



Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig Discovering Old Welsh Houses

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**Darganfod Hen
Dai Cymreig**



**Discovering Old
Welsh Houses**

**Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni,
Anglesey, LL77 7SH**



Researched and written
by Richard Cuthbertson, Gill. Jones & Ann Morgan
2019
revised 2020

HOUSE HISTORY RESEARCH
Written in the language chosen by the volunteers
and researchers & including information
so far discovered

PLEASE NOTE ALL THE HOUSES IN THIS PROJECT ARE PRIVATE AND
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Contents

	page
1. Building Description	2
2. Early Background History	9
3. 16 th Century	21
4. 17 th Century	24
5. 18 th Century	30
6. 19 th Century	37
7. 20 th Century	50
8. Bibliography	53

Appendices

1. The Royal House of Cunedda	54
2. The Tudors of Penmynydd	56
3. The Ancestors of Ednyfed Fychan	59
4. An Alternative Pedigree of Maredudd ap Tudor	61
5. The Will of Richard Owen Theodor IV 1645	62
6. The Will of Mary Owen 1666	63
7. The Will of Elizabeth Owen 1681	64
8. The Bulkeley Family	65
9. The Edmunds Family	68
10. The Will of Henry Hughes 1794	69
11. The Paget Family	71

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Building Description

Plas Penmynydd

Grade II*: listed 5/2/1952 - last amended 29/1/2002

CADW ID: 5447

OS Grid: SH49597520

NPRN: 15829

Penmynydd & Tudor

Spelling variants.

Benmynydd, Penmynyth, Penmynythe, Penmynydd; Tudur, Tudor, Tydder.

It is very likely that the earliest houses on the site were all wooden and as yet no trace of them has been found, but the Hall House of Owain Tudur's time (1400s) can be clearly seen in the neat and regular stonework up to the first 4 feet on the North Front (the side with the big oak front door). In 1576, Richard Owain Tudur III¹ built the main block more or less as we see it today, except it would have had a thatched roof. About 1700, the East kitchen wing was added, and in 1800, the West wing with the dining room and new staircase was completed.

Reasons for Listing

Listed as a good C17th gentry house which retains some features of the early, original mid C16th Plas, and because of its immense historical interest for its connection with the Royal Tudor line.

The following description is based on reports by the RCAHMW (www.coflein.gov.uk), British Listed Buildings (www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/wales), a survey and report by John Latham, and Peter Smith - Houses of the Welsh Countryside 1975.

Site Description:-

Phase 1

The original sub-medieval part of the current building (N block) was a two-storey, regional type-A house² with a lateral chimney and cross passage which was built in 1576. This was a style favoured by the 'uchelwyr' or gentry during the latter part of the 16th century.

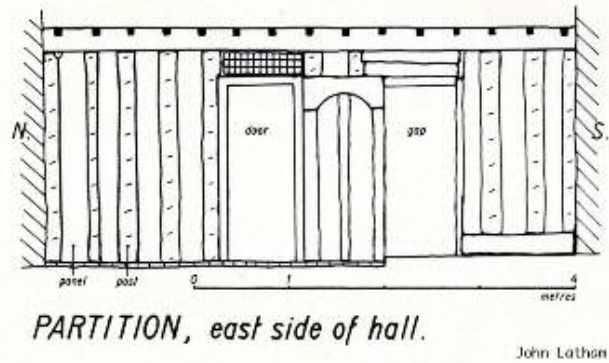
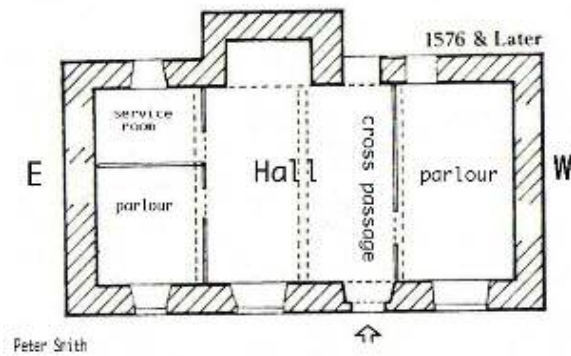
The ground floor of this section consisted of four bays. The cross passage only has a partition dividing it from the parlour to the W. The other side is open to the hall. The partition on the E side may have been a later addition which sub-divided the large 'hall' into smaller rooms. This consists partly of plain rails with roughly bevelled panels. The fireplace is located in the opposite wall to the main entrance and would have created a good impression on any visitors. A sixteenth century stone corbel with a carved human head, used to support the central hall beam, appears to be 'in situ'. There may be a second one to the left of the main doorway, now obscured by the reconstructed partition.

Were these heads perhaps placed there as guardians of the doorway? Their eyes would be open throughout the day and night, so they could ward off anything that tried to gain entry without being seen. When the current house was built, it was at a time when people believed in the supernatural. The first Witchcraft Act was passed in 1542.



1. Appendix 2 - the Tudors of Penmynydd

2. Peter Smith – Houses of the Welsh Countryside pp.158-159 & fig.93



The upper storey probably consisted of two rooms.

Phase 2

By the 1660s there may have been some sort of decay which possibly involved a fire. The surviving partition on the west side of the hall was probably reconstructed at this stage, and a kitchen annex added as an E wing. Access to the upper floor may have originally been by a ladder which was replaced by stair in the S wall to the W of the fireplace. However, it is possible that the stairway was contemporary with the earlier phase.

Phase 3

This may have occurred after the change of ownership due to the suicide of Francis Bulkeley in 1722. The partition on the E side of the hall was probably added. The pitch of the roof may also have been altered around this time to provide additional headroom in the loft space. This probably coincided with the thatch being replaced by slate.

Phase 4

Minor alterations involving doors, windows and partitions.

Phase 5

The final phase of major modifications in the 19th century. This involved an attempt to eradicate the medieval nature of the building. Date stones, inscriptions and heraldic pieces were re-sited, and the former staircase was destroyed.

Exterior

A 1952 report³ described it as a two storey farmhouse with attics; the N block represents the extent of the original, 1576, house; with later additions to rear (S). Rendered and slate clad stone walls. Roof of old small slates; tall chimneys with moulded capping (S stack is gabled, a square shaft of coursed gritstone with chamfered offsets and a moulded capping of 17th century character). The original N doorway with the stone step and four-centred rear arch remain. Above it is a stone cross shaft and a stone each side, one with the Tudor arms 16th century), and the other a Saracen's head. Reset in the E wall of the late 17th century kitchen extension to rear (S) are two stones; one reads: PERACTVM EST OPVS LAVS DEO (*God's work is done*), and the other: VIVE VT VIVAS (*live life to the fullest*). On the W side reset in a modern wall is a stone which bears the date and initials: 1576 R.O.T. (Richard Owen Theodor II – see p.23)

3. <https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk>



The inscriptions on the East wall



The East wall showing the position of the two inscriptions.



The Saracen's head

The Tudor arms

The main entrance doorway

A slightly more puzzling inscription is located above an upstairs window on the front of the house. It has been placed upside down and so it has obviously been relocated. The date **AD 1547** is clearly visible and also the words '**anno domini**' but the rest of the inscription has yet to be deciphered. The far right hand end also appears to be broken and so part of it must be missing.

Could it perhaps be a reference to the death of Henry VIII on 28th January 1547 and the crowning of his son Edward VI on 20th February 1547?

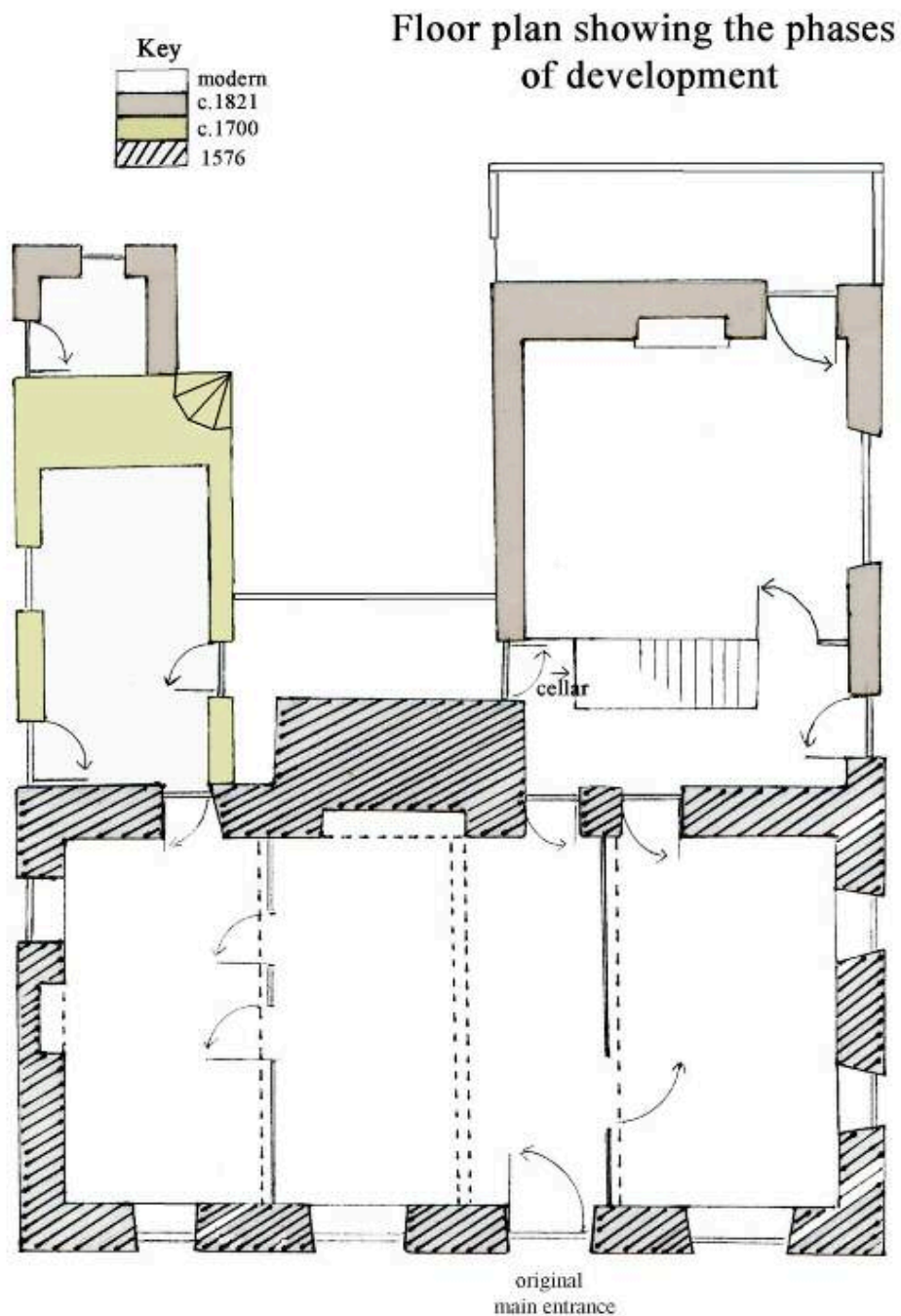


The inscription turned the right way round.



c.1911

The render and slate hangings shown on this picture have since been removed.



Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory

Tree-ring dating commissioned by North-West Wales tree-ring dating project in partnership with RCAHMW in 2010. Six timbers in the roof and one ground floor ceiling beam were sampled, all of which were thought to date to a known building phase of 1576. Matches were found between three timbers (two from the roof and the ceiling beam), all of which were felled in the same year, but none of the series was dated.

The Lost Beam

There are articles written in 1859 and 1899 which refer to an inscribed beam from the house, which is now lost.

1859 - Rev. H. Longueville Jones (1806-1870) - 'Mona Mediaeva – Penmynydd'.⁴

“There is a large beam inside one of the outhouses, apparently much charred. It bears an inscription, hardly decipherable, and it was probably once used in the great hall of the mansion.”

1899 – Mr. J.E.Griffith of Bangor - Archaeological Notes and Queries⁵

“Now they have taken the outhouse down, and the beam has been bought by a gentleman living near Bangor, I have with great difficulty made out the inscription on it. The length of the beam is 17ft 1in, but formerly I should think it must have been 4ft longer, and that the ends were cut when it was removed from the old hall to the stable, where it has been supporting a loft above for many years. The inscriptions are on the two bevelled edges of the beam. Some of the letters have been cut away at the places where the joists were fixed into notches made in the beam, to support the floor of the loft above the stable after the beam had been brought from the old house when the present one was built, perhaps a hundred years ago. The missing letters have been supplied, and the complete inscriptions would read as follows” :-



J.E.Griffith had assumed that an 'ap' was missing before the 'R ap O' which would mean that it would probably refer to Richard Owen Theodor II, who is believed to have built the current house in 1576. His parents were Richard Owen Theodore I and Elizabeth vch Rhys ap Llewelyn of Bodychan. This means that J.E.Griffith has mis-transcribed the 'R' for Rhys as a 'K'.

To the right of the initials is what appears to be a Christogram representing the name 'Jesus Christ'.

4. Archaeologia Cambrensis Jan.1859 Third series No.XVII pp.26-27

5. ibid. Oct. 1899 Fifth series Vol.XVI no.LXIV pp.314-317

The remaining part of this first inscription can be translated as:-

'In praise and honour of God they commissioned this work – one thousand, five hundred and seventy six'

IN·L AVΘEM·HONOREM·DEI·HOC·OPVS·FIERI·
·FECERVNT ANNO·DOMINI·MILLESIMO·
·QVINCENTESIMO·SEPTVAGESIMO·SEXTO·

Fig. 1.—Inscription on Wooden Beam at Penmyrdd, Anglesey. Scale, $\frac{1}{2}$ linear.

This next part can be translated as:-

'God is all, without God nothing'

ΘVW·Α·ΘΙΣΘΝ·HEB·ΘVW·HEB·ΘΘIM
· NISI·ΘΘMINVS·ΕΘΙΦΙCΑVERIT·

..... followed by the first line of Psalm 127.

'Unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain that build it'

·ΘΘMVM·IN·VΑIVM·LABORΑVERVNT·
·QVI·ΕΘΙΦΙCΑNT·ΕΑΜ·

Early Background History

Anglesey – The Name

The name of the island may be derived from the Old Norse; either Ongullsey – Hook Island or Onglisey – Ongli's Island, although no record of such an Ongli survives. However, the place name was used as early as the 10th century by the Viking raiders and was later adopted by the Normans during their invasions of Gwynedd.

Ynys Môn – The Welsh name for the island. 'Gerald of Wales called it Môn Mam Cymru (Mother of Wales) referring to its bountiful source of grain.' This title is still used today to publicise Anglesey.

Numerous megalithic monuments and menhirs are present on Anglesey, testifying to the presence of humans in prehistory. A polished stone axe head was found in the garden, close to the house, by the current owner. It has been identified as having come from the Graig Lwyd Neolithic axe factory on the mountainside above Penmaenmawr. It was the most productive site in Wales, and the third most important in Britain. Stones were obtained from surface outcrops of igneous rock. The finding of this axe head suggests the presence of human activity during the late Neolithic period, on or close to the site of the current house.



The stone axehead

The island also had a long association with the Druids. The Roman general Gaius Suetonius Paulinus attacked the island in AD60 in order to try and break the power of the druids. The Island was finally brought into the Roman Empire in AD78 by Gnaeus Julius Agricola, the Roman Governor of Britain. Following the Roman departure in the early 5th century, pirates from Ireland colonised Anglesey and the Llŷn Peninsula. The last Irish invaders were finally defeated in a battle in AD 470 and Aberffraw became the seat of Cunedda Wledig whose father had been an important Romanised Briton. From their home court at Aberffraw, Cunedda and his sons became the first rulers of the Kingdom of Gwynedd.⁶

6. Appendix 1 – Pedigree of Cunedda Wledig

The House of Aberffraw eventually became the family seat of a descendant of Cunedda - Anarawd, King of Gwynedd. He was referenced in *Annales Cambriae* as 'King of the Britons'. His father, Rhodri Mawr (c.820 – c.878) King of Gwynedd, gained fame from his success as a warrior after his many battles with the Vikings. He was finally killed in battle at Cymryd in the Conwy Valley. (*N.B. The label 'Mawr' was not actually attached to his name until much later*) At his death, Rhodri's kingdom stretched over two-thirds of modern Wales - Gwynedd, Powys and Seisyllwg – which he acquired through war, marriage and inheritance, but Welsh Law required that after his death his lands be divided between his surviving adult sons. His eldest son, Anarawd, retained the principal estate at Aberffraw, the rest of Anglesey and the adjacent parts of Gwynedd.

The royal court, or Llys, remained at Aberffraw until the 13th century. During this period, Anglesey was invaded by the Danes, Vikings, Saxons and Normans before finally falling to Edward I in the 13th century.

.....

Medieval Landholding in Wales

Prior to Edward I taking control of Wales, it consisted of a patchwork of kingdoms held by the various Welsh Princes. Like the rest of Britain and Europe, Wales had adopted a feudal system, so these kingdoms supported the Princes and their households and also provided them with fighting men. Only ecclesiastical lands fell outside of royal control. The kingdoms in their turn were divided into administrative units.

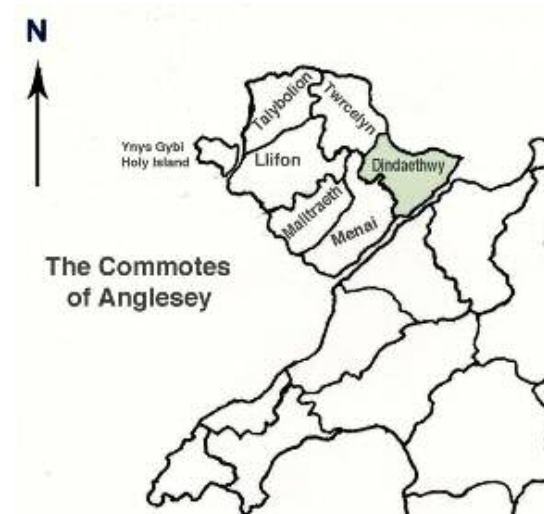
Anglesey was divided into the following Administrative units:-

The cantrefs of Aberffraw, Cemaes and Rhosyr.

