



Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig

Discovering Old Welsh Houses

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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.

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Dai Cymreig



Discovering Old
Welsh Houses

HOUSE HISTORY RESEARCH

HENDRE EIRIAN, Llanaber parish. (NGR SH 597208)

TY Y CEUNANT, Llanaber parish. (NGR SH 602207)

(within Hendre Eirian land)

in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Meirionydd, Gwynedd,
later in joint ownership with other local farms.



Hendre Eirian

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

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DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES

HOUSE HISTORIES of some FARMS in Dyffryn Ardudwy, Merionethshire

HENDRE EIRIAN, Llanaber parish Merionethshire. NGR SH 597208

Hendre Eirian is located to the east of the A496 main north / south road between Talybont and Llanaber, north of Barmouth. It is situated on sloping land above the coastal belt of poor pasture at the change to the higher mountain land.

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

Hendre Urien – NLW Peniarth ?ms 287 – Robert Vaughan, Hengwrt. (not found)

1617 Cywydd by Tudor Owen to **Dafydd Llwyd ap Tomas of Hendre Urien**;

1st line: Saeth hiraith sywaith oer fu”. Manuscript sources: British Library 31095, 179a – NLW British Library, reel 168 p 179a – 183a. Family goes back to Ffifion, Colier and the Paleysaid. (*Seen; very clear manuscript; not allowed to copy*)

NLW Cardiff ms 16, no. 179 – Marwnad Dafydd Llwyd ap Thomas of Hendre Urien. (Long elegy by Tudor Owen.)

NLW Mostyn ms 144, no 452. 3 elegies to Dafydd Lloyd ap Thomas of Llanaber.

a) The elegy referred to above by Tudor Owen

b) Elegy by Gruffyth Owen. 1st lines “Troesi ni byth tros y byd / Trvain or byd trown ir bedd”

c) Elegy by Sion Cain. 1st lines: Gwae fi byth o gofio bedd / A gymrai hwn gymro hael”

Number 160 – not the 1st line of a).

(NLW, Maldwyn Welsh Poetry & Welsh Place-names databases)

1617: Hendre Vrien: (The Cambrian Register, 1795-1818, I, 300)

no date Hendre Urien: (J Gwenogvryn Evans, Reports of Manuscripts in the Welsh Language, 1902, Vol II, p 166)

1623 Rental of chief rents issuing to the crown out of the hundred of Ardudwy ywch Artro and out of Isartro, (co Merioneth)

Llanaber: **Thos Lloid of Hendre Urien** 5/2d
(NLW 12731 E D E Jenkins 1)

pre 1637: Thomas Lloyd living 1637, of Hendre Urien, co Merioneth, married Jane, daughter of Morris Jones of Wern, Penmorfa, co Caernarfon. Morris Jones died 1624. (Ped p 343)

1753 Dec 1: baptism of Catherine, daughter of Hugh Richards, Hendre Urien and his wife. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1754 Sept 16: baptism of, son of Hugh Williams, Hendre Urien and his wife. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1755 **Evan Williams**, Hendre Urien, yeoman, was Llanaber church warden. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1758 baptism of Mary, daughter of Evan Williams, Hendre erion and his wife. (NLW, Bangor Bishops Transcripts)

1763 Jan 16: baptism of Hugh, son of Evan Williams and *Catherine* (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1, Llanaber registers)

1781 Evan Williams, Hendre Urien, yeoman, was Llanaber church warden. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1795: Hendre Urien (The Cambrian Register, 1795-1818, I, 300)

1798 April 10: death of Gwen Williams, wife of Hugh Evan of Hendre Eirian aged 25 years. (Llanaber Memorial Inscription 0491)

1809 Jan 22: death of Evan Williams, Hendre Eirian, farmer, aged 82 years. (Llanaber Memorial Inscription 0493)

1810 Jan 22: burial of Evan Williams, farmer Hendre Urien at Llanaber, (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1 & NLW, Bangor BT, Llanaber)

