



Further Walks – Other walks in this series include: Hafod Morfa Copperworks Industrial Heritage Trail, Morrision Park Heritage Trail, and White Rock Heritage Trail.

Facilities – There are toilets Monday to Saturday at the Landore Park & Ride, and in Woodfield Street, Morrision. Morrision has a range of shops and eating places.

1. Morrision Park

Land known originally as ‘Clasemont’ was purchased by the Swansea corporation in 1911 to locate a new water storage facility and created a municipal park. It was renamed Morrision Park and opened to the public in 1912. Today the park has a diverse range of facilities which appeal to all ages, from feeding the ducks to skate jumps, as well as having historical walking trails.

2. Morrision Cross

Morrision Cross remains an iconic view of the town to the present day, with the former ‘Cross Inn’ a key landmark, faced with red brick and terracotta decoration from the local Graig brickworks, which also feature on a number of other properties in the vicinity. The more modern looking additions actually date from the 1930s, including Cross Buildings (former Lamb & Flag).

3. Clyndu Street (underground canal)

This long sloping street has a hidden feature in the shape of the underground canal transporting coal to the various metal works along the River Tawe, that runs from the top of Morrision Park, turns near the former Tan y Lan primary school, down Clyndu Street and would have met the Swansea canal in front of what is now the Monkey Tree pub.

4. The former Police Station complex

The former Police Station complex Banwell Street (listed Grade II 1993) was built in 1875 and listed as evidence of late 19th-century urban improvement.

5. Philadelphia Chapel

Chapel House and Sunday School (1802, 1829, entrance remodelled 1935) at Morris Street/ Globe Street (listed Grade II 1993).

6. Danbert House

Another Grade II listed building from the 1880s; built for, and probably designed by Daniel Edwards (1835-1915), the tinplate manufacturer of Morrision; ‘Danbert’ was a brand name for a type of tinplate made at Edwards’ Dyffryn Works. House construction was not completed due to bankruptcy of builder and Edwards never lived there.

7. Original grid/old market

The area that would become Morrision was acquired by the Morris family in the late eighteenth century. However, the town of Morrision did not take shape until 1779, when the first workers’ dwellings were constructed.

8. St Johns/Church square

More commonly referred to as the ‘church in the middle of the road’, the former St John’s church and the surrounding buildings, with Tabernacle close by forms another iconic approach to Woodfield Street from all directions. The location was part of the original town plan as a centrepiece called Church Square. Too small for the numbers attending, it was superseded by St David’s church at the mid-point of Woodfield Street, and ceased to be a place of worship in 2008. Gothic in style, this Grade II listed building has been sensitively converted into a mix of commercial spaces and flats.

9. Tabernacle Chapel

Built-in 1870 by Daniel Edwards and designed by John Humphrey, and became a listed building in 1993. Morrision Tabernacle rose out of the smoke and pollution from the 200 chimneys in the Lower Swansea Valley as a beacon of hope. One of over thirty churches and chapels, it is the grandest nonconformist chapel in Wales – the ‘cathedral of nonconformity’, sitting in close proximity to the former St John’s Anglican church. Its location is on a sloping site on the east side of Woodfield Street at its corner with Crown Street ensures that three of its facades are visually prominent and this is reflected in the design treatment, with special attention, of course, to its frontage to the high street. The steeple is the highest on a nonconformist chapel in Wales – possibly, and symbolised the growth of the town and the self-confidence of workers and industrialists alike.

10. Seion Newydd Chapel

A grade II listed building within the immediate setting of the conservation area, it has a strong classical frontage and replaced an earlier chapel of 1845; its rebuilding dates from 1870. It was designed by John Humphrey of Swansea, the architect of Tabernacle.

11. Former Canal Railway Route

As you drive or walk along or near the route of the A4067, you are in fact on the routes of the Swansea Canal and the railway. Look closely and you will see various bridges, ornate Victorian boundary walls and related buildings.

