of the lordship of Denbigh (1334) and the Merionethshire lay subsidy roll (1292-3). They also include dictionary definitions of particular words and references to discussions in print elsewhere. Some users might have welcomed more details of this type, but should bear in mind that the primary purpose of the project was not to study names and naming-patterns for their own sake.

In addition to citations of the database, the following abbreviated references to sources are used in the ‘comments’ field of Surnames:

1324 Rental

Bartrum, Genealogies 300-1400
P C Bartrum, Welsh Genealogies, A D 300-1400 (8 vols., [Cardiff], 1974)

BBCS
Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies

Caern Ct Rolls
Caernarvon Court Rolls, 1361-1402, edd G P Jones and H Owen (Caernarfon, 1951)

Cal I PM
Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem (London, 1904-)

DML
Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources (London, 1975-)

Ekwall

Ext Chirkland
The Extent of Chirkland (1391-1393), ed G P Jones (Liverpool, 1933)

GBGG
J Lloyd-Jones, Geirfa Baradonnaeth Gyrnau Gymraeg (Caerdydd, 1931-)

GPC
Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru (Caerdydd, 1950-)

Jack, Valor
The Grey of Ruthin Valor, ed R I Jack (Sydney, 1965)

Latham

Lewis and Short
C T Lewis and C Short, A Latin Dictionary (Oxford, 1879)

LL
The Text of the Book of Llan Dav, reproduced from the Gwysaney Manuscript, edd J Gwenogvryn Evans and J Rhys (Oxford, 1893)

Mer LSR
The Merioneth Lay Subsidy Roll, 1292-3, ed K Williams-Jones (Cardiff, 1976)

NCPN
B G Charles, Non-Celtic Place-Names in Wales (London, 1938)

OED
Oxford English Dictionary

Place-Names Beds
The Place-Names of Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire (English Place-Name Society, 1926)
Place-Names Ch
The Place-Names of Cheshire (English Place-Name Society, 1970-)

Place-Names Lancs
E. Ekwall, The Place-Names of Lancashire (Manchester, 1922)

Reaney

Richards, Units
M. Richards, Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units (Cardiff, 1969)

Roberts, Ruthun Court Rolls
The Court Rolls of the Lordship of Ruthun or Dyffryn-Clwyd of the Reign of King Edward the First, ed. R. A. Roberts (Cymmrodorion Record Series, 1893)

Surv Denb

VSBG
A. W. Wade-Evans, Vitae Sanctorum Britanniae et Genealogiae (Cardiff, 1944)

The notes in the 'extra' field derive largely from an investigation of the surnames found during the first phase of the project, carried out by Dr Padel. They are retained because they may well be of value to other users, but the exercise was not extended to surnames which appeared only in the second phase of the project, except where a place-name was identified or (rarely) where it seemed appropriate to add a comment to another type of surname. The notes are, therefore, incomplete, and this must be borne in mind when using them.

The notes indicate whether the surname is patronymic (patr), descriptive (desc), occupational (occu), or locative (pn), and whether it is English (eng), Welsh (w) or Latin (lat), although in the case of Latin surnames the spellings are normally listed with the corresponding vernacular form (see above). In the case of English place-names, a distinction is made between names which seem (from a fairly cursory examination) to be applied to only one location (pn eng dist), and those applied to two or more (pn eng ambig). In the case of Welsh place-name surnames, a distinction is made between those within Dyffryn Clwyd (pn loc) and those outside (pn w). Surnames apparently derived from places in England where the Grey lords of Dyffryn Clwyd had interests are additionally annotated 'grey'. Sometimes more than one alternative is given, such as 'pn loc or pn w', and question marks are numerous. Surnames of unknown meaning or derivation are marked as 'unkn'.

It is accepted that the cumulative index of surnames will contain instances where forms have been grouped together which should have been kept distinct and, conversely, where forms have been kept separate which should have been listed together. It is our belief, however, that the index will be of considerable value to students of names and naming-patterns and, more generally, to those using the database for other purposes.

Tags and alterations

As indicated above, a number of manuscript spellings of surnames have had to be changed or a 'tag' added in order to aid searching.

A distinction must be drawn between instances where a more searchable name is provided in square brackets, in the manner of a 'tag', and cases where the name itself is changed (with the original spelling in inverted commas within round brackets). This distinction has significance in some types of search, although users of the surname synonyms (see below) should not be called upon to make it. In the cumulative list of surnames (the file called Surnames), names which have been altered or tagged are so marked, with references to manuscript alterations being specifically described as such, on the whole, this information is not included in the individual lists of surnames in each file (Names).

The principal surnames which have been altered in the calendar are:

- Body, altered to Bodi
- Clayt, altered (where appropriate) to Loyt
The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database 1294-1422 a manual for users

- **Cut**, altered to Cuyt
- **Herr, Her and Here**, altered to Hir
- **Kill'**, altered to Kylan
- **Man**, altered to Mon
- **Of and Owe**, altered to Oue
- **Ruth'**, altered (where appropriate) to Routh
- **Says**, altered to Sais

The main 'tags' of surnames, excluding those which are only partly legible, are

- **Almary**, where used as a surname, tagged as Almar
- **Barley**, tagged as Barle
- **Bath**, tagged as Bach
- **de Blethen**, tagged (where appropriate) as de Blakeney
- **Cromp and Crump**, tagged (where appropriate) as Crom
- **Du and Dyu**, tagged either as Duy, or as Dew and Tyu respectively, as appropriate
- **de Help'**, tagged as Helpston
- **Ioh'**, where used as a quasi-surname, tagged as Johnson
- **ap Keuenerth**, tagged (where appropriate) as ap Keuernagh
- **de Land'**, tagged as de Landingham
- **or Less**, tagged as or Les
- **Lloyd Wyn**, tagged as Loydwin
- **de Mar' and le Mar'**, tagged as Marreys
- **Men**, tagged as Min
- **Meyller**, tagged as Mallor

- **de Muton'**, tagged as de Munton
- **del Pech'**, tagged as del Pek
- **Pole and Pool**, tagged (where appropriate) as Bole
- **de Routh'**, tagged as de Rouhull
- **dil Smith**, tagged as del Smithie
- **Thell'**, tagged (where appropriate) as Thethour
- **Tibot**, where used as a surname, tagged as Tybot
- **With and (where appropriate) Weth and Wethe**, tagged as Chiwith
- **Wythe**, tagged (where appropriate) as le White

Not all troublesome names have been altered or tagged, although it is hoped that the above list accounts for most of the problems which users of the database are likely to encounter. Any search is liable to produce a few anomalies or a few unwanted records, because of the nature of the original source. To have attempted to eliminate all searching problems would have been an impossible task.

**Synonyms of surnames**

Many surnames appear only once or twice in the database, and others occur in a very limited number of forms. For some surnames, however, Idealist's synonym facility is invaluable in that it allows variant forms to be grouped together and searched for merely by typing the keyword. Those which have been created are listed in a subsequent section of the manual along with the other synonyms.

The surnames chosen for synonyms are those which

- are common,
- have many different forms,
- have been required for particular purposes by those working on the database.
Further synonyms can, of course, easily be created by individuals for their own purposes provided that they are using the Idealist software.

The synonym keywords are a modern (or otherwise well-attested) form of the name, preceded by x-, e.g. x-theiwall, x-goích. The x- is used so that instances which happen to be identical in form to the agreed standard can be searched for in isolation if necessary. The keywords and the forms which comprise the synonym are both listed in alphabetical order.

'Wildcards' have been used in many of the synonyms, and it is possible that on occasion these have been employed too enthusiastically and that searches will, therefore, produce a number of unwanted records. If this proves a difficulty, we would suggest that users consult the cumulative index under the surname in question and amend the synonym list accordingly.

The following should be noted:

- Some of the synonyms combine equivalent surnames in different languages, even where these are not combined in the cumulative index for instance x-butcher, x-eurych, x-miller, x-wood. Some possible (though not certain) equivalents are also included, such as Cutton under x-cwta, and Llwydwyn is treated (from the standpoint of the synonyms) as a variant of Llwydyn.
- Where the surname happens also to be a Welsh place-name, e.g. x-bachgern or x-seddio, it should be remembered that the forms given are only those used in surnames, not those used solely in the context of a place-name.
- In some cases, it is impracticable to make distinctions in the synonym list even though more than one surname is referred to, because of the similarity of forms. This is particularly so with x-mon, which covers both Mon and Moon, and with x-brych, which embraces both Brych and Breth. In other instances, the synonyms are kept distinct even though there is some overlap of forms. Examples include x-mayn and x-min, and x-crych and x-cryg.
- The synonyms x-cyw and x-llygad include surnames derived from those words.
- Some potential synonyms cannot be created, at least without very extensive 'tagging' these include surnames which are spelt in the same way as officials who are frequently mentioned in the court rolls, such as Forester and Hayward, and names such as Prison.

Conclusion

This brief introduction to the surnames in the database has aimed to indicate how the names in the court rolls have been transferred to the database, and how users might access the information, it has also attempted to identify some of the problems encountered during the course of the project. It should be reiterated that the rolls are a rich source for the study of surnames, but it must be remembered also that a general understanding of naming-patterns is essential for any research using the database which requires the identification of particular persons.
PLACE-NAMES

Introduction

The Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls contain many place-names. Some refer to locations outside the lordship, both within and outside Wales, some places overseas are also referred to, usually in the context of military campaigns in the Hundred Years War. Most of the places outside Dyffryn Clwyd which are mentioned in the rolls are well known, and the forms of the names are probably of fairly limited interest. In the case of places within the lordship, however, the situation is very different. Many of the names relate to small local features, both topographical and administrative, and a large number of forms are found for many of the vills, parks and forests in particular. Less frequent references are also made to fields, tenements, pasture-lands, watercourses, roads and paths, and (within Ruthin town) streets. Within the courts calendared for the database, well over 650 different place-names have been traced, of which a little over 200 are, or are considered likely to be, outside Dyffryn Clwyd. This leaves around 450 place-names within the lordship (not by any means all of them identifiable from modern maps), with a total of thousands of forms.

Because most of the place-names comprise a single word, the computer can handle searches for them with greater facility than in the case of the multiple elements of personal names. Idealist’s synonym facility is a very valuable tool in that it enables the various forms of particular names to be grouped together under a keyword and searched for in a single operation. Finding all references to a particular location is, therefore, straightforward. Moreover, a full cumulative index of all the place-names in the database, with references to the individual files in which the names appear, has been compiled, both as an aid to searching the database and as a resource for research in its own right.

Standardisation

The project followed the normal modern convention of retaining most place-names in their manuscript form on their being entered into the calendar. Some exceptions, however, had to be made, largely in order to make the working of the database as effective as possible. The main exceptions are:

- names of commotes and other units of jurisdiction within Dyffryn Clwyd (which is itself abbreviated as DC). Aberchwiler, Clocaenog, Colion, Dogfeiling, Llannerch, Ruthin, Trefor. These names are standardised even where an entity other than the jurisdictional unit is referred to, for instance ‘mill of Aberchwiler’. This leads to the anomaly that ‘park of Clocaenog’ is standardised but ‘park of Bathafarn’ is not, but the limit placed on modernisation seemed the most sensible one. Note, however, that a place-name element within a surname is not standardised, hence ‘X de Clock’ but ‘X, lord’s bondman of Clocaenog’. Very unusual forms of the standardised place-names are noted.

- names of some neighbouring lordships and other important places, such as Yale, Denbigh, Flint. The policy has not been consistent, and some comparable places such as Edermon and Arudwv have not been standardised.

- most Latin place-names such as Anglia, also Cestria and Salop’, but a rare name or unusual form is noted in round brackets. Ruthin street names are modernised if in Latin but left unaltered if in English; hence vicus molendini is rendered Mill Street, but le Mulnestrete is left unaltered. The spellings of Marog in the street of that name are not modernised.

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Problems

Various problems have arisen with the place-names. In particular, it has been difficult to decide exactly what should constitute a place-name from the standpoint of the lists which have been made for each file and of the cumulative index, and even more difficult to apply the policy with absolute consistency.

All 'true' place-names have been included on the lists, even those outside Wales and such names as Gascony, Scotland and England. This is for the sake of completeness. But many names of individual people also contain a place-name element. It might have seemed appropriate, and certainly simpler, to have listed these only among the surnames, but it is quite clear that many of the Welsh place-names (both within and outside Dyffryn Clwyd) which are appended to personal names are little more than administrative tags used to identify the vill or lordship from which the person originated, to all intents and purposes these are place-names. It was, therefore, decided to include on the lists of place-names elements of personal names which could be identified as place-names within Wales, or seemed likely to be place-names within Wales. Locative surnames referring to places outside Wales are not included, because most of these appear to have been passed from one generation of a family to the next. It is likely that the original settlers with such names did come from the place referred to, but this was a minefield into which the project team could not afford to venture when compiling the list of place-names.

It is accepted that some place-names within Wales which were used as surnames may have slipped through the net, especially those not preceded by de and places in, for instance, Flintshire which appear at first sight to be English. All are, of course, listed among the surnames in any case, as are all the English locative surnames. The same is true of Welsh topographic surnames such as Coed (wood), Carreg (rock) and Llys (court). Here too, however, there is some blurring round the edges, especially when a place within Dyffryn Clwyd happens to be called, for example, Gelli (grove) or Bulch (pass), thereby making it difficult to say whether a particular form was used topographically or toponymically. It is hoped that experts in onomastics will fully appreciate these difficulties, and use the lists of surnames and place-names in conjunction with each other.

Some Welsh place-names came to be used as inherited surnames by English settlers, such as Bachgern and Ceddo. Occasionally a Welsh family seems to have used a place-name in this way, for instance, Cilan. These surnames have been included within the place-name lists as well. So have surnames like Ceri and Powys, drawn from places which never appear as true place-names in the rolls calendared, but it must be understood that (within the context of the court rolls) these names are of similar status to, say, Aspull or Blakeney, which are not included among the place-names because they relate to places in England.

Latin place-names have raised occasional problems, especially when a place is referred to (at different times) both by an English or Welsh name and by a Latin phrase which, when translated, does not resemble a place-name at all. As the project has developed, those working on it have been able to identify Latin place-names and include them with their vernacular forms on the lists which have been made. Some, however, will inevitably have been missed, especially in the early stages of the project. Melyn Neuwyth, for instance, has been deemed a place-name, but the Latin novum molendinum (which is translated as new mill) hardly looked distinctive at the outset. Attempts have subsequently been made to include within the lists of place-names translations from the Latin in cases such as this, these names are described as being 'standardised when translated from Latin', but otherwise have been left in the manuscript form. One major exception to this general policy must, however, be noted. There was an area within the jurisdiction of Ruthin town called 'the Birches'. It is likely (though not usually provable) that events and offences in bulis (translated as in the birches) usually refer to this area, but because the phrase is so vague only the English forms of the name have been recorded.

One of the few problems with Welsh place-names concerns possible confusion between the abbreviation for the commune of Llanrnerch and that for the parish of Llanfair Llann' and Llanu' (and Lann' and Lanu') are indistinguishable in the rolls, and are fairly common, moreover, there
may have been a township called 'Llannerch' as well. Originally it was thought that forms of 'Llanfair' would include -i or -ey, but this proved a false hope. Not only is the parish sometimes referred to as Lanu', the name of the commote is sometimes given as Lanneyr and the like. Where there is confusion, the abbreviation has usually been included, thereby allowing users to judge whether the final character should be treated as an n or a u.

As for the identification of place-names, those working on the project have done what they can within the constraints of time imposed on them by the availability of funding and by the fact that the study of place-names for their own sake was not one of the primary purposes of the project. Recourse was had to the following:


The 125,000 Ordnance Survey maps (of which the edition of the 1950s was generally more useful than the more recent revision),

Personal observation (especially in the case of Coed-y-foel) and the comments of others with detailed local knowledge.

Not all these authorities agree on the forms of names, but in general one form was taken as the modern equivalent for the purposes of the lists from individual files and the cumulative index. It should be noted that not all the places marked on the maps in the TDHS can in fact be located precisely.

The lists for each file

After the completion of each file within the database, a list of place-names appearing within it was made. These lists are presented in the file called Names in alphabetical order of the modern form, where known, with the manuscript forms in brackets. Unidentified place-names are also given in brackets within the alphabetical sequence, with the addition (after a colon) of any information which helps to pinpoint the place referred to. Names which have been fully standardised also appear, with any unusual forms which have been retained within the database included after a dash. Place-name surnames (as defined above) follow the forms of 'true' place-names within each entry, and can usually be identified by de or del (although del can also appear in forms of 'true' place-names, for instance where the concept 'from le Vaynol' is rendered in the manuscript as 'del Vaynol'). If a surname is included which would not otherwise be identified as such, the note '[as surname]' has been added. Locative surnames deriving from names which have been standardised are given following a dash, if they appear in brackets after the standardised form, this shows that the standardised form does not appear within the file in question. So, for instance:

Yale - de Yal means that the standardised place-name Yale appears in the file, and also a personal-name element de Yal, -

Yale (de Yal) means that de Yal appears as an element in a personal name, but the place-name Yale as such does not appear in the file

In the case of Ruthun, a number of lines have been used so that each street or part of the town (such as New borough and Town End) can be accorded a separate line. Standardised forms (where translated from Latin) are included along with vernacular forms, if any. If the vernacular forms follow a dash, then the standardised form is also be found in that file, if they are in brackets after the standardised form, then the standardised form does not appear.

It was inevitable that, as the project developed and more place-names were identified and locative surnames either confirmed as being Welsh or deemed not to be Welsh, the lists came to be out of kilter and to contain a number of discrepancies and idiosyncrasies. In addition, the researchers who drew up the original lists had different methods and put the place-names in
slightly different formats. However, at the end of the project, when the cumulative index was being compiled, the opportunity was taken to standardise the lists in accordance with the conventions outlined above. But it must also be admitted that changes and corrections to the original files have sometimes necessitated changes to the lists of names, and the high level of concentration required to note down and then make these amendments has inevitably led to a certain degree of error, especially when locative surnames have had to be changed on both the place-name lists and the surname lists. Some of these errors have been noticed and rectified, others probably have not. It is hoped that such errors are not numerous, but anyone who is even slightly aware of the exceptional efficiency required to keep computerised lists (of any sort) accurate and consistent will appreciate that considerable organisational skills were required every time a change was made to a name in the original files.

The cumulative index of place-names

To some extent, the lists of place-names for individual files have been superseded by the creation of the cumulative index for the whole database (the file called PNS). The index aims to include all the forms of place-names in the individual lists, including names which are only partly legible provided that these can be identified with a particular place with some degree of confidence. A few other fragments are included too, but not hopelessly vague ones such as B or truncated Llan forms in various spellings. These were deemed to be useless for index purposes and, moreover, were not always noted during the compilation of the lists of names in individual files. Where they were noted, they remain on the earlier lists but not in PNS.

The record structure of PNS within Idealist is as follows:

Name
lemma=
forms=
comments=
exra=

The records give the modern form of the name (if known) or another form (see below), the various forms found in the manuscripts (with file number, the files being listed in roughly chronological order), some explanatory notes, and an indication of whether the name was standardised as a matter of course or standardised on translation from Latin. A number of illustrative examples are presented below in the Appendix, and the following notes should be read in conjunction with them.

The modern form of the name is used in the 'lemma' field where possible. If two or more modern forms have been found, one has been selected, without any particular preference being shown to any single authority. Place-names on the maps in the TDRS, but not otherwise located, are given the forms which appear there. Ruthin street names, and also New borough and Town End, are given separate records, which appear after the general Ruthin entry. Those not found in any of the sources listed above are marked with an asterisk, and in the main have been left in one of their manuscript spellings. A few exceptions to this include some names starting in Cae (field), Tir (land), Erw (acre) or Tyddyn (cottage), especially when this element is followed by a personal name which can be standardised in line with the project's conventions. The idea behind this decision was to present all names beginning with these fairly common elements consecutively in the alphabetical sequence, but the researcher responsible for PNS (Dr Barrell) did not consider himself to be sufficiently qualified in Celtic philology to make more than a very partial, and probably error-strewn, attempt to create a modern Welsh form of these names. It is hoped, however, that what has been done may be helpful, or at least not unduly unhelpful, to those working on the corpus of place-names in the database. One or two names which arose during the course of the first project, such as Cefnlechesfa, were given a modern form by Dr Padel, who is qualified to do so, and these forms have been retained in the 'lemma' field. The file has been sorted so that words in the 'lemma' field are in alphabetical order, although our concept of alphabetical order is not entirely shared by the computer.

Within each record, the forms are listed basically in alphabetical order, with fragmentary forms.
within the sequence Place-name surnames (as defined above) are, however, listed separately after the 'true' place-names. This is because in some cases (as with Ceri, cited above), there may be some doubts as to whether the name should be included in these lists at all. Very occasionally, a subsidiary place-name, not found on any maps in its own right and clearly closely connected with a more frequently attested place-name, is given at the end of the record, so that in some cases there are three elements to the 'forms' field, with a blank line between them. An example is Bacheling, given below, containing 'true' place-names, locative surnames, and the forms Bagheurskesfeld and Baghurygesfeld, which are presumably closely connected with this vill. If the name in question appears only as a surname and never as a place-name in its own right, a blank line is left at the top of the record.

Where the place-name is standardised, or put in standard form on translation from Latin, the 'forms' field is arranged slightly differently, with the standardised form (or forms) placed first, followed by interesting variants of the place-name, then by locative surnames. A blank line is left between each element, with two blank lines if only the standardised form and place-name surnames appear. In the case of mills, Ruthin streets and other names which sometimes appear in Latin, the Latin wording has sometimes been retained in the calendar along with the translation, if so, and if these forms were noted in the lists of place-names for individual files (which we have endeavoured to do), then the Latin form appears along with the vernacular spellings in the second section. These conventions are illustrated below under Llanerch, Melin-y-wern, and Ruthin Mill street. Names which have been standardised, in whole or in part, are indicated by a note in the 'extra' field.

A number of supplementary notes and observations have been added, mainly in the 'comments' field. These should not be seen as comprehensive, merely as notes which will hopefully be of assistance both to users of the database and to those working on the names themselves.

In the case of places which are known to be outside Dyffryn Clwyd, the note ex-DC is added in the 'comments' field. Places which are likely to fall into the same category, but have not been precisely identified, are annotated possibly ex-DC. Many of the latter appear only as locative surnames, and sometimes we have indicated that the person bearing the name appears to be of Welsh origin. Places in England or overseas are marked as such, and where a place appears almost incidentally (such as Salisbury, which occurs only in the context of its earl) a note is added to that effect. In the case of identifiable place-names outside Dyffryn Clwyd, the modern (pre-1974) county is given in the 'lemma' field, with an occasional note in the 'comments' field if the place is fairly obscure, for instance if it is a vill (township) in a parish just outside Dyffryn Clwyd. In the case of lordships and other major administrative units, such information as is given, that the name refers to a cantref or commote, for example, is meant to indicate solely the type of unit in question and give some rough idea of its size, it does not necessarily imply that the unit is so described in the court rolls. The history of many of these entities was extremely complicated, particularly in the age of English conquest, and Melville Richards' Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units and works on the history of Wales should be consulted where appropriate. Units which are referred to in the rolls by both their Welsh and English forms, such as Tegingl/Englefield and Ystrad Alun/Moldsdale, are usually listed under the Welsh form. It should be noted that, while in the case of Welsh place-names locative surnames are listed as well as 'true' place-names (see below under Gwyddelwern), this is not the case with English place-names such as Oswestry.

For places within Dyffryn Clwyd, an indication is given in the 'comments' field if the place in question was, or is sometimes described as:

- a commote or administrative unit,
- a parish church or other ecclesiastical unit,
- a vill,
- a park or forest,
- a mill, including references to fulling mills where found.
Some places fall into several categories, for instance Llan-rhudd below, and it should not be assumed that these places were invariably, or indeed regularly, described in these ways, merely that they sometimes were. In the case of vills and parks (which should have been quite well defined), a note is sometimes added if the designation was rare, especially if it was rare in the context of the number of times the place-name appears, so as to hint at the possibility of scribal error or inconsistency. The words used in the 'comments' field are of course searchable within Idealist, and this facility might well be of considerable value provided that users bear in mind the qualifications made in this paragraph. In the case of vills, and usually of forests and parks, the commote or administrative unit in which the place lay is indicated, usually in abbreviated form Aber, Cloc, Col, Dog, Llan, Ruth.

Ordnance Survey map references are provided for places within Dyffryn Clwyd wherever possible. Where, for instance, a vill such as Ystrad is not given such a reference, this implies that it has not been found on a modern map. Occasionally, as in the case of 'Bronvelys', a note is added to indicate a possible, if rather unlikely, identification. Where a surname is included on the basis that there was a place so called in Dyffryn Clwyd, but where the name could be topographic rather than toponymic, a note draws attention to this. Places which have not been located are identified by commote and/or vill where the evidence of the manuscript permits it.

The following abbreviations are used for works cited in the 'comments' field:

Mer LSR
The Merloneth Lay Subsidy Roll, 1292-3, ed K. Williams-Jones (Cardiff, 1976)

Richards, Units
M. Richards, Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units (Cardiff, 1969)

TDHS
Transactions of the Denbighshire Historical Society

Synonyms

The synonym facility within Idealist is an invaluable tool when searching for particular place-names, especially those with a large number of forms. The facility has been used in the case of most of the vills and other major place-names within the lordship (though not those which are usually standardised), and neighbouring places which occur in the court rolls fairly frequently. The keyword is the modern spelling (as in PNS), preceded by y-, for instance y-bancar, y-llangynhafal. This is so that medieval spellings which happen to coincide with the modern form can be searched for independently, though such spellings are extremely rare. It should be noted that, unlike the synonyms of surnames, place-name synonyms include forms both of 'true' place-names and of place-names used as surnames.

Wildcards have been used where possible, especially because in the case of some names a full list of all the forms would have exceeded the parameters of the synonym list within Idealist. It is accepted that some searches may, therefore, bring up unwanted records, this is particularly so in the case of place-names with somewhat similar forms, but it is hoped that these inconveniences have been minimised as much as possible. Fragmentary names which are not distinctive in their own right have been 'tagged' with a fuller form in square brackets, preferably one occurring elsewhere in the same file if possible. A few very unusual spellings have been tagged too, if searching for them using synonyms would otherwise have been impracticable, this includes some place-names which occasionally appear as two distinct words, e.g. Yagh Cloyd, Les Lanner. These tags are not noted in the file PNS.