1814 July 11: death of *Catherine* wife of Evan Williams, aged 96. (Llanaber memorial inscription 0493)

1814 July 14: Burial of Catherine Williams aged 96 of Hendre Urien (Llanaber register)

1816: Sunday School at Hendre Eirian was attended by Hugh Evans, his wife Margaret Pugh & their son Evan William. (Y Lladmerydd, 1900-02, ed Rev Evan Davies, Trefriw, vol XVI, 1900, Dolgellau)

1818 Llanaber, Hendre Erian, for Protestants Grant of certificate for "Places of Meeting". (A I Pryce, Sidelights on the Rise of Nonconformity in the Diocese of Bangor, Anglesey ASFC, 1922, p 56)

1822 Oct 2: Burial of Ellen Pugh, Hendre eirian, aged 29. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1, Llanaber register) Died 29 Sept – Llanaber MI 0491)

1824 Aug 23: baptism of Elizabeth, daughter of William & Ellen Humphreys, **Hendre eirion slate quarry**, quarryman. (NLW, Bishop's transcripts, Bangor, Llanaber)

1831 July 27: Burial of Hugh Evan, Hendre eirian aged 68. (Llanaber) [died 24 July] (Llanaber Memorial Inscription 0493)

1833 Nov 6: Burial of Ann Lewis, Hendreirion, aged 68. (Llanaber)

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 65)

1837 W Evans was made a deacon, but he soon moved to Llanfachreth, but he came back to Hendre Eirian and he died there on 23 August 1857, aged 74. (Y Lladmerydd, 1900-02, ed Rev Evan Davies, Trefriw, vol XVI, 1900, Dolgellau)

1838 Aug 3: baptism of Hugh, son of Evan and Susannah Williams, Hendreirion. (NLW, Bangor Bishops Transcripts)

1839 Llanaber Tithe Schedule: **Owner: Thomas Hartley**,
tenant: Evan Williams **plus?** Check. Acreage: 299a 2r 13p.

?Was he a son of W Evans above?

Thomas Hartley also owned Bryn y Bwyd.

In 1842 Thomas Hartley owned Bryngwin, south side of the Mawddach between Dolgellau and Fairbourne. CHECK BRYNGWIN ESTATE RECORDS

THOMAS HARTLEY. J.P., D.L., c1749-28 August 1850

In 1805 **Thomas Hartley** of Ynysgyffyllog, Arthog, married Miss Mary Nanney, heiress of Llwyn Hall, Dolgellau, a daughter of the **Revd Robert Nanney**. They lived at Ty Gwyn until the Revd Nanney died in 1818 when they moved to Llwyn Hall.

T H was succeeded by his son **Robert Nanney Hartley**, who died without issue.

His sister Mary became the wife of **Griffith Williams**, Solicitor of Dolgellau; she bore him a daughter Margaret and three sons, Thomas Humphrey, Robert and Meyrick, of whom the first-named succeeded his maternal uncle at Llwyn Hall.

On **Thomas Humphrey Williams's** death without issue, half the estate, including the hall passed to the youngest brother, **Meyrick Williams**, while Robert's son Ludovic Nanney Williams inherited the Staylittle portion of the estate.

When Meyrick died Llwyn Hall and the surrounding land went to his nephew **Griffith Jones**, son of Rev Lewis Jones (born 1836) by Meyrick's sister Margaret. Griffith Jones soon sold Llwyn Hall with other portions of the estate and went to live in the south. (Meirionnydd Record Office, undated newspaper cutting "The History of Llwyn Hall", E S Napier)

1839 Jan 22: Thomas Hartley, of Llwyn. (Meirionnydd Record Office, Z/QS/H1839/24)

1840 Jan 17: Thomas Hartley swears he has estates at Llwyn, co Merioneth which qualifies him to be a J P for Merioneth. (Meirionnydd Record Office, Z/QS/H1840/7)

1873 Miss Hartley owned Llwyn, Dolgellau: 1,814 acres 1r 11p; gross estimated rental £1,762 10s. (Meirionnydd Record Office, Returns of Owners of Land, 1873, vol II)

1841 (Census returns 1841 Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 13) No 5 Hendreirion.

Evan Williams	25 yrs,	farmer.	Born Merioneth
Susannah “	30		“
Hugh “	2		“
Elizabeth “	4 months		“

+ 4 servants

1847 June 22: death of Margaret widow of the late Hugh Evans of the Hendre Eirian, aged 75.
Text - Mark 14. (Llanaber Memorial Inscriptions 0492) [step mother to Evan Williams]
1847 June 25: Burial of Margaret Pugh, Hendririm, aged 64. (Llanaber register)

1851 Census Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 4c No 5 Hendre arian

Evan Williams	H	M	37	farmer 80 acres, employ 3 men, born Llanaber	
Susannah “	W	M	42		“
Hugh “	S	U	12	scholar	“
Elizabeth “	D	U	10	“	“
Margaret “	D	U	6		“
Robert “	S	U	3		“
Morris Evans	serv	U	21	ag lab	Llandanwg
Ann Evans	serv	U	15	gen servant	Llanenddwyn
William Evans	serv	U	22	ag lab	“
Owen Owens	serv	U	16	“	Llanddwywe
Mary Evans	serv	U	24	gen servant	Llanaber

1852 Oct 3: death of **Catherine, wife of Morgan Owen (of Glynn** in the parish of Llanfihangel) and daughter of Hugh Evans by Gwen his wife, aged 55 years (Llanaber Memorial Inscription 0491) [Sister to Evan Williams]

1857 W Evans came back to Hendre Eirian and he died there on 23 August 1857, aged 74. (Y Lladmerydd, 1900-02, ed Rev Evan Davies, Trefriw, vol XVI, 1900, Dolgellau)

1861 census Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 11. No 2 Hendre eirian

Evan Williams	H	M	47	farmer 180 acres; 2 labs,	born Llanaber
Susannah “	W	M	52		
Hugh “	S	U	22		Llanaber
Elizabeth “	D	U	20		“
Margaret “	D	U	16		“
Robert “	S	U	13	scholar	“
Griffith Williams	serv	U	20	carter	Llanbedr
William Owen	serv	U	23	labourer	“
Owen Davies	serv	U	16	gen servant	Breckonshire
Naomi Lewis	serv	U	16	house servant	Celynin

1871 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd, ED 11, No 8

Susanah Williams	H	W	62	farmer of 13 acres	Hendre eirian
Hugh Williams	S	U	32	farmer	Llanaber
Margaret “	D	U	26		“
Evan Jones	serv	U	19	labourer	
John Jones	serv	U	19	“	
Evan Lloyd	serv	U	14	“	
Ann Williams	serv	U	20	gen servant/daughter	

1873 Miss Hartley owned Llwyn, Dolgelly: 1,814 acres 1r 11p; gross estimated rental £1,762 10s. (Merionnydd Record Office, Returns of Owners of Land, 1873, vol II)

1881 Census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED11 No 8				Hendre Eirian		
Ellis Williams	H	M	36	farmer 350 acres	born Llanaber	
Margaret	“	W	M	33	“	
Maggie	“	D	U	8	scholar	“
Ellin	“	D	U	7	“	“
Ellis	“	S	U	1		“
Mary Griffiths	serv	U	27	gen servant	“	
John Hughes	serv	U	27	farm servant	“	
David Lewis	serv	U	17	“	“	

1887 Jan 14: burial of John Williams, 5 months, Hendre eirian. (NLW, Bishop’s Transcripts, Llanaber)

1891 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd Fiche 26, No 33				Hendre Eirian	
Ellis Williams	H	M	46	farmer	born Llanaber
Margaret	“	W	M	46	
Ella	“	D	U	17	
Ellis	“	S	U	11	scholar
Mary	“	D	U	8	
William Williams	serv	U	40	farm labourer	
John Jones	serv	U	22	“	
Catherine Williams	serv	U	21	domestic	

1893 Oct 4: Evidence from Mr Ellis Edward Williams, Hendre Eirian. He was brought up at Bodgwilim, Llanaber on the estate of Captain Wynn Griffith, Llanfair. “The rent when my father took it (Bodgwilim) in 1844 or 1845 was £55. In 1871 I took it after my father had given it up. I held it until 1872”.

(Royal Commission on Land in Wales and Monmouthshire. 1893, vol I, p 729)

1901 No 8		Hendre Eirian			
Ellis Edward Williams	H	56	farmer, employing	born Llanaber	Both
Margaret Williams	wife	53		Llanaber	“
Elen Williams	dau	27		Llanaber	“
Ellis Williams	son	21		Llanaber	“
Marie Williams	dau	18		Llanaber	“
William Evans	servant	34	ordinary farm labourer	Llandegwyn	“
Robert Jones	“	16	horseman on farm	Ffestiniog	“
Kate Owens	“	24	general domestic servant	Llanenddwyn	“

(1901 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd Fiche 26)

IS he the E E Williams who owned Caerau ?

1910 Land Tax: owned by **Wm Maughan esq.**, Mosley Street, Newcastle on Tyne; 299 acres; tenant G J Griffith (Dolgellau Record Office Z/QR/L/2 no 2)

Mr Maughan also owned Hendrefechan

1911 census not checked

1914 May 8: burial of Edward Griffith, Hendre eirian, Llanaber, aged 4 days. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/8)

Thomas Edwards – 1816 – had 12 children including John Edwards of Tyddyn Mawr, N of Cader Idris; he had Nell, Hywel, John, **Thomas Edwards (1884-1964)** & Jane.

Jane married and had Myfyr Williams, Taltreuddyn Bach, who married Bera Jones, a smart lady from Caerberllan (her family still farm Caerberllan & win at the Royal Welsh). They had Mair Williams who married the son of **Faeldref**, Dafydd Morris, & they have a son; and Meinir of Towyn. (pers comm Nerys Jones, Mold 2006)

Bera Jones was the daughter of Robert Jones **Caerberllan** and Sarah Mary Tudur his wife. She had a brother Richard Tudur whose daughter is Mary Tudur of Cwm Nant Eira. (pers comm. 2007, Mrs Mair Thomas, Faeldref)

Thomas Edwards (1884-1964) rented Hendre Eirian & married Elinor Jane from Erwcoed, Arthog, (sister of Ceridwen who married Moses Griffith of Egryn).

They had 1) Lena (1910-1998) who married Captain Tom Davies, & had Nerys; left Liverpool to return to Ardudwy in 1949 & lived at Hendre Eirian for a few months;

2) Idris (1912-) moved to Brynbwyd & **c1936 married a maid from Egryn**;

3) Thomas John, married Mair of Rhydymaen, moved to Gellillwyd near Dolgellau;

4) Hywel Wyn married Eirlys Owen (sister of Dei Owen, Tyddyn Mawr, who was father of Trefor & Kenneth). They moved to Buckinghamshire.

5) Glyn Edwards, married Margaret, and had Ann, Elyn (died aged 21 in accident) & Delyth.

c1923 Rent paid to **Dr Williams of Scotland**. No alterations had been made – no water, toilets, electricity. (Pers comm.)

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)

WHO WAS SELLING? Sold to Llewelyn Owen.

Llew Owen, Dolgellau, bought Hendre Eirian and put in alterations. Re-roofed part, put in bathroom, toilet. Ploughing etc all controlled; heavy crop of grain, bad summer, had to work on the crop late; had to scythe the corn. (Pers comm. Glyn Edwards)

Between c1900 and 1941 Hendre Eirian had many owners & joint owners,

Llewelyn Owen had a wholesale shoe business in Dolgellau.

