

NORTH WEST WALES DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT

DATING OLD WELSH HOUSES

NANT UCHAF

Parish: Bylchau, Conwy, (old County: Denbighshire)

NGR SH 989 639

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Dating Old Welsh Houses: North West Wales Dendrochronology Project*

HOUSE HISTORY: Summary

Nant Uchaf is a large lobby-entry farmhouse of late-medieval origin with a characteristic downslope siting. The late-medieval house was cruck-framed with full crucks defining four bays. The surviving crucks show that the house was a hall of 'gentry type' with a two-bayed hall with an open archbraced (but not cusped) central truss. The original timbers were felled over a period from summer 1487 to winter 1488/89, making construction most likely in 1489, or within a year or two after this date. Although the house was of a gentry type no documentation on it has been found prior to 1784 and by then the property was a tenant farm. In 1812 it is shown as having 51 acres attached to it. Other property and land (3 acres) is included as well, but when this was acquired is not known. Around 1811, 8 acres of Inclosed land was added to the estate.

The earliest owners found so far are William Williams and his son, John Williams, who are in possession in 1784. They sell to Godfrey Lloyd in 1812. Godfrey's widow, Judith, sells in 1841 to Richard Lifton Wynne. After the death of his widow, Mary in 1888, the house and land are bought by John Roberts. The property appears to have remained in the possession of the Roberts family until bought by Henry Mars Jones in 1948. In 1965 after the death of Henry the property is bought by Burnard Andrew Heaton Hill. In 1972 an 8 acres field was sold to Ivor Wynne Davies. In 1976 another acre of land was sold to John Henry Gilmore. In 1984 the main property is conveyed to Paul Stephan Roberts and Carole Helen Roberts and then in 1985 to the present owners Michael Denis Jones and Colleen Rosamund Jones,

In 1812 the tenant of Nant Uchaf is shown as 'formally Thomas Evans now Robert Roberts'. Robert Roberts was 'late of Aberdeunant Ucha'. By 1841 Catherine Williams and her family are the occupiers. Between 1861 and 1871 Isaac Roberts and his family become the occupiers. The family appear to have kept the tenancy until at least 1911. All these families farmed the property.

Detail of HOUSE HISTORY

Henllan is one of the "ancient parishes" of Denbighshire originally comprising of several townships including Uwchcaerau (or Uwchcaeron). Nant Uchaf was originally in this parish.

1201 Parish of Henllan was first mentioned in Taxation Documents¹.

¹ St. Sadwrn's Church, Henllan - Guide for Visitors - 1998

1489 Date given for felling of timbers at Nant Uchaf The timbers were felled over a period from summer 1487 to winter 1488/89, making construction most likely in 1489, or within a year or two².

1662 Hearth Tax imposed by Statutes 12 and 14 of King Charles II, sum of 2/- per hearth being levied annually upon all house occupiers who paid church or poor rate, or who lived in a tenement over the value of 20/- per annum and had land to that value or possessed goods to the value of £10 or more. Tax payable by half yearly instalments, these were collected at Michaelmas and Lady Day³.

1663 Records for the collection of Hearth Tax for the Commote of Isaled in Denbighshire at Michaelmas are kept in the P.R.O. in London reference E179.221/205. No specific reference found to the house name Nant Ucha amongst those listed in the CFHS Article.

c1680 Notitia of all housekeepers in the Parish of Henllan together with the number of souls in those respective families and the number of all under the age of 18. [*Note by researcher: Needs further work*]

1697 Window Tax. Occupier of every house was taxed at 2s pa. (additional 8s for a house with over 10 windows). No reference to Nant Ucha.

1739 Twm o'r Nant (Thomas Edwards). Born at Penporchell Isaf in the Parish of Llanefydd. Baptised in St. Sadwrn 's Church, Henllan. Moved to Nant (Isaf) when a child. He was affable in company, warm in his friendships and kind and obliging as a neighbour. Actor, playwright and poet – famous for his interludes depicting local life⁴. [*Note by researcher: Not known if any references to Nant Uchaf featured in his writings, etc.*]

1753 Coin of this date found at Nant Uchaf by present owners, Mike and Colleen Jones, sometime after 1984.

1759 15 June - Godfrey Lloyd born (he becomes the owner of Nant Uchaf in 1812).
16 June baptised Godfrey s/o Joseph and Martha Lloyd Cilmediw Township Llangollen. Siblings were Edward b 27/8 bp 4/9/1738; Thomas b 17 bp 21/2 /1740; Mary b 8 bp 14/9/1743; Sarah b 18 bp 22/2/1745; Joseph b 15 bp 22/7/1748; John bp 18/2/1750; Richard b and bp 25/10/1753; all of Cilcochwyn Township Llangollen⁵. (The ancient parish of Llangollen was divided into three parts: Llangollen Traean, Trefor Traean, and Glyn Traean. The township of Cilmediw was in Trefor Traean and Cilcochwyn township was in Glyn Traean).

