



Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig

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TŶ FRY

Penrhyndeudraeth,
Gwynedd



House History

A Part History of the House & its Families

Author: Gwenda Paul

Updated 21-01-2012

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

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NORTH WEST WALES DENDROCHRONOLGY PROJECT

DATING OLD WELSH HOUSES– GWYNEDD.

Tŷ FRY

Gwenda Paul, Tŷ Fry, Penrhyndeudraeth,
February 2012.

Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd (formerly Merioneth)

NGR SH 607396

SUMMARY

Tŷ Fry is a stone built sub-medieval house of the Snowdonia type, two storeys with an attic. The chimneys were originally much higher. There is a stone staircase to the right of the fireplace, with an arrow slit window.

The felling dates for the beams were - winter 1754/5 and 1755/6 and spring 1756. The bressummer and other old beams were not suitable for dating. (*Welsh Dendrochronology Project Phase 2, page 137*)

The Rev. William Jones of the Brynhir family married Margaret, the daughter of Humphrey Owen, Lasynys. It is believed that Rev. William Jones drowned crossing the Traeth Bach in 1769 on his way down from Llandecwyn Church to take a service at Llanfihangel y Traethau.

Members of the Owen family lived at Tŷ Fry for a great number of years, the most famous being William Owen, a poet, and a hymnist. Copies of his work are at The National Library of Wales.

In the main bedroom, a boarded up cupboard was found, inside were books in vellum, in Latin and by Ellis Wynne, Lasynys. Most of them were taken to the Library at Hengwrt, Dolgellau. Tŷ Fry was then owned by Hengwrt Uchaf, (Cymru Mehefin 1900 page 332)

Gwenda Paul, Meirionnydd
Chwefror / February 2012.



A report commissioned by The North West Wales Dendrochronology Project in partnership with The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW).

Documentary Evidence Relating to Tŷ Fry.

- Early 1600's** — John Moris ap William of Tŷ Fry married Catherine daughter of Moris ap Ifan (died 1607) *Griffith's Pedigrees, (G Ped) p235 Hendre Gwenllian and p 357 Penyfed*
- 1623 Crown Rentals** Moris ap William for his own land – 10d
Also- Blaen y Waen 6d. Blaen y Waen was on Tŷ Fry land
(*Penrhyndeudraeth fel yr Oedd', (Pen1880) Dafydd Williams 1880 Bangor 21/111*)
- 1656 Sept 20** – Richard son of John Moris and Catherine was still living at that d
(*G Ped*)
- The Morgan Family of Lasynys owned Tŷ Fry.** (*Pen 1880*)
- 1706 April 17** – burial of John Morgans of Lasynys Fawr, gent aged 34 years – (*Llanfihangel y Traethau Memorial Inscriptions 003E (LlyTr MI)*)
- Rev. William Jones (family, Brynhir, Cricieth)** (*G Ped p.156*)
- 15/3/1727** born, son of Rev. John Jones, Brynhir, Rector of Bodfean and Mary (Alice) daughter of John Powell, Llanfihangel y Pennant. Baptised at Deneio, Pwllheli. Matriculated Jesus College Oxford, 1745-6 (*Bishops Transcript*)- (*BT*)
- 1750 – Curate at Llanfair (BT)**
- 1752 – Curate at Llanfrothen and Beddgelert (BT)**
- 1753/54/55 Curate at Llaniestyn (BT)**
- 1755 – 1769 Curate at Llanfihangel y Traethau and Llandecwyn (BT)**
- 12/2/1755. Married Margaret the daughter of Humphrey Owen, Lasynys at Llanfihangel.**(*Llanfihangel y Traethau Marriage Records (LlyTr Marr. R)*)
- 28/4 1757 –** baptised :-Catherine dr. Rev. William Jones Tŷ Fry and Margaret
(*Llanfrothen Records (Llfr)*)
- 7/7 1758 –** baptised - Owen son of Rev. William Jones, Curate of Llanfihangel and Margaret
(*Llfr*)
- 25/5/1761 –** baptised – Ellen dr. of Rev. William Jones, Tŷ Fry and Margaret (*Llfr*)
- 10/3/ 1764 -** baptised – William son. of Rev. William Jones, Tŷ Fry and Margaret (*Llfr*)
- 24/1/1767 -** baptised – Mary dr. of Rev. William Jones, Tŷ Fry and Margaret Owen. (*Llfr*)
- 30/4/1769 –** *Entered last marriage record at Llanfihangel y Traethau*
- 28/12/ 1769 -** No Will but an inventory of the goods of the late Rev. William Jones
(*Bangor/1769 / 132/I*) (*B*)
- Margaret Jones (Owen) Wife of the Rev. William Jones. daughter of Humphrey Owen, Lasynys.**
- Eleanor Jones** the 2nd. daughter of Rev. William Jones and Margaret was left the Lasynys estate by her Aunt Eleanor, the first daughter of Humphrey Owen.
(*LlyTr MI 007E*)

