

# NORTH WEST WALES DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT

## DATING OLD WELSH HOUSES – DENBIGHSHIRE

### Tŷ MAWR FARMHOUSE & BARN

DRUID, CORWEN, DENBIGHSHIRE LL21 8NN.

(Former county of Merioneth)

Grid Ref: OS SJ 0354 4314

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#### Tŷ Mawr farmhouse Summary

The owner of Plas yn Ddol estate had the cruck framed and probably timber-walled hall house of 'gentry' type with a central open truss to the hall built 1539-69. The house has a dais partition of post and panel type with evidence for a canopy. It is uncertain if there are windbraces. In or shortly after 1584 a floor and a large fireplace was inserted against the central cruck and a storeyed house of end-chimney lobby-entry type created. The ceiling beams are moderately chamfered with curved stops. It would appear that the building was used as a farmhouse. In the mid- to late nineteenth century the house was altered during the building of a new parish church and the curate lodged at Tŷ Mawr during 1881. The present staircase and entrance lobby between the two rooms is almost certainly an insertion. An outbuilding adjoins the original house to the west.

For about four hundred and fifty years, Tŷ Mawr has existed in a quiet valley without interruption by wars, civil or otherwise, the break with the Church of Rome and the dissolution of the monasteries, the Commonwealth Government and has seen many kings and queens come and go. It would appear not to have been a home to persons of great note, fame or wealth (making it difficult to research!) but instead a farmstead where agriculture and animal husbandry has been practised with pastureland and meadows for grazing and fields cultivated to grow crops of oats and wheat. Even though the Roberts family have given up farming, it is still continued by the neighbouring tenant, Mr. Hughes of Four Crosses Farm.

The Roberts family have lived at Tŷ Mawr since 1908 and information has been gleaned from members of the family. From conversations with Betty Hughes and Beth Roberts it would appear that Hugh and Ellen Roberts sub-let rooms at Tŷ Mawr to help towards the payment of rent and rates. It would seem that this was a common arrangement in the area and is probably the reason why so many different families lived at the same time at this address over the years. The same thing may well have gone on for the previous centuries which would explain the presence of more than one family in the property at any one time.

Elena Williams

28:vi:2012

Denbighshire Dendrochronology Project

#### **RCAHMW report Tŷ Mawr farmhouse No. 15549**

On the SE side of the A494, between Druid and Four Crosses.

History: Probably originally built as a small farmhouse in the C16, extended later and now subdivided to form two dwellings. The earliest part of the house comprises a 2-unit, cruck-framed dwelling, doubled in length by a later addition which now forms a separate house. The original building may have had an entrance backing onto the stack in the principal room, and a second

(heated) room beyond. The present staircase and entrance lobby between the two rooms is almost certainly an insertion.

Exterior: Render over rubble, the earliest part of the range (to the right) internally cruck framed; slate roof with end wall and axial stacks. One and a half storeys; the 2 dwellings each have paired dormer windows aligned with doorway and window below; further window in what may have been the original doorway backing onto the axial stack on what is now the dividing wall, but which would formerly have been the outer gable of the original house. All windows renewed and enlarged. A range of later outbuildings adjoins the original house to the right.

Interior: The earliest part of the building has doorway (probably secondary, and dating from then insertion of a staircase) giving access to lobby at foot of stairs, and small room to its right. Main room is to the left, and has massive bressumer to fireplace recess, spine beam and heavy joists to ceiling, all chamfered with decorative stops. Heavy post and panel partition divided the room from the stairs. Cruck trusses partially visible behind this partition, and in the fireplace bay.

Although the external features have been altered, Tŷ Mawr represents a remarkably intact survival of a small C16-C17 cruck framed house.

### **Report Tŷ Mawr barn No. 15550**

Built alongside the road at Tŷ Mawr, which is on the A494 between Druid and Four Crosses.

