

Darganfod Hen
Dai Cymreig



**Discovering Old
Welsh Houses**

HOUSE HISTORY RESEARCH

CAPEL EGRYN and YSGOLDY, Llanaber parish.
(NGR SH 593205)
in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Meirionydd, Gwynedd,
later in joint ownership with other local farms.



CAPEL EGRYN / YSGOLDY

**Researched and written by Margaret Dunn in 2008,
recently revised. With thanks to all who have contributed information**

**PLEASE NOTE ALL THE HOUSES IN THIS PROJECT ARE PRIVATE AND
THERE IS NO ADMISSION TO ANY OF THE PROPERTIES**

**Written in the language chosen by the volunteers
and researchers & including information so far discovered**

DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES

HOUSE HISTORIES of some FARMS in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Merionethshire.

CAPEL EGRYN and YSGOLDY, Llanaber parish, Merionethshire. NGR SH 593205.

Introduction.

The house history material contained below was researched around 2006 as part of a partial investigation into some farm holdings in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Merionethshire. Many references are noted which have not been looked up or copied. This document is a list of pieces of information (date; summary, full source) so far found about this house, and is not a prose history of the building & its owners or families. In early documents it is often not clear whether the area, farm holding or actual farmhouse is referred to; this can make it difficult to be sure when the farmhouse was first built. Building styles alter over time and buildings may be extended, modernised or totally replaced.

The notes do not always follow the format used in the house histories undertaken by the Discovering Old Welsh Houses heritage charity & its predecessors, and is not a complete house history. Nevertheless, it may be a useful starting point for house histories for any of the properties named. Those interested in old houses in old Merionethshire (now part of Gwynedd) could look at the DOWH website : www.discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk. Many reports researched by members & volunteers can be seen in the English section, under Library - House Histories – Merioneth.

Margaret Dunn secretary@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk. 12 July 2020

CAPEL EGRYN / YSGOLDY, Llanaber parish, Merionethshire. NGR SH 593205

This building is located immediately to the west of A496, the main north/south coastal road between Talybont and Llanaber, north of Barmouth. It is situated in low lying land probably originally part of Egryn farm.

1819 Grants of Certificates in Llanaber parish: Egryn for protestants. (Sidelights on the Rise of Non Conformity in the Diocese of Bangor, A I Pryce, TAAS, 1922, p 56)
Not yet known who was the Landowner who agreed to the building of a chapel. Possibly Egryn.

In 1836 Capel Egryn was built, and the Sunday School moved there from Hendre Eirian.
Check in histories of early Welsh Chapels in the area.

1841 census ? not found

1850 July 16: baptism of Cadwalader, base son of Dorothy Lewis, Ysgoldy Egryn. (Llanaber parish records)

1851 census schedule Llanaber Is mynydd ED 4c. Ysgol dy
 Elinor Lewis H W 72 relief parish born Merionethshire
 Dorothy Lewis Dau U 26 seamstress Llanaber
 Owen Lewis gson U 6 “
 Cadwalader “ gson U 6 scholar “
 Elinor Lewis gdau U 3 “

1861 census Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 11. No 42 Ysgoldy
 Gainor Davies H U 45 farmer born Llanaber
 Elinor Davies D U 24 “
 (next) Calvinistic Methodist Chapel

1861 1 uninhabited

1871 Ysgoldy Egryn 1 uninhabited

1881 census schedule Llanaber Is mynydd ED 11. No 11 Egryn Chapel house
 Richard Lewis H W 68 labourer born Dolgellay
 Lewis Jones Lodger W 80 retired shoemaker Llanaber

1884 Sept 6: burial of Lewis Jones, Ty Capel Egryn aged 82 years. (Llanaber church register)

1891 No 37 Capel Egryn
 Gaynor Lewis H M 75 born Llanaber. Blind W
 Ellen Jones dau M 45 Monmouth, Tredegar W
 Ellen Jones g dau U 10 scholar Llanddwywe W
 C M Chapel
 (1891 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd Fiche 26)

1901 No 9 Chapel house
 Thomas Jones H 59 gardener born Llanllyfni W
 Ellen Jones wife 54 Llanaber W
 William Jones son 14 Llanaber W
 (1901 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd Fiche 26)

1904 Revivals – Lights etc seen by Mrs Jones. See Newspaper & other articles

1910 Land Tax. Not listed.

1911 census not checked

Early 1940s Gaynor Evans, a cook at Hengwm, lived with her mother at Egryn Chapel house. She was quiet and married Tom Payne from Penrhyn. They had two boys who live in the Talybont Council houses next to the Miss Roberts. (Pers. Comm. Betty Parry, Uwch y Nant, Dyffryn 23/7/07)

Robert Jones who owned Eithinfynydd, moved to Sebonig had at least 3 children:

- i) Robert Jones who married, moved to Dyffryn and had Elinor Jones.
- ii) Catrin who bought Eithinfynydd for £3,300 after her father’s death in 1941.

- iii) Jane who **c1930 married William Evans, son of Gaynor Evans of Capel Egryn.** Their son Alun Evans married Maggie Edwards & in 2007 lived at Bryn y Bwyd. Gaynor Evans died in early 1960s; the chapel was still open. (pers comm Alun Evans 23/7/2007)

c1960s: 1) Dafydd Ty Capel lived there with his mother, who died in her 80s. He was a clerk of works in Barmouth; then, in his 50s he moved to a similar job in Slough. She also had
2) Gainor who married Mr Payne, 4 Gwelfor, Talybont, & had Gwyn Payne.
3) Bobby who went to Birmingham;
4) Ann Catherine who went to Dolgellau. They had a large market garden in the next Egryn field – the wall was demolished by Mr Brookes for Mr Bryne. (pers comm Meirion Williams, Hendre Eirian 3-3-2007)

1960s: Chapel still open; Elinor Jones played the Organ. (Pers Comm. Nan McCready)
Gaynor Evan's daughter Nell Smith lived on at Egryn chapel house briefly after her mother died. (pers comm Alun Evans, Bryn y Bwyd 23/7/2007)

1970s/ 80s: Chapel & School house sold by Chapel Trustees, but without any land or services. Mr Bryne was not the highest bidder, so failed to get it, although he might have allocated some land around it.

2007: in semi ruinous condition.