1769 Coins of this date (“HIBERNIA” on reverse) found at Nant Uchaf by present owners, sometime after 1984.

1782	Owner	occupier	abode	rents
	John Vaughan Esq		Groes	2-8-2
	John Vaughan also owned Nant, Hengoed, Ty Cerrig, Leger, Pentre Cŵn.			
	Mr Williams, Coed Cochin	Henry Vaughan	Nant	19 – 10
	Mr Williams	Richard Patrick	Fron Felen	6 – 4½

² Dendrochronology Report – February 2011

³ CFHS “Hel Achau” Journal No. 13 Summer 1984 Pages 9 – 12. Article - Hearth Tax Assessment for Isaled Commote by William A. Morris

⁴ Dictionary of Welsh bibliography /St. Sadwrn's Church, Henllan - Guide for Visitors - 1998 / CFHS Henllan Baptism Reg Index Vol. 1 – 8 Jan 1738/9 Thomas Edwards son of Evan & Mary Edwards Penporchell / Page 350 Ancient and Modern Denbigh – John Williams - Printed and published by John Williams (October) 1856]

⁵ CFHS Llangollen Baptisms Index 1707-1738 Vol 3 and 1738 –1769 Vol 4

(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 11782)

1783	owner	occupier	abode	rents
	Mr Williams	Henry Vaughan	Fron Felen	6 - 4½
	Mr Williams	Robt Williams	Nant	19 - 10
	Mr David Roberts	Jn Williams	Nant	14 - 2

Mr D Roberts also owned Bylche (rent 5 -5); Penylon (rent 1-5); Bwlchew (rent 2-10)

John Vaughan Esq	himself	Groes	2 - 8 - 2
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J Vaughan also owned Nant, Hengoed, Ty Cerrig, Leger, Pentre Gwyn & Ty'n y Pistyll. (Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1783)

1784 1 and 2 April - Indenture of Lease and Release: William Williams / John Williams / Margaret Richards for the suffering a Common Recovery of the messuages and lands. (Referred to in Release dated 25th March 1812 – Mr John Williams and Others to Godfrey Lloyd Esq.) So it would appear that these messuages and lands are Nant Uchaf⁶.

[Note by researcher: Haven't been able to track them down! John Williams was at Lodge Farm, Henllan Parish. CFHS Index - found baptisms between 1788-1796 to John Williams & Jane: baptisms between 1802-1809 to John Williams & Anne (Jones). Presume he is the same John Williams but haven't found a burial for Jane Williams. There is a marriage which fits - 24 Apr 1801 at Henllan between a John Williams otp and an Ann Jones of Bodvarry parish by Licence. 15 Dec 1811 a son of David & Elizabeth Lloyd was baptised. [It appears that John Williams and family removed to Glan y Wern, Llandyrnog between 1809 and Dec 1811] No info. found in the CFHS P. Reg Index' for Llandyrnog up to 1812 ? P Regs in Ruthin R.O after 1812. A William Williams was buried in Llandyrnog churchyard in 1812 - No M.I's in Llandyrnog Churchyard published by CFHS c.1994. Haven't found a Will / Admon]

1784? Land Tax not found

(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1784)

1786	owner	occupier	abode	rents
	Jn Vaughan Esq	himself	Groes	34
	Jn Vaughan Esq	Robt Evans	Nant	6

John Vaughan also owned Hengoed, Lager, Pentre Gwyn, Ty Cerrig, Ty'n y Pistyll.

Wm Williams	Wm Davies	Vron Felen	4 -10
Wm Williams	Robt Williams	Nant	14 -0
Blank	Jn Williams	Nant	10 -0
Blank	Thos Williams	Bylche	4 -0

(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1786)

1787	owner	occupier	abode	rents
	John Vaughan Esq		Nant	6 -0

John Vaughan also owned Groes, Hengoed, Ty Cerrig, Fachwen, Lager, Pentre Gwyn, Ty'n y Pistyll.

Wm Williams Gent	Wm Davies	Vron Felen	4 - 10
Wm Williams Gent	Robt Williams	Nant	11 - 0
David Roberts Gent	Jn Williams	Nant	10- 0

⁶ Documents in possession of current owners Mike and Collen Jones

1795	owner	occupier	abode	rents
	Wm Williams	Henry Vaughan	Fron Felin	4 – 10
	Wm Williams	Robt Williams	Nant	4 – 0
	John Vaughan Esq		Nant	6 – 0
	John Vaughan Esq	John Roberts	Ty yn y Distyw	6 – 0

John Vaughan also owned Groes, Hengoed, Ty Cerrig, Lager, Pentre Gwyn.
(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1795)

1795	owner	occupier	abode	rents
	Jn Jones Esq	Robt Evans	Groes	34 – 0
	Jn Jones Esq	Robt Evans	Nant	6 – 0
	Mr Jeffereys	Rev M Williams	Llan	2 – 0
	Mr Jeffereys	Robt Williams	Nant	11 – 0
	Mr Jeffereys	Lewis Price	Vron Felen	4 – 10
	Mr Lloyd	John Williams	Nant	10 - 0

(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1795)

1796 12 May - Marriage Bond: Thomas Roberts bachelor Gent Llanrhaidr yn Cinmerch to Margaret Hughes spinster Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd⁹,

1797	owner	occupier	abode	rents
	Mr Williams	Lewis Price	Fron Felin	4 – 10
	Mr Williams	Robt Williams	Nant	11 – 0
	Mr David Roberts	David Roberts	Waun Twusog	12 – 0
	Mr David Roberts	Thos Williams	Bylchau Uchaf	4 – 0
	Mr David Roberts	Jn Williams	Nant Isa	10 - 0
	John Jones	Robert Evans	Nant	6 - 0
	John Jones	Robert Evans	Groes	33 - 0

(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections, Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1797)

19 May Thomas Roberts, Llanrhaidr yng Nghinmerch Parish ba and Margaret Hughes sp otp were married by license in Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd Church Witnesses William William Clerk / Mary Humphreys¹⁰. [Note by researcher: Couldn't find a Baptism entry for Margaret Hughes in Llanfair D.C.]

1797 Coin of this date found at Nant Uchaf by present owners, sometime after 1984.

1799 11 January - Mary Lloyd buried widow of Godfrey Esq Llangollen Fechan¹¹.

