



## Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig Discovering Old Welsh Houses

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# Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig Discovering Old Welsh Houses

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

## FFRIDD ISAF

Rhyd Ddu,  
Beddgelert  
Gwynedd



## House History

Author: Margaret Dunn

Updated 17-05-2008

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

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# SNOWDONIA DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT

## FFRIDD ISAF

RHYD DDU, Parish of Beddgelert, Caernarfonshire.

### HOUSE HISTORY

Fridd Uchaf and Isaf both named from 1699.  
NGR 25752 35280

Grade II

From CADW Listing Schedule:

Early C17 farmhouse (from 1612 date in adjoining barn); substantially remodeled with front range c1800; butter/gorse mill added in later C19.

Rear range has massive end fireplace with slate/stone voussoirs to wide segmental arch; partly reconstructed bread oven. Original heavy cross-beam and repositioned joists. Reconstructed plank and muntin screen, of which only the head beam is original, marks the position of probable former cross-passage running parallel with the back wall of the C19 part of the house. The screen may originally have supported a loft with the remainder of the C17 range open to the roof; now the first floor is continuous. Roof structure in 3 bays with 2 massive A-frame trusses.

Fridd Isaf barn

Grade II

From CADW Listing Schedule:

C17 barn, probably contemporary with the earliest part of Ffridd isaf farmhouse. Roof structure in 4 bays with 3 A-frame trusses, that to the east (dated 1612 by inscription) with mortise and tenon jointing; others have collars pegged to the face of the principal rafters. East truss has the inscribed date 1912; this is the date of the raising of the eaves to re-roof the barn, to which belong the boarded rafters, single purlins and ridge piece.

Barn: no samples could be dated by dendrochronology.

**Dendrochronology results:** House

N lower purlin west bay  
N principal rafter truss 1  
S principal rafter truss 1  
S upper purlin west bay  
N upper purlin west bay

felling date

Winter 1599/1600

Spring 1598

Spring 1598

Winter 1599/1600

(Winter 1599/1600)

**Ffridd-isaf**, Betws Garmon, Gwynedd (NPRN 26489)

A Snowdonian house with a seventeenth century barn and an eighteenth century cow-house. Tree-ring dating established that the *roof-trusses* were from trees felled during Winter 1599-1600. (RCAHMW Review 2005-6, p 48)

Caernarvonshire, Betws Garmon, **Ffridd-isaf**. (SH 5752 5280)

Felling dates: Spring 1598; Winter 1599-1600.

A classic Snowdonia house, extended in the nineteenth century, the old house surviving as a rear wing to the new house. The house is of two-unit plan-type with

cross passage and gable end chimney. The two trusses are of collar-beam type and the passage partition of post-and-panel type. The house is associated with a seventeenth-century barn and eighteenth-century cowhouse. (fast-grown, not sampled). (Vernacular Architecture, vol 37, 2006, List 181: Welsh Dendrochronology Project – Phase 10, p \*)

The rear range of Ffridd isaf is a Snowdonia-type two-storeyed stone-walled house with opposite doorways, post-and-panel partition to the cross passage and a large fireplace at the upslope gable. The back panel to the fire has a pattern in it similar to that at Gelli, Llanfrothen. There is no sign of a spiral mural stair and there is a steep modern ladder to the first floor. The house is tucked into the mountain side at 200m above O.D., and has a mountain stream nearby. A later leat and waterwheel still exist. The holding was part of an upland pasture of Llwyn llinor of the Welsh princes, thus passing to the English crown. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century it was granted to royal favourites who then assigned it to local gentry.

### **Land Owners and Tenants:**

#### **1. EARLY BACKGROUND**

Around 1199 Llewelyn ap Iorwerth granted extensive lands in Nanhwynan to the Cistercian monks at Aberconwy. Gresham suggests that Llewelyn did not hand over the whole of the district known as Nanhwynan. Three of the fifteen lands in the township are situated on the east side of Nant Colwyn, an entirely different valley to that where the other twelve lands lay. Gresham suggests that Nanhwynan formerly included all the east side of Nant Colwyn as far north as Afon Treweirydd (now Treweunydd). If that were so, the part omitted from the grant would have been that now occupied by the modern farms of Ffridd Uchaf, Ffridd Isaf and Clogwyn y Gwin. (C A Gresham BBCS, 1983 The Aberconwy Charter ; further consideration; p 333)

If this suggestion is correct, what did Llewelyn do with these lands at the col between the Colwyn, Nantlle and Gwyrfaï valleys? There may have been some strategic reason for this land at the head of these three valleys to remain under his control rather than become part of the monastic grange of either the Cistercians or the Augustinians.

From later references naming Llwynllinor along with Dolbadarn and Drwsycoed it seems likely that it became one of the Prince's *ffriddoedd* for cattle grazing. After the conquest of Wales by Edward 1 in 1284 this land would have become Crown land.