12. Annealing building/Beaufort Road

Annealing house at former Beaufort tin plate works established 1859 – 60 by John Jones Jenkins. The site was that of the Lower Forest copper mills were founded in the C18 and possibly already converted to tin plate in 1836. Jenkins sold the works in 1877. The present building dated 1874 was added to the upper end of the original rolling mill of c1735, since demolished and is now the sole surviving building of the tin plate industry in Swansea. The building was extensively restored and rebuilt in the 1980s with a reconstructed water wheel brought from a model farm owned by the colliery operator, John Jones of Brynamman. The works closed in the 1940s.

13. Landore railway viaduct

Among the earliest industrial heritage are Landore railways, with road connections beginning as early as 1707 and being further developed into the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Still carrying the dual-track Great Western Mainline to London Paddington, the Landore railway viaduct is a prominent feature of the skyline in the valley, bridging the River Tawe and now the A4067, formerly the Swansea Canal. In times past, the Landore railways served as a centre for the movement of various raw materials, such as coal, copper and tin. In this capacity, it was part of a larger network of railroads that connected coal mines to copper foundries.

14. Morfa Lifting Bascule bridge

During 2020-2022 undergoing major repairs, the Morfa lifting bascule bridge was installed in 1909 to carry a rail link across the River Tawe to the Upper Bank works.

15. Swansea Canal Walls

As you pass through what is now the A4067 corridor, you are on the route of the Swansea canal. The boundary wall is still in place along parts of its length from the Landore viaduct and up as far as the junction with the Morfa bypass. If you look carefully at historic photographs, most of the historic houses and commercial buildings can still be identified, as well as the location of the series of arches holding up sections of railway serving the various works. Canalisation took place from 1847 to 1852, in part due to the difficulties of navigating the river Tawe.

16. Hafod works

The construction of Hafod Copperworks in 1808-1809 marked a new beginning for copperworking in South Wales. Prior to the construction of Hafod Copperworks, Welsh copperworking was largely kept away from business interests by Cornish miners. Hafod Copperworks was built by John Vivian, an entrepreneur who began in Cornish copper mining. The Hafod Copperworks featured an impressive architectural feat in that the external arches – built for ventilation – were grouped in threes which gave a resemblance to classical church facades, and had the highest arches possible at the time, to allow for maximum ventilation.

17. White Rock

The White Rock Copper Works were established in the Lower Swansea Valley in 1736, 70 years before the better-known Hafod works. White Rock was one of the most important copper smelting works in the Lower Swansea Valley, the world centre of non-ferrous smelting for much of the 18th and 19th Centuries. Lead and silver were also smelted at White Rock.



How to Get There

Although a little long for a single walk, the indicative time is around 3-4 hours in total. The trail could be done by bike, car, public transport, walking or a combination. Plan your journey here: www.traveline.cymru

Bus – Regular bus services run between Swansea City centre and Morrision Cross or Woodfield Street (trail point 2). Including service no 4.36. Service 36 buses leave the Quadrant bus station every 15 minutes and take you to Landore Park and Ride which is located near point 15 on the trail.

Cycle – The Morrision and Morfa areas are located off national cycle route number 43. www.swansea.gov.uk/cycling

Car – For Point 1: From M4, J46 take Morrision exit (A48/Clasemont Road). Continue to the mini roundabout. Turn right onto Vicarage Road. Take the second right onto Park Lodge Road. The park is straight ahead. Postcode - SA6 6AF. There is also an entrance on Clasemont Road. There is no on-street parking – please note various restrictions on signposts. Nearest car park is on Treham Road SA6 7AA. www.swansea.gov.uk/suburbanparks

