



Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig Discovering Old Welsh Houses

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New reports will be added from time to time. Keep an eye on our website for updates.



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Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig Discovering Old Welsh Houses

Between 2005 and 2012 also known as The Snowdonia Dendrochronology Project, then the N W Wales Dendrochronology Project and then the Dating Old Welsh Houses Group.

Plas Gwyn
Y Ffor, Gwynedd
SH3956 3842



House History

A Part History of the House & its Families

Author: Peter Masters

April -2024

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 THERE IS NO ADMISSION TO ANY OF THE PROPERTIES



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Rhif Elusen Gofrestredig: No.1131782 Registered Charity

Plas Gwyn, Y Ffor. Gwynedd

NPRN16746

Map Reference SH33NE Grid Reference SH39560 38420

Unitary (Local) Authority Gwynedd

Old County. Caernarfonshire Community Llannor

House Period. Post Medieval



Aber-crch (1484, p. 12b), Plas-gwyn.

Late 16th-century.

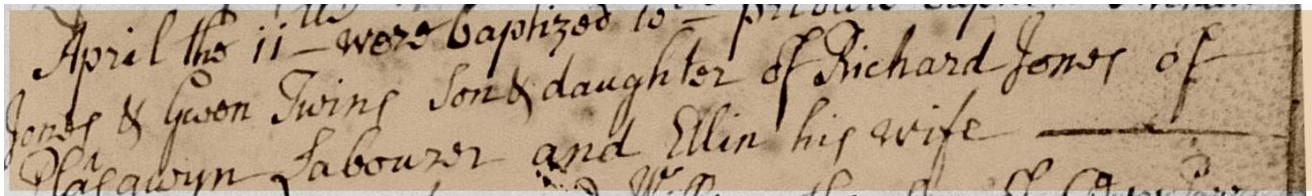
Crown Copyright: Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

Plas Gwyn is a gentry house of Snowdonian plan-type but enhanced with status-enhancing detail, including the unusually high ceilings and the stepped gables. There is no real evidence that the roof has been raised and the stepped gables added, as the Inventory suggests.

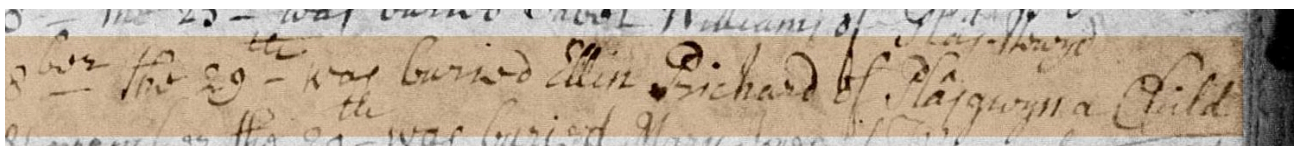
The stepped gables, 'kneelers?', tall chimneys, eaves? course, and quoining all relate well together. The Inventory proposes a building date of c. 1600.

The earliest records of occupation shown in the Abererch Parish Records are of the Rowlands when Roberti & Amy baptised their daughter Jonnetta in 1714. She was followed by other baptisms. Margareta 1717 and Anna 1719. Roberti Rowland died 1719

The Jones seem to be in occupation from at least 1741 when Richard & Ellin's firstborn William was baptised on 8 December 1741. There were four more children baptised Robert, 1754 ,John & Gwen [twins] 1759, Sadly Gwen died in 1762 and their Mother, Ellin died in 1761.