Memorial Inscriptions

- 11/4/1737** Burial, William Owen, Tŷ Fry age 74, born 1653 (*Llfr A008*)
- 12/1/1793** Burial, Margaret Williams, daughter age 82, born 1711(*Llfr A008*)
- 25/11/1794** Burial, John Williams, husband of Margaret, Drover age 72, bore 1722.
(*Llfr A008*)
- 6/5/1786** Burial, Richard son of William Jones and Catherine, born 1781 age 5.
Catherine Jones and William Jones later of Gelli Goch (Llfr A007)
- 19/10/1840** Burial, John Owen Tŷ Fry age 88, born 1804 (father of William Owen, bard). (*William Owen wrote the 'englyn' below for his father's grave*) *LlyTr MI 148*)
Ddyn gwael, â Duw hael o hyd – ymofyn
Am afael mewn bywyd;
Gafael ynddo a'th gyfyd,

Rasol fael o'r isel fyd.

- 28/5/1873 Burial, Elizabeth, daughter of John and Ann Owen Tŷ Fry, age 84 (LlyTr MI 148)
10/12/1872 Burial William Owen, Tŷ Fry (bard) age 76, born 1796, son of John Owen (Nazareth Memorial Inscriptions (NML A050)
27/5/1887, Burial Ann Owen, Tŷ Fry age 88, born 1799 (NMI A050)
2/10/1894, Burial Richard Owen, Tŷ Fry age 53, born 1841 (NMI A050)
17/12/1896, Burial Capt. John Owen, Garth Cottage, Porthmadog, age 60, born 1836 (NMI A050)
26/4/1926, Burial Gwen Owen, wife of John Owen age 89, born 1837. (NMI A050)

Baptisms

- Oct. 1709. Baptism of Jane, daughter of John Richards & Margaret, Tŷ Fry (Llfr)
May 1711. Baptism of Jane, daughter of John Richards & Margaret, Tŷ Fry (Llfr)
(The first Jane may have died)
Nov 1779 Baptism of William Williams (Jones) son of William Jones, Ty Fry (Llfr)
14/1/1781 **Baptism of Richard infant son of William Jones, Ty Fry, and Catherine (Llfr)**

Summary of owners or tenants:-

1. 1519 land released to Richard Pencoed, clericus (Porth yr aur 3654)
2. Early 1600's - John Moris ap William Tŷ Fry married Catherine of Hendre Gwenllian (G Ped. P 235)
3. 1623 – Moris ap William 10p for his own land and Blaen y Waen 6p (Crown Rentals 1623)
4. 1656 – Richard, son of John Moris and Catherine still living (G Ped P 235)
5. 1706 April 17 – burial of John Morgans of Lasynys Fawr, gent aged 34 years –
(LlyTr MI 003E)
The Morgan Family of Lasynys owned Tŷ Fry. (Pen1880 NLW also LlyTr MI 007)
6. 1709- Baptism of Jane, daughter of John Richards & Margaret, Tŷ Fry (Llfr)
7. 11/4/1737 Burial, William Owen, Tŷ Fry age 74, born 1653 (Llfr A008)
grandfather of Wm. Jones Tŷ Fry and Gelli Goch. (TCG 178)
Also Margaret, his daughter and her husband, John Williams, drover (see above)
- 3.
8. 1755 – 1769 - Rev. William Jones and family living at Tŷ Fry between these dates.
9. 6/5/1786 Burial, Richard son of William Jones and Catherine aged 5 born 1781.
Catherine Jones and William Jones later of Gelli Goch (Llfr A007)
10. 22. 11. 1779. Baptism of William Williams (Jones) son of William Jones, Ty Fry (Llfr) died 1846.
11. 9.10 1840. Burial John Owen, Tŷ Fry age 88 born 1804, father of William Owen, bard. (LlyTr MI 148)
12. 10/12/1872. Burial William Owen, Tŷ Fry (bard) age 76, born 1796, son of John Owen (NMI A050)
13. 2/10/1894, Burial Richard Owen, Tŷ Fry age 53, born 1841
Son of William Owen (NMI A050)
14. 17.12.1896. Burial Capt. John Owen, Garth Cottage, Porthmadog, age 60, born 1836 (NMI A050)

