

Darganfod Hen
Dai Cymreig



Discovering Old
Welsh Houses

Maes y Castell

Tyn-y-Groes
Conwy
LL32 8UL



researched and written by
Gill. Jones, Richard Jones & Ann Morgan
2020

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

© Discovering Old Welsh Houses Group [North West Wales Dendrochronology Project]

Contents

1.	Building Description	page 2
2.	Early Background History	4
3.	16 th Century	7
4.	17 th Century	9
5.	18 th Century	13
6.	19 th Century	19
7.	20 th Century	31
Appendix 1	The Buckeley & Bolde Families	34
Appendix 2	The Williams Family of Penrhyn & Cochwillan	36
Appendix 3	The Inventory of Henry Williams	39
Appendix 4	The Will and Inventory of Richard David	43
Appendix 5	The Assheton & Smith Families	45
Appendix 6	The Roberts Family of Maes y Castell	46
Appendix 7	The Will of Moses Roberts	48
Appendix 8	The Ponsonby Conroy Family	49
Appendix 9	The Jones Family of Brynymor	50
Appendix 10	The Elias Family of Gorswen	51

cover photograph: 1949 – Coflein - Cat. no. C601319, file ref. CA0126

Building Description

Maes y Castell, Caerhun

Grade II listed 13/10/1966

Source ID: 3147

OS grid: SH76477054

Exterior

Storied house of rubble with some decorative timber framing; slate roofs and plain 2-stage chimneys. The building is L-plan with a W (entrance) range and a N cross-wing; the former has a 2-storey gabled porch with an inset sandstone plaque bearing the arms of Williams and the initials EW and GW (for Edward and Grace Williams). In front of the cross-wing and adjoining to the S, a large single-storey modern porch. The W (garden) side of the cross-wing has two 3-light mullioned and transomed windows to the ground floor flanking an entrance with modern door. Cross-window to first floor at R, with, to the L, a jettied timber-framed section with close-studding; 2 further cross-windows. The remaining openings are modern.

Interior

3-bay beamed ceiling to ground floor of W range of high quality; this originally served as one room (presumably the hall), though this is now partitioned into 2 rooms. Main and secondary beams and joists are all finely moulded; some re-located panelling survives to both the ground and first floors.

Reasons for Listing

Listed for the special interest of its fine ceiling, described by the Royal Commission as one of the finest examples of its period in the county. ¹

RCAHMW Inventory of the Ancient Monuments – Vol. 1 Caernarvonshire East. – entry no.93 pp.24-25²

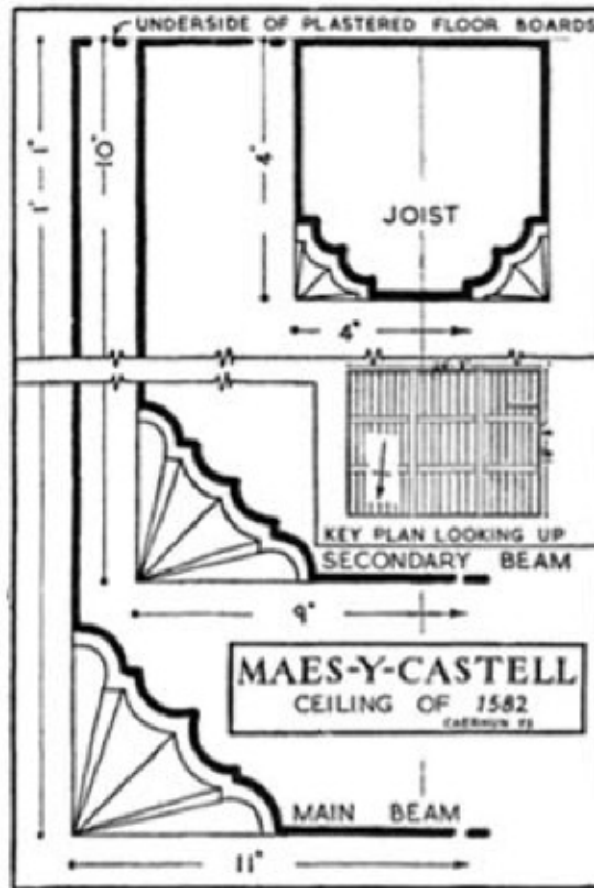
Maes-y-castell – The moulded ceiling in particular is one of the finest examples of late 16th century work in the county. A mid 19th century wash drawing of the old house, preserved at the house, shows that the present building follows its plan and exterior fairly closely. It is probable that some fragments of the old structure are incorporated in the modern walls since the ceiling (Fig.42 Plate 90) does not appear to have been disturbed. It is of three bays with secondary and wall-plate beams, originally covering a single large room. The beams have finely cut and stopped moulds. The joists have a stopped mould of two coarse beads. In one corner is a trimmed opening, presumably for a stair, now filled with plain stop-chamfered joists. The entrance has a heavy beaded door-frame with flat shouldered arch, probably original. Another room on the ground floor, and one above on the first floor, contain re-used late 16th century wainscotting. The roof is modern but contains some old purlins re-used in an upright position.

Maes y Castell house has a date stone of 1582 with a shield bearing a stag's head cabossed, flanked by the initials E W and G W. However, it is possible that there was an earlier building here prior to this date and it was updated in that year.

It was almost entirely rebuilt in 1886 but contains some material from the house built in 1582 by Edward and his wife Grace. (see p.7) The date stone has been relocated to the outer face of the modern porch.

1. britishlistedbuildings.co.uk

2. A Survey and Inventory by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales nos. 93 & 94



Drawing - RCAHMW³

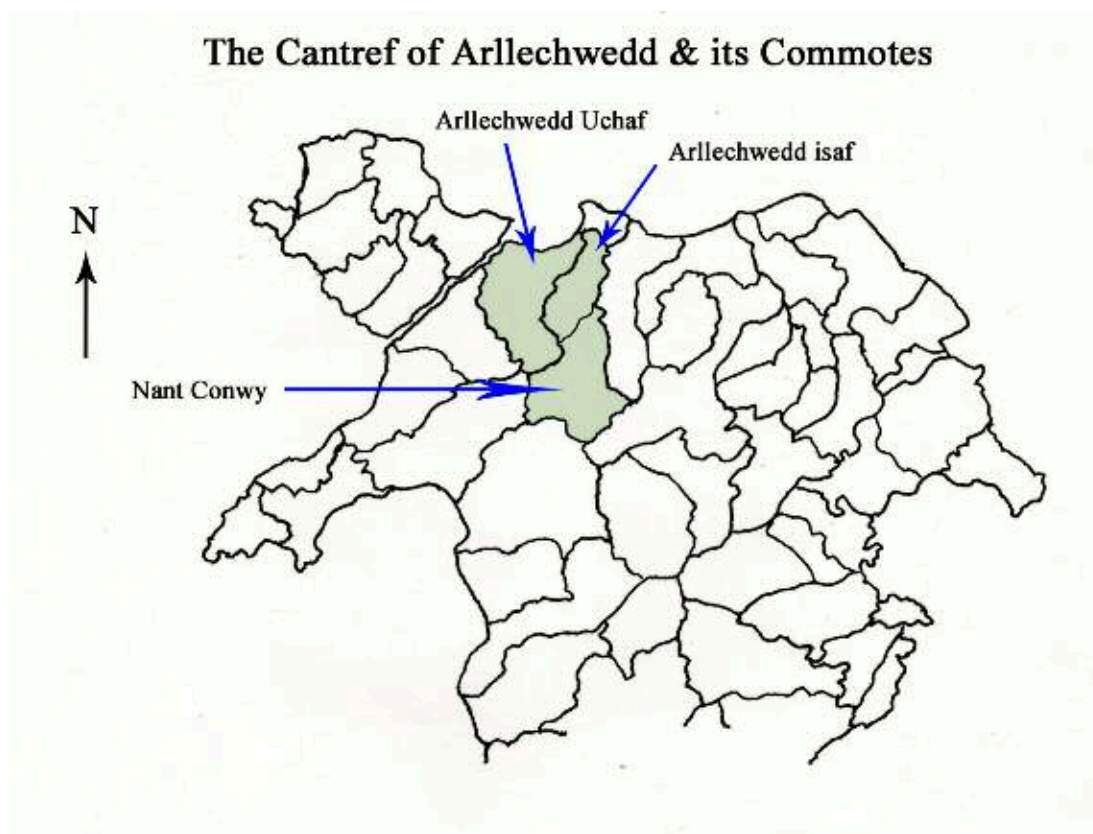
3. RCAHMW *ibid.*

Early Background History

The name

Maes y Castell – Field of the castle

In the early middle ages, this region of Conwy was part of the Kingdom of Gwynedd held by the Welsh princes. It was the largest and most dominant of the native Welsh Principalities. Its borders varied over time. For administrative purposes, it was divided into cantrefs which were further subdivided into commotes.



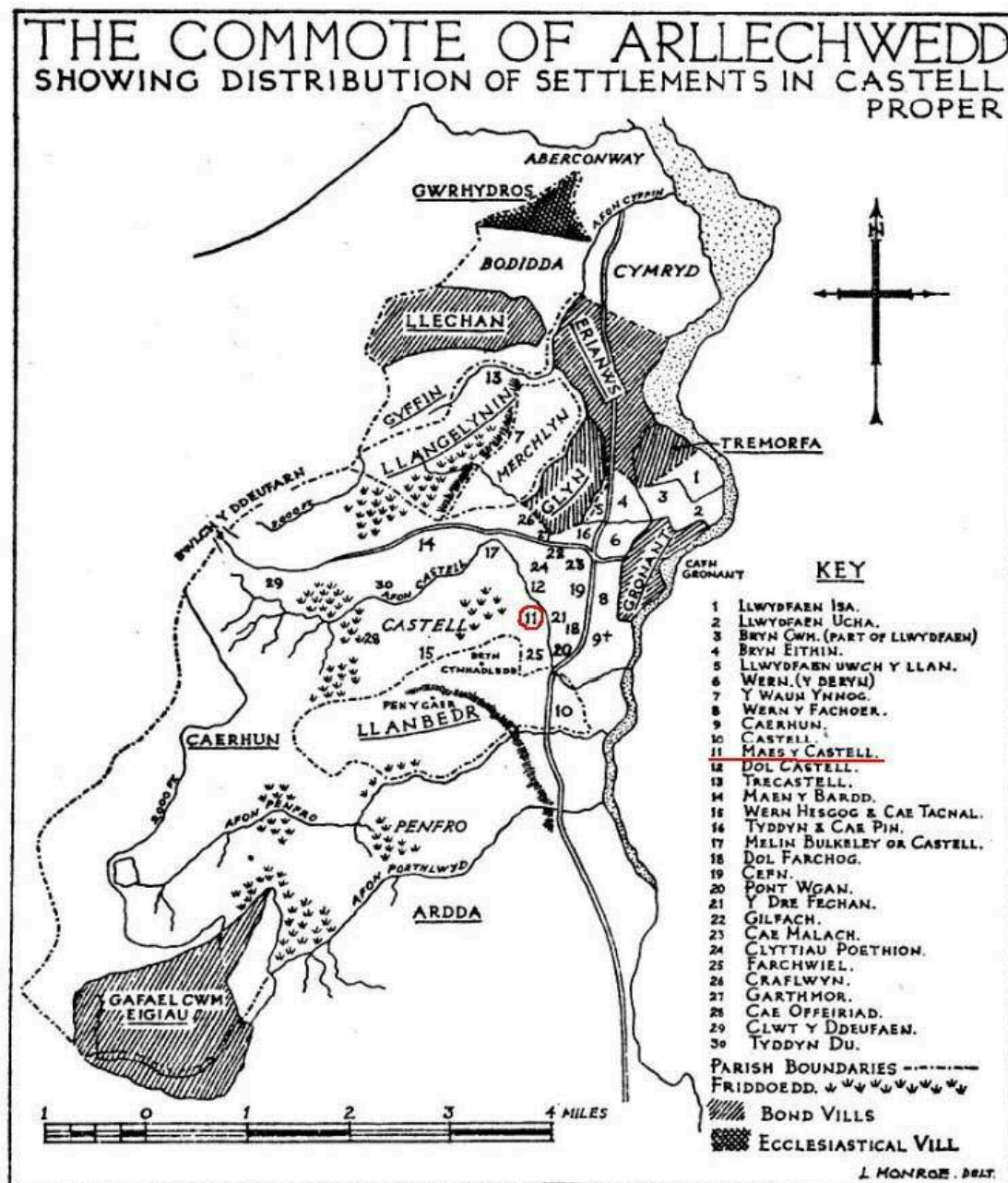
Maes y Castell was built on land which would have originally been in the cantref of Arllechwedd, the commote of Arllechwedd Isaf and the free vill (township) of Castell. This was an unusually large township which had its nucleus around Maes y Castell. The royal maerdref (Reeve's house) of Arllechwedd Isaf is thought to have been in the township of Glyn and Gronant, where the ferry crossed the river at Tal y Cafn.