1303/4 references to hafodydd in Uwchgwyrfai (BBCS VII (1933-5) p149-50)  
CHECK

1343: 9 hafodydd were granted by the King to Thomas de Missenden, a member of the royal household, for life, some of which he in turn let to others. (Record of Caernarvon p 35)

1343 : Thomas de Mussendene is granted custody of the bailiwicks, Rhaglaw & Rhyngyll of the commote of Eifionydd and custody of the *Hauotriae* of Eifionydd, Isgwyrfaï, Uchgwyrfai & Dinllaen. The Lord Prince ratified the 1341 charter, confirms Edward III's **post 1337 charter**. Thome de Cophus, Raglot of Eifionydd ... & custodian of the hauotrie of Archllechwedd, Is & Uchgwyrfai, Eifionydd & Dinllaen on co. Caernarvon - £7 at the feast of St Michael and Easter. At Westminster

6 March 1343.

... John Lucas ..

By virtue of custody of the hauotraie .. claims to have custody of all the Principality's **ffrythes** of Dolbadarn & **Thlanthlenor** [= Lloynllinor] in commote Iscoreney / **Drusoit** (= Drwsycoed) in Vghcorney /, Dythlan in Thlene & 4 ffrythes of Enyonnyth for taking all profits for people **pasturing animals on them**.

... John ... Thome at Conewey ...

[In Collection of Inquisitions & Pleadings in Quo Waranto before Richard de Stafford & his associate Justices Itinerant of the Prince in North Wales, by which they enquired into the rights & titles of the chief inhabitants, both communities & private persons, ecclesiastical & civil, in the counties of Caernarvon, Anglesey & Merioneth].

Record of Carnarvon p 153-5 (part translated)

late 15th century ?1486 : Commote of Isgwyrfaï : Richard ap Hywel ap Llewelyn, bailiff; Rent (farm) of ffrythes of Drwsycoed, **Lloynllinor** & Baladulyrn amongst others [dim -Latin] John Puleston, Esquire, at the said Festival £8 8s 8d [of St Mary the Virgin of the Annunciation & St Michael the Archangel]

(PRO special collection SC12/4/20) [A John Puleston was alive 1540]

1549 July 21: The like [licence] for £10 11s 6d, the king (Edward VI)'s councillor John (Dudley- Protectorate from Oct 1549 when he became Duke of Northumberland & virtually made the boy-king a hostage, & had the monopoly of access to the Privy Chancellor; died 1553) earl of Warwick, K.G., Great Chamberlain of England and Lord President of the Principality of Wales, to grant .....

the lands called **le Frithe de Lloyn and Llenor** within the commote of Iscorem, co. Carnarvon, in the **tenure of John Puleston**, knight, (sheriff, M.P., chamberlain of North Wales, constable of Caernarvon castle, married 2nd, Sioned, daughter of Meredydd ap Ieuan ap Robert of Gesail Gyfarch & Gwydir; died 1551) .....

to Richard Sakevile, Knight, and Dame Wenefride his wife, and the heirs of the said Richard. (PRO Cal. of Patent Rolls, 1549-1551, m.19, p 61)

ca 1550-62: descendents of Tomas Gilmin from Gloucestershire : his ancestor came from the *tref* of **Llwyn llinor, Is Gwyrfaï**, killed a man and because of that fled from his lands. Named after Cilmin Troed-ddu. [This is a rough translation from the Welsh] in NLW Reports on Welsh Mss, Vol I p 844 - Peniarth Mss 134, page 350 of Ms called *Llyvr mawr Griffith Hiraethoc* containing many pedigrees. (Seen in Bangor Univ. Archives)

Cilmin Troed ddu (Black foot) was the head of the 4th Noble Tribe, said to have lived in the ninth century; descendants : the Glynne family of Glynllivon, Hughes of Bodryn and Quellyn family of **Quellyn**. Also Meyrick family of Bodorgan in Anglesey. (See TCHS vol 24 p 52)

*A 1563 documents states that in 1551 Sackville leased Lwyn llinor to his servant Bartholomew Carraway, Gent., (probably a secretary or lawyer) who re-conveyed it to Sir Richard Sackville, son William Sackville of Dorking, Surrey. Three months later, half the lands (moiety) is re-conveyed, bargained and sold to Bartholomew Carraway for 100 marks.*

From the 16th century there are various dated documents relating to Ffridd Llwyn llinor. These suggest the following sequence of events:

The boy-monarch, Edward VII granted Fridd Llwyn llinor to John, earl of Warwick. In July 1559 he granted it to Sir Richard Sackville and later to his son William Sackville. By 1559 it was held by Bartholemew Carraway [or Garway] of London. Ffridd Llwyn Llinor is then recorded as being assigned in two portions, which eventually are given the names of Clogwyn Gwin and Ffridd, which was itself later subdivided.