The following particular points should be noted:

- It is impossible to make a clear distinction in synonyms between forms of Derwen (Cohon) and Derwen-lnannerch (Lnannerch), and so searches on either will inevitably produce some records relating to the other.
• The synonym y-llanfwrog also contains all references to Mwrog street in Ruthin town, because the overlap of forms is almost total.

Conclusion

This brief introduction to the place-names in the database has aimed to indicate what material is available and how users might access the information, it has also attempted to show what methodology has been employed and why, and to identify some of the problems encountered during the course of the project. It may be reiterated that the court rolls are rich in names of places, especially those which were situated within the boundaries of the lordship, and that the database has made these names (in all their many spellings) available and readily accessible to researchers in a format which is very simple to use. It is, therefore, hoped that the database as a whole, and the cumulative index in particular, will be of value to specialists in the place-names of medieval Wales.
APPENDIX

Illustrative examples

Bacheurk
- Bacher L3
Bacheurk G3, L4, G4, L5, G5, E
Bacheurk' G4
Bacheuryk 7, L2
Bachuruk 12
Bachurk L4
Bagewruk G3
Bagh L3
Bagheurg L1
Bagheuerk G1, 1
Bagheur' L1, REN, 5, 8, 12, L2
Bagheur G1, L3
Bagheurk L1
Bagheryk G5, B
Bagheuryk L1, G1, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, L2, G3, L4, G4, C, E
Bagheuryk L1, REN, 7
Baghew L3
Bagheurk G1, 9, L3, G3
Bagheurk G1
Bagheryk' G7
Baghuryk L7
Baghuryk L7, G7
Baheuryk L5
Baheuryk L1, REN
Bathewruk 1
Barthewruk G5
Batheurygh G3
Batheu G1
Batheuryk G4
Betheurk 10, 11, 12, L2, G3, G4, G5
Batheuryk G1, 11
Baughuryk L7
Bauheryk L5
Bauheuryk L5
Maceiverk 6, 7, 8, G3
Macgewruk 6, L2
Magheurgh G3
Magheurk 6, L3, G3, C
Maheurk G1
Maugheurk E

de Bagheuryk' 1
de Bagheur' G1
de Bagheurk L1
de Baghewruk L1

d de Baghhegerth G1
de Baheurc L1
de Baughar' G3
de Machend G1
Bagheurkesfeld E
Baghurygesfeld L7
SJ/1557 vill Llan
Brenhowel*
- Berne Houell L5
Brenhouell 11, L2, L3
Brenhouell L5
Brenhowe L1, 4, 5, L2
Bren Howel L1
Brenhowe L3, L5
le Brenne L5
Brennehouell L5
Brenne Houell L5
Brennewel 4, L2
Brenhouell L5
Brenhowel 5, 9, L2
Brunuell' L4
Brennewel 5, L2
Brynhouell L5
Brynnyehouell L5, B, E
Vrennewel L1
- forest Llan
Bronvelys*
- Bronnewelys L4
Bronuels L4
Bronvelys L4
Bronveleis L4
Bron VelLes L4
Bronvelys L3, L4
Bron Velys L4
Bronvelys L4
-
The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422: a manual for users

forest Llan CF Fron-felus at SJ/1154, although this place is situated in Col

Cefnllechesfa
- Keuenleghesua 1
Keuenkethlessewa HERB
Keuenkethlesssua HERB
Keuenleghesua 12
Keuenleghesva G
Keuenleeghesva G
Keuentheesseua 8
Keuentheesfa 1
Keuentheeswayth 1
Kevenlleghesva G

de Keuenleghesua 1
de Keuenleghassa 1
de Keuenleghesva G
-
pasture Col
-

Gwyddelwern (Merionethshire)
-
Gothelowern 7, L2
Gothelwern L1
Gouthelwer G1
Goyth 8
Goythelwern D, E
Goythluern 8, L2
Wythelwern 5

de Golythelwern G1
de Golythelwern G1
de Golythelwern' G1
de Golythelwern E
-
ex-DC church
-

Llanherth
- Llanherth 1, L2
Lannair L5, G5
Lannair L5
Lanneyr 5, 6, 7, L2, L3, G3
Thlanner L1

de Lanner G1
de Lannergh B
de Lannergh B, C, D, L7
-
commote, forest, mill
-
standardised

Llan-rhudd
- Lannarth 10
Lannarosl 7
Lanreth G1
Lanruth L1, G1, R, REN, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, G3, HERB, G4, G5, B
Llanruth' G7
Llanreth 2, 3, 4
Llanruth 2, B, C, D, L7, G7

de Lannruth 12
Lannrath G1
de Lanreth L1, G1
de Lannruth G1
de Lanruht 1

de Lannruth L1, G1, R, 6, G3, L4, L5, G5, B, E
de Llanreth' G7
de Llanruth B, C, D, E, F, G, H, L7, G7
de Llanruhtn D
-
SJ/1457 church (appropriated to priory of Ruthin in 1310), vill Ruth (= Maerdref), mill (including fulling)
-

Melin-y-wern
-
lord's mill of the moor 12
mill of the moor G1, 5, 6, 7, 11, L3

Melynwern' H
molend' de mora 5, 7, 11
Mora 2, G3, G5
le Mora G1

71
More L7
del More Mulle 7
le Moremulne D
del Moremulne D, H
le Mormell' REN
Mormull 4, 8
de Mormull 8
Sj/1260 mill Dog (including fulling)
standardised when translated from Latin

Oswestry (Shropshire)

Osewaldestre L1
Oswalstre D
Oswastre D
Oswostre G1
ex-DC (England)

Rodeway*

Rodeway G1
le Rodeway L1
le Rodway L4

Bulgh Rodewicth L7

in Derwen-lannerch, near Llysfas

Ruthun Mill street

Mill street R, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, B, D, G7

le Milnestre R
Mullestret 3
le Mulnesr' REN
le Mulnestre' REN
le Milnestrete REN, 11, D

street Ruth

standardised when translated from Latin

de En G1
de Engelfel G1
de Engelfeld G1, 3, 4, 6, L2
de Engelf G1
de Engelfeld G1, R, 3, 5
de Engylfild G3
de Ingelfeld 2
de Inglefeld 3
de Tedengle G4
de Tegekenle B
de Tenggel L1, G1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 12
Tegengell' G1
ap Tengell L3
de Tengell 9, G3, G4
de Tengel G1, 12
Tegengle G4, B, D, G, H, L7, G7
ap Tengel L3, G3
de Tengel G1, R, 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, L2, C, D, H
de Tengul G3, L4, G4, G5
Tengull' G4
de Tengull' G4
de Tegingl B
de Tegingul 5, G5
de Tegyngl B
de Tegyngyl B
ex-DC cantref, mill

Tegengel [Englefield]

Egelfeld G1
Enge G1
Engelfeld G1, 1, 3
Enggelfeld 7
Engelfeld G1, 1, 5
Engylfide G3
Ingelfeld 1
Inglefeld 1, 2, 3
T 12
Teg G5
Tegengel L1, G1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12
Tegengell 7, 9, 10, 11, G3
Tegengel' G1
Tegengle G1, 7, 10, 11, 12, G3, G4, G5, B, C
Tegengul 2
Tegungul G3, G4, G5
Tegungul B
Tegungul G1
Tekengie 12
Tegengel L1, G1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12
Tegengell 7, 9, 10, 11, G3
Tegengel' G1
Tegengle G1, 7, 10, 11, 12, G3, G4, G5, B, C
Tegengul 2
Tegungul G3, G4, G5
Tegungul B
Tegungul G1
Tekengie 12

Ystrad
- Astrat G3, 5
  Astrath 4, 6, 7
  Astret 1, 2, 5
  Astret' G1
  Est 9
  Estrath 7
  Estrah G3
  Estrahat G1
  Estrah G1, 5, 9
  Estrat G1, R, REN, 2, 7, 8, 11, 12, G3, G4, G5, C
  Estrate G7
  Estrath G1, 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, G3
  Estrad 4
  Istrad G5, B

\[\text{de Astrat G1, 5}
\text{de Astrath 9}
\text{de Astrad G1, 1, 2, 3, 4}
\text{de Astret G1}
\text{de Estrath 6, 9}
\text{Estrat G1}
\text{de Estrat G1, R, 2, 9, 10, 12, L2, L4, C, G}
\text{de Estrath 9}
\text{de Istrad C, [H]}
\text{-}
\text{vill Aber}
\text{-}
The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422 a manual for users

THE TEXT

Introduction

Most of the substance of the court rolls is to be found in the 'text' field of each record. It is not surprising that the greatest challenges to the project team lay in transferring the Latin of the court rolls into the English of the calendar, in ways which were both consistent and readily searchable within Idealist. The fact that the calendar had to be machine-readable, and the desirability of having each computer record self-contained, inevitably caused some distortion. It was the duty of the research assistants to minimise this distortion, and to facilitate searching without mangle the original text in a misleading or inappropriate fashion. This section of the manual aims to explain the fundamental principles behind the creation of the 'text' field, and to outline some of the difficulties which arose. It cannot cover every difficulty, for such would be a task commensurate with creating the database itself, nor can it be especially systematic. It is, however, hoped that, by reading it, users will at least be aware of some of the idiosyncrasies both of the original rolls and the calendar.

Use of earlier editions and transcripts

The project team was keen to make the maximum possible use of earlier efforts to edit or transcribe the court rolls and other records relating to Dyffryn Clwyd. However, because the rolls are so long, and doubtless also because of their physical unattractiveness, few attempts have ever been made to transcribe or calendar them in extenso. A few scholars, including the project directors, have made voluminous notes from the court rolls, but these have been for particular purposes and do not constitute a full summary even of parts of the original manuscripts.

The only published edition of any of the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls is

The Court Rolls of the Lordship of Ruthin or Dyffryn-Clwydd of the Reign of King Edward the First, ed R A Roberts (Cymrodon Record Series, 1893)

However, despite its title, it does not include all the surviving rolls dating from Edward I's reign. In particular, it omits any reference to SC2/215/69, dating from 1306-7. Moreover, only the first two rolls are edited in full, along with a facing translation. Thereafter, Roberts provides merely a brief and selective commentary on the next three rolls, as though he had tired of the enterprise. One can appreciate why this may have been so, but the result is that only the first two rolls are edited in a form which was potentially of more than passing interest to the project team.

While the lengthy introduction to Roberts' edition cannot be relied upon in all particulars, little fault can be found with his efforts on the first roll, containing the courts of Llannerch for 1294-5. The second roll, of Ruthin courts, has not been examined in detail, but must be presumed to be equally reliable. Although the Llannerch courts were calendared for the project directly from the original text, there is reason to suppose that the manuscripts have deteriorated since Roberts' time, some of his readings were, therefore, extremely valuable, and due acknowledgement is given in the calendar where appropriate.

There exists also a transcript of the roll for 1349-50 (SC2/218/1), comprising 347 large manuscript pages, along with a second attempt (13 pages, freshly numbered) at part of the roll of fines. The work was undertaken by W Boyd, who in November 1895 received a little under four guineas for his efforts.

Because of delays in receiving the films of the court rolls, and because (at least at the outset of the project) the copper-plate handwriting of Boyd was deemed to be easier to read than the fourteenth-century hands of the originals, the transcript was used for the creation of Roll 10, with both research assistants taking a hand in
the early stages. The transcript is by no means perfect; occasional words are omitted, and at least one long and important land transaction was totally missed, and the unfamiliar personal and place-names caused some difficulty for the transcriber. Substantial differences between the two versions of the fines cause some concern, although it must be admitted that this is not the most legible part of the roll. However, even though some of the names in particular were checked against the original when the film arrived, the calendar for Roll 10 is still based largely on Boyd's transcript. It would have been desirable to have collated it with the film, but time did not permit this to be done with any degree of completeness, and the fact that Boyd painted gall on many of the less legible parts of several membranes means that his word is the last we have on some of the murkier recesses of the roll in question. The calendar includes the page numbers of the transcript as well as the references to the membranes of the original manuscript; the page numbers are to be found in the 'reference' field within square brackets, with both included for those entries where Boyd made more than one attempt. Although some notes have been added to the calendar to indicate departures from Boyd's transcript, these are by no means comprehensive; many errors, particularly those of orthography, have been silently corrected. Notes that the manuscript is now illegible are not comprehensive either, but they have been added to some records, especially where Boyd's version seems unlikely to be correct.

Editions of other documents relating to Dyffryn Clwyd were, of course, consulted, but only the 1324 Rental has been included within the database. It was edited by R I Jack in the Transactions of the Denbighshire Historical Society for 1968, from the original in a PRO box numbered Wales 15/8, which includes other documents relating to Ruthin, of eighteenth-century date.

The rental is problematic. The names are listed in an order which is not immediately comprehensible, and which has been changed by Jack, who inserted what he considered to be interpolations in the place he felt was most suitable. Although he explains his methods (pp 9-10), the change in the order of the membranes has not improved the edition. Nor have what appear to be a number of errors of transcription (e.g. Prout (p. 30) for the more likely Franc) and the extraordinary decision to reject the manuscript spelling Clowyth (i.e. Clochydd) and replace it by Chwth (p. 50), although Chwth is the correct modern spelling, albeit not for the word in question, it is not a fourteenth-century form, and Jack was quite unjustified in tampering with the material in this way.

The database of the rental was created by Dr Michael Brown using the following record structure:

- Michael
- ref = number
- number
- heading = date
- date
- property =
- terms =
- rent =
- misc =
- extra =

It is based on Jack's text, although with obvious errors of orthography corrected and a few notes added in doubtful cases. It was hoped that Dr Brown would be able to travel to the PRO to view the original, but in the event this was not possible. It would have been particularly desirable to check Jack's text, and especially to determine the nature and length of the omissions indicated by him. Some individuals who almost certainly held land in 1324 are omitted from the version we now have, and it would have been useful to know whether they could have been written in a place where there is now a hiatus. Without going into detail, it is likely that the version we have is a draft, which would explain some of its sudden changes of direction and the inclusion of the text of five documents (in French) relating to the parkers of Clocaenog.

**Basic conventions**

Dots of omission imply that a word or words are lost or illegible, or (occasionally) that the meaning of a word is unknown, in the latter case the mysterious word will follow in round brackets. Where possible, however, the omission is
supplied in square brackets (see below). Dots of omission are also used where it is possible (though not certain) that something is lost or illegible. Some of the illegible material may be recoverable from the original manuscript, but in the main the project team has worked from microfilms. Visits to the PRO in the early stages of the project suggested that little was likely to be gained from perusal of the originals other than a few amercements and some additions to items which would still have been incomplete and perplexing. But the manuscript itself might yield some additional information, and those with a particular interest in specific items should bear this in mind.

Round brackets are used for the insertion of original material from the court rolls into the text of the computer record, including the Latin wording, or the vernacular form of certain words and phrases which have also been translated, and the form of unusual Christian names.

Square brackets are used to supply words, phrases, and names which are partly or wholly illegible or lost, or which have been obviously omitted by the scribe. In some parts of the calendar a distinction is made between the two by the insertion of dots of omission before the material in square brackets in cases of loss or illegibility. However, this is messy where only part of the lost portion can be supplied, and in the main the distinction has not been made. It is relatively rare for scribes to omit material so obviously as to make supplying it justifiable, and so the scribal error has usually been preserved. Normally, therefore, material in square brackets has been supplied by the research assistants either from their knowledge of common form or from other items relating to the same case. Some records created very early in the project contain square brackets in cases where round brackets would later have been used, but these should be readily identifiable from the context, since in most instances Latin words appear within the brackets.

Square brackets are also used for editorial additions, such as notes on the text or date, cross-references, different forms of names, and material inserted to expedite searching. Sic is used in square brackets where appropriate, especially where a name changes, presumably erroneously, during the course of a particular case.

Question marks are frequently found in the database, although as the project developed an attempt was made to eliminate them as much as possible. This was because they had various different implications, being used on occasion to indicate that the reading of a word (usually a name) was doubtful, that the exact spelling of a word (again usually a name) was doubtful, but the identity of the individual or meaning of the word was not, that a translation was in doubt even though the reading was clear, that the Latin made no sense, or that the concept conveyed by the Latin seemed unlikely in practice. These implied different types, and different degrees, of doubt, and where possible the question mark has been replaced by an editorial comment detailing the nature of the query, by the addition of sic, or by quotation of the Latin. Question marks have, however, been retained where the reading itself is dubious.

Occasionally a computer record is used to indicate that a section of the manuscript is illegible or so badly damaged that it cannot be calendared. On other occasions a note to this effect is added to an adjacent record, or an indication given that a line or lines of text may exist but cannot be deciphered, the doubt is sometimes caused by text on the other side of the membrane showing through, and sometimes by the poor state of the manuscript. No attempt is made, other than in the most exceptional cases, to create records for material which was probably dealt with in a court or part of a court for which the roll no longer survives, and the database in itself does not record which rolls are damaged or defective, nor which are missing. The PRO list gives some general information, albeit briefly, and the 'courts' files indicate, if only by implication, the sittings for which the records are no longer extant.

Language

Like most medieval documents, especially legal documents, the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls are written almost exclusively in Latin. Only occasionally do English or Welsh vernacular
words appear, usually for domestic or agricultural utensils, types of animal or tree, or as technical terms of law or procedure for which no Latin equivalent was available. Needless to say, the Latin is hardly Ciceroan. It is full of grammatical errors, many of them rather basic, and has a very different vocabulary from that which will be familiar to those conversant with classical Latin. Most of the words can be found in the Revised Medieval Latin Word-List or in the Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources, but the spellings are often confusing and some words found in the Dyffryn Clwyd rolls appear not to be attested elsewhere. Most words in the latter category arise where a Welsh or English term is Latinized, often in clumsy fashion, there are also instances where a scribe, ignorant of the correct Latin word for the meaning he wished to convey, apparently invented a suitably Latin-like word.

Occasional documents in Anglo-Norman French also appear. They are usually petitions addressed to the lord which were sewn into the court rolls and happen to have survived. Occasionally the grant of an office or of the farm of a demesne is reproduced in French in the body of the court rolls, but these are very rare. Some of the French documents have been transcribed in full, and these transcripts are given elsewhere in this manual. They are of considerable linguistic interest, especially where terms of Welsh law were translated into Anglo-Norman. The existence of a transcript is indicated in the calendar, but the fact that no transcript has been made does not necessarily imply that the French is of no interest. Some French items are, admittedly, fragmentary, but only a shortage of time prevented others from being transcribed.

Notwithstanding the language of the original rolls, the machine-readable calendar is, however, in English, because it is intended that the database should be exploitable by as many users as possible, including those now a regrettable large proportion of young historians who have not had the opportunity to become proficient in medieval Latin. There are, moreover, sound methodological reasons for abandoning Latin in favour of English. To have preserved the full Latin text would have been unacceptably laborious, because of the high level of abbreviation used by the scribes and the amount of damage incurred by parts of some membranes. It is often certain that a particular phrase is used, but impossible to be absolutely definite about its transcription. A decision would have had to be made as to whether to preserve the abbreviations and the original spellings (in all their varieties), or to standardize the spellings and extend the abbreviations. The former would have made the calendar only marginally more comprehensible than the original manuscripts, at least to those without extensive experience of medieval palaeography, the latter would have been extremely difficult in itself, and in the final analysis would have neither preserved the original text nor created a research tool which the majority of historians could have used easily. Searching, too, would have been problematic if Latin had been retained, because abbreviations would have been hard for the computer to handle, and we would also have had to surmount the hurdle imposed by differences in (particularly) the endings of words caused by the declension of nouns and adjectives and the conjugation of verbs.

A list of standardised translations was prepared from an early stage, to assist both in the calendaring process and in the future use of the database. Consistency in the treatment of words and phrases is obviously essential, and it is hoped that the list of standard forms will enable researchers who wish to do so to reconstitute the original Latin as much as possible. It also provides something of a dictionary of at least some of the more distinctive words and phrases found in the Dyffryn Clwyd rolls. However, it proved to be totally impossible to keep the list of translations up to date, without that task materially delaying the creation of the database itself. The list of translations should, therefore, be regarded as no more than an aid to using the database. The list itself, and further notes about its arrangement, are given in the Appendix. Wide variations in vocabulary are apparent even within relatively short periods, largely due to scribal idiosyncrasies, and, although every effort has been made to calendar in accordance with the conventions laid down, any attempt to draw firm conclusions from the use of particular words or phrases would be, in the opinion of the project team, extremely hazardous.

It soon became apparent that it would be necessary to include the Latin wording in certain cases, especially where
• a Latin word is used in an unusual context,
• the normal translation is unsuitable,
• the word or phrase is rare,
• the word or phrase is potentially ambiguous,
• the spelling of a word is particularly unusual,
• the grammar of a sentence is so strange as to cast doubt on the correctness of the translation

In these cases, the Latin is given in round brackets. As the project developed, the Latin was included with increasing frequency, in the hope of obviating as far as possible the need for researchers to examine the original manuscripts. A corollary of this was that the list of standardised translations ceased to be updated on more than a very occasional basis, because it was incomplete in any case; this was considered to be justified.

Sometimes a Latin word is given in a standardised spelling, usually the nominative singular of a noun or the present infinitive of a verb, on other occasions final abbreviations are extended so as to give, for instance, the full third person plural of a verb. Normally, however, the word or phrase is given exactly as in the original source, because those who are interested in the Latin wording are more likely to want an exact transcription than an editorial amendment. In these cases, an attempt has been made to provide sufficient of the sentence to explain the case of a noun or adjective or the tense or mood of a verb. In transcripts from Latin, v is usually given instead of consonantal u (in contrast to the treatment of names), even though u is indistinguishable from n in the hands used for the court rolls, but i is not changed to j in such words as sumentum. Simple abbreviations within words are usually extended where possible, and minims are transcribed in their most likely form, though without prejudice to them being constituted into a different series of letters.

The spelling of most English and Welsh vernacular words has been retained in round brackets or, where no modern equivalent is given, in inverted commas. Exceptions include Welsh legal terms, which have been standardised for searching purposes, although unusual spellings of such terms have been included in round brackets. The fairly common English word rendered as pundlayk (equivalent to pindold) has been standardised on that spelling, but with variants retained, where no variant is given, the form pundlayk can generally be assumed, although if the transcription is uncertain the standardised form is automatically given, and such occasions may not be detectable from the calendar. Vernacular forms are also given where possible for the officers called leave-lookers (the supervisors of the assize of meat).

Some technical words have been left in Welsh, although in a standardised spelling. These are mainly:
• terms of Welsh law such as amobr, galanas, tremyg and brwydr gytafawydd
• words connected with Welsh land transactions such as ebedw, gobrestyn and prid

Some words have been retained in Latin, likewise in a standardised form. These include:
• mis, a standardised abbreviation for misericordia, i.e. mercy. Offenders were usually in misericordia and therefore 'amerced' a certain amount. The amount is normally given only in the margin, but this is not specifically indicated in the calendar. Where the word amercamentum appears in discursive prose, it is translated as amercement, and the corresponding verb is treated similarly.
• pro eadem, de eadem, ibidem and the like, where used to indicate that the manuscript refers back to a preceding item. It has been the practice of the project to give the full information in each record, but to cite the Latin term where appropriate.
• within the context of Great Courts, ca or cap, usually written as an interlineation above the name of the offender, and short for caputur (let him be arrested). Similar annotations elsewhere in the rolls are sometimes treated in the same way.
**The nature of the court rolls**

The language and structure of the court rolls will be fundamentally familiar to anyone who has worked with comparable English manorial records. Having said that, however, there are considerable variations in scribal practice, such as to suggest that the scribes were not slavishly following a formulary. This is not to say that they had a totally free hand in deciding what to include in the official records of the court proceedings. Particularly in indictments in criminal cases, certain words and phrases were needed in certain contexts. Examples include *felonic* (feloniously), *furte* (furthely), *contra pacem* (in breach of the peace), *fregit* (broke into), and *vi et armis* (not translated in the calendar). All these and some similar words and phrases seem, in the context of the court rolls, to have a degree of precision about them, because they helped to determine the nature of the case. For instance, making a distinction between larceny, burglary and robbery, and (more fundamentally) between trespass and felony. This precision is less apparent in civil cases, where even the type of plea can change from one court to the next. Even with land transactions there is no clear-cut dividing line between *ingressus* (entry, or entry payment), *relevium* (relief), and *ebediw*, although generally English and Welsh dues are kept distinct. These differences of detail, although perhaps not significant in terms of meaning, are significant when the material is being approached through a database in which searching mechanisms are a vital analytical tool.
The writing of the record

The calendar cannot be used to full effect without some understanding of the way in which the court rolls were written. This is not the place to discuss the rolls as a source, nor how they developed over time, but a few remarks must be made as a preface to the sections on marginalia and interlineations, both of which were used by the scribes for particular administrative purposes. They refer particularly to commotial courts (including the town courts), some comments on interlineations in Great Courts are given below.

It is unlikely that the proceedings of the courts were inscribed on parchment contemporaneously with the sitting of the court, although presumably notes were made by officials or by scribes of what transpired. When these notes were written up cannot be determined. In view of the fact that a week of courts was usually followed by two or three weeks without any, it would be reasonable to suppose (though without any firm evidence) that the scribe wrote up the record in the interim between courts. There is certainly no indication that the proceedings of particular courts were entrusted to parchment any later than this, although sometimes (especially in the more complicated cases) an addition was later made to the written record to describe subsequent developments. Events between sittings which affected the case were often added to the record of the previous court, but usually as interlineations, which would imply that the scribe had already done his work in some circumstances, such as when a litigant died (very common in 1349) or an offender was excused, the addition served to notify that the case would not re-occur in the following court as had originally been anticipated.

A problem with this interpretation is that there are a considerable number of examples where a person was amerced for failing to attend and then excused 'because he later came.' There would seem to be no point in bothering to write this down, since nothing was payable and in the final analysis no offence was deemed to have been committed. However, the reason for the remission of the ameracement is usually in a different hand, or at least in a different ink, from the original statement that the individual had defaulted. The absentee's name was presumably noted by the court and by the scribe, and his ameracement remitted only subsequently.

The details of the amerancements were clearly usually added to the court record after it had been written down in the form we now have it. The ink is frequently different, and sometimes a different individual seems to have entered the amount due. It was not for the scribe to decide such matters, and it is likely that he presented the court record (whenever it was written) to seigneurial officials who then decided, or at least noted down, what was due from the guilty party. There is no way of knowing from the court rolls whether the payments were in fact made, except in those cases where they are specifically said in the margin to have been handed over. Annotations include q't (discharged), sol (paid), and sol r' (paid to the receiver). The appearance of such comments demonstrates the powerful financial dimension of the court rolls, which in part at least were records of sums due to the lord.