After the Edwardian conquest, most of the land held by the Principality was retained as a royal fief and the territorial endowment of the heir to the throne i.e. the Prince of Wales. The remaining land, mostly along the English border, was divided into semi independent Marcher Lordships held by Anglo-Norman lords who owed allegiance to the Crown. After the Statute of Rhuddlan in 1284, the Principality was divided up into the counties of Carnarvon, Anglesey, Cardigan, Carmarthen and Merioneth. Even though they were subject to English criminal law, they still remained as the King's own personal fief and Welsh Law continued to be used for civil cases.

A number of English families were encouraged to settle in Wales after the conquest. Amongst them were the Buckeleys and the Boldes who both came from Lancashire. A descendant of the Boldes – Bartholomew Bolde was a burgess of Conwy and a minor official in Conwy and the neighbouring

commote of Arllechwedd Isaf. Between 1420 and 1453, he invested in property in the commote. He acquired, through purchase, several hundred acres of small holdings, arable, meadow and pasture in the free township of Castell.

A surviving rental from the Bolde estate from the period 1420 to 1453, has enabled a partial reconstruction of the way in which the Welsh tribal land-tenure systems in this commote were replaced by holdings which were to form the basis of the great estates which dominated the region from the sixteenth century into the nineteenth.⁴



The Gafael in Bangor Manuscript⁵

4. Historic Landscape Characterisations – Creuddyn and Arllechwedd – Historical Themes GAT

5. T.Jones Pierce – The Gafael in Bangor – 1939 – Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion January 1st 1944 p.162

In the free trefi (townships) like Castell, the land was held by families in return for military services and a food rent, which was later commuted to monetary payments. The land was divided equally between male heirs including acknowledged illegitimate sons. The kindred held certain property in common, which could include a church and a mill.

In the trefi held by bond tenants, the land was shared out equally among the adult males. The unfree bondsmen provided manual labour in return for food renders. Bond townships belonged to the Crown. The bond vills in Arllechwedd isaf were Llechan, Eirianws, Tremorfa, Glyn and Gronant. Bond tenants were eventually freed by Henry VII in 1507. (see p.7)

Bartholomew Bolde of Conwy married Letitia, d/o John Pikemore and Janet Griffith, the widow of Gwilym ap Gruffudd of Penrhyn. They had just one daughter, Alice (aka Alison), who was the heiress of Bartholomew's estate. She married William Bulkeley a younger son of William Bulkeley and Ellen, who was the daughter of Janet Griffith and her first husband, Gwilym ap Gruffudd of Penrhyn. This was a planned strategic alliance because the marriage settlement was drawn up when they were both still quite young children. This eventually led to the consolidation of the Bulkeley possessions in the commotes of Arllechwedd Isaf and Uchaf. When Bartholomew died in 1516, his estate was inherited by William and Alice. They continued purchasing land - in 1445 Llywelyn ap Kenrick ap Ithel released 8 acres of land in the township of Castell to William Bulkeley.⁶ The land was in two parcels – Dryll y Golwyth and Erw Gwynnion - in a place called Llwydfaen, which was the part of Castell next to the river. (see map p.5)

William and Alice had a son called Bartholomew who died in childhood. When William died, his estate which included the lands inherited from Bolde, passed to William's eldest surviving brother, Rowland Buckeley, who had also inherited his father's Beaumaris estate.⁷

A Welshman who also acquired land in the area, was Gruffydd ap Gwilym of Penrhyn and Cochwillan. In the late 14th century, he was probably the wealthiest man in North Wales. He took advantage of the introduction of English law in Wales to amass land through marriage. His three sons, Gwilym, Robin, and Rhys all joined Owain Glyndŵr's revolt against the English, but in 1405 all three brothers surrendered to the Crown. After his death in 1405, Gruffydd ap Gwilym's lands in Flintshire went to Rhys; and his lands in Gwynedd went to both Gwilym (who settled in Penrhyn) and Robin (who settled at Cochwillan).⁸

As well as the secular land-divisions, by the later medieval period Arllechwedd Isaf was divided into the parishes of Gyffin, Llangelynin, Caerhun and Llanbedr y Cennin. Within the parish of Caerhun there were four hamlets – **Rhwng y Ddwy afon** (*between the two rivers*), Maen y Bardd, Penfro and Isaf afon.

Maes y Castell was in the township of Rhwng y Ddwy afon and the parish of Caerhun. Now it is considered to be part of Tyn y Groes.

6. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS nos.2304-2305

7. Appendix 1 – The Bulkeley and Bolde families

8. Appendix 2 - The Williams Family of Penrhyn and Cochwillan.

16th Century

1507 – Henry VII freed the Welsh bondsmen.

At a time when serfdom had almost died out in England, the practice still continued in Wales. This long-held practice of the nobles having low status men as bondsmen (serfs) who were obliged to fight for them if necessary, was considered by Henry to be potentially dangerous. There was a chance that a nobleman could raise a private army and thus threaten the King, so he decided to free the bondsmen. As a consequence, the noblemen no longer had sufficient men to work their land and so they were obliged to rent or lease the land to the newly freed men.

1509 – Henry VII died and was succeeded by his second son, Henry VIII.

1536-1543 – Henry VIII passed a series of laws that became known as the Acts of Union. As a result, Wales became part of the Kingdom of England and the legal system of England was extended into Wales, thereby creating a single State.

1553 21st August – William ap William ap Griffith ap Robyn (*a descendant of the Penrhyn and Cochwillan families who was the first in the family to adopt the surname 'Williams'*) released to his son Henry Williams (I) (*alias Henry ap William ap William or Henry Wynn*), the following lands - Tyddyn y Glyn, Tyddyn y Gwreng, Tyddyn y Groes and Cae William in the townships of Castell, Glyn and Gronant, also of Melin Penfro, also all his tenements lying between the Afon Penfro and the town of Conwy. If his son Henry had no issue, then the lands were to go to another of his sons - **Edward Williams**.⁹

Henry Williams (I) was the fifth son of William Williams of Cochwillan and his wife Lowry Salusbury. Edward Williams was the fourth son. He fought against the French at the siege of Boulogne in 1546; and was Captain of Cannon in 1588 when England supported Hungary against Turkey.

Henry Williams (I) eventually settled at Llangoed, Penmon, Anglesey. The lands in the township of Castell appear to have gone eventually to his brother, Edward, because by 1569 he was being referred to as '**Edward Williams of Maes y Castell**'.

1569-1570 – Edward Williams of Maes y Castell was appointed High Sheriff of Caernarvonshire.

1569 2nd July – Implementing a Bond – Regarding a dispute between Hugh ap Robert ap William ap Gruffith ap Robyn of Penfro and brothers, **Edward Williams of Maes y Castell** and Henry Williams of Penmon, Anglesey. Hugh ap Robert was closely related to the two brothers. The dispute concerned lands Llwyn Hwfa, Carreg y Fford, Ynys y Llyged, Eithion Gellir Forwyn and others in the townships of Castell and Penfro.¹⁰

As Edward Williams was being described as 'of Maes y Castell' by 1569, had he already built a house there?

9. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS no.2421

10. *ibid.* no.2449

He married Grace vch John Owen of Garthymedd, Abergele. A date stone displayed on the house bears the initials – EW and GW 1582, and a stag's head which was part of the Cochwillan family crest and the same as that of the ancient Iarddur family.

Was the house updated in 1582, perhaps around the time of his marriage to Grace?

1587 – Edward's eldest brother, William Wynn Williams of Cochwillan died, predeceasing their father, William Williams (d.1589). His second brother, Robert died without issue; the third brother, Thomas Williams, who had founded the family of Williams of Vaynol, also died before Edward c.1592.

Edward added a south chapel to Caerhun Church in 1591. A very weathered sandstone plaque commemorating this event is embedded above the chapel's south window. It bears the date 1591 and the initials of Edward and Grace and a stag's head. This is almost identical to the date stone on the house.



S.window of the south chapel, Caerhun Church
showing Edward and Grace's plaque.

An ex situ long oak dedication board also survives inside the church. It bears the following inscription in raised letters:- EDWARDVS: WILL: JAMES: AR: ET: / GRACEA: UXOREI: Q HOC: OPUS: FIERI / FECERVNT: ANNO: DOMINI: 1591.

Edward was involved in several land transactions in the area: –

1575-1579 – Release of Tyddyn Bron hyddgen to Edward Williams.¹¹

1577 – lease of 'certain interest in the township of Castel' (Tyddyn y Ddol) to Edward Williams.¹²

1579 – 168 acres of land to Edward Williams.¹³

1593 – Deed of mortgage on Tyddyn y Ddol Castell to Edward Williams by Katherine, widow of George Griffith of Caernarvon.¹⁴

1596 – Recovery of Tyddyn y Ddol Castell for the use of Edward Williams and Grace his wife.¹⁵

1600 – sale of lands¹⁶

11. Bangor Archives Baron Hill MSS – nos. 2467-2469

12. *ibid* no. 2474

13. *ibid.* nos. 2477-2478

14. *ibid.* no. 2516

15. *ibid* no. 2518

16. *ibid.* no. 2533

17th Century

1600 12th December – Edward wrote his last will and testament. In it he stated that he wished to be buried in the new chapel adjoining the church of Caerhun “which I caused to be made.”

1601 – Edward Williams died. “Edward Williams was buryd the furst daie of November next followinge.”

Edward and his wife, Grace, had no surviving children. Practically all his lands and goods were bequeathed to Grace for the term of her natural life with reversions to his relatives of Cochwillan, Vaynol and Wig after her death.¹⁷

.....

1603 – Elizabeth I died and James I of England and VI of Scotland became King.

.....

Grace Williams appears to have re-married to Richard Gwyn of Glasinfryn who was the s/o Richard Gwynn, Archdeacon of Bangor. They may have married about 1609 because the Maes y Castell estate appears to have reverted to the Williams family. By remarrying, Grace would have had to forfeit her interest in the estate.

1609 10th July – A fine and recovery at the Great Sessions upon Y Plas ym Maes y Castell to **Sir William Williams** of Vaynol (Thomas Williams & Edward's nephew) to be levied by Richard Gwynn and Grace his wife.¹⁸

William Wyn Williams (eldest brother of Edward) married Dorothy Griffith, 4th daughter of Sir William Griffith of Penrhyn. Their son and heir, William Williams, married Agnes Wynn d/o Sir John Wynn of Gwydir. They had a son, Owen Williams, who is believed to have been disinherited, and a daughter, **Ellin Williams**, who married her uncle, **Sir William Williams** 1st bart. of Vaynol, (see above). Agnes died and William Williams re-married to Barbara Lumley. They had a son, **Henry (Wyn) Williams (II)**.

As a result of the transaction above, dated 10th July 1609, William Williams of Vaynol made his second cousin, **Henry Williams (II)** of Cochwillan (s/o William Williams and Barbara Lumley) a tenant of the freehold of Maes y Castell.

Henry Williams' father had been rather litigious, and Henry was apparently involved in his father's quarrels from an early age. In 1587, he was accused of riot and forcible entry into lands in the tenure of Pirs Griffith of Penrhyn at the Great Sessions for Caernarvonshire.

1612 – William Williams, s/o William Wyn Williams, died. The Cochwillan estate passed to his son, Henry Williams (II), from his second marriage to Barbara Lumley.

Henry Williams (II) was very profligate.

Immediately after his father's death, he undertook to sell Cochwillan and lands in Caernarvonshire for £1,000 to affray his debts. By a process which is obscure, Cochwillan and the Caernarvonshire

17. Baron Hill MSS no.2535

18. *ibid.* no. 2541

property were purchased c.1620 by his cousin, John Williams (1582-1650) who acquired the Penrhyn estate about the same time.¹⁹ John Williams was made Dean of Westminster in 1620 and advanced rapidly in Royal favour to be appointed Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal by James I in 1621. In 1642, he was appointed Archbishop of York.

Henry must have retained the Maes y Castell estate because in 1630, he is described as 'of Maes y Castell'.

