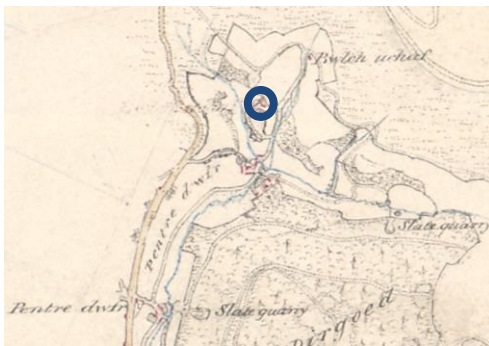




On a more detailed early map, produced for the Ordnance Survey in 1835, the house and barn that stand today were shown, although on neither map was the property named. On the 1835 plan the name Bwlch Uchaf was written next to the house known as Bryn yr Odyn, and it seems possible that the title was misplaced and should have appeared next to Tŷ Uchaf instead, indicating the possible name that the farm was known by at that time.



*The 1835 Ordnance Survey plan of 1835, showing two buildings at the location of Tŷ Uchaf highlighted in blue.*  
© The British Library Board.



*The tithe map of 1841 with the location of Tŷ Uchaf shown in blue.*  
Courtesy The National Library of Wales.

So, we know that there were buildings there at that time. However, on the tithe survey of 1841, although no buildings were marked at all on the map, the location of Tŷ Uchaf lies in the middle of one of the fields numbered 32, named Tan y Bwlch, belonging to Robert Price, with the 44 acres being farmed by Godfrey Tudor of Pentredwr Farm. Tan y Bwlch Farm lay across the stream in Eglwyseg

township, part of Llangollen Parish. In the tithe survey for Eglwyseg two years earlier Tan y Bwlch (named in the survey as just Bwlch) was owned by the Wynnstay Estate and being farmed by Robert Jones. Whether this was a confusion, the two farms having the same name or a change in name or ownership we do not know.

In the same year as the tithe survey, the 1841 Census was conducted. However, it is of little help in determining who may have been living at Tŷ Uchaf as that name does not appear in the Census record for Maesrychen. In contrast there are four entries for Tan y Bwlch in Maesrychen as well as the one in Eglwyseg and a (different) Robert Jones is head of the household in the Eglwyseg one as well as in one of the Tan y Bwlch's in Maesrychen!



What we can say is that farming at Tŷ Uchaf was taken on by Hugh Richard Hughes, who moved there with his wife Elizabeth and their two children, Robert David and Margaret Ann. He was originally from Eglwyseg and she from Dolgellau.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.																
Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Explanations given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.																
The contents of the Schedules will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.																
NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	SEX	AGE	PARTICULARS AS TO MARRIAGE				PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION of Person and of Spouse				BIRTHPLACE of every Person	BIRTHPLACES of both Parents	EDUCATION	LANDHOLDING	
				Married	Single	Widow	Divorced	Farmer	Labourer	Other	Other					
Hugh Richard Hughes	Head	M	41	Married				Farmer								
Elizabeth Hughes	Wife	F	41	Married												
Robert David Hughes	Son	M	12													
Margaret Ann Hughes	Daughter	F	2													

The census for 1911 (above) and the Electoral Roll of 1939 (below) show that Hugh Richard Hughes and his family at Tŷ Uchaf for around thirty years.

Tŷ Uchaf, Pentredŵr	89	1	Hughes Hugh R.	-	M.	11 Aug 69	M.	Darius General
do	89	2	Hughes Elizabeth	-	F.	20 Feb 69	M.	Mrs J. Darius Jones
do	89	3	Hughes Cassie	-	F.	20 Feb 12	S.	ditto
Bwlch Isaf, Pentredŵr	90	1	Llewellyn, Ann	-	F.	13 Apr 63	W.	General Darius
ditto	90	2	Edwards Edward	-	M.	26 Nov 65	S.	Darius - visiting relative

Shortly after moving to the farm they had another daughter Cissie. Older residents in the community still remember Cissie and Margaret Ann. The Hugheses would stay at Tŷ Uchaf until some time during the Second World War when they moved to Oswestry. Local recollections are that after the Hugheses left, Tŷ Uchaf became, for a time, the home of a Captain Kowalkiewicz or Kalkiewicz, who arrived in Pentredŵr at the same time as George Twardowski, who lived for a time after the War at Bryn yr Odyn.

In around 1953 Tŷ Uchaf was bought by Trevor Lloyd Hughes from Pentredŵr Farm (Eglwyseg). Possibly he had bought the farm simply to acquire the land, because neither he nor any members of the family lived there. For a number of years in the 1940s and early 1950s it became a regular holiday home for a French family – the de la Perelles, but they would be the last family to live at Tŷ Uchaf. Since that time the buildings have been empty and the house is today (2023), although still just intact, quite derelict.

By David Crane.