1577 July 22 : Grant in fee simple to Robert, earl of Leicester, councillor, his heirs and assigns of lands ..... in Penaunt, in Penenett, **adjoining 'le Frithe' of Lloyne llenor Ucha**, in Nantwhynan, .... in the county of Carnarvon, all which premises were unlawfully enclosed or encroached upon by divers persons .... for his service.  
(PRO c.66/1157 - Cal of Patent Rolls)

## 2. CLOGWYN GWIN : early summary

On 9 May 1559 Bartholemew Garway assigned the unexpired lease from Sackville to Griffith Davies of Gwernvod, county of Denbigh. In 1566 Griffith Davies by deed of release assigned his interest to his son Maurice Davies. On 13 June 1566 Griffith Davies by deed of release assigned his interest to his son Maurice. It is quite likely that this Maurice Davies is the Maurice Davies, clerk of the Exchequer at Caernarvon, referred to in the Gwydir Papers; his signature seems to bear that out.

On 24 October 1582 Maurice assigns the unexpired term to William Williams of Cochwillan, and a Bond of obligation for £400 was annexed to the document. William Williams died in 1589 and in 1595 his son William Williams II of Cochwillan leased a moiety of Llwynllinor. By 1621, His brother, Arthur Williams of Meillionydd and Precentor of Bangor Cathedral leaves a messuage and lands called Llwynllinor in his will to his wife. The holding remains with his descendents until after 1839, and many rentals survive amongst the papers of their estates.

## 3. FFRIDD: early summary

Meanwhile in 1563 Batholemew Carraway assigned Fridd Llwyn llinor to William Powell ap Llywelyn of Dinlle.

By 1584/5 the will of Henry Williams of Llangoed, brother of William Williams of Cochwillan was unsuccessfully challenged by his relations, William Williams of Cochwillan & Thomas Williams of Vaenol, who said he was not of a sound mind when he left it to his son Rowland Williams.

Rowland Williams is named in 1595 and 1610 in two assignments of lease for Ffridd Llwyn Llinor in Is Gwyrfa; he did not marry.

*1610 Roland ap Harry Williams of Llangoed conveys Ffridd Llwyn Llinor to William Griffith of Bangor.*

He may have left his estate to William Wynn, Llangoed, who also died childless & left his estate in trust to William Griffith, Crichley near Beaumaris.

In 1670 William Wynn of Llangoed, Co Anglesey left a Deed of Grant to certain trusts and charitable uses of the rents of lands in Llwynllinor, in the parish of Beddgelert, co Caernarfon; for the purchase of six penny white loaves of wheaten bread, to be divided and distributed among six of the poor of the parishes of Llangoed and Beddgelert.

*1682 Jan 5: Tripartite Release between all those named in 1670/71, conveying Fridd Llwyn Llinor to William Griffith, Crichle, Anglesey, William Wynne had no children*

*and left his property to William Griffith.*

In 1691 John Owen bought Presaddfed estate; he died in 1712. Was Ffridd part of his purchase?

By 1741 Ellin Lloyd of Frith Llwynllinor, parish of Beddgelert, co C, widow appears to own the farm. William Williams of the same, Gent., was her eldest son, owned the farm and died in 1779.

#### 4. DETAILED EARLY REFERENCES:

**1563** June 16 : document in which **Ffridd llwyn Llinor in Is Gwyrfai** is assigned by Bartholemew Carraway of London to William Powell ap Llywelyn of Dinlle. In fact it is an excellent illustration of what kind of traffic in such Crown perquisites was done by court officials and London merchants. (notes with Presaddfed Mss 68-70 in Bangor Univ. archives)

**1582 Oct 24:** Indenture between Maurice Davies of Gwernvod, co Denbigh, and William Williams of Cochwillan.

Recites the descent of Ffridd Llwyn Llinor in Is-Gwyrfai from John, Earl of Warwick, through Sir Richard Sackville and William his son to Bartholomew Garway, servant of Sir Richard's until on

**9 May 1559** Garway assigned to Griffith Davies, father of Maurice, the unexpired lease from Sackville; then on

**13 June 1566** Griffith Davies by deed of release assigned his interest to his son Maurice. Now Maurice assigns the unexpired term to William Williams of Cochwillan. It is quite likely that MD is the MD, clerk of the Exchequer at Caernarvon referred to in the Gwydir Papers (CWP 118); his signature seems to bear that out.

Bond of obligation in £400 annexed. (UNWB Nannau ms 3114)

THIS is probably CLOGWYN Y GWIN.