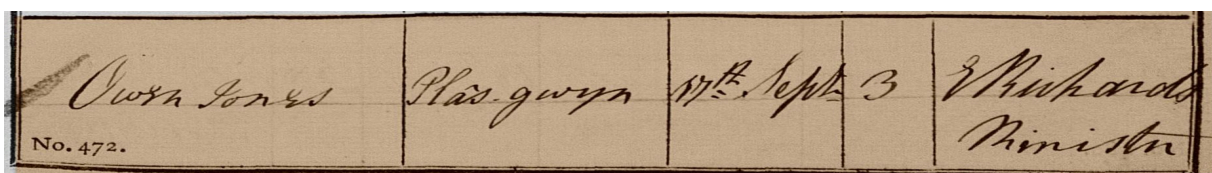
John & Gwen [twins] baptised 11 April 1759



Gwen died, and was Buried 29 May 1762

Richard b1759 [& Mary] was father to Owen Jones Bapt 1785, who is shown on the 1841 census aged 82

The sad death of 3 yr old Owen Jones in 1832 at Plas Gwyn also shows that there were Jones in residence at this time .

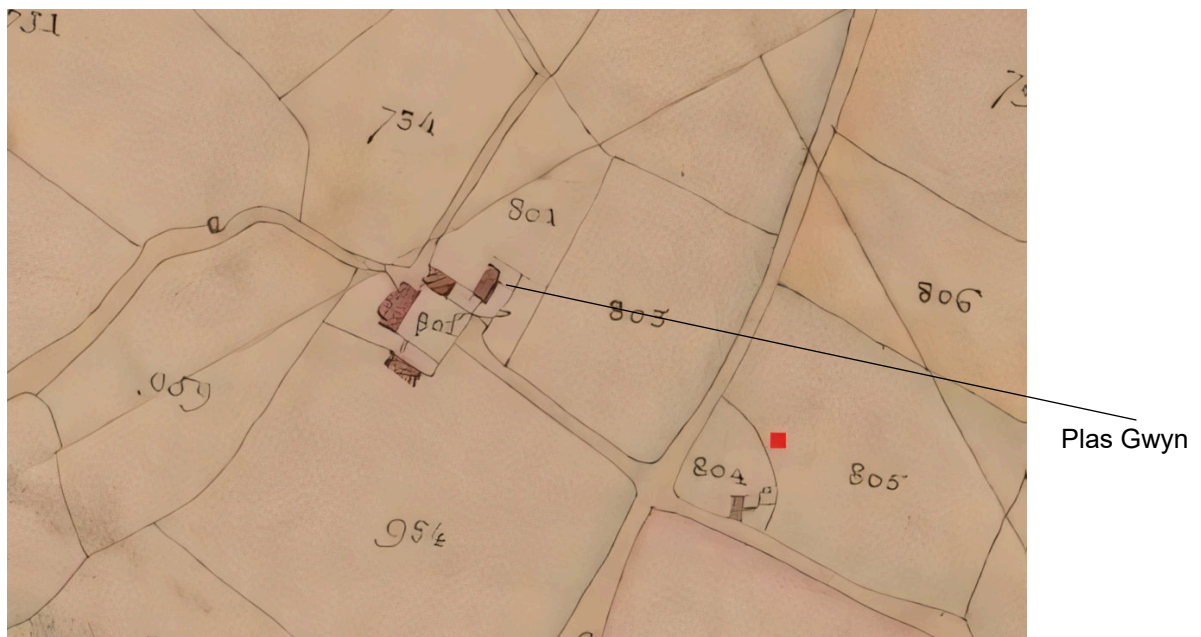


In a second C19th phase, Plas Gwyn, then part of the Broom Hall estate, ??? *was converted to a conventional farmhouse plan. The twin outer rooms were converted into a large, heated parlour. A stair was constructed in the passage, superseding the stone stair, and the passage was fully screened. New service-rooms were added: a back kitchen on the W side of the hall and a dairy against the E gable end.

Plas Gwyn was originally free standing and the house stands apart from the farm buildings. The estate-built farm buildings were constructed from large stone blocks in the C19th #.

The Tithe map of 1839 shows all the farm buildings So they were clearly built before this date

The depiction of Plas Gwyn itself is without the extensions



* According to the Tithe Apportionment Plas Gwyn was owned by the Mostyn Estate. Hon' Edward Mostyn Lloyd ##

Extract :A brief online search suggests there are two documents dated to AD 1696 held by the Bangor University Archives (MOST/872 and MOST/1401). One of these (MOST/872) is a six-month lease for Plas Gwyn, amongst other properties. The other (MOST/1401) transferred the ownership of a range of properties from the estate of Hugh Jones of Plas Hen, Caernarvonshire to a trust controlled by Hugh Nanney of Nanney, Merionethshire, and Richard Vaughan of Dolegwyn, Merionethshire, for the benefit of Griffith Vaughan. These documents suggest that the property was already part of a larger estate by the late seventeenth century.

