

ATODIAD 5 / APPENDIX 5

27th July, 2014

To Whom it May Concern,

Statement of Evidence to Support the Application for a Formal Footpath in front of the terrace know as the Mawddach Crescent.

I was born in Ynysgyffyllog Farm in 1962 and lived in Arthog from this time until 1989. During my childhood I walked the footpath along the front of the Mawddach Crescent regularly and would feed the sheep in front of the terrace. I would walk this alone or with friends to go shopping or with my mother occasionally. We would sit upon the wall during the summer and play around the small cluster of trees on the eastern end en route. There was neither fence nor any gates at either end of the terrace frontage enclosing it, these have been erected in recent years (3 or 4 years ago). There was an old wooden gate at the far western side with a gap to its right where the footpath gate used to be. This could be used coming from the rear or front path and was some 20-30 feet further on from the end of the terrace where a natural narrowing of the path occurred.

Between 1968 and 1982, I would estimate that I would walk that path at least once a week. I would meet friends from Arthog Hall Farm and we would take that route down to the two swimming pools that used to exist at the south end of Barmouth Bridge where the old tram bridge crossed. In 1982, I married and moved to the Eastern (Dolgellau) end of Arthog. This path then became my regular route by bicycle or by foot to travel to Barmouth, by myself or with my two children as I did not drive at the time. I would estimate that between 1982 and 1989 I was using the footpath that passed in front of the Mawddach Crescent up to four or even five times a week for shopping in Barmouth; the doctor's surgery; Montessori nursery where my children went as well as for leisure.

I moved 7 miles away to Dolgellau in 1989, but we still have a family home in Arthog. We visit Arthog frequently and walk at Cregennan or along the estuary on a regular basis. From 1989 until 2011/12, I would cycle from Dolgellau to Barmouth during low tide and use the path in front of Mawddach Crescent, it is both convenient and very beautiful. I have never walked or cycled around the back of the Crescent, it is dark, often very muddy and the pleasure of the walk is the pathway of what I believe was the old tramway along the front of the houses. It is also gloomy and rather dark behind the terrace. Up to the time when we were challenged, I would estimate that I walked or cycled along this route once or twice a month on average.

About three years ago during the summer, my husband and I were walking from Arthog Station along the path known as the Genffos. This was one of our regular walks and we passed the front of the Crescent Terrace with the estuary on our right hand side. We had noticed gates and fences had been erected previously but on this occasion, there was a notice saying 'Private' and noting there was no public access. As we approached the gate on the Western side, an older gentleman came out of his house (the end house on the western side) and asked us if we realised we were walking through his garden. I replied that this had always been a path since I was a child and before that. He maintained we had no right to walk through there and I made a comment about how this was the first time ever that I had been told this and that he had not been living here for long enough to make such statements. We passed through but it was upsetting and I have not been able to walk at all down there since for fear of conflict.

This has never been a garden here, it has always been a clear pathway of some considerable width where I amongst others would walk as part of an established route. Residents of Mawddach Crescent used to park their cars up against their garden fences and there was a clear walk way of at least 10-15 feet and this was well worn with no grass growing there due to the frequency of use. There was a bench here for the public to use. It was used by locals and visitors alike.

There is a clear public benefit here for several reasons. Firstly, the view that unfolds is unique. Secondly, the path behind the houses becomes very muddy and dirty in wet weather. I also feel, as a woman who often

cycles or walks alone, it is important to emphasise that the route at the rear of the houses is isolated and out of public view. This increases a sense of vulnerability and my memory of it as a child is that it was gloomy and unappealing on the approach from the road access side. In addition to this, I think that the historical aspect is significant: that you are following the path of the tramway that Solomon Andrews built. I would finally add the sadness it causes locals such as myself and my children to be barred without reason from a familiar and well used route where residents during that time would welcome passers-by and stop and chat. I also remember artists coming down and setting up their easels to paint. Leslie Vaughton of St Mary's Terrace was a regular there and he painted many a scene whilst sitting on this particular path.

I enclose a copy of two photographs of friends and myself during the late 1980s sitting on the wall that is now enclosed and out of bounds.

I am happy to attend any hearing to present my evidence and for my name to be disclosed.

I do hope this application is successful in order that we can again have access to what I regard as part of our common history and heritage.

Yours faithfully

LINOS ROWLANDS

27th July, 2014

To Whom it May Concern,

Statement of Evidence to Support the Application for a Formal Footpath in front of the terrace know as the Mawddach Crescent.

My mother, Pat Rowlands, bought Arfryn Cottage on Arthog hill in 1967 and from that time we used to visit for all of the school holidays from Epping. I used to cycle and walk the path in front of Mawddach Crescent alone, with my parents or with my brother and sister several times a week between 1967 and 1977 in order to visit Barmouth to shop or go on the beach. We also used to picnic on the wall in front of the Mawddach Crescent and there was a bench there for public use.

