

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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BRYNGWYN

High Street, east side. On the site of a master mariner John Simon's cottages and land enclosed in 1824. Also the home of a tailor. Formerly called Uley Villa

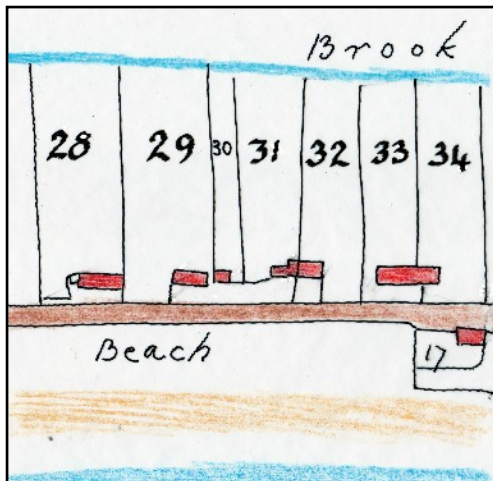


ABOVE Bryngwyn in 2017.

This is a detached house with the look of a cottage. It is barely two storeys high, under a gable roof parallel to the High Street and it has a chimney on the north end of the roof. This suggests that the main living room with a hearth of the old cottage was once that

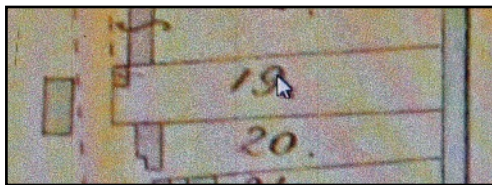
side. The walls are rendered, and are possibly rubble stone, and there is a porch over the front door. The front garden is small, enclosed by low walls, and the entrance gate is at the side. The north side of the house is on the lane of Brynhwyn Clos and it has a back door and a garage. A single storey extension fills the area of its yard.

Today Bryngwyn's back garden is shared with the bungalow Number 1 Clos Bryngwyn.



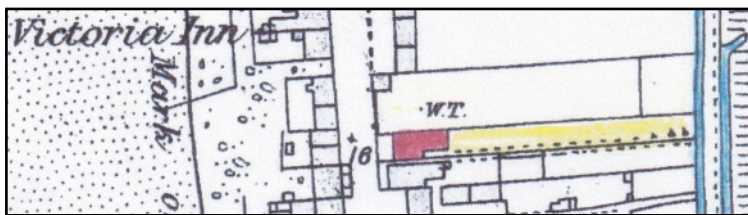
LEFT The earliest cottage on the site - possibly developed into the present building, was the northernmost of a block of two cottages on a piece of ground Number 29 owned by the master mariner John Simon and his wife Margaret. It was enclosed from the 'waste' pebble embankment in 1824, and by 1829 the family had bought the ground for £10 from the Crown Manor who owned it. There was a generous piece of land with it of 2 rods 16 perches - that is over half an acre which extended to a 'brook' of fresh water. In 1830 their son John Simon was the captain of the Liver pool Trader, a sloop of 25 tons built in 1806. In 1832 he was Captain and owner of all 64 shares in the 27 ton sloop Robust. He also had

shares in other ships including in the 45 ton schooner 'Adelaide' built in Aberystwyth in 1835. His son John was Captain of her in 1855. (Map after a map in watercolour of 1829. By then John Simon had died and Margaret Simon owned Number 29. Number 17 was Tinsley. National Archives LRRO 1/3060)



LEFT In 1848 the Simon's ground had been divided, some agricultural land was Number 19 and the cottages and their garden were Number 20, all of them still owned by Margaret Simon (Detail from the Tithe Apportionments Map for Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn, Cyfoeth Township, on-line at CYNEFIN)

The Simon family kept the northern piece of land, but the old cottages were to be developed into Bryngwyn and Gorwel. The Simon's built themselves new homes in an Adelaide Terrace (named after their schooner) on the beach side of the High Street. In one of the cottages in 1871 were John Daniel, a tailor and his wife Eleanor also spelt Elinor, a daughter of John Simon the master mariner and Margaret were there in 1871. He was born in Blaenpennal in 1815. His wife was born about 1819. There were no children but they had a lodger, an Englishman from Banbury, Oxfordshire who was a Telegraph Instrument Operator. 'W.T.' on the map below was a Wireless Telegraph station (Census)