. By 1846 the property appears as part of the archives associated with the Broom Hall Estate and is mentioned in "Grant of three closes of land [called *Lleinia Hirion, *Cae ty y Wern, and *Cae Gongl] heretofore forming part of a tenement and farm called Plas Gwyn in the parish of Abererch, co. Caernarvon." (National Library of Wales 505)

- These parcels are listed in the 1839/40 tithe assessment under the Mostyn estate

'In the AD 1840 Tithe Survey, the farm was part of the Estate owned by the Honourable E. M. Mostyn and was tenanted by Owen Jones with the farm consisting of 25 acres, 3 rods (10.13 Ha) (<http://cynefin.archiveswales.org.uk/en/tithemaps/transcribe/#Aber-erch&/transcribe>) (Figure 2)''

This is an error as there is a continuity page, the full list is shown in the Table

1839 Tithe List

field no	name	Type	Acres	Rods	Pole s	£	S	d
710	Y gors	Pasture	4	1	22	2	1	
711	Cae eithin	Pasture	3	11	0		2	
712	Cae pen y lon	Arable	2	3	19	9	3	
729	Cae eithin	Pasture	1	1	39	1	2	
730	Cae main	Arable	1	2	16	5	16	
731	Cae stabal	Arable	5	3	17	1	0	0
732	Cae rhydwen	Arable	2	1	20	7	6	
733	Cae gwyn mawr	Arable	3	1	8	9	6	
734	Cae gwyn Bbch	Arable	2	1	10	8	2	
735	Cae Carn	Arable	3		4	8	9	
736	Cae wyn	Arable	3		31	9		
737	Malldric	Arable	3		35	9		
800	Cae garreg lloyd	Arable	4	2	11	14	5	
801	Cae odyr	Arable	1		38	5		
802	Plas Gwyn	Dwelling			3	8	6	
803	Cae drws	Arable	2	1	11	9	3	
942	werglodd	Meadow	8					
954	Cae mawr	Arable	5	3	18	19	2	
955	Yr erw wen	Pasture	3	3	33	14	2	
957	Cae blodyn	Arable	1	3	13	6		
958	Llain wen	Arable	2	1	18	8	3	
959	Cae odyr	Arable	2	3	30	10	8	
960	Cae bendy	Arable	3	2		14	5	
961	Cae cam	Arable	5	3	39	1	3	5
963	Cae waen	Arable	1	1	1	4	6	
1065	werglodd	Meadow	2	1	35			
1081	Cae gongol	Meadow	1					
1081	Cae gongol	Arable	2	3	25	10	8	
1083	*Cae tyn wern	Arable	2	3	23	13	5	
1084	*Llenion hirion	Arable	4	1	20	17	3	
1100	*Llain clogwyn	Arable	2	37		2	11	
96	0	32	£136	2				

- 1839 Tithe Schedule extract
- Showing MOSTYN Estate. Hon' Edward Mostyn Lloyd

The 1841 Census shows that Owen Jones is still in residences and the family was to remain so for some 50 plus years

1841 Census Plas Gwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Sex	Age	Birth year	Birth place
Owen	Jones	Male	55	1786	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Lydy	Jones	Female	49	1792	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Margared	Jones	Female	17	1824	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Mary	Jones	Female	16	1825	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Janet	Jones	Female	14	1827	Caernarvonshire, Wales
John	Jones	Male	8	1833	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Owen	Jones	Male	6	1835	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Richard	Jones	Male	82	1759	Caernarvonshire, Wales
John	Jones	Male	31	1810	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Humphrey	Owen	Male	20	1821	Caernarvonshire, Wales
Lora	Griffith	Female	24	1817	Caernarvonshire, Wales
David	Pritchard	Male	50	1791	Caernarvonshire, Wales