In 1977, I moved to Arthog as a permanent resident apart from term times when I was at Exeter University. I continued to use this path as a route to Barmouth by bike or walking regularly. I worked in Barmouth at the Angry Cheese Restaurant and I would travel this path daily to work on my bike because it is the quickest route to Barmouth. I never used the path around the back of the terrace. There was a clear path that was a right of way in front of the terrace.

In 1988, I moved to Dolgellau and since then, my wife and I have retained very close links in Arthog and still own the cottage which is used by family and friends as well as ourselves. I walked this path at least once a month on average and I know my wife used it when cycling to Barmouth from Dolgellau until the resident challenged us from the house at the end of the terrace.

Approximately three years ago, my wife and I were walking on this path after passing through gates that had been newly erected. The resident from the end house on the Barmouth side challenged us and said we were walking through his garden. My wife told him that this had always been a path since she was a child. I also objected and said this had never been a private garden. We haven't walked at all down that area since which is very sad as it has left a bad feeling about a place that has very strong childhood memories.

The fences and gates erected are new. There was never a gate and fence on the Dolgellau side and the gate on the Barmouth side was much further on from the terrace with a gap where the pedestrian gate used to be. This was not a gate enclosing the frontage of the terrace.

I am willing to attend any hearing and for my name to be disclosed.

Dylan Rowlands

Footpath in Front of Mawddach Crescent, Barmouth Junction, Morfa Mawddach.

Statement of Evidence to Support the PROW Application by Mrs Norma Stockford

I am a native of Barmouth, born in 1945, and have used the path in front of Mawddach Crescent for as long as I can remember. My father was a local ferryman who ran regular trips to Penmaenpool and we frequently walked in front of the terrace to check that the channel was navigable. The path of the river changed annually and early each year it was a ritual to walk the banks of the Mawddach checking the channel in order to avoid the sandbanks when taking passengers on boat trips up to the George III.

I am a keen walker and also use the path on walks with members of the local Ramblers Association, with the Barmouth U3A Walking Group, and with family. In addition, I enjoy running and this is one of the routes I have used for the past 35 years. I am 69 years old and run alone, I don't like using the footpath to the rear of the houses because it is much more enclosed, preferring to run in front where it feels safer. I use it about fortnightly.

I recall a private notice being put up some years ago, but ignored it as I always assumed this was meant for vehicular access, not for pedestrians. I have met one or two people here as I run past, and have received surprised looks, but have never been verbally challenged.

I find it difficult to open and shut the heavy metal gate which replaced the old wooden five bar gate and closed off the smaller pedestrian gate at the side.

I can appreciate that there should be no vehicular access, but do wish to continue this lovely route which I have followed since my childhood.

Signed..

Norma C Stockford

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE
re: Mawddach Crescent, Arthog

I feel that much of my evidence is contained within my correspondence with Gwynedd Council but I would like to expand on certain aspects of this.

I have been visiting Barmouth all the 64 years of my life! My father introduced my mother to the area on their honeymoon and I was first taken there as a 6 week old baby in 1949. We had at least two holidays a year there throughout my childhood, staying with a couple who ran a boarding house. They became family friends and we still visit Megan Williams who is now 95 and in Hafod Mawddach care home. Over the years, I introduced my husband to Barmouth, and we honeymooned there in 1974. We took our children on very regular holidays to Barmouth and for the past 9 years have also taken our grandchildren there each Whit. The walk across the bridge and round the "artists' houses" was always part of the holiday and has therefore been an almost annual event for over 60 years.

I am giving so much detail to indicate my great love of the area and my knowledge of it over a long period of time.

The roadway in front of Mawddach Crescent was always open to pedestrians during my childhood and later years. There was a gate but this was assumed to block car access and certainly we delighted in strolling past the houses and enjoying the paintings which were clearly visible on huge easels in all the rooms. Visitors could, like the artists, enjoy the wonderful light and views at that point. I enclose a photo of my parents and I sitting on a bench within the roadway. This was taken in August 1990. I can be quite specific about that date as it was our last visit there with both my parents – my mother died in 1991. I do wonder who provided the bench- a benevolent resident or maybe even the council of the time? We all look relaxed and not in fear of challenges from the residents!

While I cannot give accurate detail to support this, I do feel that the wordage on the gate has become increasingly hostile, and changed from a mere "private" to the notice on the enclosed photo taken in 2013. The buoy on the sea wall particularly annoyed me as I am sure that such an obstruction on what must be a public wall is not acceptable. It was this subtle change in tactics that prompted my contacting the Council last year and led to my support of Mr Roberts' action.

