

THE BUILDINGS OF MOREFA BORTH

- the Marsh Harbour

Ceredigion



That part of Borth Village on a pebble bank with the sea on one side and the Cors Fochno marsh some reclaimed and the railway on the other. In the distance is the River Dyfi. Photograph Michael Lewis

Photographs and History by BERYL LEWIS

This work is for research and educational purposes only.

ANWYLFAN

A house on the beach side at the southern end of Borth High Street. Built on a site owned by a prosperous Borth shopkeeper, the house was built in 1911 with plenty of rooms for holiday accommodation.



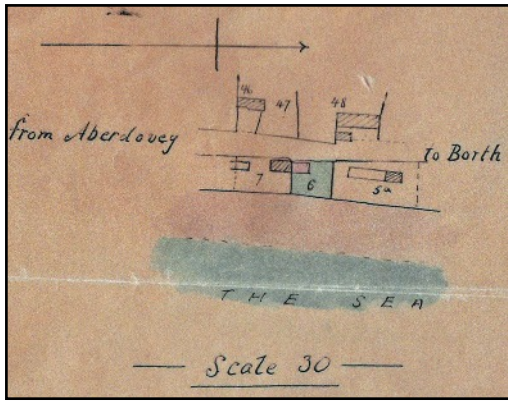
This double fronted, semi-detached, fully two storey house has a gable roof parallel to the High Street. It stands on a generous sized plot compared with many of its neighbours. Its walls are rendered, and its red brick chimney has four chimney pots so plenty of rooms were heated. The windows are modern but in the style of sash windows. The ground floor bay windows have moulded and shaped tops with almost flat roofs. A feature of the front of the house is the roof over the front door, supported on carved wooden brackets. It is topped by a finial, and the top of the gable is filled with an interesting shape cut into the woodwork. A window above the front door and glass panels in the door itself light the hall. A low wall encloses a narrow front garden area. Lean to single storey extensions on the south side add to the space, and the front one has a door



into the yard. This is open to the street with plenty of room for car parking as it extends to the boundary wall with the beach. At the date at which it was built this is likely to be a brick house.

The ground on which it is built is an embankment of stones thrown up by the sea. It was called 'waste' by the Crown Manor who owned it as it was no use for farming. The road had run along it for centuries, becoming a turnpike road in the 1770s. It led to a ferry from Ynyslas to

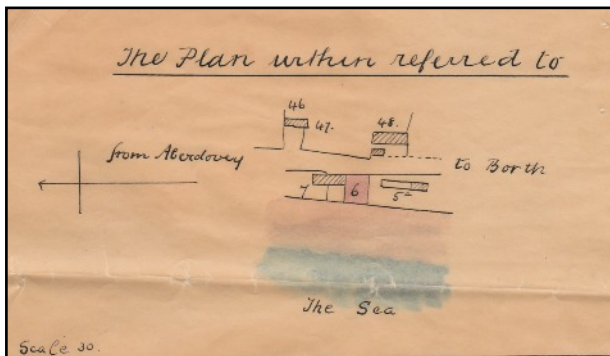
Aberdovey, and was a quick way to North Wales. At the time this house was built Morfa Borth had piped spring water, and electricity was soon to come. The ground was enclosed in 1827, it measured 19 perches, and by 1829 there was a cottage of David Jones built on it.



LEFT David Jones 's ground and his cottage in 1829 was Number 6 and is coloured green. This plan, copied from the 1829 map was drawn on January 18th. 1866.

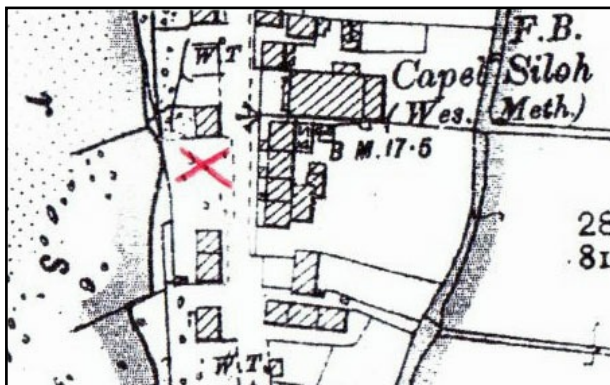
David Jones was a mariner with six children. He was born about 1801 and so was a young energetic man when he encroached the land and built his cottage. (1841 Census). In 1866 Elizabeth Jones bought Number 6 from the Crown for £9.16s.0d. She owed Abraham Lloyd Lewis of London House

a draper and grocer across the road £30 in goods bought from him and money lent. She could not repay it so she mortgaged Number 6 to Lloyd Lewis in 1868. In 1876 she and Lloyd Lewis sold Number 6 to Hugh Jones a mariner from Aberystwyth for £50, he paid Elizabeth £20 and Lloyd Lewis £30. However Hugh Jones became bankrupt and his estate had to be sold.



