

SMITH CENSUS

1901

Residing at Llanquain Rd, Llanblethian

ELAM SMITH Head a 48 born Trowbridge - Insurance Agent born 1853
MARY ANN SMITH wife a 50 born Dorchester born 1851
Annie Smith a 25 Born Llansannon - Dressmaker born 1876
Minnie C Smith a 17 born Llanblethian - Dressmaker born 1884
Ada L Smith a 11 born Llanblethian - Scholar born 1890

1901

Residing at Caerysddu, Llansannon

JAMES SMITH Head a 84 born Trowbridge - widower - born 1817
William Smith Son a 61 born Trowbridge - Builder and Gardener - born 1841

1891

Residing at Penylan Farm

ELAM SMITH a 36 born Trowbridge - Agent born 1855
MARY ANN SMITH a 37 born Dorchester born 1854
ANNIE ELIZABETH SMITH a 15 born Llansannon - apprentice dressmaker born 1876
MARY ANN SMITH a 14 born Llanblethian born 1877
MINNIE SMITH a 7 born Llanblethian - scholar born 1884
ADA LOUISE SMITH a 1 born Llanblethian born 1890

Residing at Caerysddu Llansannon

JAMES Smith a 77 born Trowbridge widower born 1814
William Smith a 50 born Trowbridge born 1841

1881

Residing at Llanblethian

nb Ids records list ELWYN SMYTH

ELAM SMITH a 26 born Trowbridge - Labourer born 1855
MARY ANN SMITH a 27 born Dorchester born 1854
ANNIE ELIZABETH SMITH a 5 born Glamorgan - scholar born 1876
MARY ANN SMITH a 3 born Glamorgan born 1878

1881 Residing at Caerysddu Llansannon

JAMES Smith a 65 born Trowbridge Ag Lab born 1816
Elizabeth Smith a 65 born Ashperton (Herefordshire) born 1816
William Smith a 40

1871

Residing at Caerysddu Llansannon

JAMES SMITH a 55 born Highworth Wiltshire - Ag Lab born 1816
ELIZABETH SMITH a 56 born Highworth Wiltshire born 1815
WILLIAM SMITH a 31 born Highworth Wiltshire born 1840
ELLEN SMITH a 15 born Highworth Wiltshire born 1856
(this is Elam, see note below)

Notes.

Elam was 20 years of age, a labourer, when married 5th June 1875 at Hope Baptist Chapel, Bridgend, his father was named as James Smith, also a labourer.

Mary Ann SMITH who married Elam was formerly Mary Ann Green, age 23 at the time of marriage, spinster, whose father John Green formerly a labourer, was deceased when the marriage took place. From this age, Mary should have been born about 1852. (see birth years shown above)

The census locations above were at Cowbridge, near Bridgend in South Wales.

James Smith and family are included because of the name connection on the marriage certificate, his birth county, his age, and the age of his wife.

Subsequent enquiries at Gloucester Registrars office secured a copy of a birth certificate for Elam, born 1.May 1855 at Gloucester, son of James (labourer) and Eliza, then living at 7 Hare Lane, Gloucester Birth registered 8 June 1855 by Eliza (formerly Watts)

WATTS. IN Pigots Directory for 1830 at Ledbury, Hereford, the Rev James Watts is listed. Ashperton is about 6 miles northwest of Ledbury. Maybe James Watts was transferred to Gloucester.

1851

Residing at Caerysddu, Llansannor

James Smith Head a 34 born Wilts married Shepherd born 1817

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
1 March 2000

Dear Mr Alden,

Thank you for your prompt response to my enquiry.

next to Puyler Dr, Abert

My late mother was born in Swansea in 1911, though her family has an interesting history. Her father was born in Axminster in Devon. He came from agricultural stock, though he was also described as a gardener. He came to Wales, and at the time of his marriage, he was living in Grangetown in Cardiff. When he arrived in Wales, or his motivation for coming, I do not know.

He was married in the parish church of Llanblethian on 1st July 1905. His name was A.G.Partridge, and he married M.A.Smith, whose father was Elam Smith, and her mother was M.A.Smith (nee Green). By 1907 they had moved to Goytre (between Cwmbran and Abergavenny) , and to Swansea by 1910.

The original print of the photograph bears the date 1945, and my mother has written the following on the back :- ' Dorothy (her name) talking to Mrs Radcliff (nee Annie Davies).' I do not know who this lady was. When my mother married my father in Swansea in 1936, her bridesmaid was Lilian Wood, who may be from the Cowbridge area.

When I was a child, we used to receive mail from Canada, from uncles and aunts of my mother. I never understood the relationship between my mother and these folk, but I am beginning to consider the possibility that the ladies were sisters of my grandmother (M.A.Partridge) . The were known to me as aunts Ada, Annie and Minnie. When they left for Canada, or under what circumstances I do not know.