**1584/5** March 14 : Verdict of the Court of the Marches, held at Shrewsbury, in the vexatious matter of Ffridd llwyn llinor in Is gwyrfai. Doubly vexatious, because it was a family trouble, between Rowland Williams of Llangoed & the Cochwillan-Vaenol family of Williams - they were the same family. Thomas Williams of Vaenol was younger brother of William Williams of Cochwillan, while Henry Williams, Rowland's deceased father, was another brother. (Pedigrees 186)

There was no doubt that **this property of the Crown** had been demised for a term of years to **Henry Williams** & that he by will had demised it to **Rowland**, but the defendants contested the will & tried to prove that Henry Williams was not of sound mind & memory when he made it. The contention utterly failed, & the defendants made matters worse by using all the tactics of delay, and making inroads upon the property. Decree in favour of the plaintiff, with costs. (Presaddfed Ms 38)

**1595** Oct 18: Deed of lease from William Williams of Cochwillan to Morgan David of Llanfair, consideration £35 (£20 already paid, the remaining £15 to be paid at or before 16 March next); **moeity of Ffridd Llwynllinor**, commote of Isgwyrfai; Morgan David to take up unexpired portion of the lease granted by one Maurice Davies to David ap Ieuan Thomas, father of Morgan ap David, granted originally 15 Jan **1579**.

Yearly rent to be paid 33 / 4. (UCNW Nannau ms 3132)  
THIS MAY BE CLOGWYN Y GWIN.

**1595** Nov 1: Ffridd Llwyn Llinor in Is Gwyrfai - the premises being "parcel of His Majesty's Principality of North Wales". Assignment of lease by

1. John Owen Theodore (Tudor, Tudor) of Penmynydd & another (*?John Puleston*) to
2. **Rowland ap Harry Williams of Llangoed**. (Presaddfed Ms 68-70)(See Ped p 194)

**1610** Apr 14 : Ffridd Llinor in Is Gwyrfai : a re assignment from 1. Rowland ap Harry to 2. William Griffith of Bangor. [In the neat well known hand of Richard Boulton of Beaumaris]. (Presaddfed Ms 68-70)

[John Owen Tudor was son of Owen Tudor Vychan, Esquire to the body to Henry VII - see Pedigrees p 106]

Rowland ap Harry Williams did not marry. (Pedigrees 190 & 194)

**1621** May 25 : copy will of Arthur Williams (of Meillionydd, near Aberdaron, died 3 July 1621, brother to Wm Williams of Cochwillan, John of Llanllechid, Rowland died o.s.p.1583, Edmund of Conway, Thomas and Richard. (Ped p 186))

leaves a message and lands called **Llwynllinor in the parish of Bethkelert** and two other properties elsewhere to Ann Williams (alias Lewis), his wife for 18 years from his death; covenants between AW and Mary Rowland (Meyllteryn) his daughter in law.

**Hugh ap Robert** has a lease & demise on Llwynllinor for 5 more years.

(UCNW Nannau ms 1856) and copy probate dated 1621 Oct 26 (Penrhos VII ms 261)  
THIS is probably CLOGWYN Y GWIN.

(See Ped p 194 for Llancoed - William Wynn, Llancoed, died childless & left his estate in trust to William Griffith, Crichley near Beaumaris)CHECK TRANSLATION

**1670/1** Jan 5 Abstract of a Deed of Grant to certain trusts and charitable uses, between

- 1) William Wynn of Llangoed, Co Anglesey;
- 2) Edward Thelwall of Plasyward, William Owen of Llanddyn, & William Lloyd on Bacherrig; (*names Richard Parry, Coedmarthen alive 1674*)
- 3) William Griffith of Cichley, Co Anglesey;

of the rents of lands in **Llwynllinor**, in the parish of Beddgelert, co Caernarfon; for the purchase of **six penny white loaves of wheaten bread**, to be divided and distributed among **six of the poor of the parishes**, *in perpetuum*, after divine service, in the parish churches of Llancoed and **Beddgelert**

The said William Wynn and his heirs also to provide **six white cloth coats**, each to be of the true value of four shillings and sixpence, to be distributed every Christmas Day before divine service, in the parish churches of Llangoed and **Beddgelert, to six poor men**; the said coats to have the two letters W. W. in black cloth, in memory of the said William Wynn. The said William Griffith to ..... Also **10s. to be paid yearly** to two able and orthodox ministers, approved by the Bishop of Bangor, to **preach in the churches aforesaid on the first Sunday in Lent**. ... (CWP ms 2625)

*1682 Jan 5: Tripartite Release between all those named in 1670/71, conveying Fridd Llwyn Llinor to William Griffith, Crichle, Anglesey, William Wynne had no children and left his property to William Griffith.*

1691 July 6 : **William Owen of Ffrith llwynllior**, parish Beddgelert died.



Names John Powell of parish of Llanfihangel y Pennant. Catherine Howell, relict of William Owen was granted all his goods & chattels; she was to pay his debts and **make an inventory**. (NLW Wills; Bangor 1691 / 42B) (T C Griffith 1989 p 19)  
Catherine, verch Howell ap John Powell died in 1723 in Cwm Mawr (TC Griffith [42])

*1699 Sept 13/14: Indenture of lease & release between 1. William Griffith of Cichle & his son & heir John Griffiths to 2. William Owen of Cremlyn.*

***This is the first document naming Ffridd Isaf: tenant Evan Powel (died 1739 March 3 Beddgelert) & Ffridd Uchaf: tenant Richard Williams.***

1691 John Owen bought Presaddfed estate; he died in 1712. (Presaddfed Ms intro)  
Was Ffridd part of his purchase? Does he link with the Owens of Hafod Yspyttu?

