



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



NORTH WEST WALES DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT

DATING OLD WELSH HOUSES - MERIONETH

BRON Y FOEL ISAF,

Dyffryn Ardudwy, Gwynedd, LL44 2ZH



HOUSE HISTORY

April 2013

Peter Thompson

Llwyndu Farmhouse

Llanaber, Barmouth

Gwynedd, LL42 1RR

Bron Y Foel History

Introduction and summary

Bron y Foel Isaf is located near the village of Dyffryn Ardudwy in the parish of Llanenddwyn, Gwynedd. It is centred at NGR SH 60262459. It is placed on the Statutory List of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest and listed Grade II*. It is located on the National Monument record of Wales PRN 28204. A recording of the buildings was made in December as part of the North-West Wales Dendrochronological Project (NWWWDP). The record formed part of an individual survey that was determined by dendrochronological sampling and analysis which established an initial construction phase of 1588-1614 with later adaptation.

Bron y Foel Isaf originated as a substantial storeyed house with gable chimneys, consisting of 4 bays divided by three trusses. The outer trusses consisted of principal rafters with raking struts while the central truss is in the form of an A frame run round internal faces with mortises to accept a boarded partition. The ground floor was initially divided into stereotypical accommodation of hall, cross passage and service or store room. A basement sits below passage and service room.

A remarkable latrine block exits from the service room and rises to two storeys and is placed to evacuate waste over a small stream. The latrine block is unique in this region of Wales and gives rise to the idea that the influence for its construction came from elsewhere and particularly the buildings at the St. Cross. The dendro date may not support this however.

The first floor is most notable for its height, measured at just over 3m, and its framed and counter-changing pattern of chamfered beams and joists is very impressive in a building of this type. If conceived as a single room it is possible this room had some formal function but this is conjectural without further evidence. A second latrine exits from the northern room

The habitable loft is commodious and was divided into two large areas, divided by a boarded partition fitted into mortise grooves in an A frame

There are two apparent phases of building. The primary phase was altered by a change to the circulation within the building by inserting a dog leg staircase within the cross passage space and the partitioning of the first floor to provide 4 rooms sometime in the late 18th or 19th century. It would appear that the cross passage doorway E was blocked

with a window being formed and this window was probably blocked when the staircase was inserted.

When the holding, consistently of around 90 acres from the 16th to the 19th century, expanded to an acreage of around 200 acres we see the addition of buildings in a long range to the rear of the house, and linked to the house. This accommodation included a utility building housing a kitchen with bread oven, cooking range and copper. There is a large bellows in this room. The room was linked to the small waterwheel constructed to the northern elevation. This was constructed to be fed by a race sunk on top of a sod and stone wall some 3'6" high. The wheel powered a variety of machinery all now gone. Further buildings provided shelter for stock. These buildings are partly in near ruinous condition but they reveal that the farm prospered, moderately, in the 19th century.

The main building remains in original condition, with the 18th and 19th century alterations and its special characteristics mean that it is now Listed as a Building of Special Architectural or Historic Interest at Grade II* which should ensure its protection.

'Only a limited number of the fifteenth century holdings bear topographical names. ... These holdings appear to represent the partitioning of the old tribal lands following the Conquest. Bennar, Taltreuddyn, Ystumgwerd. ... Bron y foel occupies the highest position (*along the coastal strip*) today represented by a farm lying at just above 650 ft. This high position, on the edge of the moorland, is paralleled by that of **Rhyd yr Eirin in Llanfair**, today a former farmhouse located at 900 ft on the rocky slopes of Moel Gerddi, and by Golodd, lying on the lower slopes of the Llawlech ridge in the valley of the Afon Dwynant at 750 ft. (Della Hooke, *The Ardudwy Survey*, JMHRs, 1983, p 248)' It is interesting to note that these early 'districts' that comprised legal entities as administrative units eventually culminated in the name being attached to one holding.

