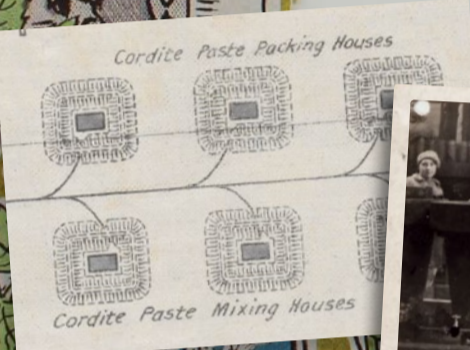


**PARC  
GWLEDIG  
PEN-BRE**

**PEMBREY  
COUNTRY  
PARK**

**DARGANFOD  
HANES  
CUDD**

**DISCOVER  
A HIDDEN  
HISTORY**



**WELCOME TO PEMBREY COUNTRY PARK**  
This wonderfully tranquil site has not always been so peaceful. Since the late 19th century this site has been used to manufacture explosives, first for mining and industrial purposes, then in the First and Second World Wars to make munitions. This leaflet will help you explore the park and find traces of its fascinating history.



**HANES FFRWYDROL**

Pan agorodd y ffatri ffrwydron gyntaf ym 1882, roedd yn gwneud dynamait, nid ar gyfer arfau rhyfel ond ar gyfer cloddio a chwarela. Ar ôl ychydig fisoedd yn unig, bu farw 7 gweithiwr rhwng 13 a 24 oed mewn ffrwydriad ofnadwy. Nid yw olion y ffatri hon i'w gweld mwyach, ond mae hen fapiau'n dangos lle y safai.

Adeiladwyd ffatri newydd ar ddechrau'r Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf, yn gwneud ffrwydron ffyrnig a thanwyddau. Mewn llai na dwy flynedd, gadawodd 1,143,000 o sieliau Ben-bre ar drên ac yna ar long i fynd i faes y gad yn Ewrop a'r Dwyrain Canol. Roedd y ffatrioedd yn ymestyn dros ardal enfawr, sef 760 o erwau, ac yn cyflogi mwy na 6,000 o bobl o Lanelli, Caerfyrddin ac Abertawe, a'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn fenywod (ar waelod yr ochr chwith). Mae rhai o'r gwrthgloddiau, a adeiladwyd fel cloddiau ffrwydriad o amgylch yr 'adeiladau peryglus' lle'r oedd y ffrwydron yn cael eu gwneud, yn goroesi hyd heddiw.

Caeodd y ffatri ar ôl y rhyfel, ac ym 1926 fe'i gwerthwyd ar gyfer sgrap am £30,000. Yn ystod y 1930au, defnyddiwyd yr adeiladau swyddfa fel gwersyll i blant. Ym 1938, dechreuwyd adeiladu ffatri newydd y llywodraeth (ar y dde) a arweiniodd at dymchwel yr adeiladau cynharach bron yn llwyr. Roedd Ffatri Arfau'r Goron Pen-bre yn un o bedair yn unig a oedd yn cynhyrchu TNT yn ystod yr Ail Ryfel Byd, a hithau oedd y cyflenwr mwyaf. Er bod y safle'n llai o faint, roedd yn fwy effeithlon ac yn cyflogi 3,000 o ddynion a menywod.



Mae Stowmarket Explosives Company yn dechrau gwneud dynamait yng nghanol Twyni Pen-bre, ond nid yw hynny'n para'n hir - rhoddodd ffrwydriad ofnadwy a laddodd 7 o bobl ifanc derfyn ar gynhyrchu ar y safle, ac fe'i defnyddiwyd fel storfa yn unig wedi hynny.

Mae Nobel's Explosives Manufacturing Co. yn adeiladu ffatri ym Mhen-bre i wneud ffrwydron ffyrnig, ac mae ffatri ar wahân yn cael ei hadeiladu nesaf ati ar gyfer llenwi sieliau. Mae'r ddwy ffatri'n cael eu gwladoli ym 1917. Mae'r ffatri'n cau ar ôl diwedd y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf ac mae'n cael ei gwerthu ym 1926.

Mae'r adeiladau gweinyddol yn cael eu defnyddio fel gwersyll ysgol ar gyfer plant glowyr di-waith o dde Cymru.

Ar drothwy rhyfel unwaith eto, mae gwaith yn dechrau i adeiladu ffatri newydd y llywodraeth, o'r enw Ffatri Arfau'r Goron Pen-bre y tro hwn. Mae'r ffatri'n dirwyn i ben ar ôl y rhyfel tan iddi gau ym 1964.

Mae Parc Gwledig Pen-bre yn agor.

**1882**

Stowmarket Explosives Company begin to manufacture dynamite amongst the sand dunes of Pembrey Burrows, however it is short lived - a terrible explosion killing 7 young people ends production at the site which is then used only for warehousing and storage.

**1914**

Nobel's Explosives Manufacturing Co. build a factory at Pembrey to manufacture high explosives, and a separate factory for filling shells is built next to it. In 1917 both factories are nationalised. Following the end of the First World War the factory closes and is sold in 1926.

**1935**

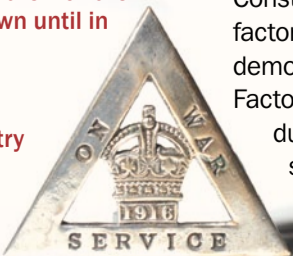
The administration buildings are used as a school camp for the children of unemployed miners of South Wales.

**1938**

With war looming again, construction starts on a new Government factory, this time called the Royal Ordnance Factory Pembrey. After the war the plant winds down until in 1964 it closes.

**1980**

Pembrey Country Park opens.



**AN EXPLOSIVE HISTORY**

When the first explosives factory opened in 1882 it was making dynamite, not for munitions but for mining and quarrying. After only a few months an appalling explosion resulted in the deaths of 7 workers, aged between 13 and 24 years old. There is no trace of this factory now but old maps show where it used to be.

A new factory was built at the start of the First World War, manufacturing high explosives and propellants. In less than two years 1,143,000 shells left Pembrey by railway and then ship to go to the battlefronts of Europe and the Middle East. The factories covered a huge area, 760 acres, and employed over 6000 people from Llanelli, Carmarthen and Swansea, most of them women (bottom left). Some of the earthworks, built as blast banks around the 'danger buildings' where explosives were made, still survive today.

After the war the factory closed and in 1926 was sold for scrap for £30,000. During the 1930s the office buildings were used as a camp for children. Construction began in 1938 on a new government factory (above) which led to almost complete demolition of the earlier buildings. The Royal Ordnance Factory Pembrey was one of only four producers of TNT during the Second World War and it was the largest supplier. Though the site was smaller it was more efficient and employed 3000 men and women.