1630 10th April – William ap Robert ap Hugh surrendered a lease to Henry Williams (II) of Maes y Castell.²⁰

1633/34 18th January – Henry was granted rights in the local church. William ap Robert ap Hugh in the parish of Caerhun agreed “that he is ready to give all further security to Henry Williams of Maes y Castell regarding the right and title to seats, sitting places, benches, and burying places (once belonging to William ap Robert and his ancestors) in the parish churches of Caerhun and Llanbedr (y Cennin)”²¹

1634 3rd September – Fine and Recovery at the Caernarvon Great Sessions – The lands of Henry Williams of Maes y Castell in the commote of Issaph, tenements of Castell, Penfro, Glyn and Gronant and Llanbedr yn Cennin i.e. 24 messuages, 24 tenements, one mill, 34 gardens etc. for the use and behoof of Henry Williams and no other.²²

1652 - Henry Williams of Maes y Castell was appointed High Sheriff of Caernarfonshire. He married Jane Salusbury, d/o Thomas Salusbury of Denbigh Castle (3rd s/o Sir John Salusbury of Lleweni).

1658 – Henry Williams (II) died and was buried in Bangor Cathedral. He left a will in which he specified bequests to the Cathedral of Bangor, the church of Caerhun and Llanbedr yn Cennin, and to the poor of the same parishes. Also £300 to his sister, Elizabeth, widow of Edward Williams of Wig (Wegge), to be disposed of by her amongst her three daughters; £50 a piece to the three children of Thomas Ravenscroft of Pickhill, Flint who had married his half sister Margaret; and various sums to Robert Wynne of Caernarfon and his 'faithful friend' William Arthur of Maenol, Bangor. The chief legatee and executor was his great nephew, **Thomas Williams of Dinas** (s/o Sir Thomas Williams 2nd bart. of Vaynol), whose main work was to pay out the legatees and bequests out of the redemption money of lands in Dolbadarn and Llanberis mortgaged to Henry Williams for the sum of £1,1000 by Sir William Williams 3rd bart. of Vaynol, Henry's great nephew and brother of Thomas. The will was proved in London on the 10/6/1659.²³ As part of the administration process, a very lengthy and detailed inventory of all his personal possessions was drawn up and valued.²⁴ It is not clear exactly what happened next to the Maes y Castell estate. His son Lumley does not appear to have inherited it. It may have gone briefly to his great nephew, **Sir William Williams** 3rd bart.

1658 1st November – Sir William Williams 3rd bart. of Vaynol died shortly after Henry Williams. Maes y Castell seems to have passed to his brother, **Thomas Williams of Dinas**. He had married Jane Jones, daughter and co-heiress of Griffith Jones of Castell March in 1645. When Thomas died,

19. Dictionary of Welsh Biography - <https://biography.wales/article/s1-WILL-COC-1389>

20. Bangor Archives Baron Hill nos. 2582-2583

21. Bangor Archives – Baron Hill MSS nos. 2623

22. *ibid.* nos.2624-2625

23. *ibid.* nos. 2631-2632

24. Appendix 3 - Inventory of the Personal Possessions of Henry Williams (II)

Maes y Castell passed to his nephew Sir Griffith Williams of Vaynol but Thomas's widow was allowed to 'have the use of' her husband's estate (Maes y Castell) for the period of her natural life.

Jane Williams eventually re-married to Thomas Bulkeley (1633-1708) of Dinas, who was the 4th son of Thomas Bulkeley of Baron Hill, Beaumaris and 1st Viscount of Cashel, Ireland. He and Jane definitely lived in Maes y Castell because Thomas wrote several letters about everyday matters to Sir Richard Wynn of Gwydir from there.

1661 November 12th – Letter from Thomas Bulkeley at Maes y Castell to Sir Richard Wynn of Gwydir.²⁵

1662 – Hearth Tax

In England and Wales, a tax on hearths was introduced on the 19th May 1662. Householders were required to pay a charge of 2s per annum for each hearth, with half of the payment due at Michaelmas and the other half at Lady Day. Exemptions were those in receipt of poor relief and anyone whose house was worth less than 20s a year. A revision of the Act in 1664 made the tax payable by all who had more than two chimneys. It was eventually abolished in 1689.

Maes y Castell -Thomas Bulkeley of Dinas was the occupier at the time. He paid for three hearths.

1663 4th October – Sir Griffith Williams 4th bart. of Vaynol (s/o Sir William Williams) granted Thomas Bulkeley of Dinas, the 'use of the Maes y Castell estate for the term of his natural life' as part of the marriage settlement between him and Jane Williams.²⁶

A later rental record provides an explanation of the inheritance.

“Sir William Williams 6th bart. of Vaynol, by virtue of several conveyances from the late Sir Griffith Williams, his father, to the said Mr. Bulkeley for the term of his natural life and seven years after in the commote of Llechwedd Issa (This included Maes y Castell), and parishes of Llangelynin, Llanwnda and Llandwrog.”²⁷

1663 – Sir Griffith Williams of Vaynol died. His estates passed to his eldest son, Sir Thomas Williams 5th bart. of Vaynol.

1665 October 12th – Letter from Thomas Buckeley at Maes y Castell to Sir Richard Wynn.

1666 October 1st - Letter from Thomas Buckeley at Maes y Castell to Sir Richard Wynn.

c.1670 – Sir Thomas Williams 5th bart. of Vaynol died unmarried. The Vaynol estate passed to his brother, Sir William Williams 6th bart..

25. National Library of Wales – Wynn of Gwydir papers ref. NLW ref. MS 9067E/2470

26. Bangor Archives – Mostyn MSS no.1393

27. Caernarvon Archives Vaynol MSS no 3744

1692 4th February - Thomas Bulkeley of Maes y Castell and M.P. for Beaumaris fought a duel in Hyde Park with Sir Bouchier Wrey, a friend of Sir William Williams of Vaynol 6th bart. There were six men engaged as principals and seconds. Five were M.P.s; two of the seconds were slightly wounded.

Sir William Williams 6th bart. married Ellen Bulkeley d/o Robert Buckeley 2nd Viscount of Beaumaris. They had no children and William also lived a very profligate lifestyle.

1695 June 25th – In a state of inebriation, William wrote his will and bequeathed his estate worth about £2,500 p.a. to Sir Bouchier Wrey of Tavistock for the period of his natural life and then to Wrey's sons for their lifetime, and after that it was to revert to the Crown.

At this stage, **Maes y Castell**, was still in the holding of Thomas Buckeley.

1698 23rd December – Sir William Williams died without issue aged about 28 years. This was a week after he had killed a man in a duel. Sir Bouchier Wrey also died that year. Both may have lost their lives in duels. The Vaynol estate passed to Wrey's sons.²⁸

The result was a conflict between the Wrey family and the Williams 'heirs at law' headed by Sir Arthur Owen 3rd bart., who took possession of Vaynol even before Williams' funeral. This created a situation where the corpse had to be taken to another house to await burial. After lengthy litigation, the Crown's right was confirmed in 1699.

.....

1699 – Edward Lhuyd (1660 - 1709) a botanist, geologist, antiquary, and philologist, requested information from every parish in Wales in the form of a questionnaire about the natural history and antiquities of each area. He also made extracts from manuscripts, copied inscriptions, and collected curiosities. The replies were published as a book in 1699 called "Parochialia".²⁹

In Caerhun, the townships listed were Is yr avon, **Rhwyng y dhwyrdd avon**, Maen y Bardh and Penfro.

In the list of 'houses of note' is the following entry:-

'Maes y Castell belongs to **Mr. Bulkley of Dinas**.'

This was Thomas Bulkeley, 4th s/o Thomas Bulkeley, 1st Viscount of Cashel of Baron Hill, who was married to Jane Williams.

.....

28. Caernarvon Archives ref. XM/4926/275

29. Archaeologia Cambrensis supplement part 1 April 1909 p.30

18th Century

Parish Records³⁰

There are a number of birth, marriage and burial records which identify several people who lived at Maes y Castell. They appear to be related but the relationships are not entirely clear. The earliest entry that names the abode as Maes y Castell is from 1700.

1700 June 14th - John s/o **Edward Probert** (*ap Robert*) **Thomas of Maes y Castell**

However, there are some other earlier entries which probably also relate to the same family.

Baptisms

1689 25th December - Ellin d/o Thomas Probert & Ellen Symond

1692 March 25th – Mary d/o Thomas Probert

1694 Sept 30th - Jane d/o Thomas Probert Cadwaladr & Ellen Symond

Thomas and Ellin's three daughters (above) appear later in the marriages records which include their place of abode as 'Maes y Castell'. Three others – Blanche, Anne and Margaret were almost certainly also daughters of Thomas and Ellin.

1698 - Thomas Probert Cadwaladr died. He was buried in Caerhun Churchyard on 17th February.

Were the three older girls baptised in a different parish? Had the family moved to Maes y Castell in about the year 1689 when their fourth daughter was baptised in Caerhun?

1703 Oct. 10th - Richard Hugh Bodmund of Maes ?Meurig? & **Anne Thomas of Maes y Castell**

1712 Oct. 6th - John Parry of Llechan in Gyffin & **Ellin Thomas of Maes y Castell**

1714 Aug 7th - Maurice Dafydd (joyner) of Dolgan in Llanrhychwyn & **Margaret Thomas of Maes y Castell**

1721 June 16th - William Griffith clk. (curate of Caerhun) & **Mary Thomas of Maes y Castell**

Thomas Probert Cadwaladr's widow, Ellin Symond, remarried.

1700 August 4th – Marriage of Richard David of Cymryd in Gyffin and **Ellin Symond of Maes y Castell**. They continued to live at Maes y Castell.

1703 28th August – Richard Davies (*David*) yeoman, of Maes y Castell, was involved with William Williams of Pentregwyddel, Caerns. regarding the mortgage of Tyddyn y Pwll, Tyddyn y Ffrith and Bryn Rhydd all in Dwygyfylchi.³¹

1708 – Richard Davies (*David*) died and left a will. He mentions his wife Ellen Simon, two sisters – Gaynor and Jane; and a nephew Richard Edmund; and two nieces – Grace and Jane. It seems that Richard and Ellin had no children. A detailed Inventory of his personal estate also survives.³²

1709 – Ellin Symond/Simon, the widow of Richard David of Maes y Castell was named as the

30. Caerhun Parish Records – Caernarvon Archives ref. XPE/3/1-8

31. Bangor Archives ref. TYN/283

32. NLW ref. B/1708/38/W & I) Appendix 4 - Will & Inventory of Richard David

Executrix of her husband's will in regard to the previously agreed mortgage dated 1703 (above).³³

A suggested pedigree

1. Thomas Probert Cadwaladr of Maes y Castell bur. 17/2/1698			Edward Probert Thomas of Maes y Castell		
m.....			m.		
Ellin Symond			I		
of Maes y Castell			I		
m.2. 4/8/1700			.....	
Richard David			John		
of Maes y Castell			bap. 1700		
bur.3/6/1708					
will 1708					
I					
.....					
Blanche	Anne	Margaret	Ellin	Mary	Jane
Thomas	Thomas	Thomas	Thomas	Thomas	Thomas
bap.			25/12/1689	25/3/1692	30/9/1694
.....			of Maes y Castell		
m.1698	m.1703	m.1714	m.1721	m.1712	
Edmund	Richard	Maurice	John Parry	William	
Parry	Hugh	Dafydd		Griffith clk	
of Tal y bont	Bodmund				
	of Maes ?Meurig?				
.....					

1708 - Thomas Bulkeley of Maes y Castell, died without issue. Maes y Castell, passed back to the Vaynol estate, which by this time was being held by the Crown.

1720 6th & 7th April - King William III and Queen Anne granted the Vaynol estate (including Maes y Castell) to John Gore in Trust for John Smith of Tedworth.³⁴

John Smith was the 4th and only surviving son of John Smith of Tedworth (d.1690) and his wife Mary Wright d/o Sir Edmund Wright, Alderman of London.

He was elected the Speaker of the House of Commons in 1705 and held the post until 1708. He had also served twice as Chancellor of the Exchequer. He married twice. Firstly in 1674 to Ann Steward d/o Sir Nicholas Steward of Hartley Mauditt, Hants. She died in 1680. In 1683, he married Ann Strickland d/o Sir Thomas Strickland of Boyton Warwickshire.

33. Bangor Archives ref. TYN/287

34. Appendix 5 - The Assheton Smith Family



John Smith 1656-1723

1723 – John Smith died. The Vaynol estate (including Maes y Castell) passed to his son, Captain William Smith.

By 1739, the Thomas family appears to have left Maes y Castell.