*1748 May 17/18 Lease & Release 1. John Owen, Presaddfed 2. Rice Price, tobacconist of Llanerchymedd, co A. 7s; £770 16s 8d.*

*Names tenant as Richard Jones, youth, & his mother. Mentions the 1682 Tripartite release & the charity. The release is "prided that the said John Owen shall during his natural life nominate and appoint two young scholars .... Who are to be paid as it is sett forth and ..."*

**1775 - 1820** : Parish of Beddgelert did NOT include **Drws-y-coed, Clogwin-y-gwin, Ffridd uchaf and Ffridd isaf**, which were in the parish of Betws Garmon.(GAS, Land Tax Assessments)

By **1839** these farms (3,229 acres) were in Beddgelert. (Tithe apportionment schedule) In recent (1969) boundary changes, Drws y coed and Ffridd were taken away from Beddgelert. (C A Gresham, Parish of Beddgelert, TCHS, 1969 p 27)

#### 5. FFRIDD UCHAF *named from 1699*

See Welsh article by T Ceiri Griffith in JMHS 1976, p 404-415, with 2 family trees, relating to Ffridd Uchaf.

c 1692 : Exchequer case re two messuages, Ffreeth y gamallt & freeth Havod y Spithy in Ffestiniocke, parcel of encroachments in co Merioneth, owned by Richard ap Robert of Trawsfvenith ... (Exchequer Proceedings in Merioneth p 232, 61/19 (36 Eliz)). Did this include Havod Yspithy ? Who won the case?

*1699 Sept 13/14: Indenture of lease & release between 1. William Griffith of Cichle & his son & heir John Griffiths to 2. William Owen of Cremlyn.*

***This is the first document naming Ffridd Isaf: tenant Evan Powel (died 1739 March 3 Beddgelert) & Ffridd Uchaf: tenant Richard Williams.***

**1741 July 7** : Lease (release missing)

1. **Ellin Lloyd** of Frith Llwynllinor, parish of Beddgelert, co C, widow and William Williams of the same, Gent., her eldest son
2. Lewis Meyrick of Dolgelley, co M, Gent.

touching properties in pa of Ffestiniog including Bwlch Hwfa. (document decayed & many words are indecipherable) (GAS Hafod Ysputy Deeds, ms 2)

1741 April 10 : William Williams, son of Ellin, married Margaret Williams.

Ellin Lloyd was the daughter of Humphrey Lloyd of Hafod Ysputtu, Ffestiniog and Jonnet Williams. His grandfather was also of Hafod Ysputtu. It is not known how Ffridd Llwynllior became part of her property. She was also of Hafoty, Drwsycoed. (C T Griffith, [75]) Ellin Lloyd married William Jones of Llanllyfni in 1689 and had six children. One, John Williams, moved to Bwlchmwlchan, died 1782; another, Jonnet married David Williams and lived at Drwsycoed where she died in 1773.

**1764 Ellin died and her eldest son William Williams inherited Ffridd Uchaf.**

1765 Margaret wife of William Williams of Hafod Ysputtu died aged 45 yrs. (A164)

1772 David, son & heir of the late William Williams Gent. of Hafod Ysputty died aged 20. (A154)

1767 Eleanor Williams, Ffridd Uchaf [1747-1814] married Robert Owen [b1741], Hafod Ysputtu, Ffestiniog, son of Owen Owen, [1702-177] Ty Isaf y llan, Beddgelert. They had 8 children. (C T Griffith [31] )

1770-75: William Williams of Ffrith- Land Tax Assessment £1-13-3.(£2-4-4 in 1771)

1777 - 1779. William Williams, Ffrith - Land Tax Assessment £2-4-4. (GAS LT 6/5)

1779/80 **William Williams of Ffridd [Gent] died.** (A164).

It was his wish that all of his land, buildings and holdings in Ffestiniog, co Merioneth namely Hafod yspytu, Lletty Gwilym & Bwlch wha, which were farmed by Robert Owen, Richard James & Eleanor Evans or their descendents, would be **inherited by his eldest son John Williams & his descendents**, on the condition that he distributed bequests as follows:

Alice Williams, eldest daughter who was married to William Pierce- £10 within 1 yr  
Eleanor Williams, second " " " Robert Owen - £10 " 2 "  
Gaynor Williams, third " " " Richard Roberts - £10 " 3 "  
cousins William Griffith & William David, two farmers from Drwsycoed £5 " 3 "  
for taking the responsibility of being executors of the will.