In the mediaeval period onwards Bron y Foel (as with Bennar, Taltreuddyn and Ystumgwerd) is used interchangeably to denote a township, a loosely defined area or a specific holding until eventually just three holdings remain. Bron y Foel Uchaf, Ganol and Isaf. In close proximity geographically, the acreage of each holding stays the same throughout our period until a number of tenants extend acreages, notably after the sale of the Cors y Gedol Estate 1858 where the tenant, Thomas Davies increases the acreage from the customary 90 acres to over 200 within 20 years.

Of interest is the Vaughan or Vychan family of Cors y Gedol, whose interest in the lands in this area are clear and means they are signatories to many of the documents below, illustrating their powerful predominance over life in this area throughout our period but more research is needed.

The actual inhabitants are a little elusive in some ways. The two most notable, Theodore Price and William Lewis were clearly absentee landlords during most of their life and only Richard Lewis, at this point, is clearly at Bron y Foel when he records the family pedigree in 1588. Price mortgaged the property in 1591 to Gruffydd Vaughan and this poses interesting questions that future research may hopefully resolve. William Lewis eventually sold Bron y Foel in 1653/4 to Henry Wynn. Bron y Foel was leased back to a Llanenddwyn man, Charles Evans, in 1683 but the property was eventually back in the hands of the Vaughans of Cors y Gedol as a tenant farm at least as early 1729 as shown by a tenancy list. It remained a tenant farm until it's disposal by the Mostyn Estate, possibly in 1858. It now exists as a freehold farm and although facing an uncertain future new buyers are on the horizon.

Documentary Evidence

1419/20 Mention of Bron y voel (Record of Caernarvon, p 277)

1493 May 2: gift (sale) of lands

1. Lybet verch Engion ap Ievan ap Madog.
2. Ieuan ap Gruffydd Vychan

Extract: GIFT of all her lands and tenements in the **township of Bronyfoel** in the township of Llanenddwyn. Witnesses: John ap Jake; Rychard ap John ap Jake, Thomas ap Ievan ap Llewelyn Sais, Ievan ap Llewelyn ap Hoell Gethyn & others. Given at Hadlagh. (UWB, Mostyn 3706)

1519 July 31: Tir Prid (mortgage) Tyddyn Du y Foel in a place called Bron y Foel

Extract

1. **Llewelyn ap Maredudd ap Llewelyn**, free tenant of the township of Llanenddwyn, co Merioeth;
2. **William Vichan ap Griffith Vichen**, free tenant of the same township. (**Cors Y Gedol**)

MORTGAGE “tir prid” for an initial term of 4 years commencing Michaelmas 1519 and subsequently for quadrennial periods of a tenement called **Tyddyn Du y Voyl** lying in a place called Bron y Voyl in the township of Llanenddwyn. Consideration 60/- sterling. Witnesses: Hoell ap Res ap Grono, Thomas ap Llewelyn ap Eigion; Howell ap Re sap Ievan ap Ednyfet and others. Given at Llanenddwyn.

(UWB Mostyn 3709)

‘**Tir Prid**’ was a customary Welsh form of land conveyance preventing the alienation of the said land to another party. The length of the conveyance was set, often at 4 years as here, but sometimes longer and had to be renewed by payment or it would revert to the person that pledged the land, the gageur, who would return the money to the gagee in order to recover the land. This arrangement could continue being renewed indefinitely and could be bequeathed. (Price. H, Literacy in Medieval Wales, CUP 2006)

1546 July 5: gift (sale) of messuage and lands

1. John ap Ievan ap Hoell, free tenant of the township of Llanenthoyrn, co Merioneth;
2. Rice Vichan ap William Vichan ap Gruffith Vichan (Cors y Gedol)

GIFT of messuages, land & tenements in the township of Llanentwyn lately belonging to Thomas ap Ievan ap Griffith. Witnesses David ap Griffith ap Ffiveon, clerk, Griffith ap John ap Ievan ap Eignion & Ievan ap David ap Ievan ap Moris and others. Given at Llanenthoyrn.