A stone dated 1846 with the initials O.J./ P[las] G[wyn] was recently discovered by Jim Ellis set into the gable end of the farm building nearest the house and seems to be a memorial to an animal (pet dog?) aged 11. ???? O.J is this by Owen Jones who was in residence in 1839

1851 Census Plas Gwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Sex	Age	Birth year	Birth place	
Owen	Jones	Male	Head	64	1786	Farmer of 80 acres Abererch Caernarvonshire,
Lydia	Jones	Female	Wife	59	1792	Llanengan Caernarvonshire
Margared	Jones	Female	Daughter	27	1824	Abererch Caernarvonshire,
Jennet	Jones	Female	Daughter	23	1828	Abererch Caernarvonshire,
John	Jones	Male	Son	19	1832	Abererch Caernarvonshire,
Owen	Jones	Male	Son	15	1836	Abererch Caernarvonshire,
Thomos	Ellis	Male	Visitor	25	1759	Calvinistic preacher Caernarvonshire,
Henry	Jones	Male	Servant	20	1810	Farm Labourer Caernarvonshire,

1861 Census Plas Gwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Owen	Jones	Head	Married	Male	75	1786	Farmer of 80 acres employing 3 labourer	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Lydia	Jones	Wife	Married	Female	69	1792		Llanengan, Caernarvonshire,
Owen	Jones	Son	U	Male	26	1835	Farmers son	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Janet	Jones	Daughter	U	Female	33	1828	Farmers daughter	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Elisabeth	Owen	Servant	U	Female	19	1842	House servant	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Hugh	Williams	Servant	U	Male	19	1842	House servant	Aberdaron, Caernarvonshire,

Death and Burial of Rev. Owen Jones, 81 Plas Gwyn, near Pwllheli.

24 March 1866

Herald Cymraeg Caernarvon, Caernarfonshire, Wales

The Methodist Revival that was making strong headway in Caernarvonshire during the latter years of the 18th. century, Prominent and well respected preachers were Owen Jones of Plasgwyn, y Ffor. Along with Robert Hughes of Uwchlaw'r-ffynnon, Llanaelhaearn and Solomon Parry of Collfryn

After Owen Jones died in 1866 his wife Lydia continues to live at Plas Gwyn through to 1881

1871 Census PlasGwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Lydia	Jones	Head	Female	79	1792	Farmer 79 acres 3 lab		Llanegan, Caernarvonshire,
Owen	Jones	Son	-Male	36	1835	F son		Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Janet	Jones	Daughter	-Female	43	1828	F dau		Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Mary	Jones	Servant	-Female	18	1853	G servant		Llanahairn, Caernarvonshire,

Owen & Lydia's Son John Jones married in 1878

Tachwedd 12, yn swyddfa'r cefrestrydd, Pwllheli, Mr John Jones, Plasgwyn, Abererch, a Miss Mary Jones, Tan'rallt, Llanengan.

Llais Y Wlad 22 November_1878

November 12, at the registrar's office, Pwllheli, **Mr John Jones, Plasgwyn, Abererch, and Miss Mary Jones, Tan'rallt, Llanengan.**

But Sadly he was soon to be widowed as the 1881 Census shows

56 Yr old Owen died and was buried in 1891

By 1881 Son John Jones has taken over although now, a Widower he lived with his Unmarried sister .They continue in residence through into 1890s but they do not appear to be employing any live in farm labourers, presumably the Acreage has shrunk somewhat .

