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stops, the **road** stops, making the Corrwg a classic example of a cul-de-sac valley.

GLYNDŴR One-time district

Following the abolition of the **counties** of **Denbigh** and **Merioneth** in 1974, Glyndŵr was created as a district of the new county of **Clwyd**. It consisted of what had been the **boroughs** of **Denbigh** and **Ruthin**, the **urban district** of **Llangollen** and the **rural districts** of **Ceiriog** and **Ruthin** and part of that of **Wrexham**, in Denbighshire, and the rural district of **Edeirnion** in Merioneth. The name was chosen because the district contained **Sycharth (Llansilin)** and **Glyndyfrdwy (Corwen)**, the chief estates of **Owain Glyndŵr**. In 1996, the district was divided; five **communities** were attached to **Wrexham County Borough** and three to **Powys**; the rest became the core of the reconstituted Denbighshire.

GLYNDŴR REVOLT, The

The revolt of **Owain Glyndŵr** began on 16 September 1400 when Owain was proclaimed **Prince of Wales** at **Glyndyfrdwy (Corwen)**. The initial outbreak in the north-east was soon defeated and Henry IV led a force through the north to restore order. The rising flared up again in 1401 with the capture of **Conwy** Castle and Owain's victory at **Mynydd Hyddgen** (see **Cadfarch**); it spread across Wales and successive royal expeditions were unable to suppress or contain it. The crushing of Henry Percy's revolt at **Shrewsbury** in 1403 had no effect on Owain's progress and 1404 saw the capture of the castles of **Harlech** and **Aberystwyth**, the holding of a parliament at **Machynlleth**, a treaty of alliance with France and the defection to Owain of a number of prominent Welsh clerics, among them the bishop of **St Asaph**, **John Trefor**, and the archdeacon of **Merioneth**, **Gruffudd Young**, who became Owain's chancellor. The high point of the revolt came in 1404. A French force arrived in 1405 but it achieved little, although it is said to have advanced with Owain as far as **Woodbury Hill** near **Worcester** before returning to Wales.



Glyndŵr's seal on the Pennal Letter

The year 1405 saw the drawing up of the Tripartite Indenture, an agreement between Owain, Percy, earl of Northumberland, and Edmund **Mortimer** for the division of **England** and a much-expanded Wales, and the holding of a parliament at **Harlech**, but it was also the year when a royal force from **Ireland** reoccupied **Anglesey**. Both individuals and communities were by then submitting to the English crown, and the French left in November 1405. Despite these reverses, in a letter dated at **Pennal** in Merioneth in the same year (see **Pennal Letter**), Owain set out his terms for the transfer of the spiritual allegiance of Wales from the Pope at Rome to his rival at **Avignon**; the terms included a separate Welsh ecclesiastical province and the foundation of two universities. But the tide had turned; a faction favouring peace with England had come to power in France and Owain's ally Northumberland was defeated and killed at **Bramham Moor** in 1408; that year also saw the fall of **Aberystwyth**. In 1409, **Harlech** fell, and members of Owain's family were captured. The last raid on the border was in 1410; Owain disappeared and died, apparently, in 1415 or 1416. In 1421, his son **Maredudd**'s acceptance of a pardon finally marked the end of the revolt.

The revolt is the defining event in the history of late medieval Wales. Traditionally said to have begun as Owain's response to a border dispute with his neighbour **Reginald Grey**, lord of **Ruthin** or **Dyffryn Clwyd**, it has in fact to be seen in the context of the crises and tensions and subsequent revolts which took place all over Europe after the middle of the 14th century. Among the contributory factors were the **Black Death** and the general restlessness and disorientation that followed it. In Wales, there was also a nationalistic dimension, stemming from the disillusion of the leaders of the native Welsh community, both lay and clerical, with the English crown and a feeling that the restoration of the native Principality was possible. These leaders were the men behind a revolt that may well have been planned in advance; the deposition of **Richard II** in 1399 provided the opportunity and they were able to harness popular social and economic grievances of the kind which were so common after 1350.

The revolt failed because, in the absence of adequate French assistance, superior English resources were bound to triumph in a war of attrition. There were few reprisals, apart from heavy communal fines; many leading figures who had held offices in the 1390s, were in rebellion for the next decade, and back in their offices after 1410. Wales could not be governed without their co-operation. The short-term economic effects were severe, but such well-documented factors as the flight of bondmen and the abandonment of rural communities are more likely to have been the consequence of the plague and its associated crises rather than of the revolt. There were some losers, but most of the political nation emerged with augmented power at the local level. The revolt did strengthen national awareness, since it saw most of the country acting together, but the 15th-century evidence suggests that there was a general agreement to make a fresh start.

GLYNNEATH, (Glyn-nedd), Neath Port Talbot (2616 ha; 4368 inhabitants)

Located on the right bank of the **River Nedd**, the rural parts of the **community** have been extensively forested (see