1739 Oct. 15th - William Roland of Ariannws & **Jane Roberts of Maes y Castell**

Moses Roberts (I) had become the tenant of Maes y Castell by 1745 but possibly earlier.³⁵

It seems likely that Jane Roberts was related to him.

Moses Roberts was a yeoman farmer.

Yeomen

From the late 14th to 18th centuries, yeomen were farmers who owned land (freehold, leasehold or copyhold). Their wealth and the size of their landholding varied. Many yeomen were prosperous, and wealthy enough to employ servants and farm labourers. Some were as wealthy as the minor county or regional landed gentry and some even leased land to gentleman landowners. Some could be classed as gentlemen, but did not aspire to this status: it was cheaper to remain a yeoman. Often it was hard to distinguish minor landed gentry from the wealthier yeomen. A yeoman could be equally comfortable working on his farm, educating himself from books, or enjoying country sports such as shooting and hunting. By contrast members of the landed gentry and the aristocracy did not farm their land themselves, but let it to tenant farmers.

1745 26th April – William s/o Moses Roberts (I) and Grace Williams was baptised in Caerhun Church.

35. Appendix 6 – The Roberts Family

The Vaynol land tax records for Maes y Castell also include Pontwgan Corn Mill, which was possibly built sometime shortly before 1746.

Land Tax

Township of Rhwyn y Ddwy Afon

1746 - 1748	Maes y Castell	tenant: Moses Roberts	£1. 11. 6 ³⁶
	Pontwgan Corn Mill	“	£0. 4. 8
1751	Maes y Castell	“	£1. 3. 7½
	Pontwgan Corn Mill	“	£0. 3. 6

Land Tax

Township of Rhwyn y Ddwy Afon

1760	Maes y Castell	tenant: Moses Roberts	£1. 11. 6
	Pontwgan Corn Mill	“	£0. 4. 8

1764 15th March – William Smith wrote his will.

1773 – Captain William Smith, owner of Vaynol & Maes y Castell died without issue on or about the 20th January.

1773 10th February – Probate was granted. William devolved all of his messuages, tenements and lands etc. to his nephew Thomas Assheton for the period of his natural life. He adopted the additional surname 'Smith'. Thomas' father was married to William's sister Harriet.

Thomas Assheton Smith (I) married Mary Clayton. They had a son b.1752 called Thomas Assheton Smith (II).

1773 9th April - Marriage settlement – When Thomas Assheton Smith (II) attained his majority, a marriage was arranged for him with Elizabeth Wynne d/o Watkin Wynne of Voelas.³⁷

1774 – Thomas Assheton Smith (I) died. His son , Thomas Assheton Smith (II) inherited the Vaynol estate.

1775 – Moses Roberts (I), the tenant of Maes y Castell, died and left a will.³⁸ He left bequests to his daughter, Jane and also to her children; his wife Grace and his son William Roberts (I).

William Roberts (I), yeoman, took over the tenancy of Maes y Castell & Pontwgan Corn Mill after his father's death.

Land Tax

Township of Rhwyn y Ddwy Afon

1775-1776	Maes y Castell	tenant: William Roberts	£1. 11. 6
	Pontwgan Corn Mill	“	£0. 4. 8

1776 – Thomas Assheton Smith (II) and his wife Elizabeth had a son, named Thomas Assheton Smith (III).

36. Caernarvon Archives – XQA/LT/ 3/4

37. Bangor Archives – ref. Deeds and Documents PFA/3/213 9th April 1773

38. Appendix 7 - Will of Moses Roberts 1775

The Assheton Smith family's main economic interest was in slate, but from 1778, farms were let on long leases with restrictive clauses to give more security to the tenant and encourage better husbandry.

The following Vaynol estate rentals do not mention Pontwgan mill but it still belonged to the Maes y Castell estate.

Vaynol Estate Rentals

1776-1779 - Maes y Castell ³⁹

Owner: Thomas Assheton Smith (II) - Tenant; William Roberts (I)

7 acres @ 20/-	£7.0.0
12 acres @ 16/-	£9.12.0
11 acres @ 14/-	£7.14.0
14¼ acres @ 10/-	£7.2.6
15½ acres @ 7/-	£5.8.6
25 acres @ 5/-	£6.5.0

.....
£43.2.0
.....

Land Tax

Township of Rhwyn y Ddwy Afon

1792 – 1793	Maes y Castell	£1. 11. 6
	Pontwgan Corn Mill	£0. 4. 8

proprietor: T.A.Assheton Smith (II) tenant: William Roberts

1793 - William Roberts (I) died and was buried in Caerhun churchyard on the 19th October. His wife, Jane Evans, was subsequently named as the tenant.

Land Tax

Township of Rhwyn y Ddwy Afon

1794-1796	Maes y Castell	£1. 11. 6
	Pontwgan Corn Mill	£0. 4. 8

proprietor: T.A.Assheton Smith (II) tenant: Jane Evans (widow of William Roberts (I))

By 1799, William and Jane's son, Moses Roberts (II) held the tenancy.

1799 Michaelmas – Rentals⁴⁰ Maes y Castell & Mill

8 acres 2 roods 25 perches: £38 half yearly rent £38 half yearly

Owner: Thomas Assheton Smith (II)

Tenant: Moses Roberts (II)

Another gentry family appears to have been residing at Maes y Castell for a few years.

Were they sharing the house with Moses Roberts and his family?

1786 21st October – Sir John Ponsonby Conroy 1st bart. (1786-1854 courtier) was born at Maes y Castell, Caerhun. He was the eldest of five sons and one daughter. His parents were John Ponsonby

39. Caernarvon Archives ref.Vaynol MSS no.4054

40. *ibid.* ref.3751

Conroy (1759-1797 barrister) and his wife Margaret, d/o Francis Vernon Wilson.

Sir John Ponsonby Conroy 1st bart. was a principal aide to Queen Victoria's mother – the Duchess of Kent. It has been claimed by some people that he was actually the father of Queen Victoria. He also believed that his wife, Elizabeth Fisher, was the Duke of Kent's natural daughter.⁴¹

1790 18th February – Llewelyn Ponsonby Conroy (3rd s/o John Ponsonby Conroy) was baptised in Caerhun Church.

The Ponsonby Conroy family only lived at Maes y Castell for a few years. They did not own it, but possibly rented it for a short while. They may have been particularly friendly with the Assheton Smiths.

In spite of the Assheton Smiths granting long leases to some of their tenants, they also extended their land holdings by the enclosure of common land. This was in spite of strong opposition from those tenants living at a subsistence level who supplemented their existence by grazing a few animals on such land and by collecting the wood, nuts or berries that could be found there. These tenants were simply evicted. This occurred following the law created by the Inclosure Act of 1773 which enabled the enclosure of land and at the same time removed the right of commoners' access. The Assheton Smiths became the 3rd largest landowner in North Wales.

41. Appendix 8 - The Ponsonby Conroy Family

19th Century

1808 – Jane Evans, widow of William Roberts (I) died. She was buried in Caerhun on the 19th November.

1813 21st August – The terms of the entail to the inheritance of the Vaynol estate were changed to take account of a mortgage of £12,000 not being fully repaid.⁴² Thomas Assheton Smith (III) was named as the heir. The final date for the full settlement of the debt was 1845.

1820 – Vaynol Estate Rentals⁴³

Maes y Castell & mill & Bron y Gader	£58
Hen Fachws, Llanbedr no.16	£ 8
tenant: Moses Roberts (II)	.....
	£66

1827 17th October - Thomas Assheton Smith (III) married Matilda d/o William Webber of Binfield Lodge, Berks.

1828 13th May – Thomas Assheton Smith (II) died. His estates which consisted of properties in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Cheshire and 7,000 acres in Caernarfonshire and £8,000 in Trust passed to his son Thomas Assheton Smith (III).



Thomas Assheton Smith (II) 1752-1828



Thomas Assheton Smith (III) 1776-1858

42. Bangor Archives – Deeds and Documents – op. cit.

43. Caernarfon Archives ref. no.3780

Thomas Assheton Smith (III)'s main interest was hunting. One pack of hounds which he purchased cost him 1,000 guineas.

1830/31 Michaelmas⁴⁴ - Vaynol Estate Rentals

no.13 Maes y Castell & mill and Bronygadin excluding Gweirglodd Cappel

tenant: Moses Roberts (II)

£64.10 half yearly

allowance 10% £6.9s sum due £58.1s

1830 – Rentals⁴⁵

Maes y Castell & mill & Bron y Gader exclusive of Gweirglodd y Cappel

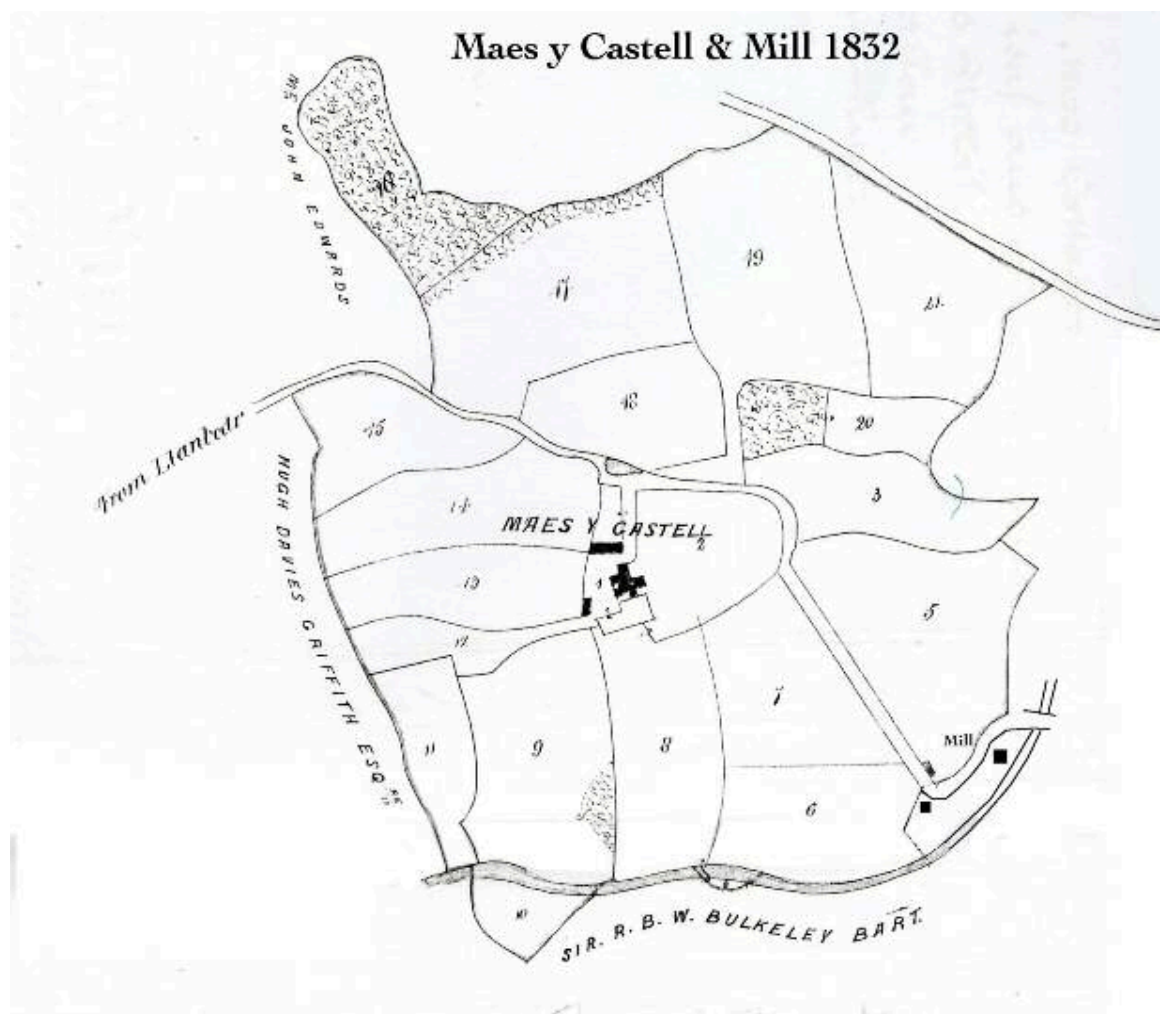
tenant: Moses Roberts rent £129

1832 ref.

Maes y Castell & Mill

tenant Moses Roberts

1832 – Vaynol Estate Survey Map.⁴⁶ This shows the mill as part of the Maes y Castell estate.