The scribe's task was eased by a practice which was applied irregularly for most of the fourteenth century, but which was very much favoured by the clerk who wrote most of the rolls of the 1390s and the early fifteenth century. This was the use of annotations in the record for the previous court to indicate what had happened in the current one. Most often these took the form of interlineations. If the case was adjourned, the abbreviation prox (next) was usually added above the entry, if it went to inquisition this was noted. If one party was excused, failed to come, failed to prosecute or was judged to have made an unjust plaint, this information was added above the appropriate name. If the case was resolved in any other way, the scribe sometimes added details of the admission of guilt by the defendant, the arguments of the parties, or the findings of the jury. He then utilised these notes to write up the proceedings of the court, although he normally seems to have decided, on mature reflection, that the more interesting details did not need to be neatly and fully recorded. It is, therefore, necessary to decode very rough and often utterly indecipherable scribblings in order to find enlightenment in the rolls beyond the by now extremely formulac and brutally functional formal records of the court.
If anything, the interlineations and additions are even more problematic in the early fifteenth century. Not all courts have them, but this was because comments relating to a number of subsequent courts tended to be noted together, often in a hopelessly intermingled fashion. Changes in hand and/or ink sometimes give a clue to the order of the annotations, but often the task of disentangling them is daunting. Where a number of annotations appear together in connection with one case, it seems that the case was not always written in subsequent courts, in other words, the policy of making additions was used as a labour-saving device. This may in part explain why the records of the courts of those years are often short, but the practice was not universal, and more work is required to ascertain how it operated, whether it reflects scribal or administrative practice, and whether the comments are reliable. Certainly there are instances where several annotations adorn a particular entry relating to a case which was in fact concluded in the following court. Those carrying out the calendaring have not, in the main, attempted to put the additions in chronological sequence, as this would have involved much labour and required complex explanatory editorial additions.

New business, and the various attachments (which were usually disciplinary in nature and normally did not lead to adjournments) were presumably noted separately. In the 1390s it was normal for the cases which had been adjourned from the previous court to be written down first, followed by other matters, although this was not a firm rule. The scribe's task would have been much eased if the adjourned business was always taken in the order he had written it down after the previous court, and there is some reason to suppose that it was.

Firstly, it had long been common practice to underline or strike through the marginalia of the previous court where the case continued into a subsequent one. This has been very difficult to calendar, and users of the database should note that most instances where the marginalia is said to be deleted refer to this administrative practice rather than being an indication that the marginalia was factually incorrect, they should note also that, where the marginalia adds nothing to the text of the entry and is not struck through, it is unlikely to appear in the database at all. On occasions some marginal comments are underlined and others struck through, but it would be unwise to make too much of this distinction, carelessness is sufficient explanation, and the exact location of the line was unimportant from the point of view of the court officials. What appears to have happened is that someone went through the records of the previous court and noted down which cases were due to come up again, having done so, he underlined or struck through the marginalia. Whether this was done in advance of the sitting or actually during the hearings cannot be determined, but either way the likelihood must have been that the cases were dealt with in the same order as before.

The scribe of the 1390s did not follow the practice of striking through or underlining the marginalia. This is, of course, insufficient evidence of a change of procedure, but from the nature of the interlineations it looks probable that the scribe in question had the previous court's records to hand and annotated them as he went along. This is impossible to prove, but it makes sound administrative sense and raises the possibility that the scribe was responsible for bringing to the attention of the court officials the order and nature of business to be transacted.

There is, however, reason to think that sometimes the scribe prepared the business in advance even when it was new. Plaints had to be made beforehand so that the defendant could be summoned to answer to the plaintiff's charge, many defendants claimed a delay on the grounds of insufficient or improper summons. The officials therefore knew what new inter-party litigation they could expect, but the court rolls could not be drawn up in advance because it was not known how each case would proceed when the court actually sat. But on occasions, especially where an inquisition presented a serious trespass or felony, the text is punctuated by blank spaces in which it was presumably intended to add such details as names of people and places, dates, and other precise and pertinent details. Unless we assume that the inquisition did not report these matters (which would be extraordinary), we must suppose either that the other details of the presentment (such as the narrative of events) were available before those of names, dates and places, and the scribe wrote them down to save
time later, or that he was not permitted to write certain things down in advance of the court sitting. The blank spaces are certainly a feature of the rolls of the 1390s (and sometimes before), and there is no obvious explanation for their frequent occurrence.

These virtually unverifiable theories about court practice are based largely on the rolls of the 1390s because it is only then that a single scribe is active for long enough and with sufficient regularity for us to attempt to see how he set about his task. Interlineations are relatively rare earlier, certainly they do not have the all-pervasive quality of the 1390s. Where employed they were used in much the same way, but the order of business as recorded in the rolls is much less regular. Certainly scribes copied from the records of previous courts, but sometimes in reverse order (if in any order at all), and this may imply that they used earlier records only to supplement the notes taken during the court session. The underlining or striking out of marginalia could have been used either by someone making a note of what business should be dealt with or by the scribe wishing to check he had included such business in his report of the subsequent court.

**Marginalia**

Most entries in the court rolls contain a comment in the left-hand margin, summing up the content of the item if it is unusual, and more normally giving the sum of the amercement or other money accruing to the lord or drawing attention to any executive action to be taken. Adjournments are normally noted in the margin to assist the officials (and the scribes) to pick out cases which were to come up again at the next court. Sometimes the margin adds little or nothing to the text of the entry, other than to provide the amount of the amercement or other payment, on other occasions it provides additional (or even contradictory) information. Some much later, probably seventeenth-century, annotations also appear in the margin, especially in the rolls of the early fifteenth century, drawing attention to the plague, to subsequent holders of a tenement, or to a particular place-name or other feature, these are often accompanied by a hand-symbol or arrow, and may be connected with the underlining of references to members of the Thelwall family, which later became dominant in Dyffryn Clwyd. These later annotations are included in the calendar (except for some of the underlining), but with a note (where possible) to show that they are not contemporary. Because of damage to the manuscripts, the margin is frequently lost or the comments in it are illegible. Only very rarely is there anything which could be described as a right-hand margin.

The policy when calendaring was to ignore marginalia which added nothing of substance to the text of the entry, but to include those which provided additional or different information, even if this was merely the annotation *proz* (next) to indicate an adjournment to the following court not mentioned (or no longer visible) in the text. In most cases other than those listed below, the text of the marginalia is introduced in the calendar by the word '[Margm]', but this principle was not universally applied, especially in the early months of the project. Lost marginalia are ignored, except that lost or illegible amercements and other payments are indicated in the text by dots of omission. Totally illegible marginalia are normally ignored too, unless there is some reason to suppose that they might contain material of substance, where they are indicated by '[Margm]' or by an editorial addition to the effect that the marginalia is illegible. The inclusion of such material, in the context of a convention where many perfectly legible marginal comments are omitted on the grounds that they add nothing to the text of the item, may seem perverse, but where the research assistants felt, from their experience, that the marginal might contain useful information which might be recoverable under an ultra-violet lamp, it seemed justifiable to draw attention to the fact. The total loss of a marginal is sometimes noted also, especially where a marginal comment would be expected, this is partly to confirm that the absence of the comment in the calendar is not due to oversight, but the addition of such information is exceptional. So-called 'deleted' marginalia are discussed above in the account of scribal practice in writing the record.

The following material, normally found in the margin, is usually given in the text of the calendar without specific reference to it being a marginalia.
• the level of amerement (mis) and most other similar payments or promised payments accruing to the lord,
• the word remanet where found as a marginale and left in Latin,
• the phrase terra tradita in land transactions,
• lex tertia manu and similar phrases written in the margin where one of the parties waged law,
• phrases such as 'first exi'gent', and sometimes, by extension, comments given when an indicted person was outlawed (although such comments can be in the text of the item as well as in the margin, or in the text alone)

Interlineations

The reasons for interlineations in commontal courts are discussed in the section above on the writing of the record. Except for a few isolated cases, an interlineation above an item or above the name of an individual refers to the next court. In the files calendared by Dr Barrell, no explanation is given other than an indication that the material is interlined or written above a name, it can be assumed that these interlineations refer to subsequent events. Dr Pade's files (in this context primarily Roll D) contain a longer comment in square brackets explaining that what follows refers to a subsequent court. Users should, however, note that the calendar also mentions some (but not all) interlineations where scribal omission meant that material had to be inserted later. These should be identifiable both by context and by the fact that they are normally inserted in their due place in the text of the calendar, whereas interlineations referring to a future court are normally given after the main text.

In Great Courts interlineations are much more regularly encountered. They refer to subsequent action taken against indicted persons and their ultimate fate. Common annotations include ca or cap (meaning 'order given to arrest', but left unaltered in the calendar), fin (fined), utlag (outlawed), cond' (excused), and occasionally sus (hanged). The calendar normally notes these in the form 'p1 ca, outlawed', without specific reference to them being interlineations, where the ca is deleted, this is indicated in such phrases as 'p1 ca [deleted], fined'.

The procedure after indictment involved orders to arrest and, in the event of the accused not being found, exi'gents (calls to the lord's peace) and, usually on the fifth exi'gent, outlawry. In the second half of the fourteenth century orders to arrest were normally given three times, recorded in the court rolls respectively as cap, cap i or cap primum, cap sicut alias or cap ii, and cap sicut plurès or cap iii. If an individual was excused, paid a fine, died or otherwise disappeared from circulation, this is often written either above his name in the margin or in the last court before the occurrence of the event referred to. The so-called 'fifth exi'gent', at which outlawry was pronounced, is rarely so described in the court rolls, but it has been the intention to add the phrase so as to aid searching on 'exi'gent'. In theory, the words should be enclosed within square brackets unless the manuscript uses them, in the manner of a 'tag', but this has not always been done.

Additions, deletions, omissions and inconsistencies in the rolls

The court rolls are full of errors, additions and alterations, quite apart from the use of marginales or interlineations to summarise entries or give indications of what happened in subsequent courts. In the calendar, these have been dealt with as follows.

Additions, whether interlined or appended to the end of items, have not been noted as such with any degree of consistency. Substantive additions (such as the insertion of another name) have generally been remarked upon, so have additions which demonstrably relate to events subsequent to the court in question. Interlineations, such as those in Great Courts to indicate the ultimate fate of the persons indicted, have been noted too, although it is not always stated that the information is interlined in the context of Great Courts; it is very rarely so specified. But many small additions, apparently made by the same
Inconsistencies in the database

The database evolved over a considerable period of time, and it was inevitable that some of the conventions which seemed appropriate at the outset came to be rejected. Moreover, the two research assistants had slightly different ideas about the form that the text should take, if not about its substance, this inevitably led to some inconsistency, though hopefully not of a substantive kind.

Towards the end of the period in which the years 1340-52 were calendared, the research assistants engaged in lengthy discussions about subsequent practice, and took steps to amend the files which had already been completed in line with the new conventions. But, short of virtually repeating the work on 1340-52, this process could only be piecemeal. Attempts were made to revise Roll 1 to Roll 8 inclusive with thoroughness, but it was a long process, and there are still (mostly minor) inconsistencies in Roll 1 and Roll 2 in particular.

When Llan2 was created, the Llannerch courts in Roll 8 to Roll 12 inclusive (Roll 8 had not then been upgraded) were effectively re-calendared to bring them into line, in form as well as in substance, with the Llannerch courts in Roll 1 to Roll 7. This revision was, however, carried out within Llan2, and alterations to the original files were minor. This was to try to ensure that Roll 8 to Roll 12 were not internally inconsistent, but it did mean that the Llannerch sections were out of kilter with Llan2. Since, on reflection, this was deemed undesirable, and because certain adjustments had in the meantime been made to other parts of Roll 8 to Roll 12, the version in Llan2 was ultimately imported into those files in place of the old version (though with records which had been split on the creation of Llan2 re-consolidated to prevent further renumbering).

The Colion and Trefor and Clocaenog files in Roll 10 were also revised, as were parts of other files. This outwardly haphazard approach may have compounded the inconsistencies, but is justified by the fact that an improved and (in the context of the database as a whole) more searchable text has been provided for the records in question.

Inconsistencies of form still remain in Roll C and Roll D, the files from 1390-99 calendared by Dr Padel, but it is hoped that the calendar for that decade, and that created during the second
One of the most serious inconsistencies in the files for the period 1340-52 is the treatment of land transactions. A decision was made at the outset to omit what was deemed to be common form, and the result was that large parts of the items in question were not calendared, and the order of the text of the calendar was also sometimes altered, furthermore, there is no reliable way of identifying what is in the margin rather than in the body of the entry. Most land transactions in Roll 9 to Roll 12 inclusive have not been revised into a full calendar, although some entries within those files have been updated. Time did not permit the exercise to be completed, although users may be reassured that any substantive information (such as the names of heirs, the amount of relief or seditio, the size and location of the land) was always included, as were any unusual clauses, the omissions were merely phrases which frequently occur in such items, such as de capitalibus dommorum fodi illius. For most purposes, the inclusion or otherwise of these phrases is unimportant, but they should have been included from the outset because some of them may cast light on the status of the land (or the individuals involved) which is not apparent from other evidence.

Other inconsistencies between individual rolls (or even, on occasion, within them) include:

- the tenses of verbs. Dr Barrell had a penchant for literal translation of the manuscript on such matters, Dr Padel preferred to use the past tense where possible. The scribes are inconsistent, and little weight should be put on which tenses were used.

- the inclusion or otherwise of etc at the end of clauses. In the later phases of the project etc was included, but this was not universal at the outset, nor was the inclusion of ideo etc (so etc) and similar terms, particularly if nothing else followed.

- the inclusion or otherwise of a translation of ponit se in mis (puts himself in mis), sometimes merely ‘mis’ appears in the calendar.

- different ways of treating verbs of judgement or decision, usually after the termination of a case by inquisition or acknowledgement by the defendant. The inclusion in the calendar of phrases such as cons est quod (decided that) or adjudicat est quod (adjudged that) was not universal. No distinction should be made between ‘Decided that’ and ‘It was decided that’.

- the inclusion or otherwise of the name of the steward who presided over Great Courts referred to in exgents or rolls of fines, and the inclusion or otherwise of the day of the week on which the Great Court was held. These were initially omitted on the grounds that the information was available elsewhere, but later included for the sake of completeness.

- the treatment of phrases such as ‘in the court of St Gregory’ when referring to an earlier event (usually an indictment) sometimes the phrase was retained, sometimes the actual date of the court was given.

- cepit et asportavit should be translated ‘took and removed’, but sometimes is rendered merely as ‘removed’.

- felonice and furtuva (feloniously and furtively) were sometimes put together even where in the original they are separate.

- se essomavit is translated as both ‘essoined himself’ and ‘was essoined’ (in the same sense as some French reflexive verbs are used). To all intents and purposes, the meaning is the same. The research assistants also calendared essoms in slightly different ways.

- in cases where the scribe wrote pro eodem or ibidem or the like, Dr Padel usually gave the phrase in round brackets before repeating the information to which the phrase referred back, while Dr Barrell put the phrase after that information. In some files both practices are found, depending on which records were revised.

- de for’ as a heading is translated as ‘Plea of the forest’, but sometimes the term ‘Attachment of forester’ (which in practical
terms is equivalent) may inadvertently have been used instead

• where the manuscript is damaged, a note indicating the likelihood of the item being an attachment of a particular official or location is sometimes added (in square brackets), but not always, the original is not consistent either in describing particular types of business as 'attachments'

It must be reiterated that most of these inconsistencies are merely ones of form. They do not materially affect the value of the database for studying the court rolls. The attention of users is drawn to them primarily so that they do not mistakenly believe that they have detected changes in court procedure or recording practice.

Particular features of the calendar

The most difficult words to calendar have been procedural terms, especially verbs. The list of translations partly reflects this, but does not tell the whole story. Some words, such as onerare, dimittere, calumpiare and allocare (all fairly common), have a range of meanings, others, for instance ducere and facere, are inherently vague. There is probably little mileage in analysing the use of particular procedural terms, certainly the topic would be difficult to address. We have tried to translate in line with our conventions, but do not claim to have had the level of legal expertise properly to evaluate the significance of particular words. We avoided some legal terms, preferring, for example, 'narrate' to 'count' in translating narrare, in the hope that this would make the calendar more widely comprehensible without unduly perturbing legal historians.

Reference is occasionally made in editorial additions to English, Welsh or Latin dictionaries or, occasionally, other works or original sources. These notes were added in the hope of enlightening other users, even if some may think that they demonstrate no more than the level of ignorance of those creating the calendar.

Some classes of entry have been treated in a somewhat idiosyncratic fashion. Such peculiarities include

• In the context of the Great Courts, the policy of the first project was usually to supply in each computer record the heading 'Commote of ', even though the original manuscripts do not always use the word 'commote'. In the second project the calendar is much more faithful to the manuscript in such matters, and the material is presented with rather different punctuation. This hints at the difficulties we encountered in trying to be consistent in our treatment of the Great Courts.

• For much of the fourteenth century, essions are written at the beginning of each court, or (in the case of rural areas) immediately after the forest pleas. Normally there is a heading 'Esson' in the margin, a Roman numeral at the end to indicate first, second or third session (with semel being used in some cases also), and dots beside each session. The calendar paraphrases all this, as users will observe, although we have endeavoured to present all the information except the dots.

• Items dealing with the presentments of dead animals are introduced in the database by the word 'Murraims'.

• The word 'attorney' is usually supplied in the text where applicable, although in the manuscript it is often written merely in the margin, especially where an attorney is appointed.

• Cases of brwydr gyfaddef (where both parties sued each other in pleas of battery or trespass involving violence, and were thereby both deemed to have offended) have been difficult to calendar. In the manuscript the parties are normally written on the left-hand side of the membrane, one below the other, with a bracket to the term brwydr gyfaddef (of which the Welsh spelling has not usually been preserved in the calendar), and then another bracket opening to the pledges, who are listed on the right-hand side. It seems that the pledges for each offender are written opposite his name. The calendar cannot reproduce the arrangement, but where only two pledges are named it should be assumed that the first was pledge for the first-named party and the second for the other party. Notes and greater detail have been supplied in unusual instances.
The following features should be noted in the context of land transactions, over and above the inconsistencies in the treatment of such entries which have been outlined elsewhere:

- The word ‘minor’ in square brackets has often been supplied even where the manuscript makes the point in a rather different way.

- It has been normal to refer simply to ‘fidelity’ rather than to translate the phrase ‘feci fidelitatem’ literally.

- The phrase ‘terra tradita’ is usually written in the margin.

- Where land was granted to someone on condition that he would give it up to the true heir and when the latter appeared, the Latin ‘quousque’ (until) has been included in the calendar for searching purposes.

- In successions to bond land, the phrase ‘sub et suis’ has usually been translated as ‘to him and his [heirs]’, by analogy with similar entries dealing with free land, although the inclusion of ‘[heirs]’ is strictly incorrect because of the rather different rules governing the descent of bond land, the word is usually in square brackets, but perhaps not always.

Among many small points which could have been mentioned here, users may be interested in the following, if only to demonstrate the sort of difficulty encountered in creating a database from medieval court rolls:

- Abbreviations such as ‘for’ can mean either ‘forest’ or ‘forester’, with inevitable consequences for calendaring.

- The abbreviation ‘ga fe’, which often appears in the margin alongside cases referring to bloodshed or other violence, has been rendered ‘gaol fe’, because it is uncertain what the ‘fe’ means; it could mean ‘felon’, i.e. ‘felons’ gaol’, but could also mean ‘fee’ (‘feodum’) and refer to a payment due to the gaoler.

- No obvious word sprang to mind to translate ‘westare’ and the like, in items referring to individuals wandering around demanding food or other sustenance, so we invented a verb ‘gwest’ and a noun ‘gwester’.

Conclusion

The Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls are a very complex source, one which evolved over a long period. Many seigneurial officials and many scribes came and went during the period covered by the database, and all left their peculiar mark on the record. Our calendar of the court rolls reflects the many changes of administrative procedure and recording practice over a century and a quarter, and has in some respects fossilised the oddities of the original while at the same time removing them from their true context. A machine-readable calendar is, at best, at one remove from the manuscript, and the demands of the computer and the need to translate the material in the rolls have undoubtedly forced us into adjustments and compromises. From the standpoint of understanding a source, there is no substitute for using it in its original form, but the intractability of the Dyffryn Clwyd rolls will surely daunt most of those who approach them. The database aims to make their riches more readily available. Its creation was no easy task, particularly at the outset, and we hope that users will pardon our inconsistencies and changes of direction. This account of our methodology, lengthy though it may be, is far from complete, but to have outlined all the problems faced by the project team would have been to write a detailed commentary on the idiosyncrasies of a fascinating, but often frustrating, medieval source.
APPENDIX

List of standardised translations

The list of standardised translations is presented below. As indicated above, it is by no means comprehensive, and should be seen merely as an aid to using the database, wide variations in scribal practice (even over relatively short periods) would have led to considerable delay if any attempt had been made to include them all on the list of translations. Although it was extensively discussed in the earlier phases of the project, the list has not been updated to any notable extent subsequently, because of the increasingly frequent employment of the policy of including the Latin forms of unusual words in the ‘text’ field itself. The form of the list was, to all intents and purposes, fossilised early in 1993, and, although it has been checked and amended up to a point, it may contain a small amount of out-of-date information.

The list is arranged in broad generic categories, because this was the most convenient format in the early stages of the creation of the calendar. The Latin forms are normally standardised as in the Revised Medieval Latin Word-List, and should not be taken to imply that the particular form given appears in the context of these court rolls. On some occasions a precise reference is given to the database, either because the word occurs only once with the meaning in question, or for the sake of giving an example. Some words appear in more than one category, either with the same (or similar) meanings or with different meanings, but it was impracticable to try to cross-reference these. Some words (such as the standardised Latin spelling of most types of livestock) appear without translation, since no translation is used, but some other words and phrases which have been left in Latin have the same Latin word or phrase as the ‘translation’. Words which appear in the list only in English or Welsh are usually found only in the vernacular in the original rolls, but there are exceptions (especially in the case of seigneurial officials). An indication is given where it was intended to supply either the Latin or a vernacular spelling on all occasions on which a particular word was entered into the database, but in the course of time some of these words became very familiar, and so sometimes the policy of always including the Latin was dropped. It must be remembered that the list of translations was drawn up primarily by and for the research assistants to help them in their calendaring, it was not intended as a dictionary designed to be of maximum value to subsequent users of the database.

It is acknowledged that the list of standardised translations is of only limited utility. Some users might find its arrangement frustrating, and would have preferred a simple alphabetical list. Others, especially those seeking to reconstitute the Latin of the original, would doubtless have found an English-Latin list more useful. Time has not permitted either of these rearrangements to be made, and, in view of the partial nature of the list in any case, such rearrangements would have been of limited value. Nor has it been possible to give a full list of abbreviations and their meanings, even though this might have been helpful for those involved with other similar projects, to have done so would have been a mammoth undertaking.