5 May - baptism of Mary Roberts d/o Thomas (Gent) & Margaret Roberts Astrad at Llanrhaeadr Parish Church¹². (The only child baptised to this couple).

30 October - Indenture made between (i) William Williams and (ii) John Williams. Messuages lands and appurtenances surrendered morged in the reversion and Inheritance invested in John

⁹ NLW online Marriage Bonds Index

¹⁰ NLW online Marriage Bonds Index

¹¹ CFHS Llangollen Burials Index 1791 – 1812 Vol 9

¹² CFHS Llanrhaeadr Baptism Index 1778-1812 Vol 5

Williams¹³ (Referred to in Release dated 25th March 1812 – Mr John Williams and Others to Godfrey Lloyd Esq).

1801 21 April - Marriage Bond Godfrey Lloyd widower Llangollen to Judith Hughes spinster Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd¹⁴.

22 April - Godfrey Lloyd Esq Llangollen Widower married Judith Hughes of this parish sp by Licence at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd Parish Church. Witnesses Lloyd Jones/Mary Thelwall¹⁵. *[Note by researcher: Couldn't find a baptism entry for Judith Hughes in Llanfair D. C. I have a suspicion that Margaret Hughes and Judith Hughes may well have been sisters, thereby possibly keeping the 'ownership' in the family as it were]*

1803 12 April - Richard Lifton Wynne (ii) baptised at Groton, Suffolk. Parents: William Wynne and Mary [Adams]. William Wynne married Mary Adams at Groton, Suffolk. Siblings were Mary Anne Wynne b 26/11/ bp 27/11/1795; Margaret Winn b 27/3/ bp 1/4/1797; Walter Wyn b 9/7/1798 bp 16/7/1798 d 31/8/1798; Margareta Wynne bp 27/3/1799; William Walter Wynne bp 2/4/1800; Richard Lifton Wynne (i) bp 30/3/1801; Louisa Wynn bp 9/9/1805 d 24/9/1805¹⁶.

1808 30 November - Agreement (written) John Williams contracted with Robert Roberts for the absolute sale of the messuages and lands for £550 subject to the mortgage [of £500] making together £1050¹⁷. (Referred to in Release dated 25th March 1812 – Mr John Williams and Others to Godfrey Lloyd Esq).

1809 5 and 6 September - Lease and Release 1. John Williams and 2. Roger Butler Clough & Thomas Roberts. John Williams was indebted to an amount which he was unable to pay. So John Williams conveyed his lands in trust to 2¹⁸.

c1811 or earlier Henllan Inclosure Acts. (Also see notes – 1812)

1811 20 March - Will made by Godfrey Lloyd Esq. Llangollen Fechan¹⁹.

1812 24 March - Lease for a year. Rev'd R B-Clough and Thomas Roberts Gent to Godfrey Lloyd Esq.

1. Rev. Roger Butler Clough, Castle House, Denbigh and Thomas Roberts of Astrad Isaf Gentleman
2. Godfrey Lloyd Esq. of Llangollen Fechan, Denbighshire Reciting
 1. Nant Uchaf 51 acres – tenant formerly Robert Williams now Robert Roberts
 2. Accar / Plas Drain cottage, 3 acres– tenant formerly Thomas Evans now Robert Roberts
 3. Chief rent Ty Mawr tenement and Bulche tenement
 4. Allotment 8 acres of common upon Moel Groen assigned to John Williams under the Henllan Inclosure Act²⁰. See also Appendix 1 for map.

25 March - Release of Nant Ucha in the parish of Henllan for consideration of £1050 :

1. Rev Roger Butler Clough, Castle House, Denbigh and Thomas Roberts of Astrad Isaf Denbighshire [Trustees]

¹³ As 6 above

¹⁴ NLW online Marriage Bonds Index

¹⁵ Clwyd FHS Llanfair D C Marriage Index 1755 – 1812 Vol 2

¹⁶ IGI

¹⁷ As note 6 above

¹⁸ As note 6 above

¹⁹ NLW online Wills Index

²⁰ Note 6 idem

2. John Williams late of Lodge, Henllan and now of Glan y Wern, Llandyrnog
3. Margaret Richards, widow, of Lower Kinnerton, Doddleston, County of Chester
4. Robert Roberts late of Aberdeunant Ucha and now of Nant Ucha, farmer.
5. Godfrey Lloyd Esq., of Llangollen Fechan, Denbighshire
6. David Mason Esq. of Plas Clough and of Astrad Uchaf, Denbighshire

4 relinquishes contract to 5.

Godfrey Lloyd who applied to 1. to confirm what they had agreed to.

NOW Godfrey Lloyd paid £550 to 1. and £550 to 3. And now owns through Bargain & Sale Nant Ucha, capital messuage, 51 acres, tenant formerly Robert Williams, now Robert Roberts

- + Accar / Plas Drain, cottage, 3 acres, tenant formerly Thomas Evans, now Robert Roberts
- + Ty Mawr, chief rent of 5s. pa
- + Bulche tenement, chief rent of 1s. pa.
- + Allotment upon Moel Groen, 8 acres

which were all one land holding owned by John Williams under the Henllan Inclosure Act²¹

26 August - Indenture of Nant Ucha in the Parish of Henllan Co. Denbigh²²

1. Godfrey Lloyd of Llangollen Fechan in the County of Denbigh Esquire
2. Thomas Roberts of Astrad in the County of Denbigh Gentleman

