

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.

ANNEDD WEN

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 or about to be built in 1925. Formerly called Lea Croft, and it had become the Lea Café in 1963.



Annedd Wen in 2016.

Annedd Wen is a two storey, detached brick house under a slate coloured hipped main roof, with matching gabled dormer windows on both sides. The house shares a rendered chimney with Swn-y-don next door and the house walls are rendered with a pebble dash finish. On the ground floor there are two canted bay windows. The front door is framed by an arch with an eighteenth century style fan window. The door and adjacent window are glazed. The window frames and front door are modern. In front is a narrow garden enclosed by a rendered wall with the same finish as the house walls. This is probably brick, as the gateposts with their pyramidal tops are the same as those of the brick pair of houses The Haven and The

Anchorage next door, and brick would have been fashionable in 1925 when the houses were built.



Annedd Wen is one of a matching pair of houses. Both paid rates for the first time in 1925 which suggests they were built at the same time.



The rear of the house in 2016, Annedd Wen is on the right.

The roof at the back has a roof light, suggesting an attic under the roof. Two of the upper windows have shallow arches above them which match upper windows on Swyn-y-don next door. The windows with many glazing bars are similar to those considered the fashion on a house of the later 1920s or 1930s. These may be modern frames, but have kept the old style. There is a section of brick wall at the base with rendering above. That too was a feature of a 1925 house. A back door on the south side leads into the garden, and steps were needed as this is a sloping site on the rear of the shingle bank. There is a lean-to extension with a slate coloured roof, and a window overlooking the garden. The garden has a block wall on the north and a timber fence on the south.

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 encroachment of the waste 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 106, extending to the footpath, and a building was drawn on it beside the High Street which was the semi-detached block now Annedd Wen and Swyn-y-don. (National Archive LRRO 1/3060)

The house's original name was Lea Croft - an English name - and paying the rates for it in 1925 was Ford, who was also the occupier. He paid £15.6s, gross £18. Paying the rates in 1934 was J. R. Merchant, and occupying the house was E. A. L. Foster. (The Council clerks spelled the name 'Lee'). In August that year 'Miss Merchant' gave a recipe for 'Mixed Fruit Pudding' for a booklet sold in aid of a St Matthew's Church Bazaar (Ceredigion Archives). J. A. Mansfield paid the rates for it in 1938. With a votes for the house in the General Election

of 1945 were Emily J. Merchant and Florence A. Merchant. Florence Merchant paid the rates for it in 1949.

With a vote for Leacroft in 1963 was Dorothy Leach Slim. The house had become the Lea Café, H. Roberts and Bott, solicitors paid the rates, and Dorothy Slim was the occupier and the value of the place had increased.

In the late 1960s T. Bromley the chairman of the Borth Improvements Association lived there.

The name Annedd Wen is more recent, and is Welsh for a white or a blessed dwelling.

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