ABBREVIATIONS

ca, cap to be arrested [usually left in Latin]
e essoined
fe fined
fi, fin ga
q’t discharged
rem remanet [in margin], held over [in text]
s
AGRICULTURAL

agnellatio lambing
amotto removal [of crops]
aratrum plough (+ Latin)
biga cart (+ Latin) [but of biga for bica - bike (of bees or wasps)]
bladum corn
calcere trample
campus field
correcta cart [usually with Latin, various forms]
carnagium transport, carriage
carruca plough (+ Latin), cart (+ Latin) 7/573
dliaum close
coler cultivate
conciscare trample down
croppi crops (+ Latin)
cuniculus warren
culer couler
deaths barren
delere destroy [hedge & dyke] 4/953, 956
deligare unbind [corn]
depascere graze
depasturare graze
destructio destruction
destruere destroy
deteriorare harm
devastare lay waste
dimissus left behind [of snatched lamb] 1/35
dimittere release [animal] 2/373, F/546
domitatto breaking in [of horse] L/1/596
equum stud
evacuare empty [curtilage of leeks] 3/1361
examen swarm
falcacio mowing
falcula sickle
fex scythe
fenum hay
flagellum fall
fodere dig
foragium fodder
frnsus fallow
fruges crops (+ Latin)
frussare break up [land]
garba sheaf
gardinium garden
granarium granary
grangia barn
herba grass, plants
herbagium pasture, grazing, grass
herpicare harrow
horreum granary
impicare impound
lactagium dairy produce
manuopere till [land]
martura marling
metere reap
morone grind
morbum mountain
mora moor
monis disease 3/1009
nocumentum nuisance
pascere feed [of animals]
pascua pasture-land 7/906
pastor pasture-land
pastura herdsman
pasturare pasture, pasturage (+ Latin) 1/184
penorare graze
damage (+ Latin) 3/556
pitchfork (+ English spelling)
plant plant
wagon
orchard
hay
meadow
provender
rack 7/573
rowen (aftermath of hay)
wheel
hive
salt
strip
dry 5/183
mark [animal with branding-iron] 3/756
mark [ditto]
stable
stubble
straw
overstock
thresh
threshers
tumbrel [= cart]
waste
winnow
winnowing-fan
threshing-wag
harm (+ Latin) L1/1731
ploughshare
wagen
livestock (English)
ANIMALS

abire
agnellus
agniculus
agnus -a
animalia
aper
apes
aries -etes
auca
avenrum
bausanus
berbix -ices
bestiae
bidens
bissus
bos boves
bovetlus
bovlculus

brach
buck (+ spelling)
bullock
dog
capon
goose
goose

[domestic] kid (+ Latin)
[domestic] kid (+ Latin)

male goats
puppy (+ Latin)

rabbits
of this year’s issue

escape
falcon
fawn (+ spelling)
dun

wild animal
iron-grey [horse]

chicken
filly

[animals] wander off (+ Latin)

kennet
kid (+ spelling)
greyhound
hare

mastiff
hawk

peacock

pricket

sorrel 5/851
stag (+ spelling)

sturk

yearling

theave

vacca
vacca lactans
vaches
vitalus

vaccae (+ French)

[animals] wander off (+ Latin)

where appropriate, otherwise in Latin

90
CRIMINAL

abbrattans  abetter
abettator  abetter
abducere  abduct, 'remove' (+ Latm)
abscondere  hide (trans)
addurare  take away 3/682
aduvarent et  helped and encouraged 3/865
foverent  
afferre  carry off L1/63
alectamentum  inducement
alienare  [goods, animals] remove (+ Latm)
alienatio  removal 1/35
allocuto  conversation
aperre  open [a forcer], let loose [herd]
asportare  remove
assensus  complicity, company [of criminals] 3/865, 5/1648 (+ Latm)
assentiens  accomplice (+ Latm)
auscultator  eavesdropper
capere  take
captio  taking [of animals]
carcer  prison
conductor  escort
connectare  plot
consensus  complicity (+ Latm)
consentiens  accomplice (+ Latm)
consenture  be accomplice (+ Latm)
consipare  conspire
consiprato  conspiracy
continuo  continually 4/212
depredare  plunder
destructio  impairment (+ Latm) [of common people]
detrimentum  detriment
dimittere  [of stolen chattels] leave 3/729
discooperre  disclose
ductor principalis  prime mover 5/1648
elongare  elogn
enervatio  weakening [of common people, by ale] C/86
excitare  incite 3/865
exclamare  raise cry 4/1028
expulsiare  despoil (+ Latm)
fautor  accomplice 3/1267
fonsfactum  wrong 1/685
forstallare  waylay
fur  thief (+ Latm)
furo  steal
gaola  gaol
gravamen  [as adj] serious
imprisonamentum  imprisonment
incarcerare  imprison

insidiator  waylayer
latro  thief
larceny
great [contempt], considerable
refuse [in criminal context]
nuisance (+ Latm), oppression
prevent [arson] 6/2111
disturb
prejudice
have foreknowledge 4/39
prison
procure, instigate
instigation (+ Latm) D/1739, D/3056
purse-taker (+ spelling)
receive [criminal]
receiver, harbourer 3/1267
robbery
slander B/712
search [for s o ] 1/135
search [for s o ] E/627
despoil
threw
turn aside [watercourse]
tend, have intent [in criminal context]
at times
## FINANCIAL + trade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>accommodare</td>
<td>loan (+ Latin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accommodatio</td>
<td>loan (+ Latin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acquetare</td>
<td>discharge, redeem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>se acquetare</td>
<td>discharge oneself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afferare</td>
<td>assess (+ Latin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agere</td>
<td>settle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allocate</td>
<td>hire (+ Latin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>allocatio</td>
<td>hire (+ Latin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>apperciare</td>
<td>value</td>
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<tr>
<td>aretro</td>
<td>in arrears</td>
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<tr>
<td>arrara</td>
<td>for the arrears 3/1371</td>
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<tr>
<td>beveragum</td>
<td>drink-money</td>
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<tr>
<td>commodum</td>
<td>profit (+ Latin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>computare</td>
<td>account</td>
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<tr>
<td>compotus</td>
<td>account</td>
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<tr>
<td>conducere</td>
<td>hire (+ Latin)</td>
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<td>conducto</td>
<td>hire (+ Latin)</td>
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<td>creditor</td>
<td>creditor</td>
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<td>debitor</td>
<td>debtor</td>
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<tr>
<td>defricere</td>
<td>fail [in payment]</td>
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<tr>
<td>denar</td>
<td>money, penny, pennies</td>
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<tr>
<td>depauperatio</td>
<td>impoverishment</td>
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<tr>
<td>emenda</td>
<td>compensation (+ Latin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>emere</td>
<td>buy</td>
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<tr>
<td>excambium</td>
<td>exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td>exitus</td>
<td>revenues, revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>expleta</td>
<td>revenues (+ Latin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>gober etc</td>
<td>gober, -au</td>
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<tr>
<td>impignorare</td>
<td>put in gage</td>
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<tr>
<td>increscere [forum]</td>
<td>increase [prices in market] 9/48, 10/1</td>
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<td>invadiare</td>
<td>put in gage</td>
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<tr>
<td>leware</td>
<td>levy</td>
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<tr>
<td>locare</td>
<td>hire (+ Latin), hire out 5/34, 6/1327</td>
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<tr>
<td>locatio</td>
<td>hire (e.g. of labour)</td>
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<tr>
<td>lucrare</td>
<td>earn (pay), gain, win (attorneys)</td>
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<tr>
<td>mercandizare</td>
<td>trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>mercare</td>
<td>trade</td>
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<td>mercatum</td>
<td>market</td>
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<td>merces</td>
<td>reward</td>
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<td>merchandisum</td>
<td>merchandise</td>
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<tr>
<td>mermonum facere</td>
<td>trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>minus care</td>
<td>too cheaply</td>
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<tr>
<td>mutuare</td>
<td>loan, exchange 9/183, R/238</td>
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<td>mutuum</td>
<td>loan</td>
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<tr>
<td>pecunia</td>
<td>money</td>
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<td>pecuna numerata</td>
<td>counted money</td>
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<td>perdito</td>
<td>loss</td>
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<tr>
<td>permutato</td>
<td>exchange (+ Latin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perquirere</td>
<td>purchase, acquire D/4174 (+ Latin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pignorare</td>
<td>put in gage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOOD including crops and consumables

- allec
- argilium
- avenae
- bacoun
- brasum
- calcia, calx
- canabus, cannabis
- carbo
- carbo (marls)
- carbo (sea) coal
- caro, carnes
- caseus
- cera
- cervissa
- comedere
- faba
- farina
- fimus
- fructus
- fruges
- frumentum
- grana
- grotes, groths
- lactaglum
- laumburn
- linum
- medo
- mel
- per mensuram non sigillatam
- mixtillo
- nux
- ordeum
- panis
- perna bacons
- pesson'
- pisa
- piscis
- poma
- porretum
- putrefactus
- sal
- semen lini
- sepum
- siligo
- victualia
- victus
- vinum
- wodwiskis

hernng
clay
oats
bacon
malt
lime
hemp
charcoal (+ Latin)
(sea) coal
flesh, meat
mutton (+ Latin)
goose
mutton (+ Latin)
pork
cheese
wax
ale
clay (+ spelling)
eat
bean
flour
dung
fruits [corn etc]
corns (+ Latin)
wheat
grain
groats 1/644
dairy produce
amber (+ English)
flax
meat
honey
by unsealed measure, by
measure not sealed
mixed grain
nut
barley
bread
ham
malt
pea
fish
apple
leek
rotten
salt
linseed
fat
proclamare
promulgare
putura
recedere
redditale
rentale
retrahere

LORDSHIP AFFAIRS

- abjurare
- accrogiare
- advocanus
- agistare
- appropriare
- artare
- capere
- canag'
- coffrus
- colloquum
- consilium
- consilium domini
- custodia
- cydfod -au
- defenso
- disonerare
- dominatio
- dominum
- se elongare
- estoveria
- exire patriam
- extenta
- se extrahere
- extraneus
- fornicatus
- fraunchesla
- suo bono gestu
- libertas
- libertas
- moram trahere
- onerare
- de onere
- ordinare
- parcus
- patria
- precinctum
- proclamare
- promulgare
- putura
- recedere
- redditale
- rentale
- retrahere
- abjure
- encroach E/1208
- advowry
- agist
- reclaim [from stray],
appropriate [land]
narrow
take, receive [land]
carrnage, carriage service
coffer
meeting
intention B/17, B/94
lord's council
custody, keep, keeping,
controlling,
guardianship
composition (+ Welsh)
cych
prohibition, prohibited
area
discharge
territory
lordship
withdraw (+ Latin)
estovers
leave the country
extent
withdraw
outsider (+ Latin)
foreign [service] (+ Latin)
franchise
on his good behaviour
claim possession
pull (+ Latin) L/2271
liberty [area and rights
within it]
freedom [personal status]
tarry G/1982
burden, hold responsible,
hold liable 4/1169
in the charge E/989
ordain
park, pound (+ Latin)
country
precept
pundlayk (+ spelling)
proclaim, proclamation
promulgate
puture [of forester, stallion, etc]
leave [lordship]
rental
rental
remove [goods from
lordship] (+ Latin)
### OFFICIALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latin</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>scrutare</td>
<td>scrutune [records]</td>
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<tr>
<td>stallagium</td>
<td>stallage</td>
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<tr>
<td>statutum</td>
<td>statute</td>
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<tr>
<td>staurum</td>
<td>stock</td>
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<tr>
<td>subtrahere</td>
<td>withdrave [suit from mill]</td>
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<tr>
<td>supervidere</td>
<td>survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tax</td>
<td>tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thesauraria</td>
<td>treasury</td>
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<td>tollum</td>
<td>toll</td>
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<tr>
<td>tolnetum</td>
<td>unite</td>
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<td>unire</td>
<td>view</td>
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<tr>
<td>vigilia</td>
<td>watch</td>
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<tr>
<td>villa</td>
<td>vill, [Ruthin] town</td>
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<tr>
<td>villata</td>
<td>vill</td>
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<tr>
<td>visor</td>
<td>viewer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>visus</td>
<td>view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>warda</td>
<td>safe-keeping [of animals]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>auditor</td>
<td>ale-taster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>balius</td>
<td>amobwr, -wyr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bailiff</td>
<td>auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shepherder</td>
<td>bailiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>catchpoll</td>
<td>shepherd</td>
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<tr>
<td>coroner</td>
<td>catchpoll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constabularius</td>
<td>constable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>custos</td>
<td>controller (assize),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deia</td>
<td>guardian (people)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>electus</td>
<td>dairymaid 7/1386 [cf deye,</td>
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<tr>
<td>equitiarius</td>
<td>'dairyman' D/2434</td>
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<tr>
<td>escaetor</td>
<td>elected</td>
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<tr>
<td>excubia</td>
<td>horse-herd</td>
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<tr>
<td>executio</td>
<td>escheator</td>
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<tr>
<td>ferarius</td>
<td>watchman</td>
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<tr>
<td>firmarius</td>
<td>performance [of office]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forestarius</td>
<td>smith (+ Latin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>gardinarus</td>
<td>farmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>grangianrus</td>
<td>forester</td>
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<td>gustator cervisie</td>
<td>gardener</td>
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<td>ianitor</td>
<td>granger</td>
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<tr>
<td>instaurator</td>
<td>ale-taster</td>
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<tr>
<td>iudex (Walicus)</td>
<td>door-keeper</td>
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<tr>
<td>indicator</td>
<td>stockman</td>
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<td>locum tenens</td>
<td>deputy, lieutenant</td>
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<tr>
<td>marescallus</td>
<td>marshal</td>
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<tr>
<td>mensurator</td>
<td>measurer</td>
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<td>messor</td>
<td>hayward</td>
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<td>minister</td>
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<td>prepositus</td>
<td>reeve</td>
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<td>raglotus (advoc)</td>
<td>rhaglaw (of advowry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>receptor</td>
<td>receiver</td>
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<tr>
<td>senescallus</td>
<td>steward</td>
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<td>serviens</td>
<td>serjeant</td>
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<td>stalonarius</td>
<td>stalonarius</td>
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<tr>
<td>sub-amobwr</td>
<td>sub-amobwr</td>
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<tr>
<td>subescheator</td>
<td>subescheator</td>
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<tr>
<td>subforester</td>
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<td>submonitor</td>
<td>summoner</td>
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<td>supervisor</td>
<td>sub-thungyll</td>
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<td>thesaurarius</td>
<td>supervisor</td>
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<td>venator</td>
<td>treasurer</td>
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<td>vicecomes</td>
<td>huntsman</td>
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<td>sheriff</td>
<td>sheriff</td>
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<td>PEOPLE (and parts thereof)</td>
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<td>---------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>affinitas</td>
<td>affinity</td>
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<td>alera</td>
<td>feed</td>
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<td>alligati</td>
<td>allies</td>
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<td>ancilla</td>
<td>maid</td>
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<td>anglicus</td>
<td>English(man)</td>
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<tr>
<td>auricula</td>
<td>ear</td>
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<td>barba</td>
<td>beard</td>
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<td>bondus</td>
<td>bondman, etc</td>
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<td>braciatrix</td>
<td>female brewer</td>
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<td>burgensis</td>
<td>burgess</td>
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<tr>
<td>capilli</td>
<td>hair</td>
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<td>casualiter</td>
<td>accidentally 2/941</td>
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<tr>
<td>circumstantes</td>
<td>bystanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>cognatus, -a</td>
<td>kinsman, -woman</td>
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<tr>
<td>collum</td>
<td>neck</td>
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<tr>
<td>comortha</td>
<td>subsides (+ Welsh)</td>
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<tr>
<td>consangunneus</td>
<td>kinsman</td>
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<td>consangunitas</td>
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<td>convalescere</td>
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<td>costa</td>
<td>rb</td>
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<tr>
<td>deservire</td>
<td>serve [person]</td>
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<tr>
<td>(uxor) desponsata</td>
<td>espoused wife 3/983</td>
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<td>eger</td>
<td>ill (+ Latin)</td>
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<td>facies</td>
<td>face</td>
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<td>fam'</td>
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<td>famularis</td>
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<td>filiaster</td>
<td>stepdau</td>
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<td>flebotoma</td>
<td>blood-letting 1/187</td>
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<td>fugtivus</td>
<td>fugitive</td>
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<tr>
<td>garcius</td>
<td>lad</td>
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<td>generousus</td>
<td>gentleman B/349</td>
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<td>guttur</td>
<td>throat D/2665</td>
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<td>hibernicus</td>
<td>Irish(man)</td>
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<td>humerus</td>
<td>shoulder</td>
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<td>infirmus</td>
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<td>leprosus</td>
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<td>linagium</td>
<td>lineage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in ludo</td>
<td>in play</td>
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<tr>
<td>malum lecti</td>
<td>bed-sickness 4/479</td>
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<tr>
<td>manupastus</td>
<td>member of household</td>
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<tr>
<td>maritigam</td>
<td>marriage-portion</td>
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<td>maritigam liberum</td>
<td>frank-marrage</td>
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<td>medicus</td>
<td>doctor</td>
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<tr>
<td>membra ventu</td>
<td>male organs 7/212</td>
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<td>mendicare</td>
<td>beg</td>
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<td>mendicans</td>
<td>beggar</td>
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<td>prostitute</td>
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<td>mergor, demergor</td>
<td>drowned</td>
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<tr>
<td>nasus</td>
<td>nose</td>
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<tr>
<td>natrivitas</td>
<td>bond status</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| natus | -
| nutror | 
| nutrix | 
| oculus | 
| parentes | 
| pauper | 
| pectus | 
| pollex | 
| primogenitus | 
| puerperium | 
| pugnum | 
| pupillus | 
| sepsura | 
| servis | 
| servius | 
| subsidium | 
| sustentacium | 
| sustentare | 
| sustentator | 
| sustinere | 
| transgressor | 
| uxorare in patriam | 
| vagans, vagator, vagus | 
| Walhus | 
| westare | 
| westator, westour | 
| bond, bondman, bondwoman | 
| bring up | 
| nurse | 
| eye | 
| kin | 
| pauper, poor | 
| breast D/4282 | 
| thumb | 
| first-born | 
| childbirth 3/577 | 
| fist | 
| orphan H/256 | 
| burial | 
| servant | 
| servile | 
| serf | 
| subsidy | 
| support [of married daughter] 2/569 | 
| support [of boy and animals] | 
| support [of a boy] | 
| support [of boy and animals] | 
| transgressor | 
| marry into the country CGI 339 | 
| wanderer (+ Latin), vagrant (+ Latin) | 
| Welsh(man) | 
| 'gwest' (+ Latin) | 
| 'gwester' (+ Latin or Welsh) | 

95
PROCEDURAL

accedere  | come (to court or s o ) 3/346
accupare  | accuse (+ Latin)
accusare  | accuse
accusatio | accusation 9/224
action    | acto
actor     | disputant (+ Latin) 3/1265
adducere  | adduce
adhibere  | be accorded 3/992
adimpiere | fulfil (covenant)
adornamentum | adjournment
adornare  | adjourn
adjudicare | adjudge, condemn (+ Latin) 7/1124, 10/3
administratio | administration (of goods of deceased)
admittere | admit (as attorney) 4/195
advocare  | avow
se affidare | pledge faith L/1913
affirmando | in affirmation 1/461
affirmare  | affirm
allegare  | allege
allegacio | allegation
allocare  | allow (+ Latin) D/1094
alioquor  | question (+ Latin)
amercamentum | amercement
amitto  | removal
anovere | remove
annuere  | agree (+ Latin) D/3615
apparencia | appearance
appellans  | appellor D/495
appellare  | appeal
appellum  | appeal
appreensio | valuation H/1453
arbitrum    | arbitration
arbitrator  | arbitrator
arrectare  | arraign
arrenare  | arraign (+ Latin)
arrestare  | arrest (+ Latin)
artare  | constrain 7/1712
assensus  | assent
asserere  | assent
assidere asissam | fix an assise
attachare | attach
attuncta  | attaint
attingere | attaint
attornatus | attorney
avisamentum | consultation
avisare  | advise E/565
ballium  | custody (+ Latin), bail (+ Latin)
barra  | bar (of court)
billa       | bill
de bono et malo | for good or bad, for good or ill

breve  | bull
bulla    | callumptiare
capere  | cassare
causa    | certificare
crographare | clama
clamare  | clamor
cognoscere | committere
comptum est | compositio
condemnare | concedere
condiclo | concordare
condonare | confessare
confessio | confiscare
conqueror | commlttere
consensus | concedere
consentre | constare
continuare | contractus
in contraendo | convento
contradicto | convictus
convenire | convictum est
corona    | corpus pro corpore
currere super | custodire X
indempnem | versus

writ  | bull
claim, challenge, charge (+ Latin)
arrest, capture [illicit]
cancel
case
certify
chrograph 1/248
claim
claim
claim
acknowledge
was established
commut [e g to gaol]
composition
grant
concord, make concord,
agree (+ Latin)
concord
condemn to pay
condition, promise D 3072
excuse
confess
confession
confiscate
complain
consent
consent
agree (+ Latin)
adjourn (+ Latin)
contract
in opposing 3/1011
contradiction
convenant
convenant
convicted
was established (+ Latin)
crown plea
body for body
prosecute (+ Latin) 6/1532

[person] indemnify X
against, [a wood] keep unharmed 6/1067

dispute
deny
fault, failure, negligence,
lack, defect (+ Latin)
defendant
defendant
defer
deforcer [land]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latin Word</th>
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<tr>
<td>pont versus eosdem</td>
<td>charges them with 1/1364</td>
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<tr>
<td>poscere</td>
<td>demand (+ Latin) B/854</td>
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<td>premissa</td>
<td>forewarning, aforesaid</td>
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<td>premunire</td>
<td>prove</td>
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<tr>
<td>premunitio</td>
<td>procedure, process, proceedings</td>
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<td>probare</td>
<td>appear (cf offerre se), offer (+ Latin)</td>
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<td>processus</td>
<td>extend 1/751</td>
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<td>proferre (se)</td>
<td>promise, put forward (+ Latin) 12/644</td>
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<td>prolongare</td>
<td>postpone 1/1264</td>
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<td>promittare</td>
<td>prosecute, sue [lord] (+ Latin)</td>
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<td>prorogare</td>
<td>make plant</td>
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<td>prosequi</td>
<td>it was asked G/95</td>
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<td>punire</td>
<td>quit, acquit</td>
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<td>purgare</td>
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<td>recognisance (+ Latin)</td>
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<td>ad querendum</td>
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<td>querns</td>
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<td>quernmona</td>
<td>redempton</td>
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<td>quoror</td>
<td>report 3/346</td>
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<td>quod est</td>
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<td>rectare</td>
<td>release, remit, forgive D/3545, D/3550</td>
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<td>recognitigno</td>
<td>be held over, [margin] remanet</td>
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<td>recognoscere</td>
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<td>recte</td>
<td>waive (+ Latin) D/552, remit (+ Latin) D/5063, send back, hand over</td>
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<td>redemptio</td>
<td>request, require, require to say, ask 4/468</td>
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*The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422: a manual for users*
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<td>fence, fence-post</td>
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<td>puteus</td>
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## TENURIAL (including land)

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<td>ad acras, in acris, per acras, terra acrata</td>
<td>[land held] ad acras [but not always standardised]</td>
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<td>alere</td>
<td>feed (children) 3/735</td>
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<td>in his demesne, in his lordship ebediu, -au</td>
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<td>choose [part of inheritance] 3/1201</td>
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<td>onerare</td>
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**TREES, including forest, wood, wild plants**

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103
# VIOLENCE, including verbal

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The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422 a manual for users

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### MEASURES

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SEARCHING THE DATABASE

The great advantage of transforming a large and sometimes virtually impenetrable medieval source into a computer database is that it enables historians to interrogate the material in a wide range of ways in order to pursue lines of investigation which would have been hopelessly time-consuming by traditional methods. The policy of the project has been to retain this range of possibilities by producing a free-text, machine-readable calendar.

**Idealist** enables us to search the free text for particular words or groups of words, for instance proper names, types of property or legal terms. If desired, an index of all words in the file can be displayed and perused. There are also facilities to broaden a search so that records relating to a variety of persons or topics can be examined together, to narrow a search by isolating those records within a hit list which contain a further word or group of words, to exclude from consideration records containing a particular word or words, or to search only a specified field. There is the normal ‘wildcard’ facility, whereby an asterisk can be used to cover any subsequent characters; for instance, a search on ‘blood’ would rapidly produce a hit list of all records within the file which contain a word commencing with those five letters, such as ‘blood’, ‘bloodshed’ and ‘blood-letting’. The complete text of each record is displayed on screen, with the search term or terms highlighted.

All the files created in the course of the project are ‘insensitive’, in other words it does not matter whether upper-case or lower-case is used for searching. The Christian name **leuan** is spelt with an initial capital in the database, but a search on **leuan** is equally effective.

It is not the purpose of this manual to outline how the software itself should be operated. Furthermore, users of the database must discover for themselves, by trial and error, which types of search are most suitable for their own particular purposes, and how much (or how little) wildcards should be used. There is no substitute for familiarity with the material, but this does not mean that those new to it cannot search the database effectively from the very outset, it is meant merely as a warning that initial searches may not be as sophisticated or as accurate as those based upon greater personal experience of the calendar. New users are warned that the ‘exclude’ facility must be treated with caution, particularly if the hit list in question has been the result of a complex search, in such cases there is a danger that, by excluding a certain word or term, records will be removed from the hit list which also contain a word or term which is of interest. Searching on individual fields can be helpful, especially to isolate particular series of courts or to look for words or parts of words in the context solely of the ‘names’ field, but for most enquiries it is unnecessary. The facility to create ‘levels’ and thereby save, and later return to, earlier hit lists should also be considered where searches are complex.

Users should bear in mind that the ‘reference’ field is unindexed, and that ‘number=number’ and ‘date=date’ fields have their own searching mechanisms. The words ‘or’, ‘and’ and ‘not’ cannot be searched for because they are used as shorthand in **Idealist** for widening, narrowing and excluding respectively. Words defined as ‘stopwords’ are also unindexed when they appear in isolation or along with another stopword, but not when they are part of a phrase including a word which is not so defined.

The stopword list supplied with the software was unsuitable for the purposes of the project because it included some common English words which happen to be identical to spellings of medieval Welsh surnames, such as **With** as a form of **Czynth**. We were advised to define as stopwords all words occurring frequently and unlikely to be searched for, on the grounds that this would increase the speed of operation of the software. Because files have to be reindexed after any change to the stopword list, it could not be further amended (which is quite a lengthy process, especially since the files have first to be exported to preserve their order), we were decided to agree on a stopword list at an early stage, using a word-processing package to count the number of occurrences of particular words in a file. The ensuing list was then used for the remainder of the project. It is given below in the Appendix for
interest, but users with the *Idealist* software will have their own sets of stopwords and should not model their list on the one below.

Simple searches are effective in those cases where the source uses a distinctive word which has been translated in a standardised way on being entered in the database. But not all lines of enquiry can be centred on a single word or phrase or even on a small group of words or phrases, and it is here that *Idealist*’s synonym facility has proved invaluable. This is discussed fully in the following section.

### APPENDIX

#### Stopwords

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SYNONYMS

Introduction

The synonym facility allows a number of words to be grouped together under one keyword, and thus enables searches to be made under generic categories simply by typing the keyword. The development of this facility has greatly increased the potential of the database in a wide range of subject areas.

The synonym list is given below in the Appendix. It consists of three sections: a thematic section, synonyms of surnames (with the prefix x-), and synonyms of place-names (with the prefix y-).

The employment of synonyms for surnames and place-names is discussed fully in the parts of this manual dealing with names, and so this section concentrates on the thematic synonyms. Reference should be made to the list when reading the discussion which follows.

The development of the synonym list

The project team was introduced to the synonym list at an early stage, and it was immediately apparent that it would provide an invaluable aid to searching and using the database. The list has been built up and developed during the course of the two projects, which partly accounts for some of its peculiarities. As with all aspects of the database which have been amended in the light of experience, the synonym list contains particular features which might not have been present if it had been created as one single operation.

Initially, wildcards were used extensively to cover both the singular and the plural of nouns and all forms of verbs, irrespective of whether the word in question had then appeared in all those forms. Even where wildcards were not appropriate, words were treated in accordance with the same principle, in an attempt to obviate the danger that another form of the word would in due course appear but not be noticed. Against this, attempts were made to search on synonyms and check that hit lists did not contain irrelevant records for instance, "bee", intended to cover 'bee' and 'bees', was unsuitable because it also produced the word 'been', which was not required and was, moreover, much commoner in the calendar than references to bees.

However, as the project developed and grew steadily larger, it was not possible to continue to monitor the operation of the synonym list in this way. It is likely, therefore, that some wildcards in particular will produce irrelevant records, although it is hoped that these will not be unduly numerous; they can of course be dropped from hit lists in Idealist or tacitly ignored. Also, the appearance of a word in the synonym list, especially where the singular and plural of a noun or all forms of a verb are given, does not necessarily imply that that particular form appears in the database. Indeed, there may be other words in the synonym list which are not in the calendar, particularly terms of relationship, where the synonym was devised on the basis of what was thought possible rather than on the strength of what had actually appeared. A few other words may have been retained among the synonyms even though they have subsequently been removed from the database, but every effort has been made to eliminate these.

It was quickly seen as desirable to use as the keyword a word not appearing in its own right in the database. This was so that the word could be searched for in isolation if necessary. The result was that some of the keywords are unusual, not to say contrived, but we hope that the contorted logic behind some of them has not made them incomprehensible.

In due course, some of the synonyms became so large that they exceeded the parameters within Idealist. There was no indication of this on the computer, except that words beyond the parameters did not appear in the hit lists obtained by typing the keyword, and this was discovered only by accident. There is a buffer after 1024 characters, and so some of the synonyms had to be split. These are clergy, clericalgen, feminae, functionaries and utensilsgen, which have all been split into two sections except the last, which has been split into three. It is, therefore, necessary...
in these cases to widen hit lists to embrace both or all the sections.