(UWB Mostyn 3717)

1552 Dec 7: gift (sale) of lands

1. Katherine verch Griffith ap Meredudd ap Llewelyn ap Howell Gethyn of Llanenddwyn, daughter and heiress of Griffith ap Meredudd ap Llewelyn ap Howell Gethyn.
2. Rees Vichan, Esq. (Cors y Gedol)

GIFT of lands called Tythyn Duy, Kay Glase, Kay Madock, Brushyr, Lleytey Wervill, and Glas cile in a place called **BRON Y VOILLE** in the township of Llanenddwyn, co Merioneth. (UWB Mostyn 3723)

1562 Dec 24: lease of tenement in Bron y Voille

1. Rees Vichan of Llantheywe, co Merioneth, Esq; (Cors y Gedol)

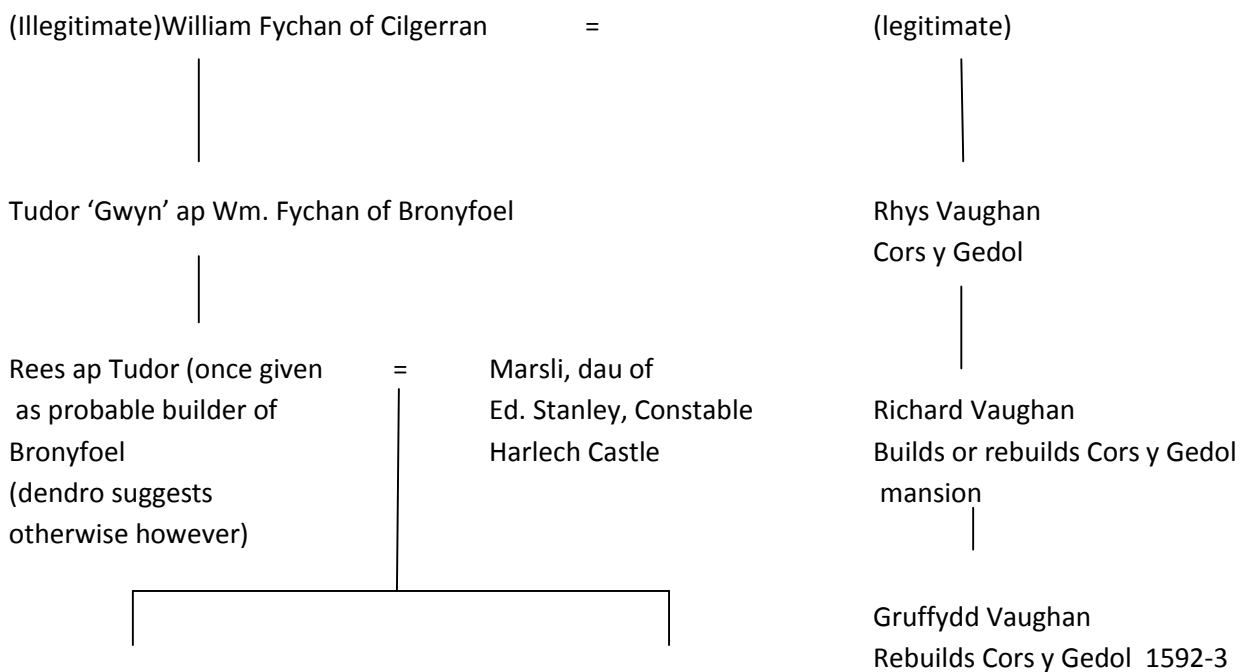
2. Gruffith ap John ap Gruffith ap Eingion of Llanenthoin, co Merioneth, yeoman

LEASE for 12 years of one tenement called Tir Bedo ap Iorwerth in BRON Y VOILLE in the township of Llanenthoin. Rent 40/- & I goose and 2 pullets at Christmas.

