

## **Addendum: Tracing the Genealogy of One Branch of the Davies Family in South Wales. Part 2: Carmarthenshire**

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A previous article has dealt with the genealogy of one branch of the Davies family in Carmarthenshire starting with an account of the life of John Davies, who was born in the parish of Llandybie in 1859.<sup>1</sup> His father Daniel Davies (O1)<sup>2</sup> was born in Llanllawddog in 1826, and he worked on the land initially but later became employed in one of the many coal mines which had opened near Ammanford in the 1860s. He married Mary Thomas in 1848 and they had eight sons and two daughters. Daniel's father, Simon David or Davies was born in Llanllawddog on 8 May 1803<sup>3</sup> but he died in 1837 from an unknown cause. He married Esther Jones in 1823 and they had at least four children. Simon's father was not identified in the original article but more information has now come to light<sup>4</sup> demonstrating unequivocally that his father was called Samuel David or Davies (N) and his mother Dinah (N), née Simon.<sup>5</sup> They married in Llanllawddog in 1800<sup>6</sup> but Samuel died there on 1 December 1818, aged 41.<sup>7</sup>

Traditionally, at this time, the first son of a marriage was named after the father's father, the second was named after the wife's father, the third after the husband, and the third and fourth sons were named after the father's older brother(s) or sometimes after the mother's oldest brother(s).<sup>8</sup> A number of very important caveats should be added: if the husband's father and his father-in-law shared the same name, the second son, not the third would be named after the husband; if the husband and his father shared the same name then the third son of the marriage would be named after the eldest brother. Similarly, the first daughter of a marriage was named after the mother's mother, the second named after the father's mother and the third after the wife and so on with the same caveats as before. In the unlikely event that the husband, his father and his father-in-law all shared the same name then the second son would be named after his brother. This approach is fraught with difficulty, however, as the sequence is often disrupted when a child has been named after a grandparent, but it dies, sometimes before it has been christened, so that the name is not known. Under these circumstances, the first surviving child does not bear the

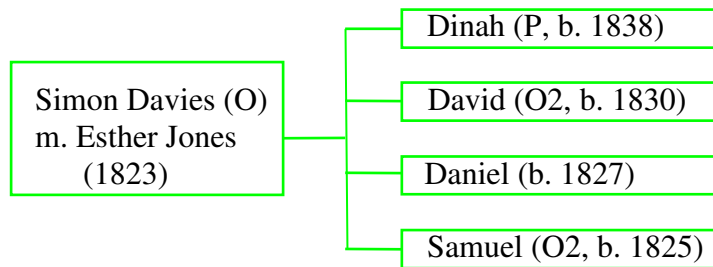
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grandfather's name or the grandmother's name but is the next in sequence. This situation can often be detected when there is a significant lapse of several years either between the date of marriage and the birth of the first surviving child or between the dates of birth of two surviving children.

It is thought that Simon's first son would have been called after his father Samuel, following the above genealogical practice, and indeed, there are two people with that name born in Llanllawddog a year or so after his marriage in 1823. The first of these, designated Samuel Davies (O3) on chronological grounds (see later), was born in 1824-5, and he married a Mary Griffiths around 1851,<sup>9</sup> but as they did not call either their two sons or two daughters, who were born before 1871,<sup>10</sup> after Simon or Esther respectively, he is unlikely to have been their son. In contrast, the second Samuel Davies (O2) who was also born in Llanllawddog in 1825,<sup>11</sup> married a Magdalena Morgan in Llywel, Brecknockshire by 1868.<sup>12</sup> By 1871, they had two daughters who were called respectively, Mary, born 1869, and probably named after Magdalena's mother,<sup>13</sup> and Esther, born 1871 and named after Samuel (O2)'s mother, who was probably Simon's wife. There were no other children recorded in subsequent censuses possibly because Samuel (O2) died shortly after the birth of his second daughter.<sup>14</sup> This information tends to indicate that Samuel (O2) was the first son of Simon.