His oldest son (missing)... lands, buildings & holdings ... **Ffridd Isaf**, Llwyn Llior ... February 1777 between his three youngest children William Williams, Griffith Williams & Catherine Williams or their descendents and he appointed the three as joint executors. After paying the funeral expenses the rest of his belongings to be distributed in equal parts between William, Griffith & Catherine, & his cousins Wm Griffith & Wm David were to be guardians & stewards over them until they attain 21 years.

The value of the property was £407 including

300 sheep	£105	Books	£2
implements	£5	contents of house & ag implts	£60
7 young cattle	£31	11 bullocks	£35 15s
2 heifers	£6 15s	7 other cattle	£31 7s
8 cows with calves	£36	1 bull	£3 16s 6d
2 horses	£8	14 one year old cattle	£22 16s
2 hayricks	£11	1 pig	£1 14s
ready money	£35	funeral expenses	£7

all of which were assessed by John Roberts & Richard Jones

(T C Griffith 1989 p 41-2 )

**BUY WILL** at NLW.

The eldest son John Williams, Gent was of Lledwigan, Llanfairisgaer and his eldest son was John Williams Esq of Frongoch, Anglesey. (C T Griffith [75] )  
A daughter Eleanor, married Robert Owen, Hafod Ysputtu in 1767.  
DID John Williams OWN FFRIDD ?- see William Owen in 1784.

Another son, William Williams, [1758-1825] Ffridd is mentioned as trustee in Hafod y Rhisg will of 1787. (T C Grffifith p 48) This William Williams is of Ffridd and Hafod y Rhisg [75]. He married Margaret, Glynafon, Waunfawr and had 11 children. By 1813 he is 'of Hafod y Rhysgl' (A164) He moved there around 1801.

1777-1801 tenant William Williams, Ffrith- Land Tax Assessment £2-4-4. (GAS LT 6/5)

WW 1780 on stone at Cerrig Ceuon could refer to either William Williams.

1782 : mentions John Williams, Havod Ysputtie, Gent. Also William Evans, clerk, rector of Llanfihangell y Pennant, William Jones of Bwlch Mwlchan, yeoman. (GAS Hafod Ysputy ms 3 )

By 1784 - 1797 : Owner of both Ffridd holdings : **Mr William Owen.**

c1800 : Ffridd - parish of Beddgelert - owner was Mr John Owen, Anglesey.

(William Williams, 1802, Observations on the Snowdon Mountains, p 29)

1801 - 1815 : Owner of both Ffridd holdings : **Mr John Owen** ( of Anglesey).

WHO ARE THEY ?

1802 -1815 : Pierce Roberts, Ffridd Uchaf from 1807. Land Tax £2-4-4.WHO IS HE?  
**1816 John Prichard of Ffridd Isaf moved to Ffridd Uchaf** till 1829/30 when he died. (Land Tax). He was the son of Richard Jones and Catherine verch Pierce Morgan of Ffridd Isaf.

1816 Aug 28: William\* Prichard, late of Ffridd (?Isaf), son of Richard Jones, died in his 39th year.

1816 - 1822 : Owner of both Ffridd holdings - **Robert Buckley Owen, Esq.**

ca1826-at least 1830: Owner of both Ffridd holdings **R B Owen, Esq.**

1825 Jan 25 : Catherine Prys of **Ffridd Uchaf** died, aged 82 years (T C Griffith [5] )

(? wife of John Prichard) (or William Williams Wernlasdeg [5] or Richard Jones [3])

1830 Feb 20: John\* Prichard, Ffridd died aged 67 years.(A174)

1830 **Margaret Williams** of Ffridd Uchaf- Land Tax £2-4-4. (his widow)

1850 Margaret his wife died aged 83 years. (A174)

1841 July 2 : Martha\*, wife of John Roberts, Brynmelyn aged 29 years. (A173)

\* = children of Richard Jones and Catherine Pierce.

1838 Oct 23 : Tithe Commutation meeting

8. Ffridd uchaf Owner: **Thomas Pierce Williams Esq.** WHO IS HE ?

occupier Margaret Williams 791 acres.

(Continued in PTFRIDD – Fridd Uchaf)

FFRIDD ISAF

(

See above for earlier records)

**1756 May 17: Tenant Richard Jones married Catherine Pierce**

*Rice Price continues the lease of Ffridd Isaf with Richard Jones*

1770 Feb 27: 21 year lease from Rice Price, Gent., Tower, Beaumaris, Anglesey (*died 1792*) - in 1784 will.

1770 - 1777: Richard Jones, of Ffrith - Land Tax Assessment £1-13-4 (£2-4-4 in 1771)

1777 - 1781: Richard Jones, of Ffrith - Land Tax Assessment £2-4-4.

1780 Ffridd Isaf is mentioned in will of Wm Williams, Ffridd. (T C Griffith 1989 p 42)

By 1784 - 1797 : **Owner of both Ffridd holdings : Mr William Owen.** (*son of nephew of Rice Price*)

1784 will of Richard Jones, yeoman, Ffridd Isaf, Llwyn Ilior. Names wife as Catherine Pierce (receives £20). (T C Griffith 1989 p 44-5) CHECK will - NLW.