Census- Tenants/ Owners:-

Census- tenants:-

	Name	Age	Rank	Where Born
1841 –	William Owen,	40	farmers	
	Ann Owen	35		

Ann Owen,	6	
John Owen,	4	
Richard, Owen	6m	
Elizabeth Owen	45	<i>Ind.</i>
Catherine Owen	20	<i>Female servant</i>
John Owen	15.	

	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born
1851 -	William Owen	head	Mar	52	Farmer 100 acres	Llanfair
	Ann Owen	wife	Mar	49	-	Llanfrothen
	Ann Owen	daugh	Unmar	16	-	"
	John Owen	son	Unmar	14	Scholar	"
	Richard Owen	son	Unmar	10	Scholar	"
	Margaret Owen	daugh	Unmar	6	Scholar	"

1861	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born
	William Owen	head	Mar	64	Farmer 88 acres	
	(Wife with son at Portmadoc)					
	Richard Owen	son	Unmar	19	farmer's son and agri. labourers	
	Margaret Owen	Daugh	Unmar.	16	Farmer's daugh	
	John Owen	serv.	Unmar	14	Agri. labourer	
	Elizabeth Owen	serv.	Unmar	11	House servant	

1871-	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born
	William Owen	Head	Mar.	75	Farmer, 84 acres	Llandanwg
	Ann Owen	Wife	Mar.	70	Farmer's wife	Llanfrothen
	Richard Owen	Son	Unmar	20	Servant	"
	Margaret Owen	Daugh.	Unmar	16	Domestic Serv.	"

1881	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born
	Ann Owen,	Head	widow	80	Farmer 88 acres	Merioneth
	Richard Owen	Son	single	39	Farmer's son	"
	Jane, Williams	Servant	single	18	Servant	"
	Ellen, Jones	Servant	single	27	General Domestic Serv	"
	Moses Jones	Servant	single	15	Farm Lab. Serv. Indoor	C'vonshire

1891	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born
	Richard Owen	Head	Single	49	Farmer	Merioneth
	Catherine Roberts	Servant	Single	25	Dom.Servant	C'vonshire Ynyscynhaearn
	Robert Owen	Servant	Single	19	Farm servant	C'vonshire Llanfihangel y Pennant

1901 -	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born
	William Jones	Head	Mar.	39	Farmer	Maentwrog
	Jane Jones	Wife	Mar.	39		Denbigh, Pentrefoelas
	William D. Jones	Son	Single	3		Llanfrothen
	David Davies	Father in law	Widower	70	Sawsharpener	Denbigh Ysbyty Ifan.

1911 -	Name	Relation	Condition	Age	Rank	Where Born. Lang
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William Jones	Head	Mar.	50	Farmer	Maentwrog	W+E
Jane Jones	Wife	Mar	50		Pentrefoelas	W
William D. Jones	Son	Single	13	Scholar	Llanfrothen	W+E
John E. Jones	Son	Single	9	Scholar,	Llanfrothen	W
Ellis Jones	Son	Single	6	Scholar	Llanfrothen	W

The 1911 Census was completed in Welsh. It stated that there were 6 rooms in Tŷ Fry

Owners :

Tŷ Fry had been in the possession of Morgans of Lasynys and in January 1839 there was an Order of Court directing £630, the money for the undivided moiety of Tŷ Fry by Hugh Jones to be paid into court (moiety – legal term for half share).