Built in at least 3 phases, but the earliest part of the range, which is cruck framed, may be C16 or C17. This is the central section, externally random rubble with timber framed upper section, comprising short posts running between wall plate and sill, clad with corrugated iron sheet roof covering. Internally this section has 2 pairs of raised crucks, supported by the stone plinth wall, and with rough tie beam, collar and saddle. Stable forms extension of this range to the NE: rough random rubble with slate roof; single bay with external staircase leading to gabled loft entry to left, and doorway with timber lintel to right. Further extension to SW may have been a former shippon: rough random rubble with corrugated iron sheet to roof, stone coped gable; 3 doorways, the outer 2 now partially blocked as windows.

Part of a group with the farmhouse at Tŷ Mawr, the barn is an unusually intact example of its constructional type, with the survival of the cruck frame, and the external walls which combine a high stone plinth and timber framing – a type of construction once common in the area but now becoming rare.

### **HISTORY**

Tŷ Mawr was in the township of Persaethydd, south of the river Alwen and in the Parish of Gwyddelwern. That parish, from early mediæval times until the late nineteenth-century, was split into three detached portions. The township of Persaethydd ceased to exist and the property is now in the parish of Corwen.

**1254 Taxation of Norwich includes Gwyddelwern as one of the eleven parishes of the Hundred of 'Edeyrniayn'. (K Williams Jones, *The Merioneth Lay Subsidy Roll 1292-93, 1976, pp. 84, 87, 88.*)**

**1536 & 1542** The Acts of Union. Welsh men are able to hold offices of Justices of the Peace, and Knight of the shire. English common law introduced for the whole country, making specific provision that lands be inherited by English tenure and not partitioned as in the past under Welsh tenure.

**1543** Act of Union confirmed circuits of Great Sessions and Quarter Sessions.

**1539- 69** - A tree is felled during this period to form a central truss which is used to build a gentry-type hall house known as Tŷ Mawr.

**c1566** - Trees are felled to construct the cruck barn at Tŷ Mawr.

**c1584** - A large fireplace and a floor is inserted in Tŷ Mawr against the central cruck of the hall.

**1598** - 30 March – the township of Persaethydd was part of the parish of Gwyddelwern. Tŷ Mawr belonged to Plas yn Ddôl estate owned by Pierce Lloyd of Ddôl there is an acknowledgement that he is indebted to Griffith Nanney in the sum of £10 until 2 April 1599. (*UCNW Nannau ms. 199*).

**1599/1600** – The Merioneth Lay Subsidy Roll 42 Elizabeth shows:

Commotum de Edernion Piercus Lloyd arm. V.li. [£5] (*PRO E 179.222/325*)

Pierce Lloyd of Ddôl was married to Margaret, daughter of Elis Pryse of Plas Iolyn, LL.D., generally known as 'y Doctor Coch' and Erlyw, his wife, daughter of Sir Owain Pool, B.D., priest and parson of Llandecwyn, Harlech. (*Powys Fadog IV p.105*)

**1617** - Pierce Lloyd of Ddôl, Esq., & Griffith Lloyd his son and heir (*Newborough [Rûg] 998,999*)

Pys Llwyd was a patron of bards (*Noddwyr Beirdd ym Meirion, p69-71*)

**1625** – King Charles I. Peysr Lloyd of Ddôl bore witness to the correctness of the assessment of dues in the Corwen district (*UCNW Nannau ms. 305*).

**1627/8** - Acquittance by Pierce Lloyd of Ddol Edeyrn, High Sheriff of the county of Merioneth, that he received from Hugh Nanney all documents (*Newborough [Rûg] 1234*).

