



Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig

Discovering Old Welsh Houses

Reports: Welcome to the many Discovering Old Welsh Houses Reports which are available here on our website. All the reports - House Histories, Building Reports and Tree-ring Dating reports - can be accessed - [here](#)

Discovering Old Welsh Houses studies and celebrates the traditional houses of North Wales and the lives of the people who lived in them.

The copyright of most of these reports belongs to Discovering Old Welsh Houses. Where copyright resides with others, we have made every effort to obtain their permission to reproduce reports on our site. Our policy is to allow free access to our research documents as part of the public benefit we provide as a registered charity. You are welcome to reproduce this material but if you do so, please acknowledge the source

If you find the content useful, please consider becoming a [Member](#) to access the many benefits available.



Please note that these reports are being updated as part of an ongoing programme of revision. Older reports sometimes refer to the old names of the Group. 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.

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



©Discovering Old Welsh Houses Group

Rhif Elusen Gofrestredig: No: 1131782: Registered charity

www.discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Darganfod Hen
Dai Cymreig



Discovering Old
Welsh Houses

HOUSE HISTORY RESEARCH

BRYN BYWYD, Llanaber parish. (NGR SH 593213)
in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Meirionydd, Gwynedd,
later in joint ownership with other local farms.



Bryn Bywyd

**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 Group
Rhif Elusen Gofrestredig: Registered charity No: 1131782**

DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES

HOUSE HISTORIES of some FARMS in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Merionethshire

BRYN Y BWYD, Llanaber parish, Merionethshire. NGR SH 593213.

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

BRYN Y BWYD, Llanaber parish, Merionethshire. NGR SH 593213.

This holding is located to the east of the A4906 main north/south road between Talybont and Llanaber, north of Barmouth. It is situated on good land between the coastal strip of poor pasture and the mountain slopes. At some time it was owned together with Hendre Eirian.

1560/1 Feb 20: 1 Thomas ap David ap Jenkin of Llanaber co Merioneth, gent;

2. Rees Vichan ap William. Esq.

Bond of £5 re **2 acres in close called bryn y bwyd**

1 acre “ “ herw havar

2 acres “ “ y pant gwenith

1 parcel “ kay yr ysgbor in Llanaber, co Merioneth until 1. pays 2, £4 -0s (check amount) (UWB Mostyn 3614)

CHECK ownership with Hendre Eirian & neighbouring farms.

1752 Dec 17: baptism of Robert, son of Owen Griffith, ?yeoman, Brynybwyd, by his wife. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1784 Evan Harry, yeoman, Brynbywyd, was church warden at Llanaber. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1795 Feb 11: burial of Harry Evans, Bryn y Bwyd. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1816 – no one listed as attending Sunday school at Hendre Eirian.

1823 Sept 7: baptism of Margaret, base born daughter of Catherine Jones, Brynbywyd and William Ishmael, Sylvaen, both servants. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts)

1824 Feb 19: burial of Sarah Harries, Bryn y bwyd. (no age given) (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts)

1827 Sept 16: baptism of John Lewis, son of William & Mary Jones, Bryn y bwyd, farmer. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts)

1836 Oct 20: Award for inclosing lands in the parishes of Llanaber, Llanddwywe, Llanenddwyn, Llanbedr & Llanfair in the county of Merioneth.

To Thomas Hartley Esq in respect of **Hendre Eirian and Bryn y Bwyd:**

Allotment 56 27 acres
57 63 acres 2r 33p

(Dolgellau Record Office, Z/QR/EN/3 pages 43)

Not yet known when Bryn Bwyd was first owned by the owner of Hendre Eirian.

1840s Tithe Map. Owner: Thomas Hartley Esq. (also owned Hendref eirian)
Tenant: John Harry. acreage 31a 0r 25p

1841 census Llanaber is mynydd ED4d. No 51 Bryn y bwyd

John Harry	75	farmer	Born in Merionethshire
William Jones	35	ag lab	"
Mary Jones	40		"
John Jones	13		"
Mary Jones	11		"
Sarah Jones	8		"
Lewis Jones	7		"

1841 Aug 4: burial of John Harry, Bryn y bwyd, aged 78 years. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1851 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 4c. No 3 Bryn y bwyd

William Jones	Head	M	75	farmer	born Merioneth
Mary Jones	Wife	M	53		Llanaber
John Jones	Son	U	23		"
Lewis Jones	Son	U	16	blacksmith	"
Margaret Evans	serv	U	18	gen servant	"

1861 census Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 11.

No 45 Bryn y bwyd

William Jones	H	M	58	farmer 16 acres	born Llanfachreth
Mary	"	W	M	61	Llanaber

John Pugh	“	son	U	33		“
Lewis	“	son	U	26	sea man	“
William Griffith	gson	U		7		“
Margaret Roberts	serv	U		16	house servant	Llanddwywe

1864 Apr 13: burial of William Jones, Bryn y bwyd, aged 62 years. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1871 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd, ED 11. No 1 Brynybwyd						
Mary Jones	H	W		73	farmer 16 acres	born Barmouth
John Parry Jones	g son	U		?43	farmer's son	Llanaber

1881 Census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED11. No 5 Brynybwyd						
Mary Jones	H	W		84	Farmer 17 acres	born Barmouth
John Parry Jones		S		53	farm lab	Llanaber
Mary E Griffith	serv	U		16	domestic servant	Llanbedr

1884 Dec 18: Agreement granting right for 60 years to make a cistern and lay down pipes on Bryn Bwyd farm to convey water to the property known as Hengwm, adjoining, now in the occupation of **Col C J Lloyd Carson**, (see Egryn) at a rental of £1 p.a. (Dolgellau Record Office, ZF/140 Hendre Eirian & Llwyn estates Sale Catalogue, 27 Aug 1941)

1891 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd Fiche 26. No 39 Bryn bwyd						
Robert Griffith		H	M	62	farmer	born Llanenddwyn Welsh
Sarah	“		W	M	58	Llanaber W
John Parry Jones		b in law		63	farmer	Llanaber W

1894 Jan 16: burial of John Parry Jones, Brynybwyd, aged 66 years. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1901 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd Fiche 26. No 4 Brynybwyd						
Robert Griffith		H	M	71	worker at home	born Dyffryn Welsh
Sarah	“		W	M	68	Llanaber W

1910 Land Tax: Brynybwyd; Owner occupier Thomas Griffith, 31 acres. (Dolgellau Record Office, Z/QR/L/2 no 5)

1911 census not seen

1941 Aug 27: Sale **Catalogue of Hendre eirian & Llwyn estates**. No plan.

Lot 1 Hendre Eirian, describes house & outbuildings; 298 acres; tenant Thomas Edwards. Sold privately ?to Llewelyn Owen for £2,350

Lot 2: **Bryn Bwyd**, tenant Idris Edwards, 31 acres (Dolgellau Record Office, ZF/140)

Also sold to Llewelyn Owen.

Idris Edwards' parents were Thomas Edwards (1884-1964) and Jane; his paternal grandfather was another Thomas Edwards.

c1936 Idris Edwards (1912-2003) married Dorothy Glenys Morgan (born 1913) who was a maid at Egryn. In 1938 they had Maggie who in 2007 lives there with her husband Alun Price Evans.

? Idris Edwards later bought it from Llewelyn Owen as sitting tenant. (Pers. Comm. Maggie Evans, 23/7/2007)

1991 Mr Williams, Hendre Eirian, bought all but the ffridd, house & 3 acres.
c2000 Tyddyn Mawr bought the Bryn Bwyd ffridd. (pers comm Meirion Williams, Hendre Eirian, 3-3-2007)