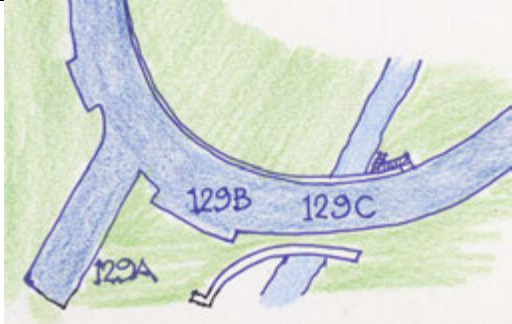


# BRECON AND MONMOUTHSHIRE CANAL MONUMENTS RECORD CARD

Monument  
Number:  
**MB129A**  
**Llanfoist Fawr**  
**GOVILON**

Monument Name:	Dry dock
Map Reference:	326353 213674
Official Status:	Listed Building Grade II (Reference: 17630) World Heritage Site
Description:	
	The important engineering challenge of keeping to the contour and crossing the Llanwenarth brook are dealt with in the same fashion as the Clydach. This was also the ideal place for a dry dock, with a flat place alongside a stream. Stevens found windlasses which have disappeared .

## List Description from Historic Wales website:

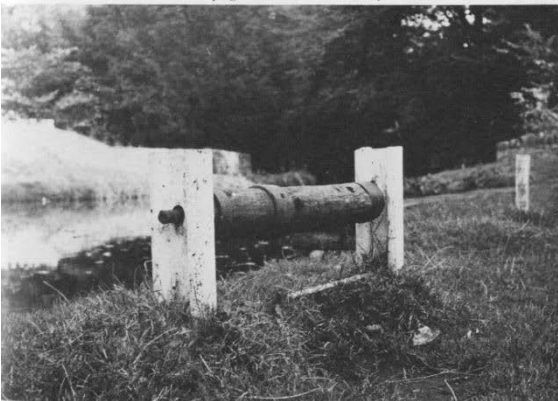
History: The Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal was promoted in 1792 to connect the upper Usk valley to the Monmouthshire Canal at Pontymoile and from there to the sea at Newport. Construction began in 1797, with Thomas Dadford as engineer, and the first section, from Gilwern to Llangynidr was completed in that year with the stretch as far as Brecon following in 1800. Work then stopped for a time with the result that the section to the Blaenavon Road east of Govilon was not completed until 1805, now with Thomas Cartwright as engineer. Further funds had to be raised and the last section from west of Llanfoist to Pontymoile was completed between 1809 and 1812, with William Crosley as engineer. Linked to tramroads, the canal was an important artery for trade in iron, lime and coal. In 1865 the Monmouthshire and the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Companies merged becoming the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Company. Later still the canal was bought out by the Great Western Railway and gradually the canal was run down until it was finally abandoned in 1962. Restoration work was begun in 1964 and is still ongoing. Included for group value with the Embanked Aqueduct and other canal structures as a surviving feature of the early C19 canal.

## Images:



**Plate 25** The dry dock at Govilon with the river aqueduct in the background. There are stop plank grooves in the left foreground and a drain paddle for the dock in the right foreground. The water drains through a culvert to the river near the aqueduct. Note the windlass to the left of the paddle for lifting a drain plug from the bed of the canal.

**Plate 26** Drain plug windlass near Govilon dry dock.



Images from R A Stevens' book



Condition:  
Good.

References:  
Nicholson's guides to the Waterways, vol 3, South-west, p49-55, (n.d.).  
R A Stevens, Brecknock & Abergavenny and Monmouthshire Canals (Towpath Guide No 2), (Cambridge, 1974), p50.

Notes:

