

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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TY LERI (Lerry House)

Morfa Borth - the Marsh Harbour

Replacement or rebuilt from a cottage on a site bought in 1824 by a master mariner Captain Thomas Daniel for a home for his family. Later the home of a retired farmer, then of a stone mason Lewis Lloyd and other members of his family.



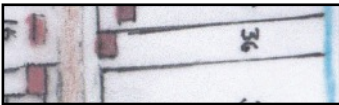
Ty Leri in 2018. It has a handsome front door framed in the rendering.

Ty Leri, semi-detached with Beatrice alongside to the north, is a full two storeys high, built of rubble stone, those visible in the southern side wall are rounded beach stones. It has a gable tiled roof with a substantial chimney on the southern end. The front wall is rendered, with a bold pattern of quoins in the centre. The windows are modern but of the sash style of two lights. The front door is modern with two narrow lights. Surrounding it are decorative pilasters with brackets that support a small roof. There is a narrow front garden edged by a stone wall with a decorative iron gate. There are five bedrooms, two in the attic under the roof extending the full depth of the house which have roof lights making a third floor, and there is a stone workshop at the back.



LEFT The house in 2009 showed rounded beach pebbles in the south wall and with two chimneys each with two chimney pots (flues) plenty of rooms could be warmed. The house is very much one of a pair with Beatrice built for a master mariner about 1861.

The ground for this house was the stone bank thrown up by the sea. The road was centuries old, having been a turnpike road in the 1770s. It led to a ferry to Aberdovey, a quick way to reach North Wales. The stone bank belonged to the Crown Manor who called it waste as it was no use for farming. This was gradually enclosed to have cottages built on it.



LEFT A cottage stands on the road end of Number 36 on this map of 1829, and this would be the site of Ty Leri (Detail copied from a Map, National Archives LRRO 1/3060).

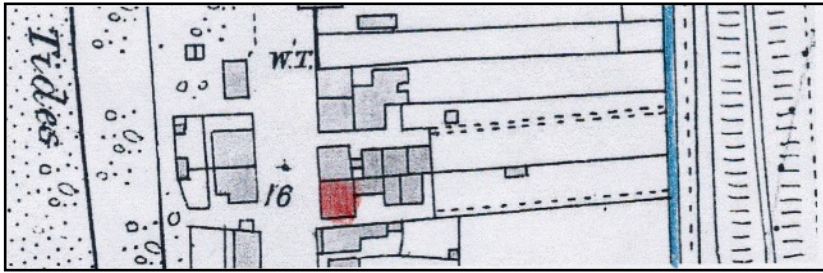


LEFT By the 1848 Tithe Map, it was Number 28, and the cottage had been considerably enlarged at the back. We know the owner was Anne Daniel, a widow, and she lived there. That surveyor made the site 27 perches, and it was described as a 'cottage and garden'. A detail from the Tithe Apportionments Map for Llanfihangel Genau'r

Glyn, Cyfoeth Township, on-line at CYNEFIN))

Anne Daniel was the widow of master mariner Captain Thomas Daniel who had died by October 1836, but who would have made a good living for his family. (Shipping Register Ceredigion Archives). Four children had been born there, David Daniel, Nov, 4 1830, James Watkin Daniel, 9 April 1833, and Rosina Daniel 25 September 1835. Thomas would become a master mariner, and James Watkin also became a master mariner and had shares in ships. Rosina gave her name to a schooner of 91 tons built in 1851 which sailed until 1893. James Watkin Daniel was her captain in 1855. (Shipping Register Ceredigion Archives). Ann Daniel was still in the cottage in the 1851 and 1861 Census's. She was born in Caergorwydd, Cardiganshire in c. 1807 and her husband Captain Thomas was a member of the Daniel family who were farming at Pen-y-graig Farm on Gwastad, Upper Borth. By 1861 Rosina had married and she and a small grandson, Evan J. Evans aged one, and they were in the cottage with her mother. By the 1871 Census Anne Daniel was gone from there and it is not possible to trace the cottage in that list, or in 1861.

Sometime after that Ty Leri was built and also Beatrice next door. The railway opened in 1863 for passengers and there was building or rebuilding of houses in Morfa Borth as it had a future as a promising seaside resort available to people from the Midlands who could come on the train.