27 August - Conveyance of Nant Ucha in the Parish of Henllan Co Denbigh for consideration of £1050²³.

Godfrey Lloyd Esq to Mr Thomas Roberts

1. Godfrey Lloyd of Llangollen Fechan in the County of Denbigh Esquire
2. Thomas Roberts of Astrad in the same County Gentleman
3. David Jones of Caeserwyd in the parish of Llanrhaiadr in Kinmerch in the same County

1824 23 June - Mr Thomas Roberts to Godfrey Lloyd Esqr²⁴:

Mortgage of a Messuage and tenement called Nant uch (sic) in the Parish of Henllan in the County of Denbigh for securing the sum of £400 made between

1. Thomas Roberts of Astrad in the County of Denbigh Gent
2. Godfrey Lloyd of Llangollen Vale County of Denbigh Esquire

Principal sum £400 paid by R. L. Wynne – see 1841

26 June - Richard Lifton Wynne of this parish bachelor married Mary Roberts spinster of this parish at Llanrhaeadr yn Cinmerch Church. Witnesses Robt Roberts / Mary Anne Wynne - all signed. They were married by the Rev. Robt Roberts, Rector of Llanelidan²⁵ (The Rector was a brother to Thomas Roberts, Astrad Isaf).

1825 The will of Thomas Lloyd of Llwyn unn was proved. Trustee (apparently in the sense of “overseer”); “my Friend Thomas Roberts of Astrad issa Gentleman”. First witness (and perhaps “scriptor”) Richard Lifton Wynne²⁶. See also Appendix 7.

²¹ Note by researcher: At 1July 2011, Ruthin R.O.the map was “Away” being repaired and digitised. From the copy schedule that I looked at, couldn’t relate the supposed 8 acres or thereabouts to the name J or John Williams. Needs to be looked at again, possibly after map is returned

²² Note 6 idem

²³ Note 6 idem

²⁴ Note 6 idem

²⁵ Llanrhaeadr Parish Register No 143

²⁶ Rol Jones, London

1830 Nant Uchaf, Owner: Mr Wynne; occupier: Jn Williams. Assessed 15s 7d.
John Williams, Nant Uchaf, was one of the two Collectors of the Tax Monies.
(Ruthin Record Office, Denbighshire Quarter Sessions records Vol II, Parliamentary Elections,
Land Tax Assessments QSD/DK/41 Henllan Uchaf, 1830)

1832 27 April - Thomas Roberts died.

ST. DYFNOG'S CHURCH LLANRHAEADR Y C - WALL MONUMENTS

1. South wall immediately on left of Porch Door

Sacred / to the memory of / Margaret, wife of Thos. Roberts / Astrad issa, Gent who departed / this life Jany 5th 1812. Aged 52 / An affectionate wife, a tender parent / A sincere friend & a liberal / Benefactress to the poor / Also / on the 31st May 1830, died / Johanna, his second wife / And on 27th April 1832 / the above named Thomas Roberts / departed this life, in the 71st year / of his age.

[Note by researcher: Haven't found a record for his second marriage to Johanna]

2. East Wall

Sacred / to the memory of Elizabeth Roberts of Bachymbyd / who departed this life 27, September 1841, aged 76 years. / Also / to the memory of / Alice (sister of the above named) / who died on the 9th of September 1855 / Aged 77.

(These are the sisters of Thomas Roberts N.B. Alice Roberts died in 1853 not 1855).

1835 Admon - Margaret Richards widow Lower Kinnerton (Parish of Doddleston) Cheshire
(She was referred to in Mortgage dated 25 March 1794, Release dated 25th March 1812)²⁷.

1835 August - John Williams, Nant Uchaf died. Buried 21 August. Henllan churchyard²⁸.

1836 Bond granted 17 August to Catherine Williams of Nant Uchaf Parish of Henllan, widow, (of John Williams) Henry Williams of the same place, farmer and John Davies of Bryn Eryr in the same parish²⁹.

1841 Census 6/7 June³⁰

Township of Llangollen Fechan

Place Llangollen Vale

Godfrey Lloyd	80	Independent	Y [born in County]
Judith Lloyd	70		Y
Alice Jones	35	F S	N
Sarah Roberts	20	F S	Y
Thomas Ellis	20	M S	N

Also separate household

Robert Hughes 40 Waggoner Y and family

1841 Census 6/7 June³¹

Parish of Henllan

Nant Uchaf

Catherine Williams	50	Farmer	Born in County
Abel Williams	20		Born in County

²⁷ Cheshire Record Office – online Wills Index

²⁸ W.C. Wynne-Woodhouse notes – document with present owners, Mike and Colleen Jones

²⁹ NLW online Wills Index

³⁰ HO 107 / 1400 Folio 13 Page 19

³¹ HO 107 / 1402 / 5 Folio 41 Page 6

John Williams		15	Born in County
Mary Williams		10	Born in County
Hannah Roberts	40	F. S.	Born in County

1841 Census 6/7 June³²

Civil Parish Llanrhaiadr

Astrad Isaf P.B. Llanrhaiadr Cilciedig

Richard Wynne	M	40	Not born in County
Mary Wynne	F	35	Born in County
Thos. Wynne	M	15	Not born in County
Robert Wynne	M	13	Not born in County
Charles Wynne	M	10	Born in County
Edward Wynne	M	8	Born in County
Walter Wynne	M	6	Born in County
Francis Wynne	M	5	Born in County
Elizth Wynne	F	2	Born in County

(Eldest son William Lifton Wynne; daughter Margaret elsewhere)

Plus servants (none with Wynne surname)

1841 Will of Godfrey Lloyd (20th March 1811) St Asaph Diocese³³: This is the last will and testament of me GODFREY LLOYD of Llangollen Fechan in the County of Denbigh Gentleman whereby I give to my dear wife JUDITH for ever all my personal estate and property and I appoint her sole executrix of this my will whereto I have set my hand and seal this 20th day of March 1811 Signed sealed and published / in the presence of us

Thos Roberts Astrad

David J Jones

Chester

[Signed] Godfrey Lloyd

8 November -. Principal sum of £400 paid by Richard Lifton Wynne in respect of Mortgage on Nant Uchaf dated 23rd June 1824. Acknowledged by Judith Lloyd.