Catherine was one of eleven children of Margaret Roberts, Hafod Ruffydd and Pierce Morgan, youngest son of Morgan Hughes, Wernlasdeg by his first wife Catherine. Catherine Pierce & Richard Jones married on 17 May 1756 and had 7 children:

Jane in 1757(receives £40): Martha\* in 1759 (receives £30); John\*in 1762; Catherine born in 1765, died 1767; Pierce in 1768; Catherine in 1772; William\* in 1777. (T C Griffith 1989 [3] & [4] )

1781 Oct 7: Richard Jones of Frith died in his 59th year. (A173)

*He leaves remainder of lease of Ffridd Isaf (taken out 1770 with Rice Price, The Tower, Beaumaris, for 120 years) to his wife Catherine & son John. Witnesses: John Roberts Hafod Wydr & John Pierce of Beddgelert. Catherine & John ran the farm until Catherine died in 1794.*

*1782 June 15 will of Rice Price; he died soon after. He left Ffridd Isaf to William Owen, son of his nephew, John Owen of Penmon.*

1782 - 1793 : Catherine Pierce, Ffrith. Land Tax Assessment - £2-4-4. (his widow)

1794 Feb 12 : death of Catherine Pierce, his wife, in her 66th year. (A173)

1794 no tenant named in Land Tax.

1797 - 1815: John Prichard (their son)-called **Ffridd Isa from 1805**: £2-4-4 Land Tax. 1801 - 1815 : Owner of both Ffridd holdings : Mr John Owen.

*1802 Owner: Robert Buckeley Owen, Brynmawr, Penmon, co A. Mortgaged estate fro £400.*

By 1816 John Prichard had moved to Ffridd Uchaf.

1816 - 1822: Owner of both Ffridd holdings- Robert Buckley Owen, Esq. (*from 1802*) *He mortgaged the estate to Morris Griffith, Tyddyn Ddu, Llanfair (Llwyn Cadair owain) whose foreclosure in 1818 was made absolute in 1822, making Morris Griffith the owner.*

1816 at Ffridd Isaf : no tenant named (*or was R B Owen living there?*)

1826 - at least 1830 : Owner of both Ffridd holdings - R B Owen, Esq.

1817 - 1830 at **Ffridd Isaf : David Roberts** in Land Tax Assessments - £2-4-4.

*1830 Morris Griffith started leasing parcels of land in Rhyd Ddu village. 1830-Tan y bryn lease to William Jones for 101 years; 1830- 99 year lease on the chapel site.*

*1834 Morris Griffith died, leaving the estate to his widow Ellen Griffith*

1838 Oct 23 : Tithe Commutation meeting

**7. Ffridd isaf Owner: Mrs Ellen Griffiths.**

Occupier : David Roberts, 510 acres

1841 census : Ffrith Isaf (1) in hamlet of Llwynllinor in parish of Beddgelert

David Roberts	55yrs	farmer	Born in Caernarfonshire
Catherine "	55		"
Catherine "	25		"
William "	20		"
David "	20		"
Robert "	15	joiner	"

1841 census: Ffrith Isaf (2)

David Jones	50	ag lab	Born in Caernarfonshire
Anne "	50		"
Anne "	10		"
Robert "	20	copper miner	"

1843 Mar 29: David Jones\*, Drwsycoed & Ffridd Isaf died. Bapt 14 Aug 1785.

On 15 Nov 1809 he had married Ann Roberts, Clogwyn y gwin & No 3 Rhyd Ddu who was baptised 22 March 1789. A daughter Ann Jones married David Jones, Llwyn y forwyn, Rhyd Ddu in 1846; two other children died in 1819 & 1835 of Ffridd bellaf. (T C Griffith 1989 p [47])\* + son of Richard Jones & Cathrine Pierce of Ffridd Isaf.

*1842 Estate mortgaged for £500 with Rev John Jones, Borthwnog, co M*

*1844 Owner Mrs Ellen Griffith died, leaving estate to John Griffith, Argoed.*

*1847 John Griffith lease state workings.*

*Ca 1845 Evan Owen came to Ffridd Isaf*

1851 census (52) Ffridd Isaf

*Evan Owen	H M	64	Farmer, 400 acres	Born in Beddgelert, C
Alice "	W M	54	(nee Williams, Wernlasdeg)	"
Edward "	S U	21		"
Margred "	D U	18		"
Laura "	D U	16		"
Ellinor "	D U	12		"
Ann "	D U	9		"
Dorothy "	M in law	71		"
Thomas Jones	Serv	20	farm serv	Llanbeblig, C
Hugh Edwards	lodger	37	Joiner	Llandegai, C