LOWER SWANSEA VALLEY CWM TAFE ISAF

Lower Swansea Valley Heritage Trail



Lower Swansea Valley Heritage Trail

The Lower Swansea Valley has been transformed through reclamation, regeneration and new investment since the 1960s. Swansea held predominance in the 19th Century as the World’s leader copper ore smelting centre. During this time Swansea was smelting 90% of the UK’s total output. However, in the late 1880s, this began to decline. The manufacture of tinplate and the smelting of lead, silver ores, cobalt, and zinc, maintained Swansea’s position as a World centre for the metallurgical industries. By the outbreak of the First World War, copper smelting had transferred abroad. Before the Second World War, Swansea had become an important centre for the tinplate and steel industries. After the Second World War, there was a further decline in the valley’s industrial base which led to significant levels of dereliction in the Lower Swansea Valley. By 1961, some 60% of the valley was in a derelict condition. The valley was one of the largest continuous areas of industrial dereliction in Western Europe. In 1966 and following the Aberfan mine spoil tip disaster, the Secretary of State for Wales announced the formation of the Derelict Land Unit. The Lower Swansea Valley Project report was published in 1967. This set out an environmental action plan for dealing with the dereliction which affected the valley. Grant funding from the Welsh Office allowed the reclamation of derelict land and signalled the beginning of the end of dereliction in the Lower Swansea Valley. Today the area accommodates a vibrant commercial area and business park, and well-used recreation areas that enable cyclists, anglers and walkers to enjoy an ecologically rich habitat side-by-side with a variety of plants and animals.

1. Morrision Park

Land known originally as ‘Clasemont’ was purchased by the Swansea corporation in 1911 to locate a new water storage facility and created a municipal park. It was renamed Morrision Park and opened to the public in 1912. Today the park has a diverse range of facilities which appeal to all ages, from feeding the ducks to skate jumps, as well as having historical walking trails.



Image supplied courtesy of Morrision Camera Club

2. Morrision Cross

Morrision Cross remains an iconic view of the town to the present day, with the former ‘Cross Inn’ a key landmark, faced with red brick and terracotta decoration from the local Graig brickworks, which also feature on a number of other properties in the vicinity. The more modern looking additions actually date from the 1930s, including Cross Buildings (former Lamb & Flag).

3. Clyndu Street (underground canal)

This long sloping street has a hidden feature in the shape of the underground canal transporting coal to the various metal works along the River Tawe, that runs from the top of Morrision Park, turns near the former Tan y Lan primary school, down Clyndu Street and would have met the Swansea canal in front of what is now the Monkey Tree pub.

4. The former Police Station complex

The former Police Station complex Banwell Street (listed Grade II 1993) was built in 1875 and listed as evidence of late 19th-century urban improvement.

5. Philadelphia Chapel

Chapel House and Sunday School (1802, 1829, entrance remodelled 1935) at Morris Street/ Globe Street (listed Grade II 1993).



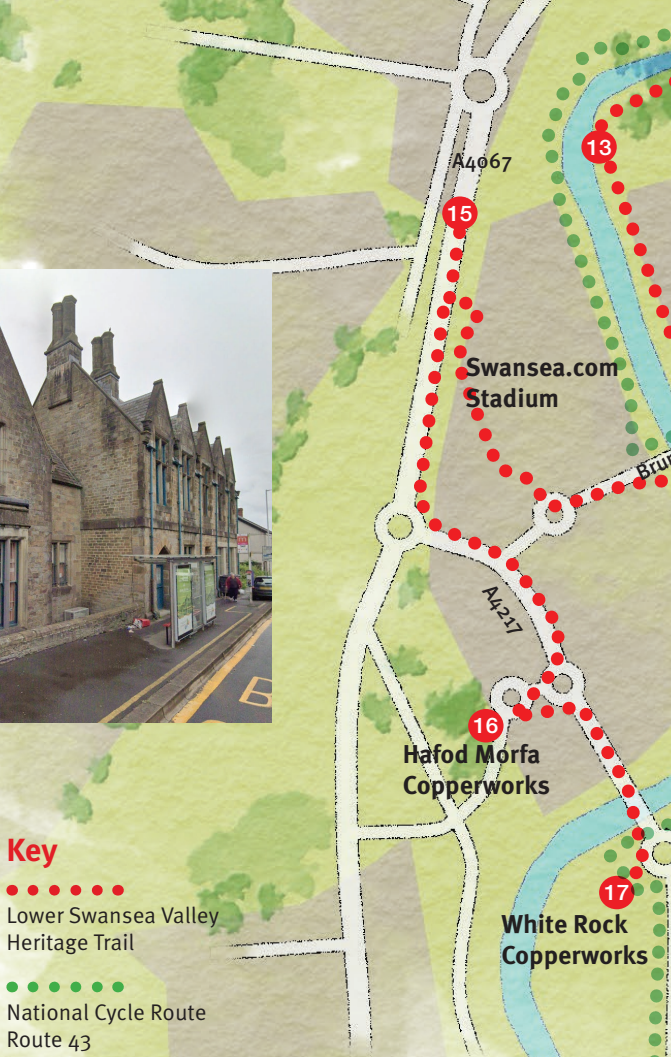
6. Danbert House

Another Grade II listed building from the 1880s; built for, and probably designed by Daniel Edwards (1835-1915), the tinplate manufacturer of Morrision; ‘Danbert’ was a brand name for a type of tinplate made at Edwards’ Dyffryn Works. House construction was not completed due to bankruptcy of builder and Edwards never lived there.

7. Original grid/old market

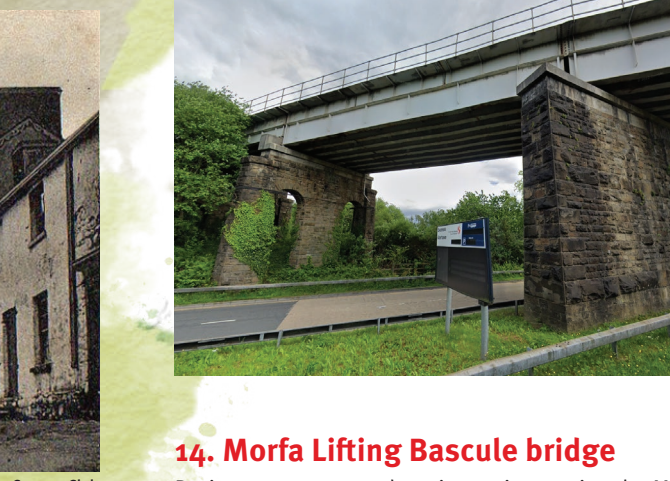
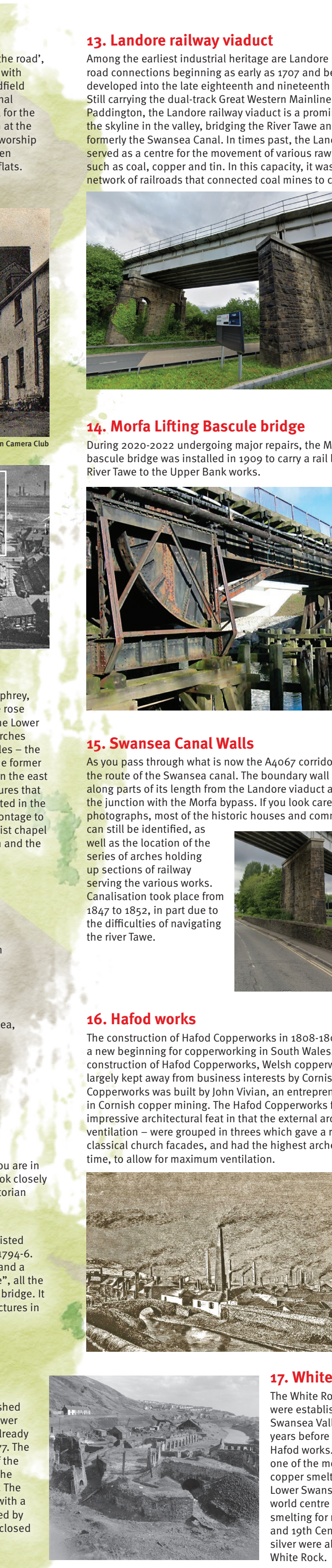
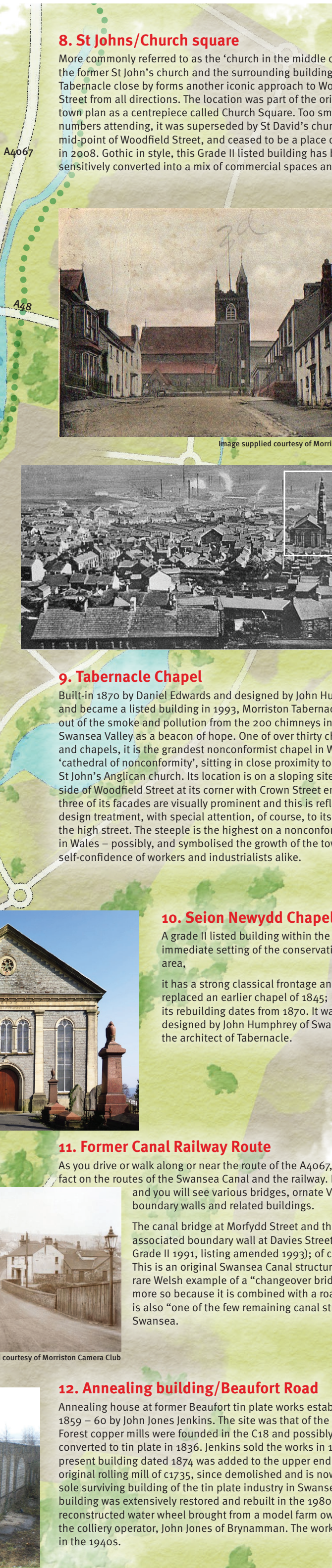
The area that would become Morrision was acquired by the Morris family in the late eighteenth century. However, the town of Morrision did not take shape until 1779, when the first workers’ dwellings were constructed.