16 November - Will Proved

The within named JUDITH LLOYD then appeared personally and took the usual oath of an executrix and that according to the best of her knowledge information and belief the whole of the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased at the time of his death were under the value of three thousand pounds. Before me / W H Owen / Surrogate.

1842 14th January - Tithe Apportionment and Map for the Township of Uwch Caerau in the parish of Henllan. Owner : Richard Lifton Wynne ; Occupier : Catherine Williams³⁴. See also Appendices 2 and 3 for Tithe map and Schedule.

1847 Turnpike Road from Denbigh to Pentrevoelas. Accident: Morris Williams, Bylchau, lost his life one stormy winter day, carrying butter, and a 'carnedd' (mound?) was raised to him between Fflat Goch and Llidiart tai pella Hafod Elwy³⁵. (Note by researcher: Is this Morris Williams, born and baptised 23/2/1808 Henllan, son of Robert & Mary Williams, Nant Ucha?)

³² HO 107 / 1402 Book / Folio 12/43 Page 16

³³ NLW Wills Index

³⁴ Conwy CBC Archives at Llandudno

³⁵ Note 26 idem

1850 Henry Lifton Wynne born 8 August 1850 at Rhyl, Flintshire, son of William Lifton Wynne and Augusta Harriet Leete. Statutory Declaration 13 November 1889. 1851 Census at Uttoxeter, Staffs. 1861 Census at Wimbledon School. 1881 Census at St. Helier, Jersey. 1889 residing at 49 Belsize Square, London.

1851 Census - 30/31 March³⁶

Nant Uchaf

Catherine Williams	H	Widow	61	Farmer of 54 acres	Den Henllan
Abel Williams	S	U	34	Farmer's son	Den Henllan
Mary Williams	D	U	22	Farmer's daughter	Den Henllan

1851 Census - 6/7 June³⁷

Denbigh Municipal Borough

Civil Parish: Cilcudig Llanrhaidr

Ystrad isaf

Richard Lifton Wynne H M 50 MRC Surgeon London Practising and SFK Boxford
Farming 200 acres of land employing
5 Out Door and 3 In door La

Mary Wynne	W	M	52	MRC Surgeons wife	DEN Llanrhaidr
Thomas Richd	S	U	24	Employed at home	LAN Liverpool
Margaret Wynne	D	U	21	Employed at home	DEN Llanrhaidr
Edward Henry Wynne	S	U	18	Bankers Clerk	DEN Llanrhaidr
Frances Wynne	S	U	14	Scholar	DEN Llanrhaidr
Elizabeth Mary Wynne	D	U	12	Scholar	DEN Llanrhaidr
George Clement Wynne	S	U	7	Scoler	DEN Llanrhaidr

Plus servants

1856 Ystrad Isaf is the seat of R. Lifton Wynne Esq³⁸.

1861 Census 6/7 - April. Piece for Nant Uchaf/ Uwch Caerau township missing from GRO.

1867 17 May - Marriage (No.13) Bylchau Parish Church. Enoch Lloyd 40 widower, labourer Bylchau Cottage son of John Lloyd, farmer, married by licence, Margaret Simon 37 widow farmer Nant Ucha dr of John Evans farmer. Both signed. Witnesses: David Roberts, signed and Elizabeth Roberts made her mark (Margaret Evans, father John Evans, farmer, married 1. Robert Simon 2 Sept 1853 at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Cerrigydrudion.

1871 Census - 2/3 April³⁹

Nant Uchaf

Isaac Roberts	H	M	46	Farmer of 60 acres	Denbighshire
Jane Roberts	W	M	46		Denbighshire
Henry Roberts	S	U	19		Denbighshire
Sarah Roberts	D	U	17		Denbighshire
John Roberts	S		8	Scholar	Denbighshire
Hannah Roberts	D		3		Denbighshire;

³⁶ HO 107 / 2507 Folio 13 Page Parish of Henllan[part of] Town[ship] of Uwchgareu Schedule 43

³⁷ HO 107/2504 Folio 506 Page 15

³⁸ Page 266 Ancient and Modern Denbigh – John Williams - Printed and published by John Williams (October) 1856

³⁹ RG10 / 5674 Folio 24 Page 5 Civil Parish Henllan Ecc District Bylchau Schedule 23

1875 9 August - Richard Lifton Wynne died⁴⁰.

1875 13 August - Richard Lifton Wynne was buried at Llanrhaiadr yn Cinnerch. Grave Inscription: Left side : Here lieth the body / of / Mary Ann/ Elder daughter of / William Wynne / who departed this life / July 7th 1875 / Aged 79. Middle: Here also / lieth the body / of / Richard Lifton Wynne / of Ystrad, only son / of the above named / William Wynne / who departed / this life / August 9th 1875 / aged 74. Right side: Here lieth the body / of / Mary widow of / Richard Lifton Wynne / who departed this life / August 17th 1888 / in her 90th year⁴¹.