Simon's next two children, Daniel, born 1827, and David (O2), born 1830, have been described in the previous study, but the hiatus between the births of these two sons on the one hand, and the birth of his daughter Dinah (P) on the other hand, in 1838, strongly suggests that there may have been other children who are either not recorded or did not survive. For example, one possible son is an Evan Davies, born in Llanllawddog in 1829, who is thought to have married an Elizabeth Price in 1850,<sup>15</sup> but because they called none of their eight children after his putative parents, Simon or Esther,<sup>16</sup> this seems unlikely. As there were over 100 children with the surname Davies born in Llanllawddog between 1824 and 1836,<sup>17</sup> it is entirely feasible that one or more of these may have been the progeny of Simon (O) and Esther. However, the 1841 Census almost certainly rules out any other surviving child born to Simon and Esther, between 1830 and 1837 the year of his death, as only two children were residing with their mother in Llanllawddog at that time.<sup>18</sup> The possibility that there were other children born during this period is not ruled out, but if so, they must have died at a young age, as they would have been far too young to have been sent away to lodge with relatives or friends. This was indeed the case for the older children, as Daniel was lodging and working in Llangadog as previously described, and Samuel (O2) was possibly the person lodging and working in nearby Abergwilly<sup>19</sup> at this time. Simon and Esther's identified children are shown below (Scheme 1).



### Scheme 1. Family of Simon (O) and Esther Davies

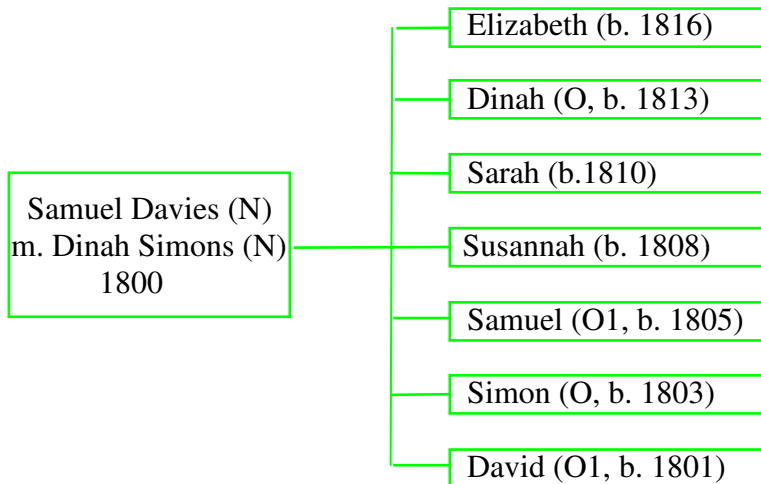
As indicated earlier, Simon parents, Samuel Davies (N) and Dinah Simon (N), were married in 1800. Simon was almost certainly named after his mother's father suggesting that he was the second son of their marriage. By implication therefore, Dinah's father was called Simon Simon, which was a fairly common name in Carmarthenshire around this period.<sup>20</sup> It is possible that he was the person who died in nearby Llanfihangel Rhos Y Corn in 1848,<sup>21</sup> aged 96,<sup>22</sup> which places his birth to 1752, and his marriage to about 1773 at the earliest. This would fit in neatly with the expected time of Dinah's birth which would have been 1779 at the latest. There were several other people with the surname Simon in Llanllawddog who married between 1790 and 1810,<sup>23</sup> and one or more of these may have been her siblings. However, one qualification should be added: at this time, the welsh patronymic system was still used in parts of west Wales, suggesting that Dinah's name was perhaps Dinah *verch* Simon and thus implying that her father's Christian name, rather than his surname, was Simon.

Simon's father, Samuel David (N), died in Llanllawddog in 1818, aged 41, placing his birth to 1776-77,<sup>24</sup> but it is not known where he was born. According to two unreferenced online biographies of his daughter Dinah Davies (O),<sup>25</sup> and her second husband William Ellis Jones,<sup>26</sup> her father had eight children in total. Unfortunately, it is not clear where much of the information presented in these documents originated though their children appear to be identified during the correct period from a published Family tree.<sup>27</sup> Dinah (O) and her first husband William Vaughan, who she married in 1834,<sup>28</sup> became Mormons in 1846 and emigrated to America in 1850. He died in 1852, and later, Dinah (O) married William Ellis Jones. The present study has re-investigated this family and attempts to provide hard evidence for Samuel (N)'s children based either on reliable parish records or on Census returns which often specify the dates and place where individuals were born.

There seems little doubt that Simon, born in 1803, was Samuel (N)'s second son, and it follows that his first son would have been born between the date of his marriage in 1800 and 1803, and would have been named after his father. Only one person with this surname was born in Llanllawddog in this time frame: a David Davies (O1) born in 1801, whose wife was named Elizabeth, according to the 1851 Census of England and Wales.<sup>29</sup> Assuming that this David (O1) was Samuel (N)'s son, it follows that he

would have married Elizabeth around 1822 at the earliest and his first son would have been named Samuel after his father and born a year or so later. The National Censuses of 1881 and 1891 identify a Samuel Davies (O4), who was born in Llanllawddog in 1824-25,<sup>30</sup> but there is no mention of his father, who was almost certainly dead by the Census dates. However, because this Samuel had a first son called David Davies (Q), born in 1860, it implies that his father probably had the same name, and therefore he may have been the person referred to above who married Elizabeth Davies in Newchurch, Carmarthen in 1821.<sup>31</sup> If so, this indicates that David (O1) was indeed Samuel (N)'s first son, implying that this was the name of his father also, who would have been called David Davies (M), but this is by no means certain. Furthermore, it is thought that Samuel (N) would have named his third son after himself in line with the usual naming convention, and obligingly the parish records provide a record of a Samuel Davies (O1), thought to be his son, who died in Llanllawddog on 31 October 1814, aged 9, placing his birth to 1805.<sup>32</sup>

More information on the family is found in the non-conformist records of St. Peter's, Carmarthen, which unequivocally identify Samuel (N) and Dinah (N)'s next two children as Susannah, who was christened on 24 February 1808,<sup>33</sup> and Sarah, who was christened on 22 July 1810.<sup>34</sup> Assuming that there were no other daughters born before 1808, this might suggest that that Dinah (N)'s mother was called Susannah Simon and Samuel (N)'s mother Sarah Davies, if the usual genealogical convention had been followed. Their next child was thought to be Dinah Davies (O) born 3 February 1813,<sup>35</sup> who was the third daughter of the marriage, and therefore named after her mother, Dinah Davies (N). The fourth daughter was Ruth Elizabeth Davies born 7 April 1816 in Llanllawddog,<sup>36</sup> and the whole family is shown in Scheme 2.



**Scheme 2. Family of Samuel Davies (N) and Dinah Simon**

Assuming that Samuel (N)'s father was named David Davies (M), he would have married in 1776 or earlier (his son Samuel was born in 1777) and been born

therefore in 1755 at the latest. It is thought that his wife may have been called Sarah as this was the name of Samuel (N)'s second daughter (see above). David (M) was possibly born in Llanllawddog, and if so, there were six people with this name born in this period according to the parish baptisms,<sup>37</sup> but no marriages recorded. However, in the nearby village of Abergwili,<sup>38</sup> the parish records do record the marriage of a David David to Sarah John in 1774,<sup>39</sup> placing his birth to about 1753 at the latest and possibly several years earlier. There are four people with his name born between 1743 and 1753 in Abergwili,<sup>40</sup> and it is possible that one of these, who may have been the person who later married Sarah John, was Samuel's father.

### Notes and References

<sup>1</sup> John O. Morley, "Tracing the Genealogy of One Branch of the Davies family in South Wales. Part 2: Carmarthenshire", *Annals of Genealogical Research* Vol. 10, No. 1 (2014), 31-61; at <http://www.genlit.org/agr/viewarticle.php?id=55>.