Glyn Edwards' father Thomas Edwards went to Hendre Eirian from the Glyn, Dolgellau. Glyn's grandfather was at Egryn. (pers comm Elinor Evans, 2006)

1951 On Sale; John Williams went to Sale, did not buy, and negotiated privately afterwards.

1951 Nov: Hendre Eirian: John Williams, originally from Arthog, then from Dyffryn Clwyd bought Hendre Eirian from Llewelyn Owen and farmed it;

1976 his son Meirion Williams farmed it & still farms it in 2007 with his wife Margaret Williams. (pers comm visited 3-3-2007.)

**TY Y CEUNANT, Llanaber parish, Merionethshire. Within Hendre Eirian land
NGR SH 602207 (check)**

No earlier references yet found.

1752 Aug 30: baptism of Elizabeth, daughter of Humphrey Owen, Ty'n y Ceunant. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1 & NLW, Bangor BT, Llanaber)

1755 March 31: baptism of Anne, daughter of Humphrey Owen, Ty'n y Ceunant, and his wife. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1757 Feb 7: burial of Catherine John of Tyn y Ceunant. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/1)

1782 March 7: burial of William Griffith, Ty'n y ceunant, labourer. (NLW, Bangor Bishops Transcripts)

1814 June 10: burial of Catherine Richards, pauper, Tyn y Ceunant, aged 85 years. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1816 Beti Griffith attended Sunday School at Hendre Eirion. (Y Lladmerydd, 1900-02, ed Rev Evan Davies, Trefriw, vol XVI, 1900, Dolgellau)

1817 March 1: Baptised Elizabeth, daughter of Griffith and Lowry Griffith, Tyn y Ceunant, mariner. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber) **OR MINER?**

1817 July 9: burial of Griffith Griffiths, Ty'n y ceunant, aged 26 years. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1820 Apr 9: baptism of Anne, illegitimate daughter of Catherine Roberts, Tyn y Ceunant. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1821 Nov 25: baptism of Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis and Catherine Joseph, Tyn y ceunant, **farmer**. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber) **OR MINER?**

1822 Jan 3: burial of Robert Roberts, 3 years, Ty'n y ceunant. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1829 Dec 31: burial of Dorothy Williams, Tyn y ceunant, aged 80 years. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1831 June 20: burial of Richard Williams. Tyn y ceunant, aged 81 years. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1839 Tithe Map schedule Check fields 78, 79.

1840 Aug 8: burial of Elizabeth Griffith, Ty'n y Ceunant, aged 83 years. (Merionnydd Archives, Z/PE/10/3)

1841 census. Llanaber Is mynydd ED 13 No 8 Tyn y Ceunant

Robert Griffith	80	ag lab	born in Merionethshire
Elizabeth "	45		"
John "	40		"
Catherine Lewis	13		"

1843 Nov 27: burial of Robert Griffiths, aged 86 years, Ty yn y ceunant. (NLW, Bangor Bishop's Transcripts, Llanaber)

1851 Census Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 4c No 7 Ty y Ceunant					
Humphrey Roberts	H	M	55	wall mason	Llanenddwyn
Elinor	"	D	17	scholar	"
Mary	"	D	12	"	"
Margaret	"	D	10	"	"
Robert	"	S	7	"	"
Margaret Roberts	sister in law	U	?	?	?, C

1861 census Schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd ED 11.No 4 Ty yn y Ceunant					
Humphrey Roberts	H	M	66	Ag lab	?Llanenddwyn
Catherine	"	W	59		Llanystumdwy, C
Margaret	"	sister in law	U	73	"
Robert	"	serv	U	17	ship's carpenter Llanenddwyn

? 1861-71 Death of Humphrey Roberts

1871 census schedule Llanaber Is Mynydd, ED 11.No 7 Tyn y Ceunant					
Catherine Roberts	H	W	69	pauper	Llanystumdwy, C
Ellen	"	D	M	36	dressmaker "?
Margaret	"	D	U	30	" Llan???
Margaret	"	sister	U	84	pauper Llan ???

1881 census: Tyn y ceunant not checked

1891 census: Tyn y ceunant not checked

1901 census: not included

1910 Land Tax Not listed

1911 census: not included

Not known when it became ruinous.