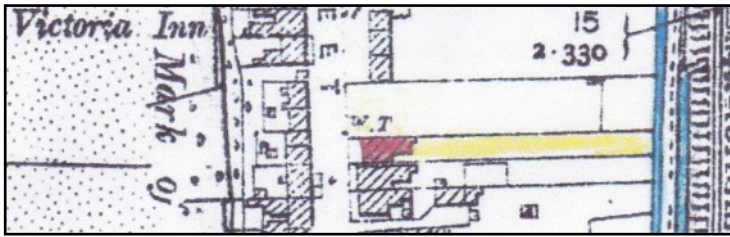


LEFT By 1886 plot number 20 above had been divided and Bryngwyn, a good sized house had been built. It had a front garden enclosed from the street and the rear section may have been single storey. Gorwel

(Everton) had replaced the other Simon cottage (Detail from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1886 and published in 1888, Cardiganshire NW III.10)

Possibly in 1891 the house was called Uley Villa and there was a Parry family there, the husband was abroad. His wife Catherine and two daughters were there and also Catherine's sister a dress maker of 35 called Elizabeth Williams.

By the 1901 Census the house was called and 'Bryngwyn' but was unoccupied.



LEFT In 1904 little had changed (Detail from a 25 inch Ordnance survey Map revised in 1904 and published in 1905, Cardiganshire NW).

In 1910 for a Valuation for a tax planned but not levied Bryngwyn was called a ‘cottage and garden’ but valued at £275, much more than a simple small cottage, and the rates would have been £6.16s and £8 gross to pay. It was owned and occupied by William Davies. The land beside it was still owned by the Simon family - John Simon of Adelaide place. (T/DV/18 Ceredigion Archives and map National Library of Wales)

In the 1911 Census it was not in the list. During world war one William and Ellen Davies were there, and their son Frederick Charles Davies MA (The Fallen, Rev. Dr D. Williams 2014) Another son Richard Davies became the dockmaster at Barry Docks. (Michael Freeman, notes on the History of Borth, private collection.)

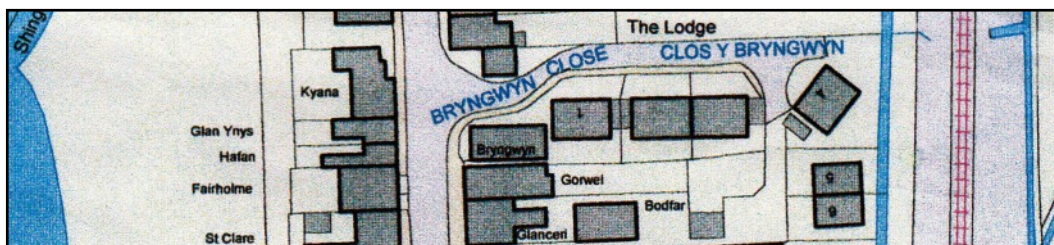
In 1925 Mr Davies had died, and his executors were to pay the Rates. The Council did not know their names. The land alongside then belonged to Bryngwyn and there was a garage. (Ceredigion Archives)

With votes for the house at the General Election of 1945 were Claudia Davies and Ellen C. Jones and Mary B. L. Carey.

Paying the Rates for the house in 1949 was Claudia Davies. Also in the house was Miss E. Lewis who was on the Parish Council. (Borth Review, National Library of Wales).

In 1963 with a vote for the house was Mansel Davies, but paying the rates was Margaret A. Lewis.

The picture in 1975 had changed. Bryngwyn Clos had been built on the land beside and at the back of the house. One of the bungalows called Bendith was purchased from the builder in August 1971. In 1975 there were four bungalows only. Numbers 5 and 6 had yet to be built. Bryngwyn had extended at the back, and it shared a garden with Bungalow Number



1 (Historical Maps on-line).

ABOVE Bryngwyn and the bungalows of the Clos on a modern Council Map (Map courtesy of Councillor Ray Quant who provided it to help with research for a local event)

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Tai'r Borth / Houses of Borth
gan/by Beryl Lewis
[cyf/ref ADX/1629]

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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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