These cantrefs were subdivided into commotes:-

Aberffraw	-	Llifon & Malltraeth
Cemaes	-	Talybolion & Twrcelyn
Rhosyr	-	Dindaethwy & Menai.

The land on which **Plas Penmynydd** was later built, was situated in the cantref of **Rhosyr** and the commote of **Dindaethwy**.



Plas Penmynydd

Plas Penmynydd is known as the home of the Tudors. It was erected in 1576 and it is presumed that it was built on the same site as the one the Tudors occupied in their heyday. It was rebuilt in the 17th century.

The family's rise to power began with **Ednyfed Fychan**^{7 8} (descended from Marchudd ap Cynan) who in the 13th century was seneschal, or lord steward, to Llywelyn the Great (a descendant of Rhodri Mawr). As a reward for his political and military services to Llywelyn, he was granted bond villis in Anglesey, Nant Conwy, Arllechwedd Uchaf, and Creuddyn. A concession had previously been made to all the descendants of Ednyfed's grandfather (Iorwerth ap Gwrgan), which allowed them to hold their lands throughout Wales free from all dues and services, other than military service in time of war. This was also honoured. This special tenure was known as 'Wyrion Eden'.

The manors Ednyfed held in Anglesey were Trecastell, Penmynydd and Erddreiniog. He resided chiefly at Tregarnedd not far from Penmynydd and died there about 1233, having been married twice.

The coat of arms associated with Ednyfed Fychan was originally a '*Saracen's head ... wreathed about the temples*'. This was changed to '*three bloody heads*' (after Ednyfed was sent to the Marches by Llywelyn to defend the frontiers from the approach of an English army which was ready to invade them under the command of Ranulf de Blondville, Earl of Chester.⁹

7. Appendix 2 – The Tudors of Penmynydd

8. Appendix 3 – Ancestors of Ednyfed Fychan

9. The Fifteen Tribes of North Wales from a MS in the possession of Rev.L.Owen 1796



Saracen's Head¹⁰



the severed heads of three Englishmen¹¹

When Edward I seized the lands of the Welsh princes towards the end of the 13th century, those of his subjects could not be touched. The manors of Penmynydd, Erddreiniog and Trecastell, which were left to Ednyfed Fychan's second family by his wife Gwenllian, remained with them. They were also all still held free of rents and services.

Ednyfed Fychan's son, **Goronwy** is considered to be the founder of the Tudor family of Penmynydd. His son, **Tudur Hen** succeeded to the Penmynydd, Trecastell and Erddreiniog estates. Tudur's son, **Grono Fychan ap Tudur** (1285-1331), was well liked by the Black Prince, and when the entire government of Wales was placed by Edward III in the hands of his son, the latter appointed Grono, as Forester of Snowden. His responsibilities covered Carnarvon, Anglesey and Merioneth. Grono's salary as Forester was 7d per diem - £10 13s p.a. He held this office until his death on December 11th 1331.¹²

Grono had two sons, Hywel and Tudur Fychan. Hywel gained a position in the church as a canon of Bangor Cathedral and later Archdeacon of Anglesey. He died without issue and so the estate passed to his brother, **Tudur Fychan ap Goronwy**.

The History of Wales 1697 gives an account of the remarkable way in which Tudur Fychan ap Grono is supposed to have gained his knighthood at the hands of Edward III.

Tudur Fychan self styled himself Syr, and when King Edward heard about it, he sent for him and asked him, *'with what confidence he durst invade his prerogative by assuming the degree of knighthood without his authority'*. Tudur replied that *'by the laws and constitution of King Arthur, he had the liberty of taking upon himself that title, firstly because he was a gentleman, secondly he had sufficient estate, thirdly he was valiant and adventurous'*; adding this withal, *"If my valour and hardiness be doubted of, lo, here I throw down my glove, and for due proof of my courage, I am ready to fight with any man, whatever he be."*

The king liked his forwardness and resolution, and so was easily persuaded to confirm the honour of knighthood upon him.

10. Thomas Pennant – The History of the Parishes of Whitford and Holywell p.290

11. Plas Mawr, Conwy

12. Penmynydd and the Tudors – Arch. Cambs. Third Series no.LVIX 1869 J.Williams pp.290-292

Another much later description was written about him by Nicholas Thomas¹³ in 1872, which paints a slightly different picture.

"In the time of Edward III, or about A.D.1350, there lived at Penmynydd Mon a **quiet country gentleman**, not, however, unaccustomed to the use of arms, of the line of Ednyfed Fychan He was grandfather of Owen Tudor, himself grandfather of King Henry VII, and he, again, grandfather of the great Elizabeth."

Syr Tudur Fychan is thought to have maintained Trecastell as his principal residence. Elizabethan records ascribe to Syr Tudur '*three closed helmets*' on his coat of arms and not the severed heads of his great great grandfather, Ednyfed Fychan.

Was this because the heads represented 'Englishmen' and this could have been seen as rather provocative at a time when he was being recognized by Edward as a knight?

The coat of arms with the severed heads continued to be borne by all the families descended from Ednyfed's first wife Tangwystl,¹⁴ whilst those families descended from his second wife, Gwenllïan adopted this new version.



3 closed helmets¹⁵

The Welsh Bards

During the 14th Century, the Tudor family of Penmynydd was an important patron of the poets, particularly with Gruffydd Gryg, Iolo Goch and Gruffydd ap Maredudd ap Dafydd. As a result, a great deal of poetry was written about them.

A poet's main task was to praise his patron in verse. The qualities praised are those which characterized the ideal man :- courage on the battlefield; strength in defending his own interests and ensuring the wellbeing of his dependants; generosity and kindness; and a commitment to justice and to maintaining order and fairness within a society.

In medieval society, lineage was believed to guarantee possession of these virtues, as well as determining an individual's right to inherit his family's land and social status. Consequently, it often features prominently in the praise poetry. Other poems related to :- requests to solicit a favour or a gift; thanks for acts of generosity; to celebrate a wedding or the building of a new house; and

13. Nicholas Thomas – Annals and Antiquities of the counties and county families of Wales Vol.I

14. J.Williams - Penmynydd and the Tudors p.278-294 Arch. Camb. Vol. XV Third Series 1869 p.282

15. St.Gredifael's Church, Penmynydd

elegies after the death of a patron which would hopefully also ensure that the poets' source of patronage would continue into the next generation.

Iolo Goch of Lleweny (c.1325-1400) wrote a seventy-two line poem – '*Marwnad Tudur Fychan o Benmynydd*' (Elegy for Tudur Fychan of Penmynydd). In it, Tudur is described as '*carw Tre'r Castell*' (The stag of Tre'r Castell), and he was also said '*to understand the art of piercing a shattered shield*'.

Iolo Goch also wrote the poems – 'Praise of Tudur Fychan's sons' and 'Elegy for Tudur Fychan's Sons'.¹⁶ The four sons mentioned, were the children of Tudur's first wife, Mallt vch Madog of Penllyn. Iolo called the sons, '*chief jousters of Môn*' and '*Lords of the island*'.

1. **Grono/Goronwy ap Tudur**, the eldest son inherited Penmynydd and married Myfanwy. Iolo wrote of his visit to '*Grono of the shining spear, stag of Penmynydd*' and '*his pleasant court*'. He died by drowning during disembarkation in Kent in 1382. His body was taken back to Anglesey where it was buried at Llanfaes Franciscan Friary, which was the favoured burial site for the nobility of Anglesey. Llywelyn ap Iorwerth (Fawr) had established the friary in memory of his wife Joan who died in 1237. Goronwy's tomb was eventually moved to the nearby church of St Gredifael, probably at the time of the Dissolution.

Gruffudd ap Meredydd ap Dafydd wrote an elegy to Goronwy. The following version was translated by Ann Parry Owen.

*A great multitude is familiar
with the gross injustice of losing the leader of a host.
(Gwynedd was injured due to his inevitable grave;
And his weapons had been the most powerful in battle)*

*Terrible was the drowning of a chieftain of the excellence of an adventurer,
(may there be a circle of grief after the leader of a fine troop
who was fond of [sharing] wine)
A wild boar in battle, the eagle of the army.*

*There was many a sigh as a consequence of the grief for a bold wolf,
(he was a generous lord)*

*To rest on the bank of Menai within the confines of a marble tomb
(we all proceed in grief)
Was placed a brave and handsome young man wearing an armour of steel.*

Dreadful was the placing of a patron, the provider of a hundred gifts,

16. Translations by Professor Dafydd Johnson

*One who crushed the French, within an oak coffer and soil;
A friend of bold men, leader of Penmynydd's court,
It is the chancel of the barefoot brothers that now covers him*

Before Myfanwy married Goronwy, a bard named Hywel ab Einion Llygliw of Maelor, is said to have fallen in love with her, but when he realised that his love was not reciprocated he composed a sad love poem. His ode is entitled 'Myfanwy Fychan of Castle Dinas Brân'. The original is now preserved in the National Library of Wales. The text of the poem was printed in 'The Myvrian Archaeology of Wales' which brought it to national prominence. A translation by Thomas Pennant ensured it was well-known to historians and antiquarians in Wales and beyond. The ode also inspired another popular poem called 'Myfanwy Fychan' by John Ceiriog Hughes for the Llangollen Eisteddford in 1858; and a painting called 'Myfanwy Interior' by Thomas Leonard Hughes (1862-1890) which shows an imaginary medieval interior. This is now held in the Caernarvon Royal Town Council Collection.

Thomas Pennant¹⁷ wrote:-

"In 1390, this castle was inhabited by a celebrated beauty, descended from the house of Tudur Trevor, and whose father probably held the castle under the earls of Arundel. The name of the lady was Myfanwy Vechan. She made a conquest of Hywel ap Einion Lygliw, a celebrated bard, who composed the following ode, addressed to her."

Here is just part of Pennant's translation of the poem.

*"Thy peerless beauties to declare
Was still thy zealous lover's care,
Oh fairer thou, and colder too,
Than new fallen snow on Arran's brow!
Oh lovely flower of Trevor's race.
Let not a cruel heart disgrace
The beauties of that heavenly face
Thou art my daily thought each night
Presents Myfanwy to my sight.
And death alone can draw the dart
Which love has fixed in my heart."*

.....

*"Thy name a thousand hills resound,
Myfanwy Vechan, maid divine!
No name so misused as thine.
And every bard with rapture hung
on the soft music of my song.*

17. Thomas Pennant – A Tour in Wales Vol. II p.298

*For thee I languish, pine and rave,
While as Dwrŵy's curving wave
Alas! No words can speak my pain."*

.....

*"Far from Myfanwy's marble tower
I pass my solitary hour
O thou shinest like the sky
Behold they faithful Hywel die."*

Myfanwy's husband is also said to have written many poems about her.

N.B. Myfanwy is believed to have been born in the mid 14th century whereas Hywel is supposed to have lived from c.1272-1320 which casts some doubt on the authenticity of the story.



The tomb of Goronwy and Myfanwy in St. Gredifael's Church, Penmynydd¹⁸

N.B. Behind the effigies there is an alcove with a ledger stone which may be the tomb of Goronwy's father, Sir Tudur Fychan.

2. **Ednyfed** lived at Tre Castell described as '*Tre'r Castell is not far off, chamber of gifts, heavenly land, Ednyfed's dwelling*'. He also died in 1382 but the circumstances of his death are unclear.
3. **Rhys** lived at Erddreiniog and this was described by Iolo as '*Erddreiniog, it enobled the island*'. Rhys and his brothers Gwilym and Maredudd lost their lands fighting for Owain Glyndŵr. Rhys

18. Coflein – catalogue ref. C529045 File ref. DS2007-435-001

was executed at Shrewsbury.

4. **Gwilym** lived at Clorach described as '*Gwilym's court, a mansion full of herbs, golden leopard, place of ready talent, dragon's nature, there I will dwell, in heaven, and I will do right, Clorach's dwelling, brilliant building*'. He eventually received a pardon but did not regain his lands.

A fifth brother, Maredudd, was said to be the son of Tudur's second wife Marged vch Tomas. Why did Iolo Goch not mention him in his poem to the four brothers nor in his 1382 eulogy to two of those four men? This could be because his mother was a second wife, and so Maredudd may have been much younger than Tudur's other sons. However, another explanation has been suggested by some historians - that it could be because he was not a brother of those four men but a son of their first-cousin Tudur ap Goronwy ap Goronwy Fychan.^{19 20}

At some point between 1387 and 1395, Maredudd was made rhaglaw (bailiff) of the commote of Malltraeth.

5. **Maredudd**, father of Owain Tudur - The estates of Maredudd ap Tudur were confiscated in 1407, leaving Owen Tudor landless. Owain joined the army of Henry V and went on to marry his widow Katherine de Valois. They had 3 sons, Edmund, Owen and Jasper. Edmund became the Duke of Richmond and married Margaret Beaufort. His son, Henry, went over to France and returned with an army to defeat Richard III on Bosworth Field in 1485. **He then became Henry VII, the first of the Tudor Kings of England in 1485.**

Above a small niche inside of the great fireplace, is what appears to be an inscribed fleur de lys. Does this perhaps relate to the wife of Maredudd's son Owain Tudur - Katherine of Valois?



the fleur de lys

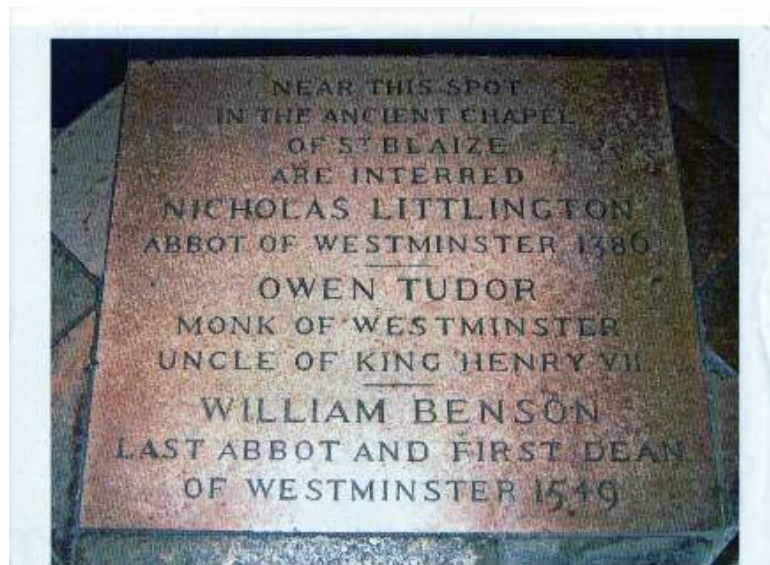


Detail

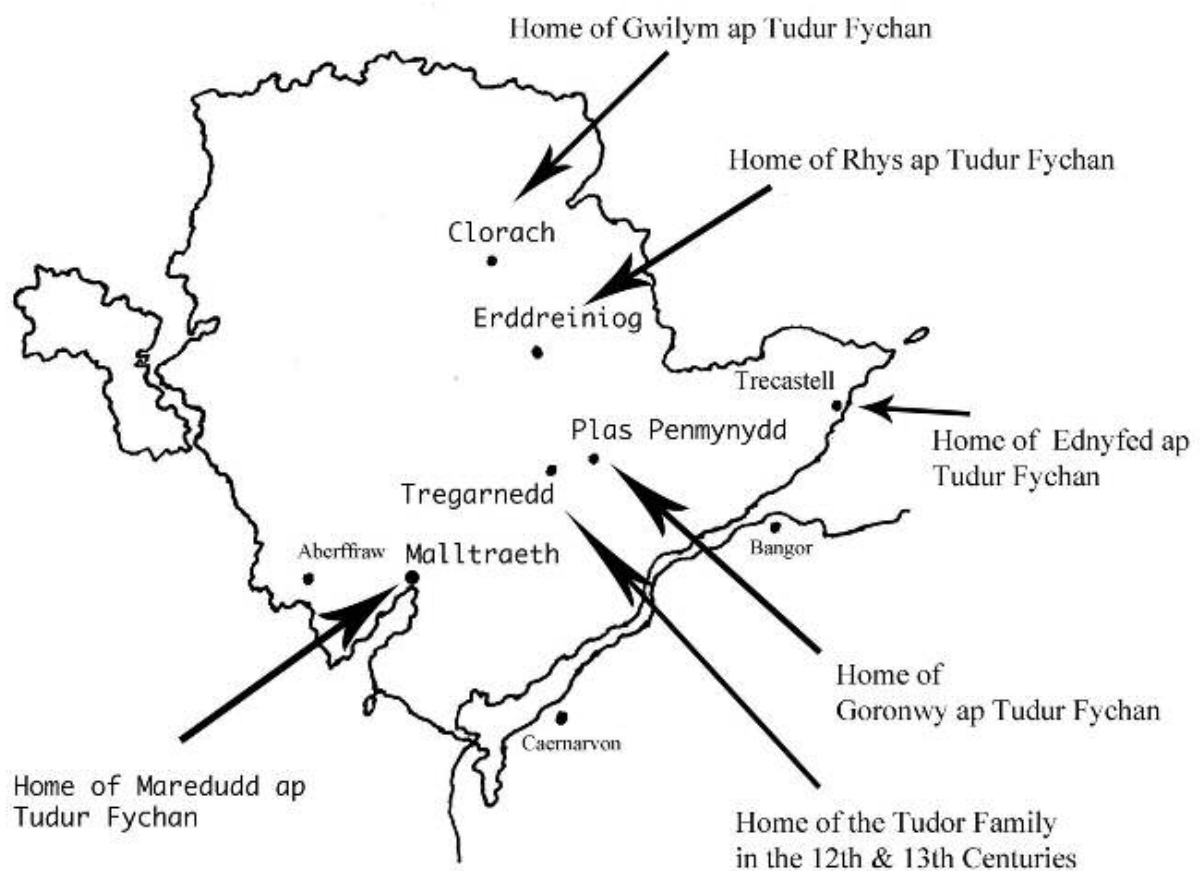
19. The Welsh Ancestry of the Tudor Dynasty – Darrell Wolcott – Ancient Welsh Studies

20. Appendix 4 – An Alternative Pedigree of Maredudd ap Tudur

Owain Tudur's son, Owen Tudor, became a monk and is commemorated in Westminster Abbey.