The original town grid of Morrision was designed by William Edwards, an engineer, bridge builder and preacher of modest fame. In contrast to other planned towns of the time, Morrision was designed with wider streets and a symbolic placement of the central chapel. Construction for workers’ dwellings also took on a new shape, with John Morris preferring to lease plots of land (rather than houses) roughly a quarter of an acre each to workers on fifty-year terms. John Morris originally wanted Morrision to resemble a rural, countryside village and encouraged the creation of gardens and ownership of one cow per family. While it was common for coppermasters to provide houses for workers, it was uncommon for an entire community to be planned out, as in the case of Morrision. This model would be replicated by the Nevill family in Llanelli, who would similarly rent out plots of land. Throughout the later eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the original rural setting was gradually condensed. The original main road became known as Wychtree Street, and on later iterations of the Morrision grid, Woodville Street assumed primacy. The construction of the Swansea Canal in 1794-96 damaged the original grid by removing six gardens (three created, three planned out) and Old Market replaced two small cottages in 1827. By the mid-nineteenth century, the ongoing condensation of Morrision brought about concerns of public health and safety. Roads were yet to be paved and public sanitation services did not yet exist.



Key

- Lower Swansea Valley Heritage Trail
- National Cycle Route 43



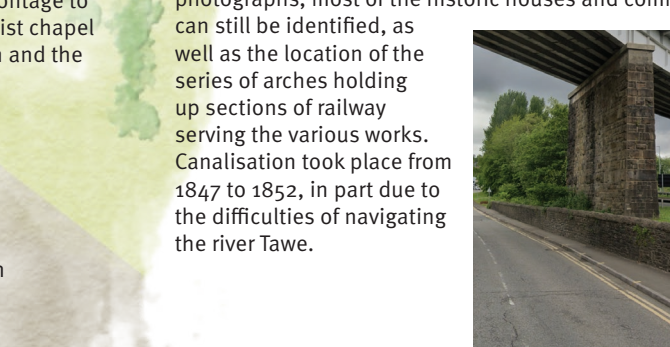
13. Landore railway viaduct

Among the earliest industrial heritage are Landore railways, with road connections beginning as early as 1707 and being further developed into the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Still carrying the dual-track Great Western Mainline to London Paddington, the Landore railway viaduct is a prominent feature of the skyline in the valley, bridging the River Tawe and now the A4067, formerly the Swansea Canal. In times past, the Landore railways served as a centre for the movement of various raw materials, such as coal, copper and tin. In this capacity, it was part of a larger network of railroads that connected coal mines to copper foundries.



