

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.

WEST END HOUSE

Morfa Borth - The Marsh Harbour.

Formerly one of Borth's Police Stations. On the east side of the High Street, at the southern end of the village, with the street and beach beyond, and alongside the lane to the Community Hall.



This is a one and a half storey house under a slate coloured gable roof parallel to the street. It is set back a little from Efelwen. There is a small chimney on the north end of the roof. The walls are rendered. A feature of the front of the house is a railed balcony on the second floor accessed by a glass doors. The other upper window is tiny. On the ground floor there is a window on the north side, and on the other side a single storey lean-to extension. This reaches along the side of the house all the

way to the back, and in the front it has a square bay making a porch, with a block of windows facing the sea, and a front door on its north side. A gateway and paved path lead to it. The side of the extension is alongside the roadway to the Community Hall (opened in 1999), and has no windows but a tiny chimney. The house wall above has two windows facing south. The house nearly fills its plot, with just room for a passage down the north side. The garden in the front is hard standing and is enclosed by a low stone wall.



This is the rear of the house in 2019.

The back of the house also has a railed balcony supported by wooden posts, with views to the hills. Its back garden reaches behind the three old houses, Efelwen, Trevayne House and Pencarreg. In the garden is a garage accessed from the roadway to the Community Hall. Around the garden is a low stone wall topped by fencing.

On the 1888 and 1905 25 inch Ordnance Survey Maps this site was rough ground extending from Efelwen's shed (now gone) all the way to the junction with the road to Landre. This was a very necessary shed for a family of carpenters and builders - they made coffins. The land behind had two drains.



ABOVE On this detail from an old postcard of the beach in 1892, the house with the shed beside it in the foreground is Efelwen. The small building beside it was the Beynon family's workshop. By 1949 in the house was their youngest daughter, Olwen Jones. Mrs Jones was still there in 1963 (Rates Ceredigion Archive). West End House was built on that site beside Efelwen House, though set further back from the High Street - perhaps to avoid the foundations of the Beynon's building.

Borth has had several police stations in various houses round the village. By 1949 the Police Station of Sergeant Davies was added at the end of the list for the rates, where more recently built houses were listed. It had no 'West End' name.

In 1963 the Police Station was valued for the rates at £66, and with votes for it were Simon Reymand (Raymond) and Hannah Signet Rees.

On a map of 1975 the house was built with the Police Station at the rear of the extension. The garden was the same as it is today. It opened on to a path with a drain alongside. There was a track beside it to a building in an enclosure behind it - now a launderette - but the Community Hall was not yet there (Historic Maps On-line)

This site, on the shingle bank built by the sea had been 'waste' because it was not suitable for farming, and belonged to a manor of the crown. Encroachments were eventually made on it for cottages, and each plot had to be rented or bought from the manor. 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.

There were no buildings on this land in 1848. Efelwen was built some time after that and before 1886 when it was drawn on the Ordnance Survey 25 inch Map. Its building plus the workshop went to the boundary of its site on the south, with rough ground beyond. Across the road on the strip of grass were three limekilns in 1829. They had gone by 1883. (Maps NA LRRO 1/3060 and Tithe Apportionment Map for Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn, Cyfoeth Township 1848, and Cambrian News, 16 November 1883.)

Archifdy Ceredigion Archives
yn cyflwyno / presents
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-eredigion.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-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.

Beryl Lewis retains the copyright in her work and the histories are made available for private use and research only.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council



Archifdy
Ceredigion
Archives