(UWB Mostyn 3725)

1588, October 14th: Pedigree recorded by Dwnn

Richard Lewis records the family pedigree and a simplified adaptation is given below (**Dwnn, ii, p223**)



Tudor (Theodore) Price
1570-1631
Mortgages Bron Y Foel Isaf 1591
Will PROB II

Elin = **Richard Lewis**
(pedigree, Dwnn, 1588)

William Lewis (1591-1667)
Inherits Bron Y Foel Isaf from

paternal uncle around 1631.

Sells 1654

Will PROB II

1589 April 19: quitclaim (transfer of interest in property) of messuage and lands called Bron y Voyle.

1. John ap David ap Meredudd of Trawsfynydd, co Merioneth, yeoman, son & heir of Catherine verch David ap Gruffydd.
2. Humphrey ap David ap Edeneved, yeoman.

QUITCLAIM of messuage, lands etc called BRON Y VOYLE in Llanenddwyn. Consideration unspecified.

(UWB Mostyn 3740)

1590/91 – mortgage of Bron y Foel Ucha and Issa

This document reveals Theodore Price mortgaging the property to Griffith Vaughan. Price, who had graduated from Oxford had been ordained and installed as rector of Llanfair at this time and he took a house next to the churchyard according to his will (see below). The tree ring dating suggests that Bronyfoel Isaf could have been constructed around this time, that is, during the period 1588-1614. But how likely?

1. **Tuder Price** of Llanenthoin, co Merioneth, gent;
2. Gruffith Vaughan of Corsygedol, co Merioneth, Esq

MORTGAGE for 20 years of messuages or tenements called Bron y voel vcha and Bron y Foel issa and Gyfynys in Llanenthoin, co Merioneth, excepting the dowry of **Lowry**

verch Gruffith Lewis during her lifetime and a lease of the premises for three years already granted to one David Lloyd Gruffith. Consideration £88 6s 8d.

(UWB, Mostyn 3743)

1599/1600 Merioneth Lay Subsidy Roll

John Lewis Gwyn XXs Note suggests Gwyn of Bronyfoel

1614 Dec 6: deed to lead to the use of a fine

*The **fine** was used to transfer title with the additional authority of having the transfer recorded by the court and held in the court archives with the deed recorded by court. The **deed to lead to use of a fine** held the intent of the deed and was performed before the fine was recorded.*

1. Robert ap Humffrie of Llanenddwyn, co Merioneth, gent;
2. John Vaughan of London, gent

DEED to lead the uses of a fine of a tenement called Bryn alias **Bron y voel ucha** and lands etc in the said Llanenddwyn in the name of 2 houses, 20 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture and 20 acres of heath and bruery (gorse).

(UWB Mostyn 3759)

1617 Aug 23: RELEASE of QUITCLAIM of a messuage and tenements

1. Robert ap Humffrey ap David of Llanenthoyne, co Merioneth, gent;
2. John Vaughan, late of London, gent,

RELEASE of QUITCLAIM of a messuage and tenements of lands called Bryn y Foel alias **Bron y Foel Ucha** presumably in the said Llanenthoyne from 1 May, 1634. Consideration: £24. Recites a mortgage being a deed to lead the uses of a fine of the said lands etc dated 6 Dec 1614 wherein the consideration was £70.

(UWB, Mostyn 3762)

1623 Crown Rental Ardudwy 1623

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

Llanenddwyn: Wm Vaughan Bronyfoel ucha 1/4d

Theodore Price was said to have an interest in Bron y Foel Isaf but while Price is shown as paying rental on several properties in Llanenddwyn & Llanddwywe parishes Bronyfoel Isaf is not mentioned specifically. As shown above William Vaughan of Cors y Gedol is shown as paying for Bronyfoel Uchaf

(NLW 12731E, MHRS, *An Ardudwy Crown Rental of 1623*, Parry. R, 2009)

