

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.

TREMYDON

North Parade Morfa Borth

At the north end of the village, facing the sea. Built after 1891 possibly by 1896. Home of the Rev. J. C. Evans, Calvinist Methodist Minister of the Libanus Chapel.



LEFT Tremydon in 2015.

Tremydon is a two and a half storey, single fronted, terrace house, under a gable roof parallel to the road. It has decorative red ridge tiles and a yellow brick slab chimney shared with Montfort with red brick bands. This has room for six chimney pots (flues) for each house, so plenty of rooms were warmed. The two dormer windows are very decorative, the barge boards are shaped and each has a finial. The walls are rendered, and there is a bold string course (line of moulding) round the bay window and continuing to the north side of the front wall and matching a similar one on Montfort. The sizes of the windows are well judged, with the one over the front door matching the ones in the front of the bay. The dormer windows have a similar proportions but are smaller. The first floor and dormer windows are modern with two large panes instead of four.

LEFT The front door is very wide, and glass panels light the hall. Each side of the door are pilaster strips with decorative panels, and brackets support an entablature over it.

The house has two steps down to a hard standing and the street. This house with Montfort and Hazelmere was one of a group of three on a map surveyed in 1904. All three have wide front doors unlike the remainder of the terrace.



An old postcard shows the houses had bay windows with bold string courses (lines of moulding) and the top wall was higher to hide the roof and decorated with moulding and a half circle. We are lucky that Ballarah still has this feature - even though it was built after Tremydon but was obviously designed to match its neighbours.

RIGHT The upper bay window of Ballarah. LEFT The upper bay of Tremydon has column shapes between the windows, but it no longer has the decorative top.





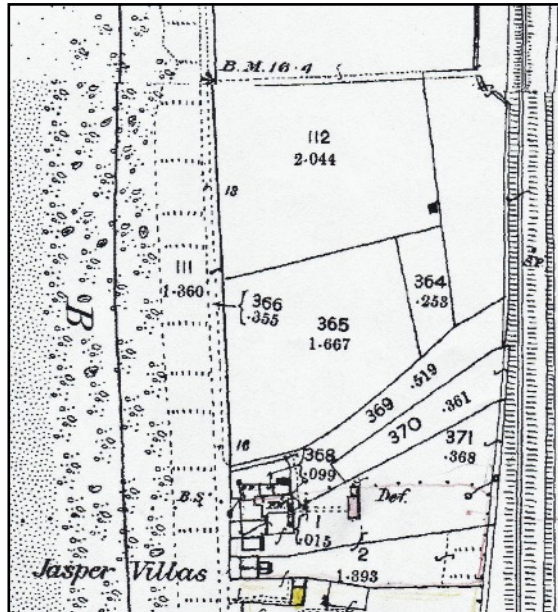
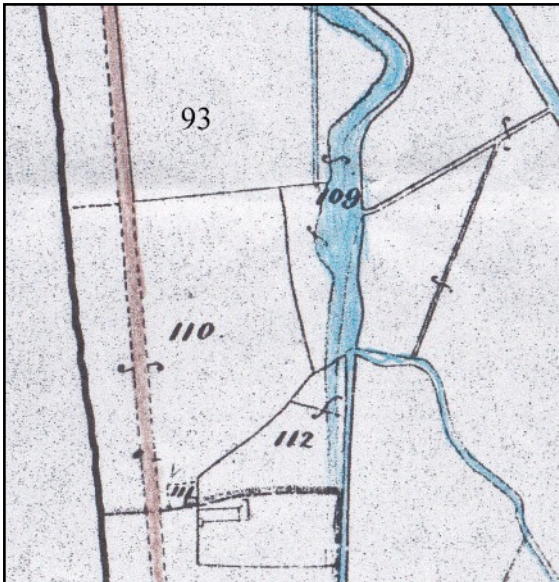
LEFT The brackets supporting the moulded entablature have attractive details, and the keystone too is decorated. These match those of Hazelmere on the right, and Montfort.



ABOVE The back of the house from the track or lane that runs behind the terrace. The rear is rendered grey. This house like Montfort has an extension on the south side of the back and the main roof extends forward over it. The dormer windows match those at the front of the house. The windows on the extension are modern, and this brick chimney is unique to the terrace, and is shared with Hazelmere. On the roof is one roof light for an attic. There is a line of single storey lean-to buildings in the yard with a roofed central part protecting the back door and ending at a garage. A red brick wall encloses the yard.

