

# 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.*

## WATER'S EDGE

One of a pair of semi-detached modern houses on the beach side at the southern end of Borth High Street. On the site of a cottage there in 1829 and gone by 1888.



*Water's Edge is the left hand house. This photograph was taken in 2009.*



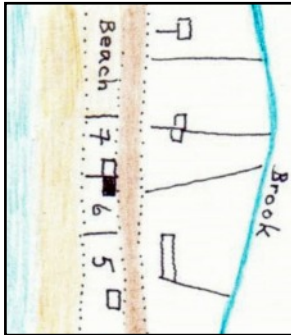
*The rear of the house from the beach in 2015. The main house and the extension with the balcony on top were brick built.*



The houses are set back from the street and neighbouring houses, and the area in front has a wall to protect the front door but is otherwise hard standing and open to the road. The house is two storeys under a shallow gable roof parallel to the road. The front and side walls are rendered, and there is an internal garage. The front is in two sections, the lower half extended forwards. The modern windows have simple large panes of glass. A tall window and glazing in the front door gives light to the hall. The rear extension fills in below the balcony, concealing lower windows, and the

*LEFT This old photograph, taken before 1925 shows the back of the building then with a very prominent balcony, and large windows and french windows with fine sea views.*

inset ornamental stones may give some protection from the sea, as this house reaches almost to its rear boundary with the beach and the protective low plank wall. This has a gateway to access the beach. To reach the back of the house there is a passage from the street along the south wall of the house, and this has a wooden gateway. A back door in the south wall opens on to the small yard.



*LEFT* Marked in black is a cottage and enclosure, Number 6, on this detail copied from a map of 1829. Today it is Gwyndy. It was a pair with a similar cottage on the north, Number 7 which was the cottage and ground where Water's Edge now stands. Both cottages were owned by members of a Jones family. The brook gave fresh water to the villagers then, and was the tailrace from the Glanlerry Corn Mill (Felinwern) now gone, plus a couple of little streams. (Map from National Archive LRRO 1/3060)

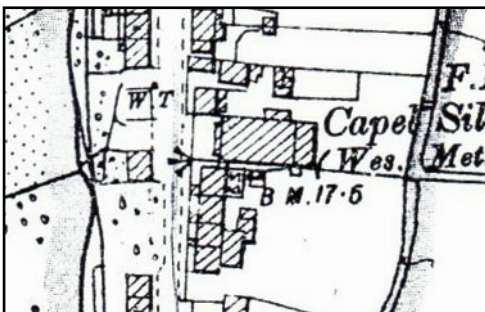
The ground for the cottages was a wide bank of stones thrown up by the sea, and called 'waste' by the Crown Manor who owned it. Enclosures and cottages on them had to pay rent to the manor. Richard Jones had enclosed Number 7 by 1827, and he built a cottage on it. The rent was 18s year. Richard Jones who died in 1842 was a master mariner, and master of several wooden sailing vessels, and he also owned shares in ships. (Aberystwyth Register of Shipping, Ceredigion Archives). The road had been there for centuries and was a turnpike road by the 1770s. It led to a ferry from Ynyslas to Aberdoverly and was a quick way to North Wales.



*LEFT* By 1848 there was a whole row of cottages there. We do not know who lived in them. Opposite, marked in purple was the Wesleyan Chapel which was much smaller. (Tithe Apportionments Map Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn, Cyfoeth-y-brenin Township, on-line at CYNEFIN NLW)



*LEFT* By 1886 Richard Jones's cottage had gone, though cottages either side were still there and the Chapel was much bigger. (Detail from the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map published in 1888. Cardiganshire III. 10)



In 1904 Gwyndy was there, but to the north was an unfenced plot. The W.T. Was a Wireless Telegraph Station on the north of it. However fences protected the ground from the sea. (Detail from the Ordnance Survey Map published in 1905, revised in 1904)

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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-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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