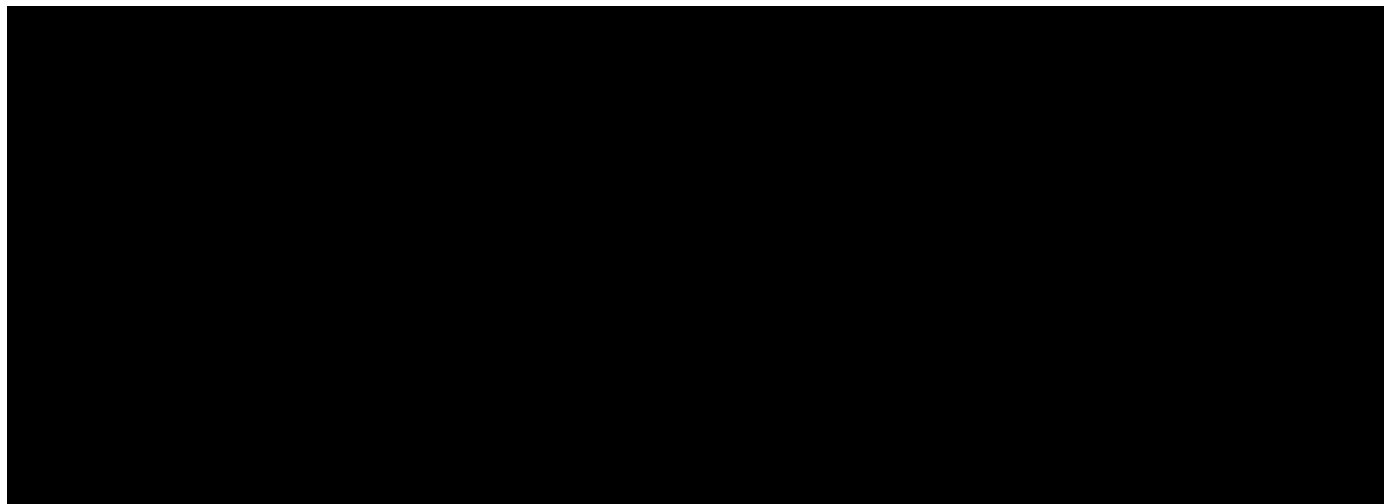


PHILIPPS family, of Cwmgwili, Carmarthenshire



Claiming descent from the same stock as **Philipps** family of Picton and Kilsant, the Cwmgwili family played a prominent part in Carmarthenshire affairs in the 18th and 19th cents. GRISMOND PHILIPPS (died 1740) inherited Cwmgwili from his great-uncle Gruffydd Lloyd who died in 1713 and was high sheriff of Carmarthenshire in 1715. His son, GRIFFITH PHILIPPS (c. 1720 - 1781), was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1741, unsuccessfully contested Carmarthen in 1741 and sat for the borough 1751-61 and 1768-74. He was closely associated in politics with **George Rice** of Newton, following the Whig leaders to the death of George II in 1760, and thereafter attaching himself to the leading politicians of the day. About 1738 he began a long struggle with the Tory and possibly Jacobite **Sir John Philipps** of Picton for the political control of the borough of Carmarthen. With the support of the town mob, Griffith Philipps succeeded in 1749 in overturning the Tory common council of the borough and between 1749 and 1763 the government of the town fell into complete chaos. In 1764, with the co-operation of **George Rice** and lord Verney, a new charter was obtained for the borough which consolidated the position of the Philipps party in the town, but by no means gave them complete control of its affairs. Co-operation between Philipps and **Rice** lasted until the latter's death in 1779. Thereafter, the **Rice** family became increasingly Tory, but JOHN GEORGE PHILIPPS of Cwmgwili (died 1816), son of Griffith Philipps, continued to support the Whigs, finding new allies in the **Vaughan**, and later the Campbell, families of Golden Grove. In 1785 he voted in favour of the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. He was mayor of Carmarthen, 1783 and 1810, Member of Parliament for Carmarthen 1784-1803, and high sheriff of Carmarthenshire 1812. His elder son, another JOHN GEORGE PHILIPPS (1783 - 1869), served in the Navy during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, and in 1831 unsuccessfully contested Carmarthen as a champion of parliamentary reform. He was mayor of Carmarthen in 1816.

Author

Professor Glyn Roberts, (1904 - 1962)

Sources

A History of Carmarthenshire, ii, chapter 1, passim

Thomas Nicholas, *Annals and Antiquities of the Counties and County Families of Wales*(London 1872), vol.1, i, 297-9

W. R. Williams, *The parliamentary history of the principality of Wales, from the earliest times to the present day, 1541-1895*(Brecknock 1895), 54, 55

T. H. B. Oldfield, *The Representative History of Great Britain and Ireland being a History of the House of Commons and of the Counties, Cities, and Boroughs of the United Kingdom, from the earliest period* (London 1816), vi, 49-50

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Sir John Philipps, 6th Baronet](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q7528005](#)

Published date: 1959

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC-RUU/1.0/>



APA Citation



Roberts, G., (1959). PHILIPPS family, of Cwmgwili, Carmarthenshire. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 8 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-PHIL-CWM-1713>

Copy to Clipboard

- Privacy & Cookies
- Copyright
- The Project
- Help
- Contact

LGC
NLW

LLYFRGEL
THE NATION



Wedi gysgu
Llywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Government