1881 Census PlasGwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
John Jones	Head	Widower	Male	49	1832	Farmer	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,	
Janet Jones	Sister	Single	Female	53	1828	-	Abererch, Caernarvonshire, Wales	

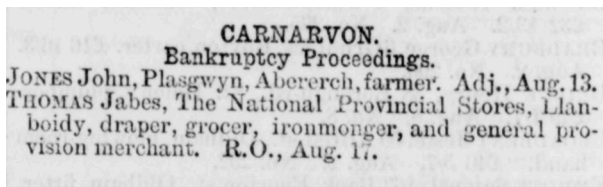
1891 Census PlasGwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
John Jones	Head	Widower	Male	59	1832	Farmer	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,	
Janet Jones	Sister	Single	Female	64	1827	Housekeeper	Abererch, Caernarvonshire,	
Elizabeth Morris	Servant	Single	Female	16	1875	Domestic servant	Caernarvonshire,	
Richard Williams	Servant	Single	Male	20	1871	Farm servant	Caernarvonshire	

Shortly after this census there were financial problems and both John and his sister Janet were cited in Bankruptcy proceedings

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

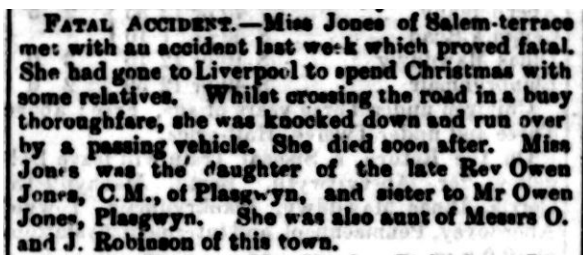
Commercial Gazette London 22 August 1894



JONES John, Plasgwyn, Abererch, farmer. Adj., Aug. 13.

THOMAS Jones, The National Provincial Stores, Llanboidy, draper, grocer, ironmonger, and general provision merchant. R.O., Aug. 17.

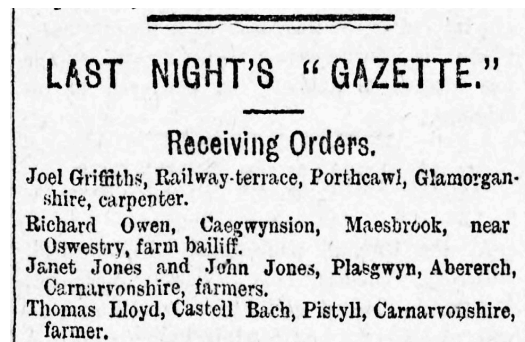
Sadly Shortly after, Janet died 1898



Cambrian News 30 December 1898

Fatal Accident.- Miss Jones of Salem Terrace met with an accident last week which proved fatal . She had gone to Liverpool to spend Christmas with some relatives. Whilst crossing the road in a busy thoroughfare she was knocked down and run over by a passing vehicle . She died soon after. Miss Jones was the daughter of the late Rev Owen Jones C.M of Plasgwyn and the sister to Mr Owen Jones Plasgwyn. She was also aunt of Messrs O.and J. Robinson of this town.

LAST NIGHT'S " GAZETTE.
"South_Wales Echo 04 August 1894



Receiving Orders.

Joel Griffiths, Railway-terrace, Porthcaw!, Glamorgan-hire, carpenter.
 Richard Owen, Caegwynsion, Maesbrook, near Oswestry, farm bailiff.

Janet Jones and John Jones, Plasgwyn, Abererch, Carnarvonshire, farmers.

John Died?????///

1901 brings in a new tenant to Plas Gwyn, again there do not appear to be any farm labourers

1901 Census PlasGwyn

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Evan Williams	Head	Single	Male	44	1857	Farmer		Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Mary Williams	Servant	Single	Female	30	1871	General domestic		Llannor, Caernarvonshire,

1911 Census Plas Gwyn Farm

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Evan Williams	Head	Single	Male	55	1856	Farmer		Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Lewis Williams	Uncle	Single	Male	82	1829	Pensioner		Abererch, Caernarvonshire
Richard Jones	Servant	Single	Male	23	1888	Horseman		Abererch, Caernarvonshire
Catherine Williams	Servant	Single	Female	36	1871	Housekeeper		Abererch, Caernarvonshire