**1630** - Piers Lloyd of Ddôl died on 15 April in London. (*Powys Fadog VI pp. 51-2*)

**c.1628 - 1630**, Humffrey Jones of Craflwyn, Beddgelert, gentleman and Keeper of the Prince's Record in the Exchequer in Caernarvon, etc., bought the Plas yn Ddôl Estate from Pierce Lloyd or his son. (*Powys Fadog VI p51-2 1887*)

**1631** – June 4 – Griffith Lloid of Ddol, gent. (*Newborough [Rug] 972*)

**1638** – June 3 - Griffith Lloid of Ddol, gent. (*Newborough [Rug] 980*)

**1649/50** - Humffrey Jones of Ddol died having established his son Maurice Jones as his heir.

**1653** – November 16 Maurice Jones of Ddol died leaving a son, Humphrey, born c1651.

**1662** - The lists for the payment of the Hearth Tax of (2/- per hearth per annum) for Edeyrnion unfortunately do not show the names of the tax payers or the properties involved. The township of Perseithydd had 17 holdings with one hearth. Ty Mawr had one hearth/chimney. (*Journal of Merioneth Historical & Record Society 1953, p.24*)

**1673** - Humffrey Jones' heir, Maurice, is born at Dole, Corwen.

**1676** - Humffrey Jones M.A. of Ddôl died.

**1699** - "Y Plas yn y Dhol" : Mr. Morris Jones, Esq., Korwen in Edeurnon, Merioneth, was one of the four houses of note (*Edward Lhuyd 'Parochialia' p. ??*)

**1702** – January 10 Humffrey Jones's son, Marice Jones, died at Llanrhaeadr Hall near Denbigh.

**1721** – August 16 - Ellen, daughter of **John Cadwallader of Proseuthydd** in baptised (*Llangar parish register, Dolgellau Record Office, Z/PE/18/3*).

**1730** - Death of Maurice Jones' widow, Madam Jane Jones. (*Monument in the church of Llanrhaiadr yng Nghinmeirch, Denbigh*).

**1732 – 1738** Hugh Jones became tenant of Ddôl. He acted as steward for Madame Jones and also as agent for the two ladies of Rûg. (*Merioneth Miscellany, Merioneth Historical & Record Society, 1955, p39*) The estate was passed to Maurice Jones' relation, Humphrey Parry of Pwllhalog, Flintshire.

**1734** - 31 December **John Cadwalader** and Anne Peters of Tre'r Ddol township, Corwen, marry in Corwen Church (*Corwen Parish Register*)

**1739** – The last will and testament of **John Cadwalader of Tŷ Mawr** dated 19<sup>th</sup> August (SA1739-34 NLW) where he leaves to his wife Anne Peters “all the house stuff I had when we were married and also all sheeps that is marked before we were married and also ...a cow called Pigeon”?? She was also left a hobet of corn and one of oatmeal and the sum of £200. To his daughter Jane Jones he left £7 also to his son Morgan to be paid when he is twenty years of age. To his daughter Ellin Jones, the “cupboard on which her mother Dority Jones name is set upon” which infers a previous marriage. He left 15/- to his son in law Edward Thomas and to his daughter Margaret Jones 2/6 and to her daughter Ellin two lamb, all the wool and hemp was to be equally divided between his wife Anne Peter, his daughters Jane and Ellin. All the rest of his goods, chattels, etc., he bequeathed to his son John Jones and daughter Ellin Jones. He desired that all of his children made “much of their mother in law”. It is signed 'IK' the mark of John Cadwalader.

**1744** – The owner of Plas yn Ddol, Humphrey Parry died. A deed from this date lists the properties left to him in 1702 includes Tŷ Mawr, Gwyddelwern. (*UCNW Nannau, ms ??*)

**1759** - Humphrey Parry's son Robert died.

**1762** – 12 February. John son of **Harry and Gwen Jones of Ty Mawr** baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office*)

**1777** – 28 March. William son of **Robert and Margaret Jones of Tŷ Mawr** baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office*)

**1795** – 23 February. Margaret daughter of **John and Elin Jones of Tŷ Mawr** baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1795** – 6 September, Shem son of John and Elin Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1797** – 14 June. The burial of a John Jones of Tŷ Mawr at Llangar. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1798** – 29 November. David son of **John and Margaret Meredith of Tŷ Mawr** is baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1799** - The Land Tax of shows Humphrey Parry's son, Richard Parry of Persaethydd township. John Jones, of Tŷ Mawr was charged 15s. 9d. John Jones, farmer, of Tŷ Mawr died 12 March. (*SA/1799/25*)

**1800** – 10 March, John son of John and Elin Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1804** – 1 July, William son of John and Elin Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1806** – 1 June, David John and Elin Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/4*)

**1807** - The Plas yn Ddol estate was bought by Lt. Col. Griffith ap Howel Vaughan who had inherited Rûg from his brother, Colonel Williams Vaughan Salesbury, who died on a visit to Sicily in 1807. (*History of Powys Fadog VI p31-2*)

**1807** – 2 August, Ann daughter of **John and Elizabeth Jones of Tŷ Mawr** baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

**1809** – 1 October, Enoch son of John and Elizabeth Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

**1810** – 6 May, Cadwalader Morgan and Jane Jones, both of Gwyddelwern parish marry.

John Cadwalader and Morgan Jones are witnesses. (*Gwyddelwern Marriage Register*)

**1810** - 25 December, Elias son of John and Elizabeth Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

Around this time it would seem there are two families living at Tŷ Mawr.

**1819** - 9 May John son of **John and Ann Jones of Tŷ Mawr** baptised at Llangar. Also on

1819 - 23 May, Richard, son of **Richard and Susan Jones of Tŷ Mawr** baptised at Llangar.

**1822** - 23 June, Peter son of **Hugh and Ann Roberts of Tŷ Mawr** baptised at Llangar. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

- 24 November John son of **Thomas and Jane Beans (nee Griffiths) of Tŷ Mawr** baptised at Llangar. Thomas is a labourer. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

**1824** - 28 November. Henry son of Hugh and Ann of Tŷ Mawr baptised at Llangar. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

**1825** - 13 February Jane, daughter of Hugh and Margaret Roberts, of Tŷ Mawr was baptised. (*Llangar parish register Dolgellau record office, Z/PE/18/5*)

**1826** - 21 Sept. Anne, baptised at Bettws Gwerfyl Goch daughter of William and Susana Jones of Tŷ Mawr, Gwyddelwern parish, Labourer. (*Bettws Gwerfyl Goch parish register facsimile copy in Bettws church*)

**1829** - 19 April Grace, daughter of William and Susana Jones of Tŷ Mawr baptised at Bettws Gwerfyl Goch. William is a labourer. (*Bettws Gwerfyl Goch parish register facsimile copy in Bettws church*)

The Rûg estate papers referring to the Plas yn Ddol estate rentals from Michaelmas

**1830** to Lady Day **1831** show **John Hughes as the tenant of Tŷ Mawr** (no.7) under Edelweiss's, £38 rent (*GAS XD104B.28*) The rent remains at £38 from **1830 – 1838**. (*GAS XD/2/1475*)  
King William IV

<b>1841</b>	<b>Census Returns</b>	<b>Gwyddelwern</b>	<b>Llangar/Brosaethydd</b>
HUGHES	John	40	Farmer
HUGHES	Ann	35	
HUGHES	Robert	11	
HUGHES	Jane	8	
ROBERTS	Edward	15	Male Servant
WYNNE	Margaret	15	Female Servant

**1843** – The Tithe Apportionment for the parish of Gwyddelwern show the owner of Tŷ Mawr as Griffith Howel Vaughan of Rûg, with John Hughes as the tenant. The size of the holding is shown as 38 acres 3 rood 6 perches with a value of £6-7s.-6d.