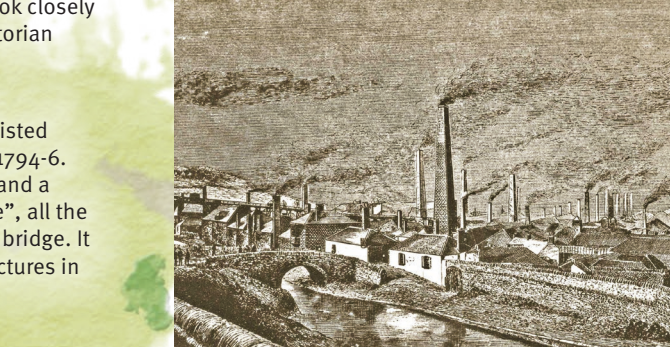
14. Morfa Lifting Bascule bridge

During 2020-2022 undergoing major repairs, the Morfa lifting bascule bridge was installed in 1909 to carry a rail link across the River Tawe to the Upper Bank works.



15. Swansea Canal Walls

As you pass through what is now the A4067 corridor, you are on the route of the Swansea canal. The boundary wall is still in place along parts of its length from the Landore viaduct and up as far as the junction with the Morfa bypass. If you look carefully at historic photographs, most of the historic houses and commercial buildings can still be identified, as well as the location of the series of arches holding up sections of railway serving the various works. Canalisation took place from 1847 to 1852, in part due to the difficulties of navigating the river Tawe.



16. Hafod works

The construction of Hafod Copperworks in 1808-1809 marked a new beginning for copperworking in South Wales. Prior to the construction of Hafod Copperworks, Welsh copperworking was largely kept away from business interests by Cornish miners. Hafod Copperworks was built by John Vivian, an entrepreneur who began in Cornish copper mining. The Hafod Copperworks featured an impressive architectural feat in that the external arches – built for ventilation – were grouped in threes which gave a resemblance to classical church facades, and had the highest arches possible at the time, to allow for maximum ventilation.

17. White Rock

The White Rock Copper Works were established in the Lower Swansea Valley in 1736, 70 years before the better-known Hafod works. White Rock was one of the most important copper smelting works in the Lower Swansea Valley, the world centre of non-ferrous smelting for much of the 18th and 19th Centuries. Lead and silver were also smelted at White Rock.

Mae rhan isaf Cwm Tawe wedi'i thrawsnewid drwy adferiad, adwriad, a buddsoddiadaid newydd ers y 1960au. Roedd Abertawe'n goruchafu yn y 19eg ganrif fel prif ganolfan mwynyddol cych y byd. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwn roedd Abertawe'n toddi oerco holl allbwng cych y DU. Fodd bynnag, yn y 1880au dechreuodd hyn ddirywio. Roedd cynhyrchu, tunplat a mwynyddol plwm, mwynau arian, cobalt, a sinc wedi cynnal safon Abertawe fel canolfan y byd ar gyfer y diwydiannau metelegol. Erbyn dechrau'r Rhifyl Byd Cyntaf, roedd mwynyddol cych wedi trosglwyddo dramor. Cyn yr Ail Ryfel Byd, roedd Abertawe wedi dod yn ganolfan bwysig i'r diwydiannau tunplat a tra. Wedi'r Ail Ryfel Byd, dirywiodd canolfan diwydiannol a cwm ymhellach arian arwain at lefelau sylweddol o ddiffieithwch yn Nghwm Tawe Isaf. Erbyn 1961, roedd tua 60% o'r cwm mewn cyflwr diffaith. Roedd y cwm yn yn o'r ardaloedd mwyafr o ddiffieithwch diwydiannol parhaus yn Ngogleirleir Wyrwop. Eym 1966, ac a'i trychineb tomen wastaff pwll Aberfan, cyhoeddodd Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru y byddai uned Triffaith yn cael ei ffurfio. Cyhoeddwyd adroddiad Prosiect Cwm Tawe Isaf ym 1967. Roedd hyn yn disgrifio cynllun gweithredu amgylcheddol ar gyfer ymdrin â'r diffieithwch a oedd yn effeithio ar y cwm. Roedd arian grant gan y Swyddfa Gymreig wedi caniatáu adfer triffaith ac yn arwyo o ddechrau diwedd diffieithwch yn Nghwm Tawe Isaf. Heddidi mae'r ardal yn cynnwys ardai fasnachol fywog a pharc busnes, ac ardaloedd hamdden sy'n cael eu defnyddio'n dda sy'n galluogi beicwyr, pysgotwyr a cherddwyr i fywneu cynefin eicolegol gyfoethog ochr yn ochr ag amrywiaeth o blanhigion ac anifeiliaid.