12 October - The Will of Richard Lifton Wynne late of Ystrad Issa in the County of Denbigh Esquire who died 9 August 1875 at Ystrad Issa was proved at the Principal Registry by Mary Wynne of Ystrad Issa Widow the Relict the sole executrix. Effects under £8,000⁴².

9 August - Richard Lifton Wynne died. 12 October Probate to Mary Wynne.

1876 1 May - By her Will of this date Mary Wynne bequeath unto and to the use of her sons Charles James Wynne and Francis Wynne [Trustees] divide the same into eight equal parts or shares among Testatrix's six surviving children and the children of her deceased sons William Lifton Wynne and Robert Lloyd Wynne. Charles James Wynne and Francis Wynne to be Executor.

1878 7 August - Codicil to Mary Wynne's Will. Her son Francis Wynne had died – appointed Thomas Richard Wynne to be Trustee and Executor in his place.

11 September - Probate granted to Thomas Rich'd Wynne, power being reserved to Charles James Wynne the other executor to prove.

Rhydgaled school opened and children from Nant Uchaf would have attended it but registers only date back to 1902 and the log books to 1916⁴³.

7 December 1917 - The staff and children collected to send parcels to six old scholars, "... brave boys ...", serving in France and including: "Dvr John Roberts R.F.A. Nant Uchaf, Bylchau"

14 February 1924 - "11 children absent this afternoon, 9 of them attending the funeral of Mr David Roberts, Nant Uchaf, because they were closely related to him"⁴⁴.

1881 Census - 3/4 April⁴⁵

Nant Uchaf

Iaac Roberts	H	M	55	Farmer of 60 acres empl 1 man	Llansannan	Den
Jane Roberts	W	M	57		Llansannan	Den
John Roberts	S	U	18	Ag Labr	Henllan	Den
John Jones	Sv	U	19	Ag Labr	Henllan	Den
Jane Roberts	D	U	28	Farmer's Daughter	Henllan	Den
John Roberts	FinL	Wr	88	Retired Farmer	Llansannan	Den

1884 3 October - Jane Roberts, Nant Uchaf died aged 31 and is buried in Capel y Groes

⁴⁰ Note 6 idem

⁴¹ Note 6 idem

⁴² CFHS Wills Index

⁴³ Checked the Log Book 1916 – 1939

⁴⁴ Note 26 idem

⁴⁵ RG11 / 5533 Folio 23 Page 6 and Folio 24 Page 7 Civil Parish Henllan Ecc Parish Bylchau Schedule 42

1885 2 May - Second Codicil. £500 legacy revoked to Charles James Wynne and given to her daughter Margaret Turner Jones.

17 August - Mary Wynne died.

1888 17 August. Mary Wynne died.

11 September - The Will with 2 Codicils of Mary Wynne late of Ystrad in the County of Denbigh Widow who died 17th August 1888 at Ystrad was proved at St. Asaph by Thomas Richard Wynne of Corwen in the County of Merioneth Estate Agent the son one of the Executors Personal Estate £1,900 Resworn December 1889 £900⁴⁶.

1889 Abstract of Title [drawn by William Appleton, Liverpool]⁴⁷.

1855 25 April By his Will of this date Richard Lifton Wynne of Ystrad Issa bequeathed into his will All his property of every description for her life and at her decease be divided amongst their children and grandchildren in such proportion as she by her Will might direct. Appoints his wife sole executrix.

1889 9 November - Conveyance of a farm called Nant Uchaf and a piece of land called Cae Drain situate in the Parish of Henllan in the County of Denbigh. Rev. Charles James Wynne and Others to Mr John Roberts⁴⁸

1. Rev. Charles James Wynne / Thomas Richard Wynne / Henry Lifton Wynne
2. Isaac Roberts / John Roberts

See also Appendices 4 and 5 for map of the extent of the property.

10 November - Agreement to let Nant Uchaf and a piece of land called Cae Drain in the parish of Henllan in the Co. of Denbigh

1. William Williams (Llewesog Hall, Llanrhaiadr yn Cinmerch)
2. John Roberts.

10 November - Mortgage of Nant Uchaf and a piece of land called "Cae Drain" situate in the parish of Henllan in the Co. of Denbigh for securing £1100 + interest

- 1 John Roberts
- 2 William Williams

12 November - Declaration of Identity of a farm called Nant Uchaf and a piece of land call Cae Drain situate in the parish of Henllan in the Co. of Denbigh [Statutory Declarations Act 1835]

Rev. Charles J. Wynne & Others to Mr John Roberts

1. Rev. Charles James Wynne
2. Henry Lifton Wynne
3. Isaac Roberts
4. John Roberts

13 November Statutory declaration made at Corwen, Merioneth by James Richard Walker. Henry Lifton Wynne born 8 August 1850 at Rhyl, Flintshire to William Lifton Wynne, eldest son of Richard Lifton Wynne and Mary Roberts, and Augusta Harriet Leete. Henry Lifton Wynne residing at 49 Belsize Square, London, the heir at law of Richard Lifton Wynne.

⁴⁶ CFHS Wills Index

⁴⁷ Note 6 idem

⁴⁸ Note 6 idem

1900 11 January - Jane Roberts, died aged 77.

1891 Census - 4/5 April⁴⁹

Nant Uchaf

No. of Rooms – 3

Isaac Roberts	H	M	65	Farmer	Employer	Den Llansannan	Welsh
Jane Roberts	W	M	67			Den Llansannan	Welsh
John Roberts	S	M	27	Ag Labourer	Employed	Den Henllan	Welsh
Thomas Williams	G/s		12	Servant Ag.	Employed	Den Henllan	Welsh
Selina Williams	G/d	S	14	Dom. Servant	Employed	Den Henllan	Welsh
Isaac Roberts	G/s		13	Serv Ag.		Den Henllan	Welsh

1899 (No specific date given). A man from Denbigh, John Davies, was killed opposite Nant Ucha by a traction engine carrying materials to the waterworks (Llyn Bran)⁵⁰.