Where the Tudur Families lived on Anglesey



Goronwy ap Tudur Fychan and Myfanwy had a son Tudur and a daughter, Morfudd. When Goronwy ap Tudur Fychan died on the 23rd March 1382 his children were both still minors. There is excellent evidence of this date. The lands of Penmynydd were taken possession of by King Richard's escheator. The escheator recorded them as follows:-

“The Lands which were Grono's ap Tudor – Of certain proceeds or profits of lands or tenements which were Grono's ap Tudor, in the townships of Penmynydd and Dynsilwy Res, who died on the Sabbath day next before the feast of the Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary, In the fifth year of the now king; and which the same Grono held of the king in capite by service of going with the said king in his war within the marches of Wales at his own cost, and beyond at the cost of the said king and suit, at the County Court of Anglesey; remaining in the hands of the lord the king by the death of the said Grono, on account of the minority of age of Tudor, the son and heir of the said Grono; and which are extended by the year at twelve pounds beyond etc. He answered not, because respited by the judiciary and others of the council of the lord the king until it should be discussed whether they ought to belong to the lord the king, or whether they should be delivered to Mevanwy, who was the wife of the said Grono, for surety in answering the lord king etc.”²¹

Goronwy's son, Tudur, died c.1400. His daughter, Morfudd, married Gwilym ap Gruffydd of Penrhyn about 1390. Through the marriage, Gwilym ap Gruffydd gained lands at Penrhyn and the commotes of Menai and Dindaethwy in Anglesey. Gwilym lived in Penmynydd from 1400, having been Sheriff of Anglesey in 1396. When his wife's uncles, Rhys, Gwilym and Maredudd ap Tudur, supported Glyndŵr, Gwilym ap Gruffydd was forced by his family to join the rebellion around 1402. Gwilym eventually made his submission to the king by August 1405 and by November 1407, when he was restored to his forfeited lands, he was granted in addition the lands of twenty seven Anglesey followers of Glyndŵr who had probably died fighting for Glyndŵr. By 1410 he had been granted the forfeited lands of his wife's uncles, Rhys, and Gwilym ap Tudur. Gwilym came to own most of the patrimony of the Tudurs of Penmynydd apart from the lands of Maredudd ap Tudur Fychan. This was a major reason for Owen Tudur leaving Anglesey to seek his fortune in London.²²

Gwilym ap Gruffydd and Morfudd vch Goronwy had a son, **Tudur Fychan ap Gwilym**, who inherited only his mother's property of Penmynydd.

Tudur Fychan ap Gwilym married twice, firstly to Gwen ap Deicws and secondly to Annes Puleston. Tudur and his second wife had a son called **Owain Tudur Fychan** who inherited Penmynydd and probably owned it in 1485. He became quite a powerful figure.

c.1495 - Owain was granted the escheat of Llanelian. He married Grace Bold vch Sir Harry Bold. They had three surviving sons – Gwilym (William) Owen Tudur, John Owen Tudur and Richard Owen Tudur I.

After Morfudd vch Goronwy had died, Gwilym ap Gruffydd of Penrhyn remarried to Jonet Stanley. Their son and heir, Gwilym Griffith (1415-1483) had a daughter, Agnes Griffith, who married firstly William Griffith Fychan of Penrhyn and secondly Sir Roland de Velville.

During his years in exile in Brittany, Henry VII is said to have had, by a Breton lady, a son called Roland de Velville. This is disputed by some scholars.²³ Several of the Bards alluded to his

21. Penmynydd and the Tudors J.Williams Arch. Cambs. Third Series no.LVIX July 1869 pp.291-292

22. Owen Tudur: Founding father of the Tudur Dynasty – Terry Breverton - 2016

23. R.A.Griffiths, Professor of medieval history University Swansea – The Making of the Tudor Dynasty; 1985 Dr. M. P. Siddons - The Development of Welsh Heraldry' 1993; S.B.Grimes Professor of History- 'Sir Roland de Veleville and

relationship with Henry VII but other records are inconclusive.

Dafydd Alaw 1535

"A man of kingly line and of earl's blood."

This could refer to Henry as he was born Earl of Richmond.

Lewys Dunn 1602

"Of a line near to the Crown and of its blood."

This could relate to Agnes' ancestors, the Griffiths of Penrhyn, who were also descendants of Ednyfyd Fychan, from another branch of the Tudor family, or to Henry.

The story goes that, after coming to the throne, Henry knighted Roland and made him constable of Beaumaris Castle and granted him a moiety of the Tudor property of Penmynydd with other lands in Pentraeth and Beaumaris. This is said to have consisted of 486 acres of land which had been part of the estate of his great grandfather Maredudd ap Tudur Fychan. However, this suggestion is unsupported by evidence. He was, however, later granted lands in the ancient Tudor estates at Penmynydd during the reign of Henry VIII by Owen ap John ab Owen ap Tudur Fychan, a member of the 'senior branch of the Tudor family'. (see p.21)

Roland Velville and Agnes Griffith had two daughters, Grace and Jane. Jane married Tudor ap Robert Fychan. Their daughter was Katheryn of Berain (c.1535-1591).

the Tudor dynasty 1967; W. R. B. Robinson - Sir Roland de Veleuille and the Tudor Dynasty: A reassessment 1991

16th Century

In 1502 two of the sons of Owain Tudur Fychan, together with their mother, are named in a document regarding two tenements in the parish of Penmynydd. They are recorded as 'free tenants'. This confirms that the original concession granted to Iorwerth ap Gwrgan of 'special tenure' was still being upheld. (see p.11)

1502 – The Feast of All Saints

Grace of Bold, John Oweyn and Richeart Oweyn, free tenants of Penmynyth in the commot of Dynd', co. Anglesey.²⁴

1504 - Owain Tudur Fychan died. The Inquisition Post Mortem confirmed that he held the Penmynydd estate. His estates would have been divided up between his surviving sons, according to gavelkind. This Welsh form of land tenure was eventually superseded by primogeniture by the statutes of Henry VIII 1536-1542. His son, **Gwilym Owen Tudor** is believed to have inherited the part of Penmynydd where the current house is located.

1509 21st May – Henry VII died and was succeeded by his second son, Henry VIII.
His eldest son, Arthur, had died in 1502.

1509 3rd July – This is the actual date when Sir Roland de Velville was granted the position of constable of Beaumaris. It was just nine days after the coronation of Henry VIII. The warrant may have been drawn up prior to his father's death but not signed until after he had been crowned.

Gwilym (William) Owen Tudur became a yeoman of the Crown and went to live in Warwickshire. His sons were not interested in his Anglesey estates and so they were granted to his brother Richard Owen Tudur.

1510 15th June – Grant made by **William Owen** (Tudur) to **Richard Owen** (Tudur) both free tenants in the township of Penmynydd. It consisted of the mansion house of Penmynydd, 2 gardens, 5 closes and other lands.²⁵

1512 4th December - Sir Roland de Velville received letters of denization for himself and his heirs.

1519/20 - Sir Roland de Velville acquired land in Penmynydd from Owen ap John Owain ap Tudur Fychan (the son of John Owen Tudur). There are several documents recording these transactions.

1519 April 24th

BOND in 100 marks for the peaceful enjoyment of a tenement in the town of Penmynythe called Tyddyn brydyn.²⁶

24. Salusbury Family of Lleweni MSS – no.234 (i & ii) in Latin

25. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS Vol.I no.1724

26. *ibid.* nos.267 & 209 in Latin

1519/20 February 26th

MORTGAGE for £4 (by way of lease for four years, etc.) of three messuages in the township of Penmynyth, one called Tyddyn david husmon lying between the land of the tenement of the abbot of Conowey on the east side, the second tenement in which Ierwerth ap Tudur ap Ednyfed now lives lying between the tenement of William Gruffith, knight, on the south and the tenement of the abbot of Conoway called Tyddyn y Kymyry on the east, the third called Tyddyn y velyn lying near the mill of the said Owen.

1520 April 18th

GRANT of a tenement called Tythyn Brydyn in the township of Penmynyth with two houses standing thereon and lying between the land called Bodynys on the north and the land of the king called Maesylidir on the east and the land called Y wyrgloth lays on the south.²⁷

1527 - Sir Roland Velville died and bequeathed all of his lands to his widow, who in turn left the property to their two daughters, Grace and Jane. It can be assumed that Grace Velville died unmarried, because ultimately the whole of his moiety of the Penmynydd property devolved to Kathryn of Berain.

Richard Owen Tudor I transformed the Tudur name to **Theodor** and this was borne by subsequent heirs with one exception when a second son succeeded an older brother. He married Elizabeth vch Rhys ap Llewelyn of Bodychan (High Sheriff of Anglesey for life from 1485-1504). They had a son called **Richard Owen Theodor II** born about 1541.

Richard Owen Theodor II married Margaret vch Madog ap Ifan of Pengwern. They had a son – **Richard Owen Theodor III**.

.....

1547 – Henry VIII died and was succeeded by his son Edward VI.

1553 – Edward VI died and was succeeded by his half sister Mary I.

1558 – Mary I died and the crown passed to her half sister Elizabeth I.

.....

1558 – Richard Owen Theodor I died and was buried in Penmynydd church. He was succeeded by his son, **Richard Owen Theodor II**.

1565 & 1573 – Richard Owen Theodor II was appointed High Sheriff of Anglesey.

27. ibid no.221 in Latin

The Building of Plas Penmynydd

1576 - Richard Owen Theodor II rebuilt Plas Penmynydd probably on the footprint of the earlier house. A date stone with his initials has now been relocated inside the house.



1584 - Richard Owen Theodor II died. He was succeeded by his son **Richard Owen Theodor III**, who had married Jane vch Owen ap Robert of Bodafon but had no children. He died soon after his father in 1586. The Penmynydd estate passed to his brother **David Owen Theodor**.

1588 – David is recorded living at Penmynydd in a copy of the Gentleman's Magazine.²⁸

David Owen Theodor was apparently a good host but careless with money. The poet Sion Mawddwy talks of life at Plas Penmynydd.

“ In his house there was wine to hand, there bards wertē welcomed and in his healthy palace honourable tales they sang to the head of the family.”

David married Agnes vch William Lewis of Presaddfed. They had a son named **Richard Owen Theodor IV**.

28. Gentleman's Magazine 1829 Vol 99 Part 1 p.203

17th Century

By the beginning of the 17th century the Tudor family of Penmynydd, Anglesey had become 'déclasse gentry'.

A certain Owen Tydder (*David Owen Theodor*) became embroiled in the affairs of Arbella Stuart, whose grandmother, Bess of Hardwick had hopes that she could become a successor to Queen Elizabeth I of England. Arbella was a great great granddaughter of Henry VII. Owen Tydder (David) had apparently been at Hardwick for twenty years and his son was page to Arbella herself. Owing to Arbella's status as a possible heir to the throne, there were discussions of appropriate marriages for her throughout her childhood. She also required permission from the Queen if she wanted to marry, but Arbella began to plot her own marriage.

1602/3 January 2nd - According to the Cecil Papers²⁹, a servant of Bess of Hardwick called John Daudridge had been commanded "to speak to Mr. Owen Theodor to move my Lady of Shrewsbury about a marriage between the Lordship's grandchild, the Lord Beauchamp's eldest son and the Lady Arbella."

When rumours began to circulate, Elizabeth asked one of her courtiers, Sir Henry Brouncker, to investigate. Apparently Tydder admitted that there had been some talk between himself and another Owen concerning such a marriage but declared he knew little about it. He was also vague about the date, but thought it all took place three or four years earlier. Sir Robert Cecil asked Sir Thomas Egerton to investigate Owen Tydder's background. Egerton conducted some enquiries but drew a blank.

1602/3 January 3rd – Letter from Sir Thomas Egerton to Sir Robert Cecil.

"For Owen Tydder, I know no such man. But this is all I have heard of any such person in Anglesey. Richard Owen Tydder, David Owen Tydder and John Owen Tydder were brothers, all pretending to be of the house of the great Owen Tydder. Richard died without issue. David is his brother and heir, and is living. John the youngest followed the wars, and as I have heard, served with the enemy. Whether he be living or dead, I do not know. There is another one, Rowland Owen, a soldier likewise, born in that country, and serving the enemy also, as I have heard. But this derivith not himself from Tydder as the other does. It may be you will conjecture more upon this my idle relation than I can imagine, and so I leave it to you to make merry with a Welsh pedigree."

1602 15th January – Sir Richard Bulkeley also wrote a report to Sir Robert Cecil in which he described David Owen Theodor as:-

"... unwieldly and aged. A poor gentleman of a mean living and giveth himself only to good fellowship, pleasure and hunting, without respect of his profit and a plain wit."

As a result of this report, all suspicions against the Tudors were dispelled.

29. Cecil Papers Vol.12 1602-1603 pub. HMSO London 1910

1603 24th March - Elizabeth I died and was succeeded by James I.

1610 – Arbella Stuart finally became betrothed in secret to William Seymour, who himself had a distant claim to the English throne. They married in private in June that year. When the King found out about it, William and Arbella were arrested.

1610 - Richard Owen Theodor VI married Mary Wynn vch Richard Rowland Wynn of Penhesgin Isa. They had a son – **Richard Owen Theodor V**, born about 1613 (see the datestone below).

1611 18th December - Richard Owen Theodor IV granted a lease for 21 years to Rowland ap David ap John late of Bodynys upon Tyddyn David ap John and others, and corn was to be ground at Penmynydd Mill. Also a duty to attend various courts, baron and court leets, unless prevented by urgent business, sickness or other impediment.³⁰

1613 and 1618 – date stones with the initials T over R.O. (Richard Owen V); and E.O. and R.O. (Richard Owen V and Elizabeth Owen of Bodeon) and on a coat of arms, the Tudor arms impaled with the arms of Hwfa ap Cynddelw which were used by the Owens of Bodeon. Both dates predate the association between the Owen Tudors and the Owens of Bodeon, and Richard and Elizabeth did not inherit the house until after 1645.

Could the dates perhaps be the dates of birth of Richard and Elizabeth? ... and the stones installed after they had inherited the house?



1615 25th September - Arbella died in the Tower of London aged 39 years.

30. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS no.1751

1623 – David Owen Theodor died and was succeeded by his son **Richard Owen Theodor IV**.

1623 - Richard Owen Theodor IV became High Sheriff of Anglesey.

1625 – James I died and was succeeded by his son, Charles I.

1630 – date stone with the initials R.O. and E.O. now reset on a farm building.



Does this date stone commemorate the betrothal of Richard Owen V and Elizabeth Owen? He would have been 17 years of age and she would have been just 12 years old if the dates on the other stone (p.25) are their dates of birth. This is possible, because marriages were often arranged between children. Canon law decreed that no child under the age of 7 could contract a marriage. Above that age the contract could be made but the marriage would not have been valid unless both parties consented to the marriage when they came of age of consent. In reality, the age at which children married varied but tended to be around 9, 10 or 11 years of age. The reason for an early marriage was generally when both families had vested interests.

1633 – Richard Owen IV appears to have increased the family fortunes and Penmynydd appears on a register of incomes as third in importance in Anglesey.

1645 – Richard Owen Theodor IV died and left a will. He was succeeded by his son **Richard Owen Theodor V**.³¹

In his will:-

'such goods as he found in his said house of Penmynydd beinge left there by his grandmother viz. bedsteads, tables, frames & formes beinge heirloomes belonginge and appertaining to the said house. All and singular the rest and residue of his goods, cattels, chattels and creditts whatsoever as well moveable & immoveable.' (after his wife's moiety and share had been first deducted, were to be equally shared between his wife, Mary Owen and his only daughter also called Mary Owen.)

31. Appendix 5 - The Will of Richard Owen Theodor VI 1645

1646 June - Richard Owen Theodor V's name appears among those who handed over the formal surrender of Anglesey to the Parliamentary forces.

.....

1649 – Charles I was beheaded and Oliver Cromwell ruled as Lord Protector from 1653.

.....

Richard Owen Theodor V was appointed High Sheriff of Anglesey. He and his wife, Elizabeth Owen d/o William Owen of Bodeon had two children. A son named Richard Owen Theodor VI, who died before coming of age, and a daughter, Margaret Owen.

.....

1660 – After Cromwell's death and an 11 year Interregnum, Charles II was called to the throne.

.....

1665 – The last will and testament of Mary Owen of Dyffryn, widow of Richard Owen Theodor IV. In it she mentions that Plas Penmynydd was in need of some repair:-

“..... unto my Grandsonne Richard Owen Theodor fforty pounds to and towards the roofoing of Penmynydd Hall nowe in some decay”.^{32 33}

She left money to the churches at Penmynydd, Llansadwrne and Llanidan and to the Cathedral at Bangor, and also small bequests to her grand daughter, Mary Bulkeley, nephew William Lloyd, niece Mary Lloyd, grandson Richard Owen Theodor, grandchildren Ffrancis Bulkeley and Jane Bulkeley and:-

“ to my daughter in lawe Elizabeth Owen twenty two shillings to buy her a ring to wear in memory of me.”