It may be of interest to note the reference to the properties in the Ward Lock Barmouth Guide Book. Regrettably, there is no date within this book but evidence leads me to conclude that it was printed before 1954. An advertisement for the RNLI refers to its Treasurer being the Duke of Montrose and I find that he died in 1954. The details of the walk at Arthog refer to walking past the terrace. I would interpret that as meaning "in front of...". The current path behind the houses was never used in my childhood and later years and I feel that this book confirms that a public path existed in front of the houses at that time.

Both my husband and I would be willing to attend a hearing to discuss our evidence further. Although not local to the area, we have a strong attachment to the Mawddach and all that it offers in the way of scenery, as I hope I have demonstrated. It seems so sad that the actions of a few residents can prevent other people from enjoying such a unique and very special view.

Colette Tunley
14th May 2014

THIS NOTE WAS PROVIDED BY MR. JOHN ASHTON (OWNED AND)
WAS ATTACHED TO HIS STATEMENT.

Mawddach Crescent.
Status of P.R.O.W. Claimed.

As one who was born in Barmouth Junction, now Morfa Mawddach, I was a regular user of the footpath in question until I left the area in 1960. As children we spent many hours playing on the obstacle course left behind by the marine training camp at the crescent. The footpath provides direct access for those resident in Arthog village who use it for cycling, walking or work in Barmouth. It avoids having to use the A493, now a much busier road, for 1 mile to Barmouth Junction.

Sometime in the 1960's a sign was erected at the eastern end of the crescent directing the footpath towards the rear of the crescent. To my knowledge- [I stand to be corrected on this point-] the inhabitants of Arthog were not informed of this. Indeed not many were aware that the footpath behind the crescent even existed. There was a delivery track used by tradesmen which I often used when doing holiday work with the local bakery. I had to consult the 1899 revised 1938 OS map sheet SH61. It clearly shows both footpaths in front and behind the crescent.

Some years ago I remember discussing with the late Miss Dorothy Roberts, the then owner of Fegla Fawr, how fortunate we were to have been brought up in such a place. She told me that it had been designated as a "place of natural beauty" and thus was limited as to what she could do to the land. The footpath at the back of the crescent hardly does justice to the natural beauty.

I regularly go back home. A visit to the crescent is the first place on the list. My sons have been introduced to my old haunts and I hope to be able to do the same to my grandsons. It is important that the footpath from Arthog village to the south end of Barmouth bridge, passing in front of the crescent next to the sea wall, shall be used by all to fully appreciate the natural beauty of the place. From memory this footpath is at least 6 to 8 metres from the front garden boundary fence of the crescent.

THIS PHOTOGRAPH WAS PROVIDED BY THE TOWN OFFICE OF
AND WAS AT FIRST IN HIS POSSESSION



Additional information regarding the Public Footpath in front of the 'Crescent' in the community of Arthog.

- I lived in Bronfegla between 1958 and 1971 and I am very familiar with the area.
- After moving from Bronfegla, I visited the area regularly as my friendship with friends who used to live in the Crescent continued and also to walk around *Bryn y Fegla* and on to Barmouth.
- The path was used regularly by a wide range of people which included local people walking or cycling towards Barmouth and people from all over who would use it for leisure purposes.
- On a personal level, I used it for the reasons noted in the above point, to visit friends and to access the estuary for fishing.
- The residents of the Crescent were happy enough with how things used to happen, that is that people were free to walk in front of the terraced houses without any obstacle. I believe that it was due to the influence of one of the residents who moved to the Crescent that things changed and creating the barriers with the gates and signs.
- I believe that the path should be reinstated for the public's quiet enjoyment of this special area. The view is second to none and one that I would wish to share with others.

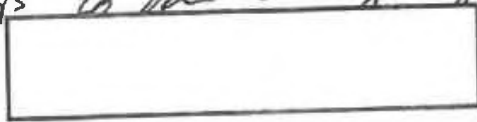
Huw Edwards

8 August, 2014

ATTACHMENT: Mauddech Crescent Footpaths

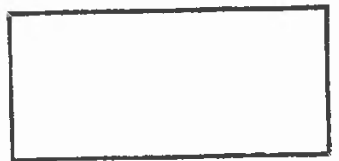
My Sister Glengys White used the path daily cycling from Arthog to work in William George, Solicitor in Barmouth, from 1955 to 1960

Also most people from Arthog used this pathway to Barmouth routinely, without hindrance and on some occasions offered 'tea' & 'talk' as fellow residents of the Arthog community. Along with ^{many} visitors to the area.



20/8/2014

P.S. We walk and cycle this path less now because of the risk of unpleasantness that this attempt to block what was once a pleasant ^{pathway} and peaceful area ~~has~~ has been spoilt.



DATGANIAD GAN - COLIN WHITE

STATEMENT PREPARED BY -

COLIN WHITE

Statement by Roger David Cashmore in support of Claim for P.R.O.W at Mawddach Crescent.