1631 Death of Theodore Price, Doctor of divinity (1570-1631)

Price was the son of Rees ap Tudor and his wife Margory, who was the daughter of Edward Stanley (constable of Harlech). Price was born in about 1570 in the parish of Llanenddwyn. He attended All Soul's College, Oxford. Later, he transferred to Jesus College and graduated with a BA on 16 February 1588 and a Master's degree on 9 June 1591. After his ordination, he was appointed as rector in Llanfair near Harlech in 1591. He was appointed a prebendary of Winchester Cathedral in 1596 and rector of Llanrhaedr ym Mochnant, Denbighshire in 1601. In 1604, he was appointed as Principal of [Hart](#) Hall, Oxford, holding this position until his resignation in 1622. He became rector of Launton, Oxfordshire in 1609 and obtained his Doctorate of Divinity from new college, Oxford. He was made a Fellow of the college at that time. A glittering clerical career.

The will of Theodore Price offers few insights into the role of Bronyfoel Isaf and his will and codicils t are concerned principally with perpetuating his memory with various bequests as well as bequests to the poor of different places he leaves monies for various works of reparation to churches and other buildings, his old colleges and associations. His recent conversion back to the old faith is seen in these requests and the most interesting is fact in relation to Llanenddwyn church and to 'my house next to the churchyard'. The church he leaves £40 for the adorninge and beautifying of the chancel and altar rail and south side of the church...and wainscoting the same...if the money should extend' Further he gives ten pounds to the 'poor of the said parish of Llanenddoyne' and lastly I give to the parson of Llanddoyne and his successors for ever my house and garden situate by the Churchyard of Llanenddoyne towards the maintenance and reparacion of the chancel and the South side of the said church above mentioned'.

Importantly for this history Price left 'all my lands and tenancies, houses and outhouses... I bequeath and demise to my ever loving nephew William Lewis, Doctor of Divinity and Mstr of St. Cross.'

(The National Archives PROB 11/160/804)

(J Gwynfor Jones, Government and Society 1536-1603, in History of Merioneth Vol II The Middle Ages, ed J Beverley Smith & Llinos Beverley Smith, p 689)

1648 Dec 14: Mortgage of Bron y Voille

1. **William Lewis of Llanenddowyn**, co Merioneth, Doctor of Divinity.

2. Sir Maurice Williams of London. Kt

Mortgage of the capital messuage and mansion called Bron y Voille in parish Llanenddoyne and lands in Llanenddoyne and Llanddewey, co Merioneth.

Consideration £200.

(UWB Mostyn 3837)

1652: William Lewis' estate at Llanwyby (sic) was declared forfeit for treason by Act of Parliament 18 Nov 1652.

There is no mention of William Lewis for five days either side of the sitting on the 18th. However, this does not mean that there were not additional schedules that listed more 'offenders'.

Records of Parliament to be examined in future

1653/4 Reversion or Quitclaim

1. William Lewis, D.D.,

2. Sir Maurice Williams of London, Knight;

QUITCLAIM & reversionre BronyVoile, Llandwey & Llanenddoeye.

(UWB, Mostyn **3838**)

1653/4 March 23 - Bargain & Sale of Bron y Foel and lands

1. **William Lewis of Llanenddowyn**, co Merioneth, Doctor of Divinity.

2. **Henry Wynn of Rhiwcoch**, co Merioneth, Esq.

Bargain and Sale of the capital messuage and mansion called Bron y Voile in parish Llanenddoyne and lands in Llanenddoyne and Llanddewey, co Merioneth. (Fields named included Tithin Grono); Consideration £505.

(UWB Mostyn 3838 & 3839 counterpart, Mostyn 3840)

Archaeologia Cambrensis - Third Series No. IX January 1857 p24

Biographical notes on Henry Wynn, purchaser of Bron y Foel

Family and Education

Biography

Wynn a lawyer, acquired property in Merioneth by marriage, and represented the county in three early Stuart Parliaments. His advancement at Court was due to his elder brother, the second baronet, who was receiver-general to Henrietta Maria, and his sympathies were royalist, but he took no active part in the Civil War. He was obliged to contribute £200 to the committee for the advance of money, but half seems to have been repaid him. Though elected a bencher of his Inn in 1647, he refused the position until the Restoration. He was appointed to the Merioneth commission of the peace under the Commonwealth but removed three years later.

