

Thomas Penson and the bridges of Llanidloes

Thomas Penson became County surveyor for the county of Montgomeryshire in 1817, and was responsible for the design of all the stone bridges in Llanidloes. His expert design of bridges was probably influenced by his association with Thomas Harrison who in 1809 was a Chester architect and bridge builder. Although this short article will concentrate on the bridges of Llanidloes, Penson also designed many buildings, and bridges in Montgomeryshire. Buildings include the National school in Llanidloes, and the magnificent St. Davids Church and Flannel exchange in Newtown. His bridges include Newtown's Long bridge, and the bridges in Caersws and Llandinam. An in depth account of the life and work of Thomas Penson can be found on a dedicated website www.thomaspenson.org

Long bridge



A view of Longbridge looking downstream



MONTGOMERY
COUNTY COUNCIL
LONG BRIDGE
BUILT 1826
WIDENED 1938



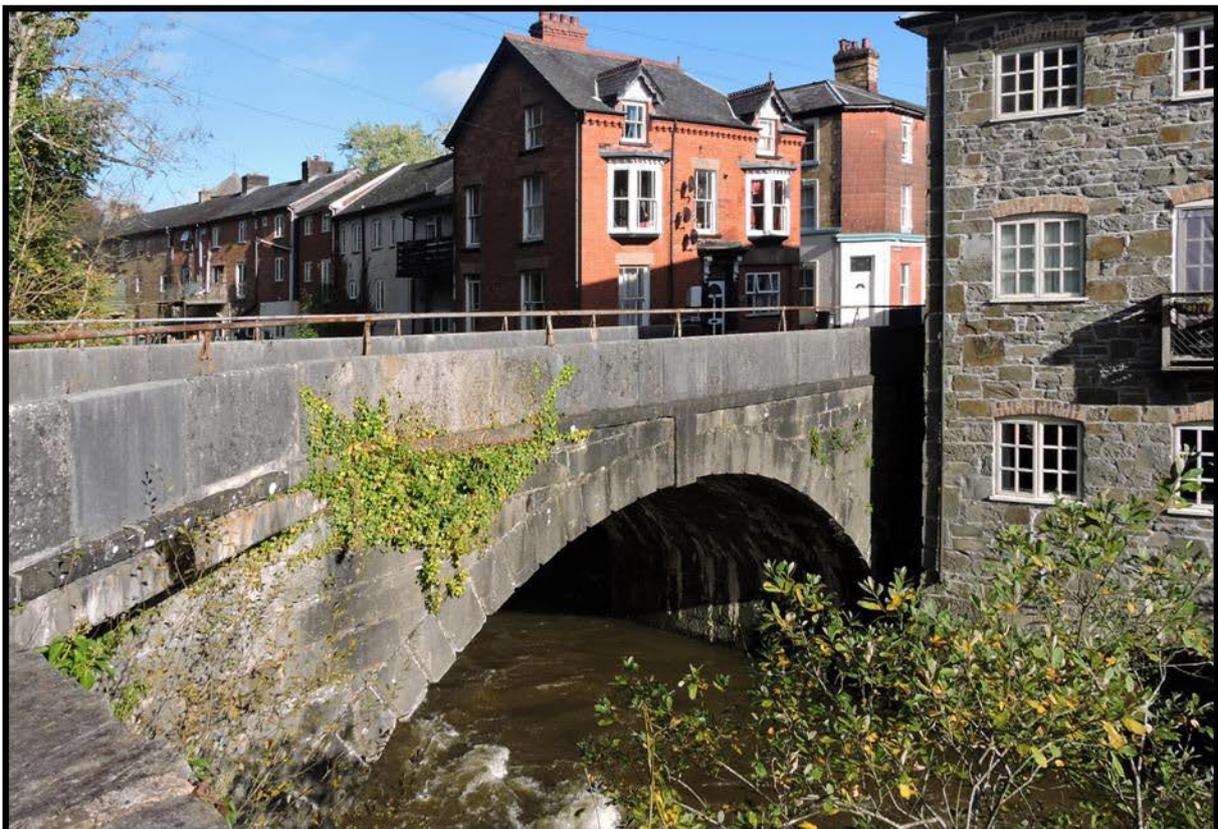
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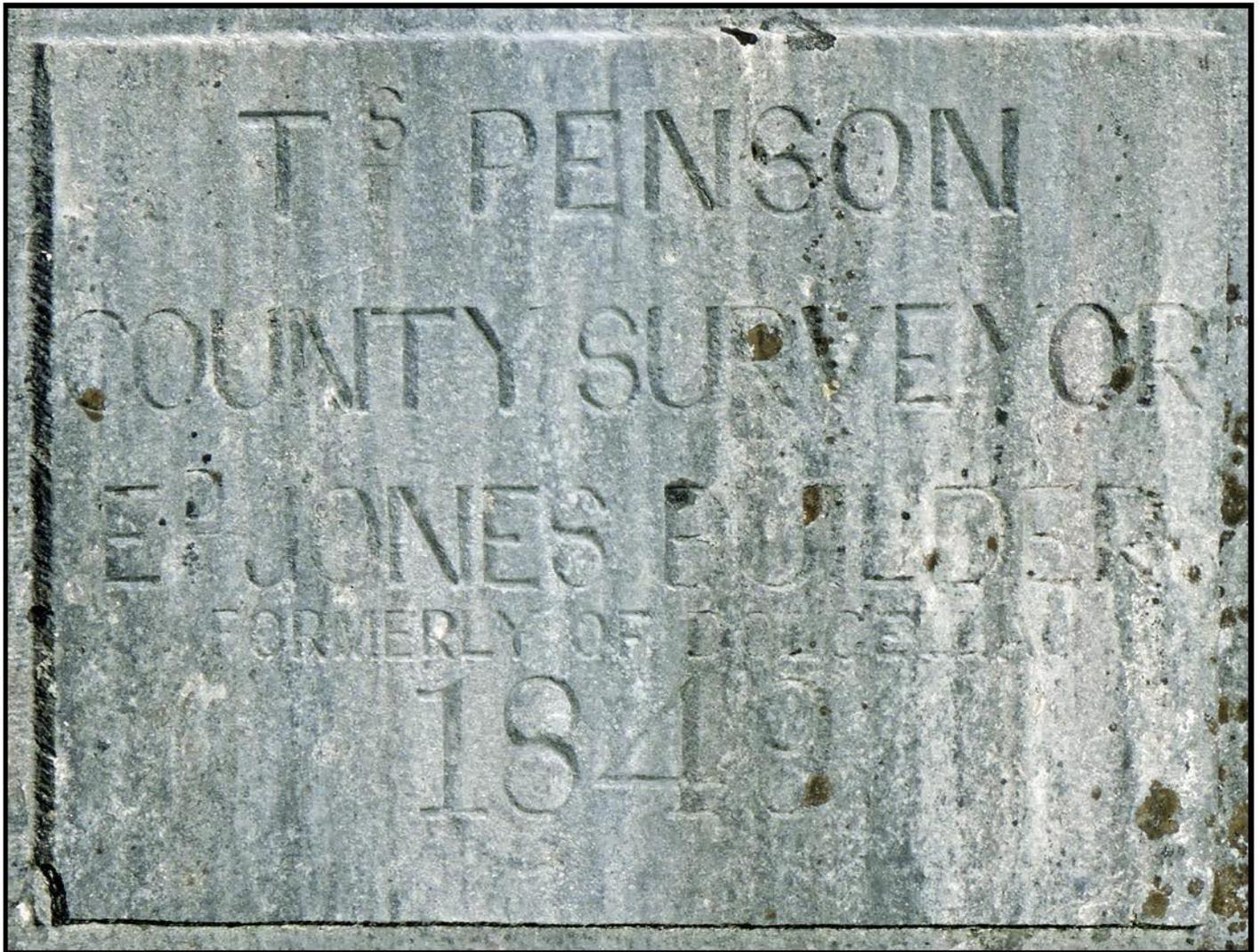
**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
LONG BRIDGE BUILT 1826. WIDENED 1938**
The above inscriptions are in the centre of the bridge.



A view of Long bridge taken in springtime

Short Bridge





T^s PENSON COUNTY SURVEYOR
E^d JONES BUILDER FORMERLY OF DOLGELLAU
1849

The above inscription is to be found in
the centre of the outer wall of the bridge.
on the upstream side.

Felindre bridge



This bridge was built in 1847/48 to replace an earlier wooden bridge, and is built to a design by Thomas Penson, and built by contractor Edward Jones who also built the Short Bridge

Although the bridge is quite substantial, there are no visible marks to indicate designer or builder.

Thos Penson