1668 – Richard Owen Theodor V died. His wife Elizabeth and daughter Margaret are both named in an Administration Bond and both signed their own names. His son and heir, Richard Owen Theodor VI died before coming of age in about 1669. The Penmynydd estate passed to his sister, Margaret Owen who had married Coningsby Williams (c.1639-1707/8) of Glan-y-gors, Llanidan in 1665. They made Plas Penmynydd their home.

32. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS no.1785

33. Appendix 6 – The Will of Mary Owen 1665

1668 - Margaret Owen died childless three years after her marriage in 1665. She may have died intestate because her estate was not settled until 10 years later. (see p.27)

1670 – Coningsby Williams was appointed High Sheriff of Anglesey. He was also the owner of the ferry which was superseded by the present suspension bridge over the Menai Straits. He possibly remained living at Plas Penmynydd until his wife's estate was finally settled.

1678 – Administration Bond - Coningsby Williams was named as the administrator of Margaret's personal estate. It also mentions an inventory but this has not been found. The Penmynydd estate passed to **Mary Owen**, sister of Richard Owen V and aunt to Margaret Owen.

1681 – Elizabeth Owen, wife of Richard Owen Theodor V, died and left a will.³⁴ By this time, Elizabeth was widowed and her two children, Richard and Margaret had also predeceased her. She left bequests to her niece Jane Anne Owen, and another niece Anne Williams of Penmynydd and her maid servant Margaret Williams. All her lands were left to her nephew John Glynne of Glynllifon, Carnarvonshire.

Mary Owen, d/o Richard Owen IV, had married Rowland Bulkeley of Porthamel.³⁵ They had six children – Richard, Jane, Francis, William, Ales and Mary.

1683 - Mary's youngest daughter died and is commemorated inside Penmynydd Church.

Here lyeth the Body
of Mary Bulkely the
Daughter of Rowland
Bulkeley of Porthamel
Esq. ... Mary Bulkeley
His wife only Daughter
of Richard Owen Theodor
of Penmynydd
Dyed
8
27 M.... Anno
Dom 1683



34. Appendix 7 - Will of Elizabeth Owen 1681

35. Appendix 8 - The Bulkeley Family pedigree

1668 - Mary had a Deed of Covenant drawn up so that her estate could be passed on to her second son, Francis Bulkeley as her eldest son, Richard had died without issue.³⁶ It appears from another document that Richard was extremely profligate. It outlines "the decadence of the house of Porthamel and the early extravagances of Richard's easy disposition, accumulation of debts which created a drain of his mother's jointure, and his wife Catherine's large marriage portion."³⁷

1685 – Charles II died. He was succeeded by his brother James II.

1688 – James II abdicated and fled. He was succeeded by his nephew William.

1689 – William III & his wife, Mary II became joint monarchs.

36. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS no.1787

37. *ibid.* no 1794

18th Century

1701 January – Coningsby Williams became an MP for Anglesey. He is recorded as 'of Marian' gent. and so he must have eventually moved out of Plas Penmynydd. He had re-married to Jane Glynne of Plas Newydd.

.....

1707 – After the Act of Union, Anne, the daughter of James II, became the first ruler of Great Britain.

.....

1706/7 27th February - Coningsby Williams died. His will is dated 26th February 1707 and so he died the following day.

1708 2nd March – Probate was granted on his will.³⁸

.....

1714 – Queen Anne died and was succeeded by a distant German relative, whom became George I.

.....

Francis Bulkeley, second son of Rowland and Mary Bulkeley, inherited the Porthamel estate which included Plas Penmynydd. He was a gambler and found himself in financial difficulties and raised money by means of numerous mortgages. There are several documents relating to his debts.³⁹

Richard, Lord Bulkeley, the mortgagee, eventually foreclosed when Francis Bulkeley's affairs got into Chancery and so the Penmynydd estate passed to him. Francis took his own life before the Chancery proceedings had come to an end.

1722 15th March – Indenture between the executors of the real estate of Francis Bulkeley of Porthamel for the “sale of the manor of Penmynydd and other interests” at £21,000.⁴⁰ Plas Penmynydd is recorded as being 'in the tenure or occupation of William Jones Smith and partners or their undertenants or assigns.' There is mention in the document of a Chancery decree dated 30th June 1718.

Was the name 'Smith' an extra surname or an occupation? The original document spelt it with a capital 'S'

38. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS no.716

39. *ibid.* nos. 410-427

40. *ibid.* nos. 1926-1928

1723 28th March - The manor of Penmynydd was sold the following year by Lord Bulkeley to the Rev. Richard Edmunds M.A. of Jesus College Oxford for £3,500.^{41 42}

The Rev. Richard Edmunds was the son of John Edmunds, agent of the Penrhyn Castle estate. He eventually became the rector of Aber and was also at one time chaplain to Sir Richard Bulkeley. He married in 1725.

1725 9th December – Indenture Tripartite⁴³ - Marriage Settlement

1. Anne Prytherch widow of John Prytherch of Tregayan
2. Rev. Richard Edmunds
3. Ann Prytherch d. & hrs .of John Prytherch deceased.

John Prytherch died intestate with outstanding debts of £653 11s 6d. His widow, Ann Prytherch, took on the administration of the personal estate of her late husband which amounted to no more than £233 13s, which was not sufficient to pay and discharge the said debts. As part of the marriage settlement, it was agreed that:-

The Rev. Richard Edmunds would take over the debts and all goods, household stuff, implements of household and husbandry and other chattels and all personal estate. He also took over the Tregayan estate and made it his home with his new wife, Ann Prytherch (the daughter). He agreed to keep and provide Anne Prytherch (widow) with meat, washing and lodgings at the house during the time of her natural life and discharge her debts. However, she was not to cause any 'interruption or disturbance' to the arrangements.

.....

1727 – George I died. His eldest son George II became king.

.....

In 1728, the occupier of Plas Penmynydd was recorded as Wm. Jones.

1728 Land Tax Assessment⁴⁴

Plas Penmynydd occupier: Wm. Jones

1731 29th September – The Rev. Richard Edmunds died. His children, John, Henry, Margaret and Bridget were all under age at the time. Richard's eldest son eventually inherited the Tregayan estate and his siblings jointly inherited the estate of their uncle Dr. Henry Edmunds.

There is an Administration Bond dated 1733 of a William Jones, smith of Penmynydd. This could be the same man mentioned in the document dated 1722. (see p.30) If so, it appears that the word 'smith' did describe his occupation.

Ann Edmunds eventually remarried to James Briscoe, who was the collector of customs in Beaumaris. They had four surviving daughters – Catherine, Mary, Anne and Dorothy.

41. *ibid.* nos.1937-1938

42. Appendix 9 - The Edmunds Family

43. Anglesey Archives – Tregayan estate MS ref.WDH/134

44. *ibid.* ref.WQT/69/1-20

In 1742, during the time that the Edmunds family owned the Penmynydd estate, a controversial tenant moved into Plas Penmynydd.

William Pritchard (1702-1773) - a pioneer of the Nonconformist movement in Wales.⁴⁵

He was the son of a farmer and became a farmer himself in spite of having had a good education. In 1739, he married Margaret Evans and lived as a tenant at Glasfryn Fawr farm in Llangybi. He became a zealous Christian and church goer, but after upsetting the local Anglican church by openly criticising the sermons, he was summoned before the Ecclesiastical court at Bangor and fined. Gradually he began to associate with the Dissenters in Pwllheli. He heard about Jenkin Morgan, a school master and preacher who was working at Nantyeiliau near Llanuwchllyn. He invited him to open a school in his kitchen at Glasfryn Fawr. This was at a time when Dissenters were being persecuted, and it wasn't long before malicious stories were being circulated about him and the school.

1742 – William was turned out of Glasfryn Fawr. He re-located to **Plas Penmynydd** on Anglesey. Jenkin Morgan followed and they set up a nonconformist congregation on the island. The persecution continued because his previous enemies took special measures to disseminate false reports concerning his reputation to his neighbours on the Island. He was eventually fined for allowing preaching in an unregistered house. Subsequently, a house in Penmynydd became the first on Anglesey to be registered for preaching.

His landlord (*the Reverend John Edmunds s/o Rev. Richard Edmunds*) was induced by local public opinion to evict him from Penmynydd.

1744 28th & 29th March – the Rev. John Edmunds transferred “the manor of Penmynydd and divers messuages and lands in Anglesey” to Henry Edmunds his younger brother.⁴⁶

1748 – William Pritchard's nonconformist group established their first chapel at Rhos y Meirch.

1749 - When William Bulkeley of Brynddu (the Diarist), eventually discovered that William Pritchard was being persecuted simply for his nonconformist principles, he offered him a tenancy at Clwch Dernog. Pritchard remained there until his death in 1773. There is a memorial to him in Rhos y Meirch Chapel.

1750 - Henry Edmunds of HMS Glasgow (s/o Richard) died. He left his portion of the inherited estate to his sister Margaret.⁴⁷ *It is not clear what happened to Plas Penmynydd at this point.*

1752 1st February - Margaret Edmunds married Robert Lloyd of Gwynus.⁴⁸

1753 - Bridget died, unmarried, and left her third share of the estate which amounted to £988 17s 6¼d, to her brother John Edmunds and sister Margaret Lloyd. All her other effects she bequeathed to be shared between her brother and sister, mother, Anne Briscoe, and her half sisters Catherine, Mary, Anne and Dorothy.

1754 – John Edmunds drowned at Harlech aged 28 years. His Will⁴⁹ was dated 3rd February 1753/54. Probate was granted on 22nd November. He bequeathed his money, stack of corn and

45. The North Wales Weekly News 17th February 1899 – Report of a Carmel Literary Society Meeting.

46. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS nos.1949-1950

47. Anglesey Archives ref. WDH/4 – probate of the will of Henry Edmunds

48. *ibid.* ref. WDH/5

49. *ibid.* ref. WDH/9

cattle, house furniture etc. to his wife Ellen (Humphreys) and only daughter, Ann Prytherch Edmunds. He also left his copy of Shakespeare's Works to his friend the Rev. Edward Edwards; his silver watch to his friend and relation the Rev. Richard Williams; two silver tumblers to his friend Rev. Hedd Lloyd; his books to his uncle John Williams to divide between his sons. The rest of his estate was left to his sister Margaret and his brother-in-law, Robert Lloyd.

The next known tenant of Plas Penmynydd was Richard Owen.

Was he perhaps descended from another branch of the Owen Theodor family?

1759-1773 Land Tax Assessments⁵⁰

Plas Penmynydd - occupier: Richard Owen	1759-1764	£1 9s 4d
	1767-1773	£1 2s 0d

.....

1760 – George II died and was succeeded by his grandson George III. His son, Frederick Louis of Hanover predeceased him.

.....

1760 Window Tax

This was a property tax based on the number of windows in a house. It was first introduced in 1696 under William III. William Pitt revised it in 1760. The rate began at 1s per window and rose steeply for houses with more than 10 windows. Some people bricked up windows to avoid paying the tax.

All of the properties assessed in the parish of Penmynydd paid just 3 shillings each. It is not clear why they were all taxed the same amount. The houses are not named but Richard Owen is recorded as an occupier at the top of the list of 21 properties.⁵¹

An estate map dated 1776 seems to suggest that about this time, Plas Penmynydd had been purchased by Lord Bulkeley of Baron Hill. This would have been Thomas James Bulkeley 7th Viscount. It is not known from whom he purchased it.

1776 – Baron Hill estate map (copy) and schedule of the Plas Penmynydd holding.⁵²

Schedule	A	R	P
d 1. Buildings yard Gardens etc	2	3	16
d 2. Outhouse & yard	-	-	20
d 3. Cae'r Ysgabor & meadow	13	2	8
d 4. Coed Ceint	4	2	2
d 5. Part of “	5	3	38
d 6. Part of “	8	3	26
d 7. Cae'r Gerlwen	7	3	20

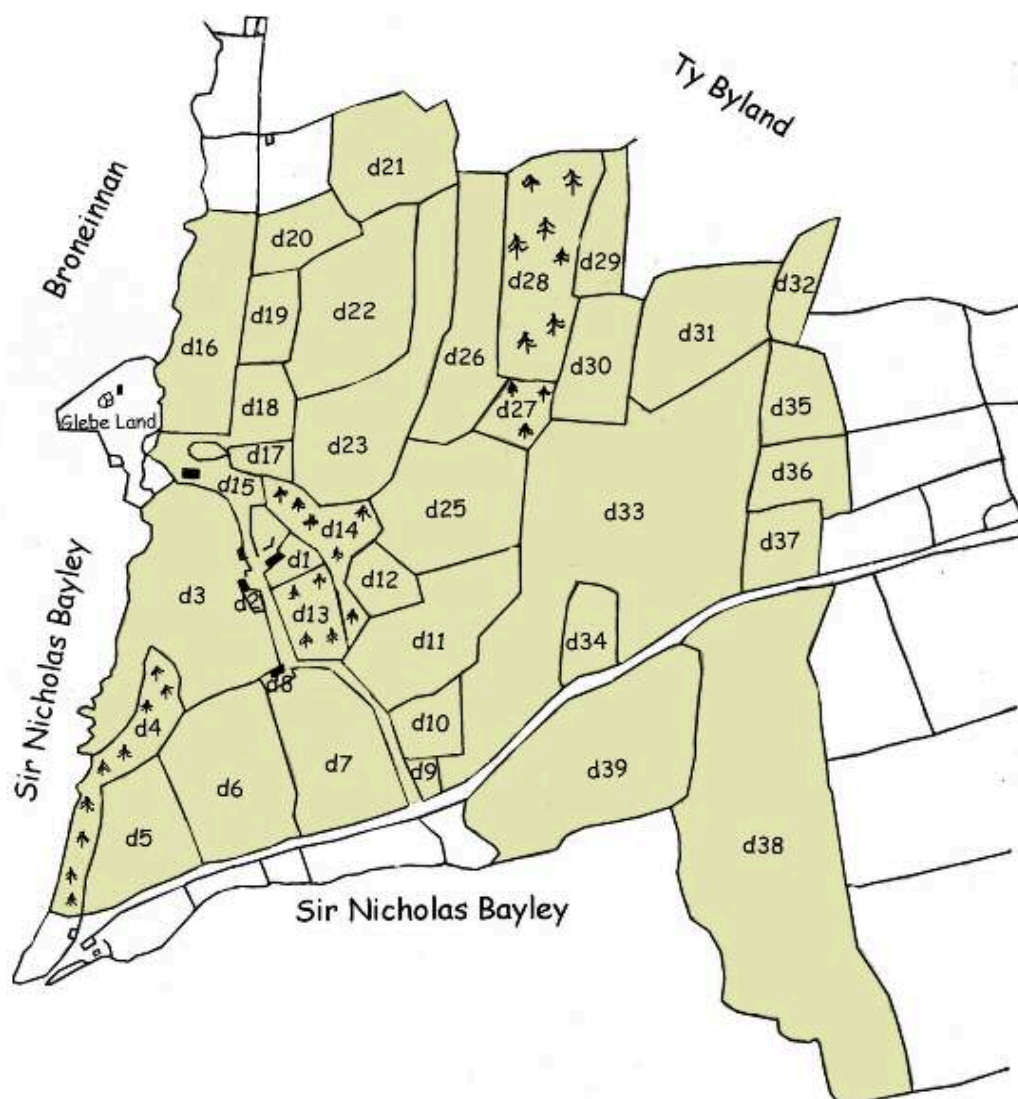
50. Anglesey Archives – ref. WQT/69/1-20

51. *ibid.* – ref. WRT/135/1

52. Bangor Archives - Baron Hill MSS – ref.4960

d 8.	Barn & Rickyard	-	-	29	
d 9.		-	2	-	
d10.	Cae Brwyn	2	1	25	
d11.	Cae Heilin	7	-	4	
d12.	Gardd y Meis	1	2	26	
d13.	Y Berllan	2	-	3	
d14.	Coed y Brain	3	2	20	
d15.	Nant y felin House & Garden	2	2	24	
d16.	Gwaen y felin	7	3	26	
d17.	Part of Cae'r Gweilch	-	3	30	
d18.	Part of “	2	1	-	
d19.	Part of “	2	1	18	
d20.	Part of “	3	-	9	
d21.	Cae'r Merddyn	6	-	13	
d22.	Cae Marl	8	2	15	
d23.	Cae'r Paenod	5	2	26	
d24.	Part of Waen Goch	3	2	21] not shown on the map
d25.	Cae'r Erw	8	1	9	
d26.	Part of Waen Goch	7	1	39	
d27.	Part of Caed Cynfarth	1	2	30	
d28.	Part of “	8	-	28	
d29.	Cae uwch tin y Coed	2	3	12	
d30.	Cae Lledpai	4	2	13	
d31.	Cae Newydd	6	3	35	
d32.	Cae Main	2	4	1	
d33.	Rhos	30	3	23	
d34.	Cae Pen y Gamfa	2	1	15	
d35.	Part of Cae Llwyd	3	1	12	
d36.	Part of “	3	1	11	
d37.	Cae pen y sarn	3	-	34	
d38.	Part of Gors Llwyd	33	-	1	
d39.	Part of “	13	3	3	
		
		236	1	25	
		

*N.B. 40 perches = 1 rood
4 roods = 1 acre*



Copy of a Baron Hill Estate Map 1776

By 1786 a new tenant was occupying Plas Penmynydd – Henry Hughes, gentleman. The origins of this family have not been located.

1786 – 1793 Land Tax Assessments⁵³

Proprietor: Lord Bulkeley

Occupier: Mr. Hughes

£1 5s 6d

Henry and his wife Elizabeth had numerous children but when he died in 1794, only five remained alive.

⁵³. op.cit. ref.WQT/69/1-20

1794 1st January - Henry Hughes was buried. He left a will. All of his children were under full age at the time. The youngest was about 2-3 years old.