1921 Census Plas Gwyn Farm

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Evan Williams	Head	Single	Male	65	1856	Farmer		Abererch, Caernarvonshire,
Ellen Jones	Servant	Single	Female	55	1866	Domestic		Abererch, Caernarvonshire
Griffith Hughes	Servant	Single	Male	32	1889	Farm Labourer		Bryncroes Caernarfonshire

Meanwhile around this time, events are taking place which will have an impact upon Plas Gwyn

George Albert Till [Coachman] 31. married Alice Mary Humphreys 30. Oct 30 1912 In Bettws y Coed

1912. Marriage solemnized in the Parish church in the Parish of Bettws y Coed in the County of Carnarvon

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
158	Oct 30	George Albert Till	31	Bachelor	Coachman	Elm Cottage Bettws y Coed	Thomas Till	Coachman
		Alice Mary Humphreys	30	Spinster		Gwynn Hotel Bettws y Coed	Nehemiah Humphreys	Accountant

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Estab^d Church, after Banns by me, *Wm Jones vicar.*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *George Albert Till* and *Alice Mary Humphreys* in the Presence of us, *William Lloyd Evans* and *Margaret Murray* *John Phillip Fairclough*

Their Daughter Violet Mary Till was baptised 29 March 1916 in Beddgelert Her Father is now listed as Hotel Keeper. Prince Llewelyn Hotel Beddgelert.

June 7 1916	Violet Mary	George Albert Till	Till	Prince Llewelyn Hotel Hotel Beddgelert	John Jones
Born March 29 1916 No. 562.		Alice Mary			

TILL—In loving memory of my dear wife, Alice, who passed away 11th March, 1918.—Bert.—“Give her eternal rest, O Lord.”

Alice Till Died 11 March 1918

[No.] Banns of Marriage between

George Albert Till — Widower
Parish of Beddgelert

and *Katharine Davis — Spinster*
Parish of Rushinham in the County of Merioneth

1st Time, Sunday, *Dec 18. 1921* by *D. Vandrey*

2nd Time, Sunday, *Dec 25. 1921* by *D. Vandrey*

3rd Time, Sunday, *Jan 1. 1922* by *D. Vandrey*

George Albert Till .Widower married Kathleen Davies in Jan 1921 in Beddgelert

By the time G A Till Married in January 1921 He had risen from Coachman to Hotel Keeper and by March 1821 he was now a farmer, employing 2 people.

1921 Census Tanyllwyn, Beddgelert, Caernarvonshire, Wales

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship to head	Sex	Birth year	Age in years	Birth place	Occupation
George Albert	Till	Head [w]	Male	1885	36	Yorkshire, Chaddesley, England	Farmer Employer
Violet Mary	Till	Daughter	Female	1916	5	Chester, Cheshire, England	-
Lavinia Jones		Servant	Female	1899	21	Beddgelert,	Domestic Housekeeper
David Morris		Servant	Male	1907	14	Beddgelert,	General Farm Work

1939 Register Plas Gwyn Farm

George A	Till	Married	56	1883	Dairy Farmer
Katherine (Catherine)	Till	Married	55	1884	Unpaid Domestic Duties
Violet M	Till	Single	23	1916	Domestic Work Assisting Father
Geoffrey	Till	Single	13	1926	At School
Gertrude (A)	Shut	Single	6	1923	At School

George A Till Died at Plas Gwyn aged 61 03/1945
 Geoffrey Till Died at Plas Gwyn aged 85 13/05/2011

When the Williams took on Plasgwyn in the 1920's they made some rudimentary changes especially with the décor ,In the late 1930's the new incumbents the Till's never quite got round to re-decorating and so it remained through out the war period. After George died in 1945 his Son Geoffrey never seemed to have the heart and so it remained as a time capsule into the 21st century as the following images show, the décor of the typically twenties style and colour.