I first walked the path in front of the Mawddach Crescent houses in August 1957. I was an 11 year old holidaying in Barmouth with parents. We followed the route from Barmouth to Arthog set out in a Ward Lock Red Guide (copy attached) although we sometimes took a short cut from the south end of Barmouth Bridge to Mawddach Crescent when low tide made that possible. We walked this route every year up to and including 1963 not only to appreciate the views but also because my mother was fascinated with the gardens at Arthog Terrace on the A493 which, in those days, were beautiful.

I returned alone in 1966 and again walked in front of Mawddach Crescent twice; once to climb Cader Idris from Barmouth and again when I walked the disused railway line from Arthog to Penmaenpool (long before the Mawddach Trail was established).

I continued to visit Barmouth regularly during the 1970's and 1980's and often walked the route in front of Mawddach Crescent. Between July 1993 and July 1999 I spent a week in Barmouth every year for hill walking. On arrival in Barmouth I would take an evening walk over the bridge, then in front of Mawddach Crescent to the site of Arthog station returning along the Mawddach Trail.

At no time in the 43 years of using the route in front of Mawddach Crescent did I receive any challenge. In fact, the opposite often occurred and I chatted amicably with residents of the Crescent.

In 2005, having by then relocated to live in Dolgellau, I attempted to walk the route again but found it barricaded and notices describing it as 'Private Property' and a 'Private Road' had been erected. In addition official signs had been erected at each end of the Crescent directing walkers around the back of the houses which path was partially obstructed with wheelie bins, recycling boxes, boats and builders refuse. I was saddened that a traditional heritage path had been closed to public use.

Photographs which I took of the western end of Mawddach Crescent in 1994 and 1996 show the route free of obstructions. They also show that, at that stage, (as far as I can see) there was no 'Public Footpath / Llwybr Cyhoeddus' sign at the western end diverting walkers around the rear of the houses.



02/09/2014.

PROVIDED BY - ROGER DAVID CASHMORE (WARD LOCK RED GUIDE)

ARTHOG

The hamlet of Tal-y-Llyn, at the far end of the lake, is 10 miles from Dolgelley. Three miles farther is Abergynolwyn, connected with Towyn by the narrow gauge railway.

By extending the walk 2½ miles beyond Abergynolwyn, the Dolgoch Waterfalls, described in the Towyn chapter (see p. 74), can be included.

The Torrent Walk, Dolgelley, may also be included without materially increasing the distance, if, on leaving the glen, as directed in connection with Dolgelley, a turn to the left is made on regaining the road. From the top of the Torrent Walk the distance to Tal-y-Llyn is only 7 miles.

ARTHOG

Arthog is a hamlet on a spur of Cader Idris, about 2½ miles from Barmouth. It may be reached (1) by rail to Arthog station; (2) by boat; (3) on foot. Cross the bridge to Barmouth Junction signal-box and pass through a small gate to a row of red-brick houses. Continue past these and turn right. A path, beyond a wicket gate some 120 yards on the right, leads straight to Arthog over a level crossing.

From the Bridge walkers can also continue along the path beside the railway to the Junction and beyond. After passing through the station the path is to the right of the line. The way then leads straight on to Fairbourne; or a path through a gate on the left, near the end of a terrace of houses, leads along a field path to the main road for Arthog.

(4) by car, via Penmaenpool toll bridge and then turning sharp right on leaving the station yard.

The views of mountain, moor and sea are delightful; and in late summer the gardens in the village are a riot of colour.

Walks from Arthog

To the Arthog Falls, in the grounds of *Arthog Hall*, a castellated house, charmingly situated on the hillside, half a mile from Arthog station, or about 1½ miles from Barmouth Junction. The grounds command lovely views. Except in times of drought, the falls are worth a visit. Tickets of admission can be obtained at the Hall (*tea-garden*). Near the falls a path through Arthog Hall grounds leads to an old fort, the view from which is good, though it involves a rather steep climb.

CADER IDRIS

To Penmaenpool (*George*), at the head of the estuary of the Mawddach, 4½ miles by the delightful highroad.

Penmaenpool can also be reached by boat from Barmouth—a lovely trip.

To the Crogenen Lakes (Llynau Crogenen), about 800 feet above the sea. Opposite Arthog Church a short steep path leads into the road behind the mansion of Tyn-y-Coed. On turning to the right a gate on the left is shortly seen. The road itself leads straight on to Arthog Falls, but passing through the gate just mentioned the way leads up past a small farmhouse on the left, bears round towards the right, past a second farmhouse on the left, and winds upwards to Crogenen Lakes, 1½ miles from Arthog station.

An alternative route. On getting into the highroad from Arthog station turn to the right, and near Arthog Terrace turn up the road "To Cader Idris," by a little blue-painted cottage. It is at first rather steep, and passes through a wood. Shortly after getting into the open, there goes off to the right a mountain road which leads into the Ffordd Ddu or Old Towyn Road. But keep straight on to a stream crossed by an ancient stone crossing. On the other side of the stream are the scanty remains of *Llys Bradwen*, reputed to have been the residence of Ednowain of Bradwen, the head of the "superstitious fifteen tribes of Wales."