44. *ibid.* ref. 3808

45. *ibid.* ref.3809

46. *ibid* ref.1643

Vaynol Rentals cont.

After 1832, the mill is no longer included on the rentals. *Was it perhaps no longer in use, or had it been sold?*

1833 ref.3815

Maes y Castell & Bron y Gar

rental £129

tenant Moses Roberts (II)

1835 ref. 1835

Maes y Castell & Bron y gar

entry 14 - tenant Moses Roberts half yearly rent £64. 2s arrears £96. 2s allowance £6. 9s sum due after allowance £58. 1s arrears sum received £58. 1s remaining £96. 2s

1836 – Moses Roberts (II) died and was buried in Caerhun churchyard on the 24th August. His son, William Roberts (II) took over the tenancy.

1840 ref. 3834

Maes y Castell & Bronygadair

entry 14. tenant William Roberts (II) half yearly rent £64 10s sum received £64 10s

.....

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. The survey which included Maes y Castell was completed in 1842.

The Maes y Castell estate appears to have been divided up into small holdings. All of the fields listed below are recorded as 'of Maes y Castell' in the Tithe Schedule.

Tithe Schedule - 1846

Maes y Castell

Owner: Thomas Assheton Smith esq. (III)

Occupier: William Roberts (II)

			A	R	P	£	s	d
114	Maes y Castell	arable	85	2	8	13	15	-
114a	Werglodd	meadow						
occupier: William Roberts and others								
93	Werglodd y glynn	meadow	4	-	28	-	11	-
Occupier: John Hughes								
129	Tyddyn y Cluan	arable	9	1	32	1	11	-

Occupier: William Hughes

132	Tyddyn bach	arable						
132a	Ynys lgod	meadow	13	-	10	2	-	-

Occupier: William Jones

134	Tyddyn y wern	arable						
134a		arable	18	1	9	3	-	-
134b		meadow						

Occupier: John Williams

180	Bron y dentir	arab. & past.	8	3	1	1	-	-
-----	---------------	---------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

Occupier: Margaret Jones

176	Gorlan	arab. & past.	12	-	6	1	12	-
-----	--------	---------------	----	---	---	---	----	---

Occupier: Margaret Roberts & others

83	Werglodd y gynffon	meadow	3	1	12	-	9	6
----	--------------------	--------	---	---	----	---	---	---

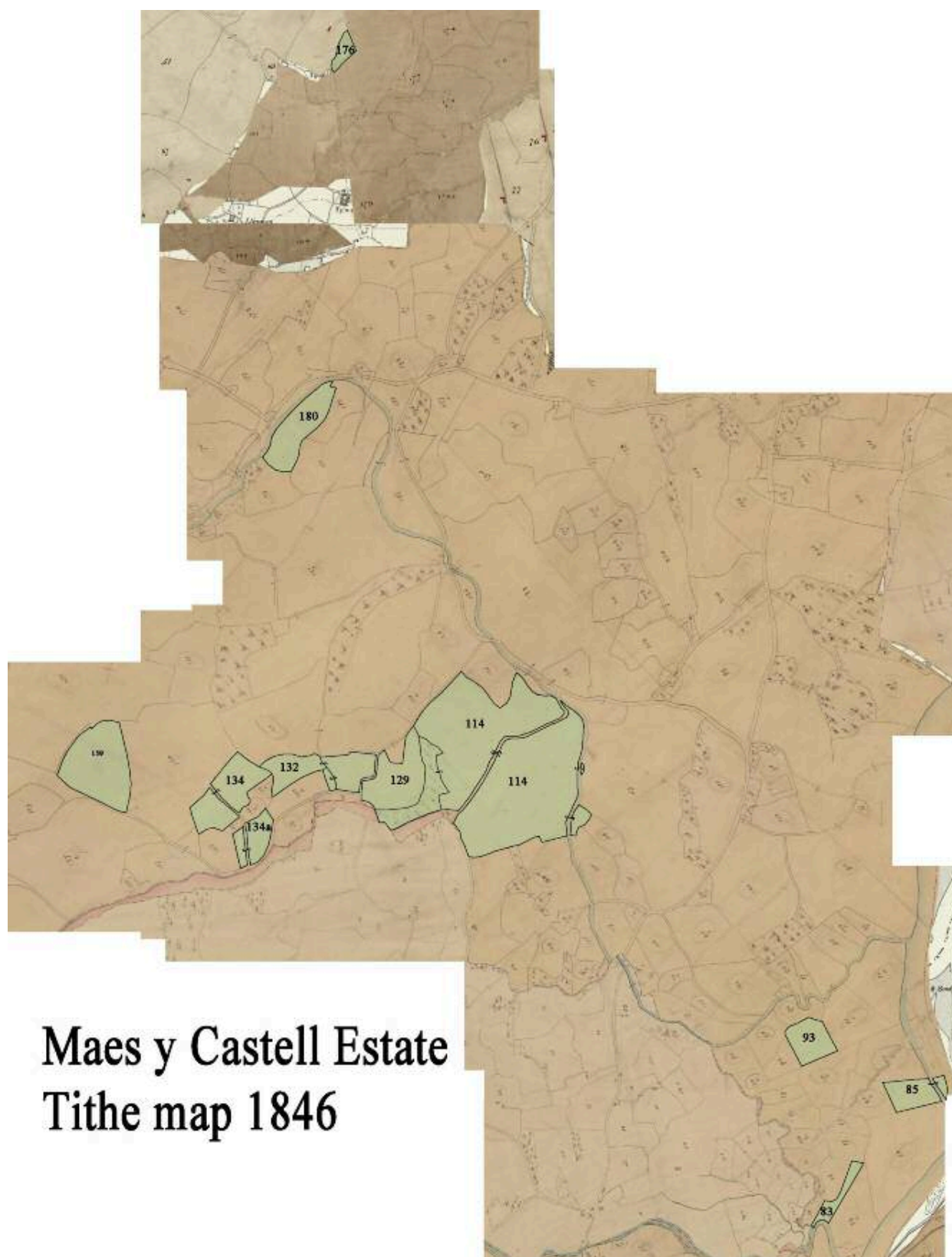
Occupier: Moses Thomas & others

85	Werglodd groes	meadow	3	2	4	-	10	-
----	----------------	--------	---	---	---	---	----	---

Occupier: David Roberts

159	Cae Bledyn	pasture	12	1	36	-	5	-
-----	------------	---------	----	---	----	---	---	---

.....



**Maes y Castell Estate
Tithe map 1846**

Vaynol Rentals cont.

1845 9th December – The sum of £12,000 for the mortgage on the Maes y Castell estate was due and owing.

ref.3852

1848 Maes y Castell & Bron y Gader £64.10.0

entry 14 - tenant William Roberts (II) half yearly rent £64 10s

1848 – Vaynol Estate Rentals⁴⁷

Maes y Castell & Bron y Gader £64.10.0

1848 - As Thomas Assheton Smith had failed to completely repay the mortgage and interest on Maes y Castell, he agreed to put the property up for sale.

National Census

The first national census took place in 1801 but it only counted houses - habited 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 in this census were rounded down.

1841 census

Maes y Castell, Rhwng y Ddwyafon (PRO ref. HO 107/1393/2 p.5)

William Roberts	35	farmer	born in Caernarvonshire	yes
Jane Roberts	35			“
Catherine Roberts	16			“
Jane Roberts	12			“
Mary Roberts	9			“
Elizabeth Roberts	5			“
Grace Roberts	1			“
David Hughes	30	ag. lab.		“
Griffith Roberts	20	“		“
Jeremiah Roberts	15	“		“
Thomas Roberts	30	“		“
Mary Jones	25	female servant		no

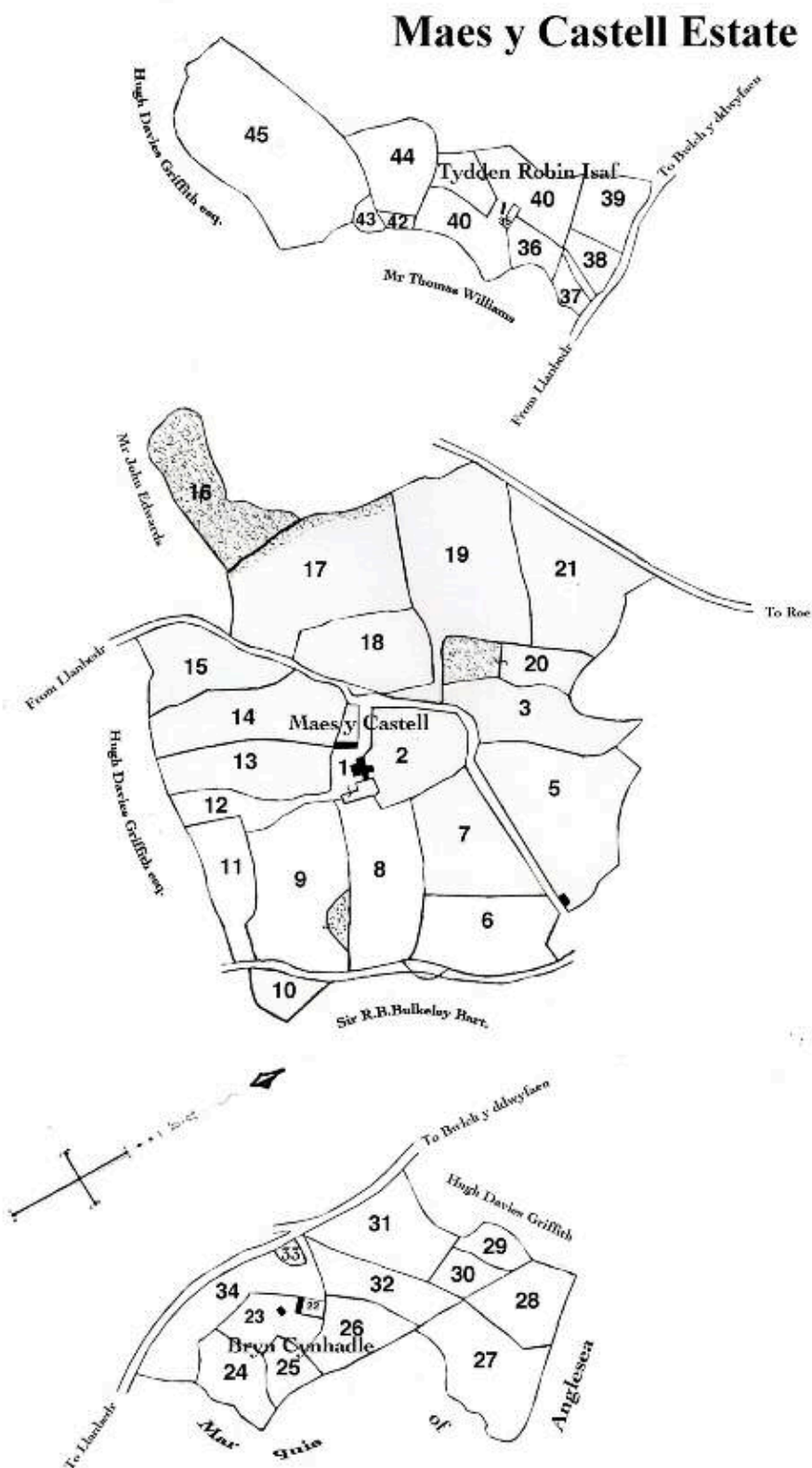
1849 - A newspaper advertising the auction, dated 20/2/1849, names the Maes y Castell estate which included Bryn Cynhadle and Tyddyn Robin Isaf (Lots 1, 2 & 3) as a freehold property with 1,500 acres of excellent land.⁴⁸ William Jones, of Brynymor, Dwgyfylchi, was the highest bidder and was declared the purchaser at £5,990. The sale did not include Pontwgan mill. That appears to have been sold prior to this auction to William Griffith of Llican Isaf.

William Jones of Brynymor developed the Graiglwyd quarries at Penmaenmawr after 1832. He married Gaynor Lloyd Foulkes of Cymryd Isaf, Gyffin.

47. Caernarvon Archives ref.no.3852

48. North Wales Chronicle 20th February 1849.

1849 25th May – William Jones of Brynymor took out a £4,000 mortgage for the property.^{49 50}



49. Deeds and Documents – op. cit.

50. Appendix 9 - The Family of William Jones

1849 - Schedule to the Estate Map which accompanied the sale.

Comprising hereditaments situate in the parish of Caerhun

Maes y Castell now or late in the occupation of William Roberts.