1794 – Will of Henry Hughes of Plas Penmynydd.⁵⁴

He mentions a property he owns called Bryn Myrddyn in Pentraeth, which he left to his brother Hugh Hughes, and Thomas Evans as Trustees. His wife, Elizabeth, was to be allowed its use during her lifetime and after her death in Trust for the use of his children, William Hughes, Hugh Hughes and Margaret Hughes as Tenants in Common. He also mentioned another property in Hen Eglwys called Pen y bryn which he left to his son Henry Hughes. Finally, he hoped that his personal estate would be sufficient to allow for the maintenance and education of all of his children Richard, William, Owen, Hugh and Margaret and for his eldest son, Richard Hughes to complete his education at the University of Oxford.

Richard Hughes s/o Henry is recorded as a student at Jesus College, Oxford in a document dated 24/8/1790.⁵⁵

When the next Land Tax Assessment was carried out, Henry's widow was named as the occupier.

1795 Land Tax Assessment⁵⁶

Proprietor: Lord Bulkeley Occupier: Mrs. Hughes £1 5s 4d

1795 – Mrs Elizabeth Hughes of Plas Penmynydd died and was buried on the 19th August 1795.⁵⁷

The next tenant was Henry's eldest son, Richard Hughes.

1796-1799 Land Tax Assessment⁵⁸

Proprietor: Lord Bulkeley Occupier: Mr. Richard Hughes £1 9s 4

The Family of Henry Hughes, gent.

.....		
Hugh Hughes	Henry Hughes	m. Elizabeth
clerk of Cheltenham,	bur.7/1/1794	bur.19/8/1795
Gloucester	Will 1794	
	of Plas Penmynydd	
	I	

.....										
Richard	William	Elizabeth	Grace	Margaret	Margaret	Henry	Hugh	Owen	Owen	Hugh
bap.		1777	1778		29/8/1780	1781		1785		1791
bur.				20/8/1780		1815		1785		
						33 yrs				
						attorney				
of										
Plas Penmynydd						of Plas Penmynydd				

54. Appendix 10 - Will of Henry Hughes 1794

55. Anglesey Archives – no. WQSA/CHA/2/379

56. op.cit. ref. WQT/69/1-20

57. Penmynydd PRs – Anglesey Archives

58. op.cit. ref. WQT/69/1-20 & WQT/69/21-38

19th Century

1800- 1803 Land Tax Assessment⁵⁹

Proprietor: Lord Bulkeley Occupier: Rev. Richard Hughes £1 9s 4d

1804 – 1815 land Tax Assessment

Proprietor: Lord Bulkeley Occupier: Mr Henry Hughes £1 9s 4d

Annual rent: £80

It is assumed that Richard Hughes had probably died in 1803 and then his brother Henry, had taken over the tenancy of Plas Penmynydd. This Henry Hughes was an attorney.

1809 30th November – North Wales Gazette

Included in a list of subscribers is Mr. Henry Hughes of Plas Penmynydd. He is also mentioned in another copy of the same newspaper dated 6th April 1809 in an auction sale notice and named as Mr. Henry Hughes of Plas Penmynydd, attorney.

1815 17th July – A letter from Mr. Henry Hughes, Penmynydd to William Peacock esq of Plas Llanfair saying that he couldn't possibly pay him the money (for the almshouse).⁶⁰ He died shortly afterwards.

1815 30th August - Burial of Henry Hughes of Plas Penmynydd.⁶¹

1816 – Edward Pugh (1763- 1813) of Ruthin, a Welsh speaking artist and writer, described a 'Tudor bed' he discovered whilst on his walking tour of North Wales.⁶² Whilst in Anglesey, he visited the home of Reverend Richard Williams. (*This may have been the same Rev. Richard Williams mentioned in John Edmunds will – see p.32*)

“Traversing the mountain, I came suddenly to Bodafon, the residence of Rev. Richard Williams. The absence of that gentleman was to me a subject of regret, as I hoped from his presence to have derived interesting information.

Mr Williams has now in his house a valuable relic, which, until lately, was not known to have been such; it is an ancient bed of the Tudors, made of oak, nearly square, and very low, being only about thirteen inches from the floor; it has four pillars, beautifully turned. The design of the ornamental headpiece is very elegant, and curiously carved; in the centre are the coat of arms and supporters; on each side of which are four Egyptian Termini, supporting the architrave.

Carving was the prevailing mode of ornamenting furniture, three centuries ago; it was fashionable on the accession of Elizabeth (the last of the Tudors) to the throne. “I have seen several beds, the testers of which were decorated with the paternal shields and quarterings of their possessors; and that this was that of the Tudor family, is evident, from the following circumstances: first, the arms are correctly executed, as borne during their government, having their peculiar supporter on one side, viz. the red dragon of ancient Britain, and the favourite cognizance of Henry VII; secondly, no other family, in this part of the kingdom, could, by any pretext, assume these arms; thirdly, the unbroken location of the family, till the period above mentioned, and

59. op.cit. ref. WQT/69/ 21-38

60. Anglesey Archives – no. WPE/61/213

61. ibid. – Penmynydd Parish Records

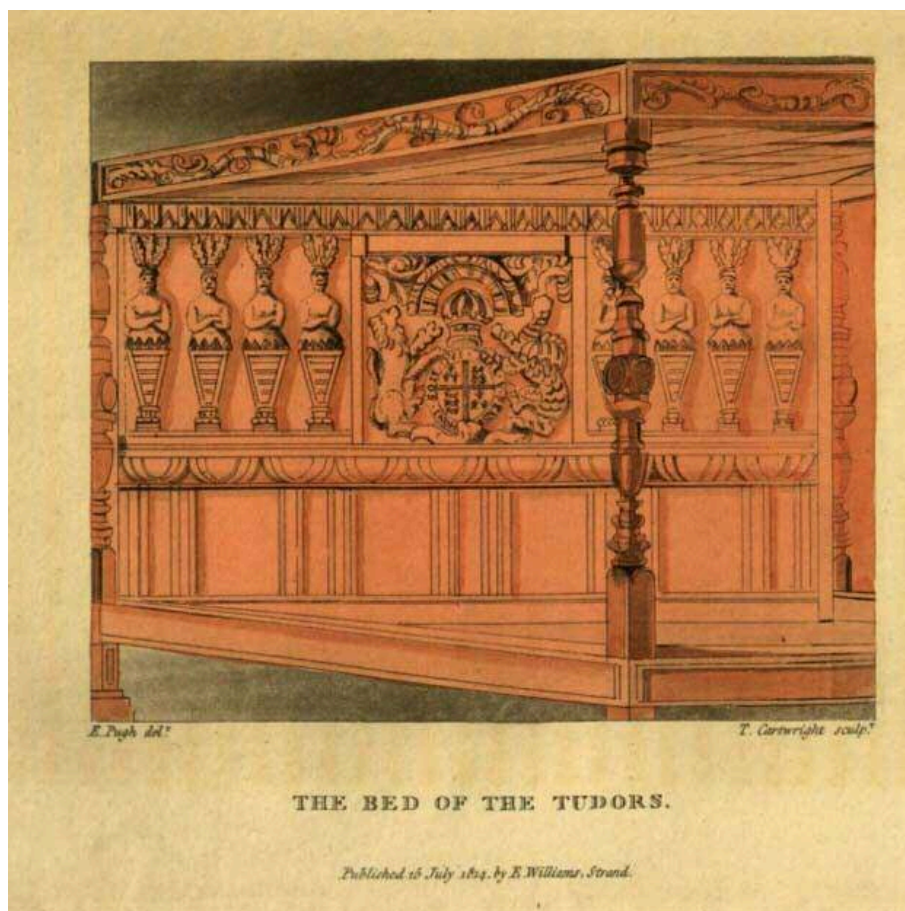
62. Edward Pugh – Cambria Depicta – A Tour through North Wales 1816 pp.86 - 89

the received opinion that the bed was bought many years since, at the sale at Penmynydd." (*This could have been about 1776 when Lord Bulkeley purchased the property – see p.33*)

The bed came into Mr. William's possession in the following manner:- It had been the property of a farmer for a considerable time, but being in some embarrassment, he very unwisely attributed his misfortunes to this bed being under his roof: observing that, "Surely some foul murder had been perpetrated in it," and desired it might be given away. One of his cow-boys requested he might take it to his mother; and it was accordingly given to him. Some time after this, the boy wished to part with it, cash probably running low, and offered it to Mrs. Williams, who, though not in want of such a thing, yet as she could serve the boy by the purchase, bought it of him for nine shillings, not supposing, from its odd and unfashionable appearance, that it was so valuable an acquisition. The bed is a little injured by worms, but when the age is considered, it must appear to have been well preserved. It has upon it in some places small marks of gold leaf; whence we may suppose it was gilt in better days.

After very polite conversation from Mrs. Williams, I crossed the flat meadowy grounds towards Plas Penmynydd. after passing a common, the night very dark, and, ignorant of my way, I wandered awhile about the country, when coming to a cottage, I was under the necessity of disturbing the repose of a peasant and his wife, who from their bed directed me to a public road, and after much fatigue and trouble, I found myself at **Plas Penmynydd**, just as the family had retired to rest. One of the domestics however was still up, who had orders to render me every comfortable accommodation which the house afforded.

This house, I presume, is but small compared to what it was in its pristine state and it has but little in its outward or inward appearance, that shews its original architecture; yet the little that remains, proves it to have been the abode of wealth. It stands about three miles east of Llangefni, in a pleasant fertile corn country."



1820 – George III died and his eldest son George IV became King. He had acted as Regent since 1811 due to his father's declining mental and physical abilities.

Thomas Owen took over the tenancy after the death of Henry Hughes.

1817 -1824 Land Tax Assessment⁶³

Proprietor: Lord Bulkeley Occupier: Thomas Owen £1 9s 4d

Thomas Owens married in 1824.

1824 13th May – North Wales Gazette

'Marriage – On Monday at Hen Eglwys, Anglesey, Thos. Owen of Plas Penmynydd esq. to Miss Jones of Mona House.'

1822 3rd June – Thomas James Bulkeley, 7th Viscount of Beaumaris, died with no issue and so his title became extinct. He was succeeded by his half brother, Sir Robert Bulkeley Williams 9th bart. of Penrhyn.

1827 9th May – baptism of Margaret Ann d/o Thomas & Mary Owen Plas Penmynydd Farm.⁶⁴

1825 – 1829 Land Tax Assessment⁶⁵

Proprietor: R. Bulkeley Williams esq. Occupier: Mr. Thomas Owen £1 12s 4d

1830 “ “ £1 12s 6d

1830 1st December - Sir Robert Bulkeley Williams, 9th bart. of Penrhyn, died and was succeeded by his son Sir Richard Bulkeley Williams Bulkeley 10th bart., who adopted the additional name of Bulkeley.

By 1829, Thomas Owen has the title esquire added after his name and the following year is being described as 'a gentleman farmer'.

1829 3rd September – The North Wales Chronicle

'On the 21st ult. The Lady of Thomas Owen, esq. of Plas Penmynydd in the County of Anglesey, a daughter.'

1830 12th December – Baptism of Mary d/o Thomas Owen, gentleman farmer & his wife Mary, Plas Penmynydd.⁶⁶

63. op.cit. ref.WQT/69/39-58

64. ibid. PRs

65. op.cit. ref. WQT/69/ 21-38

66. ibid. PRs

1830 – George VI died and was succeeded by his brother, William IV.

1837 – William IV died. He was succeeded by his younger brother Edward's daughter Victoria.

1830-1840 Land Tax Assessment⁶⁷

Proprietor: R.B.W.Bulkeley

Occupier: Thomas Owen

£1 12s 6d

National Census

The first national census took place in 1801 but it only counted houses - inhabited or uninhabited; the number of men and women but no names, or their occupations. The first one to include the names of people and properties was taken in 1841. The ages of adults were rounded down.

Thomas Owen and his wife, Mary, had four children by then. Thomas (bap.6/2/1825); Margaret Ann (bap.9/1/1827); Elizabeth (bap.22/8/1829); Mary (bap.12/12/1830).

1841 census

Plas Penn, Penmynydd, Anglesey (PRO ref. HO107/1363/14 p.15 & 16)

Thomas Owen	50	farmer	born in Anglesey	yes
Mary Owen	45			yes
Elizabeth Owen	11			yes
Marry Owen	10			yes
Owen Owen	6			yes
Ann Owen	6			yes
Marry Gruffyd	22	F.S.	(female servant)	yes
Jane Williams	25	F.S.		yes
Elizabeth Jones	17	F.S.		yes
William Jones	30	M.S.	(male servant)	yes
William Jones	13	M.S.		yes
William Hughes	26	M.S.		yes
Robert Owen	24	M.S.		yes
William Owen	17	M.S.		yes

1836 – the Tithe Commutation Act

The payment of one tenth of local produce to the church had been established in Anglo Saxon England before the Norman conquest. This was originally in kind i.e. one tenth stook of corn etc. Over time, in some parishes, this was converted into cash payments. The Act in 1836 established this for all parishes but it required the accurate drawing of maps showing all the land in each parish. Most of the work was done in 1841. John Matthews, surveyor (1773-1848) did much of this work in North Wales.

67. op.cit. WQT/69/39-58

Tithe map & schedule 13th September 1843

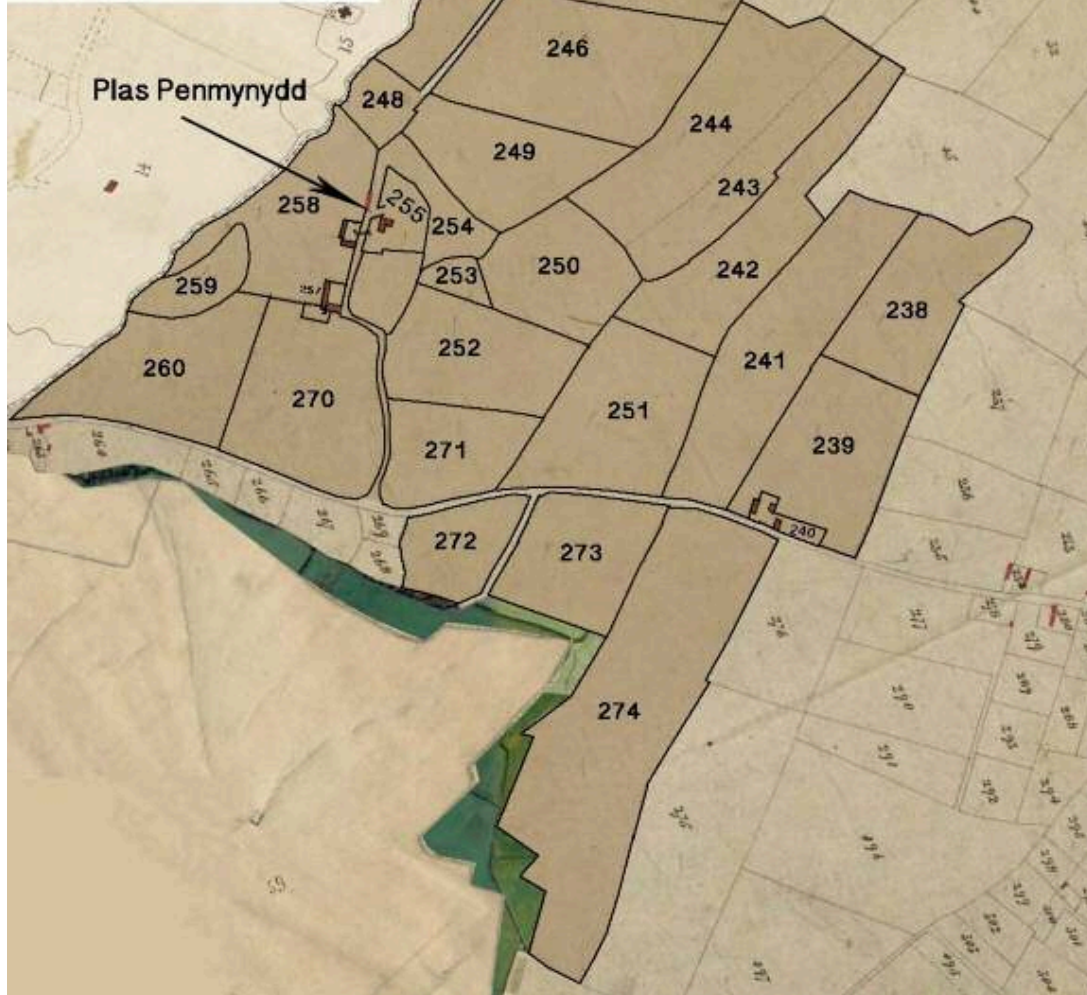
Owner: Sir Richard Williams Bulkeley

Occupier: Thomas Owen

Plas Penmynydd			A	R	P	£	s	d
255	Houses & gardens		2	-	-			
254	Plantation		2	3	-			
253	Ardd maes	pasture	1	-	-		3	2
252	Caeau hely	"	9	2	-	1	12	2
271	Caeau hely	"	6	1	-	-	14	3
270	Caeau Ceint	"	11	2	-	2	6	4
260	Caeau Ceint	"	11	1	4	2	5	6
259	Plantation		4	2	2			
258	Cae beudy	pasture	13	2	8	1	15	6
257	Houses & yard		-	2	-			
256	Hen berllan	pasture	2	-	3	-	8	-
248	Waen arw	"	2	2	4	-	5	8
249	Cae paenod	"	8	3	-	1	15	8
250	Cae garw	arable	8	1	-	1	6	-
251	Fron	pasture	12	1	-	1	5	-
241	Rhos fain	"	14	-	-	1	5	5
240	houses etc.		1	-	-			
239	Cae Sgubor	arable	10	3	-	1	14	2
238	Cae Newydd	"	7	3	-	1	8	4
242	Altt eithin	pasture	9	2	-	-	19	-
243	plantation		6	-	-			
244	Waun goch	arable	11	2	-	1	5	-
245	Cae mur	pasture	12	3	-	3	15	8
246	Cae Marl	"	15	1	33	3	-	3
247	Waun arw	arable	10	-	2	1	7	6
39	Waun arw	pasture	2	3	13	-	7	6
272	Altt eithin	rough pasture	4	2	-	-	6	1
273	Cae defaid	arable	9	1	3	1	3	3
274	Gors llwyd	rough pasture	33	-	1	1	5	-
			244	3	33	31	16	5

N.B. The spelling of the field names is as they were originally recorded.