About 200 or 300 yards east of Llys Bradwen are the remains of an old stone circle. On the other side of the wall near these stones is a trackway, from which, over the intervening hill, the Crogenen Lakes may be reached, or, by going south along the trackway, the Ffordd Ddu or Old Towyn Road. By following this to the left for a couple of miles, the head of the Abergwynant Valley is reached, and thence Penmaenpool station. This round from station to station is about 8 miles.

CADER IDRIS

There are many stories of Cader Idris, but nearly all are concerned with the people or other beings who lived there rather than the mountain itself.

The name *Cader Idris*, literally translated would mean Chair (or Seat) of Idris (Arthur). Idris is described as a giant, but it is reasonably certain that this is more a measure of the man's mind than a description of his physical stature. He is sometimes connected with Arthur of the Round Table, but it seems more probable that this mountainous region was at some distant date the abode of a remarkably wise and enlightened man who, only in more recent times, has been confused with the Arthurian Legend. The word "Seat" almost certainly implies a place of abode rather than an actual chair, and the attempt to identify the place near the summit where the giant used to sit is to misunderstand the type of legend which centres around this mountain. This mistake was made by Mrs. Hemans in her poem, now perhaps happy in obscurity, but valuable in that it records the story that to sleep on Cader Idris is to awake either a madman or a bard.

The belief in the existence of elves or fairies in the caves of Cader Idris is still current. They are always good spirits, in spite of the mountain being such a grim and inhospitable place.

GAN - ROGER DAVID CASHMORE (WARD LOCK RED GUIDE)

LLUNIAU GAN - ROGER DAVID CASHMORE
PHOTOGRAPHS PROVIDED BY - ROGER DAVID CASHMORE
GORFFENNAF 1994
JULY 1994 - -



GORFFENNAF 1996 - -
JULY 1996 - -



APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION ORDER
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

Claim for a Public Right of Way (P.R.O.W.)
Statement of Evidence to Support the Application

Claimant: CATRIN THOMAS (Ms/Mrs/Miss/Ms)*
Address:

Telephone no: Work: Home:

Status of P.R.O.W. Claimed: FOOTPATH / BRIDLEWAY / BYWAY *

(N.B. Throughout this form, P.R.O.W. is used to indicate a claimed Right of Way which may be any of those mentioned above)

Notes: The information which you supply on this proforma together with any additional information attached could be used as evidence in a Court of Law or at a Public Inquiry and you are advised of the need to ensure its accuracy. It will also be made available to the landowner and/or other interested persons and will be analysed by Gwynedd Council using electronic data processing equipment.

DESCRIBE ROUTE OF P.R.O.W. CLAIMED (note the location of and describe any gates or stiles on the route; a plan should be provided to illustrate the situation) PLAN PROVIDED BY HUW ROBERTS

From the late 1960's until early 1980's I used to walk regularly along the front of the Manddach Crescent, Arthog on my way to Barmouth with my family often stopping to chat to the residents. Not once did anyone try and stop us, on the contrary, while my mother stopped and P.T.O.

Community in which P.R.O.W. is located: ARTHOG

Period over which you have used the path: from 1960's to 2014

Frequency of Use: DAILY (WEEKLY) (MONTHLY) YEARLY *

Weekly in the 1960's + 70's
Monthly from thereon.

chatted with Mrs Hyna Hughes, both Misses (or Miss Haelward, Miss Stubbs, Miss M. Evans, and Mrs Francis who all lived there at the time, as children used to sit on the wall facing the estuary waiting for my mother. Also on the way back from Barmouth we used to sit on the wall for a rest.

Later on as I got older I used to cycle along the front with friends on our way to Barmouth or to swim in the pool by the Stepping Stones (just before Barmouth bridge).

In the 1990s I walked along this way with my own children and was never challenged or asked not to.

It is very sad that someone has put gates up and signs up to try and stop us walking this way from around 2011.

There was never a gate on Arthogy side, but I do remember a gate much further along past the Crescent on Barmouth side with a gap at the side for people to walk through.

We never walked close to the gardens fences but near the wall enjoying the views of the estuary and beyond.

I still walk this way regardless of the gates and signs.

DATGANIAD GAN - CATRIN THOMAS

STATEMENT BY - CATRIN THOMAS.