### **Gwyddelwern Tithe Apportionment 1839-42**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>Area</u>			<u>Amount</u>
			<u>Acre</u>	<u>Rood</u>	<u>Perch</u>	
1313	Tŷ Mawr homestead			2	00	
1314	Cae'r gweithdy	Hay	1	1	16	5s. 00d.
1315	Erw pwll pridd	Pasture		2	31	3s. 00d.
1316	Erw pensarn	Pasture	1	2	18	6s. 06d.
1318	Erw gwenyn bach	Pasture		2	33	8s. 00d.
1319	Erw gwenyn uchaf	Arable	2	0	39	8s. 00d.
1320	Erw gwenyn isaf	Arable	1	2	30	6s. 00d.
1321	Pant y gwlan	Arable	2	3	13	11s. 06d.
1322	Cae'r melinydd	Arable	2	1	18	9s. 00d.
1323	Pwll Elen	Hay	1	1	02	5s. 00d.
1324	Bryn pwll maddoch	Arable	1	2	39	7s. 00d.

1325	Pwll maddoch	Hay	2	2	36	10s. 06d.
1326	Cae'r ysgubor	Pasture	2	1	8	9s. 00d.
1327	Cae'r nant bach	Arable	2	2	11	10s. 00d.
1328	Cae'r nant fawr	Pasture	3	1	03	11s. 00d.
1329	Allotment	Hay/arable	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>15s. 00d.</u>
			<u>38</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>£ 6 07s. 06d.</u>

**1848** - Lt. Col. Griffith Howel Vaughan (Constable of Harlech Castle), died unmarried. Rûg estate was left to his nephew Sir Robert Williames Vaughan of Nannau and Ystum Colwyn, Bart., who married Frances Lloyd of Rhagat. They had no children. (*History of Powys Fadog VI p32*)

**Census Returns 1851 Gwyddelwern  
Tŷ Mawr**

					<i>place of birth &amp; parish</i>
JONES John	H	Wid	69	Farmer 39 acres	Gwerndegid, Llanfor
JONES John	Son	U	30	Farmer's son	Bach Glas, Llanycil
JONES Ann	Dau	U	27	Farmer's dau.	Bach Glas, Llanycil
JONES Elizabeth	Dau	U	16		Bach Glas, Llanycil

**1859** - April 9 - Robert Williames Vaughan died leaving Rûg to the Hon. Charles Henry Wynn of Glynllifon (then aged 12), the third son of Spencer Bulkeley Wynn, the third Baron Newborough. (*History of Powys Fadog VI p31-2*)

*1861 census*

**Census Returns 1871 Gwyddelwern Pensaethydd, Cynwyd  
Tŷ Mawr**

					<i>parish of birth</i>
JONES John	H	M	32	Farmer 44 acres	Llanfawr, Mer.
				Employing 1 boy	
JONES Elizabeth	W	M	30		Llandderfel, Mer.
JONES Susannah	Dau	U	22		Llandderfel, Mer.
EVANS Gertrude	Niece		8		Liverpool, Lancs. Eng.

**Census Returns 1881 Llangar Brosaethydd  
Tŷ Mawr**

					<i>parish of birth</i>
JONES John	H	M	62	Farmer 43 acres	Llanfawr, Mer.
				Employing 1 boy	
JONES Elizabeth	W	M	60	Farmer's Wife	Llandderfel
JONES Susannah	Dau	U	30		Llandderfel
JONES Henry	Serv.	U	16	General servant	Gwyddelwern
JONES James	Lodger	M	44	Vicar of Llawrbettws	Aberystwyth, Cards.

A problem with researching Tŷ Mawr is that the parish boundaries have changed several times and the township of Pensaethydd has moved from Gwyddelwern to Llangar and from **1891** onwards – Corwen. The eastern part of Tŷ Mawr had been renovated some time during the 1860s. At this period the Church of St. James the Greater was built at Llawrbettws and the vicarage was under construction. An Order in Council dated 1 November 1864 formed the parish of Llawr y Bettws

from various sections of the parishes of Llanfor, Llandderfel and Persaethydd from Gwyddelwern. (*History of the Diocese of St. Asaph, D. R. Thomas, pp187-170*)

**Census Returns 1891 Corwen –  
Tŷ Mawr**

**Llawrybettws incl. Druid & Tyn y Cefn**

					<i>parish of birth</i>
JONES John	H	M	72	Farmer	Llanfor, Mer.
JONES Elizabeth	W	M	68		Llanfor, Mer.
JONES Susannah	D	U	38		Llanfor, Mer.