Further problems come about when identical words are used in more than one context. For instance, 'nails' can be either metal objects or part of the anatomy, and a 'horn' can either be attached to an animal or used as a musical instrument. A 'quarter' in the sense of a measurement of volume cannot be distinguished in searches from the fraction where this is spelt out. 'Golden' can either be a surname or refer to the precious metal. Similar examples are numerous, but for the most part they are inherent in the source itself, and any synonym list which avoided all such problems would be so emasculated as to be virtually useless, quite apart from the labour involved in creating it. For the most part, therefore, it has to be accepted that searching using synonyms will provide a few unexpected additional records. Hopefully these will amuse more than they will frustrate.

Very occasionally, the keyword is inserted in a record in square brackets in the manner of a 'tag'. This occurs where an entry clearly pertains to a particular generic category even though the relevant synonym would not pick it up because it does not contain one or more of the listed words. Usually this is due to loss or damage to the manuscript, but sometimes a tag of this sort has been inserted so that a troublesome word (from the standpoint of searching) does not have to be defined as a synonym. For example, the word 'hands' occurs most frequently in the context of escheats and confiscations, where property is taken 'into the hands of the lord'. Where 'hands' is used in an anatomical sense, the tag '[Anatomy]' has been added to the record so that the word 'hands' could be excluded from the synonym anatomy.

**The synonym list**

The thematic section of the synonym list is in alphabetical order of keyword, with terms also given alphabetically except where several forms of a noun or verb are given, when the singular (the masculine singular in the case of some Latin words which appear in the database in both masculine and feminine forms) or the present infinitive is normally given first, followed immediately by the other forms. In the case of feminae, the list is divided between female names (feminae1), with the 'problem' Christian names following the standardised forms, and other words relating to women (feminae2).

**Types of synonym**

Various different types of synonym are given in the list, covering a number of potential approaches to using the calendar. Users will appreciate that some will be of much greater value than others to them as individual scholars, and may find some less than ideally suited to their particular needs. Every attempt has been made, however, to include within the list all words in the database which are thought likely to bear upon the topics covered by the keywords, and so users are more likely to want to remove terms (or drop from hit lists records containing those terms) than to need to search the database for potential additions. The list can, moreover, easily be amended for the purposes of a specific enquiry.

Some of the categories are straightforward, for instance arboreal, foodstuffs or metals. Sometimes there is an overlap between synonyms where the language used in the rolls is imprecise or ambiguous. avera could be either horses or cattle (or possibly even other types of animal), and some words may be used for both pigs and sheep, though not necessarily at the same time.

The synonym facility also allows the grouping of words for topics where the limits of the subject-matter are less clearly defined. Examples include economic, preserves and violence. In these and similar cases, the choice of words might not be suitable for every researcher or for every enquiry, but the synonym is intended at least as a first step, an initial point of access to the riches of the database.

In some cases, such as medical and weavingen, relevant surnames (in all spellings) are included in the synonym, even if they also appear among the synonyms of surnames. This is to allow topics of economic and social history to be examined not only in themselves, but also in the context of the individuals who, at least from their names, may have been involved in the activities in
question. The functionaries synonyms both contain some surnames all the spellings are included in the case of, for instance, Gardener, but only some in the case of, among others, Hayward and Parker. This may not seem very logical at first sight, but is based on the principle that some surnames of this type are more likely to refer to persons performing official functions than others, with Latin forms such as messor or parcaurus probably implying involvement in official duties. To have included all forms of Hayward would have been to increase the size of the ensuing (already large) hit list, on the other hand, people called Hayward in that particular spelling would come up anyway unless references to ‘the hayward’ as an official were to be excluded also, which would be unhelpful and unacceptable.

Some of the synonyms are designed to include several more limited categories. The synonym zoological, for example, contains all the words in livestock as well as references to other animals and birds which were not kept as livestock, such as dogs, falcons and wild beasts, livestock itself is derived from the synonyms for individual types of domesticated animal, such as cattle, pigs and sheep. The three parts of utensilsigen draw their lists from a number of other synonyms. Such synonyms are seen as a general ‘catch-all’, but they are not simply combinations of shorter synonyms. Some contain words not found in other synonyms, others contain some of the terms in other lists but not all. The intention has been to offer users ready-made lines of enquiry, both broad and narrow, and the nature of the synonym list reflects this.

The following points should also be noted:

- keywords ending in -misc group together several distinctive words which have been found in the database, words which are related but do not in themselves form a coherent synonym, they are included so that users do not have to find these words themselves by trial and error if they have a general interest in the topic in question.

- keywords ending in -gen are designed to include all terms referring to a topic, although in some cases the terms also appear in more closely defined synonyms, the suffix is sometimes added so as to prevent the keyword being a word which appears in the calendar in its own right.

- the synonym medical contains references to diseases of animals as well as those of people, because sometimes these overlapped, but it does not include ‘murran’*, which is used rather vaguely for dead animals, because inclusion would alter the whole nature of the hit list obtained.

- pundlayk contains all the spellings of this common word, which seems to be peculiar to Dyffryn Clwyd and to be equated with the more widespread pinfold, although the standardised form ‘pundlayk’ should always be included in the calendar as well.

- puzzles contains all significant words within the calendar which are of unknown meaning, although some are also listed under other synonyms because it is sufficiently clear from the context that the word refers to, say, a utensil or a wooden object.

- rhin contains both standardised spellings of rhingyll (the Welsh equivalent of the English bailiff) and its derivatives, and spellings of the corresponding surname.

- sexunknown lists those names referring to people whose gender we have been unable to establish from the evidence available to us.

Problems

Most of the problems with using the synonym list are inherent in the court rolls themselves. Researchers must not be lulled into a false sense of security by the apparent objectivity and comprehensiveness of the synonyms. Not all topics readily lend themselves to investigation by searching free text. Some procedural matters, for instance, are hard to study because there is no distinct word or phrase on which a search can be made. Although there is a synonym Welsh law, which produces all records containing a term of Welsh law as there defined, some of the evidence for the continuing use of Welsh legal practices has to be inferred, using the historian’s judgement. An even greater difficulty is
encountered when studying the impact of the Black Death within Dyffryn Clwyd. The plague is specifically referred to only rarely, and it is impossible to search the database in ways which would pluck out either records referring to individuals who perished in the plague or those hinting at economic dislocation, desertion of holdings, land returning to pasture, or peasants holding more land than formerly.

In other areas a search of sorts is possible, for example with the *land transactions* synonym, but the hit list obtained is not wholly satisfactory. Although the search is a valuable first stage in studying the succession and transfer of land, the topic requires more sophisticated treatment than the language used in the manuscript and thus in the database permits. Succession to Welsh land differed from that to English land because Welsh inheritances were partible, and the number of heirs and their relationship to the deceased are important issues for study. But because the court rolls do not always make a distinction between Welsh and English land, at least not in a specific, and therefore searchable, manner, the hit list obtained under the keyword *land transactions* is all-inclusive and has still to be sorted largely by hand, a process which can be long and laborious.

On a more practical note, synonyms cannot be used in a proximity search, in other words, a synonym cannot be accessed as part of a phrase. Nor can they be used in a search on a specific field. This feature is most serious as a difficulty in the case of the synonyms of surnames. Keying *x-aspull* will produce all records containing that surname in any spelling, but the synonym cannot be used to search for, say, Philip de Aspull in isolation. It is necessary either to search on *x-aspull* and then narrow to *Philip*, which will produce a hit list containing all records containing a spelling of ‘Aspull’ and the name ‘Philip’, even if these do not refer to the same individual, or to search on *Philip de Aspull* in each of the spellings of the surname successively. Thus feature of the software can be especially problematic if the surname is common and used by people who are unrelated, such as the Welsh Goch or Fychan, but in many cases the facility to narrow the hit list by searching on another word will relieve many or most of these irritations.

**Conclusion**

The synonym list is an extremely valuable feature of the Dyffryn Clwyd database. It offers wide possibilities for deep and penetrating enquires into the material contained within the court rolls. But even where it works well (and in most cases it does), the sheer number of records provided and their heterogeneous nature can be intimidating. In such cases, the best way forward seems to be to export the relevant records to another file and there mark them with subjective interpretative search-terms which complement the essential objectivity of the synonym list and other searching mechanisms. One of the reports in this manual details one possible use of such search-terms, and those who work seriously and extensively on the database would be advised to familiarise themselves with the techniques. The ensuing ‘private’ files will constitute a valuable additional dimension to the Dyffryn Clwyd database, without the main calendar being altered in any way.
APPENDIX

The synonym list

**agrncmisc**=arable barn barns bundle* byre byres clay dung dung-heap* dyke* fallow field* flock* fodder fold folds granary* grass* hedge* herd herdsman hurdle* manger* manure marl-pit* meadow* mud murrain* newly-broken pasture* pig-sty plough-team* rack* sand sheaf sheaves sheep-fold* sheep-run* stable* stack stacks strip strip* sty thrave* trough* truss*

**agrncprocesses**=calving castrat* cultivate* dig digs dig digging fall* gross* harrow* harvest* lambing* manur* marl marls marling milked mow* multure pasture* plough ploughs ploughed ploughing reap* seed seeds shear shearing slaughter* sow sows sowed sown* sware* till tills tilled tilling tiller* unwinnowed winnow winnows winnowed winnowing*

**agrntools**=bille branding-iron* chain* coulter* crook crooks dung-fork* flail* goad goads hoe hoses hook* irons mattock* pitchfork* plough ploughs ploughed ploughing ploughing* rope ropes scythe* sickle* terret* turf-spade* winnowing* fan*

**anatomy**=arm beard belly bones brain* breast ear eye eyes face finger* fist forehead hair head heart jaw jaws lap legs mouth nails neck necks nose organs rib ribs shin-bone* shoulder* spine tail tails thigh* throat thumb* tooth teeth tomb

**animalappendages**=bike* hive* nidus swarm*

**animalmisc**=bit branded calving castrat* disease* flay* healthy inprissa* lambing* lame milked one-eyed pox priss* shearing shin-bone* slaughter* sterile stillborn suckling tagged tail tails

**animalproducts**=bacon* beef butter carcas* cheese* dairy dung egg eggs feather* fleece* flesh ham hams hide* honey horns leather manure meat* milk mutton pelt* pork shearing* skin skins weights well woven*

**appendages**=barn barns brew-house* byre byres cemetery cress-pool* close closes conynger conyngr* croft crofts curtilage* ditch* drain dung-

heap* dyke* enclosure* fence* fishpond* fold folds fons font* forge garden gardens gate* granary* hayloft* hay-store* hedge* ligate* litlecomigher lodge marl-pit* mul-pond* orchard* oven ovens pond* private* privy puteus putei quarry separa shop shops stable* strew stile* toft tofts turbar* warren workshop*.

**arboreal**=alder* apple apple-tree* ash* birch birches blackthorn* bullace* bush bushes elm elms gorse hawthorn* hazel* holy oak* poplar sapling* seedling* thicket* thorn thorns tree* ulgas underwood walnut* whetethorn* willow*

**booze**=ale ale-coumbe ale-sign* alestake* ale-taster* barrel* braceat* braceat* breuster brew* brouster* ciruth coirth crauenter dreister dreychestere drink* driuster* distore drunk* dryuster dryester gallon gallons gallon-measure* kirvith malt malted malting maltecoumbe maltmak* meat pandox* potte* quart quarts retail* sester* siccat* tast* tavern* tavern* trauenter trauenter trauenter trauenter_

**borders**=boundary boundaries fence* gate* hedge* ligate* precinct*

**botanical**=alder* apple* arable ash* bark barley beans birch birches blackthorn* bolt bolts Bramble* branch* bran* brushwood bullace* bush bushes chaff chibol* corn crop* elm elms fenger flax fruits groan grass groats hawthorn* hay hazel* hemp holy leek* loppings mast nut nuts oak* oat oats onion* pear pears peas plants poplar* reeds rods root* rowen rush rushes rye sapling* seed seeds seedling* sod sods sprotes stick* stool* straw stubble stub* thicket* thorn thorns tree* trunk* turf turves ulgas underwood walnut* wheat white-thorn* willow* wood waxen

**botanicalmisc**=bark fruits grass mast nut nuts sod sods turf turves

**canunes**=brach dog dogs greyhound* kennet mastiff* pupp*

**caprines**=goat* kid kids

**cattle**=averium avena bos boves bovett* bovicol* bullock* iuvenc* stirk* taurus taur vacce* vitul*
chopping = barking, barked, cut, cuts, cutting, fell, felling, felled, top, tops, lopped, lopping, pollard, ring, bark, stripping, stripped, uproot

clergy1 = abat, abbot, abbot, absorption, afferent, afferent, archdeacon, ahtro, bishop, bishops, br, brethren, capellan, chapeley, chaplain, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, cler, 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spyour steal* stole suspect* suspicion* thief* thieve transgressor* wanderer* waylay* waylaid

culinary=alecoumbe barrel* basin* bolting-cloth* bowl bowls butlitarke chafet* churn* cleaning-
sieve* cooking-pan* costrel dish* eshin fork* gallon-measure* goblet* griddle* jar jars jug* knife
knives maltecoumbe maser mash-tub* oven ovens pan pans pitcher platter platter* plug* sieve* spit*
spoon* tankard* tray* tub* tubs vessel*

daynames=monday tuesday wednesday thursday friday saturday sunday
deergen=bissus bissi buck bucks cervus cerva cerva damus dami damae deer deer-
calf fawn fawns pricket* roe sorrel* stag stags

domesticgen=alecoumbe andiron* axe* bag
barrel* basin* bed beds bench* blade* board* bolster* bolting-cloth* book* bowl bowls box*
breviary bucket* butlitarke candlestick* canvas cards chafet* chaun* chest chests churn* cleaning-
sieve* cloak-bag* comb* combs cooking-pan* costrel covering* coverlet* cradle* crook crooks
dish* distaff* domestic eshin ewer fiddle* forcer*
fork* gallon-measure* gimlet* goblet* griddle* harp harps hatchet* hook* horn jar jars jug* key
keys knife knives laver lead lock* maltecoumbe maser mash-tub* mussal oven ovens pan pans
paternosters pick picks pillow* pitcher plane*
platter* plug* portthos primer sack* satchel*
sissors sheet* shovel* sieve* spade* spindle*
spinning-wheel* spit* spoon* staple* tablecloth* tankard* tapestry tapestries tenter terret*
towel* trestles tray* trough* tub* tubs vat vats vessel*

earthfruits=arable barley beans chaff chibol* corn crop* flax grain groats hay hemp leek* oat oats
onion* peas rowen rye seed seeds straw stubble
wheat

economic=ale-sign* alestake* borrow* buy*
bought champart cirruth commerce coparenct*
corveth counted crauenter exchange* fair fairs
farm* fartling* forestall* halfpenny hire hires
hired huring buckster* kurvith lease* leasing lend*
lent loan* market* merchant* money nobles
penny pennies piece-work* prestitum price profit*
regrat* retail* sale sell* sold stall stalls
taunert tavern* trade* trading tranter transfer*

tranter trauanter trauenter trauentrer traunter*

entertainment=banquet* bells book* dice drunk drunkenness fiddle* fished fishing fowler*
fowling gambli* harp harps history horn hunt hunts hunted hunting hunter* minstrel*
mynstrell play* strings tavern*
equine=bridle* crupper* fodder girth* halter*
harness-trace* horseshoe* muzzle* provender
saddle*
fabrics=bluet buffin caddis cloth cloths fur leather
linen russet silk thread* volets welt wels wool
woollen yarn yars

fashionedwood=beam* bench* board* burdorbes
fence* helmetstake* homesteads homestakes* lath
laths plank* post posts rail rails shide* shingles
shyngles stake* timber*

feminae=bee bees boar boars falcon* fish hare
hares hawk hawks partridge* rabbit rabbits
sparrowhawk* wasps

feminae1=agnes alice almarie amelina amy anabil
angharad beatrice bethun cecily christine clare
crancie clemence diota dyddgu edith efa eleanor
efer eleanor emecus emery emma eniana
erddylad felicia generys genilles godyth
gwenhwyfar gwenllian gwerfel gwladus gwledy
hawis hilda hoen honora hulyn hunydd hund
isabel isobell isowydd joan juliana katherine
lea ledbia lleucu llinno lucy mabel mabot madrun
mali malkin manny margaret margery manon
mattyen maud meddefus morfudd myfanwy
nest nigda olive paula petronilla quenhdd
rose sarah susan sybil tandreg tangwystl tege
tibbys yvlinia wemark wleder chichoc coy
nade della
eudon merianon merriavon methea mokken
mokkyn motkayn motkyn sudde

feminae2=admunistratrix agnitatrix amicu amicae
auccia* augcia* aunt bondwom* braceatix*
braceatix* camerania chider* concubine* dau daus
daughter* executrix famula famulae ferch
forestalatir* girl* goddau* godmother grand dau*
grandmother gossip* housewyt housewif huswife
insidatrix kinswoman lady latromissa lotrix maid*

maternal medicatrix meretrix mergh*
monials mother mulier* niece nun nuns nurse* nutrix
diffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database.

manual for user.

bastard* birth burial* buried child* death drunk drunkenness elderly first-born friend* funeral greed guardian* hunger ill illness infant* juvenes juvenes minor* orphan* pregnant vastard virgin* widowhood youth

livestock=agnus agni agna agnae agnum* animal* aper apri apries anetes avenum avenus beast* berberis berberis candidus* birds bos boves bovet* bovicul bullock* caball capon* chicken* cockerel* dove doves duck* equus equa equae fialy gander* gerci goat* goose geese hackney* hogast* hogerell* hogett* hurtard* iument* iuvene* kid kids mallard* multo* ovis oves peacock* porcell* porcul* porcus porci poultry pullan* pullus pully pullt* stalo stalones strk* sus sues taurus theave* vacc* vitil* yearling

matrimonial=amobr* bastard* cohabit* covert divorc* dower* endow* espouse* frank-marriage illegitimate legitimate marriage* marry* marries married matrimony nuptial* sub-amobr* vastard wedlock

measurementlinear=cord cords ell ells fathom* foot feet furlong* gad gads inch* league* mule miles perch* yard*

measurementliquid=barrel* gallon gallons pottle* quart quarts sester* tun tuns

measurements=acre* barrel* bovate* bundle* bushel* carucate* cart-load* cord cords ell ells erv* fardel* fathom* foot feet furlong* gad gads gallon goslings hopa* hoppet* horse-load* inch* league* mease meases measure measures measurement mile miles ounce* peck pecks pennyworth* perch* petra* pottle* pound* quart quarts quarter* rood* sack* sester* sheaf sheaves thrave* truss* tun tuns yard*  

measurementsquare=acre* bovate* carucate* erv* pennyworth* perch* rood*  

measurementvolume=bundle* bushel* cart-load* fardel* hopa* hoppet* horse-load* mease meases peck pecks pennyworth* quarter* sack* sheaf sheaves thrave* truss*  

measurementweight=ounce* petra* pound*  

medical=abscess* bed-sickness blind blood-letting convalesce* deaf demented disease* doctor* dumb fethik fethyk healthy ill illness insane lame leche leper lepr* medek medic medicatrix medicine* medicus medic mediik medyk methic methig methik methyk meteg one-eyed plague plastram posx sound sterile stillborn synfbric vedic vedik vethic vethik* vethik* vethyk welth welthik womb

metals=bronze copper gold golden iron* lead metal silver sterling

military=Aquitaine armour arms army arrow arrows battle* Bordeaux bow bows Brittany buckler* captain* catapult* club clubs expedition* France Gascony hauberk* lance* leggings military munitions overseas pommel rebellion* Scotland shield* sparth* staff staffs sword swords war wars watch

millstream=coos dam earthwork* folllingmulle fulling groats hoop* hopper korn kill mill mulls millord mill-pond* millstone* molaris molendinum roof roofing spindle* tile tiling tolcorl toll* trough* underground water-wheel* wheel*

monthnames=jan feb mar apr may jun jul aug sep oct nov dec

persecurity=chest chests coffer* forcer* key keys lock* pautener* pouch* purse purses staple*

pigs=aper apri hogast* hogerell* hogett* porcell* porcul* porcus porci sus sues

poultrygen=bird birds capon* chicken* cockerel* dove doves duck* gander* goose geese mallard* peacock* poultry

drives=annex* assart* bissus bissi boar boards buck bucks cervus cerva cervae chase conynger conyngtr* damus dami dama damae deer deer-calf enclos* encroach* fawn fawns fawnung fishing fishermem forest forests forestari* forester* fowler* fowing hare hares hunt hunts hunted hunting hunter* huntsman litelcomgher lodge pannage parcar* park* partridge* pecket* purprestre* rabbit rabbits roe sorrel* stably stag stags subforest* sub-parker* venator venison vert ward warren waste wild
proceduralsanctions=arrest* attach* ca cap confiscate* cry distraint* exengt* forret* hue hues impound* levy leving levies levied outlaw* pundlayk

pundlayk=pendeleg pendelg pendelg pendleg pindel pindeleg pendlelk pundular* pinfold pinlake pondlak poulake poundbruch pounderbruch pundelac pundelak pundelc pundelic pundlak pundlayk pundleg pundleyk pundliech pundular* pyndelak pyndenge pyndelie pyndelay pyndelieg pundlayk

puzzles=abdratias amolum arekalys ascer asser asze bac balebot bartet bracc bravium caumplum chate coelar coiles corpan couples courpe coupri cowplump cretes crok crokkles cubles cusp* depuratum dinynet doumy dynynet fenellum fengerme formenote forwardmen forwardmen gladebat gorud gradell hach helmestakes helmire holmeskakes hougges imprissa* ihalom jutenlls kkysses laisor largo lesers lortec notum olmergh onofor pairels penynm pelus porset pogad pota preum prassa prssae prisae pullez quatera ratin roselad scorrcione scellum secus sercum serut sonum stalonessode stouue suborff succus suitagum suitum synfebro taureek tensatrix tremus ulgas veirrroues velle veyreous veyrreous vinam wemorem ziculmeme zonam

recession=barren beg begs begged begging beggar* decay* destittut* impoverishment pauper* poor poverty run* vacant

relationshups=affinit* amica amicae ancestor* aunt boy-friend* bro brother* cognat* collateral co-heir* dau daus daughter* degree* family father ferch frater fratris gener girl-friend* goddau* godfather godmother godson* granddau* grandfather grandmother grandson* great-grandfather* heir* husband* kin kins* lineage linear liyseb maternal mergh* mother nephew* nepos nepotes newed* nuece quf relations relict sis sister* son sons stepdau stepmother stepson uncle vergh virgh wergh widow wife

remuneration=hire salary salanes stipend*

rhun=rhungyll* ng rmg rmgnd rung rung rungeld ryngelth ryngelll ryngettll rynghld runghyld sub-rhngyll*

rightsin=estovers franchise haybote housebote husbote liberty privilege* thefbote wardship wrench

ruthin=burgage* castellan* castle dogelant* doggelan* doggelon* fair lane lanes liberty market mulnestrete mullestret mulnestre neub neuborh neuburgh newburgh newburgh neweborh neweburgh privilege* street* suburb* town walschstret walschestre welsestrete welsestrete

sanctions=arrest* attach* ca cap capital confiscate* cry distraint* exengt* forret* hue hues impound* imprison* levy leving levies levied outlaw* peme pdlory pnumson* pundlayk pundleyk pundliech pundular* pyndelay pyndelieg pyndlem pundliech pundular* pundlayk pundliech pundlerig pundlak pundleyk pundliech

seasons=autum* spring summer winter

sexneutral=account* assize* aula bar beacon bill bills bull cantref castle charter* coiffers colloquum communit* corona* council counsel crown cydfod* deodand enrol* exchequer extent frankpledge garrison Gray Grayd Grey Greye lady letter* manor* march marches mortmain ordinance* paper populace proclaim* proclamation* promulgat* rebel* rental* ro roll rolls safe-conduct* schedule* scribe* seal* statute* stock straie stud territory toourn* transcript* treasury waif wrench wrat writes

settlements=hamlet* town vill vills

sexual=boy-friend* carnal concubine* copulat* fornicat* girl-friend* lover* meretrix misbehave* pregnant prostitute* ravish* seduc* snatch* violate* virgin

sexunknown=cheny colede edyrin geeclyn grad hulla hylla ylle sous kenerews lambe loke lyle meuken moruc morwel tangharet welkan welyn weyan

sheep=agnus agnus agnae agnell* agnicul* anes anetes berbix berbices bidem* gera* hogast* hogerei* hogett* hurtard* multo* ovis oves theave*
The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422: a manual for users

**statusgen**=advowry Anglic*° armiger bastard* bond bondage bondman bondwom* burgess* chauker customary demesne duke earl English* extran* fellow-burgess* free freedom freeman gentlem* hereditary Insh Irishman king kings knight kt manumit* outsider* prince serf* servile servitude sir socage status tenant* tenure uchelwr uchelwyr vastard villem* Wallenses Wallic* Welsh*

**structures**=barn barns brew-house* bridge* building* byre byres castle* chancl chapel* church* cottage* dam drain dwelling-house* earthwork* fishpond* fold folds forge granar* hayloft* hay-store* hospitium house* kiln* limekiln* lodge mill mills mill-pond* oven ovens peg-sty privy puteus putei sheep-fold* sheep-run* shop shops solari* stable* stall stalls stow storey* sty tavern* workshop*

**taxation**=aglst- aid arilan- arrIendorney cwrw cylch ebedlw* entry gobr gobrau gobrestyn heriot* mortuar* portanthles porth porthant puture* relief rent rents rented renting stably stallage stalonesfode tack tallage* tax taxes taxed tithe* tithing toll* twnc

**testamentary**=administer* administrat* bequeath* executor* executn* intestacy intestate legacy legacies testament testimonies testate testator* 

**timing**=cock-crow curfew darkness dawn daytime hour morning night noon sunrise sunset twilight vespers

**toolsagen**=anvil* auger* axe* bellows bille blade* branding-iron* bucket* cane canes cards chain* comb combs couter* crook crooks device* distaff* dung-fork* flail* gimlet* goad goads gorse-hook* hatchet* hoe hoes hook* irons knife knives lead mattock* maul* mortar nail nails net nets pick picks pitchfork* plane* plough ploughs plough-iron* ploughshare* rope ropes scissors scythe* shovel* sickle* snare* spade* spike* spinning-wheel* terret* tongs tools turf-spade* wedge* whistle* winnowing-fan* wool-comb* yarnwindle

