

# 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.*

# OSPREY GARAGE

Morfa Borth - the Marsh Harbour

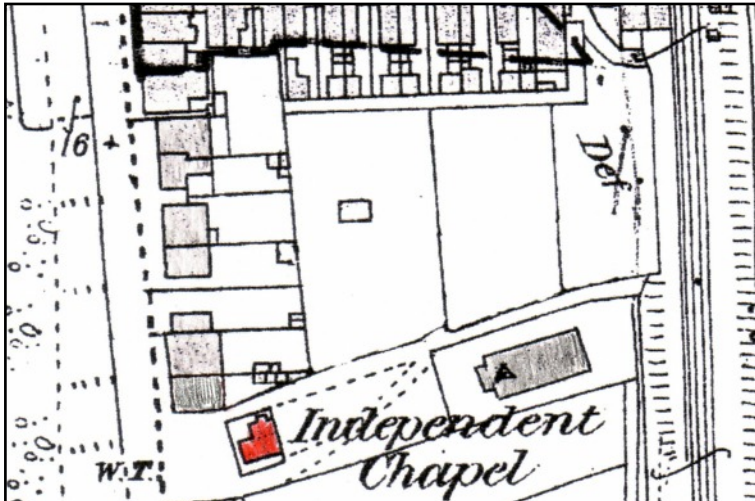
This Garage set up in the 1920s has now gone. It was alongside the entrance to Chapel Lane and in front of and behind Meirion.



*ABOVE* The repair yard behind Meirion. Chauffeurs and workmen are standing by the vehicles, and these were very expensive. For example the car second on the left is a Rolls Royce Silver Ghost which was brought out in 1924, so this photograph was taken after that time. The building on the right with a chimney was the 'Caban Coed' the wooden home of the owner of the garage. (By courtesy of Aberystwyth Library and on-line).

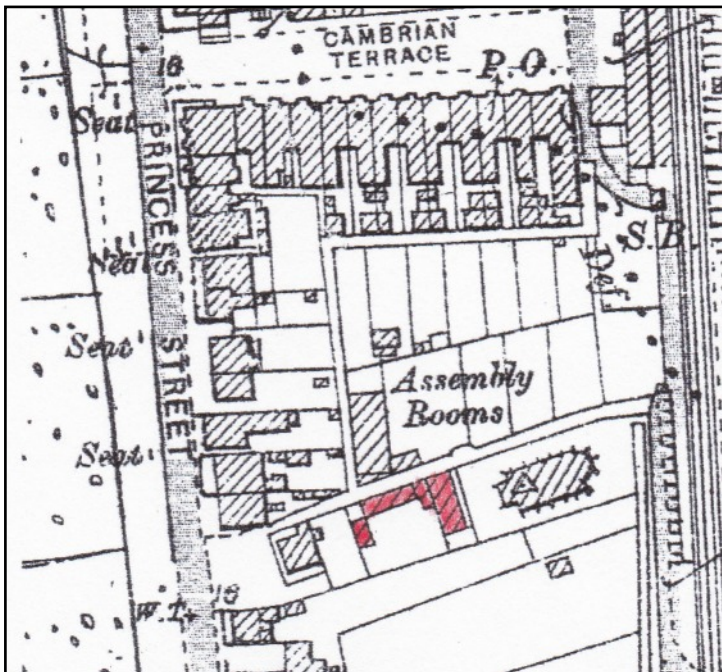
*BELOW* Our only glimpse of the street front of the garage was after a serious storm had damaged it and thrown up stones all over the road. Its signboard enlarged on the right was on the other side of the road. The garage had a brick front and sold petrol. Cars would have driven into the yard down the nearside of the building.





LEFT This was the site in 1886 before the garage was built. Meirion then called Osprey House after a Jenkins family sloop is marked in red.

(Detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1886 and published in 1888, Cardiganshire III.10)



LEFT In 1904 there were garages and the 'Caban Coed' on the site at the rear of Meirion. An Assembly Rooms, a public hall for dancing, card games and suppers had been built across Chapel Lane. It is possible that the garages provided a place for the public coming to the Assembly Rooms to put their horses and carriages and possibly cars.

The ground between the house and the main street was owned by a butcher, William Hughes Ody of Glan Nant (a terrace house just south of the Railway Inn). The ground measured 18 feet by 86 feet. After his death in 1927 it was

*sold and became the site of the Osprey Garage's front building. (Ceredigion Archives ADX 376/8 and Ordnance Survey 25 inch 1905 revised in 1904, Cardiganshire III.10))*



LEFT This detail from a photograph taken by Howard Lloyd Roberts shows Meirion in between Diana (Pebbles) and Murmury-môr. and there is something in front of it - however it is not possible to see if this was the beginning of the front building of Osprey Garage. The Ceredigion Archives thinks the photograph was taken in 1926.

In 1924 the Osprey Garage was up and running - at least at the rear of Meirion - when it was used to sell some furniture which had come from Hyfrydle by order of Howard Lloyd Roberts Esq (Cambrian News Friday October 3<sup>rd</sup>).

In 1926, a Trades Directory for Wales listed the Osprey Garage with proprietor J. Musgrave, who advertised that they were 'electrical engineers, had hire cars, did repairs and overhauls, and stocked petrols, oils, greases and accessories'. For the Rates of 1925 Joseph Musgrave the proprietor of the garage was living in the house called Caban Coed.

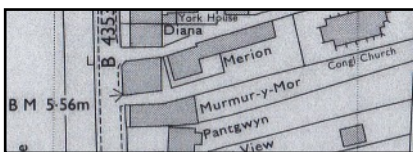
*Osprey Garage Page 3*

In the Rates of 1934 the rates are listed for the garage and for Caban Coed until 21 3 38. 1938 was the year of the serious damaging storm. They were not listed in 1938 to 1939. In 1949, after the war, there was no Osprey Garage but a Morfa Garage which Iorwerth Williams paid the rates for.

In 1957 and 1963 C Jones paid rates for garages a store and premises called Osprey Garage. The father of David Jones of Wennol sold the Osprey Garage to the the owner of the 'Amusements' (Rates, Ceredigion Archives).



*ABOVE The old brick front of the garage with its window is now part of the frontage of the 'Amusements' This photograph was taken in 2009.*



*LEFT This was the building on the site in 1975. It filled its space, and was at right angles to the main street. The ground and some of the buildings in the former garage's yard at the rear of Osprey are still there today as private garages with an entrance along the south side of Meirion.*

*The Caban Coed building has gone  
(Detail from a Historical Map online)*



*LEFT These were the garages in 2009.*

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