Yn 1911, prynwyd tîr a adwaenwyd yn wreiddiol fel 'Clasemont' gan gorfforaeth Abertawe er mwyn gosod cyfeuster storio dŵr newydd yno a chreu parc dinesig. Fe'i hagorwyd i'r cyhoedd ym 1912 dan yr enw newydd, Parc Treforys. Heddiw mae gan y parc amrywiaeth eang o gyfeusterau sy'n apelio i bobl o bob oedran, o gyfleoedd i fwydo'r hwyaid i neidiau sglerio, yn ogystal â llwybrau cerdded hanesyddol.

Mae gan y stryd hir lethrog hon nodwedd gudd ar ffurf camlas danddaeorol a arferai gludo glo i'r gwahanol weithiau metel ar hyd afon Tawe. Roedd yn rhedeg o ben Parc Treforys, cam droi ger hen ysgol gynradd Tan-y-lan, i lawr Clyndu Street a byddai wedd cwrdd â chamlas Tawe o flaen yr hyn sydd bellach yn dafarn y Monkey Tree.

Banwell Street (wedi'i restru'n Radd II ym 1993) a adeiladwyd ym 1875 ac wedi'i 'restru fel tystiolaeth o welliant trefol yn dyddio o ddiwedd y 19eg ganrif'

Tŷ'r Capel ac Ysgol Sul Philadelphia (1802, 1829, ailfodelwyd y fynydfa ym 1935) yn Morris Street/Globe Street (wedi'i restru'n Radd II ym 1993)

Adedlad rhestrred Gradd II arall o'r 1880au; a adeiladwyd ar gyfer, ac a ddyluniwyd yn ôl pob tebyg gan Daniel Edwards (1835-1915), gwneuthurwyd tunplat yn Nhreforys; Roedd 'Danbert' yn enw brand ar fath o dunplat a wnaed yng Ngwaith Dyffryn Edwards. Ni chwbhawyd y gwaith i adeiladu'r tŷ oherwydd methdaliad yr adeiladwr, ac nid oedd Edwards erioed wedi byw yno.

Cafodd yr ardal a fyddai'n dod yn dref Treforys ei chaffael gan y teulu Morris ar ddiwedd y ddeunawfed ganrif. Fodd bynnag, ni ddechreuodd tref Treforys ddatblygu tan 1779 pan adeiladwyd yr anheddau cyntaf i weithwyr.

Ma'e hnen eglwys Sant Ioan y cyfeirir at'i'n wyl cyffwrdd f'n 'yr eglwys yn nghanol yr heol', a'r adeiladau o'r chwmpas, gyda chapel y Tabernacl yn agos iddi, yn ffordd eiceidd arall o ddynesu at Woodfield Street o bob cyfeiriad. Roedd yr lleoliad yn rhan o'r dref arfaethedig wreiddiol fel darn canol o'r enw Sgwâr yr Eglwys. Gan ei bod yn rhy fach ar gyfer y niferoedd a oedd yn ei mynychu, fe'i disodlwyd gan eglwys Dewi Sant yn nghanol Woodfield Street, a phleidiodd â bod yn addoldy yn 2008. Ma'r adeilad rhestredig Gradd II hwn, sy'n Gothig o ran arddull, wedi'i addasu mewn modd sensitif i'w gynymsgdd o leoned masnachol a flatiau.