**ADDENDUM TO STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE
CLAIM FOR A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY**

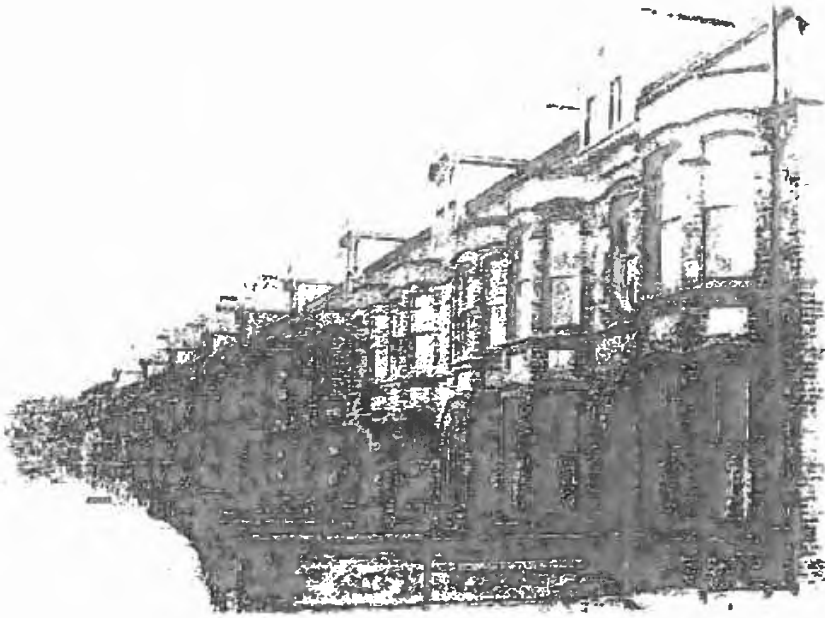
Mawddach Crescent was part of a speculative development by Solomon Andrews, and many of what are now roads and paths around Fegla Fawr were tramways at the time the Crescent was built between 1900 and 1902. At the time of construction, one tramway ran in front of the houses and another behind. The 9 houses in the Crescent had fenced and gated front gardens (and still have them), with a pavement in front and then a wide roadway. I enclose a copy of a 1902 photograph showing these details.

I also enclose another photograph from the GWR publication dated April 1926 entitled 'The Cader Country; how to explore it', which clearly shows the Crescent, road, pavements, and sea wall. As can be seen, the roadway and sea wall extended far beyond the crescent of houses, particularly at the western end, and there are no barriers as there are now.

Finally, the 1:25,000 First Series Ordnance Survey map of Barmouth, compiled from 6 inch sheets last fully revised in 1989-1900, but with partial systematic revision 1938-52, clearly shows a footpath IN FRONT of the houses and an unfenced trackway BEHIND. A copy is enclosed.

I believe that this evidence supports my contention, based on using the path in front of the Crescent for 57 years, that an attempt is being made to exclude the public from a pathway that has been in use for more than a century. To argue that there is now a good, well maintained footpath behind the houses, and that this justifies the attempted land grab in front of the properties, ignores the fact that in the winter months in particular, that area can be a quagmire – a fact not helped by its use by lorries emptying the bins and recycling containers.

