

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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SWN-Y-DON

Morfa Borth – the Marsh Harbour.

On the east side of the High Street at the southern end of Morfa Borth, with the beach over the road. It was built in 1925. Formerly called Homestead and Croeso.



Swn-y-don in 2016

Swn-y-don is a two storey, double fronted, brick built, semi-detached house under a slate coloured hipped roof, with matching gabled dormer windows on both sides. It shares a rendered chimney topped by red bricks with its neighbour Annedd Wen. A roof light gives light to an attic room. The walls are rendered with pebble dash. On the ground floor are two canted bay windows under a hipped slate coloured roof. An arch frames the front door which has a simple curved window above it. All the windows have modern frames. There is a narrow front garden with a rendered brick wall shared with Annedd Wen, and rendered as pebble dash to match the walls of the house. It has square gateposts with



pyramidal tops. The garden area is hard standing. The hipped roof and the pebble dash rendering were popular when this house was built. On the south side is a

Swn-y-don is one of a marching pair of houses and it is likely they were built at the same time.



drive to its garage, and access to the back garden.

LEFT The rear in 2016.

All across the back the house has a single storey lean-to extension with a slate coloured roof. A back door leads out into the garden, and on the north side of the extension is a sun room or conservatory. The windows with many panes are of the kind that would have been found on a house of 1925.

The garden extends to the footpath, and trees screen it from passers by.

The shingle bank thrown up by the sea on which it was built was considered ‘waste’ by the Crown Manor who owned it as it was not suitable for farming. There were no buildings on this land until 1925, it was part of a piece of rough ground from Efelwen to the road to Llandre, called ‘beach’ on the old map. Across the road on the strip of grass were three limekilns in 1829, four by 1848. (Maps National Archives LRRO 1/3060, Tithe Apportionment Map for Llanfihangel Genau’r Glyn, Cyfoeth Township 1848 and Cambrian News, 16 November 1883) The road had been there for centuries 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.

An enclosure had been made there by 1925, and the manor had sold it to the man who enclosed it. On a map of the manor it was plot number 107, extending to the footpath, and a building was drawn on it beside the High Street which was the semi-detached block now The Haven and The Anchorage. (National Archive LRRO 1/3060)

Paying rates for the house, then called ‘Homestead’ in 1925 was Mary E. Wood and she was also the occupier. The rate was £15.6s, gross £18, but his had been altered to £17, £20 gross. A garage is listed in the rates of 1934. The name of the house in 1949 was probably Croeso, Welsh for ‘welcome’. Paying the rates in 1949 was Nicholls. With a vote for Croeso in 1963 was Irma Rosina Parry. Nicholls paid the rates for it that year also.

The ‘Swn-y-don’ name is more recent, meaning the sound of the waves.

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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-eredigion.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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