**1894** Edeyrnion Rural District Council came into being. (*Local Government Act 1894*)

**Census Returns 1901 Corwen**

**Llawrybettws**

					<i>place of birth &amp; parish</i>
JONES Elizabeth	H	Wid	78	Farmer	Llandderfel, Mer.
JONES Susannah	Dau	U	50		Llandderfel, Mer.
EVANS Jacob	Brother	Wid	64	Cowman	Llandderfel, Mer.

**1906** - Susan Jones, Tŷ Mawr, Llawrbettws. Dwelling house.

**1908** - 22 December. The Rûg rental books show that **Hugh Roberts**, son of Plas Adda, Corwen, became a tenant of Tŷ Mawr. Rent £40 per annum.

**1910** - 21 February, A daughter Olive is born to Hugh and his wife Ellen (Nellie) Roberts, Ty Mawr.

1910 Land Tax Assessment for Tŷ Mawr (no. 319)

Occupier Hugh Roberts, Owner Hon. C.H. Wynn,

House and buildings 1 rood Gross Annual Value £10 Rateable value £10 10s.

Agricultural land 31 acres 1 rood Gross AV £31 RV £28

(*Edeyrnion Rural District, Corwen Civil Parish, Township of Persaethydd at Dolgellau Record Office Z/QR/L/13*)

**1911 Census Returns Corwen**

**Ty Mawr Glanrafon**

ROBERTS Hugh	H	M	32	Farmer	Corwen
ROBERTS Nellie		M	28	Farmer's wife	Corwen
ROBERTS Olive		D	1		Corwen
WILLIAMS Harriet	Boarder	M	54		Corwen

**1912** - Following the death of the Hon. Charles Henry Wynn in March 1911 and on the instructions of the Hon. Mrs. Charles Henry Wynn, Tŷ Mawr was one of twenty farms, forty small holdings together with several other properties on the Rûg Estate which were put up for sale by auction on Wednesday and Thursday, the 29/30 May, Tŷ Mawr was sold to Merioneth County Council to form a part of their smallholdings estate. (*Sale catalogue of the outlying portions of the Rug Estate*)

**1915** - Hugh Roberts, Tŷ Mawr, Llawrbettws

**1916** - 20 March a daughter Elizabeth (Betty) Jane Roberts is born at Tŷ Mawr to Hugh and Ellen Roberts.

**1917** - 20 December a son David (Dafydd) John Roberts is born at Tŷ Mawr to Hugh and Ellen Roberts.

During the **1920s** living in the eastern end of the house was Mrs. Ruth Jones Ellis, the widow of an auctioneer from Llangwm.

Register of electors, southern Corwen, Upper Ward. (Z/CC5/58/C)

**1920 - 1923** Hugh Roberts                      Nellie Roberts                      Ruth Jones Ellis                      Tŷ Mawr

**1933** Rating Valuations List Edeyrnion rating area parish of Corwen (No. 580)

Occupier Hugh Roberts                      Owner Merioneth District Council  
Farmhouse Tŷ Mawr                      Est. extent 1 rood 21 perches GV 15/-                      £9  
(PCD/104/22 *Denbighshire Record Office*)

**1934, 36, 37** - Register of electors, southern Corwen, Upper Ward. (Z/CC5/58/C)

Hugh Roberts                      Nellie Roberts                      Ruth Jones Ellis                      Tŷ Mawr

**1935** - Olive Roberts married Gwynedd Hughes and they live across the road at Bryn Coch.

**1938** - Register of electors, southern Corwen, Upper Ward. (Z/CC5/58/C)

Hugh Roberts      Nellie Roberts      Elizabeth Jane Roberts      Ruth Jones Ellis                      Tŷ Mawr

**1939** - 19 April Betty Roberts marries John Wynne-Hughes and moves to live at Llangwm.

**1942** - June David (Dafydd) John Roberts married Elizabeth (Beth) Davies from the Shop, Glanyrafon and moved out of Tŷ Mawr and into his wife's home.