Tithe Map 1843 Plas Penmynydd



1842 March 22nd – Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald

Thomas Owens was a member of the jury at the Anglesey Assizes in 1842, when a lady called Ann Williams was convicted of stealing wearing apparel out of the dwelling house of Thos. Hughes farmer, in the parish of Llanfechan. "That was a serious crime, that required to be discouraged. the prisoner (having acknowledged to two previous convictions) was sentenced to be transported beyond the seas for 10 years."

She sailed on the Garland Grove on 7th September 1842 with 190 other convicts. She married George Robert Couth West in 1847 in Evandale, Tasmania, by which time she already had two children. She was convicted of several more minor offences before being released from her 10 years sentence in 1852. She eventually had six children and died aged 66 years in 1890.

In 1851, Thomas Owen was appointed High Sheriff of Anglesey. He is listed as 'of Tyddyn Glan y Mor' rather than of Penmynydd. Thomas & Mary had had two more children – Owen John and Anne (bap.22/2/1835). It is assumed that Anne must have subsequently died as she was not recorded in the 1851 census.

1851 census

Plas Penmynydd (PRO ref. HO107/2517 pp.10&11)

Thomas Owens	H	M	64	farmer 270 acres 10 labourers High Sheriff of Anglesey	b. Llansadwrn, Anglesey
Mary Owens	W	M	57		b. Llanrwst, Denb.
Thomas Owens	son	unm	26	solicitor	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey
Mary Owens	dau	unm	20		b. “
Elizabeth Owens	dau	unm	21		b. “
Owen John Owens	son	unm	16	student	b. “
Catherine Martha Roberts	niece		20		b. Abberfraw, Anglesey
Margaret Owens	serv.	unm	18	housemaid	b. Llanfaes, Anglesey
Alice Parry	serv.	unm	24	“	b. Penmon, Anglesey
Ann Hughes	serv.	unm	35	“	b. Gwalchmai, Anglesey
William Jones	serv.	M	40	Ag. Lab.	b. Bodedern, Anglesey
William Jones	serv.	unm	20	“	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey
Richard Lewis	serv.	unm	18	“	b. Cerrigceinwen, Angles.
Robert Evans	serv.	unm	13	“	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey



Mrs Owen of Penmynydd

1851 25th October – Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald

'Marriage – On the 21st inst. at Penmynydd, Anglesey, by the Rev. John Owen, rector of Llanelilian, (uncle to the bride) Richard Owen Poole, esq. of Caenst (= Cae Nest) in the county of Merioneth, to Margaret Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Owen esq. of Plas Penmynydd.'

c.1855 - Baron Hill estate map and schedule for the Plas Penmynydd holding.⁶⁸ By this time, the acreage had increased slightly.

Schedule

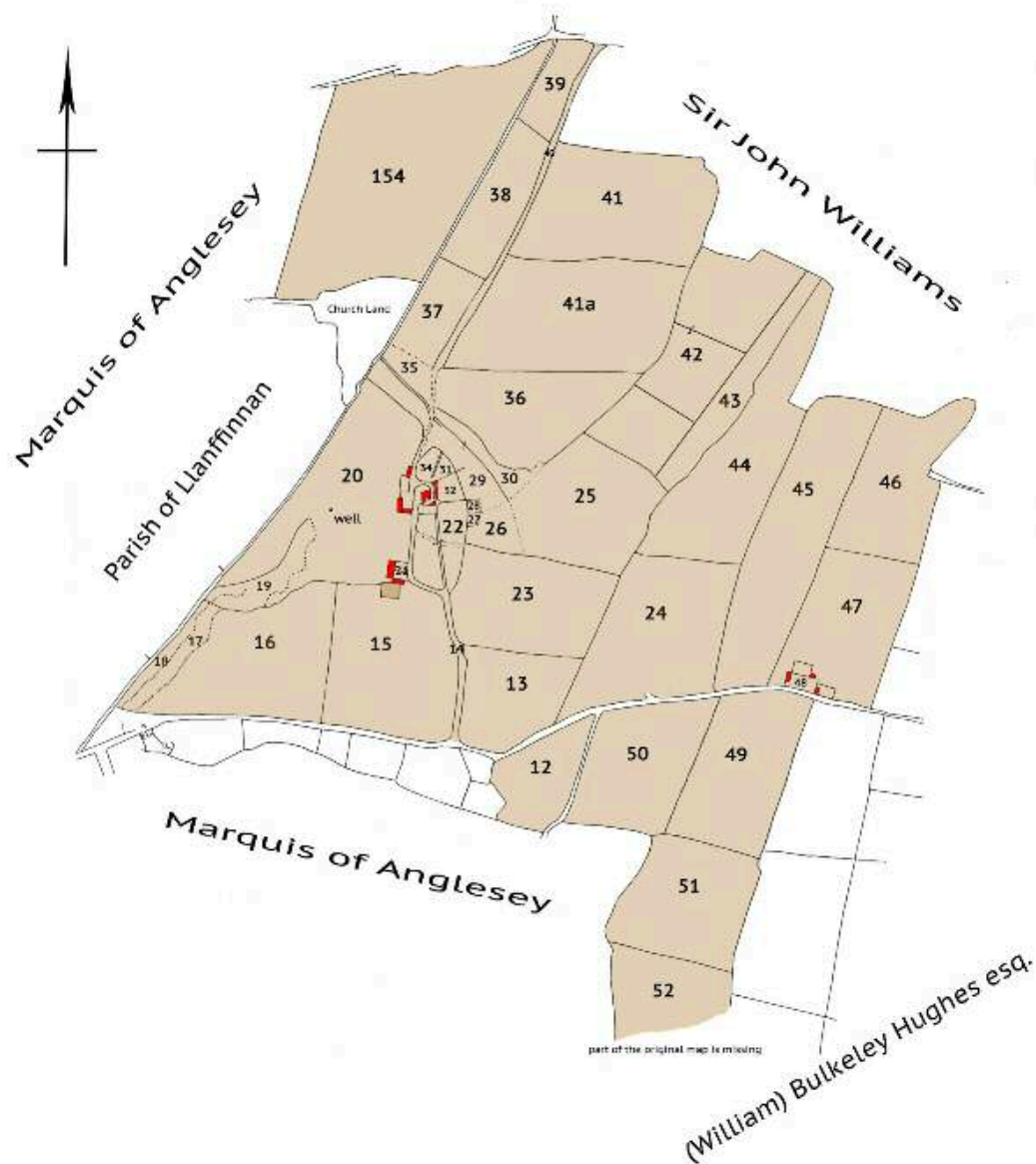
		A	R	P	
12.	Bonc eithin	4	3	33	
13.	Cae Haili bach	6	2	27	
14.	Road to the house	-	3	20	
15.	Cae Sgubor	13	1	7	
16.	Cae ceint	11	2	12	
17.	Brushwood	1	1	13	
18.	Meadow under do.	1	-	14	
19.	Brushwood	2	-	30	
20.	Waun Usiau	14	3	6	
21.	Cowhouse, barn etc.	-	2	-	
22.	Yr hon berllan	2	2	30	
23.	Cae haili mawr	9	3	20	
24.	Fron haili	13	1	25	
25.	Cae'r Erw				
26.	Rardd faes				
27.	A Garden	-	-	20	
28.	A Garden	-	-	25	
29.	Part of Nant				
30.	Nant				
31.	Wood	-	1	-	
32.	A Garden	-	1	30	
33.	House, stable, waste etc	1	-	23	
34.	A Garden	-	1	22	
35.	Nant yr Eglwys	2	2	2	
36.	Cae Penod	9	-	24	
37.	Part of Waun Arw	3	2	25	
38.	"	5	1	26	
39.	"	3	-	3	
40.	Private Road	1	3	37	
41.	Cae Mur	13	3	10	
41a.	Cae marl	15	2	15	
42.	Waun goch				
43.	Coed Cynfad				
44.	Gelldydd	12	3	17	
45.	Rhosfain	14	-	33	
46.	Caer Bûg	8	3	17	
47.	Cae Sgubor ucha	?	?	?	(record torn)
48.	Barn, Cowhouse, ??	?	?	30	"
49.	Gorsllwydd nesa	?	2	4	"
50.	Caer Defaid	?	3	32	"
51.	Gors Llwyd Canol	?	-	13	"
52.	Gors Llwyd Pellaf	11	2	35	

.....

68. Bangor University Archives - Baron Hill MSS no.6569

	262	2	31
154. A field in Llanffinnan	25	2	20
	288	1	11

Copy of an estate map c.1855



By 1861, there was a new tenant at Plas Penmynydd, Robert Rowlands. The census was recorded in April that year and his wife, Ann, died in the July. She was not recorded at Penmynydd when the census was taken, nor was her eldest daughter, Annie.

1861 census

Plas Penmynydd (PRO ref. RG9/4347 p.18)

Robert Rowlands	H	M	38	farmer of 269 acres 7 men	b. Llangefni, Anglesey
Mary Rowlands	dau		2		b. Llansadwrn, Anglesey
Hanah Jones	serv.	unm	35	house servant	b. Talwrn, Anglesey
Ellen Williams	serv.	unm	32	dairymaid	b. Penllech, Caerns.
Owen Jones	serv.	M	41	Hoslerer (<i>Hostler</i>)	b. Llangefni, Anglesey
John Bulkeley	serv.	unm	32	carter	b. Llanbadrig, Anglesey
Edward Jones	serv.	unm	21	labourer	b. Llanidan, Anglesey
William Evans	serv.	unm	20	carter	b. Langristiolen, Anglesey

Robert's wife and eldest child were staying with her parents in 1861. Ann was probably very ill by this time and so they were caring for her with the help of a nurse.

1861 census

Castellior, Llansadwrn (PRO ref. RG9/4347 p.12)

John Williams	H	M	68	farmer 194 acres empl. 9 lab.	b. Beaumaris, Anglesey
Mary Williams	W	M	63		b. Llandisilio, "
William Williams	son	unm	38		b. Llansadwrn, "
Robert H. Williams	son	unm	25		b. "
Ann J. Rowlands	dau.	M	31		b. "
Susanna Williams	dau	unm	29		b. "
Margaret Williams	dau	unm	21		b. "
Ann M. Rowlands	gr.dau		4		b. "
Jane Parry	serv.	unm	35	nurse	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey
Jane Jones	serv.	unm	20	kitchen maid	b. Llannor, Caern.
Sydney Hughes	serv.	unm	21	Dairy maid	b. Amlwch, Anglesey
David Williams	serv.	unm	22	Husbandman	b. Pentraeth, Anglesey
William Price	serv.	unm	23	Ag. Lab.	b. "
John Roberts	serv.	unm	21	Carter	b. Llanddaniel, Anglesey
Griffith Williams	serv.	unm	21	Carter	b. Gwalchmai, Anglesey
Thomas Owen	serv.	unm	34	Carter	b. Llanfihangel, Trer Beirdd, Anglesey
Thomas Jones	serv.	unm	15	stable boy	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey

1861 13th July – The North Wales Chronicle and Advertiser for the Principality

'Death – On the 9th ult. aged 31, Ann Jones, the beloved wife of Capt. Rowlands, Plas Penmynydd, Anglesey.'

After Ann's death, their young daughters, Annie and Mary were probably living with relatives as they were not listed at Plas Penmynydd in 1871.

1871 census

Plas Penmynydd (PRO ref. HO10/5725 p.5)

Robert Rowlands	H	wid.	48	farmer of 269 acres employing 10 men 1 boy	b. Anglesey
Hanah Jones	serv.	unm	50	housekeeper	b. "
Anne Owen	serv.	unm	21	kitchen maid	b. "

William Wms.	serv.	unm	22	farm servant	b.	“
William Jones	serv.	unm	17	“	b.	“
Price Hughes	serv.	unm	19	“	b.	“
Owen Jones	serv.	unm	15	“	b.	“

1872 – Robert Rowlands re-married to Susannah Williams on the 19th February 1872 at St.Paul, Tranmere. Her father was named as Robert Williams – Marriage reg. March qtr. 1872 Birkenhead

1872 – Nicholas Thomas (1820-1879) in his book⁶⁹ about his travels in Wales described the approach to Plas Penmynydd. It emphasises the fact that the house had become just a modest farmhouse.

“It is scarcely an hour's walk from the Menai Suspension Bridge to the spot where the Tudors sprang. The country through which you pass is so common, bare, and lonely, that however buoyant you feel from the pure and balmy atmosphere, a sense of sadness and depression steals over the mind as you think that you are searching amid such scenes for the birthplace of a royal race, and that to all appearance you are the only searcher who has trod this way; no curiosity is felt respecting the cradle of the race of Tudor; not even a photograph of Penmynydd can be found. And yet veritably you are on sacred ground. Earnest, strong men, mailed and visored, rode along those lanes, were lords of those acres, looked out on those grey boulders on the moorland, and on those crags and heathy knolls, and went off to fight by the side of the Black Prince in France; and you are close to the dwelling of Tudor ap Gronw who was made a knight by the Black Prince's royal father.

You have on your right a little church perched on a rising ground, where the family of Tudor worshipped and are buried and going down a steep short hill, see to the right a quiet farmhouse, whose whole expression forbids the thought that from that homestead there ever sprang anything great or historic. Few trees, far from stately, shelter the dwelling. The entrance is by a lane deep and narrow, which speaks of the wearing feet and rains of generations, but little else besides. You see no grey or ivied ruin of wall or tower, no gabled roof or mullioned window, pillar or pediment. All that is visible is a downright commonplace Anglesey farmhouse, which seems to be satisfied with its humble lot, and to know of nothing higher.”

In 1875, Captain Robert Rowlands was in trouble with the law.

1875 11th June – Cambrian News and Merionethshire Standard

Serious Charge against Anglesey Gamekeepers

'At Beaumaris, on Tuesday June 8th, Richard Thomas, John Thomas and Thomas Thomas, gamekeepers, were brought up under a warrant charged with feloniously assaulting Captain Rowlands, Plas Penmynydd, with intent to do grievous bodily harm..... The prisoners and the prosecutor were in a public house at Pentraeth on May 17th and some quarrel ensued respecting a charge made by Captain Rowlands that one of the prisoners had poisoned some of his dogs. From words, the party soon got to blows, and in the scrimmage which followed the prosecutor received internal injuries of a very serious character. (Thomas) Hughes, who is his farm bailiff, interfered for the protection of his master, and also came in for a rough handling. The prisoners were remanded, bail being refused.'

1880 28th August – Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald and North and South Wales Independent

'Death – Rowlands – August 13 at Plas Penmynydd, Anglesey aged 58 years, Robert Rowlands.

Robert Rowlands second wife continued living at Plas Penmynydd with their children and also her stepchildren Annie and Mary.

69. Nicholas Thomas - 'Annals and Antiquities of the Counties and County families of Wales' Vol. I p.29

1881 census

Plas (PRO ref.RG11/5573 pp.9&10)

Susannah Rowlands	H	wid	41	farmer 280 acres empl. 6 lab. 1 boy	b. Anglesey
Robt.W.G.Rowlands	son		8	scholar	b. “
Margaret E.E.Rowlands	dau		7	“	b. “
Maria C.C.Rowlands	dau		5	“	b. “
Annie M. Jones	stepdau	M	24	farmer's wife	b. “
Mary S.Rowlands	stepdau	unm	22	farmer's daughter	b. “
Ro. Jones	stepgrson		2	farmer's son	b. “
Wm. Williamson	boarder	unm	58	farm manager	b. “
Mary Jones	serv.	unm	31	general servant	b. “
Mary Thomas	serv.	unm	21	“	b. “
Richard Owen	serv.	unm	26	farm servant indoor	b. “
Richard Hughes	serv.	unm	38	“	b. “
John Jones	serv.	unm	19	“	b. “
Wm. Jones	serv.	unm	25	“	b. “

1884 20th September – Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald and North and South Wales Independent.

Robert Hughes, labourer Plas Penmynydd was fined 1s and costs for resisting the police at Llangefni on the 18th.

1886 3rd March – Marriage of Mary Susannah Rowlands (d/o Robert Rowlands and his first wife) and Alexander Thomas.⁷⁰

1891 census

Plas Penmynydd (PRO ref. RG12/4664 pp.14&15)

Susannah Rowlands	H	wid	51	farmer	b. Llanfair P.G., Anglesey	lang.spk Both
Robert W.G. “	son	unm	18	farmer's assistant	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey	“
Margaret E.E. “	dau	unm	17	farmer's daughter	b. “	“
Maria C. “	dau		15	“	b. “	“
Susannah H.Wallace	gr.dau		4		b. United States America	“
William Williams	boarder	unm	68	living on own means	b. Llansadwrn, Anglesey	“
Ann Jones	serv.	unm	20	domestic servant	b. Llantrisant, Anglesey	Welsh
William Jones	serv.	unm	50	farm labourer	b. Llandyfrdog, Anglesey	“
Richard Morris	serv.	unm	19	“	b. Llangristiolus, Anglesey	“
Thomas Williams	serv.	unm	40	“	b. “	“
John Roberts	serv.	unm	18	“	b. Llanfihangel E., Anglesey	“

1892 21st October – Sale of the Baron Hill estate, an area of 507 acres in the pa. of Penmynydd which included Plas Penmynydd. It was purchased by private treaty by Henry Paget 4th Marquis of Anglesey.^{71 72}

70. *ibid.* PRs

71. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS – ref.103-104

72. Appendix 11 – The Paget Family of Plas Newydd

1894 12th October - Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald

'The Marquis of Anglesey's Harriers – The Marquis opened his ninth season in Anglesey on Tuesday. The fixture was Plas Penmynydd, a property recently acquired by his lordship, where Miss Rowlands, so well known as one of the keenest and best horsewomen who have graced the hunt by their presence, dispensed profusely such light refreshments as were acceptable after a long walk or drive. The field was unusually large, even for the opening day.'

