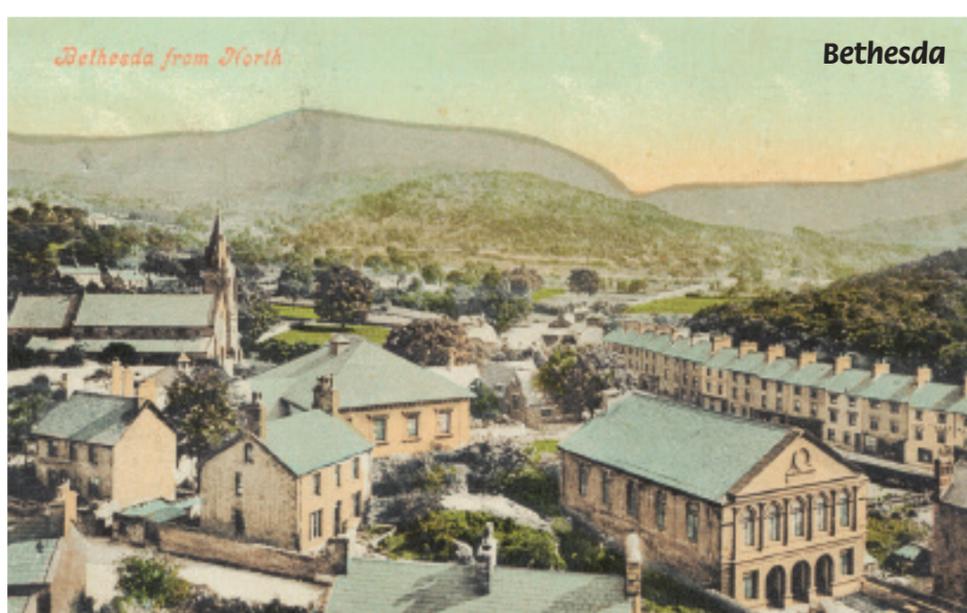


# The Quarry Owners

The Penrhyn Estate owned and managed the slate quarry from the late 18th century until the 1960s. In that period, slate was one of Wales' most important industries. At its peak, Penrhyn quarry employed over 3000 men and produced 120,000 tons of slate each year. The industry was effectively established by Richard Pennant, of whom it can be said he transformed the economy of the entire county. The Penrhyn Estate built houses for the quarry workers. Richard Pennant built a model village for his workmen at Llandegai where 'no corrupting alehouse was allowed'. The house built for tenants and employees set a new standard for the entire neighbourhood. Penrhyn also paid for the construction of a hospital for the quarrymen and provided funding for its maintenance.

Lord Penrhyn and the  
strike committee



The lives of the Penrhyn family were far removed from that of the quarrymen and tenants of the estate. Col Edward Douglas Pennant was a collector of art and an acquaintance of Gladstone, who was a visitor to Penrhyn. He gave land for schools and churches, and supported

public works. George Sholto Douglas-Pennant succeeded to the estate on his father's death in 1886. He is remembered chiefly for the great strike of 1900-3. He had an interest in archaeology throughout his life and subscribed to the publications of his first cousin General Pitt Rivers.

## THE SLATE TRAIL

Follow 'The Slate Trail' along Lôn Las Ogwen, where you can find a series of information boards recounting the unique story of Ogwen slate, Penrhyn Quarry and the people involved in its production.