

# 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

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# THE HAVEN

Morfa Borth – the Marsh Harbour.

On the east side of the High Street at the southern end of Morfa Borth, with the beach over the road. It was built or about to be built in 1925.



*The Haven in 2016.*

The Haven is a two storey, double fronted, red brick, semi-detached house under a slate coloured hipped roof. Roofs of this kind were popular in the later 1920s and 1930s, and this is probably the shape of its original roof. The Anchorage next door has possibly been re-roofed with a gable roof. The two houses share a chimney. The Anchorage almost fills the width of its plot. On the ground floor are two canted bay windows with modern frames below an almost flat leaded roof. The framing is carried right across forming a glazed



porch for the front door. This extends enough to allow a door in the porch on the north side. On the wall above is a small string course of moulded brick. It shares this with The Anchorage and it also shares its brick wall enclosing a narrow front garden, with square gateposts with a pyramidal cap. These houses therefore appear to be built together at the same time



and they appear as one building drawn on a Crown Manor map, showing ‘encroachments’ sold by the manor in 1925. (National Archives LRRO 1/3060)



*ABOVE and BELOW The rear of the pair of houses in 2016. The Haven is on the right.*

At the rear the house also has a second small brick chimney. The ground floor has a single storey extension with an almost flat roof, allowing for a picture window looking east across Borth’s common to the hills, and for a glazed french window leading into the garden. The doors open on to a railed balcony with steps down to a patio area as this is a sloping site towards the rear of the shingle bank thrown up by the sea. The balcony connects to a narrow further extension on the north side with a window looking northwards. The ground floor and the north side wall is rendered. The garden extends to a footpath, and there is a substantial timber shed.

The shingle bank on which it was built was considered ‘waste’ by the Crown Manor who owned it, as it was not suitable for farming. There were no buildings on this land until 1925, it was part of a piece of rough ground from Efelwen to the road to Llandre, called ‘beach’ on the old map. Across the road on the strip of grass were three limekilns in 1829, four by 1848. (Maps National Archives LRRO 1/3060, Tithe Apportionment Map for Llanfihangel Genau’r Glyn, Cyfoeth Township 1848 and Cambrian News, 16 November 1883) The road had been there for centuries and was a turnpike road by the 1770s. It led to a ferry from Ynyslas to Aberdovey and was a quick way to North Wales.



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The 1925 enclosure is on a map of the manor' as plot number 105, extending to the footpath, and a building was drawn on it beside the High Street which was the semi-detached block now The Haven and The Anchorage. (National Archives LRRO 1/3060)

Harman Goodman paid the rates for the house in 1934 as owner and occupier. It was slightly less valuable than The Anchorage next door. He was still paying the rates in 1949, However he probably had tenants there, as with votes for the house in 1945 at the General Election were George and Mary A. Burgin.

Mr Carratt paid the rates for it in 1963. Edward William and Doris Evelyn Carratt had votes for it in the election that year. (Electoral Registers and Rates Ceredigion Archives)

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**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.

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