Kevin Taylor
11th September 2014

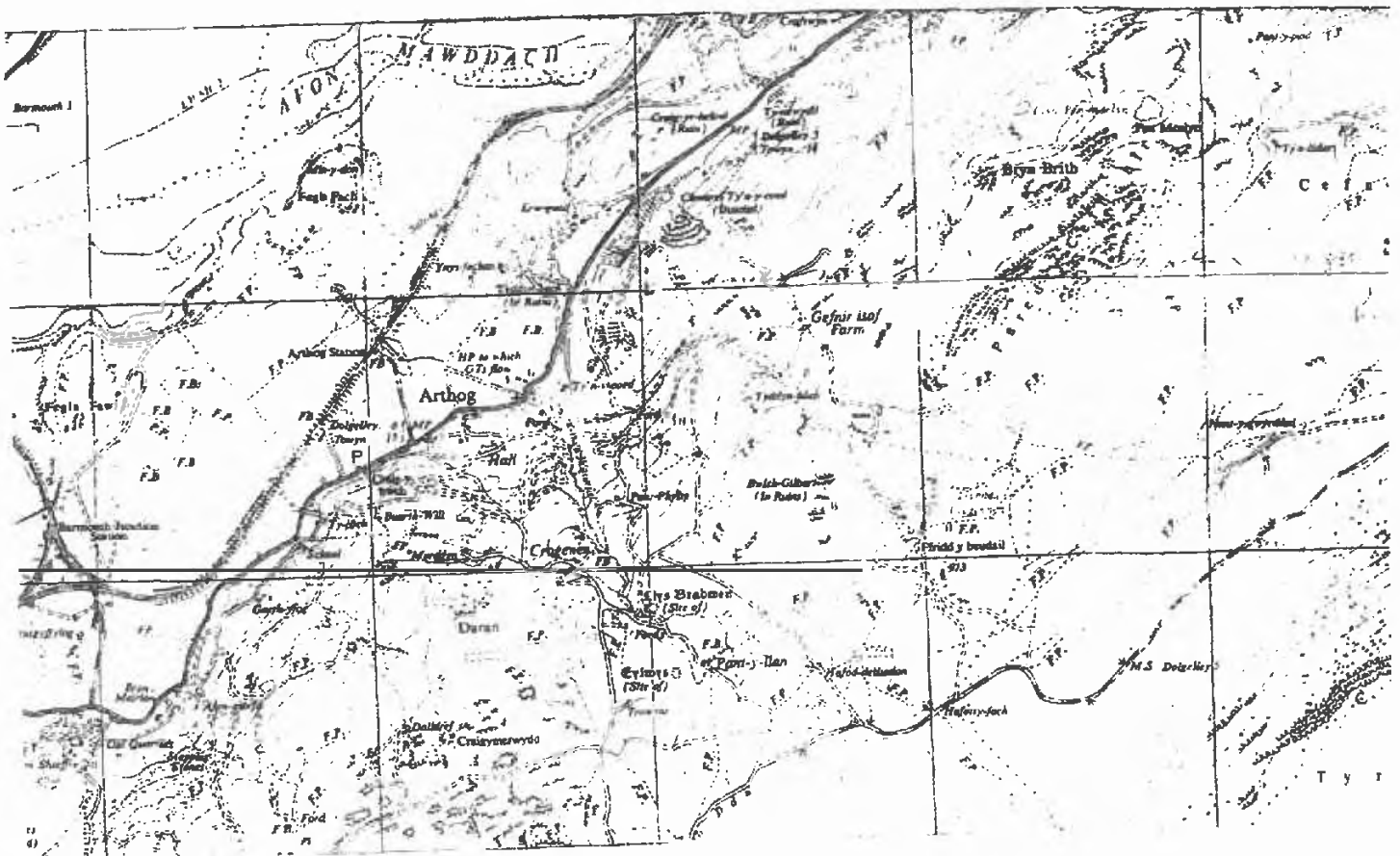


The impressive estuary front terrace 'Mawddach Crescent' still under construction in 1902, with the first house already occupied, the terrace being completed in September of that year. This was the only part of the proposed development on the estuary front to be completed.

Collection. : John F.Andrews

Llanbedrog Tramway. By mid August the refreshment room was opened for business and Andrews started conveying passengers from Barmouth Junction to the sandy bay where he was yet to build Mawddach Crescent; no doubt to attract potential clients for same. Preparations started immediately for Mawddach Crescent and a sea wall was built across the mouth of the sandy bay, the land behind being filled in with a vast amount of quarry waste from Tyddyn

their rails to be cut to form a proper crossing. A crossover was thus formed without cutting the main line rails and the wagons were literally just humped over them by brute force on temporary rails. This practice did not last very long as the continuous jolting resulted in damage to the wheel bearings, so a new method was devised. A standard gauge trolley was built, the platform of which was low slung just to clear the main line rails, on which tramway rails were fixed, thus





Photo]

ARTHOG AND CADER IDRIS.

[G.W.R.

I became familiar with Mawddach Crescent in the early seventies when I met my husband. He had spent the early years of his childhood in No. 3. We would walk there often, and then with the children and more recently with the grandchildren. The highlight of the trip was sitting on the wall and having a picnic and the children would love going down the steps to play on the banks of the water.

My husband had surgery on his knees two years ago and therefore we could not walk very far. As he is now much better, we decided to go for a walk to the Crescent a fortnight ago – park the car in Barmouth, cross the bridge and follow the path along the estuary. We had quite a shock to see the changes since we were last there three years ago. Gates and fences preventing access and threatening signs.

Lawns had been created along the wall which weren't there previously, and tables and chairs set in front of the houses to show that they had claimed this land which was previously hard ground and open for everyone to walk on.

A sign directed us past the back of the houses but we had never gone that way and we went through the gate and past the front of the houses to be able to enjoy this excellent view – and have a rest on the wall. A man came out of one of the houses; he was on holiday there. By now, only one of the houses has someone living there permanently.

It is obvious that the owners of these houses want to keep everyone out and deny the right which has always existed for us to walk and enjoy our heritage. It is part of our heritage and we must keep it open for everyone to enjoy.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY:

DOROTHY JONES

In the early 1950's I lived as a child in No 3 Mawddach Crescent Arthog.

We moved as a family to Abersoch but we often returned to the crescent either on day trips or staying for up to 2 weeks in No 2. in the remaining 1950's and early 1960's.

I clearly remember that the public had full access to the roadway in front of the houses. This was by foot or by vehicle.

This entire frontage from the front garden fences up to the sea wall was entirely metalled with tarmacadam. This was a roadway and three of the attached photographs illustrate this.

As a child I remember families would stop and have their picnics on the sea wall and passers by were always welcomed by the residents of the crescent. This full public access was also used by fishermen.