Most of the changes were superficial and many of the original features were covered up to be revealed during the house renovation in 2016

A comprehensive study and detailed report by Ian Brooks .EAS services can be seen online at

[Plas Gwyn, Y Ffor Archaeological Watching Brief ...](#)



Plasgwyn Hearth 2016



Plasgwyn Hearth revealed 2016



Plasgwyn Kitchen 2016



Typical 1920's kitchen



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The details in the Census returns and Parish Registers were hard to track down, as although the RCAHM and Listed Building records state that the house is in Llannor Parish they are not to be found there and a wider search of adjoining Parishes eventually revealed them to be in St Cawdraf Parish Church, Abererch

A list of earlier Baptism linked to Plasgwyn

St Cawdraf Parish Register Baptisms

<u>Baptised</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Father</u>	<u>Mother</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
17/10/1714	Jonetta	Roberti	Amy	Rowland	Plas Gwyn	
05/06/1717	Margaretta	Roberti	Amy	Rowland		
08/12/1719	Anna	Roberti	Amy	Rowland		
08/12/1741	William	Richard	Ellin	Jones	Plasgwyn	Labourer
03/06/1754	Robert	Richard	Ellin	Jones	Plasgwyn	Labourer
11/04/1759	Richard	Richard	Ellin	Jones	Plasgwyn	Labourer
11/04/1759	Gwen	Richard	Ellin	Jones	Plasgwyn	Labourer
27/09/1761	Ellin	Richard	Ellin	Jones	Plasgwyn	Labourer
22/08/1785	Owen	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwun	
15/12/1786	Robert	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwyn	
25/10/1788	Elinor	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plasgwyn	
08/02/1791	Mary	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwun	
17/05/1793	Ellis	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwun	
20/07/1796	Gwen	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwun	
20/10/1798	Margrad	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwun	
11/11/1800	Catherine	Richard	Mary	Jones	Plas Gwun	
26/07/1803	Cathrine	Richard	Mary	Owen Jones	Plas Gwun	
20/08/1814	Mary	Griffith	Elinor	Roberts	Plasgwyn	Farmer
21/04/1835	Owen	Owen	Lydia	Jones Evan	Plas gwyn	

Baptism place Four Crosses Calvinistic Methodist, Abererch, Caernarvon
Category Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records

<u>Baptised</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Father</u>	<u>Mother</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
21/04/1835	Owen	Owen	Lydia	Jones Evan	Plas gwyn	



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St Cawdraf.Abererch Parish Register Burial List [In Bold noted in Census]

Y.O.B	D.Yr	Date	Name	Place	Age
1719	1719	12/06/1719	Roberti Rowland	Plas Gwyn	
1754	1754	11/07/1754	Ellin Prichard	Plasgwyn	Widow
1762	1762	29/10/1762	Ellin Prichard	Plasgwyn	Child
1762	1762	17/10/1762	Gwen Prichard	Plasgwyn	Child
1782	1782	01/04/1782	Robert Prichard	Plas Gwyn	
1790	1790	03/04/1790	Richard Jones	Plas Gwyn	
1801	1801	04/08/1801	Cathrine Prichard	Plas Gwyn	
1724	1813	30/01/1813	Eleanor Jones	Plasgwyn	89
1791	1815	14/10/1815	Mary Owen	Plasgwyn	24
1763	1830	18/11/1830	Mary Owen	Plasgwyn	67
1829	1832	17/09/1832	Owen Jones	Plas gwyn	3
1759	1848	13/12/1848	Richard Jones	Plas Gwyn	89
1786	1866	19/03/1866	Owen Jones	Plasgwyn	80
1792	1873	03/04/1873	Lydia Jones	Plasgwyn	81
1835	1891	23/10/1891	Owen Jones	Plasgwyn	56
1828	1911	11/08/1911	Lewis Williams	Plasgwyn	83
1856	1925	09/04/1925	Evan Williams	Plasgwyn Farm	69
1884	1945	03/1945	George Till	PlasGwyn	61
1926	2011	13/05/2011	Geoffrey Till	Plas Gwyn	85

Acknowledgements

RCAHM Wales

<https://coflein.gov.uk/en/>

British Listed Buildings [Wales]

People Collection of Wales

yffôr.com

Tithe maps: <https://places.library.wales/>

Peter Masters

DOWH

09/2024