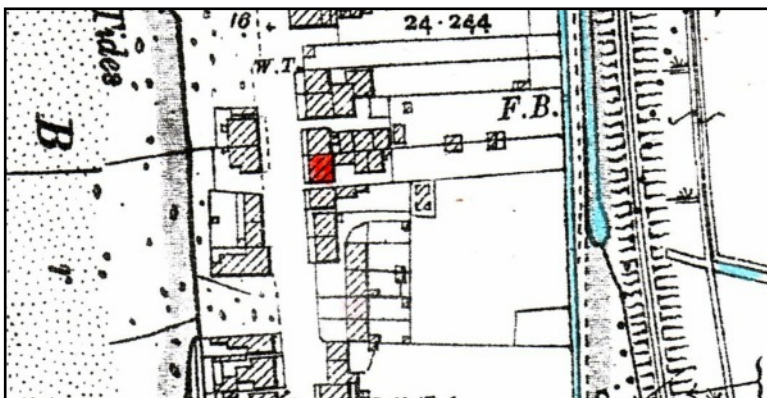


LEFT The house is marked in red on this detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map of 1888, surveyed in 1886. Ty Leri and Beatrice opened on to the street, and seem to be the houses we see today. It is still a long narrow

garden as it was in 1829. The little building may be a Ty Bach - outside lavatory - or a pig sty. By then at the back were the two Lerry Cottages inside an enclosed yard. They backed on to buildings in White Lion Lane to the north. The passage at the side led to a footpath to the brook. There were no front gardens (Map published in 1888, Cardiganshire NW III.10)

In the 1891 Census the house had an English name the name, 'Lerry Villa' - named after the River Lerry. Living there was a retired farmer called Abraham Jones, born in c. 1808 in Borth. His wife Elizabeth was younger, born in 1828 and they had an unmarried daughter Anne, aged 36 and with no occupation. The parents spoke only Welsh. Anne spoke both Welsh and English.

In 1901, there was a stone mason who was also a bricklayer and his family living in Lerry Villa, Lewis Lloyd, born about 1838, his wife Sarah born about 1841. They wed in 1865. Also in the house was a daughter Blodwen Jane born about 1886 in Borth. For the first time two Lerry Cottages are in the list. There was another daughter Rebecca who was to wed an Aberporth mariner and she and her husband were in the house at the 1911 Census.



LEFT Ty Leri is marked in red in this detail from the 25 inch map of 1905. There is little change, just two small buildings in the garden at the back, shared with Beatrice next door, and the footpath has gone.



LEFT An early twentieth century postcard by 'Williams of Borth' shows the house with the old sash windows of four lights and with thin glazing bars. In the rendering there was a bold pattern of quoins, and a frame made around each window. The decorative pilasters beside the front

door are the same, but supported a much flatter roof Over the front door was a rectangular light. A small roof light was in the front roof. The front wall was supported by stone posts, and topped by some rather handsome iron railings shared with Beatrice next door. The side front garden wall to the passage beside the house on the south was taller with a nicely angled top to drain off rainwater. There are two people in the shot, a lady holding a small dog at the gate and another person in the doorway. Was the lady Mrs Lloyd the stonemason's wife perhaps? (Postcard Private Collection)

There were ten main rooms in Lerry Villa in 1911 - not including any attic, back scullery or cellar if it had these. In 1910 for a valuation for a tax, planned but not levied the house was valued at £270 - more than Beatrice next door at £250. The stone mason was the owner, and he owned the two Lerry Cottages at the back as well. They had tenants.

In 1925 for the Rates the house was owned by John Lloyd, and living there was Lizzie Lloyd. In 1926 Mrs Lloyd was advertising furnished accommodation in the house for holiday visitors. (1926 Trades Directory Cererdigion Archives). With votes for the house in 1945 were James (Jim) D. Lloyd and Annie W. Rosse. Jim Lloyd sold fresh fish from the bay on a handcart round the village. (Terry Davies) Paying Rates for the house in 1949 was Lizzie Williams - had Lizzie Lloyd married?

By 1962 accommodation was advertised of 3 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms and a bathroom with hot and cold water, and a kitchen. Mrs G. Jones was looking after bookings.

Today the house has five bedrooms two of which are in the attic, making a third floor. At the back of the house is a yard which includes the Lerry Cottages, and behind is the rest of the original garden that extends to the ditch, once the 'brook'.

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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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