

TIMELINE

Buildings in Wales

This timeline of buildings in Wales gives pupils an idea of how dwellings have changed over the centuries from the Paeolithic period through to a modern eco house.

Suggested activities for the classroom and at home.

- Ask the children to consider the history of their own house by completing the homework sheet 'What type of building is your own home?'
- Inspire pupils to ask questions about historical buildings in your own area. 'Inspire your pupils to be Building Detectives'
- Why not print this A4 version of the Buildings Timeline and ask pupils to sequence correctly. Firstly without showing dates, encouraging them to look at the buildings and the materials that may have been used, and then with the dates – were they correct? (numeracy across the curriculum, problem solving)
- Create a timeline of buildings in your own area. Take photographs of the buildings today. Are there older photographs of the same buildings?
- Create a 3D timeline of local buildings by creating models of local buildings.
- Slot dates of your own local buildings into this timeline for display purposes in the classroom.

Image credits:

'Ogof Paviland Cave' by Alan Richards is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
'Roman amphitheatre, Caerleon' by Eirian Evans is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
'Pentre Ifan' by Daniel Phillips / is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
'Offa's Dyke' by Raymond Perry is licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0
'Chepstow Castle' by Nessy is licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0
'Comeston' by Nilfanion is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
'Garreg Fawr' by Ben Bore is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
'Prefab, St Fagans' by Dave Snowden is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
Llwyn Celyn: Landmark Trust
Llandovery: Discover Carmarthenshire
Eco buildings: Down to Earth

24,000 BC



Paviland Cave

The **Palaeolithic period** was from around 750,000 years ago until around 10,000 years ago.

Human remains dating from 24,000 BC were discovered in 1823 in Paviland cave on the Gower peninsula.

Circa

4000 BC – 2,500 BC



Pentre Ifan

During the **Neolithic period** people move from being hunter gatherers to settling in places for longer, rearing stock and planting crops.

Pentre Ifan in Pembrokeshire is known as a 'dolmen'. It may have been a burial tomb.

6000 BC – 50 AD



Bryn Eryr Iron Age Roundhouses

During the Bronze and Iron Ages in Britain, roundhouses were the most common form of home.

These reconstructions of Bryn Eryr, a small Iron Age farmstead in Anglesey, are at St Fagans National Museum of History.

48 AD – 383 AD



Caerleon Amphitheatre

When the Romans came to Britain they brought their way of life with them. They built new towns and roads. To make sure soldiers and supplies could move quickly, the Romans made their roads as straight as possible.

This amphitheatre was built to serve the Roman legionary fortress of Isca around AD 90.

Circa

785



Offa's Dyke

A great earthwork boundary dyke built along the Anglo-Welsh border by Offa, King of Mercia. Construction is believed to have started in 785 and continued for several years.

1067



Chepstow Castle

Construction began in 1067 under the instruction of the Norman Lord William Fitz Osbern. It is the UK's oldest surviving stone fort built after the Roman occupation.

More recently it has been used for filming Dr Who!

Circa

1350



Cosmeston Medieval Village

During the development of Cosmeston Lakes Country Park near Penarth, Glamorgan, excavations uncovered the remains of a community over 600 years old.

The reconstructed medieval village seen today is set in the year 1350. It is a re-creation of 14th century peasant life in Wales in the Late Middle Ages.

1420



Llwyn Celyn

Llwyn Celyn dates from 1420 and the house was built as part of the Llanddewi Priory Estate following a turbulent period in medieval Welsh history. Very few Welsh houses survive from this period.

1500



Tudor Merchant's House

The original location of this house was near the old quay on the River Cleddau. The owner probably bought and sold goods which were traded in Haverfordwest. The family lived upstairs, and goods such as rope, salted fish, cheese and wine were kept on the ground floor. It is now at St Fagans National Museum of History.

1544



Garreg Fawr Farmhouse

Garreg Fawr ('the great rock') was built in 1544 and was the home of a wealthy farmer. It is built of large pieces of slate-stone and mountain boulders. Oak shutters enable the unglazed windows to be closed against the wind and cold. It is now in St Fagans National Museum of History.

1770



Bwthyn Nantwallter

This cottage is built of clay or mud, known locally as clom. The clay was dug on the site and mixed with straw, earth and small stones and then laid in layers. The roof is thatched. The original occupants worked on the Taliaris estate in Carmarthenshire. It is now at St Fagans National Museum of History.

1810



Georgian townhouses

The town square in Llandoverly.

1795



Rhyd-y-car Terrace

This small terrace was built in Merthyr Tydfil by Richard Crawshay around 1795 to provide housing for the workers in his iron-ore mine. Now at St Fagans, the six houses have been displayed at different periods of their history, namely 1805, 1855, 1895, 1925, 1955 and 1985. In this way the changes in the buildings, their contents and their gardens can be shown.

1771



Tollhouse

Now at St Fagans, this tollhouse was built in 1771 near Aberystwyth, at a time when local gentry began to build private or turnpike roads for which tolls were charged. Tollhouses were very unpopular with people in rural areas, who had to pay to travel along the roads; the Rebecca Riots in 1843 resulted in the eventual abolition of most of the Turnpike Trusts.

1890



Victorian House

The rise of large scale industry in Victorian and Edwardian times led to huge population increases in places that had previously been sparsely settled. More affluent families lived in semi-detached houses designed as symmetrical pairs, or larger detached 'villas'.

1917



Oakdale Workmen's Institute

Now at St Fagans, this was originally built in 1917 to serve as a focus for social, educational and cultural life for the coal mining community in Oakdale, Gwent. Inside is a Library, Reading Room, and Committee Room on the ground floor. A Concert Hall, originally seating more than 200 people, occupies the whole of the first floor.

1947



Prefab

The prefabricated bungalow, or *prefab*, was designed as a means of providing large numbers of houses quickly after the Second World War, to replace some of those lost through bombing. The aluminium bungalows, like this one at St Fagans, were made in factories that had produced aircraft during the War. Designed with a life-expectancy of about 10 years, this one may be the only aluminium prefab left in Britain.

2016



Ecobuildings

Little Bryn Gwyn, Gower.
All materials locally sourced round wood timber,
straw bale walls and clay plasters.
Created using natural buildings methods.