

APPENDIX II

The Origins of the Arthmael/Arthur Theory

c.530 - The grant of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath by King Arthmael to St Cadoc (Catwg)

c.1073-1086 - *The Vita Cadoci* ('Life of St Cadoc', written by Lifris, attached to which are the Llancarfan Charters. Mention is made of the grant of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath to St Cadoc by King Arthmael in c.530.

The 11th-century stone found buried in the floor of Ogmore Castle mentions a grant of land by King Arthmael to Glywys, Nertat and Bishop Fili, who all belong to the 6th century. The inscription reads 'Sciendum est omnibus quot dedit Arthmail agrum do et Gligws et Nertat et Fili epi.' - 'Be it known to all that Arthmael has given this field to God and to Glywys and to Nertat and to Bishop Fili.' The particular usage of 'Sciendum est quod' is rare elsewhere and it is extremely significant that it can also be found in the charters attached to the *Vita Cadoci* from Llancarfan.

The 15th-century Register of Neath, the cartulary of Neath Abbey, which contains an early history of Morgannwg (Glamorgan) and mentions King Arthur as ruling over the 'Land of Morgan' in the 6th century.

c.1560 - Llywelyn ap Rhisiart (Lewys Morgannwg), who flourished 1520-1565, mentions Arthur as the king of the warlike land of Morgan. Lewys Morgannwg had cultural connections with Lleision Tomas, the last abbot of Neath Abbey, which was dissolved in 1539. The chief patron of Neath Abbey was Sir Edward Stradling (d.1535) of St Donat's Castle, who was also the first patron of Lewys Morgannwg.

1572-91 - Llywelyn Sion of Llangewydd (1540-1615), in *Llyma Enwau a Hiliogaeth Brenhinoed Morgannwg* ('These be the names and genealogies of the Kings of Glamorgan'), mentions Morgan succeeding to the twelve hundreds of Gwent Essyllt in the principalities of Arthur. Elsewhere he records that Adras ap Meurig was a very brave heroic sovereign who frequently put the Saxons to flight.

Adras = Athrwys = Arthmael = Arthur

1578-1584 - Rhys Meurig (1520-1587), in *A Book of Glamorgan Antiquities*, refers directly to the Register of Neath, which was held in the library of St Donat's Castle, and names Morgan as the son of Adras ap Meurig. Adras = Athrwys.

1591 - Sir Edward Mansel of Margam, in *Another Account of the Coming of the Normans*, mentions Morgan as a prince who lived in the time of Arthur and was his son as some would have it.

1673 - Sir William Dugdale, in *Monasticon Anglicanum* Vol. III p.190, mentions Arthur as the son of Meurig. He also used as a principal source the *Book of Llandaff*