Ma reillfyrrdd Glandw'r ymysg y drefnadaeth ddwyddianol gynharaf, gysylltiadau fyrrdd yn dechrau mor gynnar â 1707 ac yn cael eu datblygu ymhellach hyd at ddiwedd y deunawfed ganrif a'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg. Mae traphont reillfyrrdd Glandw'r yn dal i gario trac deufol prif linell y Great Western i Lundain Paddington, yn nodwed amlyg o'r nenlinell yn y cwm, gan bontio afon Tawe a'r A4067 erbyn hyn, sef Camlas Tawe gynt. Yn yr hen dyddiad, roedd reillfyrrdd Glandw'r yn ganolfan ar gyfer symud gwhanol ddeunyddiau crai, megis glo, copr, neu ddu. Yn rhinwedd hyn, roedd yn rhan o rywyddw mwy o reillfyrrdd a gysylltai pylau glo â ffowndriau copr.

Cafodd ei hatgyweirio'n sylweddol yn ystod 2020-2022. Gosodwyd pont wrthbwyys godi'r Morfa ym 1909 i gario cyswllt rheilffordd ar draws afon Tawe i waith Upper Bank.

Wrth i chi basio twmlyr sy'n hydd bellach yn goridor yr A4067, rydych chi ar lwybr Camlas Tawe. Mae'r wal deryn yn dal i fodoli ar hyd rhannau o'i hyd o draphont Glandŵr ac i fyny cyn belled â'r gyffordd â ffordd osgoi'r Morfa. Os edrychwych yn ofalus ar fotograffau hanesyddol, gellir adnabod y rhan fwyaf o'r tai hanesyddol a'r adeiladau masnachol o hyd, yn ogystal â lleoliad y gyfres o fwâu sy'n dal rhannau o'r rheilffordd sy'n gwasanaethu'r gweithfeydd amrywiol. Aethpwyd ati i greu camlesi rhwyd 1847 a 1852, yn rhannol oherwydd anawsterau llywio afon Tawe.

Roedd y dechrau i adeiladu Gwaith Copr yr Hafod ym 1808-1809 yn nodi dwchrau newydd ar gyfer cynhyrchu eitemau copr yn ne Cymru. Cyn adeiladu Gwaith Copr yr Hafod, roedd gweithfeydd copr yn Nghymru'n cadw draw o fuddion busnes mwyngwyrdd Cernyweg i raddau helaeth. Adeiladwyd Gwaith Copr yr Hafod gan John Vivian, entrepreneur a ddechreuodd yn niwyddiant mwyngloddio copr Cernyw. Roedd Gwaith Copr yr Hafod yn cynnwys cam pensaernïol triawdrol gan fod y bwâu allanol – a adeiladwyd ad diben awyru – wedi'u grwpio bob yn dda i oedod yn debygi ffasadau eglwysy clasurol, ac roedd gwyndt y bwâu uchaf posib ar y pryd, er mwyn caniatáu ar gyfer cymaint o awyriad â phosib.

Sefydwyd Gwaith Copr y Garreg Wen yng Nghwm Tawe Isaf ym 1736, 70 mlynedd cyn gwaith mwy adnabyddus yr Hafod. Roedd Gwaith y Garreg Wen yn un o'r gweithiau mwyndoddi copr pwysicaf yng Nghwm Tawe Isaf, canolaf y byd ar gyfer mwyndoddi anfferrus am ran helaeth o'r 18fed ganrif a'r 19eg ganrif. Toddwyd plwm ac arian hefyd yng Ngwaith y Garreg Wen.