**toolsmusc**=anvil* auger* axe* bellows bille blade* bucket* cane canes cards comb combs device* distaff* gimlet* gorse-hook* hatchet* knife knives lead maul* mortar nail nails net nets pick picks plane* scissors shovel* snare* spade* spike* spinning-wheel* tongs tools wedge* whistle* wool-comb* yarnwindle

**treeproduce**=bark bolt bolts branch* brushwood chips cusp* faggot* loppings mast nut nuts rods root* sprotes stick* stool* stump* thorns trunk* wood

**undefinedmovables**=chattel* dodrefn equipment goods implement* necessaries utensil* vessel*

**utensilsgen1**=acton alb alecombe ale-sign* alesteake* andiron* anilus annulus annuli anusl anuli anula anvil* apron* armour armes arrow arrows auger* axe* bag barrel* barrow* basm* basket* beads bed beds bellows bels belt* bench* bille bird-bolt* blade* board* bolster* boltung-cloth* book* boot boots bottle* bow bows bowl bowls box* braces branding-iron* breech-girdle* brevaryl bridle* brooch* brushes bucket* buckle buckles buckler* bultingarke button* candlestick* cane canes canvas cards carriages cart carts catapult* chafer* chain* chest chests churr* clapper cleaning-sieve* cloak cloaks cloak-bag* clothes club clubs coach* coffer* cogs comb combs cooking-pan* costrel coulter* courpe corpie courtepi* covering* coverlet* cradle* crook cruchs crupper* cuff* dagger* device* dace dish* distaff* doublet* dung-fork* durbordes

**utensilsgen2**=equipment eshin ewer fardel farthing* fiddle* flail* forcer fork* gallon-measure* garment* gimlet* girdle* girth* glove gloves goad goads goblet* gorse-hook* gown* gridge* halfpenny halter* harness-trace* harp harps hasp hasps hatchet* hauberk* helmerstakes hunge* hoe hoes holmesstakes hood* hook* hoop* hopper horn horseshoe* huke hurdle* implement* irons jar jars jewellery jug* kell kells kerchief* key keys knife knives lance* lapid* laps layer lead leggings lock* maltecombe manger* mantle* maser mash-tub* mattock* maul* mill-iron millstone* musencord mussal molaris mortar muzzle* nail nails net nets nobles oven ovens pullock* pan pans pannier* paternosters pautener* penny pennies pick picks pillow* pitcher pitchfork* plane* platter* plough ploughs plough-iron* ploughshare* plug* poleaxe* pommel portheses poich* primer purse purses pyx
utensils

verbal abuse

violence

warfare

waste products

weapons

weaving

zoological
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x-dawney=daunay daune dauney dawaney dawenay daweney dawnl dawny dawney dawney
daynay dounay downay downay downay

x-ddu=dee deo dry duv dy duuy dy dy
dy

x-dean=deam dean deen den deney dyne
dyne

dx-ditcher=cloudour clouthur clowdour
dloffthour deyther dicher* dicher* dicher* dyner fossator

dx-drwg-wrth-gymro=droghworthkemerow
drogworth* drogworthkymerow
drokarthesmero drokworthkmerow
droucworth droukmero droukworthcumero
drukumero mapdrapworthcumero

x-dryester=dreychester dreyn
dreychestere dren
dren
dren
dreyn
dreyn
dreyn

dx-<ilis=eleok
eleokes eleys eleys
eleks elye elys elys
ehelcok helck helleys

x-engineer=engnor engnour genne ginnur gyn
gynor gyunor gyyn tenor tenor tenor
tenor tenour reunour reynour ing ingen
ingeniator nor tyonour toynour
toynour ronour lenigor lenginour
genynor yenor yenor yenour yeynor

dx-eurych=aurfaber ewrigh erihr eurihr euryr
eregh erwgh erwgh golsmyth heurek heuri*
heurigh

x-exmew=examew* examue examw*

x-ferour=farour feranus feror ferowur
ferranour ferrator feror ferour feror

x-fletcher=beledrith beledryd flechh flechh
flechh flecher* flecher* flecher* flechter
paledrith paledrith peledrith

x-flitwick=fletew* fletew* fletew* fletew* fletew*
fletew* flutewykyk flutewykyk flutewyk
cyter wyk fletewykyk flutewyk fletewykyk

x-folwys=folwyys folwyys folwyys folowyys folowys
folus folows folwys fulwith fulwys

x-frank=franc frank frank frank frank
franke franke

x-fghan=baghan bychan vachtan vachtan
vagh vagnham vaghan vaghan vahan
vagham vaugh vaugh vaghan vghan
vygh vyghan waghan

x-gardener=cardinarus gard gardener
gardinarus gardiner gardyne ortolanus

x-glover=acroconus clouere cytorat gleyor
gleyor* gleyor* gleyor* serocaneceur

x-goch=glokh gocch gocch gocch gocch
gocch gocch goth gogh goud gouth gow goww

x-golding=golden goldene goldig golding

golduyng goldynng

x-gogreth=gogreth* gogreth* gogreth* gogreth* gogreth*
gogreth* gogreth* gogreth* gogreth* gogreth* gogreth

gogreth gogreth

x-grafton=crafton graffton graft graiton graiton

x-grappenhall=grepenale grepenhal grepenhal
grepenal* grephenahale

x-gwasmau=wasmau wasmargh wasmarthy

x-gwasmanffraid=gosmanffraid golsenfr* golsenfr*
golesenfrait goylsamfreit goylsamfreit
gyalsanfrait wasmefred wasmenfreit wassaan
wassenfr* wassenfr* wassenfr* lyesenfr*
wlesenfr

x-gwmon=gwynon quenon verion viron
verion viron viron wyron wyron
wyron wyron

x-gwyddel=gaydel gadythel godythel
guthyn othe othel

x-hackney=akene akene hageney hakenay
hakeni hakeney hakeney hakeney hakeney hakeney hakeney

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The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422 a manual for users

x-landingad=landeneg landenегate landengat* landening landing landingate

x-lanfwrog=lanmorr оk lanmurr оk llanmurr оk morroк morrok morroк morroк murr murreck murr оk murr оk murr murrek

x-lanrwnst=lanrost lanrourt llanroost llanrourt* llanrurst

x-llechwr=lechour legeo leghor leghour lethour leughour tehthor theughur tehthur theughour thieghour thieuеr ththur thour tleghour

x-llopan=llop lloppа* lopан lophan lopp loppа* luppan

x-llywyd=lloid lloft lloyd lod loud loot loth lowyd lowyd loyt luyt luyth thelod thelod thlod thloid thlold thloid
tywyd tlywyd
tywyd
tywyd

x-llygad=legen лegat легадern легег* leget legetd* legetgourdа legeth* legetk* legeyt leget leyget thegет izегет tizегет

x-llygluw=legelew legel* legguеw leglue leglew lglu* лgelu lgliew lglе* llyglue lygelu lylгуеw lylguеw

x-llys=lees les lles lles lles lles lles lles lles

x-longford=longeфord longeford longfоrd longfоrd

x-lonsdale=landesdale londesdal* londusda*

x-ludlow=lodel lodelawe lodelouwe lodelow* lodlawe

x-lydley=lddeley lddeley ldde* ludleagh lyde* lyde* lyde* lyde*

x-lytham=hotham ledom leghum leghun leth lethethom lethhome lethom lethon lethoum lethoum lethoum lidon lithon lithon lthum lymo lyth lythom lythom lythoum lythoum lythum

x-maba111ca.lth aylth aythl baba,lgh be.lth mabalgh mabalgh mabalgh mabeilth mabeilth mabeilth mabeilth mabeylth mabeylth mabheylth

THE PROPOSED CREATION OF A DATABASE OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONS IN THE DYFFRYN CLWYD COURT ROLLS: METHODOLOGIES AND PROBLEMS

One of the schemes envisaged as a potential product of the second phase of the Dyffryn Clwyd project was the creation of a separate database of persons, including such information from the machine-readable calendar as would enable the material to be analysed from the standpoint of kinship and other ties, it was hoped that the new database might add further dimensions to those already available from the calendar, and that it might be one of the means by which fuller analysis of the pattern of litigation in the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls could be undertaken.

This brief account reports on the various methodologies considered or employed in an attempt to create the database of persons, the problems encountered, and the potential for such a database in the context of the material used for this project.

Problems of identification of individuals

Court rolls are primarily about local people and their involvement in the procedures of the courts. Effective analysis of the court rolls, therefore, requires that individuals are identified and placed in family or wider kinship groups as far as this is possible from the available evidence. The difficulties inherent in this process of identification are well known and well documented. The chief problems are names are spelt in a variety of ways in the original source, medieval surnames do not have the stability which was achieved later, individuals are sometimes referred to in a number of different ways during the course of their life, and the same name may be shared by more than one local individual.

In the case of the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls all these problems are apparent, and the difficulties of identification are exacerbated by the presence within the same community of both English settlers and the native Welsh, each with their own names and naming-patterns. The policy adopted when calendaring the rolls has been to standardise the Christian names, which are mainly drawn from a limited stock of standard names and which are usually abbreviated in the manuscript, but to retain the spellings of surnames exactly as they appear in the original record. It is very important not to distort the evidence by over-zealous standardisation, and, indeed, unusual spellings of Christian names are also included in the calendar along with the standardised form.

Different spellings of surnames can be handled, at least in part, by use of Idealist's synonym facility, all the variants of most surnames which appear more than occasionally have been accorded a synonym. This makes searching for them straightforward. However, it is not possible to search, say, for 'Martin de Thelwall' using the synonym 'x-thelwall'. It is necessary either to use the synonym and then narrow the hit list by the word 'Martin', which produces all records including a spelling of 'Thelwall' and the word 'Martin', even if they do not refer to the same person, or to search for the name 'Martin de Thelwall' in each of the spellings of the surname successively.

For the purposes of family reconstitution, the surname synonyms are most valuable as a tool in the case of settler families which took their surname from their original place of origin in England, such as Aspull, Blakeney, or Lytham. It can usually be ascertained, or at least tentatively assumed, that all the individuals bearing such surnames in Dyffryn Clwyd were related to each other. But the surname synonym does not necessarily find all references in the court rolls to persons from such families, for the place-name surname is not always used. William, son of Hywel de Lytham, is sometimes called William.
Howell  Two of the sons of Walter de Blakeney, William and Roger, are sometimes called 'de Blakeney', but on other occasions are described as 'son of Walter', as 'ap Watkyn', as 'Watkyn', as 'Watkinson' or as 'Wattessone', Roger Almanson Williamson Watkyn belonged to the family, but no search on 'Blakeney' will find him under that name. These idiosyncrasies have to be discovered during work on the rolls, neither the synonym list nor any other method of searching the material can reveal them.

A different problem is caused by those who took their surname from offices which they held or from the trade in which they were engaged. In the early years of the fourteenth century, the name was often written down in Latin, such as forestarius or serviens. This may well imply that the individual was indeed performing the functions of the office in question. But the surname, later usually in an English form, was certainly passed on to spouses and descendants. Susan le Forester had no official responsibilities, nor did Agnes le Hayward. But others may well have continued to be referred to as, say, 'Parker' because that was precisely what they were. Certainly it cannot be assumed that all those in the lordship bearing the same occupational surname were related, although some of them were.

In the case of the Welsh, the normal naming-system was based on patronymics, with names such as 'Bleddyn ap Ieuan ap Madog' or 'Ieuan ap Gruffydd ap Cadwgan' being common. But a large number of Welsh names also included some descriptive epithet, such as Goch (red) or Fychan (small). This complicates the searching mechanism, because the epithet was not used consistently and it could be placed in a number of positions within the name. Synonyms can find all instances of particular epithets, but only the rarer ones are confined to individual families. The overwhelming majority are of little help in reconstructing kin-groups. Even patronymics can pose problems, because they totally lack the stable element which so greatly assists processes of searching for surnames in modern sources.

Hywel ap Madog ap Hywel, the 'ap Madog' which sometimes formed the last part of his father's name is dropped. And by no means all Welsh names are given in a three-generation form. 'Ieuan ap Gruffydd ap Cadwgan' may be fairly distinctive, a mere 'Ieuan ap Gruffydd' certainly is not. Yet two-generation names, with or without epithets, are very frequently encountered in the court rolls.

As an example of some of the difficulties which may be encountered we can examine the family of Madog Gwyddel. This was a prominent family in the commote of Colion in the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries, one whose members appear frequently in the court rolls. But, while the basic genealogy is fairly clear, there are many individual entries in the rolls which may, but need not, refer to a member of this family.

As an epithet, Gwyddel (Irish) is fairly uncommon in Dyffryn Clwyd, and to some extent it was used by this family as an inherited surname. Madog's son, Madog Fychan ap Madog Gwyddel, is called merely Madog Gwyddel, and it is quite usual for his son in turn to be called Dafydd ap Madog Gwyddel, even though in fact 'Madog Gwyddel' should strictly refer to the generation before Dafydd may also be the 'Dafydd Gwyddel' who occasionally appears in the rolls.

But when the Gwyddel epithet is not used, problems multiply. The names 'Madog Fychan', 'Madog Fychan ap Madog' or 'Madog ap Madog' could relate to any one of a number of contemporaries. 'Dafydd ap Madog Fychan' could refer to the man in this family or to a prominent Llannerch figure, who was also called 'Dafydd Llwyd ap Madog Fychan', while the bare 'Dafydd ap Madog' could be used for numerous individuals. But these confusing names are employed by the scribes when referring to members of this family. Sometimes internal evidence allows the researcher to make at least an educated guess as to who is referred to, but quite often the blindfold and a pin will serve just as well. Even in the case of Maredudd ap Madog Gwyddel and his descendants we are not out of the woods, despite Maredudd being a much rarer name than Madog. 'Maredudd ap Madog' could also refer to his uncle, Madog Gwyddel's brother And while 'Bleddyn ap Einion ap Maredudd' and
The Diffydd ap Emion ap Maredudd’ are quite distinctive (as far as can be ascertained) for his grandchildren, the mere ‘Bleddyn ap Emion’ is problematic and ‘Dafydd ap Emion’ almost useless for the purposes of identification.

The difficulties encountered with even a prominent family mean that it is virtually impossible to identify those lower down the social scale with any degree of certainty. Those who are not tenants of the lord certainly appear in the court rolls, but they cannot usually be grouped into families, still less distinguished from others with the same or similar names. This makes the creation of a database of people very difficult, to say the least, even if it were envisaged that the database would be used to analyse relationships between individuals, between families, and between different groups in society. The number of uncertainties seems overwhelming.

To these uncertainties must be added the question of scale, the problems imposed by the size of the sample population. A pilot study based on the courts of a number of individual years indicated that any attempts to calculate the size even of the adult male population on the basis of appearances in the court rolls would be fraught with hazards. But the population under investigation was clearly substantial. At a rough estimate, over 2,500 separate individuals are to be found in the Llannerch courts between 1294 and 1352, this includes some from elsewhere in the lordship or from other areas, but in any full database of people these individuals would still have to be considered. Moreover, it will have become apparent from the foregoing that surnames are of only limited value in identifying people, with both English and Welsh families, identification must be based principally on Christian names. The Appendix gives the frequency of such names in Llan4, the file containing the Llannerch courts between 1364 and 1376. It will be seen that the commonest Christian names - Ieuan, Dafydd and Madog - occur well over a thousand times each in this one file. The problem which this poses can readily be appreciated, especially if these common Christian names are not found in connection with a more distinctive name-element.

Possible solutions to the problems

A number of attempts were, however, made to reorganise the material so that it could be used in a different form, based on the careers of individual persons. These are described below, but firstly a few comments must be passed on other systems which were considered and the reasons for their rejection given.

Paradox was suggested as a potential database for the purposes envisaged. However, technical support was unavailable in Aberystwyth, and initial enquiries did not convince those working on the project that it would in any case be particularly suitable for the sort of analysis which cannot be carried out using Idealist. A demonstration of the program by Donald Spaeth at a research seminar in Aberystwyth revealed a number of major drawbacks in its operation the system appeared generally cumbersome and its scope rather limited, in particular, it was necessary for Spaeth to use parallel files to store data on plaintiffs and defendants in court cases. While automatic cross-referencing within the system would have reduced the risk of error, the package did not appear (from this demonstration) to be either easy to use or adaptable. It seemed also that data would have to be pigeon-holed in a rather unsophisticated form, leading to the impression that Paradox would be more effective in dealing with sources which are already partly structured, such as census returns, than with the heterogeneous material found in court rolls. It also remained unclear as to how the major naming problems could be circumvented. This general impression was confirmed by a review article about the program. The transfer of data from Idealist to Paradox would have been time-consuming, and the labour involved seemed likely to outweigh the potential gains.

Consideration was also given to the possibility of using the techniques of record linkage to analyse the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls. Some recent literature on these techniques and on the creation of social networks based on information about personal and group interactions was consulted. Those working on the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls do not claim to be qualified to judge the value of the algorithms and other techniques.
mathematical methods described in the literature, nor to assess how widely applicable modern sociological theories would be to fourteenth-century Wales. But it was soon realised that serious problems would be encountered if record linkage were to be attempted in this case, for a number of reasons.

Firstly, record linkage has been employed primarily on more recent records, especially parish registers, census returns, and other sources which are both structured in form and fairly selective in the information they contain. The profile of the lives of individuals which is obtained from sources of this sort, however interesting and valuable in itself, is not as detailed or as sophisticated as that which might be derived from the court rolls.

Secondly, even with more modern material, differences in orthography and divergences in the records have posed problems. Much of the preliminary work has been done using phonetic sorting systems such as SOUNDEX. This is unlikely to work even with the English surnames, the spellings of which are often of bewildering variety, and would almost certainly fail dismally with Welsh names. It must also be remembered that identification of the majority of persons in Dyffryn Clwyd has to be based on Christian names. It is unclear how the lists of Christian names and surnames made during the project could be adapted in order to give the computer the information it would need to process the data. Such an exercise would require substantial technical expertise, and, in the opinion of those who are most familiar with the names in the court rolls, would be unlikely to succeed in the short term.

Thirdly, record linkage works least effectively where many of the names are similar. A study of nineteenth-century Llanuwchllyn found homonymy, the fact that a number of people had identical names, to be a 'serious obstacle'. And this relates to a society with hereditary surnames, however limited the stock, with true patronymics the problem would be even worse. In addition, the manner in which problems are resolved by the computer, however justifiable mathematically and however neat, led to some scepticism on the part of the research team. the conclusions about the various men called William Ackroyd in eighteenth-century Calverley may be correct, but the level of speculation is high, the findings are based on the assumption that all those involved behaved with a degree of rational regularity - and all with the same degree of rational regularity - which is hard to believe in the context of normal human experience. With the larger number of persons in Dyffryn Clwyd with similar names, and bearing in mind that individuals first appear in the courts at differing ages, the application of such techniques to the material in the rolls would be no more than an interesting (and possibly amusing) academic exercise.

Fourthly, any attempt to show the interactions of members of the community would run into the problem that the population under review is of such a large size. Social network analysis is based on the creation of matrices which can record the existence (or otherwise) of contacts between individuals, their direction and their frequency. Even if no links exist, the possibility of such links must be retained in the working of the computer. The 2,500 individuals in the Llannerch rolls to 1352 (and the number is probably a considerable underestimate) would generate six-and-a-quarter million potential links. Even the 112 members of the loranwr ap Cadwgan kn-group (and again the number is probably on the low side) would create 12,544 links within the group itself, to say nothing of interactions with the rest of society. Even if all the problems of identification could be solved, the scale of the task of creating and analysing the matrices is daunting, even for a computer.

With its limited resources of personnel and time, the project team decided, therefore, to investigate other methods whereby the material in the machine-readable calendar could be analysed and results established. These are outlined below.

The Bott lists

Mr Frank Bott of the Department of Computer Science at Aberystwyth very kindly wrote a program which combined the information in the 'number', 'court', 'date' and 'persons' fields and printed it out under the name of each person.
The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422: a manual for users

The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database is an extremely valuable resource that has proved useful in a number of ways. It enables some attempt to be made to count the number of persons appearing in individual rolls or series of rolls, it provides instantly accessible information on the names of those who appear frequently in the court rolls, which is valuable in selecting those individuals and families worthy of further study in their own right, and it enables checks to be made of the accuracy of the database, because peculiarities can be more easily pinpointed. In its raw form, however, the lists neither constitute a database of people nor provide information about the activities of those listed. It was suggested by Frank Bott that we might consider coding the records within the machine-readable calendar in order to show what part in the event referred to was being played by each of the persons named. Because the court rolls are so diverse in form and content, it quickly became apparent that this was totally impracticable. Even in some civil suits, others are mentioned besides the litigants, for instance as pledges or as former holders or claimants to a disputed tenement. It seemed unlikely that any system could be devised which would be appreciably more sophisticated than those used in the past for very limited demographic purposes. Coding turned out to be very laborious, and to have tried to preserve the subtleties of the source would have been almost impossible. It was, therefore, decided that the return would not be worth the many months' time which would have been necessary for such an exercise.

The use of Idealist for creating a 'persons' element within a file

There is much to be said for devising a methodology which uses the same software as that employed for the creation and exploitation of the calendar. It is simpler for the user, and enables data in different forms to appear (if desired) in the same file. As an experiment, a file was created which comprised all the records in the rolls for 1340-52 and 1389-99 (i.e., those calendared in the first project) relating to nulls or people called 'Miller' (in its various Latin, Welsh and English spellings). The file was used partly to add interpretative-search terms to individual records, and partly to investigate the possibility of tagging the people called 'Miller'.

It was straightforward to give a number to each person under investigation, which was added to the appropriate line in the 'names' field in the form p001, p002 and so on. While it should always be the intention to do this as accurately as possible, it is unnecessary to agonise at this stage over whether a name in one record refers to the same person as a name in another. If at a later date it is discovered either that the same number has been used for more than one individual or that two or more different numbers have been used for the same person, then it is easy to change the tags as required, because they can be searched for in Idealist.

A record in a different format was then created for each numbered person, with fields for his or her name, kinship links, offices, domicile, date of death, and activities as recorded in the court rolls. A further field was added for possible notes. Information was gathered by searching on the tag, and was entered on the individual's record in abbreviated form.

There are several advantages with this methodology. Firstly, a summary of the individual's career is available. Secondly, the full text of the calendar remains in the same file and thereby immediately accessible should it be required. Thirdly, the format can be altered to meet the need of particular researchers. But in the last of those advantages lies also the first drawback. The format in which the information is presented may not be suitable for every enquirer, and it would be difficult to devise a format which would enable all potential lines of investigation to be followed with equal facility. Moreover, because the data remains in Idealist it cannot be analysed statistically, any investigation of it on numerical grounds would require its export to another package. Finally, and perhaps crucially, the method can be used effectively only if the sample of the population is both easily defined by name and fairly small. With something over a hundred people called 'Miller' in the two decades sampled, the exercise is
practicable. To attempt something similar with the population of even a single commote over a century would be a task on a very different scale.

The full database within Idealist of persons in the commotal courts of Llannerch

In the absence of any obvious computer package which would permit even a rudimentary database of persons to be created straight from the calendar, it was decided to attempt to create a people-based database within Idealist, using the experience gained in the experiment on the file of nulls and nullers. It was hoped that, if this was successful, it (or parts of it) might later be exported to other systems for specific purposes. It was realised that Idealist is not a package particularly suited to this type of enquiry, but the element of familiarity meant that it seemed justifiable to use it for a preliminary investigation into the feasibility of the creation of such a database.

The Bott lists of Llan1 and Llan2 (the Llannerch courts from 1294 to 1352, which at that time were the only ones for which calendaring was complete) were used to ascribe provisional numbers to each individual appearing in either file. This was a much longer, and much more difficult, exercise than that of the nullers, but the principle was the same. The names were then put into the new database, one person per record. A standardised form was used for all names, including surnames, so that it would be possible to search the new database for 'Wm Stalworthman' rather than having to narrow from 'x-stalworthman' to 'Wm' as is necessary in the machine-readable calendar. For obvious reasons, it is desirable to be able to search a database of persons for the full name of an individual without the risk of calling up a number of irrelevant records.

The further development of the database was problematic. The most basic approach, that of using the Bott lists to extract from the calendar the necessary details about each and every individual and then inputting those details into the new database, was rejected as being hopelessly time-consuming. Certain families which appeared, from prior knowledge, to offer good opportunities for the study of kinship and other ties, were therefore selected for study. Some details were entered in the database of people, but a high level of concentration was required to ensure that all necessary cross-references are added. In some cases information about pledging links and litigation was entered too.

The exercise, even in its limited form, soon proved unmanageable for reasons of size and because of the difficulty in identifying individuals with the sort of precision which would be necessary for full exploitation of the database. While virtual certainties, such as relationships established by successions to land or by explicit wording in the rolls, could be inputted, it appeared certain that any attempt to proceed from that to detailing in full the litigation and other court business in which even prominent individuals were involved would be fraught with difficulties. It was likely to be extremely time-consuming and to involve the research team in numerous decisions of, frankly, an arbitrary nature. The sort of uncertainties which could, at a pinch, be left in the database in Idealist would, moreover, seriously vitiate any attempt to export the data into another package where a greater degree of certainty was required.

Conclusion

It was concluded, therefore, that the amount of labour required to create a database of people would not be justified by the return in terms of the potential for analysis of topics which cannot adequately be studied using the calendar in Idealist. The main reasons for this are the large size of the population under review and the difficulties of identifying individual persons and placing them into families. While it is important to reconstruct some families - as many as is practicable - there seems no method of extending such reconstruction to the whole of society. Large databases of people would be very incomplete and would be time-consuming to create. It has, therefore, been necessary to restrict detailed research to the members of the most important families, those on which there is abundant...
information in the court rolls, and to ignore records which could involve any one of a number of persons unless there is good reason to suppose that identification can be made with some degree of confidence. This undoubtedly restricts the options available, but it has the advantages that the findings of the research team are securely based on the record evidence and that the classes of society which appear most often in the court rolls could be more fully studied in the time available.

NOTES

1 E g Zvi Razi, Life, Marriage and Death in a Medieval Parish Economy, Society and Demography in Halesowen, 1270-1400 (Cambridge, 1980), 11-24, cf 3-4.