<sup>2</sup> To distinguish between members of the Davies family with the same forename, the standard Generation Grid has been used; see for example: Noel Curren-Briggs and Royston Gambier, *Debrett's Guide to Tracing Your Ancestry*, (Webb and Bower, London, 1981), p.189, which assigns the following letters to the date of birth: A 1380- 1409; B 1410-1439; C 1440-1469; D 1470-1499; E 1500-1529; F 1530-1559; G 1560- 1589; H 1590-1619; I 1620-1649; J 1650-1679; K 1680-1709; L 1710-1739; M 1740-1769; N 1770-1799; O 1800-1829; P 1830-1859; Q 1860-1889; R 1890-1919; S 1920-1949; T 1950-1979; U 1980-2009. In this system, men are allocated numbers 1-49, and women numbers 50-99.

<sup>3</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCL7-64K> : 11 February 2018), Simon David, 08 May 1803, Baptism; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>4</sup> I am grateful and indebted to Robert Jones of Utah, USA, for bringing this very important information to my attention.

<sup>5</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCL7-64K> : 11 February 2018), Simon David, 08 May 1803, Baptism; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>6</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCL7-VCY> : 11 February 2018), Samuel David and Dinah Simon, 1800, Marriage Banns; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>7</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCLW-M9W> : 11 February 2018), Samuel David, 01 Dec 1818, Burial; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database

and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>8</sup> See for example: *Ancestors*, the website of Brigham Young University-Broadcast Services [<http://www.byub.org/ancestors/records/vital/extra5.html>]; see also "British Naming Conventions" in *Research Wiki* [[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/British\\_Naming\\_Conventions](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/British_Naming_Conventions)].

<sup>9</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1851," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:SG8L-7Q8> : 24 October 2017), Samuel Davis in household of John Griffiths, Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales; citing Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales, p. 24, from "1851 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing PRO HO 107, The National Archives of the UK, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>10</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1871", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V516-SR7> : 11 December 2017), Samuel Davies in entry for Jno Griffiths, 1871.

<sup>11</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1871", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V519-2K6> : 11 December 2017), Samuel Davies, 1871.

<sup>12</sup> "Wales, Brecknockshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCVB-KS4> : 11 February 2018), Samuel Davies and Magdalene Morgans, 02 Aug 1868, Marriage Banns; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llywel, Brecknockshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>13</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1851," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:SG8N-1ZH> : 23 October 2017), Magdalen Morgan in household of Thomas Morgan, Ystradgunlais, Glamorganshire, Wales; citing Ystradgunlais, Glamorganshire, Wales, p. 14, from "1851 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing PRO HO 107, The National Archives of the UK, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>14</sup> The death of a Samuel Davies, aged 50, in Brecknockshire in 1875 is supportive [see: "England and Wales Death Registration Index 1837-2007," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:2JK9-DT8> : 31 December 2014), Samuel Davies, 1875; from "England & Wales Deaths, 1837-2006," database, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Death, Crickhowell, Brecknockshire, Wales, General Register Office, Southport, England].

<sup>15</sup> "Wales, Glamorganshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCYK-BG1> : 10 February 2018), Evan Davies and Elizabeth Price, 30 Sep 1850, Marriage; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>16</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1871", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRMS-JXV> : 10 December 2017), Evan Davies, 1871.

<sup>17</sup> Historical Records, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search>), Last Name: Davies, Event: Birth, Place: Llanllawddog, Event Range: 1824-1836, Country: Wales.

<sup>18</sup> Morley, *Annals of Genealogical Research*, Vol. 10, No. 1 (2014), Table 5, p. 47.

<sup>19</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1841," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M7Q5-K8B> : 13 December 2017), Samuel Davies, Abergwilly, Carmarthenshire, Wales; from "1841 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing PRO HO 107, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>20</sup> Historical Records, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search>), First Name: Simon, Last Name: Simon, Event: Any, Place: Carmarthenshire, Event Range: 1750-1850.

<sup>21</sup> Llanfihangel Rhos Y Corn lies about 5 miles from Llanllawddog as the crow flies.

<sup>22</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCL8-6Y8> : 18 April 2018), Simon Simon, 20 May 1848, Burial; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanfihangel Rhos Y Corn, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>23</sup> Historical Records, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search>), Last Name: Simon, Event: Marriage, Place: Llanllawddog, Event Range: 1790-1810.