Wynn regained the county seat at the general election of 1661, but was an inactive Member of the Cavalier Parliament, perhaps because of his court offices. He made no recorded speeches and only five committees can be definitely ascribed to him, including those to consider the Duke of York's revenue and to prevent fraudulent conveyances. Either he or John Wynne may be the 'Mr Wynn' who served on a further 20 committees, of which the most important was on the bill for regulating juries. Possibly parliamentary inactivity accounts for the absence of his name from court party lists in 1669-71, though he must have resented his failure to obtain the reversion of his office of protonotary on the North Wales circuit for his nephew. He died on 27 July 1671, aged 69, and was buried in the Temple Church.

Ref Volumes: 1660-1690

Authors: Leonard Naylor / Geoffrey Jaggard

(<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1660-1690/member/wynn-henry-1602-71>)

1657 Oct 3 – Lease for four years of properties including Bronyfoel

1. William Vaughan of Corsygedol

2. Wm Owens of Porkington

Lease for four years in consideration of the sum of £20 and a bond of £2000 heretofore entered into by the said WV and Sir John Owen of Clenenne co C and the said WO on behalf of the said WV- incl Corsygedol ucha and issas...Bronyfoel ucha and issas, y burllys etc 2 pages of properties!

Rent 5s p.a.

(UWB Mostyn 4090)

1662 Hearth Tax Return

Bronyfoel Isaf assessed with four hearths

(MRHS,)

1667 : Death of William Lewis (1592-1667)

William may have had a closer association with Bronyfoel than Theodore Price, his father, Richard Lewis, M.A., having recorded the family pedigree there in 1588 but by the time of his death in 1667 he had disposed of his interest some years previously in 1653/4. Like his uncle William carved out something of a glittering career as a cleric away from Wales after being guided by Price at Hart Hall, Oxford. Gained B.A. in 1608 and M.A. in 1612. Provost of Oriel College, Oxford resigned in 1621. Doctorate in divinity followed in 1627 he became Master of the Hospital of St. Cross (1627-1643) and was reinstated in 1660 and remained there until his death in 1667. He was buried in the Chapel there.

It is said that Lewis lost his preferments during the Commonwealth and fled abroad. However, he was signatory to sale documents in 1653/4 disposing of Bronyfoel.

As would be expected his will, proved in Canterbury, reveals more of his life away from Wales. In the preamble his language is pious and full of religiosity but on the matter of bequeathing worldly goods he bemoans he has been 'much weakened by twenty years of sequestration and exile'. Again he complains he could pay for a 'better memorial (for Oriel College, Oxford) if I had not bin impoverished by exile and twenty years sequestration'. Indeed while there are plentiful cash bequests there seems little or no property and the concerns of the will seem either very personal or deal with helping old institutions, old colleges.

(TNA - PROB 11/325/276)

(SEE Al. Oxon. 910) (Foster, Oxford Men and their Colleges, 1893, p 143)

1683 Oct 27 – Lease of Bron y Voyle

1. Henry Browne of Bernards Inn, London and Anne, his wife, sole daughter and heir of Sir Maurice Willams, late of London

2. Charles Evans of Llanenddoyne, Co Merioneth, yeoman

Lease for 21 years of a capitall messuage ot tenement called **Bron y Voyle** and of parcels of land thereto belonging. Mentions a 'little house and garden'.

(UWB Mostyn 3841)

1690 Land Tax Assessment for Ardudwy

Not recorded.