2 For a brief introduction to the names found in the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls see the relevant section in Andrew Barrell, Rees Davies, Oliver Padel and Llinos Smith, 'The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Project, 1340-52 and 1389-99: a methodology and some preliminary findings', in Medieval Society and the Manor Court, ed Zvi Razi and Richard Smith (OUP, forthcoming). See also O J Padel, 'Locational surnames in fourteenth-century Denbighshire', in Names, Places and People an onomastic miscellany in memory of John McNeal Dodgson, ed A R Rumble and A D Mills (Stamford, 1996, forthcoming).

3 A D M Barrell, 'The use of interpretative search-terms to analyse the nature of business in the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls: the evidence of five sample years of the courts of the commote of Llanmerch', below.


5 On record linkage see esp the articles in History and Computing, iv (1992), and the introduction to the volume by R J Morris For a general introduction to social networking see J Scott, Social Network Analysis a Handbook (London, 1991) Identifying People in the Past, ed E A Wrigley (London, 1973), was also consulted, but was found to be outdated and generally unhelpful.

6 See esp the cautionary remarks in Peter Adman, Stephen W Baskerville and Katharine F Beedham, 'Computer-assisted record linkage or how best to optimize links without generating errors', History and Computing, iv (1992), 3-5.

7 H Rhodri Davies, 'Automated record linkage of census enumerators' books and registration data obstacles, challenges and solutions', ibid, 22-4.

8 Steve King, 'Record linkage in a protoindustrial community', ibid, 30-1.

9 See L R Poos, 'Population and resources in two fourteenth-century Essex communities: Great Waltham and High Easter, 1327-1389', Cambridge Ph D thesis (1983), 298-308, Janet Williamson, One use of the computer in historical studies demographic, social and economic history from medieval English manor court rolls', in Computer Applications to Historical Studies, ed A Gilmour-Bryson (Kalamazoo, 1984), 51-61. Medieval material and its exploitation by computer are also discussed by Lesley Kordecki, 'Computer techniques and medieval land transfers: the DEEDS project', Journal of the Society of Archivists, iv (1984), 299-311, and by Michael Gervers, Gillian Long and Michael McCulloch, 'The DEEDS database of mediaeval charters design and coding for the RDBMS Oracle 5', History and Computing, ii (1990), 1-11. These deal with the computerised study of medieval land transactions, but it is unclear whether or how the techniques could be applied to the much wider body of material in the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls Ingo H Kropac, 'Medieval documents', in Greenstein, Modelling Historical Data, 117-27, deals with details of the physical appearance of documents which are not appropriate in the context of these court rolls, the ordination lists used by Virginia Davis, 'Medieval English clergy database', History and Computing, ii (1990), 75-87, have no parallel in the records used for this project, and the taxation assessments discussed by Sarah Darnall, Jeffrey Denton, Sheila Griffiths, Dorothy Ross and Beryl Taylor, 'The Taxatio database', in Computers and the Humanities, ed Gordon Neal, Marilyn Deegan, David Mealand and Donald Spaeth, Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester, bxw, no 3 (1992), 89-108, are likewise not comparable with the court rolls.
APPENDIX

Frequency of Christian names in Llan4 (1364-76)

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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Introduction

This paper presents the findings of a pilot study of five years of courts from the commote of Llannerch in the lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd. The study had two main objectives. Firstly, it aimed to test the methodology of adding interpretative search-terms (hereafter referred to as 'tags') to records within the Dyffryn Clwyd database for the purpose of analysis of topics for which the usual searching mechanisms are less than satisfactory. Secondly, it set out to investigate the feasibility of certain types of statistical exercise within the context of the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls, particularly those involving demographic trends and those aiming to analyse quantitatively the nature of business within the commotal courts.

Methodology

The sample years chosen were selected primarily on the basis of their legibility and completeness. A cross-section of the fourteenth century was required, and the years chosen were 1322-23, 1342-43, 1364-65, and 1395-96. Because the findings for 1364-65 were somewhat unexpected, the study was extended to include the year 1372-73. Outside these criteria, however, the choice was random, and none of the years chosen appeared obviously atypical of the period from which it was selected. It should be noted, however, that the year 1395-96 is slightly unusual in that one of its courts seems to have fallen in the following year. The court of 30 September 1396 was after Michaelmas, and the scribe started a fresh membrane to mark the change of year, material from it is not included here, even though the corresponding court of Ruthin town in fact took place before Michaelmas. In some respects, therefore, 1395-96 is a court short.

The records in the database relating to the commotal courts of Llannerch in each of the years selected were exported into new files, each containing the records for a particular court year. The 'names' field was then exported into a word-processing package and sorted line-by-line, this was to enable a count to be made both of the number of individual names appearing in the Llannerch courts in each chosen year and of the approximate number of different persons to which they relate.

Tags were then inserted in the 'extra' field to enable the business of the courts to be categorised and analysed both statistically and topically. Macros were used for speed and for consistency, and some were run across entire hit lists obtained by simple searches of the records. Although not every record could be accurately tagged by running a macro across a hit list, it was much easier to refine the tags and weed out those which were inappropriate than it would have been to tag each record individually. These 'principal' tags helped define the nature of the business to which each record relates, and they were then amplified for more detailed analysis, using additional words, phrases, abbreviations, and (to help mark civil litigation in particular) numbers. The tags used in this study are listed alphabetically in the Appendix.

The exact nature of the tags reflected the aims and objectives of the exercise in question, and other research topics would require different tags. For this reason, and also because some of the tags were, with hindsight, unnecessarily lengthy, they should be regarded merely as examples of the sort of phrases which might be appropriate. It would always be desirable, however, to choose tags (words or phrases) which are distinctive and do not occur elsewhere in the records, this is particularly important if the research aims to produce numerical conclusions.
and searching on tags is used as part of the procedure of counting. If distinctive tags are impracticable, then searches must be conducted on the ‘extra’ field alone (using Idealist’s facility to search on particular fields). In this exercise both field searching and distinctive tags were used, and the two should not be seen as mutually exclusive provided that due caution is exercised. It proved useful also to include a slash (/) at the start of each principal tag. This was because when a macro is run on a hit list it is always inserted first in the field, and the punctuation prevents words being run together, with the searching problems which would inevitably ensue.

The principal aims of the tagging in this study were to break down the court business into rough categories, to calculate the number of cases (as opposed to records) in each year and the number of people involved in them, to break down inter-party litigation into types of plea, length of plea, and nature of conclusion, to examine how many pledges are named, and to calculate receipts on the basis of different types of business. Some of these enquires proved more immediately satisfactory than others, but each year was tagged and analysed (and the figures typed up) in approximately six hours’ work.

Results

The general breakdown of business is summarised in Table 1. The unusual nature of the findings for 1364-65 can be observed, especially in comparison with 1372-73, the addition of the latter to the study is thereby seen to be justified. Throughout the century there was a trend towards an increase in the number of records per year and in the number of records per court. There was also a general increase in the number of cases, especially those involving inter-party litigation. There was little increase in the number of forest pleas and other attachments, although in a century of falling population, in which some of the bonds of Lordship may have been gradually loosened, a decrease might have been expected. The rise in the number of criminal cases was due, at least in part, to changes in the practice of registration. From 1347 details of exignents and outlawry were noted in the rolls of the commotal courts, and later in the century some indictments outside the Great Courts were also reported there. The ‘criminal’ category also includes actions taken against individuals who had indulged in violence, especially that which led to the shedding of blood, those included under this head appear, on balance, to have been the result of executive action by the authorities rather than being connected with inter-party litigation, but the distinction is often blurred and cannot be made with any degree of certainty.

The general increase in the number of names in the rolls, and in the number of individuals to which they refer, is noteworthy, so are the variations from year to year, particularly noticeable in the case of 1364-65 and 1372-73. Because it is inconceivable, especially in view of two serious outbreaks of plague in the interim, that the adult male population increased by around fifty per cent between 1342-43 and 1364-65, there would seem to be no useful purpose in employing a head-count of this type for demographic purposes. Even a similar exercise using periods of several years’ duration would seem to be fraught with difficulty. The proportion of women rises from below ten per cent to above ten per cent, possibly because the mortality occasioned by the various outbreaks of plague increased the percentage of widows in the population, such women now appear in the court records in their own right rather than through their husbands. But the change is insufficiently significant for much to be concluded from it. It certainly sheds no light on the accuracy of the theory that men suffered more severely from plague than did women.

The inherent problems of naming patterns, and especially the fact that some individuals can be shown to have been identified in more than one way, mean that the head-count is somewhat approximate, although it is unlikely that the margin of error is greater than ten per cent. The exercise is most straightforward in the 1390s, when the same scribe wrote the majority of the rolls. In the main, the number is probably an over-estimate. For instance, a man could be called both Ieuan ap Llywelyn and Ieuan Llwyd, and he is likely to have been counted twice unless the identification is manifest, this phenomenon is probably commoner than cases where two or more individuals are given the same name, especially within one commune in any particular year. Further detailed research would improve
the accuracy of the figure for the number of people appearing in the Llannerch courts in the year in question, but would be unlikely substantially to alter the general findings of this study. If anything, the over-estimate is likely to have been greatest in the earlier years, so the trend towards increased numbers appearing in court is probably under-stated here.

Various reasons can be suggested for the increase. Firstly, if people became more litigious, went to court more often, and became involved in cases which lasted longer, then the likelihood of their appearing in a particular year is increased, a similar exercise to this, but analysing a number of series of consecutive years, would probably reduce the phenomenon, but would be unlikely to reverse it. Secondly, there are more mentions in the second half of the century of persons who have died (often long before) or who have left the commote or lordship, these people are found most often in attachments on escheated land formerly held by them, but sometimes the lands of individuals who are indubitably alive and active in the commote are also in escheat, and the number of dead or departed persons in the rolls is never great. Thirdly, the exignents and some other criminal business constitute a new element, and often contain several names grouped together, these are sometimes difficult to define and count, but some of those exacted are found in other contexts too, and likewise their number is not large. Nothing can explain away the increased proportion of the adult male population appearing in the courts in the second half of the century, and even if explanations were available it would be impossible to quantify their significance in a manner which would permit meaningful studies to be undertaken of the population of Dyffryn Clwyd on the basis of evidence from the court rolls.

Table II sets out the evidence in the sample years relating to transactions in land. It deals only with those cases where land was transferred from one party to another, either through death or surrender, or where land was demised into escheat or taken from escheat. It does not include other references to land such as the payment of arrears or the seizure of tenements for any reason. The decrease in the number of successions on the death of the previous tenant is striking. The relatively large number of cases in 1364-65 where land was taken from escheat need occasion little surprise, for after two outbreaks of plague some families had died out, and in the 1360s tenants from elsewhere in Dyffryn Clwyd or from neighbouring lordships frequently took land which had earlier escheated to the lord, this practice was probably reduced after the recession of the 1380s, although the figures here do not show it. Transactions under the terms of prid (a renewable four-year mortgage) appear regularly in the court rolls only after a seigneurial statute of 1345, the mortgage in 1322-23 is of the English type, and is rather unusual for Dyffryn Clwyd. Tagging would seem to offer opportunities for a much fuller analysis of land transactions; they are relatively easy to find in the database using the synonym ‘landtransactions’, and tagging them is also reasonably straightforward.

In 1364-65 (and in other years around that time) considerable efforts were made by the seigneurial administration to recover arrears of rents and those reliefs and ebediwau which had not been paid at the normal time, the lapses had often been occasioned by the confusion caused by the plague. These enquiries (and the delaying tactics which those affected employed to resist them) in some ways inflate the business for 1364-65. Similarly, there are long-running disputes over withheld services and alleged failures to pay tolls, likewise evidence that the lord’s officials were trying to resolve old problems and thereby raise money for their master. These affect the figures for the amount of business for 1364-65, especially in the case of land matters which did not involve transfer of the tenancy.

The figures for inter-party litigation appear, at least at first sight, particularly interesting and significant, especially the indication that the average length of civil disputes increased. This was undoubtedly so, moreover, when we consider that some cases either started in the previous court year or continued into the subsequent one, and that for the purposes of this study they were counted only on those occasions when they appear in the records of the year under review, it is clear that the trend was in fact more marked than the figures suggest. But certain difficulties attend any attempts to analyse inter-party litigation, and these must be borne in mind.
Table III shows the breakdown of inter-party litigation into the type of plea by which the suit is categorised in the rolls. The increase in the number of pleas of trespass is, however, partly due to the fact that ‘trespass’ was used as a catch-all, and by the 1390s it included most or all of the pleas which earlier would have been described as pleas of battery. Debt and detinue are virtually synonymous, and pledging and covenant are often overlapping with debt or with trespass. Even within individual cases, it is not uncommon for the type of plea to change. In 1372-73, where this practice is particularly frequent, examples include accounting (L4/2199) = trespass (L4/2219), covenant (L4/2114) = debt (L4/2124), covenant (L4/2107) = trespass (L4/2130), debt (L4/2167) = covenant (L4/2183 etc.), pledging (L4/2169) = trespass (L4/2185), pledging (L4/2288) = trespass (L4/2328), trespass (L4/2198, L4/2215) = cross (L4/2232).

Sometimes (and there are many examples in all the years studied) the type of plea is not stated. This is especially frequent when the case is resolved, and the nature of the entry makes it clear what the question at issue was. Tagging helps to identify and mark these changes of recording practice, because it involves using the type of plea in conjunction with the names of the litigants, but it also reveals the idiosyncrasies of the scribes. When the type of plea changes, one or the other is used for the tag right through the case, but the breakdown in Table III is clearly of only limited use. There is no reason, moreover, to suppose that the exact description of the type of plea was considered particularly important by those who wrote the Dyffryn Clwyd court rolls, the practice in the early fourteenth century of using phrases such as ‘in plea of taking one cow’ suggests that the categories were descriptive rather than essential in terms of legal procedure.

Further analysis of inter-party litigation might involve a closer examination of the people involved as plaintiffs and defendants and their status in the community. The present exercise has not, for instance, attempted to identify which litigants might be acting in an official capacity. Although further tagging would help to sort the records on these or other lines, there would certainly continue to be many uncertainties and loose ends. In some cases, such as pleas of amobr, officials are clearly involved, in others it is far from obvious, and people who were officials could of course sue as private individuals as well as in the context of their office.

More detailed analysis of the nature of the disputes which led to the suits might enable us to break down the civil litigation into different and more meaningful categories. However, it is only sometimes that the court rolls tell us what the case actually involved, and, although tagging would be an excellent means of indicating a new series of definitions, the creation and employment of those definitions could well be problematic.

The figures in Table IV indicate the nature of the conclusion of the inter-party litigation which was settled during the court years under review. Those cases which continued into the following year or were sent to another series of courts are ignored here. The table gives a numerical analysis (based on the tags) for each year, followed by percentages. In the numerical section, a distinction is made between cases where the defendant acknowledged the plaintiff’s claim, where an inquisition found against the defendant, and where the defendant lost in circumstances which are unclear, these are, however, grouped together in the percentages. Failure to prosecute includes withdrawal of the plaint, for the two must have been very similar if not identical, the cases where the plaint was lost or withdrew are grouped together from the standpoint of the percentages. 

Cases of brwydr gynafdef (where each side sued the other in a plea of battery) are treated separately.

Various features can be noted. First of all, a large number of cases finished with a licence to concord, in other words, the matter was settled out of court and a payment was made to the lord (usually by the defendant) for the removal of the case from his courts. Secondly, the proportion of cases which the plaintiff lost increases through the century. This may be indicative of the more extensive use of litigation, and of a tendency to take a matter to court and then think better of it. Many of the cases to prosecute may well reveal an out-of-court settlement, and as such they are similar to the licences to concord. Thirdly, relatively few cases fizzle out without any conclusion in the courts, and some of those which...
did do so in fact involve officials who lost suits and did not suffer amercement, at times (especially in the 1390s) the conclusion in such cases was not recorded in the rolls because no money was forthcoming. While relatively few civil suits were determined in the courts (in the sense that one or other party won), most did finish in amercement, even if that amercement was for licence to concord or for withdrawing a prosecution.

In the early fourteenth century, most people who were amerced or were otherwise indebted to the lord had to find pledges for the payment, the same was often true of those who had to find sureties for good behaviour. An attempt was made during this study to examine pleading in this court context (as opposed to pleading for private agreements which reached court only because they broke down). Pledges for attendance in court are also mentioned, somewhat incidentally, especially in the early years, these were not considered in compiling Table V, had they been, then the trend would probably have been even more marked than it is.

Table V shows that even by the 1340s there is relatively little mention of pledging in the rolls. It is unclear how much this was due to procedural changes and how much to recording practice. In the early years of the fourteenth century, officials often acted as pledges for those whose transgressions they had presented, and this fact is recorded. Later, for whatever reason, it is not. The naming of pledges inflates the number of names mentioned in 1322-23, although its effect on the number of individuals is much less marked, because most of those who pledged were prominent members of society who were likely to appear in other contexts as well.

The breakdown of receipts (shown in Table VI) is not particularly meaningful. The fall in the profits of seigneural discipline is interesting, especially since it is not matched by a comparable fall in the number of attachments. The relatively static receipts from inter-party litigation is rather surprising, even though (except in cases of default) only one amercement was obtained from each case, however long it lasted, there was an increase in the number of cases which is not reflected in the receipts. The other categories display large variations from year to year. Land transactions could bring in relatively large sums a succession to a free Welsh tenement by kinsmen other than sons attracted ebediw and gobrestyn at a customary rate of 20s. Varying numbers of such transactions cause major fluctuations in the figures. A payment of £40 for the farm of an office in 1372-73 has a considerable distorting effect on the level of receipts, although in fact it was not counted among the receipts of Lланnerch at the time. Excluding that exceptional item, the income from land transactions constitutes around half of the total receipts from the communal courts of Lланnerch in each of the years studied apart from the rather unusual year of 1364-65, when revenue from such transactions was even more significant. But the profits of jurisdiction should be examined from the standpoint of Dyffryn Clwyd as a whole rather than on the basis of a single commote, because fines for felonies and serious trespasses were lucrative and they are recorded separately.

Conclusion

The pilot study was, on balance, worthwhile, and its outcome positive. Tagging was shown to be effective. It is quick to insert, very flexible, easy to adapt and alter, and obviates the need for long and complex lists on separate sheets of paper. What has been tagged (and how) is immediately visible, both to the researcher who entered the tags and anyone else who wishes to use the files thereby created, and the whole record, with all the information contained within it, can be viewed on screen. Tagged files enhance the usefulness of the entire database, for they offer another dimension to the interpretation of the material within the rolls. The tags are necessarily subjective, but both the original record and the interpretation of its contents are available simultaneously, and so future users can both understand the basis of others’ analysis and, if desired, interpret the record differently or by other criteria.

Tagging needs to be done with a particular purpose in mind. It is so flexible and so easy to use that all those working on the Dyffryn Clwyd database should feel confident in employing the technique for their own specific purposes. It would be undeniably restrictive if those who have created the calendar were to have a
monopoly on the tagging of separate files drawn from it. Tagging could be used for further rather superficial statistical exercises such as the one here described, for more detailed analyses of the nature of business recorded in the courts, or for specific topical enquiries (exporting hit lists obtained by simple searches or by using the synonym list).

On the specific matter of the areas examined here, the above account has aimed to demonstrate what is immediately achievable and what is not. Analysis which is too detailed to deal with the problems posed by variations in scribal practice or by the loss or damage of the original rolls is unlikely to prosper, that need occasion no surprise. The question of the lord’s criminal jurisdiction must be addressed in conjunction with the Great Courts, rolls of fines and other related records. Head-counts for demographic purposes appear to have little hope of success, but this would not rule out analysis (over a very much longer period and using different methods) of life-span as recorded by the records of the courts. It is likely that the findings of a similar exercise to this using the courts of Ruthin town (and possibly of other commotes) would be different, for the population in the borough was more likely to indulge in English legal procedures in which the courts formed an essential part, also, delaying tactics such as essoins and a variety of legal ruses were used extensively in the town at a much earlier date than in the rural areas. Whether further exercises of this sort are deemed worthwhile is a matter for those who might wish to undertake them. But, in any such exercises, tagging would provide an invaluable analytical tool.
TABLE I
General breakdown of business

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>1342-43</th>
<th>1364-65</th>
<th>1372-73</th>
<th>1395-96</th>
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Average length of civil suits

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TABLE II
Land transactions

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### TABLE III

**Breakdown of civil cases by type**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>1322-23</th>
<th>1342-43</th>
<th>1364-65</th>
<th>1372-73</th>
<th>1395-96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debt</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detnue</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trespass</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battery</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maiming</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledging</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amobr</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</table>

### TABLE IV

**Breakdown of civil cases by conclusion**

<table>
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<th>Conclusion</th>
<th>1322-23</th>
<th>1342-43</th>
<th>1364-65</th>
<th>1372-73</th>
<th>1395-96</th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lic conc</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>84</td>
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<td>Acknowledged</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inq agst def</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agst def</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brwydr gyfaddef</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inq agst pi</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not pros</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unjust plaint</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fizzes out</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>44</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>270</td>
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**Percentages**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Conclusion</th>
<th>1322-23</th>
<th>1342-43</th>
<th>1364-65</th>
<th>1372-73</th>
<th>1395-96</th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lic conc</td>
<td>47 7</td>
<td>18 9</td>
<td>44 1</td>
<td>35 1</td>
<td>13 7</td>
<td>31 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agst def</td>
<td>34 1</td>
<td>40 5</td>
<td>13 6</td>
<td>24 6</td>
<td>37 0</td>
<td>29 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brwydr gyfaddef</td>
<td>4 5</td>
<td>5 4</td>
<td>3 4</td>
<td>1 8</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>2 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agst pi</td>
<td>9 1</td>
<td>24 3</td>
<td>37 3</td>
<td>33 3</td>
<td>41 1</td>
<td>31 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fizzes out</td>
<td>2 3</td>
<td>5 4</td>
<td>1 7</td>
<td>3 5</td>
<td>8 2</td>
<td>4 4</td>
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<td>Misc</td>
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<td>5 4</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>1 8</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>1 5</td>
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</table>
TABLE V
Pledging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1322-23</th>
<th>1342-43</th>
<th>1364-65</th>
<th>1372-73</th>
<th>1395-96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of records which mention pledging</td>
<td>74.03%</td>
<td>10.53%</td>
<td>9.42%</td>
<td>2.61%</td>
<td>1.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of records which name pledges</td>
<td>52.49%</td>
<td>10.09%</td>
<td>7.76%</td>
<td>1.49%</td>
<td>1.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of names which are those of pledges</td>
<td>24.66%</td>
<td>9.56%</td>
<td>8.93%</td>
<td>1.01%</td>
<td>1.15%</td>
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</table>

TABLE VI
Receipts by category of business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1322-23</th>
<th>1342-43</th>
<th>1364-65</th>
<th>1372-73</th>
<th>1395-96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>265</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-party</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>176</td>
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<td>359</td>
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</table>
APPENDIX

Tags used in this study

<table>
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<th>Tag</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>002</td>
<td>/2 pledges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003</td>
<td>/3 pledges</td>
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<td>004</td>
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<td>005</td>
<td>/7 pledges</td>
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<tr>
<td>006</td>
<td>/8 pledges</td>
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<td>007</td>
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<td>008</td>
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<tr>
<td>010</td>
<td>animals</td>
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<td>011</td>
<td>/bail</td>
</tr>
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<td>012</td>
<td>/bailiff-Llysfasl</td>
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<td>013</td>
<td>bg</td>
</tr>
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<td>014</td>
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<td>exig</td>
</tr>
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<td>hnc-conc</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/plea of battery</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/plea of covenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/plea of cross</td>
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<td>/plea of debt</td>
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<td>/plea of trespass</td>
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<td>quit</td>
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<tr>
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<td>relinq</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>relinq-taking</td>
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<td>succ</td>
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<td></td>
<td>succ-cont</td>
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<td></td>
<td>surr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>unjust-plant</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>withdraw</td>
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</table>
Below are given the transcripts of several French documents found in the court rolls. Most are from the sections calendared, but not all material in French in the calendar has been transcribed, either because of the shortage of time or because the material was too scrappy to justify it. Abbreviations in the original manuscripts have, on the whole, not been extended in the transcripts.

In addition to other French documents referred to in the calendar, the following references to material in French were noted from parts of the rolls which were not used for the database:

SC2/218/7, m 23A
SC2/219/9, m 24
SC2/220/1, m 27
SC2/221/9, m 10d

We wish to acknowledge the invaluable assistance of Professor David Trotter of the Department of Modern Languages in Aberystwyth in transcribing and translating some of the documents presented below. Any errors are, of course, our own.

PRO, SC2/217/6, m.25 [Llannerch, 12 October 1340]
A vous tresnoble seignour mons' Rog' de Grey seignour de DeffreynclOld Edenewet ap Heylyn vre' neyf de Lanherth' si vous plest monstre qe la ou il tient par bundage en vre' dit commot de Lanherth' vi acr' de tere meyns un rod dount il paye a vre' dit seynurye en lan pur chescun acr' vui d. La ount Egnon' ap Kehelyn + ses treys neweus + un leuan Bathan ses veysines ly detenu per force + mestrye in rodes de la dite t're pur queux il ad paye per vui anz la rente cest assauer chescun an vi d + nul profit nad ew de la dite tere. Parount le auantdit Edenewet prie a vre' tresnoble seignurye qe vous ly facetz deluuer les auantditz in rodes de tere od ses damages per taunt temps ou qll pussee' estre descharge de la dite rente.