LEFT In 1885 The receiver sold just the land beside the cottage, not the cottage to Hugh Williams, a blacksmith at Gwastad and he kept it for twenty eight years. This was drawn on 19th. June 1885

Then as an old man of 71 Hugh Williams sold it to William Thomas Lewis of London House, Abraham's son for £12.



LEFT In 1904 this ground, marked with a cross, was still not built upon, and open to the street, although at the edge of the beach some kind of fence had been built to protect it and the nearby cottages from the sea during bad storms. (Detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map published in 1905 but revised in 1904. Cardiganshire NW).

In 1910 for a tax planned but not levied, this was, 'a site for a house', and its name had been given to it. The site was valued at £81.

William Thomas Lewis of London House had a thriving drapers, grocer's, and ironmongers business and it had been Borth's post office. (Today the Tandoori Restaurant). He was also an important and useful villager. In 1911 he had built a new house on it called Anwylfan which he sold to the Rev. William Klein of Alberbury Shropshire for £405. Klein sold it back to William Thomas Lewis in 1921 and it had a tenant W. J. Nelson who paid £18 per annum on a yearly tenancy.

Later in 1921 William Thomas Lewis sold Anwylfan to Miss Mary Emerson Marles-Thomas of Sommerville School, 8 Marine Terrace, Aberystwyth for £625. Sometime after 1922 furnished accommodation in the house was offered, with four bedrooms and two sitting rooms. (Illustrated Borth Guide, Aberystwyth Public Library). Paying the rates in 1925 was a tenant Marks Thomas. In October 1934 Miss Marles Thomas sold the house to a Worcester solicitor's wife, Mrs Bridget Elizabeth Johnstone for £900. With a vote for the house in the General Election of 1945 was Lilian M. Watkins probably a tenant. In 1963 Mrs Bridget

Elizabeth Johnstone paid the rates, and had a vote for the house as owner and occupier. She died in 1995. The name Anwylfan is Welsh and is derived from 'a loved place'.



ABOVE A view of 'Wesleyan Place' from a postcard dated about 1921. Anwylfan, the second house on the left, is protected by a high fence, and it has its original wooden sash windows. It also had a second chimney now gone.



LEFT The rear of the house today with a defensive fence against the sea.

BELOW There is an extension on the rear of the house and another on the south side with room to park a car.

Information from Deeds to the house courtesy of the present owner.



Archifdy Ceredigion Archives
yn cyflwyno / presents
Tai'r Borth / Houses of Borth
gan/by Beryl Lewis
[cyf/ref ADX/1629]

Mae **Tai'r Borth** yn cynnwys dros 350 hanes sy'n ymwneud ag adeiladau unigol ac mae'r hanesion wedi'u darlunio â chyfoeth o ffotograffau, mapiau a dogfennau. Mae'r ffeiliau ar gael ar ein gwefan: <https://www.archifdy-ceredigion.org.uk/tairborth.php?lang=cy>

Hoffem ddiolch i Beryl am fod mor garedig â chaniatáu i ni rannu ei gwaith â'r gynulleidfa ehangaf bosibl.

Ceidw Beryl Lewis yr hawlfraint yn ei gwaith ac mae'r hanesion yn cael eu rhannu at ddibenion preifat ac ymchwil yn unig.

Houses of Borth consists of over 350 histories of individual buildings, lavishly illustrated with photographs, maps and documents. All the files are available from our website: <https://www.archifdy-ceredigion.org.uk/tairborth.php>

We would like to thank Beryl for her kindness in letting us share her work with the widest possible audience.

Beryl Lewis retains the copyright in her work and the histories are made available for private use and research only.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council



Archifdy
Ceredigion
Archives