1901 Census - 31 March/1 April⁵¹

Nant uchaf

John Roberts	H	M	37	Farmer	Employer	born Den Bylchau	Welsh
Anne Roberts	W	M	33			Den Llanrhydd	Welsh
John Roberts	S	S	8			Den Bylchau	Welsh
Isaac Roberts	S	S	6			Den Bylchau	Welsh
Maurice Roberts	S	S	4			Den Bylchau	Welsh
Henry Roberts	S	S	2			Den Bylchau	
Jane Roberts	D	S	5mo.			Den Bylchau	
Isaac Roberts	* FinL	Wr	75	Living on own means		Den Llansannan	Welsh
Thomas Davies	Sv	S	19	Carter on farm	WorkerAg Horse	Mer Blaenau Festiniog	Welsh
Catherine Davies	Sv	S	18	Dom		Den Bylchau	Welsh

[* Note by researcher: Father not Father in law. John Roberts' wife Anne was a Williams prior to marriage]

1909 21 October - Isaac Roberts, died aged 83.

1911 Census - 2/3 April⁵²

Nant Ucha, Groes Nr. Denbigh (Completed in Welsh)

John Roberts	Penteulu	P	47	Ffarmwr	Gweithio drostoi hun	Gartref Den Bylchau	Cymraeg
Anne Roberts	Gwraig	P	43			Gartref Den Denbigh	Cymraeg
John Roberts	Mab	S	18	Mab ffarmwr	gweithio ar ffarm	Gartref Den Bylchau	y ddwy gyda ceffylau - gweithiwr
Isaac Roberts	Mab	S	16	Mab ffarmwr	gweithio ar ffarm	Gartref Den Bylcha	y ddwy gyda ceffylau - gweithiwr
Maurice Roberts	Mab	S	14	Mab ffarmwr	gweithio ar ffarm	Gartref Den Bylchau	y ddwy gyda gwartheg - gweithiwr
Harry Roberts	Mab Son		12	Ysgol		Den Bylchau	y ddwy

⁴⁹ RG12 / 4630 Folio ? Page 10 Civil Parish Henllan Ecc Parish Bylchau Schedule 62

⁵⁰ Note 26 idem

⁵¹ RG 13 / 5240 Folio ? Page 4 Civil Parish Bylchau [pt] Ecc Parish Bylchau [pt] St. Thomas Schedule No. 20

⁵² RG 14 / ? Folio ? Page 39

Jane Roberts	Merch	10	Ysgol	Den	Bylchau	y
ddwy						
Davied Roberts	Mab	6	Ysgol	Den	Bylchau	

Married 20 years 6 children born alive 6 Children alive
[John Roberts died 21 June 1936. Ann Roberts died 4 October 1945]

1933-34 Nant Ucha: John Roberts, occupier & owner, House & land.
 Annual value assessed 52; Rate assessed@2d in the £: £0 8s 8d.
 (Ruthin Record Office, Land Tax LTD/26, p 3: County Denbigh; Division: Isaied; Parish: Henllan Uchaf, no 316)

1948 21 January - Conveyance of a messuage called Nant Uchaf and land called Cae Drain in the parish of Henllan in the Co. of Denbigh⁵³
 Maurice Roberts Esq. to Henry Mars Jones Esq

Conveys all that messuage called Nant Ucha with the outbuilding and land thereunto belonging containing by admeasurement 58A 2R 6P or thereabouts situate in the Ph of Henllan in the Co. of Denbigh and abutting the high road leading from Denbigh to Pentrevoelas AND all that piece of land called "Cae Drain" containing by admeasurement 2A 3R 2P or thereabouts and more particularly described and delineated for identification only in the plan annexed to a Conveyance made 9 November 1889 between Rev. Charles James Wynne and Thomas Richard Wynne of the first part Henry Lifton Wynne of the second part Isaac Roberts of the third part and John Roberts of the fourth part and thereon edged pink.

Schedule

1937	12 April	Letters of Administration of the Estate of John Roberts deceased
1938	14 May	Anne Roberts made a Will. Vendor [Maurice Roberts] appointed ?Executor
1944	20 October	Anne Roberts died
1945	4 October	Probate of the Will of Anne Roberts [Bangor]

Memorandum

By a Conveyance dated 29 January 1965 made between William Lloyd Mars-Jones and David Mars-Jones (personal representatives of the within named Henry Mars Jones of the one part and Charles Morris of the other part). The said William Lloyd Mars-Jones and David Mars-Jones conveyed unto the said Charles Morris All that field known as Cae Rhys or Cae Rhos but formerly known as Cae Drain and part of Nant Uchaf Farm, Groes in the Parish of Henllan in the Co. of Denbigh (being part of the within described property) for an estate in fee simple and acknowledgement given for the production of the within written deed.

1949-50 Nant Uchaf: Occupier M Roberts; Owner Mrs J Roberts.
 Exonerated 7s 11d. Annual value: 52.
 (Ruthin Record Office, Land Tax LTD/35: County Denbigh; Division: Isaied; Parish: Henllan Uchaf no 623)

1957 20 April - Marriage (No. 46) Bylchau Parish Church. John Neville Moulden 23 ba District Manager, Nant Ucha, Bylchau son of Gerald Alfred Moulden, Specialist, married by banns Janet Morrissey Lakelin 19 spinster 63, Townfield Lane, Bebington, dr of Harry Lakelin deceased Engineer. Both signed as did witnesses Gerald Alfred Morrissey and Florence Ballen.

