

MAELGWN ap RHYS (c. 1170 - 1230), lord of Ceredigion

Name: Maelgwn ap Rhys
Date of birth: c. 1170
Date of death: 1230
Child: Maelgwn Fychan
Parent: Gwenllian ferch Madog ap Maredudd
Parent: Rhys ap Gruffydd
Gender: Male
Occupation: lord of Ceredigion
Area of activity: Politics, Government and Political Movements; Royalty and Society
Author: Thomas Jones Pierce

son of the '[lord Rhys](#)' by Gwenllian, daughter of [Madog ap Maredudd](#). He first appears at the siege of Tenby in 1187, and took the cross when [Gerald](#) toured Wales in 1188. Of short stature, turbulent and aggressive, his conduct greatly embittered his father's later years. A prisoner from 1189 to 1194, and living in exile when [Rhys](#) died in 1197, he returned bent on gaining a large share of the ancestral lands, to the embarrassment of his brother [Gruffydd](#), his bitterest foe, and after 1201, when [Gruffydd](#) died, of his nephews Rhys and [Owain](#). By allying with [Gwenwynwyn](#) and king John he secured, in 1199, the lordship of Ceredigion, only to be deprived of the northern commotes by [Llywelyn ap Iorwerth](#) in 1207. It was his failure to recover this lost territory after helping John to win a victory over [Llywelyn](#) in 1211 which no doubt induced him to pass over to [Llywelyn](#)'s side. The latter's continued distrust, nevertheless, is seen in the partition of the '[lord Rhys](#)'s dominions made under [Llywelyn](#)'s supervision in 1216, when Maelgwn was excluded from all territory lying north of the Aeron. He died at Llannerch-aeron late in the year 1230, and was buried at Strata Florida, being succeeded by his son, Maelgwn Fychan.

Author

Professor Thomas Jones Pierce, (1905 - 1964)

Sources

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest* (London 1911), Vol. I

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest* (London 1911), Vol. II

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Maelgwn ap Rhys](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q3399393](#)

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