1897 16th March – Marriage of George Rice Christmas Hughes of Llanfihangel & Maria Catherine Rowlands d/o Robert & Susannah Rowlands.⁷³

1899 23rd June – Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald

'Bastardy – Mary Owen, Chapel Street, Llangefni, summoned Richard Roberts to show cause why he should not contribute towards the keep of her illegitimate child. An order for 1s 6d a week was made.'

N.B. Richard Roberts was a servant at Plas Penmynydd. He is recorded there in the 1901 census.

73. *ibid.*

20th Century

1901 census

Plas Penmynydd (PRO ref.RG13/5276 p.7)

Susannah Rowland	H	wid	61	farmer	b. Llanfair P.G., Anglesey	Both
Margaret E. Rowland	dau	unm	26	farmer's daughter	b. Penmynydd, Anglesey	"
William Williams	cousin-in-law		78	retired farmer	b. Llansadwrn, Anglesey	"
Jane Jones	serv.	unm	45	domestic servant	b. Pentraeth, Anglesey	Welsh
Richard Roberts	serv.	unm	34	carter on farm	b. Llanddaniel, Anglesey	"
William Griffith	serv.	unm	15	boy on farm	b. Llanfihangel E., Angl.	Both

.....

1901 – Queen Victoria died and was succeeded by her son Edward VII.

.....

1905-1906 – Susannah Rowlands paid an annual rent of £124, 10s 7d for Plas Penmynydd to the Plas Newydd estate.⁷⁴

.....

1910 – Edward VII died. His eldest son George V became king.

.....

1911 census

Plas Penmynydd (PRO ref. Reg.district 631;sub-district 1; enum district11 p.91)

Susannah Rowlands	H	wid	69	farmer	b. Llanfair P.G., Anglesey	Both
3 children born alive; 2 still living; 1 died						
Margaret Rowlands	dau	unm	35	dairy worker etc.	b. Plas Penmynydd	"
Jane Jones	serv.	unm	48	domestic	b. Ty Popty, Pentraeth	Welsh
Richard Hughes	serv.	unm	16	stable boy	b. Bodafon, Talwrn	"
Richard Roberts	serv.	unm	45	cart man	b. Craig, Penmynydd	"

In 1918, the Marquis of Anglesey offered numerous properties for sale. The schedule included Plas Penmynydd.⁷⁵

no.10. Rental no.235

Tenant: Susannah Rowlands 276 acres 2 roods 20 perches annual rent: £249 1s 2d

It was valued initially at £8,000 but this was later amended to £7,500. The tenant offered £5,500.

Susannah Rowlands died before the sale could be completed. Her death was registered in the June qtr. 1918 in Bangor. She was 78 years old.

⁷⁴. Plas Newydd, Anglesey VIII no.4352

⁷⁵. *ibid.* 4371

Her daughter, Margaret Rowlands, completed the purchase by private treaty. The final agreed price recorded in the schedule was £6,000.⁷⁶

1918 18th October – North Wales Chronicle

The well-known old mansion, Plas Penmynydd, and the whole farm, has been purchased by the tenant, Miss Rowlands.

The transaction was completed a few months later.

1919 13th May – Conveyance between:-

1. Hon. Charles Henry Alexander (6th) Marquess of Anglesey
2. The Right Hon. Reginald Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery Reginald Oliver Warren and Romer Williamson
3. Margaret Ellen Elizabeth Rowlands

1936 – George V died. His son Edward VIII briefly ascended to the throne but was never crowned. He abdicated soon afterwards. His brother George VI became king.

1940 March qtr. - Margaret E.E.Rowlands died aged 66 years - Anglesey reg.

Margaret's younger widowed sister Mrs Hughes (nee Rowlands) lived in the house afterwards, but only in the old kitchen block (the NE wing). By 1950, the farm was let to John Pritchard, and he and his family lived in the north west wing.

1950 – Electoral Rolls⁷⁷ - Plas Penmynydd

entry no. 39 – Maria C.Hughes

173 – John Pritchard

174 – Jane Pritchard

182 – Richard S.Pritchard

1952 2nd May – the house was given Grade II* listing status

1952 – George VI died and his eldest daughter became Queen Elizabeth II.

Mrs. Hughes died in 1962 aged 86 years. The property passed to the Midland Bank Trust Company. By this time the house had become quite neglected.

76. *ibid.* 4371

77. Anglesey Archives – ref. WQC/E/109

1963 9th July – Burial of John Pritchard of Plas Penmynydd aged 77 years.

1964/65 Electoral rolls⁷⁸ – Plas Penmynydd

entry no. 191 – Richard S.Pritchard

192 – Richard T.Pritchard

The Pritchard family moved out in the late 1960s, and Mrs. Morgan Hughes continued with the tenancy of the land. Her son, Richard Morgan Hughes ran the farm.

1974 Electoral Rolls⁷⁹

There is no entry for Plas Penmynydd. The property was derelict by this time.

In **1979** the Midland Bank Trust Company limited, and Emyr Ditton-Jones and Richard Morgan Hughes, sold the property, excluding the farm, to Richard Cuthbertson. The house was still derelict and subject to an Anglesey County Council compulsory Repair Order, which then passed to Richard Cuthbertson.

Current owner and occupier – Richard Cuthbertson.

.....

2019

revised 2020

78. *ibid.* WQC/E/122

79. *ibid.* WQC/E/175

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The Royal House of Cunedda

Cunedda Wledig progenitor of the royal house of Gwynedd

I

Einion Yrth

I

Cadwallon Lawhir

I

Maelgwyn Gwynedd

I

Rhun Hir

I

Beli ap Rhun

I

Iago ap Beli

I

Cadfan

I

Cadwallon

I

Cadwaladr Fendigaid

I

Idwal Iwrch

I

Rhodri Molwynog

I

Cynan Dinaethwy

I

Ethyllt (daughter) m. Gwriad ap Elidyr

I

Merfyn m. Nest vch Cadell

I

Rhodri Mawr m. Angharad of Seisyllwg

I

.....
Anarawd

Merfyn

Cadell

Tudwal

d.c.916

I

I

Idwal Foel

Howel Dda

I

Meurig

I

Idwal

I

Iago

I

Cynan

I

Gruffydd

I

Owain Gruffydd (Fawr) Gwynedd

Prince of Gwynedd

b.abt. 1100 d.1169 bur. Bangor

I

Iorwerth 'Drwyndwn' ap Owain

b.abt.1135 d.abt.1177

I

Llywelyn Fawr Prince of Gwynedd

b.abt.1173 Dolwyddelan

d.1240 Caernarvon

m. 1. Tangwystl vch Llywarch

I

I

m. 2. Joan d/o King John of England

I

.....
Gruffydd

b.abt.1205 d.1244

m.

Senana vch Man

I

.....
Dafydd Prince of Gwynedd

b.1209 d.1246

.....
Owain Goch

Llywelyn Prince of Gwynedd

the Last

b.? d.1282

m.

Eleanor de Montford

I

.....
Gwenllian

1282-1337

Dafydd

Sir

b.1227 d.1284

m.

Elizabeth de Ferrers

I

.....
Llywelyn Owain Gwladys

Rhodri

1230-1315

m.

Beatrice de Malpas

I

.....
Tomos

I

.....
Owain

1330-1378

The Tudors of Penmynydd

Ednyfed Fychan m. 1. Tangwystl Goch vch Llywarch of Menai

m. 2. Gwenllïan vch Rhys ap Gruffydd, Prince of

I

I

Deuheubarth

I

I

I

Sir Tudur
of Nant &
Llangynhafal

Llewelyn
of Creuddyn

Hywel
Bishop
of Llanelwy

Rhys
of Garth
Garmon

Cynwrig
of Creuddyn

Hywel Iorwerth
of Abermarlais
leper

I

I

I

I

Goronowy m. Morfudd vch Meurig of Gwent
1195-1268

seneschal of Gwynydd

founder of the Tudor family of Penmynydd

I

Tudur Hen m. Angharad vch Ithel Fychan of Tegeingl

c.1235-1311 Paid homage to Edward I in 1301

of Penmynydd

I

Goronwy Fychan ap Tudur m. Gwerful vch Madog Baron of
c.1285-1332 Hendwr

Forester of Snowden

I

Hywel

Sir Tudur Fychan

1310-1367

no issue

m. 1. Mallt vch Madog of Penllyn

m.2. Margaret vch Thomas ap Llewelyn of
Cardiganshire, last male of the princely house of

I

Deheubarth. Her sister married Gruffydd Fychan of
Glyndyfrwy whose son was Owain Glyndwr.

I

I

I

Goronwy
c.1340-1382

Ednyfed
1345-1382

Rhys
c.1350-1412

Gwilym
c.1555-1413

Maredudd
c.1365-1406

of Penmynydd
drowned 1382

of Trecastle
d.1382

of Erddreiniog
executed at Shrewsbury

of Clorach

Escheator of Anglesey

effigy of Goronwy &
Myfanwy in Penmynydd church
m.

Myfanwy vch Iorwerth
of Pen Gwern

I

m.

Margared
vch Dafydd Fychan
of Trefeilir
I

Tudur

Morfudd
of Penmynydd
m.

Gwilym ap Gruffydd m. 2. Jonet Stanley
of Penrhyn
H.S. Of Anglesey 1396

Sir Owain Tudur

m.

Katherine of Valois
widow of Henry V

I	I	I	
.....
Tudur Fychan ap Gwilym	Gwilym Fychan	Sir David Owen	Owen Edmund Jasper
inherited only his mother's	of Penrhyn	bastard son	m.
property of Penmynydd			Margaret Beaufort
m.1. Gwen vch Deicws	m.1. Alice Dalton		I
m.2. Annes Puleston	m.2. Gwenllian	
I	I		Henry VII
.....	I	
Owain Tudur Fychan	Rhys	Lowry	Elizabeth
of Penmynydd			I
d.1504			I
m.			Agnes Griffith
Grace Bold d/o Sir Harry Bold			m.
I			Sir Roland de Velville poss. illegit. s/o Henry VII
I			I
I			I
.....
William Owen Tudur	Richard Owen Tudur (Theodor) I	John Owen Tudur	Jane Velville
(Gwilym)	inherited Penmynydd from his brother Gwilym		
d.1558	H.S. 1485-1504	I	
of Penmynydd	d.1558	Owen ap John	
	m.		m.
	Elizabeth vch Rhys ap Llewelyn of Bodychan		Robert Vaughan ap Tudor
	I		I

	Richard Owen Tudur (Theodor) II		Kathryn of Berain
	of Penmynydd rebuilt the house 1576		
	H.S. Anglesey 1565 & 1573		
	d.1584		
	m.		
	Margaret vch Madog ap Ifan of Pengwern		
	I		
.....
Richard Owen Tudur (Theodor) III	David Owen Tudur	John Owen Tudur	
of Penmynydd	aka David Owen Theodor of Penmynydd	dissident exile	
d. 1586 soon after his father	20 years service with Arbella Stuart		
	d.1623		
m.	m.		
Jane vch Owen ap Robert of Bodafon	Anne (Agnes) d/o Lewis /o William Lewis of Presaddfed		
no issue	I		
		
	Richard Owen IV Theodor		
	of Penmynydd H.S. of Anglesey 1623		
	page boy to Arbella Stuart;		
	handed formal surrender to the Parliamentary forces.		
	Will 1645		
	m. 1610		
	Mary Wynn d/o Richard Rowland Wynn of Penhesgin Isa		
	Will 1665?		
	I		
		
	Richard Owen V Theodor	Mary Owen	
	of Penmynydd H.S. Anglesey 1657	b.1616 d.1707	
	Bond 1668		
	m.		m. 1639

Elizabeth Owen
d/o William Owen of Bodeon
Will 1681

I

Rowland Bulkeley of Porthamel
s/o William Bulkeley

I

.....
Richard Owen VI Theodor

died before he came of age 1669

Margaret Owen

died childless 1668 Bond 1678

m.

Coningsby Williams

of Glan-y-gors & Penmynydd

c.1639-1707/8

H.S. 1670

m.2. Jane Glynne of Plas Newydd

.....
Francis Bulkeley

d.1722 will dated 1714

inherited Penmynydd from

Coningsby Williams in 1707/8

from here it passed to

Sir Richard Bulkeley of Baron Hill

(Appendix 7)

The Ancestors of Ednyfed Fychan

Coel Hen Godebog, King of Rheged m. Ystradwel vrch Cadvan

b.abt.350 in what is now England

d.420 Coilsfield, Tarbolton, Ayrshire

I

Ceneu ap Coel Hen, King of Northern Britain

b.abt.382 Pennines

I

Mor Maeswig Gloff ap Ceneu, King of Ebrauc m. St.Gwenllian vrch Brychan

b.420 Greater Ebrauc, now Yorkshire

I

Arthwys ap Mor, King of the Pennines m. St.Cywair of Ireland

aka Prince of Elmet

b.abt.455 d.530

I

Cynfelin ab Arthwys, King of Middle Britain

b.abt.475

I

Cynwyd Cynwydion ap Cynfelin, m. Peren vrch Greidal

b.abt.491 Pennines

I

Cadrod Calchfynnydd ap Cynwyd, m. prob. Wynne(Wynyn Wen)

King of Calchfynydd

or poss. Gwrygon Goddeu

b.abt. 522

I

Yspwys ap Cadrod, m. Urwen of Gwent

Lord of Ercing d.581

I

Yspwys Mwyntyrch ap Yspwys

I

Mynan ap Yspwys

b.Wales

I

Mor ap Mynan

b.Wales

I

Elfyw ap Mor

b. Wales

I

Cynan ab Elfyn, Lord of Abergele

b.Wales

I

Marchudd ap Cynan Lord of Rhos

Lord of Uwch Dulas, Abergeley, Brynffanigl

Head of the VIII Noble Tribe of North Wales

b.c905

I

Carwedd ap Marchudd, Lord of Brynffanigl

b.c935

I

Japheth ap Carwedd, Lord of Brynffanigl m. Nest

b.c960 I
 Inethan ap Japheth, Lord of Brynffannigl
 c985-1061 I
 Edryd ap Inethan, Lord of Brynffannigl
 c1005-1056 I
 Idnerth ap Edryth, Lord of Brynffannigl
 c1035- I
Gwrgan ap Idnerth, Lord of Brynffannigl
 c1070-1137 I
 Iorwerth ap Gwrgan m. Gwenllian vch Ririd
 Lord of Brynffannigl
 I
 Cynwrig ap Iorwerth
 Lord of Brynffannigl c1122-1196 m. Angharad vch Hwfa
 I
Ednyfed Fychan
 c.1161-c.1233

VIII Noble Tribe - MARCHUDD ap CYNAN of Caernarvonshire and Denbighshire: descended from Coel Hen Godebog (b.abt.350). Coel was the celtic ruler of what we now know as northern England and southern Scotland at the time of the departure of the Roman Legions from Britain. – i.e. about the turn of the 3rd and 4th centuries. His followers were known as 'the men of the north'. In the fifth and sixth centuries, many of them were driven into Powys by the Saxons.

Marchudd lived at the same time as Rhodri Mawr (844-878). His arms were: Gules a Saracen's head erased proper (sometimes called a giant's head). Marchudd was also the ancestor of the Tudor dynasty.

The retaking of northeast Wales from the Norse raiders in the 10th century.

(www.ancientwalesstudies.org)

Anarawd, son of Rhodri Mawr, King of Gwynedd, is said to have offered the lands occupied by the norsemen (probably Danes) to anyone who would help to drive them out. They recruited men who would be willing to risk their lives in order to obtain their own Lordships. Some of these were descendents of the 'men of the north' who had been forced from the north of what is now England and had resettled in Powys.

Cynan ap Elfyn, then about 50, (the father of Marchudd) was one of the men to answer the call. As his reward he was made Lord of Abergele and granted considerable acreage surrounding it.

An alternative pedigree of Maredudd ap Tudur

Ednyfed Fychan m. 1. Tangwystl Goch vch Llywarch of Menai
 m. 2. Gwenllian vch Rhys ap Gruffydd, Prince of
 I Deuheubarth

.....
 Goronowy m. Morfudd vch Meurig of Gwent
 1195-1268

seneschal of Gwynydd
 founder of the Tudor family of Penmynydd

I
 Tudur Hen m. Angharad vch Ithel Fychan of Tegeingl
 c.1235-1311 Paid homage to Edward I in 1301
 of Penmynydd

I
Goronwy Fychan ap Tudur m. Gwerful vch Madog Baron
 c.1285-1332 of Hendwr
 Forester of Snowden

.....
 Hywel Sir Tudur Fychan Goronwy
 I I

.....
Goronwy Ednyfed Rhys Gwilym **Tudur**
 of Penmynydd

I
 Morfudd
 m.
 Gwilym ap Gruffydd
 of Penrhyn

I
Maredudd
 m.
 Margaret vch Dafydd Fychan
 of Trefeilir

Appendix 5

Richard Owen Theodor (IV) (NLW ref. B1645/11/W)

In the name of God Amen. Memorand that upon the two and twentieth day of May Anno Dom. 1644 and att severall times before; Richard Owen Theodor late of Penmynydd in the county of Anglesey and diocese of Bangor Esq. deceased beinge then sicke in bodie but of perfect sense and memory (the Lord be praised) did make publish and declare his last will & testament manner & formw followinge. Ffirst he commended his soule to god and his bodie to be buried in Christian buriall in the parish Church of Penmynydd aforesaid. Item he gave and bequeathed unto his sonne and heire Richard Owen Esq. such goods as he found in his said house of Penmynydd beinge left there by his grandmother viz. bedsteads, tables, frames & formes beinge heirloomes belonginge and appertaining to the said house; All and singular the rest and residue of his goods, cattels, chattels and creditts whatsoever as well moveable & immoveable (his wife's moity or share of his estate beinge first deducted out accordinge to the Custom of the Country) he gave, left and bequested to be equally divided betweene his said well beloved wife Mary Owen and his only daughter Mary Owen whom he nominated, constituted and appointed joynt executrices of his said Will nuncupative which Will he soe made and published and declared in the and hearinge of Henry gent. and Edward (*same surname*) gent. and others.