(UWB, Mostyn 3903)

1798 Land Tax Assessments – Bron y Foel not recorded

(MRO Land Tax Assessment – Llanenddwyn 1798)

1768	Will	Richard Roberts	Bron Y Foel Isaf	Yeoman
------	------	-----------------	------------------	--------

(NLW Bangor Probate)

1729- 1850s - List of Tenancy holders - Cors y Gedol estate 1729 –1850s and later

1729	?	£15.0.0
1764	High Prichard	£20.19.0
1778	?	£20.14.0

(NLW, Bangor Probate Records online,
<http://hdl.handle.net/10107/542457>)

- 1833 Will Elizabeth William Bron Y Foel Isa Will & Inv
 (NLW, Bangor Probate Records B/1832/W/151)
- 1839 Tithe Commutation Awards of 1839-40 GA

Bronyfoel Isaf formed part of the Cors y Gedol Estate at the time of the Tithe Apportionment Awards and the whole estate comprised some 16,000 acres. There were 161 holdings over 10 parishes.

The Bron Y Foel holdings were listed as-

Bron Y Foel Isaf	Farmed by Robert Pugh (1792-1846)	93.0.16	£4.1.9
	mixed arable, pasture and meadow		
Bron y Foel Ganol	Farmed Owen Edwards	36.0.1	£1.17.5
Bron Y Foel Uchaf	Farmed Henry Jones (1784-1870)	160.0.33	£4.19.5

(MRO, TCA Llanddwyn)

1841 Census

Robert Pugh	45	Farmer	
Ellin Pugh wife	40		
Richard son	13		
Elizabeth dau	12		
Ellin dau	10		
Ann dau	8		
Edward	1		
Robert	15	Ag Labourer	
Griffith			
Ann Ellis	20	Ag labourer	

(MRO, TCA
Llanenddwyn)

The first census shows Robert Pugh heading a household of wife and five children with 2 agricultural labourers. Household number 9

1846 Bond

Robert Pugh Bron Y Foel Issa Inventory of chattels &
personal effects £181

Robert Pugh, the tenant in 1841 census dies and leaves small bequests to his family. The inventory of his goods and chattels comes to a total of £181

(NLW, Bangor Probate Records online, <http://hdl.handle.net/10107/920253>)

1851 Census

Ellen Pugh	Head	Widow	57	Farmer 94 Acres	Llanfair
Robert	son	Mar	24	Farmers son	Llanenddwyn
Ellen	Dau	un	21	Dressmaker	"
Anne	Dau	Un	18	Farmers Dau	"
Edward	son		11	Scholar	"
David	Servant	Un	19	Farm Servant	LLanelltyd
Rowlands					
Catherine Jones	Servant	Un	26	General Serv	Llanaber

(MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)

Ellen Pugh has now assumed the role of head of the family following her husband's death. No further children were added or survived from the 1841 census. Note that Richard seems to be recorded as Robert and Elizabeth, who would be around 25 was absent or left. Household number 7

1861 Census

Thomas Davies	Head	Mar	37	Farmer 100 acres	Llanenddwyn
Laura	Wife	Mar	35	Farmers Wife	"
Elizabeth	Dau		11		"
Griffith	Son		8		"
Robert	Son		6		"
Margaret	Dau		3		"
Jane P	Dau		6 mths		"
John Roberts	Serv	unm	15	Carter	"
Elizabeth Roberts	Serv	Unm	17	Housemaid	"

(MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)

By 1861 a new tenant, Thomas Davies, had taken over Bronyfoel Isaf. Again a family of 5 with 2 servants or workers. The acreage is given as 100 acres, a little more than the consistent 94 acres given in the various records. Household at time of census 9

1871 - Census

Thomas Davies	Head	Mar	47	Farmer 139 acres land owner	LLanenddwyn
Laura	Wife	Mar	44	wife	"
Robert	Son	Un	17	son	"
Margaret	Dau	Un	13	Scholar	"
Jane P	Dau		10	"	"
Laura	Dau		8	"	"
Thomas	Son		6		"
Rees	Son		3		"
John	Son		1		"
Elizabeth Griffiths	Serv	Unm	24	General Serv	Llanuwchllyn
Robert Roberts	Serv	Unm	15	Farm Serv	Llanddwywe

(MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)

Thomas Davies is still the tenant but now has another 2 children and a further 39 acres. Household 11.