	A	R	P
house yard garden	1	1	25
Garth fron	2	3	8
Erw Wilbart	3	2	0
Caerbont and two cottages	5	3	30
Cae Angharad and River in ditto	4	3	4
Cae Angharad Uchaf	4	0	5
Cae tan y berllan	4	3	19
Cae llwyd and river in ditto	6	2	20
Dryll yr hwch	0	3	21
Cae Main	1	3	4
Fron	1	1	14
Cefn uchaf	3	1	8
Cefn Isaf	3	3	39
Coed Bach	3	1	12
Wern pwll y glo	3	3	5
Caerffynnon	7	2	39
Cae Pistyll	3	1	3
Geufron	6	1	34
Wern y geufron	2	1	16
Cae Rhys Madog	4	3	26
	77	0	12

Also included is the schedule for **Bryn Cynhadle** in the holding of Robert Roberts
22 acres 0 roods 21 perches

And Tyddyn **Robin Isaf** house, yard, garden now or late in the occupation of Jane Pritchard.
21 acres 2 rood 14 perches

Total for all three properties: 120 acres 2 roods 27 perches

1849 1st October – A Trust was set up for the Maes y Castell estate which gave William Jones and his son Henry Lloyd Jones 'the use of' the property for life.⁵¹

1851 census

Maes y Castell, Rhwyn Ddwyafon (PRO ref. HO 107/2519 p.2)

William Roberts	H	M	47	farmer 150 acres empl. 6 labourers	b. Caerhun, Caerns.
Jane Roberts	W	M	45	farmer's wife	b. “
Catherine Roberts	dau.	unm	24	farmer's daughter	b. “
Jane Roberts	dau.	unm	22	scholar	b. Llanbedr, Caerns.

51. Bangor University Archives- ref.PFA/3/213

Mary Roberts	dau.	unm	19	scholar	b.	“
Elizabeth Roberts	dau.		14	“	b.	“
Grace Roberts	dau.		11	“	b.	“
Moses Roberts	son		7	“	b.	Caerhun, Caerns.
Evan Jones	serv.	unm	24	farm servant	b.	“
William Jones	serv.		16	“	b.	“
Zachariah Mather	serv.		14	“	b.	“
Hugh Hughes	serv.	unm	75	farm labourer	b.	“
John Roberts	serv.	M	66	“	b.	Llanbedr, Caerns.

1857 - William Roberts (II) died and was buried in Caerhun churchyard on the 30th October .

1858 – Jane Roberts w/o William Roberts (II) died and was buried on the 12th August in Caerhun.

1858 – William Jones was granted the right to enclose the farms and lands called Bryncynhadle in the pa. of Llanbedr; Maes y Castell, Tyddyn bach, Werglodd, Porth Llwyd, Cae Bleddyn, Gwerglodd y Glyn, Cefn y cae, Ffrith Cwmrhyd and Biart in the parishes of Caerhun and Llangelynin. This was an area of 237 acres 2 roods.⁵²

William & Jane Robert's unmarried daughter, Jane, took over the farm.

1861 census

Maes y Castell, Rhwng Ddwy afon (PRO ref. RG 9/4360 p.7&8)

Jane Roberts	H	unm	30	farmer 77 acres empl.1 labourers & 1 boy	b.	Llanbedr, Caerns.
Mary Roberts		unm	28	family farming	b.	“
Moses Roberts			17	jointly farmer	b.	Caerhun, Caerns.
David Hughes	serv.	unm	50	carter	b.	“
Robert Evans	serv.		12	carter	b.	Llanbedr, Caerns.
Edward Powell Edwards						
	lodger	unm	63	land agent	b.	Penmorfa, Caerns.

1863 14th August – Reconveyance of the Maes y Castell estate. The mortgage had been repaid.

1870 March 29th – William Jones of Brynymor, Dwygyfylchi died, aged 84 years, and was buried in Caerhun with his wife, Gaynor who had died in 1860. His will stated “I give, devise and bequeath all those farms, lands and hereditaments called Maes y Castell in the parish of Caerhun unto my said son Elias Jones, his heirs and assigns for ever upon Trust.”⁵³ William's son, Henry Lloyd Jones, who was originally named with William when the Trust was set up, inherited the Cymryd estate.

52. Conwy Archives ref. CX464/3

53. *ibid.* ref. GWR540



Caerhun Churchyard

Elias Jones had married Mary Jones who was the daughter and heiress of Owen Jones of Gwredog, Amlwch in 1852. In the 16th century, Gwredog was the largest farm on Anglesey. Elias and his family made Gwredog their home.

By 1871, Jane Roberts and her brother, Moses Roberts (III), were running the farm at Maes y Castell.

1871 census

Maes y Castell, Rhwngddwyafon (PRO ref. RG 10/5740 p.1)

Moses Roberts	H	unm	25	farmer 77 acres empl. 2 men	b. Caerhun, Caerns.
Jane Roberts	sister	unm	35	housekeeper	b. Llanbedr, Cawrns.
Jane Williams	niece		6	scholar	b. “
David Hughes	uncle	unm	62	cowman	b. Caerhun, Caerns.
Owen Davies	serv.	unm	20	farm servant	b. Llanbedr, Caerns.
Ann Roberts	serv.	unm	30	general servant	b. “

By 1881, Moses Roberts (III) had married and he and his wife Anne and two children, Mary Jane and William were visitors at a farm in Llangelynin. His sister, Jane was still running the Maes y Castell farm.

1881 census (PRO ref. RG 11/5584 p.1)

Jane Roberts	H	unm	50	farmer of 78 acres	b. Caerhun, Caerns.
David Hughes	uncle	unm	72	cowman	b. Caerhun, Caerns.
Grace Thomas	serv.	unm	16	general dom. Servant	b. “
Thomas Hughes	serv.	wid.	41	ag. lab.	b. “

1886 – The house was almost entirely rebuilt but some of the finer features of the original building were retained. There is a suggestion that there had been a fire at the property. It is not known who funded the re-building.

1891 census

Maes y Castell (PRO ref. RG12/4671)						lang. sp.
Moses Roberts	H	M	47	farmer	b. Caerhun, Caerns.	Welsh
Anne Roberts	W	M	54		b. Aber, Caerns.	"
William Roberts	son		10	scholar	b. Llangelynin, Caerns.	"
Mary J. Roberts	dau.		12	"	b. Caerhun, Caerns.	"
Jane Roberts	sister	unm	62		b. Llanbedr, Caerns	"
Margaret Jones	serv.	unm	16	domestic servant	b. Gyffin, Caerns.	"
William Williams	serv.	unm	25	farm servant	b. "	"
Thomas Owens	serv.	unm	22	"	b. Llanbedr, Caerns.	"

In 1891, Elias Jones was back at Brynymor, Dwygyfylchi living with his unmarried son, John Elias Jones and described as a 'farmer'.

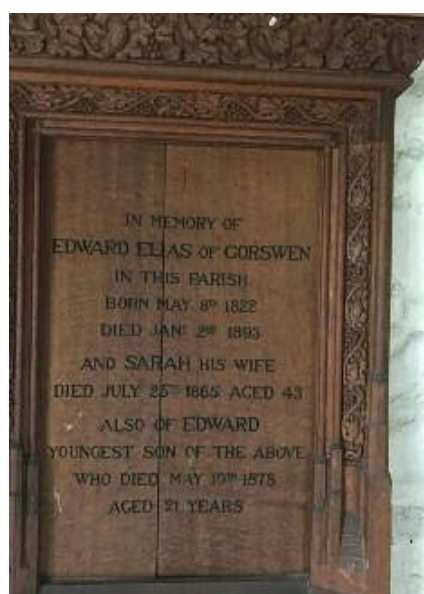
1892 - Elias Jones died. It is not certain what happened to Maes y Castell around this time. Elias Jones' eldest son, Owen Lloyd Jones died unmarried in 1898. His younger son, John Elias Jones also died unmarried. The estate seems to have passed, at some point, to a relative from the Elias family of Gorswen, Caerhun.⁵⁴

William Jones of Brynymor had a sister, Ann Jones, who married William Elias of The Abbey, Llanrwst. As a result of this marriage, the Gorswen estate in Caerhun, leased from the Marquis of Anglesey, passed to William Elias and Ann.

William Elias was Lord Newborough's estate manager and when he died in 1870, his son, Edward Elias succeeded to the management of the Newborough estates. He married Sarah Hughes, and they had seven children, four daughters – Susannah (died in infancy 1848), Ann, Susan and Sarah; and three sons – William, John Hughes, and Edward Elias who died in London, in 1870, of yellow fever after returning from India, aged 21 years.

1893 2nd January – Edward Elias died. He was a well-known agriculturist who took a great interest in the improvement of the Welsh breed of black cattle. He also took great interest in the Vale of Conwy Agricultural Society, and was well regarded as an agent and neighbour. He was buried in Caerhun churchyard.

Commemorative plaque
inside Caerhun church



54. Appendix 10 – The Elias Family

1894 – Edward and Elizabeth's eldest son, William Elias, a timber broker of London, died aged 45 years.

1896 – John Hughes Elias of Gorswen died aged 43 years. He had married Jane Griffith of Llican Isaf in 1886. Her father had purchased Pontwgan Mill c.1849.

1897 - Moses Roberts (III) died aged 53 years.



Caerhun Churchyard

20th Century

1901 census

Maes y Castell (PRO ref.RG 13/5287 pp.1&2)

						lang. spk.
Anne Roberts	H	wid.	65	house duties in farmhouse	b. Aber, Caerns.	Both
Mary Jane Roberts	dau	unm	22	servant girl in farmhouse	b. Caerhun, Caerns.	“
William Roberts	son	unm	20	shepherd on farm	b. Llangelynin, Caerns.	“
Hugh Jones	serv.	unm	19	teamster? on farm	b. Llangwystenin, Caerns.	“
William John Thomas	serv.	unm	16	cowman on farm	b. Gyffin, Caerns.	“

1903 - Pontwgan sale at the Castle Hotel, Conway. incl. Pontwgan flour mill⁵⁵ which was purchased by the Davies sisters – Anne Penelope, Grace Myfanwy and Mary Violet. (see p.32) Their parents were David Davies and Mary Jane Roberts d/o Moses Roberts and his wife Anne of Maes y Castell.

1904 April 29th – sale of the Gorswen estate.

Lot 2 – Maes y Castell – in the occupation of Mrs. Ann Roberts as yearly tenant. This farm was said to include land of exceptional quality, was well wooded and fenced. The house was modern built, and stood in a fine position, overlooking the beautifully timbered estate of Caerhun. Its sporting recommendations were also brought to notice. The offers started at £2,800, quickly rose to £3,000, the property being ultimately knocked down to the tenant, Mr. William Roberts, at £3,650.⁵⁶

⁵⁷

The land amounted to 75 acres 0 roods 35 perches.

Maes y Castell house, yard, outbuildings, stockyard, garden and croft etc.	1	1	25
Cefn Isaf 4 - 4	Grach Fron 2	2	28
Cefyn Uchaf 3 - 6	Wern -	1	34
Cae Coed bach (part) 1 - 4	“ 1	-	-
Coed bach - 2 24	Cae'r Bont 8	-	13
Cae Coed bach (part) 1 2 25	Wern y Geufron 1	1	2
Fron 1 1 15	Cae Rhys Madoc 4	3	39
Cae Main 1 3 29	Geufron 6	3	23
Drywl yr Hwch 1 1 6	Cae Pistyll 3	2	21
Cae Llwyd 5 - 10	Pond & roadside -	-	20
Wood in ditto - 1 5	Cae'r Ffynnon 5	1	16
Cae tan y Berllan 5 1 23	Wood in ditto 1	2	28
Afon Roe - 3 27	Wern Pwll y Glo 2	3	25
Cae Angharad 6 3 33	Wood in ditto -	2	19
Wood in ditto - 2 17			

The buyer was Ann Roberts' son.

By 1911, William Roberts (III) had married Mary Ellinor and had had four children but only three had survived. He was living at the Bedal Inn, Tal y bont and was working as a victualler employing two workers.

