

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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THE COUP

The Coup is a cottage on the beach side at the southern end of Borth High Street. Built between 1949 and 1963 on the site of a very old cottage, formerly part of Cambridge Place, which had gone by 1910.



The Coup in 2009.

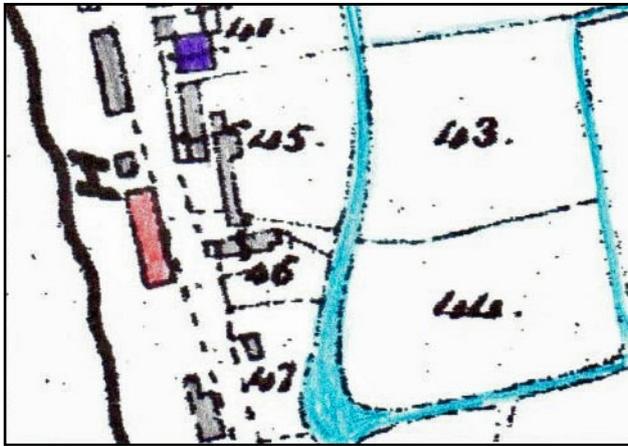
The Coup is built in the pattern of an old, single storey, double fronted cottage though it is a little taller than the old cottages such as Gwinnett on the beach side of the road just to the north. The Coup is semi-detached, butting up against Penro on the north, and is under a

gable roof parallel to the street. Two dormer windows facing the street light an upper floor. The walls are rendered and the roof is tiled. The windows and front door are modern. The small circular window has an attractive coloured ship in stained glass. Like the old cottages the front door is not in the centre which allows a larger room on the north front of the building. There is a plinth at the base of the walls and low, red tiled steps lead down to it from the front door. The cottage is fronted with hard standing open to the pavement. Access to the rear is on the south of the cottage and it has an enclosed yard or garden area. Beyond is the beach.

The rear of the building in 2015 showing its single storey extension and protective fence against the sea.

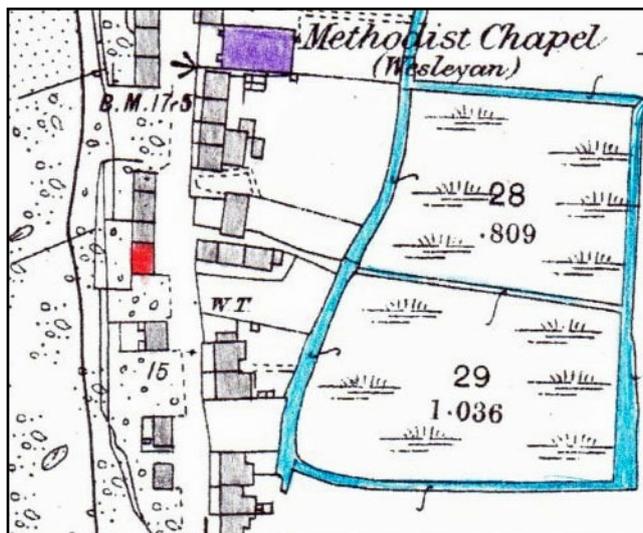


In 1829 the ground for this house was still an un-enclosed part of a wide embankment of stones thrown up by the sea. This was called 'waste' by the Crown Manor who owned it because it was no use for farming (NA LRRO 1/3060). The road had been there for centuries and became a turnpike road in the 1770s. It led to a ferry from Ynyslas to Aberdovey and was a quick way to North Wales. By the time The Coup was built Morfa Borth was a modern village with piped water and electricity.



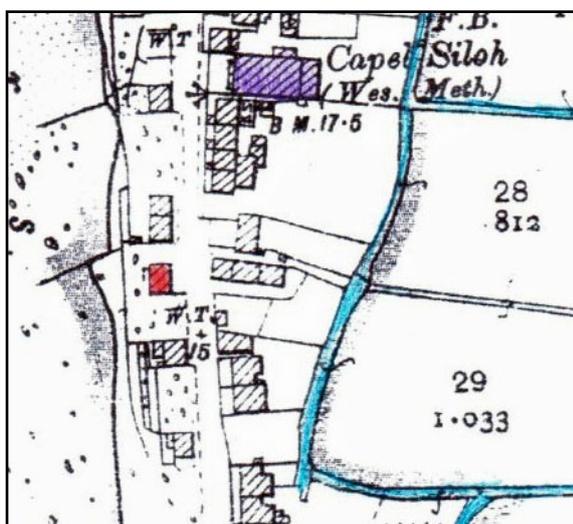
In 1845 there was a cottage on the site of The Coup - one of a row of them marked in red. The Wesleyan Chapel is marked in purple. This is from the Tithe Apportionments Map, and because the cottages by the beach did not have gardens they did not pay tithes so we do not know who lived there.

Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn, Cyfoeth Township. On-line at CYNEFIN, NLW.



LEFT There were four cottages in the row in 1886, and the one on the site of The Coup is marked in red. It was owned with the smaller cottage next door on the north. There was some kind of fence or wall protecting them from the sea. Their yard was fenced off from the rough ground to the south. Ordnance Survey 25 inch Map surveyed in 1886 and published in 1888.

BELOW By 1904 the cottage to the north of it had gone. Ordnance Survey Map of 1905, revised in 1904.



The owner of the plot of land 'by Wesleyan Place' in 1910 on which The Coup was to be built was John Vaughan who had a house in Cambridge Place across the High Street, now called The Limit. The ground measured 15 perches (just over one eighth of an acre) and was valued at £12.10s. The rates list did not mention any ruins from the old cottage there. (Ceredigion Archives T/DV/18 and map at the NLW).

We do not know if any stones from the old cottage were incorporated into the walls of The Coup. It is clear that the builder wanted to create a picturesque old cottage which he has succeeded in doing. Paying the rates in 1963

for a 'house and premises' was F. Cooper. Nobody was on the election register for the cottage that year.

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yn cyflwyno / presents
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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