1881 Census

Thomas Davies	Head	Mar	57	Farmer 200 acres	LLanenddwyn
Laura	Wife	"	54	Wife	"
Jane	Dau	Unm	21	Dau	"
Thomas	Son	Unm	16	Scholar	"
Rees	Son	Unm	14	"	"
John	Son	Unm	12	"	"
William	Son	Unm	9	"	"

Catherine	Dau		7	“	“
William Jones	Serv	Unm	29	Farm Servant indoor	“
Elizabeth Davies (MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)	Serv	Unm	21	Farm Servant Domestic	“

Thomas Davies continues his successful tenancy, adding another 61 acres to the holding. It seems that the two eldest children were absent or left home at the time of the census, while an additional two children. William and Catherine have entered the family – 9 children in all. Household 10

1891 Census

Griffith Griffiths	Head	Married	40	Farmer	LLandanwg
Elizabeth	Wife	M	41		LLanenddwyn
Laurah	Dau		11		“
Griffith	Son		10		“
Jane	Dau		9		“
Kate	Dau		7		“
Magie?	Dau		5		“
Elizabeth	Dau		4		“
Sarah E	Dau		2		“
Thomas Davies	son		10mths		
Evan Thomas	Serv	Unm	18	Agric Labourer	Llanbedr
Thomas Jones	Serv	Unm	14	Agric Labourer	
Catherine Williams	Serv	Unm	17	Domestic Serv	LLannor Caer
Ann Jones	Serv	Unm	15	Domestic Serv	LLanenddwyn

(MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)

Griffith Griffiths heads another fecund family of 8 children but who has now taken on further labour of 2 labourers. There is no account of the acreage but the extra labour suggests the acreage may be still around 200 acres. Household at time of census 14.

1896

Royal Commission on Land in Wales and Monmouthshire 1896, Thomas, D. Ll, H.M. S .O., 1896

Evidence given on 10th day in Barmouth Bronyfoel Isaf not referred to as one of the farms giving testimony to the Commission.

1901 Census

Edward Lloyd	Head	Married	57	Farmer
Elizabeth	Wife	Married	50	
Ellen Alice	Dau	Unm	25	
Elizabeth	Daur	Unm	19	
Mary	Daur	Unm	15	
Rees	Son		14	
Morris Griffith	Son		11	
Margaret	Dau		14	

(MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)

Tenancy has changed once again and at the moment of the census appears to have a slightly smaller family and possibly a smaller acreage with no additional labour.
Household 8

Cors y Gedol Estate Sales

Bron y Foel Isaf listed in sale of 1858 (MRO ZF/97) with tenant as Ellen Pugh holding 87.04 acres with a further plot of land of 6 acres (Lots 47 & 48)Plan.

In subsequent sales of Cors y Gedol in 1891 and 1920 Bron y Foel is not mentioned.

1910; Parish Land Tax Assessment, , Llanenddwyn.

Llanenddwyn curiously gives no entry for Bron y Foel

1911 John Morgan Evans died 1926

John Morgan	Head		43	Farmer	Llanenddwyn
Laura	Wife		43		
Janet	D		14		
Laura	D		11	School	
William	Son		9		
Jane Jones	Sister	Single	53	Family cook	

(MRO, TCA Llanenddwyn)

Again a change of tenancy with John Morgan Evans, a wife and three children and the wife's sister employed as a cook.. Household

1926 Laura Evans died 1948 (Heather Jones)

1940/1 Emyr Wynne (Heather Jones)

1940-1943 - National Farm Surveys of England and Wales 1940-1943 –

this was not consulted. The records are kept in the National Archives but an enquiry may be forthcoming. Ref : MAF37

Colonel Pennant (Heather Jones)

1963- Griffith Morgan Griffith purchased Bronyfoel Isaf and his son Nedw Griffiths continues with the ownership of Bronyfoel to this day.

(Pers.com Nedw Griffiths)

Finish