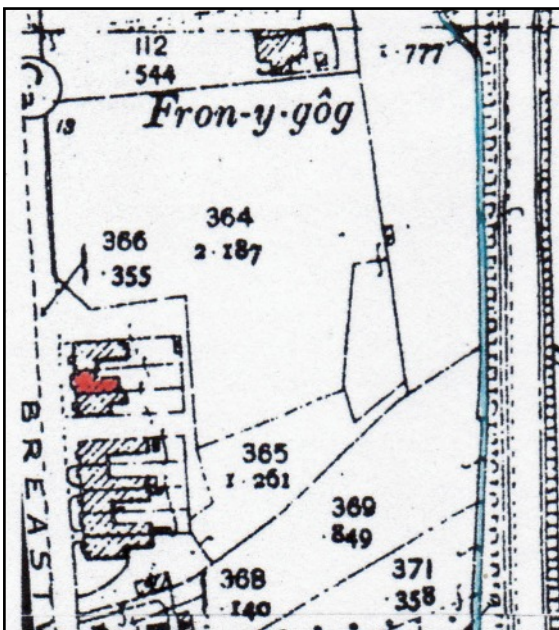
The name of the house is Welsh and means ‘in sight of the wave or waves’ as indeed it was, especially when the concrete sea defensive wall and promenade had not yet been built so the ground floor windows could see the beach.

The ground on which Tremydon stands is a stone bank thrown up by the sea and called ‘waste’ by the Crown Manor who owned it as it was no use for farming. The road had been there for centuries, it was used in the twelfth century 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.



ABOVE LEFT The house stands on a five acre field, number 110 in 1848, and called an ‘allotment’ after the ‘waste’ was enclosed. Pryse Pryse of the Gogerddan Estate had it and used it as pasture. (Tithe Apportionments Map, Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn, Henllys Township, online at CYNEFIN, National Library of Wales).

ABOVE RIGHT In 1886 there was still nothing built in field 110. (Detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1886 and published in 1888. Cardiganshire III.10)



In 1891 Pryse Pryse sold some of Number 110 to Elsie Cecil Wright, the wife of a Birmingham manufacturer of screws and a keen golfer. She had the bungalow Fron-y-gôg built on a strip of it, and had four acres of agricultural land as well. (Deeds to Morlais, private collection). By the 1901 Census Tremydon was built.

LEFT Montfort, Tremydon and Hazelmere in 1904. Tremydon is marked in red. Some other houses in the terrace had also been built. (Detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map revised in 1904 and published in 1905 Cardiganshire III.10.

In Tremydon at the 1901 Census was the Rev. John Charles Evans, a Calvinist Methodist Minister (the Census said Presbyterian) who had been born in Rhydfendigaid Cardiganshire. He was 44 years old. With him was his wife Margaretta, aged 39, sons John David Evans 8 and Alun Francis Evans 5, and daughters Delia Myfanwy Evans aged 4 and Jane Elunod Evans 2. The eldest son had been born in Lampeter the others in Borth.

As Alun Francis was 5 he was possibly born in Tremydon and therefore the family could have been there in the house by 1896.



LEFT The Reverend John Charles Evans of the Libanus Chapel and his wife and children and some of the congregation outside Tremydon. The lower bay window then had columns round it and the sash windows had blinds. The lady on the right is Annie Bertha James.

In 1910 for a valuation for a tax planned but not levied, Tremydon was valued at £620, with £17 to pay and

£20 gross. The Rev. Evans owned it. The 1911 Census gives us some more information. The house had eleven rooms, and the Reverend and Margaretta had married in 1892 and had five children, two of whom had died. In the house in 1911 were Alun Francis Evans 15, Delia Myfanwy Evans 14, Jane Elvaed Evans 12 and Mary Eleanor Evans 9. Also there was the minister's father in law, John Francis. He was 81 and a retired master mariner and a local man. They had a twenty six year old servant Elizabeth Lewis born in London.

In April 1924 the Reverend Evans had died. There was a Morris family in Tremydon and Owen Morris went to his funeral service at the Libanus Chapel (Cambrian News). In October that year Mrs Morris and Miss Hughes were living in Tremydon.

Paying the rates in 1925 was Mrs Elizabeth Morris - it had been Mr Morris. She paid in 1934 and 1938.

With votes for the house in 1945 at the General Election were Mrs Elizabeth Morris and Catherine Seaman and Catherine C. M. Seaman.

In 1949 A.D. Evans paid the rates. In 1957 A. H. Little paid the rates and in 1950 Mrs Little had advertised a flat to let in the house with four bedrooms and one sitting room (Guide to Borth, Aberystwyth Public Library)



Mr Clare paid the rates in 1963, and with a votes for the house that year were Cyril John Clare and Roma Patricia Clare. (Electoral Register and Rates, Ceredigion Archives). In 1968 Mrs Clare advertised three furnished flats in the house (Handbook and Guide to Borth, Ceredigion Archives). One of Mrs Clare's furnished flats could hold six people, and the house had a telephone, Borth 470.

LEFT The completed terrace. (Postcard Amgueddfa Ceredigion Museum)

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