

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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TRYSOR-Y-MÔR

Wernfach - little marsh.

Part of a group of four brick houses at the very southern end of Morfa Borth with the road to Clarach, boat park and beach in front of them. Built after 1925 and ready to be occupied in 1930. Formerly called Umberslade.



Trysor-y-môr in 2016.

This house is the southernmost of the four similar brick houses. The walls are rendered with a pebble dash finish. The balcony on slender posts gives a fine view over the bay. A living room with a picture window - glazed french windows in the centre - opens on to the balcony.

Today the front of Trysor-y-môr has been considerably altered to allow for

BELOW The new house in August 1930 third from the left.





the balcony and picture window. All the windows and the front door are modern.

LEFT The back of the house is also rendered, and there is an extension on the south side. All the windows are modern. There is a small balcony facing east with a view over Borth Common to the hills. Because the site is sloping downwards the house had to be taller at the back. The back opens directly on to the Lôn Glan-y-môr and there is no pavement.

The house was built on a strip of land that was 'beach'. The embankment of stones had been thrown up by the sea, and belonged to the Crown Manor. At that



The land on which the houses were built in 1914. The Beach Cottage is already there in the distance.

time the Lôn Glan-y-môr (Sea Bank Lane) was the only road and it was unfenced. A postcard photograph of 1914 shows the site. On a Crown Manor map surveyed in 1925 it was mostly shown as beach, the manor owning 'waste' eastwards of a line from the edge of the beach cottages to the corner of the road to Llandre. (Map National Archives LRRO 1/3060) However, after 1925 stones were collected and an embankment built which enabled our present road to Clarach to run along the edge of the sea. There is a postcard showing villagers collecting stones from the beach. This

made it possible to have buildings on the strip of land, opening on to the new road and the beach, and they had the Lôn Glan-y-môr at their back.

The houses opened directly on to the road and the beach. However they were at the mercy of westerly gales with spring tides, and they regularly flooded. The Council eventually built a sea wall and boat park which protected the houses, but afterwards the family in Craigweil said their house suffered from damp as some of the water draining off the marsh at the back of the house which had previously flowed through the shingle bank below the house to the beach, was blocked by the sea wall.



LEFT This Valentine's postcard shows the four houses, Kingswood is very colourful! The beach was just over the road. On the postcard below all four houses were rendered white. Ger-y-môr was not there yet (Ceredigion Archives)



The house was first called Umberslade, and paying the rates in 1934 and still in 1963 was N. A. Wood, who was the owner and occupier. There was £8 to pay, £14 gross. In 1963 the house was still called Umberslade and Norman A. Wood had a vote for the house. Someone called Brenthall was to pay the rates.

The present name of the house is Welsh meaning 'Treasure of the Sea.'

The original windows of the four houses were sash windows. This is the son and daughter of Mr Jordan who owned Craigweil, outside that house.

Photo courtesy of Mrs F. H. B. Renny



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gan/by Beryl Lewis
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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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