[Dorse] Pleg' de pros'
Ith' ap Eygn'
Daud Vaghan

Distringantur partes ad res ad prox cur' de Llann'

1 Written over an erasure
PRO, SC/2/217/14, m 33d [Ruthin, 28 April 1349]

Termunat judicio inter Eignon Loyd Legelew querer + Daud Goh ap Ken def de quod duorc prout infra ut plenius continetur super quo predictus Daud dat et predictus Eignon requitus quod posset verificari per homines Colyan necne dict quod non eo quod placita predicta termunat + finita sunt coram sen' sine excepcione in placando faciend' Et qua Nich's de receptor ibid' tunc presens in cur' requitus si nulle excepciones ut suppositum est tunc facte fussent dict expresso quod sic prisc irrotulat' Ideo predictus processus respectuatur + aornetur coram domino in adventu suo eo quod plura difficilia in dicto processu inueniuntur. Et predictus Daud inue[nit] manucapt' de pena subscript' persoluen'di si de iure sibi debetur. Et predictus Eignon similiter. Et predictus Daud dat domino pro manucapt' habend' xx [s'] Et sunt nominum manucap' Ken' ap Daud at Meill' Madoc ap Daud ap Meill' Guff' ap Mad' ap Guff' Leull' Duy + Bleth' ap Ddl' ap Meill' Et predictus Eignon dat pro manucapt' eo quod non est convictus. Et inuenit manucapt' Mad' Vaghan ap Mad' Oythe et Ior' ap Ieuan ap Heill' ad habend' predictum Eignon coram domino

[Margin] Cor' domino Uterque pars mort' Manuc' xx s'

[On appended piece of parchment]

[Recto] A son tresredote Seignur mons' Rog' de Grey Seignur de Deffrencloyd si luy ples monstre sen pouere tenant Daud Goh ap Ken' Goh del commot' de Colyan q' grantment se sent greuez par la ou un Eignon Thilegeleu chapeleyn + tenant Leuesq' de Bangor' de sa ville de Lananchan luy ad torconeusement pursuy par une peyne de dys liures q'x il dist q' deueroyn estre fait entre le dit Daud + le dit Eignon apayers lune moye au s'ur + laurte moye a la parthe a q'l hure q' nul de eaux fust cause q' deuere se preyst entre le dit Daud + la file le dit Eignon chapeleyn q'le le dit Daud ad espouse + le dit Eignon feynot plegges de ses garsouns demeigne + des ribaus allowes + pursuot par voye de
couenant enfreyn en la ville de Ruth' la ou ils amebeux somt galeys + foreyns + deueroyn estre termine en la foreyne court de Colyan + encounter cee le dit Eign' " fesooy enhacer le dit Dd' de responsdre en la court de Ruth' + enquest' prendre et par gentz desconues de la chose q' rien ne sajoyent mes cee q' les plegges q'x le dit Eignon auont fauset faitt les enfourma en aucaunt la dite Enquest' la q'le enquest' prisse disoyent pur verdit q' une tule peyne fuyt fait mes ils ne sajoyent dire leur verdist atrenche tanq' la deuorce' soit outrement fait + le jugement rendu e a cee s'ur la cause du deuorce est telle q' par Enquest deuant Leuesq' de Bangor' en sa visitacion noun s'achant la dit Dd' + encounter son gree il + sa femme furent enditez q' auoyt espouse la file le dit Eignon chapeleyn le q' Eignon luy auoyt baptize q' la chose fuyst desconue a luy + aussi desconue chose a luy q' nul deuorce purra estre fait par cele cause mes seulement les munsters de seinte Eugilde de leur Office' saunz sa suyte + encounter son gree adonq' + vncore est + cee ouent fait [dorse] par le vertue de q' l verroet en Enq'st de Ruth' saunz pie [?] de processe le dit Eign' (non) fia[t] le dit Dd pur la peyne susdite estre' atache + enprison + ses biens + terres entirement seyss en la meyn le l s'ur et a cee samble au dit Dd q' le dit Eignon est cause du deuorce par atant q' luy baptize + s'achant ceo dona sa file a luy q' de ceo fuyst desconue et nepurqant Seignur' depusq' est une peyne auantdite distresse leue de un de les parties sus[ditz] le dit Dd ne mye coueytant q' son dit s'ur soyt de nen perduant eynez se fuyest ne q' les almes del Enq'st de Ruth' soyent en nul pern q'x ne ouent nule consuence entre eaux sinon par les fuses plegges + Feyntes susditz q' plie a son dit Seignur en ouere de charite + pur les almes ses ancesstes faire la chose demorur deuant luy mesmes a sa venue en caes partes + adonq' prendre Enquest de les meilleurs gentz del com[mot'] de Colyan q'x ouent consuence entre eaux q' la ou les parties furent marres + les marages faizt denq' le verite de ses eschoses + qi nulz deuera tele peyne payer pur ceo q' le dit Dd' ne coueyte q' la dite peyne soit desproue depusq' le dit Eignon ladj fait prouer tent ne soit ceo verable et a ceo faire le dit Dd' durra a son dit Seignur xx s' enpurnaut aussi a ceo la moye de la dite peyne de q'le partie q' lequest de Colyan auuger la defaute et en caas q' son dit Seignur ne vodra la chose delayer q' luy plose comuader atrenche a son sen' de Ruth' q' l ensi
C'est couenaunt fait entre Ric'de Couhope deune
part + William de Asphulle Thomas fitz Wauter
Adam de Hendebury William fitz William Aley
de Couhope + Mad' ap Eignon daultre part cest
asauoq le dit Ric' ad grante etlesse adit William
Thomas Adam William Aley et Mad' partie de
les moleynes de Aberqulær' et Maismanant et lez
auaudtitz Will' Thom' Adam Will' Aley et Mad'
ount troue pleges adit Ric' pur le ferme de lez
molyne auautitz a paer adit Ric' la dite ferme
e a jours del paiement qe yls serrount prestez
uenaur adit Ric' ouesque lour destresses qant le
reseyuour luy destrent pur le ferme arere. Et suls
ne soient prest adit couenaunt tener' soient en
une peyne c'est asauor xii d a seigur + acete
couenaunt tener' si ount lez auautitz troue
plegez cest a sauvor pur William de Asphull' Will'
de Rettford + Thoma fitz Will' pleg' pur Will'
fitz Will' Robert fitz Eleys + Robert de Sotonin'
Pleg' pur Thom' fitz Walt' Will' de Asphull' +
Aley de Couhope Pleg' pur Aleyn de Couhop
Nichole de Couhop + Adam del Bonke Pleg' pur
Ad' de Hendebury Will' fitz Will' et Aleyn de
Couhop Pleg' pur Mad' ap Eignon Will' fitz Will'
et Aleyn de Couhop

Cez sountlez couenantz de les molyns
de Aberqwlar et Maisman'
Coune chose soit as tozet gentz par y cestes presents l'res nous Renaud de Grey s'ur de Deffr' auor baille' + graunte a Ith' ap Mad' ap Howell' la moyte de la baillye de la fforestne de Collyan oue lez appurtznatz apendantz a la dite baillye, a avoir + tenir de nous + de noz heyrs a tote la vie le dit Ith' sinoun le dit Ith' forfaite sa baille par nulle manere qeqqon' purret aeuoir pur quele forfaiture il deit de droyt perdre la dite baille, rendant a nos + a nos heyrs pur la dite baille quarante luieres en manere q' ensut, cest assauoir chescun an apres la date dycestes quarante s' a lez festes de Noell' Pasche Natuutee sent Johan + sent Mich' par ouelles porciones tanq' la dite summe soit enterrement paie, et si auygne lauandit Ith' deuent le pleyn payement du dit mone morr, q' dieu defende, qe donq' sez executours + sez meynpernours paient a nous + noz heirs dis soude pur le premer terme apres le decees le dit Ith' + de remeynant du dit dette si ren y soit a donq' soient deschargez + quites as tous iours, et si ascun vente de boys turbere ou ascun autre profit deynz la dite baille ascun an en temps le dit Ith' auygne le dit Ith' de cee soit tenu a nous + a noz heirs acompter a quelle heure q' soit garny par noz munstres renablement En tesmoignance de quele chose as cestes presents l'res auons mye n're seal Don' a Ruth' lendedeyn seynt Mich' lan du regne le roi E' tierce puis le conquest' quarante quarte Perplegium ad soluend' quo supra Ken' ap Howell' ap Mad', leua ap Griff', Egn' ap Ken', Griff' ap Wyllym, Egn' ap Meredith, Howell' ap Mad', Egn' ap Li', Wyllym ap Mad' Vaghan, Bleth' ap Dd' + Dd Loyt

[Unusually for a French document, this item appears within the record of a court, not on an attached piece of parchment]

v'ere pour interlined
CH' + bn' ame salutz. Come de n’re grace especial + pur un fyn q’ John’ ffitz Almory le Marreys nous ad fait, auons pardone au dit John’ toute la suite q’ a nous enuers luy appartient a cause del rauscement dune Wladus file Edeneuet le Cook de Ruthyn dont le dit John’ est felonousement endite, Vous mandons + chargeons q’ vous ne molestez le dit John’ ne en ascune manere luy greuez a cause del rauscement auandtde mes q’ vous faitez le dit John’ trouver sufficent seurete de son bone porte deuers la dite Wladus + toutz autres de n’re s’urie de Ruthyn en temps avuir. Le seint Espirit vous eatt en sa garde Escrip a n’re manour de Harewold le disme iour de Iuyll’

Reynaud Grey s’ur de Weyesford + Ruthyn

[Dorse] A n’re ch’ + bn’ ame Hugh’ Huls seneschal de n’re s’urie de Ruthyn ou a souen heutenant

PRO, SC2/220/9, m 18B [Ruthin, 10 July 1392]

A son treshonure + tresgracious s’ur Reynaud de Grey s’ur de Deffrencloyd supple sa pouere tenant Wladus q’ fust la feme Almory le Marreys q’ come ils estoient en graunde dette enuers son dit tressgracious s’ur cestassauoir de la ferme del molyn appelle le Wodemulne en la vie son dit baron et auxu elle mesme apres la mortu’ son dit baron est encore en graunde dette pur le rent de sa dower de lez terrez + tenz’ iadys son dit baron le quel dette amouinta a bxv s’uij d’ par qoi plese a sa tresgracious s’ie pur dieu + en oeuvre de chantee + pur lez almes de sez anceltres faire grace au dite Wladus de la dette auandtde eiantz regard’ tressgracious s’ur q’ le [dit] Almory ad estee servant a son dit treshonure s’ur + a son pire q’ dieu assoile par longe temps passee et q’ le dit Almary a temps de sa moriant auoit plusieurs enfanz + fust graundement empuoneris + amentise de sez biens + chateux issint q’ nauoit mye dount il puret vivr’ et la dite Wladus ad estee puis la mort son dit baron chargee ouesq’ lez dits enfanz + oue graunde rent + nad pas biens ne chateux dount elle poet pauer lez deniers auandtiz si neit grace + socour de son tresreuerent s’ur susdit’

[Dorse] Dominus ex gracia sua pardonavit mediet’ debiti ut inveniat secur’ ad soluend’ aliam mediet’ viz xxxij s’ vij d’ ob’

1 Reading slighty unclear it is possible that the last character is an abbreviation appended to the i, but if so it is rather large

2 For ‘tenemenz’

3 There is an illegible interlineation, several words in length, at this point
A treshonure + tresgraciouse dame dame Elianore dame de Deffrendoyd mostret q' plese un poure tenant del commod de Collyan Daud ap Ken' ap Ior' ap Li' q' le dit Ior' ap Li' estoit prestour + preodor de serteyn terre denz la vile de Llanyrys + par cause q' il ne auaid ayrus de lynne de sanke + soum issu ne purroit estre ayre a luy le dit Ior' chatoy le dit terre del s'ur pur serteyn som dargent a Ken' soum fitz le qel Ken' estloit en pocession en le vie de dit Ior' ap Li' le qel Ken' predoist grauntparty dez terres a aultres en sa vie issi q' Daud soum fitz ne ad mes pety parcell' en soum mayns par cause de qel parcell' le dit Daud ad paye lez obeduz soum puer + soum frere + lez amobours pur soum sewres et unqore le dit Daud ap Ken' est acuse par soum aduersares q' le dit terre deest estre le terre le s'ur + nemy a dit Daud par qui le dit Daud suphie de droit + resoun pur lamour de dieu + pur le alme de Reynaunt de Gray q' il puse auoire record' dez rolls + on enquerre par enquest de soum droit + ne donez trope credenz a soum acousur Blethin ap Eign' ap Meredit le qel Blethin tient serteyn terre q' estoit a un Daud ap Cadogan tenant naif le qel Daud ap Cad' est demurrant denz le s'urhe de Dynbeigh' + ad de bienz al valu de xx b' + voit volunters reuener' a soum terre si il purroit auoire pes de dit Blethin ap Eign' ap Meredit

[158]
A treshonure + tresgracious dame Elanore dame de Daffrencloyd mostret q' plese Dauud ap Ken' ap lor' tenant del commod' de Collyan que un Dauud ap Eign' Lloyd tenant del mesmes commod' predoist un parcel' de terre a un Blethm ap Eign' ap Meredit pur v s' le temps q le dit Dauud ap Eign' Lloyd estoit malaude + euoylet + cet' encontre usage de peys ou licens de surrre le qel terre est v'rez + deuoiesteestre v'res par cez synk' anes passes mes le dit Blethm ap Eign' ap Mered' voderoiat auoir soui noune entre en v're rentale en pocession de dit terre par fauour de ayde par qoi le dit Dauud ap Ken' ap lor' vous suphie de grace lu graunterle le dit parcel' de terre + il voit vous dener x s' pur auoir le dit terre par cause q' le terre est procheyn alui + mes le dit terre estoit procheyn alu il ne voderoiat doner taunte par qoi il suphie de grace purceo q' aultres pur malis voderoyunt lu faire damagez en taunt q' ils purrount mes v're grace lu defende + de v're bon grace il suphie pur lampour de dieu + en euer de charite + pur la alme moun treshonure s'ur de Grayd q' est a dieu commaunde

[Dorse] Blethm infra invent pleg' essendi ad prox' cur' videlicit Eign' ap Mered' + Dauud ap Eign' Postea ad cur' tent' die Ious post festum Math' anno xv j predictus Bleth' dac' quod' quod quid' Bleth' ap Dd ap Eign' dimusit et terram infra pro v s' nomine vad' quosque qui quid' Bleth' ap Dd fuit tunc tempsis infra etatem etc ideo terra seiatur in manu domine

1 The word prid is written in the margin at this point
2 Followed by a deleted word
THE FORESTS OF DYFFRYN CLWYD

The list below gives the names of those places described in the court rolls as forests, grouped under the name of the commote in which references to them occur, in some cases the forest was not in the commote in question. However, in the case of the Great Court files the forest is placed, where possible, in the commote in which it was situated. It is clear that some of these ‘forests’ were small reserved areas, few of them can have been large areas of forest, either in the sense of woodland or in the more technical legal context. Some names can be equated with the names of vills, some cannot. Because the regularity with which named forests occur may be of importance in establishing their size and significance, the numbers of the files in which the names are found in the context of forests are given also. Place-names which cannot be traced are given in quotation marks under one form (or occasionally more than one form), for the full list of forms reference should be made to the consolidated index of place-names. It should be noted that some of the references to ‘the forest of Colton’ must be regarded in the context of the office of forester of Colton, it is sometimes stated in the rolls that ‘the forest of Colton’ is transferred to an individual. Note also ‘the forest of Colton of Glynpolva’ (G/1188).

RUTHIN
Bathafarn 2
Coed Galchog D
Coed-marchon D

COLION
Bronbanog G1 13 6 9 G3
Bryngwrgi 3
‘Carth’ 12 8 B G ‘Coydkarthmarhgan’ G
‘Carthpoyth’ 6
Cefn-iwrych 9
Clocaenog 6
Coed-marchon 2 3 5 7 11 12 B G
Colion 7 9 11 G4 B C G
Derwen 2 6 7 8 11 12
Dyfanner 8
Efenechthyd 2 9
Fachlwyd 9 12
Faenol 4

‘Glynmelan’ 3 ‘Glynmelyan’ 4
Glynnynan’ 2 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 G3 G
‘Glynpolva’ G1 14 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 B G
‘Leesveney’ 4
‘Mausros’ 6
‘Marghnant’ B
‘Maynegulle’ 9
Pen-y-coed 3 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Ysgeifiog 1 2 5

TREFOR AND CLOCAENOG
‘Bodecros’ 12 (cf 11/1369)
Bronbanog 12
Clocaenog 5 6 9
‘Kadenant’ 10
‘Marghnant’ 1 2 4 6 7 8 9 10 11
‘Nannaerw’ 11
Trefor 4 6 7 G3

DOGFELLING
Bachgern G1 1 2 3 4 5 7 9 10 11 12
Bancar 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 12 B H
Beudir 4 8 9 12
Bodlerger 2 3 4 5 10 11
Boderwog 6 8 9
‘Carthdyardoc’ 3
Cefnygwrdy 6 7 8 9
Cerdio G1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 B
Corfedwen 2 9
Dogfelting G1 3 4 5 6 7 10 11 B H
Gellfor G1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 B H
Groes Efa 7 8
‘Hendrefdudor’ 5
‘Henfron’ 2 9
Hirwyn 1 2 3 4 6 7 9 H
Llandymog 7
Liannernre-adeuddwr 2 3 B
Llwynnedd 1
Penbedw 3
Rhiwau 7
Sgorieglen 3 5 6 11 H
Wenen 7

ABERCHWILER
Aberchwiler G1 1 2 6 7
Blorant 1 2 3
‘Cadenant’ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
LLANNERCH
'Arthergwa' L1
'Brenhouel' L1 4 5 11 L2 L3 L4 E
'Bronuelys' L4
Caerddimen L1 1 4 11 L2 L3
Caerfilio L1 2 5 6 9 L2 L3 L4 L5 B
'Caregcome' L4
'Carnebane' 2 L2
'Carrectallorn' L3
'Carregewarth' L4
'Carrekrewalth' L3 L4
'Carrekuaur' L3 L4
'Cearthlyuor' L4
Cedio L4
Cilin L1 1 6 9 L2 L3 L4 E
Coed-talwm 5 L2
Colion L5
Derwen-lannerch L1 6 7 L2 L3 [cf 2/615]
Euarth L1 2 4 6 8 9 10 L2 L3 L4 L5
Faenol L1 G1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 L2 L3 G3 L4 G4 L5 B E L7 G7
Garthgynan L1 G1 6 8 L2
Garthyneuadd L1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 L2 L3 L4 L5 B E L7
Llanerch L1 L3 L4 L5 G5 B E L7
Llysfas L1 G1 5 6 9 L2 L3 E
'Loynbraud' G1 'Thlunbraud' L1
'Loynladran' L3
Namor 12 L2
Nantclwyd L1 1 4 5 10 12 L2 L3 L4 L5
Pen-y-coed 10 11 L2
Pwlcalladr -5 L2
'Rewalth' L4
Trewyn 4 L2
[Yale] 2 L2

OTHERS
DC' G1
'Feckeham' G1

1 Not found on the OS map, but there is a Nant Myman at SJ/0751, Glynmyman would be the valley down which this stream flows - OJP

2 Forest apparently 'iuxta cur' de Maces' (G1/2160)

3 Cf a place called Llwyn y Bran, apparently at SJ/079501 A Q Berry, 'The parks and forests of the lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd', Transactions of the Denbighshire Historical Society, xiii (1994), 16

4 Forest so called, but rather vaguely, in 1320 (G1/1628)
The following places are described as parks in the court rolls. In many cases a park is attested frequently, although its exact location, and especially its boundaries, cannot usually be defined. In other cases, description of a place as a park is very rare, and in some instances may be the result of scribal error. The numbers of the files in which the places named appear as parks are given below as a rough indication of regularity of occurrence.

- Bathafarn L1 G1 REN 1234 5678 9 10 11 12 L2
  G3 L4 G4 G5 B C D E L7 G7
- Bryn-cyffo L1 G1 1234 5678 9 10 11 12 L2 L3
  L4 G4 L5 B E G L7
- Clocaenog L1 G1 REN 1234 5678 9 10 11 12 L2
  L3 G3 G4 L5 B E F G L7 G7
- Faenol L1 L7
- Gellifor 4
- Maesmynan 4 679 10 G3 G4 G5
- Nant-y-wrach G1
- Park de la More G
- Penbedw G1 117 G3 HERB
- Pool Park G1 134 5678 9 10 11 12 B D G G7
- Rhydelideyn 9
- Ruthm new park G1 2 4 6 7 9 10
- Ruthm small park G1 R G1 REN 1234 5678 9 10
  11 12 L3 G3 G4 G5 B C D G G7
- Kilford [in lordship of Denbigh] 7 H
- Woodstock [in Oxfordshire] G1

1 Cf. a letter to Reginald Grey from Gruffydd ap Dafydd, ap Gruffydd, dated at park of Brnkiffe, 11 June 1410 x 1412 (J. B. Smith, ‘The last phase of the Glyndŵr rebellion’, Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies, xxm (1966-8), 257-8)

2 Park extended to Gyffyllog and Bontuchel, enclosing an area of some 2500 acres. A. Q. Berry, ‘The parks and forests of the lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd’, Transactions of the Denbighshire Historical Society, xlii (1994), 24. Berry also seems to suggest that it was coextensive with the forest of Bron-banog (ibid, 23), but his later comments appear to contradict this. The court rolls indicate that the park extended as far as Clocaenog church (SC2/216/14, m 21d)

3 A parker of Faenol is attested in L3, but there is no explicit reference in that file to a park there.

4 There is reference to the killing of a buck of the lord’s park near the fulling mill of Maesmynan (e.g. 12/245)

5 To be identified with Coed Nant-y-wrach at SJ/117714, south of Maesmynan. Cf. Berry, ‘Parks and forests’, 15

6 Occurs only once, in badly damaged entry (G2/2203). Cf. discussion about park of Welsh moor, note 11 below.

7 The reading in 11/451 is doubtful.

8 Also known as ‘the park of the fishpond’ (parcus piscatilis), see e.g. 8/1642, 12/382, 12/383. On 1 Jun 1333 there is mention of aera taken grazing infra palicum domini xutia le Bernemour in le Poolpark’ (SC2/216/13, m 8)

9 Probably error for ‘meadow’. MS reads ‘part-i’ (9/2183)

10 The gate of the new park was adjacent to the high road from Ruthm to Llanfair (L3/1093)

11 Known usually as ‘the small park’, but sometimes as ‘the small park of Ruthm’ or merely as ‘the park of Ruthm’. See especially instances in the period 1389-99 where an offence in ‘the park of Ruthm’ is said to be ‘attachment of the small park’. It is likely that the small park was situated to the north-west of Ruthm town. There was space for 3 acres of land and a garden between it and the high road which led to Denbigh (B/297), and in view of the frequent references to a meadow below the small park it was probably on the rising ground to the west of the Denbigh road. In 1342 there is a reference to ‘the park on the Welsh moor’, and this is said to be an attachment of the small park (2/1635), however, the exact location of the Welsh moor is not known, and in 1346-47 a disputed half-burgage in Welsh street (on the eastern side of medieval Ruthm) was said to be between a tenement and the street leading to the Welsh moor. (6/605, 6/684, 7/1436, 7/1750). The ‘new park’ was apparently different from the small park, but it should be noted that references to ‘the park of Ruthm’, especially in rolls 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11, could refer to the new park rather than the small park.
Tab Delimited File Field Layouts
this document has been created by the History Data Service

Study 3679, *Dyffryn Clywd Court Roll Database, 1294-1422*, was deposited at the History Data Service as Idealist text export files. These files are not standard delimited text files, and will not be properly interpreted by import text wizards such as those in Microsoft Excel or Access.

In order to provide a version of the data that can be easily opened in spreadsheet and database software, the History Data Service has prepared a tab delimited text version of the data with a modified structure. This document describes the differences between the original Idealist structure, explained in detail in the document “guide.pdf”, and the tab delimited text version of the data.

All Files Except NAMES.TAB, PNS.TAB, RENTAL.TAB, SURNAMES.TAB
See pp.16-23 of “guide.pdf” (PDF file page numbering, not document page numbers)

Idealist Record Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>Added field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Idealist</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>contains the text A1, A2 or A4 indicating the original record type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td></td>
<td>manuscript class reference and membrane number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
<td>unique number of the record within the file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court</td>
<td></td>
<td>name of series record belongs to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
<td>record date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons</td>
<td></td>
<td>persons listed in the entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td></td>
<td>calendar of the entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra</td>
<td></td>
<td>interpretative phrases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts</td>
<td></td>
<td>total of receipts for the court</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PNS.TAB
See pp.69-71 of "guide.pdf" (PDF file page numbering, not document page numbers)

The file contains records with the Idealist record type:

:name
:lemma
:forms
:comments
:extra
The record type structure is complicated by the use of prefix terms to the ":name" record header and, in the case of "pns.tab" the sub-division of the "forms" field into up to three separate parts that differ for standardised and non-standardised names.

Tab Delimited Field Layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>Added field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>standardised r</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 if name was standardised, 0 if not usually the modern form of the name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemma</td>
<td></td>
<td>0 - not standardised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 - standardised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms-true</td>
<td></td>
<td>true place names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>place name surnames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms-surnames0</td>
<td></td>
<td>subsidiary place names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms-subsidiary</td>
<td></td>
<td>standardised place name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms-standard</td>
<td></td>
<td>variant place names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms-variant</td>
<td></td>
<td>place name surnames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms-surnames1</td>
<td></td>
<td>empty in this file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>comments</td>
<td></td>
<td>various comments, see pp.70-71 of &quot;guide.pdf&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra</td>
<td></td>
<td>empty in this file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SURNAMES.TAB

See pp.59-65 of "guide.pdf" (PDF file page numbering, not document page numbers)

This file contains records with the Idealist record type:

: name
: lemma
: forms
: comments
: extra

The record type structure is complicated by the use of prefix terms to the ":name" record header.

Tab Delimited Field Layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>Added field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>surnametype</td>
<td></td>
<td>categorisation of surnames, see p63 of &quot;guide.pdf&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemma</td>
<td></td>
<td>usually, the modern form of the surname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forms</td>
<td></td>
<td>forms of surname found in sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>comments</td>
<td></td>
<td>comments, see p.59 of &quot;guide.pdf&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>extra</td>
<td></td>
<td>extra notes, see p.60 of &quot;guide.pdf&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RENTAL.TAB

The file "rental.tab" contains records with the Idealist record type:

: Michael
: ref
: number
: heading
: date
: person
: property
: terms
: rent
: misc
: extra
Tab Delimited Field Layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>Added field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td></td>
<td>manuscript class reference and membrane number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
<td>unique number of the record within the file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heading</td>
<td></td>
<td>title of the document*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
<td>record date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person</td>
<td></td>
<td>persons listed in the entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td></td>
<td>property in question*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms</td>
<td></td>
<td>legal term*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td></td>
<td>rent*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td></td>
<td>additional notes*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra</td>
<td></td>
<td>empty in this file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Field descriptions are not provided in "guide.pdf" for this file, and where indicated the content of the fields has been assumed. A general discussion about this file can be found in "guide.pdf" pp.78-85 (PDF file page numbering, not document page numbers).

**NAMES.TAB**

This file contains a single record with the Idealist record type:

`:A3freetext`

This record contains names listed separately by file and ordered alphabetically.

Tab Delimited Field Layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>New</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>filename</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>the file in which the name was found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>name</td>
<td></td>
<td>name</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>