1965 29 January - Conveyance Personal Representatives of Henry Mars Jones Dec'd [William Lloyd Mars Jones and David Mars Jones] to Burnard Andrew Heaton Hill⁵⁴.

⁵³ Note 6 idem

⁵⁴ Note 6 idem

1972 26 July - Conveyance 7.954 acres or thereabouts known as Ffrith in the parish of Henllan O.S. Field 950 conveyed to Ivor Wynne Davies⁵⁵[Mike & Colleen Jones]

1. B. A. H. Hill
2. Midland Bank
3. Ivor Wynne Davies

1976 11 June Conveyance All those fields 2215 and 2222 1 acre 0 roods 18 perches and 3 acres 1 rood and 2 perches conveyed to John Henry Gilmore⁵⁶.

1. B. A. H. Hill
2. John Henry Gilmore

1977 30 June - Conveyance⁵⁷

1. Vendors (referenced in 6 January 1984)
2. Robert Nefydd Lloyd and Jean Myfanwy Lloyd
3. Isaac Brynmor Roberts and Eirlys Wyn Roberts

1984 6 January - Conveyance Burton Andrew Heaton Hill to Paul Stephen Roberts and Carole Helen Roberts⁵⁸.

1. Vendor [Refers to a Conveyance dated 30 June 1977]
2. Robert Nefydd Lloyd and Jean Myfanwy Lloyd
3. Isaac Brynmor Roberts and Eirlys Wyn Roberts

1985 23 May - Conveyance⁵⁹

1. Paul Stephen Roberts and Carole Helen Roberts (Vendors)
2. Michael Denis Jones and Colleen Rosamund Jones (Present owners)]

1990 16 December Family Trees drawn up for Nant Ucha
[i] Williams family / [ii] Jones family / [iii] Roberts family
See Appendix 6,

1999 21 July - Notification from Cadw that Nant Uchaf has been listed as Grade II.

1999 13 August - Formal Notice from Conwy CBC that Nant Uchaf has been included in the Secretary of State's list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest.

Researched by Myra Thomas, Conwy Group March 2012

(with some editing February 2013)

APPENDICES

1. Allotment of Common set out and assigned to John Williams under Henllan Enclosure Act (date still to be found) superimposed on copy of Henllan Tithe Map
2. Copy extract Henllan Tithe Map - 1842
3. Copy extract Henllan Tithe Schedule - 1842

⁵⁵ Note 6 idem

⁵⁶ Note 6 idem

⁵⁷ Note 6 idem

⁵⁸ Note 6 idem

⁵⁹ Note 6 idem

4. Copy plan attached to Conveyance dated 9 November 1889
5. Extent of Nant Uchaf, as indicated on plan attached to Conveyance dated 9 November 1889 superimposed on 6" map O.S. Denbighshire XIII
6. Notes from Rol Jones, London WC2 (extra to text):

Richard Lifton Wynne was a surgeon, descended from the Llwynymaen family in Llanfair T.H. He practised his profession mainly in Liverpool until 1832, when he and his wife apparently came back to the Vale of Clwyd to live with Thomas Roberts, and took over the tenancy of Ystrad Isa from him when he died. It is believed that there is / ?was an M.I. at Llanrhaiadr explicitly stating that a Wynne buried there was of Llwyn y Maen in the Parish of Llanfair T.H. From a typescript at the library of the Society of Genealogists in London [original MS notes not found] Old M.I. extracts, among which, apparently recorded from the same monument :

28 May 1729 ob Robt Wynne of Llwyn y Maen par of Llanfair talhaiarn Co Denbigh, died at Llewesog aet 28

10 Mch 1798 ob Gruffith Wynne brother of above aet 46

.....1798 bur John only son of above Robert

Jly [3?/6?/16?/26? –unclear due to overtyping] 1836 Wm Wynne his eld s who practised as a Surgeon at Boxford in Suffolk for upwards of 40 yrs Bur at Groton in that Co aet 70

22 Nov 1871 Eliz Mary Wynne, his granddaughter, d of Richd Ufton [sis] Wynne of Ystrad & ux Mary aet 32

Thomas Roberts' brother said to have been the Robert Roberts, Rector of Llanelidan, who died without surviving issue in 1858; and his sisters to have been three spinsters who jointly farmed at Bachymbyd in Llanynys until the death of the last of them in 1853.

7. Copy family trees and notes – W. C. Wynne-Woodhouse (1990)
 - i] Williams
 - ii] Jones
 - iii] Roberts.

SOURCES LOOKED AT - NO REFERENCES FOUND

1. The Drovers Roads of Wales Fay Goodwin and Shirley Toulson [1997]
2. Roads and Trackways of Wales Richard Moore-Colyer [2007]
3. The National Dictionary of Welsh Biography re:
 - i] Thomas Roberts
 - ii] Godfrey Lloyd
 - iii] Richard Lifton Wynne
4. The Wynne Family of Gwydir – Origin Growth & Development c.1490 – 1674
J. Gwynfor Jones
5. The North Wales Hospital Denbigh 1842 – 1995 Clwyd Wynne
[No ref to R L Wynne, Surgeon, only to George Turner Jones (his son in law) the first Medical Supt who died 1875]
6. Y Doctor Thomas (Llyfrau'r Faner) Country G.P. in Denbigh also Llansannan area.
[Only a verse to the late H. Mars Jones YH – one time *owner* / mortgagee of Nant Uchaf]