Thank you for identifying the cottage for me, would you be kind enough to draw a rough map, to enable me to find it?

I would like to discover as much as I can about all the people referred to, their dwellings, employment, older generations etc.

This is a tall order, but I will really appreciate any morsels of help you can give.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Paul Hare

Ans. 6/3

[REDACTED]

Cowbridge Record Society

1 Mill Park Cowbridge CF71 7BG
01446 - 773373

17 January 2004

Dear Paul,

You may remember that we had some correspondence in 2000, about your grandmother's family in Aberthin.

I presume that you have looked at the 1901 census, but if not:

Elam Smith is recorded as head of the family, living in a 4-roomed house next to The Brewery. Brewery Cottage was the house shown in the photograph which you sent me (showing your mother and Mrs Radcliff) and so I suspect that this was a photo of your mother returning to her family home. The brewery may well have been at the rear of the property. Unfortunately the present owners are relative newcomers, so we don't know a great deal about it. Elam was 48, an insurance agent, born in Wiltshire and spoke both Welsh and English (perhaps as an insurance agent it was important that he could speak Welsh).

His wife is shown as Mary A, aged 50, born in Dorchester, Dorset, and spoke English only.

There was no sign of your grandmother - perhaps she had gone to Cardiff to work and meet your grandfather? However, the other question is answered - her sisters are shown living in the house:

Annie C, 25, dressmaker, b Llansannor, working at home on her own account;
Minnie C, 17, dressmaker, b Llanblethian etc
Ada L, 11, scholar, b Llanblethian.

They must have been the ones who emigrated. Did we work this out before?

If you know anything more about Elam, Mary (Green) or the Canadian sisters, I'd be pleased to add the information to our file here.

Hope this is of some interest. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jeff Alden
Editor &c

20th January 2004

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for your letter which I was pleased to receive.

Since we were last in touch, I have been able to fill in some more pieces into the jig-saw, and most of this is included on the enclosed annotated copies of the census returns, though I have not been able to get access to the returns for 1841 and 1861. My 1881 entry does not show a location for Elam and family, other than the village of Llanblethian, so I assume this was at Penylan Farm (1891).

I went to Caerysddu and met the family now living there who showed me the booklet 'Llansannor' published by LAMBS. On page 47 there is a reference to James Smith, his wife, and son William. Given the various occupations that James had, could he have been an employee of Llansannor House and estate, and are there any relevant records? I failed to find any identifiable family graves either at Llansannor or Llanblethian, which is surprising since in 1891 James is a widower and remains in the village until 1901.

I noted that Elam is supposed to have been born in Wiltshire, but his birth is not registered until 5 weeks later in Gloucester, and in 1851 his father was in Llansannor.

Thank you for your identification of the house in the 1901 census, the road name meant nothing to me, though I did have most of the other details from the census.

My grandmother Mary Ann Smith was married in Llanblethian at the parish church on 1 July 1905 to my grandfather whose address at that time was Hywel Street, Grangetown. In 1881 he was still in Devon, where his family lived for many years, but he does not appear on the census with his parents and siblings in 1901. Maybe he was already in Wales by 1901. In 1907 their first child was born in Goytre and by 1910 they were living in Swansea. I have not been able to look at the census for Cardiff for 1901 to check for my grandparents.

The three sisters of my grandmother all went to live in Canada, though when they got married, or where - even here - I do not know. I suppose it will be a hard slog to trawl through the BMD records to find them, unless I can get access to the Llanblethian parish register for the period 1901 to 1924 and hope that they were married here before they left. They all raised families in Canada and died over there.

I have been unable to trace Elam and Mary after the 1901 census, but perhaps I should pursue the Electoral Registers for the following years.

Thank you for your continued interest, I will look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely,

Paul

SMITH

Cowbridge Record Society

1 Mill Park Cowbridge CF71 7BG
01446 - 773373

24 January 2004

Dear Paul,

Thanks for your letter of 20th January.

I am not aware of any records relating to the employees of the Llansannor House estate: the Glam Record Office in Cardiff would know.

As far as your records of Elam Smith are concerned:

1901: residing in Llanquian Road, Aberthin, next door to the Brewery - today's Brewery Cottage

1891: probably next door to Penylan Farm, Aberthin, (though the census uses dittos after 'Penylan Farm' relating to the previous entry. Today this is Penybryn, a thatched cottage nearly at the top of the hill leading out of Aberthin

1881: residing in the cottage next to Sweetings farmhouse, Aberthin (see attached photograph). This is also in Llanquian road.

There were a number of burials in Llansannor of Smith children from Aberthin:

Margaret, 15 April 1886, aged 4

Margaret, 21 Oct 1888, aged 10 months

William James, 15 April 1886, aged 8 months. I suppose they could also have been the children of Elam and Mary Ann.

I think that's all I can add!

Yours sincerely,