There is no proof of earlier ownership.

Tŷ Fry was bought in 1839 by Hugh Jones (junior) to add to his estate at Hengwrt Uchaf. Hugh Jones was the son of Hugh Jones (senior) whom at one time had been a butler at Nannau and then became the agent for the Estate. Hugh Jones (senior) and his wife Mary became the owners of Hengwrt Estate following a mortgage deed of 1718/9. (MHS 1984 10/ 4, page378)

Two of Hugh Jones' daughters, Ann and Catherine inherited the estate and then it was left to their nephew Charles Edward Jones Owen.

From then on, 1903 until the present date, 2012, the owners occupied Tŷ Fry.

18/12/ 1903 – William Jones (the tenant) bought Tŷ Fry at an auction held at The Sportsman Hotel, Porthmadog from Charles Edward Jones Owen of Hengwrt Uchaf.

7/11/1916 – Edward Charles Hughes bought Tŷ Fry from William Jones

5/4/1937 – Robert Francis bought Tŷ Fry from Edward Charles Hughes

2/11/55 – Mr. & Mrs. J.W.L.Lovegrove bought Tŷ Fry farm house from David Maldwyn Francis after he inherited the property on the death of his father Robert Francis.

1955 – 1971 - Mr. & Mrs. J.W.L. Lovegrove bought parcels of Tŷ Fry land from David Maldwyn Francis.

13/4/1971 Dr. P. Hugh Jones bought Tŷ Fry from Mr. & Mrs. J.W.L.Lovegrove (became holiday home.)

22/12/1981 – David Brian and Gwenda Paul bought Tŷ Fry farm from Dr. P. Hugh Jones. Present owners and occupiers.

Legal Documents.

All the deeds relating to the above owner /occupiers 1903-1981 are in the possession of the present owners.

Unconfirmed

1. *The neighbouring farm to Tŷ Fry (The Upper House) is called Tŷ Obry (The Lower House) The original name for Tŷ Obry was Hendre Hoydliw (in house deeds) Two original names have been suggested for Tŷ Fry, Cae'r Meibion (Pen 1880) Tyddyn y Ficer (see below) **1519 Porth yr Aur Papers Bangor 3654** (Possible)released to Richard Pencoed, clericusTyddyn y Ficer.....(possible old name for Tŷ Fry)*
2. *When the Non-conformists were trying to establish meeting places in Penrhyndeudraeth they received great opposition from one faction and it was suggested that 'the Lord saw to it that those responsible for such hostility were removed' (Pen1880) and (Hanes Methodistiaid Gorllewin Cymru) It most probably was Rev. William Jones as he came to such a bitter end in 1769.*

3. Captain John Owen of Tŷ Fry had a School of Navigation at 1, Tŷ Fry Terrace, Penrhyndeudraeth, (former Tŷ Fry land) which had a celestial telescope and the cupola was still intact in the 1970's. (*personal letter from Mr. Lovegrove, a previous owner*) The date of the School of Navigation is unknown.

4. *There are the remains of a small quarry on Tŷ Fry land and some of the stones may have been used to build the Workhouse in Penrhyndeudraeth which was then on Tŷ Fry land. (Note dated Ap. 6th. 1841 mentioning the time taken to do the work, -in possession of the present owners.)*

Appendix

B	Bangor
BT	Bishops Transcripts
G Ped	J. Griffiths Pedigrees
Llfr	Llanfrothen
LlyTr	Llanfihangel y Traethau
MHS	Merioneth Historical Society
MI	Memorial Inscriptions
Marr.R	Marriage Records
NMI	Nazareth Memorial Inscriptions.
Pen1880	Penrhyndeudraeth Fel yr Oedd gan Dafydd Williams 1880
RCAHMW	Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales.
TCG	T. Ceiri. Griffith Pedigrees

Gwenda Paul, Tŷ Fry, Penrhyndeudraeth,
February 2012.