Comment:

Richard Owen Theodor's will is nuncupative i.e. it is an oral expression of his wishes relating to the distribution of his property his death. It would have been dictated in front of witnesses. The reason for this may have been that he was suffering from a terminal illness or had been mortally injured.

Appendix 6

Mary Owen – Will -1666 (NLW ref. B1666/29/W)

In the name of God Amen. The fift day of March in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand sixe hundred & sixtye & five I Mary Owen of Dyffryn in the County of Anglesey widow beinge weake in body but of good and perfect sense and memory (praysed be God) Doe make and ordaine and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge, ffirst I Commend my soule to the hands of Jesus Christ my deare Saviour and Redeemer hopinge assuredly to be saved through his onely meritts & passion and my body to the earth whereof I was made to bee buryed in decent Christian buryall with my deare and loveing husband within the tombe in the Chauncell of the parish church of Penmynydd. Towards the reparation of which sayd Chauncell I give & bequeath forty shillings. And also I give and bequeath to & towards the reparation of the body of the Parish Church of Penmynydd aforesaid tenne shillings. I give and bequeath to and towards the reparation of the Parish Church of Llan Sadwrne five shillings. I give also and bequeath to and towards the reparation of the Parish Church of Llanidan Two shillings and six pence. I give also and bequeath to & towards the reparation of the Cathedral Church of Bangor twelve pence. Whereas I have by lease certain Messuages, Lands & Tenements with appurtenances called Tythyn Morris ap Evan Gôch: Tythyn David Lewis & Cae & beinge in Conishiog Lys and Conishiog Lan in the said County of Anglesey for divers yeares yet the rentes, issues & profits of the Lands aforesaid for the first yeare next after my death. I give, devise and bequeath unto my granddaughter Margaret Owen and in case that the tenancy of the Lands aforesaid be wholly expired att the tyme of my decease then my Will is that my said executors doe and will pay unto the said Margaret Owen twenty pounds within one year next after my decease I give also and bequeath unto my Grandsonne Richard Owen Theodor fferty pounds to and towards the roofoing of Penmynydd Hall nowe in some decay to be payd him in two yeares next after my decease. And I give alsoe & bequeath to my Grand sonne Richard Bulkeley Twenty pounds. I give also and bequeath to my Grand daughter Mary Bulkeley twenty pounds. I give also & bequeath to my Deare and loveing daughter Mary Buckley widow five pounds; I give also & bequeath to my daughter in lawe Elizabeth Owen twenty two shillings to buy her a ring to wear in memoryall of me & I alsoe bequeath to my nephew William Lloyd Item twenty shillings. I give alsoe and bequeath to my neece & god daughter Mary Lloyd twenty shillings. I give alsoe and bequeath to all the rest of my brothers and sisters that shall be unmarried att the time of my decease tenne shillings a piece. I give alsoe & bequeath to the poore of the parish of penmynydd ffive pounds to be distributed amongst them att the discretion of my loveing daughter, Mary Bulkeley, my grand sonne Richard Owen Theodor and the overseers of this my Last Will & Testament hereafter named or to be layed out to use for the poores use as my daughter, grandsonne & the Overseers shall think meete I give alsoe and bequeath to my old mayde servant Gwenllyan vch Thomas three measures of Rye and three measures of pill corne & one ewe & a Lambe I give alsoe & bequeath unto my mayd servant one ewe and a Lambe if the said Ellen doe live with me at the time of my Decease. All the rest and residue of my goods, chattels & cattels as well moveable & immoveable I give devise & bequeath unto my grand children Ffrancis Bulkeley & Jane Bulkeley whom I do nominate constitute appoint and ordaine joynte executors of this my last will & testament revoking hereby all former Wills & Testaments made by me And I doe hereby Appoint consitute and nominate my nephew Richard Wynn of Twyfford gent & Edward Lloyd gent to be overseers of this my last will & testament desiring them to them to see it care fully performed in every respect And I give & bequeath to my said Richard Wynne four his paines twenty two shillings to buy him a Ringe. And alsoe to my said nephew Edward Lloyd thirty shillings. In Witness whereof I the said Mary Owen to this my last will and Testament have putt my hand and seal the day and yeare first above written.

Mary Owen signed sealed published and declared in the presence of Willm. Rowlands; Hugh Owen: Grace Prichard; Ellin Deane; Anne H[u]ghes; Edward Lloyd

Appendix 7

Elizabeth Owen - Will 1681 (NLW ref. B1681/19/W)

In the name of God Amen. I Elizabeth Owen late of Penmynydd in the County of Anglesey widdowed, being of sound an perfect mind and memory. Praise be therefore given to Almighty God. I do make and ordaine this my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say first and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God hopeinge through the merits, death and passion of my saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit everlasting life and my body I committ to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors hereafter named. And touching the disposition of all such temporal estates it hath pleased God to bestow on me I give and dispose thereof as followeth. Ffirst I will that my debts and funeral charges shall be paid and discharged.

Item: I give and bequeath to my niece Jane Anne Owen of twenty shillings to buy her a ring. And also I give and bequeath to my niece Jane Williams of Penmynydd five shillings in full of all claymes unto them or either of them from me.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my maid servant Margaret Williams the sume of twenty pounds.

Item: I devise, give and bequeath all my lands in possession, reversion or remainder unto my dear nephew John Glynne of Glynllifon in the county of Carnarvon and his heirs for ever and as for all the rest of my goods, catells and chattells whatsoever I doe devise, give and bequeath them unto my aforementioned said nephew John Glynne of Glynllifon Esq. who I nominate and appoint to be my full and sole executor of this my last will and testament. And I doe hereby revoke, disannul and make void all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof to this my last will and testament I do sett my hand and seal this twentieth day of October in the three and thirtieth year of his majesty's reign nowe over England and in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and eightie.

Elizabeth Owen

Sealed, published and declared

in the presence of Jane Glynne, Jane Glynne, Will. Glynne, Robert Evans

The Bulkeley Family of Baron Hill & Porthamel

Robert Bulkley m. Jane Butler d/o Sir William Butler of Bewsey. Lord of
of Bulkeley Warrington

I

William Bulkeley

Robert Bulkeley m. Agnes
of Eaton Sheriff of Cheshire

I

Richard Bulkeley m. Agnes Cheadle d & co. hrs of Roger Cheadle
of Cheadle of Cheadle

I

Richard Bulkeley m. Alice Bostok d/o Sir Ralph Bostok
of Cheadle 'of Holcroft'

I

William Bulkeley m. Ellin d/o Gwilym ap Griffith of Penrhyn
of Cheadle d.1484
Constable of Beaumaris d.1484

I

5th son Rowland Bulkeley m. Alice Beconsai d/o William Beconsai
of Beaumaris & Cheadle of Lancashire

I

Sir Richard Bulkeley
knighted 1534 d.1548
chamberlain of North Wales

m.

Catherine Griffith
d/o Sir William Griffith of Penrhyn

I

William Bulkeley
of Porthamel

m.

Ellin

d & hrs of Richard ap Meredith
I of Porthamel

Sir Richard Bulkeley 2nd Kt.
of Beaumaris & Cheadle

m.

1. Margaret Savage
d/o Sir John Savage of Rock Savage
m. 2. Agnes
d/o Thomas Needham

of Shenton

7 sons 5 dau. & 8 sons 2 dau
I

1. Rowland Bulkeley
of Cremlyn d.1592

m.

[Elizabeth§](#) d/o Rhys Wynn of Bodychan
I m.2. [Richard Bulkeley§](#)
I of Porthamel

William
of Porthamel

m.

Ales Bulkeley d/o Launcelot Bulkeley
Archbishop of Dublin

Jane Bulkeley*
of Porthamel

m.

Rowland Bulkley*

of Porthamel

Rowland Bulkeley
Sheriff of Anglesey

m.

Ales Conway
d/o John Conway of Bodrhyddan
I

[Richard Bulkeley§](#)
of Porthamel

m.

1. Margaret
d/o William Lewis of Presaddfed
I 2. [Elizabeth§](#) d/o Rhys Wynn
I of Bodychan

Sir Richard Bulkeley
1st baron of Baron hill
erected Baron hill

b.c.1533 d. 28/6/1621

m.

1. Mary Burgh
d/o William Burgh
Lord Gainsborough

2. Catherine Davenport

I

.....
Sir Richard Bulkeley
bap.24/3/15800/1
d.25/1/1645

m.

Anne Wilford
d/o Sir Thomas Wilford
of Idlington
I

Thomas Bulkeley
1st Viscount of Cashel, Ireland 1644
bap.10/8/1585 d.by 1659
succeeded to Baron Hill

m.

Blanche Coytmore
d/o Robert Coytmore

I

.....
Rowland Bulkeley *
m.
Jane Bulkeley*
of Porthamel

I

.....
William Bulkeley
of Porthamel

m.

Mary Bulkeley
d/o Richard ap Meredith
Archbishop of Dublin
I

.....
Richard Bulkeley
d.5/3/1639/40

m.

- Hill
of Worcester
no issue

.....
Robert Bulkeley 2nd Viscount Bulkeley of Cashel
d.18/10/1688

m.

Sarah Harvey
d/o Daniel Harvey of Combe
bap.8/9/1636 d.18/6/1715
I

.....
Rowland Bulkeley

m.

Mary Owen Theodore
d/o Richard Owen Theodore IV
of Penmynydd
I

.....
Richard Bulkeley
3rd Viscount of Cashel
b.1658 d.9/8/1704
m. 1681

Mary Egerton of Egerton & Oulton
I

.....
Richard
no issue

Jane

.....
Francis Bulkeley
lost Plas Penmynydd to
Richard Bulkeley of Baron Hill
took his own life - 1722

William Ales Mary
d.1683

Richard Bulkeley acquired Penmynydd from Francis Bulkeley
4th Viscount of Cashel
b.19/9/1682 d.4/6/1724
m. 1702/3
Bridget Bertie
I

.....
Richard Bulkeley
5th Viscount
b.8/4/1707 dsp 15/3/1738/39
m. 8/11/1731/32

Jane Owen d/o Lewis Owen of Peniarth

.....
James Bulkeley
6th Viscount
b.17/2/1716/17 d.23/4/1752
m. 5/8/1749

Emma Rowlands d/o Thomas Rowlands of Nant & Caerua
I m.2. **Sir Hugh Williams** of Eirianws
I 8th bart.
I

.....
Thomas James Warren Bulkeley
7th Viscount
b.12/12/1752 d/3/6/1822

.....
Sir Robert Williams
9th bart.
b.20/7/1764 d/1/12/1830

m. 26/4/1777
Elizabeth Harriet Warren
d/o Sir George Warren

m. 11/6/1799
Anne Lewis
d/o Rev. Edward Hughes

I
Sir Richard Bulkeley Williams Bulkeley
10th bart.
b.23/9/1801 d.28/8/1875
m.30/8/1828

N.B. There is some uncertainty about the exact relationship between Rowland Bulkeley and his wife Jane Bulkeley*. This is presented as just one version.*

The Edmunds Family of Tregayan

John Edmunds m.
of Tan y Craig
agent of Penrhyn Castle
d.31/1/1711/12

I

.....
Dr. Henry Edmunds

Rev. Richard Edmunds
rector of Aber
b.c.1699 d.29/9/1731

John Prytherch m. Anne Roberts
of Tregayan
d.1723/24 d.1751/52

32 yrs

44yrs

m.1725 Llanbadrig

I

Ann Prytherch d & co.hrs
bap. 3/9/1708 d.21/10/1771

m.2.James Briscoe

I

I

.....
John **Henry**
1726-1754 d.1755
28yrs
m.
Ellen
d/o Humphrey Owen

I

Margaret Bridget
1733-1784 d.1756

m. 7/2/1751 Beaumaris
Robert Lloyd
of Gwynus & later Tregayan
d.11/2/1793

I

.....
Catherine Mary Anne Dorothy

m. m. m.
Edward Owen Stephen Price Wm. Sparrow

.....
Ann Prytherch
Edmunds

Ann Henry Lloyd
rector of Llandyfrydog
bap.21/10/1754
bur.17/11/1794
m.
Emma Sparrow
no issue

John

Robert

Thomas

Richard

Henry Hughes – Will 1794 (NLW ref. B/1794/40/W)

In the name of God Amen. I Henry Hughes of Plas Penmynydd in the County of Anglesey, gentleman being sick in body but of sound mind and memory and understanding do make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner following (that is to say)

I give and devise All that my Messuage or Tenement with the Lands, Hereditaments and Appurtenances herewith belonging situate lying and being in the Parish of Pentraeth in the said County of Anglesey commonly called or known by the name of Bryn Myrddyn now or late in the tenure or holding of Ellis Jones or his undertenants unto my brother Hugh Hughes of Cheltenham in the County of Gloucester, clerk and my friend Thomas Evans of Trer'gof in the said County of Anglesey, clerk their heirs and assigns To Have and to Hold the said messuage, tenement, lands and hereditaments with the appurtenances unto the said Hugh Hughes and Thomas Evans their heirs and assigns forever upon several Trusts and to and for the several uses intents and purposes herein after mentioned, expressed and declared of and concerning the same (that is to say) To the use and behoof of my dear wife Elizabeth Hughes and her assigns from and immediately after my decease for and during the term of her natural life without impeachment of or for any manner of waste (which premises are to be considered in full of all or any soever which my said wife can or may claim out of any of my purchased estates) With remainder thereof to the said Hugh Hughes and Thomas Evans and their heirs in Trust only to preserve contingent remainders And from and after the decease of my said wife Elizabeth Hughes.

To the Use and behoof of my children William Hughes, Owen Hughes, Hugh Hughes and Margaret Hughes their Heirs and Assigns forever as Tenants in Common and not as Joint tenants and to or for no other use intent or purpose whatsoever. I also give and devise unto my son Henry Hughes his heirs and assigns forever All that my Messuage and Tenement with the Lands Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto belonging situate lying and being in the Parish of Heneglwys in the said County of Anglesey commonly called or known by the name of Pen-y-bryn And as to all my goods, chattels and personal estate whatsoever I give and bequeath the same and every part thereof (subject to my just debts and funeral expenses) unto my said wife Elizabeth Hughes And I do hereby charge my said Personal Estate and also my said Farm of Brynmyrddyn with the maintenance and education of my eldest son Richard Hughes and my said children William Hughes, Owen Hughes, Hugh Hughes and Margaret Hughes and earnestly request that my said wife will allow unto my son Richard a sufficiency to finish or complete his Education at the University of Oxford and that she will bring up and educate my said four other last mentioned children in a manner suitable to their degree in life. I hereby revoke all former Wills by me made and nominate and appoint my said wife Elizabeth Hughes Executrix of this my last will and testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this eighteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety three.

Signed sealed and declared by
the above named testator Henry Hughes as and
for his last Will and Testament in the presence
of us who in his presence and at his request
and in the presence of each other have
our names as witnessed hereto.

Henry Hughes (*signature & seal*)

John Hughes apothecary
William Jones labour

Alan Grindley Attorney

On the first day of May in the year of our Lord 1794 the within written Will was insinuated proved approved and in common form of law decreed valid and administration granted to the within named Executrix Elizabeth Hughes, She being sworn as usual duly to administer and that the whole of the goods and chattels of the within mentioned testator Henry Hughes deceased do not amount in value to the sum of six hundred pounds.

Before me

Tho. Evans surrogate

On the sixth day of May 1794 Probate of this Will was granted to Elizabeth Hughes the Widow and Relict of the said deceased and the sole Executrix named in the said Will having been first sworn duly to Administer.

The Paget Family of Plas Newydd, Anglesey

Henry William Paget m. 1. 25/7/1795 Caroline Elizabeth Villiers

2nd Earl of Uxbridge m. 2. 1810 Charlotte Cadogan

1st Marquis of Anglesey I

b.17/5/1768 d.29/4/1854 I

I

.....
Henry William Paget m. 1. 1819 Eleanor Campbell

2nd Marquis I 2. 1833 Henrietta Maria Bagot

b.6/7/1797 d.7/2/1869 I I 3. 1860 Ellen Jane Burnaud

.....
Henry

William George

3rd Marquis

b.9/12/1821 d.30/1/1880

m. 145

Sophie Eversfield

no issue

.....
Henry

4th Marquis

b.25/4/1839

d.13/10/1898

m.

Lord Alexander

Victor

b.25/4/1839

d.26/10/1896

m.1880

1.1858 Elizabeth Norman

Hester Alice Stapleton-Cotton

2.1874 Blanche Mary Boyd

I

I

3.1880 Mary Livingstone King

I

I

I

I

I

I

.....
Henry Cyril Paget

5th Marquis

b.16/6/1875 d.14/3.1905

m.

his cousin Lilian F.M. Chetwynd

marriage annulled

no issue

.....
Charles

Henry Alexander

6th Marquis

b.14/4/1885 d.21/2/1947

m. 1912

Victoria Majorie Harriet Manners

I

Victor

William

.....
George Charles Henry Victor

7th Marquis

b.8/10/1922 d.13/7/2013

m. 1948

Elizabeth Shirley Vaughan Morgan