⁵⁵. Welsh Coast Pioneer 18th Sept. 1903

⁵⁶. The Weekly News and Visitors' Chronicle - 6th May 1904

⁵⁷. Conwy Archives ref. CSC/7/2

1911 census (p.25)

Bedal Inn, Tal y Bont						lang. spk.
William Roberts	H	M	30	victualler	b. Llangelynin, Caerns.	Both
Mary Ellinor Roberts	W	M	33		b. Llanbedr, Caerns.	"
William Moses Roberts	son		3yrs 11mths		b. "	Welsh
Anne Ellinor Roberts	dau		2yrs 6mths		b. "	"
Gwendoline Roberts	dau		2mths		b. "	
Sarah Grace Jones	s.-in-law	unm	20	barmaid	b. "	Both
Cecilia Linnett	serv.	unm	19	maid servant	b. Lancashire	English

His mother was still living at Maes y Castell but was no longer farming. Her daughter, Mary Jane, and her husband, David Davies, were living with her.

1911 census

Maes y Castell (p.16)

Anne Roberts	H	wid.	75	retired farmer	b. Aber, Caerns.	Both
David Davies	son-in-law	M	27	railway clerk	b. Caerhun, Caerns.	"
Mary Jane Davies	dau.	M	32		b. "	"
Anne Penelope Davies	gr.dau.		1		b. "	"

1916 – William Roberts (III) s/o Anne Roberts and husband of Mary Ellinor Roberts died aged 35 years.

After his death, Maes y Castell passed to William Roberts' sister Mary Jane Davies (nee Roberts), and her husband David Davies. David and Mary Davies had four children – Anne Penelope b.1910, Grace Myfanwy b.1912 and Mary Violet b.1914 and William b.1917. Their only son, William died in 1937 aged 20 years. Maes y Castell eventually passed to the three sisters.



Caerhun Churchyard

1972 – Grace Myfanwy Davies and Anne Penelope Davies sold Maes y Castell to Emlyn Williams, his wife Joyce Williams and their son David Elwyn Williams of Babell, Holywell.

1978 – John R. McGuiness purchased the property.

1992 17th April – The Davies sisters called to see their old home. They wrote in the visitors book,
“The visit brought back so many happy memories of our youth spent in this lovely house.



Caerhun churchyard

Gill Jones, Richard Jones & Ann Morgan
2020

The Bulkeley and the Bolde Families

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
of Cheadle

m.

Agnes Cheadle

d & co. hrs of Roger Cheadle

I

Sir William Stanley

m.

.....
Richard Bulkeley
of Cheadle 'of Holcroft'

m.

Alice Bostok

d/o Sir Ralph Bostok

I

.....
1. Gwilym ap Griffith
of Penrhyn

m.

Janet

m. 2. John Pikemore

I

I

.....
William Bulkeley m. Ellin
of Cheadle d.1484

Constable of Beaumaris d.1484

I

.....
Letitia
m.

Bartholomew Bolde

I

.....
Rowland

5th son

of Beaumaris

& Cheadle

m.

Alice Beconsai

d/o William Beconsai 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

.....
Sir Richard Bulkeley 2nd Kt.

of Beaumaris & Cheadle

.....
William m. **Alice**

eldest son 1448

no surviving heir

William's brother, Rowland, inherited his estate.

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

.....
Sir Richard Bulkeley

1st baron of Baron hill

erected Baronhill

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

.....
Richard Bulkeley

d.5/3/1639/40

predeceased his father

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

Penelope

m.

Sir Griffith Williams

of Vaynol 4th bart.

(see Appendix)

.....
Thomas Bulkeley 4th son

of Dinas

1633-1708 bur. Llanwnda

MP for Beaumaris

m.

Jane Williams

d/o Griffith Jones

of Castell March

widow of Thomas Williams

no issue

(see Appendix 2)

Williams Family of Penrhyn and Cochwillan

Gruffydd ap Gwilym m. Generis d&hrs of Madoc ap Grono of Penmynydd, Anglesey
of Penrhyn & Cochwillan
d.1405

I

..... Gwilym ap Gruffydd of Penrhyn & Penmynydd d.1431	Robin of Cochwillan	Rhys of Nant, Flint.	+ 2 daughters
-----------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------	---------------

m. 1. Morfydd of Penmynydd 2. Janet d/o Sir William Stanley of Hooten, Cheshire I	m. 1. Angharad d& hrs of Rhys ap Gruffydd ap Gronw of Llanllechid I 2. Lowry d/o Gronw ap Jevan of Eifionydd I I I	
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

..... William Gruffydd of Penrhyn m. 1. Gwenllian 2. Alice Dalton I	Ellin m. William Buckeley of Penrhyn I	Gruffydd ap Robin m. Mali (Malt) d/o Grudffydd Derwas of Merioneth I
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

..... William Gruffydd of Penrhyn 1445-1506 m. Joan Troutbeck I William Buckeley of Penrhyn he had no surviving heir his brother Rowland inherited the Penrhyn estate. m. Alice d/o Bartholomew Bolde & Letitia (see Appendix 1) I I I I I I I William ap Gruffydd of Cochwillan b.abt.1430 m. Angharad vch Dafydd I I I I I I I I
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Sir William Gruffydd 1478-1531 m. 1. Jane Stradling 2. Jane Puleston I	I I I I I I I	I I I I I I I 15 children including:-
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------

..... *Dorothy see below Bartholomew died young William Williams of Cochwillan d.1589 I m. Lowry Salusbury d/o Henry Salusbury esq. of Llanrhaiadr, Denbigh
--------------------------------	------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

William Wyn Williams of Cochwillan b.abt.1503 d.1557	Robert d.1550	Thomas Williams of Vaynol will 1592	Cpt. Edward Williams of Maes y Castell d.1601	Henry (Wyn) Williams (I) of Langoed, Penmon Anglesey
m.		m.	m.	
*Dorothy Griffith 4 th d/o Sir William Griffith of Penrhyn b.abt.1507		Jane Stanley d/o Sir Wm. Stanley of Hooten	Grace vch John Owen of Garthymedd, Abergele no issue	
I		I		
8 sons & 3 daughters		I		
		I		
William Williams d.1612	Arthur of Meillionydd precentor of Bangor Cathedral d.1621	Edmund d.1601 6 th son	Sir William Williams 1 st bart. of Vaynol will 1625	
m.	m.	m.	m. his niece	
1. Agnes Wynn d/o John Wynn of Gwydir	Anne Lewis	Mary Wynn d/o Owen Wynn of Eglwysbach	Ellen Williams cont. below	
I		I		
I		I		
I m.2. Barbara Lumley		I		
I	I	I		
	I			
Owen disinherited?	Ellen	Henry Williams of Cochwillan & Maes y Castell b.c.1570 d.1658	Robert Williams m. Elizabeth I	John Williams (1582-1650) Archbishop of York unmarried of Penrhyn & Cochwillan
m.	m. her uncle			
Dorothy	Sir William Wms.	m.	Sir Griffith Williams 1 st bart. of Penrhyn & Cochwillan	
I	I			
I	I	Jane Salusbury d/o Thomas Salusbury of Denbigh Castle, Lleweni family		
I	I	I		
Dorothy	Sir Thomas Williams 2 nd bart 1586-1636 of Vaynol	Lumley Williams of Ystymcolwyn d.1638	William	Barbara
m.	m.	m.		
Henry Needham	Katherine Wynne d/o Robert Wynne of Conway I	Dorothy d/o Rhyd ap Thomas ap David of Istymcolwyn		
Sir William Williams 3 rd bart. of Vaynol d.1658		1. Thomas Williams of Maes y Castell m.1645 Jane Jones (Williams) d/o Griffith Jones of Castell March (see Appendix 1)	2. Thomas Bulkeley of Dinas and Maes y Castell in 1699 d. 1708	
m.				
1. Margaret Jones d/o Griffith Jones of Castle March	2. Margaret Wynne			
I				
I				
I				

.....
Sir Griffith Williams of Vaynol
4th bart. of Vaynol
d.1663

m.
Penelope Bulkeley d/o Thomas Buckeley 1st Viscount of Beaumaris
I

.....
Sir Thomas Williams
5th bart.
d. unmarried abt.1670

.....
Sir William Williams
6th bart.
died without issue 1696. His Vaynol estate was eventually acquired
by John Smith.(see Appendix 4)
m.
1. Ellen Bulkeley d/o Robert Buckeley 2nd Viscount of Beaumaris

Appendix 3

Henry Williams – Inventory 10th January 1658/9

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods and Chattels and Debts of Henry Williams late of Maes y Castell in the County of (*left blank*) taken and appraised the fourth day of January in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred & fifty eight English, style, by William Arthur, Jeffery Williams, William ap Hugh ap Owen and Thomas Williams gentlemen the appraisors as followeth viz.

Imprimis	his weareinge apparell]			
	and money in his purse valued att	]	£5	0	0
Item	six oxen, ten cowes a bull]			
	and foure yearelings all att	]	£30	0	0
Item	five horses, five lambes nine]			
	swyne of all sorts valued att	]	£11	10	0
Item	in place		£10	0	0
	household stuff in the hall				
	three tables, two chaires, two]			
	benches, Eleanor cushions, ten]			
	joyned* stooles and two carpetts]			
	all valued att]			
					*joint stool=made with tenon joints or pegs not nails
			£2	0	0
	In the Kitchen				
Item	two brasse potts, two brasse]			
	posnets*, one iron dripping pan]			
	one Morter and pestle one]			
	frying panne and chaffin dish*]			
	one iron grate, one paire of]			
	tongs one gridiron, two spitts]			
	one chopping knife, two cleavers]			
	one fireshovell, two paire of]			
	pott hookes, one paire of bellows]			
	one skellet, two pipkins*, one]			
	table and dresser, one dishboard]			
	two salt tubbes, one bastinge]			
	spoon, one brasse ladle, one]			
	skimmer, six pales ale att	]	£3	0	0
					*pipkin=small earthenware pot
	In the Buttery				
Item	six greate pewter dishes &]			
	thirteen dishes of a middle sorte]			
	nine little dishes, two pewter bassons]				
	foure flaggons, searen* candle]			
	stickes all att	]	£5	10	0
					*stearin = tallow i.e. animal fats

The implements of husbandry

Item	three hatchetts, two horne]	
	hookes, one bill, two paire of]	
	headgeing gloves, fowre (4) reaping]	
	hookes, two pitch forkes, two shovells]	
	two battockes (?mattocks),	
	one iron barre, and]	
	mold iron*, three iron chaines, two]	*mould iron= the metal plate on a plough
	pack sadle, and a dragge sadle]	which turns over the furrow
	two roapes, two halters, foure]	
	hoames*, one pitcher, one greate]	*hames=2 curved pieces of wood which
	sawe, one handsawe, foure]	formed a horse's collar to which the traces
		were attached.
	percurs*, two wimbles*, one iron]	*percer=any implement for piercing holes
	hoope for a milston, one iron]	*wimble=gimlet/auger
	mace*, one iron wedge, three]	*mace=a knobbed mallet used to make
	yookes with hookes, foure paire]	leather supple
	of harrowe trasses* (?traces),	*traces=ropes/chains/straps to attach to a
	one paile, two]	horse or oxen's collar
	harrowes linked and pinnes, two]	
	plowghes, three plowgh beames*]	*plough beam=the main part of a plough
	foure plow soles, thirteen]	
	peeces for la....., one]	
	sacke, one coulter*, one paire]	*coulter=a plough's iron blade, fixed in
	of sheares, two mill prickes*]	front of the share, to cut the soil vertically,
		the share then cuts it horizontally
		*mill picks=tool for cutting grooves in, or
		corrugating, millstones.
	Two sithes, one slate, one paire]	
	of turfe paniers, one paire]	
	muckeing panniers, two]	
	dragges*, one muckeinge forke]	*dragge=a sledge for transporting heavy
	two new garden spades, one]	objects
	ould spade, three lathers*, one iron]	*lather=ladder
	racke(rake), and digging spade, two]	
	little iron hoopes, all valued att]	
		£4 6 0
	The sume total amounts to	£107 1s 0d

Appendix 4

Richard David – Will (NLW ref. 8/1708/38/W)

In the Name of God Amen. I Richard David of Maes y Castell in ye County of Carnarvon, yeoman being sick and weak in body But of perfect sense and memory do make and ordain my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following. That is to say I first and principally commend my soul into the Hands of Almighty God and my body I comitt to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named and as touching the disposing of such temporal estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as followeth.

Impris: I give and bequeath to my loving wife Ellen Simon testament to my marriage articles, one full moiety or half part of my goods, cattles, chattells and personal estate whatsoever.

Item: I give and bequeath to the poor of the parish of Gyffin in the County of Carnarvon twenty shillings; to the poor of the parish of Bettws Abergele in the County of Denbigh twenty shillings to be paid and distributed on or before the five and twentieth day of December next.

Item: I give and bequeath to my nephew Richard Edmund six pounds.