I also remember the Army would often drive down the roadway with lorries and line up cannons down the length of the road. during training exercises.

I have used this route for walking for 65 years and in the 1970's onwards with my wife, children and grandchildren.

As a Gwynedd resident I feel it is

essential that this access is not denied
from present established users, the general
public and future generations.

John Ivat Howard Jones

31/8/14.

DC

CYNGOR GWYNEDD
CYFAFRAN I'R AMOYNIAD
12 MEDI 2014
GWYBODAETHYD
MEDI 2014
3425

D.Coleman Esq.
The Rights of Way Officer.
Gwynedd Council.
Cae Penarlag
Dolgellau

Dear Mr.Coleman,

I'm sorry, but I forgot to fill in the official form you sent me for the Crescent
Arthog matter, which I now do so and send to be included with my letter I brought you two days ago.

I also include a letter from the Daily Post recently which was also sent and printed
in today's edition of the Cambrian News.

I do hope this all arrives in time for inclusion and please don't bother to
acknowledge this letter,

yours etc,

and thanking you for all the care and interest you have taken in this matter,

W.A.Pritchard.

DAILY POST 9/9/2014

GAN / FROM - WA PRITCHARD

We will keep a welcome in hillside

RELATING to the bid for the riverside promenade at the Arthog Mawddach crescent to be reopened (DP Aug 20) I was for nine months a tenant at No.1 named "Heddwch" (Peace) there in 2000/01.

My landlady the late Marian Evans was a kindly lady. I was acquainted with all the owners; never hearing of any problem with the walkers who came by.

They could not walk through the gardens, which were well fenced.

Today the "Road closed" owners do not share with visitors, the peace and outstanding beauty of the river and mountains, which the residents have all the time.

In contrast, the getting-behind path at the rear, blocks out the wonderful experience.

That path is rough and up against the back fence, with the rubbish and recycling bins etc. Taking all things into account, will we keep a progressive welcome at the riverside, as well as the one in the hillside?

David Sheringham, Fairbourne

re. P.R.O.W. Mawddach Crescent
Arthlog LL39 1BJ

Having recently heard that the area in front of the houses that comprise Mawddach Crescent is in dispute regarding public access, I feel compelled to write + add my point of view to the discussion.

I spent part of my early childhood residing with my family at No. 3 Mawddach Crescent in the 1950's + have very happy memories of it.

The beauty of the surrounding area was enjoyed by so many-walkers, fishermen + families, - who we, as residents were always happy to welcome. These "passers by" would stop + chat, + make quite an isolated life more interesting.

I have re-visited the area on several occasions in the past with friends + family + would certainly be very unhappy at being denied access to an area of such natural beauty, which should be shared by locals + holiday makers alike.

I get the impression that most of the houses are now "holiday homes" anyway + therefore, denying access seems to me a very selfish attitude by those not endemic to the area.

yours sincerely

DATGANIAD WEDI EI BARATCI GAN JANE HOUGH.
STATEMENT PREPARED BY: JANE HOUGH.

23rd February 2015.

We bought a house in FAIRBOURNE in 1968. WE still own it.

Our children were aged 2, 3 and 5. The children and I would spend most of the school holidays at Fairbourne, and my husband would join us for weekends and the long summer holiday

When the children were very young we planned flat walks with lots of interest! We would drive to MORFA MAWDDACH station, walk round Fegla FAVOR, across the front of the Ensisent, onto the road and back to the car. (I remember the station when it had a waiting room and a well-stocked bar!).

My husband died in 1996, and my visits have been less frequent. However my children regularly spend time at Fairbourne and so do my grandchildren.

I remember a gate being put up but I thought it was to keep the sheep out ~~to~~ of the area in front of the houses to reduce the amount of sheep droppings.

We always ignored the Public footpath sign.

DATGANIAD WEDI EI BARATOI GAN -

ZILPHA A. REED.

STATEMENT PROVIDED BY :-

ZILPHA A REED

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE –

PUBLIC FOOTPATH AT THE 'CRESCENT', ARTHOG

I lived in Bronfegla, Arthog from 1958 to 1965, a private house very close the rear of the 'Crescent' terraced houses in the Morfa Mawddach area.

The road between the 'Crescent' and the river Mawddach was a wide, nice one with excellent views towards the river and Barmouth. In my time, many artists would paint pictures of the view in front of the 'Crescent'. As children and young people, we would walk and cycle in front of the 'Crescent' regularly, enjoying the beautiful scenery. We never had any complaints from the residents of the houses. There was a post box on one end of the path where we used to post our letters. The path would lead us to Barmouth Bridge, where we would cross to Barmouth itself.

My brothers and I would use the Crescent path at least once a week – more sometimes in the summer.

Closing the path would completely ruin this part of the riverbank, and would destroy this little area for tourists and local residents alike.

Yours truly

DYFAN ROBERTS