1856 Nov 20 : Alice wife of \*Evan Owen, Ffridd Isaf died aged 55 years. (A277)

Evan Owen +[1787-1866] of Glan yr afon & Ffridd Isaf married Alice [1801-1856]; his father Edward Owen was brother to Owen & Evan Owens who both lived at Clogwyn y Gwin; Edward Owen\*, one of their 9 children, born 1830, lived at Fridd Isaf. (C T Griffith [45] )

1851 census (53) Ffridd Isaf (? Cottage on R of Ffridd Isaf quarry)

Owen Jones	H M	28	Miner	Born in Llanfihangel, C
Jane "	W M	28		Beddgelert, C

Evan " S U 2 "

1852 John Griffith loan from Richard Jones, Garthmaelan bach, Dolgellau.

1853 Rev John Jones died; Margaret Jones died 1856; double probate granted to Lewis Williams.

1856 John Griffith re-mortgaged Ffridd Isaf.

1858 John Griffith was Master of the Union Workhouse, Porthmadog; then an Inn keeper.

1861 census (Nant Colwyn) (15) Ffridd Isaf 1 [son]

Edward Owens*	H	M	30yrs	Farmer 500 acres	Born Beddgelert, C
Mary	"	W	M	28	"
Jane	"	D	U	5	"
Evan	"	S	U	2	"
Alice	"	D	U	6mth	"
William Jones serv		U	13	carter	"
Ellen Williams Serv		U	16	house servant	"

1861 census (Nant Colwyn) (16) Ffridd Isaf 2 [father]

Evan Owen+	H	M	75yrs	retired farmer	"
Ann	"	D	U	18	"
Robert Jones	boarder	U	32	slate miner	Llanllechid, C

1866 Dec 29 : Evan Owen died aged 80 years. (A277)

Evan Owen was of Glan yr afon & Fridd Isaf. He & his wife Alice had 9 children. Their son Edward Owen baptised 1830, Ffridd Isaf, married Mary and had 6 children baptised between 1856 & 1868.

Edward Owen's father was Edward Owen of Clogwyn y gwin (1755-1840).

(T C Griffith 1989 p [45])

1866 Owner John Griffith died; Ffridd Isaf was inherited by his son William Morris Griffith.

1871 census Nant Colwyn (30) Fridd Isaf

Edward Owen	H	M	41	farmer 515 acres, 1 lab	Born Beddgelert, C
Mary	"	W	M	38	"
Jane	"	D	U	15	"
Evan	"	S	U	12	scholar
Alice	"	D	U	10	"
Pierce	"	S	U	8	"
Morgan	"	S	U	6	"
Margaret	"	D	U	3	"

1873 Owner: Morris Griffith Esq.

1876 Sept 23 : Robert Jones, Ffridd Isaf died; Bapt 1819-aged 57. He was another child of David Jones\* & Ann Roberts. He had four children.(T C Griffith 1989 p [48])

1881 census Nant Colwyn (9) Ffridd Isaf

William Jones	H	M	51	farmer 151 acres	born Clynnog
Laura	"	W	M	45	Beddgelert, C

*Jane A "	D	U	2			"
Evan O Henderson nephew	U	18		Farm servant		"
Robert H Jones boarder	U	41		Ag Lab		"

1889-99 **Sir Edward Watkins bought** Hafod y Llan **& later Ffridd Isaf.** (D E Jenkins, Beddgelert Its Facts Fairies & Folklore, 1899, p 250)

1891 census (42) Ffridd Isaf

William Jones H	M	61	farmer	Born Clynnog	Welsh
Laura "	W	M		Beddgelert	Welsh
*Jane Alice "	D	U	12	"	Welsh
Owen O Griffith serv	U	20	farm servant	Penrhyn, M	Welsh

*1893 Owner Sir Edward William Watkin's wife, Dame Ann Watkin; died 1897.*

*Owner Alfred Mellor Watkin*

*Owner Sir James Worsley Taylor died 1933 - their nephew?*

1901 census schedule no 97 Ffridd Isaf

William Jones H	M	71	farmer employer	born Clynnog, C.	W
Laura Jones	wife	M	66	Beddgelert, C	W
*Jane A Roberts	dau	M	22	"	W
William Roberts	son in law	M	28	farmer's son in law	Llanengan, C
Willie Jones Roberts	gson	2		Beddgelert C	
Jane L Roberts	gdau	1		"	

1905 Jan 29: Jennie, daughter of William & \*Jane Alice Roberts, Ffridd Isaf, died aged 5 years. (B587)

*1933 Owner Dame Audrey Frances Philipson Worsley Taylor*

*Owner Mrs Margaret Dorothea Worsley Taylor*

1952 July 13 : William Roberts died aged 81 years. (B587)

1955 May 23 : \*Jane Alice his wife died aged 76 years. (B587)

Their son moved to farm Fridd Isaf from another farmhouse.

The house became rundown.

1990s: David & Gina Kent bought it and restored it

*Gina Kent, owner, has the recent family history of the tenants.*

Research by Margaret Dunn ©

(from file PTFRIDD 11-11-05)

17 May 2008