<sup>24</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCLW-M9W> : 11 February 2018), Samuel David, 01 Dec 1818, Burial; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>25</sup> See the entry for "Dinah Davis" under *Welsh Mormon History*, Center for Family History and Genealogy, Brigham Young University, Utah ([http://welshmormon.byu.edu/Resource\\_Info.aspx?id=2488](http://welshmormon.byu.edu/Resource_Info.aspx?id=2488)). See also the entry for "Dinah Davies Vaughan Jones" on the website of the Washington County Historical Society, Washington County, Utah (<http://wchsutah.org/people/william-ellis-jones3.pdf>).

<sup>26</sup> See the entry for "William Ellis Jones" on the website of the Washington County Historical Society, Washington County, Utah (<http://wchsutah.org/people/william-ellis-jones.php>).

<sup>27</sup> Family Tree, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search>), First Name: Dinah, Last Name: Simon, Place of Marriage: Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, Marriage Year: 1800 (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/pedigree/landscape/LC26-DMB>).

<sup>28</sup> "Wales, Glamorganshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCYK-LGB> : 10 February 2018), William

Vaughan and Dinah Davies, 17 May 1834, Marriage Banns; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>29</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1851," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:SGZ7-493> : 9 November 2017), David Davies, Saint Peter, Carmarthenshire, Wales; citing Saint Peter, Carmarthenshire, Wales, p. 13, from "1851 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing PRO HO 107, The National Archives of the UK, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>30</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1881," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:Q2W9-ZKFJ> : 11 December 2017), Samuel Davies, Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales; from "1881 England, Scotland and Wales Census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing p. 19, Piece/Folio 5316/109, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey; FHL microfilm 101,775,460.

"England and Wales Census, 1891," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:HMZ1-3MM> : 10 December 2017), Samuel Davies, Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales; from "1891 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing PRO RG 12, Glamorganshire county, sub-district, The National Archives of the UK, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>31</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCLC-SM8> : 11 February 2018), David Davies and Elizabeth Davies, 1821, Marriage Banns; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Newchurch, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>32</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCLW-QH8> : 11 February 2018), Samuel David, 31 Oct 1814, Burial; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>33</sup> "England and Wales Non-Conformist Record Indexes (RG4-8), 1588-1977," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FQJ1-V4B> : 11 December 2014), Susannah Davies, 24 Feb 1808, Baptism; citing p. 46, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, record group RG4, Public Record Office, London.

<sup>34</sup> "England and Wales Non-Conformist Record Indexes (RG4-8), 1588-1977," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FQCS-WMP> : 11 December 2014), Sarah Davies, 22 Jul 1810, Baptism; citing p. 63, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, record group RG4, Public Record Office, London.

<sup>35</sup> "BillionGraves Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QK9P-T395> : 1 July 2016), Dinah Davies



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Vaughan Jones, died 23 May 1895; citing *BillionGraves* (<http://www.billiongraves.com> : 2012), Burial at Gunlock Cemetery, Veyo, Washington, Utah, United States.

<sup>36</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCLL-KZK?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=KZTF-T8L>), John Evans and Ruth Davies, 23 Nov 1838, Marriage; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Y Bettws, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>37</sup> "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005", *FindmyPast* [<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/search>], First name = David, Last name = David, Year = 1750 ± 10, County = Carmarthenshire, Place = Llanllawddog, Search Radius = Exact.

<sup>38</sup> Abergwili lies about 5 miles from Llanllawddog as the crow flies.

<sup>39</sup> "Wales, Carmarthenshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1912," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KCG4-KKC> : 11 February 2018), David David and Sarah John, 1774, Marriage Banns; from "Parish Records Collection 1538-2005," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : 2012); citing Abergwili, Carmarthenshire, Wales, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>40</sup> Historical Records, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search>), Name: David David, Event: Birth, Place: Abergwili, Event Range: 1743-1753, Country: Wales.