Item: I give and bequeath to my nieces Ellen Elizabeth and Anne Edmund six pounds a piece.

Item: I give and bequeath to my niece Grace Edmund six pounds.

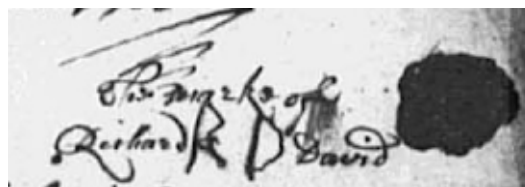
Item: I give and bequeath to my sister Gaynor vch Hugh four pounds & my sister Jane vch Hugh five pounds. All the said summes to be paid on the first day of September being in the year of the said one thousand seven hundred and nine.

Item: I give and bequeath to every one of my godsons and goddaughters one ewe and lambs a piece, All the rest and residue of my personal estate, goods and chattells whatsoever I give and bequeath to my loving wife Ellen Simon whom I nominate and appoint full and sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament. And I hereby revoke disannul and make void all former wills and testaments by me heretofor made. And declare this to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal the thirtieth day of May Anno Domini 1708.

The mark of Richard David

Signed sealed published
and declared by the said
Richard David to be his last
will and testament in the
presence of

William Thomas
Richard Jones
Thomas Edward
Hugh Williams



Inventory (NLW ref. B/1708/38/I)

In true and perfect Inventory of all the goods, cattles and chattells of Richard David of Caerhun in the County of Carnarvon and Diocese of Bangor lately deceased, valued, appraised by the persons underwritten.

Impris:	£	s	d
6 cowes with calves at £2.15s each	16	10	00
4 cowes with calves at £2.15s “	10	00	00
6 lambs at £2:15s	16	10	00
5 heads more whereof 4] 01.10	07	10	00
bullocks, heifers 3 years old]			
7 heads more 4 heifers] 01.04	08	08	00
3 bullocks 2 years old]			
3 yearlings whereof 3] 00.15.00	04	10	00
3 females at]			
1 bull at 00.15.00	00	15	00
3 old horses at 01.10 00	01	10	00
2 young horses at 03.05.00	03	05	00
23 ewes with lambs at 00.05.00	06	00	00
13 wethers & 28 - 3 years old 00.05.00	02	18	00
8 ewes without lambs 00.03.04	01	04	04
20 yearling sheep 00.03.00	03	00	00
1 sow geld (<i>barren</i>) 00.10.00	00	10	00
all poultry 00.02.06	00	02	06
all implements of husbandry 01.07.09	01	07	09
1 oval table & square table 00.15.00	00	15	00
1 form 1 bench 1 bedstead 00.15.00	00	15	00
all wooden vessells 01.05.00	01	05	00
2 cupboards 3 dish shelfes] 03.05.00	03	05	00
2 wainscott chaires]			
4 potts 4 pans 2 small pans] 03.17.00	03	17	00
2 skellets]			
2 iron bsun? 1 pair pott hookes] 00.05.09	00	05	09
1 iron pott chain & pair of tongs]			
1 dozen trenchers & 1 doz.] 00.02.00	00	02	00
pewter 12 dishes 2 flagons			
1 candlestick 2 chamber potts			
9 porringers 3 salt 4 plates			
3 saucers (<i>sauceboat</i>) 1 cup 1..... 1 hemp wheel			

The Assheton & Smith Families

John Smith
of Tedworth
d.1690

m.

Mary Wright d/o Sir Edmund Wright
I

.....
Thomas

no issue

John

1656-1723

Speaker of the House of Commons 1705-8

m.

m.1.1674 Ann Steward

d/o Sir Nicholas Steward of Hartley Mauditt, Hants.

d.1680

m.2.1683 Ann

d/o Sir Thomas Strickland of Boyton, Warwickshire

I

Thomas Assheton

1633-1684

of Ashley, Cheshire

m. Lucy Leigh

- 1692

I

I

I

I

I

I

.....
Cpt. William Smith

d.1769/70

no issue

Harriet

Theodosia Smith

- 1773

m.

I

.....
Thomas Assheton of Ashley, Chester

1678 – 1759

In 1762, The Vaynol estate passed to >

Thomas Assheton Smith m.17/10/1827 Mary Clayton

1725-1774

He was the 3rd largest landowner in Gwynedd.

.....
Thomas Assheton Smith m. Elizabeth Wynne

the Younger 2nd son

1752-1828

d/o Watkin Wynne of Voelas

I

.....
Elizabeth Assheton Smith

m.18188

William Buckler Astley

of Everleigh, Wilts.

I

Thomas Assheton Smith m. Matilda d/o William Webber of

1776-1858

17/10/1827

Binfield Lodge, Berks.

no issue – After his death, the Vaynol estate passed to Matilda. After her death, it was bequeathed to her husband's great nephew, George William of Duff, who added the names, Assheton Smith when he reached his majority.

.....
Mary Astley

1822-1874

m.

Robert George Duff

married Robert George Duff MP for Andover 1821;

Caernarvonshire 1832

High Sheriff of Wiltshire 1838

The Roberts Family of Maes y Castell

Moses Roberts m. **Grace Williams**
 of Maes y Castell of Llwydfaen Ucha, Llanbedr
 yeoman
 bur.20/3/1775 bur.26/12/1767
 Will 1775
 Administration Bond 1768

I

.....
William Jane John
 bap.26/4/1745
 bur.19/10/1793 bur.25/10/1752
 m.
Jane Evans
 bur.19/11/1808

I

.....
 Mary Catherine Grace **Moses** Evan Jane William Jane John
 bap. 13/6/1772 25/5/1774 31/7/1776 29/8/1781 27/3/1784 9/12/1786 13/7/1788 21/5/1792
 bur. 21/9/1777 24/8/1836 1/4/1786 12/8/1789 12/8/1789 2/9/1834
 6 yrs 60yrs 42yrs

m. m.
 14/11/1798 24/12/1800
Owen Jones Catherine
 bur.11/7/1839 63yrs

I

.....
William **William Roberts** John
 bap.20/10/1801 b.abt.1804 bap.29/6/1807
 bur. 26/1/1803 d.26/10/1857
 bur.30/10/1857 Caerhun
 54yrs
 m.
Jane
 b.abt.1801
 d.8/3/1858 bur.12/8/1858
 56yrs

I

.....
 Esther Catherine Jane Mary Elizabeth Grace Eleanor Anne **Moses** Thomas
 b.abt 1825 1827 1829 1832 1837 1840 1842 1844 1844 1847
 d. 11/1/1862 29/5/1906 11/7/1857 18/9/1842 27/6/1897 25/5/1847
 bur. 13/1/1862 4/10/1864 21/7/1857
 35yrs 77yrs 28yrs 17yrs 3mths 53yrs 7mths

m.
Anne
 d.11/9/1921 86yrs

I

Mary Jane b.1879	William b.abt.1881 purchased Maes y Castell 1904 d.16/3/1916 35yrs
m.1909 David Davies I	m. Mary Elinor I

Anne Penelope Davies	Grace Myfanwy Davies	Mary Violet Davies	William Davies	William Moses Roberts	Anne Ellinor Roberts	Gwendoline Roberts
1910-1980	1912-1998	1914-1998	b.1917 d.27/4/1937 20yrs	b.1907	b.1908	b.1911 d.6/5/1921 10yrs

Appendix 7

Moses Roberts - Will 1775 (NLW ref. B/1775/46/W)


In the name of God Amen I Moses Roberts Maes y Castell in the parish of Caerhun County of Carnarvon and Diocese of Bangor being in bodily and sound and perfect mind, memory and understanding thanks be to Almighty God for the same. Doe make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and fform following, viz. first and Principally I recommend my soul unto the Hands of Almighty God hoping through the merits and intercession of my saviour Jesus Christ to enjoy everlasting happiness and my Body I commend to the Earth to be Decently Buried at the direction of my executors.

Item: I Give and Bequeath to my daughter Jane Roberts five pounds in money. And I also give and bequeath to my daughter Jane Robert's children the sum of ffour? pounds in money to be equally divided between them and I Give and Bequeath to my wife Grace Williams my Best two fether beds and cloathes that are in the house and a wensgot (*this may be a wenscott/winescott/wainscott which could be a panelled chest or a panelled chair*) that is in the chamber separate. And after that I doe make and ordain my dear wife Grace Williams and my son William Roberts to be sole Executors of my personal Estate, all charge to be be upon my Executors, ... wittness my hand and seal the 4th day of January 1774.

Wittness hereat



Thomas Parry miller

The mark of  Thomas Edward Cefn

The Ponsonby Conroy Family

John Ponsonby Conroy m. Margaret Wilson d/o Francis Vernon Wilson
 1758-1797
 of Bettyfield, Shankhill, co.Roscommon
 I

<p>.....</p> <p>Sir John Ponsonby Conroy 1786-1854 born Maes y Castell of Llanbrynmar , Montgomeryshire principal aide to the Duchess of Kent (Queen Victoria's mother) m. Elizabeth Fisher d & hrs of Major General Benjamin Fisher I</p>	<p>George 1788-1805 d. at sea</p>	<p>Llewelyn 1790-1825 de de camp</p>	<p>William b. 1794 d.young</p>	<p>Laetitia b.1796 d.young</p>	<p>Dean Josias 1798-1828 drowned</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------

.....

Edward	Arthur	Stephen	Henry	Eliza-Jane	Victoria-Marie-Louise
--------	--------	---------	-------	------------	-----------------------



Sir John Ponsonby Conroy 1st bart. 1786-1875
 Henry William Pickersgill R.A. 1782-1875

Appendix 9

The Jones Family of Brynymor

Owen Prichard m. Mary of Gwredog, Amlwch d.1758 I	William Jones of Trwyn y wylfa, Gorswen I	William Foulkes m. Gaynor Lloyd of Gronant, Eglwysbach d.1786 76 yrs I	Gaynor Lloyd of Cymryd d.1737
John Owen m. Ellen Thomas of Gwredog will 1822 1742-1803 I	Elias Jones m. Jane Evans of Gorswen, Caerhun d.1844 83 yrs I	Samuel Foulkes m. Elizabeth Davies b.7/5/1735 d.18/5/1823 of Cymryd & Gronant I	Elizabeth Davies of Waen Hir
Owen Jones d.1849 will proved 1850 of Gwredog m. Hannah I	William Jones gent. bap.1786 Caerhun d.29/3/1870 aged 84 yrs of Brynymor, Dwygyfychi & Cymryd I	m. Gaynor Lloyd Foulkes b.29/11/1794 d.1860 66 yrs of Graiglwyd, Dwygyfylchi & Cymryd Isaf, Gyffin I	
Mary Jones d.1899 I I I..... m. 1852....I I I	Elias Jones of Brynymor & Gwredog d.1892 I I I	Henry Lloyd Jones of Brynymor & Cymryd eldest son, solicitor d.1870 In 1871 the Cymryd estate put up for sale because of his massive debts	Samuel ... went to America ... William Amelia Esther Elizabeth
Owen Lloyd Jones 1853-1898 of Gwredog no issue	Gaynor Hannah Jones b.abt.1855 m. J.Cemlyn Jones d.1891 I	Mary Jane Jones unmarried	John Elias Jones b.1867 unmarried
	Elias Wynn Jones b.1888 d.1966	John Cemlyn Jones b.1892	

The Elias Family of Gorswen

Edward Elias m. Elizabeth Parry
of Plas y Glyn, Llanfwrog of Gwredog Issa
1755-1872 1761-1844

Elias Jones m. Jane Evans
of Gorswen b.Llwydfaen
d.13/12/1844 d.25/3/1796
83yrs 34yrs

I

I

William Elias

of The Abbey, Llanrwst
1789-1870
81yrs

William Jones

(see Appendix 9) of Brynymor,
Dwygyfychi

Ann Jones

of Gorswen
1794-1855

I.....m.I
I

William
of The Abbey, Llanrwst

Elizabeth

Ann

Mary

Jane

Edward Elias

Thomas

of Gorswen
b.8/5/1822
d.2/1/1893 aged 70yrs
m.
Sarah Hughes
b.1822
d.25/7/1865 aged 43yrs
I

Susannah
Anne
d.2/8/1848

William
1849-1894
45yrs

Ann
1851-

**John
Hughes**
1852-1896
43yrs

m.1886

Jane Griffith

of Llican Isaf, Caerhun
d.23/7/1903

Susan
June
1854-

**Edward
Elias**
1857-1878
21yrs

died in London of yellow fever
on his return from India

Sarah
Isabel
1863-