

# 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.*

## PENLLON HEN Glanwern Village, Borth.

A modern house on the site of an 1848 cottage. Built after 1975.

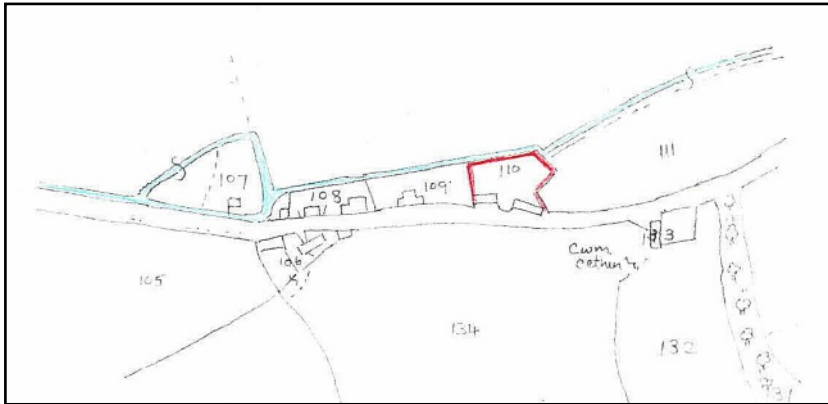


Penllon Hen is tucked into a narrow site between Haulfryn and Craigmor. However the building is spacious as it extends back from the road a long way. The name could be translated as 'top of the old lane'. The house is two storeys high and single fronted under a gable roof at right angles to the road of a slate colour, and with plain barge boards. The walls are rendered and the front door is on the west side of the ground floor. The house opens on to the street with a strip of hard standing.

The garden extends as far as the railway embankment because the mill's tailrace is below ground. Gates either side of the garden there allow access along the watercourse.

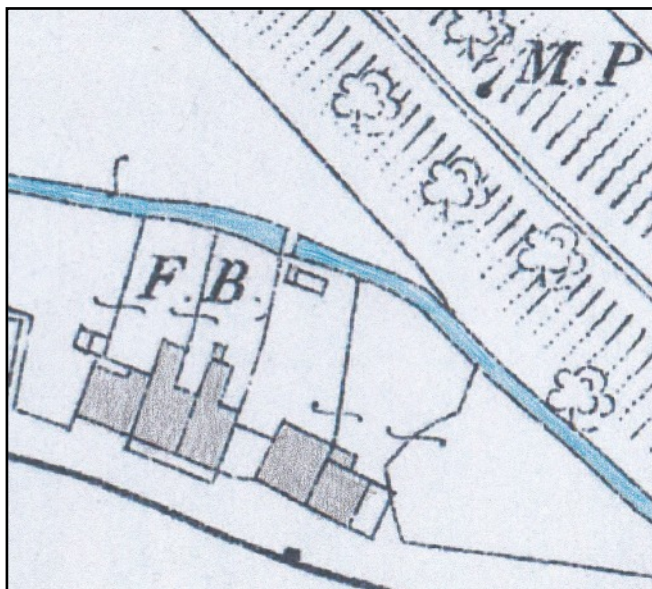
You would perhaps expect the ground for this house was once roadside 'waste' between the leat from the corn mill 'Felinwern' (now gone) at Glanleri, whose water came from the River Lerry, and the road. After use by the mill the stream ran seawards then turned along behind Borth High Street, providing a brook' with fresh water for the houses and cottages there. This 'brook' is marked on a map of 1829. However, maps of the manor's 'waste' clearly show that the 'waste' ended at the boundary of Glanwern House. At the back of the Glanwern settlement was the marsh whose old name was Wern Leri, later common land (Crown Manor Map National Archives LRRO 1/3060). The reason a small settlement could grow up at Glanwern was the presence of this fresh water. Adding to it was a stream coming down the valley behind Ty Gwyn, once called Cwm Cethin. The settlement was already there in 1806 when Elizabeth Davies was born there, as she said she was for the Census of 1851. The road was there too, it was shown on a map of 1829 and led down to four lime kilns beginning where the road

opened on to the beach. Lime would be carried to farms inland and the road connected to an old and important road at Rhyd-y-pennau. The High Street road at Borth was very ancient as in Norman times it was used to reach Aberdovey using a ferry, a quick way to north Wales along the shingle bank and high sand dune area at Ynyslas.



*LEFT In 1848 the ground for Penllon Hen was part of plot 110 which had two blocks of cottages and gardens with several owners, only Richard Francis was mentioned. Penllon would be built on part of the site of the eastern block (Tithes Apportionments Map for Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn,*

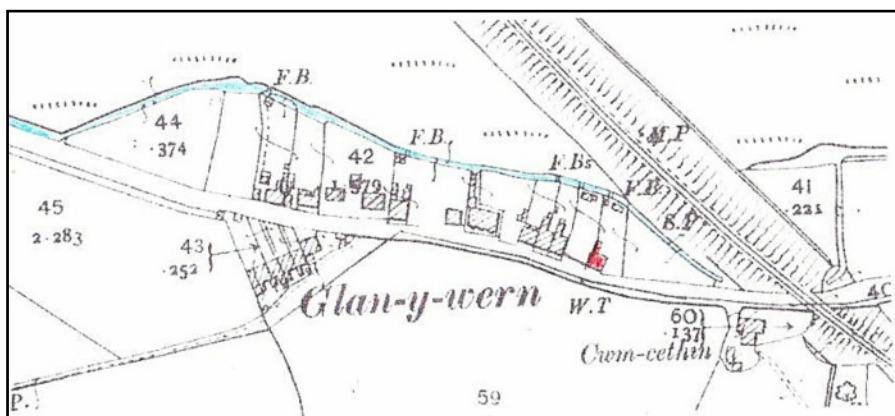
*Cyfoeth-y-brenin township, on-line at CYNEFIN)*



*LEFT In 1886 there was the terrace of three houses, then a gap where Penllon would be built, then two more cottages (A detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map of Cardiganshire surveyed in 1886 and published in 1888)*



*ABOVE A pre 1905 photograph showing the terrace of three houses and the two cottages the foreground (John Thomas, National Library of Wales, on-line).*



*ABOVE* The old cottages had gone when the Council updated this map and drew in Craigmore - marked in red. The plot on which Penllan Hen would be built was bigger (Map Ceredigion Archives)

On an Ordnance Survey 25 inch map of 1975 Penllan was not marked.

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**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.

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