**1943** - 27 September, Hugh Roberts died of throat cancer aged 64 - buried at Glanrafon chapel. Dafydd Roberts moved back to Tŷ Mawr with his new family. Mother and son, Ellen and Dafydd Roberts, became joint tenants. The rent was about c£48 per annum.

**1943** - 3 August, a son, Meirion is born at Tŷ Mawr to Dafydd and Beth Roberts.

**1945** - 3 December, a daughter, Eiliw is born to Dafydd and Beth Roberts of Tŷ Mawr.

During the 1950s Jack Davies an uncle to Beth Roberts moves into the eastern end of the house.

**1962** - 5 November Mrs. Ellen Roberts died. Buried at Glanrafon chapel. Dafydd and Beth Roberts continued to farm the holding.

**1967** - February - Meirion Roberts married Meinir Davies of Bettws Gwerfyl Goch and moved away from Ty Mawr.

**1971** - 2 January - Eiliw Roberts married John Pierce of Denbigh and moved away from Ty Mawr.

**1972** - Visit to Ty Mawr by Peter Smith of RCAHMS. Around this time Mr. and Mrs. Roberts gave up farming and purchased the house, bake-house (ty popty) and gardens for c. £4,000.

The farm land, agricultural buildings and cruck barn are now tenanted by neighbouring farmer, Mr. Arthur Hughes of Four Crosses Farm.

**1974** - Edeyrnion District Council and Merionethshire ceased to exist. The area became part of Glyndwr District Council which in turn became part of Clwyd County Council.

David and Beth Roberts decided to build an extension consisting of a kitchen/dining room with bathroom and bedroom above to the south-eastern end of the house making it an 'L' shape and removed the outside door in the middle of the north wall and replaced it with a window, the passageway was blocked thus making Ty Mawr into two houses.

It was suggested to Dafydd Roberts by Bob Owen, Croesor that many places called Tŷ Mawr may well have been inns or taverns. This may well be the case with Tŷ Mawr, Druid. A rather uncomplimentary poem was found in the wooden studding when it was uncovered by Dafydd Roberts whilst hacking plaster off a wall at Tŷ Mawr during the renovations/restoration in the early-mid 1970's. The paper was torn/worn in places and the missing words, shown in *italic* print,

have been filled in by Mr. Trevor Edwards, Parc, Y Bala. The original piece of paper can now be found at The National Museum of Wales, St. Fagan.

Lle'r meddwon, anffyddlon *ffau*  
Cornel y diawl a'i hawl yw,  
*Lle* i'r anwn gŵn *enwir*  
Corlan Sattan, aflan yw.

A very rough translation of the poem is as follows:

The place of drunkards, lair of the unfaithful  
Corner of the devil and his possession,  
Place for the Hounds of Hell called  
Satan's fold – it is filth.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberts' daughter Eiliw, her husband John Pierce, their two sons (Iestyn and Iwan) moved into the 'other half' in 1976. Their section of the house is named Cae Gwenyn after the adjoining enclosures. The two boys moved away from Cae Gwenyn after graduating from university and marrying.

**2012** - 27 February, David Roberts died in a nursing home at St. Asaph aged 94 years.

2012 - 20 May, Elizabeth (Beth) Roberts died in Wrexham hospital aged 95 years.

2012 Ownership of the western end of Tŷ Mawr is passed on to Meirion Roberts whilst his sister, Eiliw, and her husband John Pierce, occupy the eastern half of the property.

Researched by Elena Williams      22:vi:2012