

## **CWMGELLI CEMETERY**

<b>Ref number</b>	<b>PGW (Gm) 60 (SWA)</b>
<b>OS Map</b>	159
<b>Grid ref</b>	SS 656 966
<b>Former county</b>	West Glamorgan
<b>Unitary authority</b>	City and County of Swansea
<b>Community council</b>	Mynyddbach
<b>Designations</b>	None
<b>Site evaluation</b>	<b>Grade II</b>
<b>Primary reasons for grading</b> with informal layout and planting	A well preserved, small Victorian cemetery,
<b>Type of site</b>	Urban landscaped cemetery
<b>Main phases of construction</b>	1895

### **Site description**

Cwmgelli cemetery is a small Victorian garden cemetery situated on an east-facing slope in the Treboeth district of northern Swansea. It is bounded by streets and housing on all but the east side, where there is a short road, Pontyshwt, leading to scrubby ground at the southern end of Llewelyn Park, which occupies the valley to the north. The cemetery dates to *c.* 1895, which is the date carved on its chapel. On the 1881 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed in 1876-77) the area is shown as open space. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map of 1899 (surveyed 1897) shows the cemetery with its present layout but with a perimeter belt of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees around the north half only. By 1913-14, when revisions were made for the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (1919) Ordnance Survey map, the perimeter belt was complete.

The cemetery is an irregular, four-sided shape, bounded by high rubble stone walls on all but the north side, where there is a modern concrete wall. The main entrance is towards the north end of the east side. This has simple iron gates flanked by tall square stone piers with pyramidal tops, the northern one finished off with a small ball. On either side are pedestrian gates flanked by similar piers. Inside, two horse chestnuts flank the entrance and a tarmac drive runs north-eastwards for a short distance and then around a circular lawn with rose and shrub beds and one grave, of Edward Rice Daniel (1829-1905), in it. Pines are planted around the circle. On its east side is a chapel, built out above the slope, with the entrance porch at the west end, on the circle. The chapel is built of random stone, with sandstone dressings and a red tiled roof. At the east end is a small octagonal tower of dressed sandstone, with

louvred windows and a battlemented top. Over the round-arched doorway in the porch is the date 1895. Evergreen shrubs, pines and cypresses are planted around it.

The remainder of the interior of the cemetery is laid out informally, with winding tarmac paths giving access to all areas. Most of the ground is sloping, but an area has been levelled in the eastern, lower half. The graves are in a mixture of styles, the oldest ones, dating to 1899-1915, being near the chapel. The cemetery is planted with a mixture of trees, evergreen and flowering shrubs and roses. Pines are the predominant trees, planted both around the perimeter and in groups within the cemetery. The paths are flanked by palms (*Trachycarpus fortunei*) at intervals. Evergreen and flowering shrubs are planted throughout the cemetery and along the west boundary is a shrub border. At the foot of the slope there is a second entrance, similar to the main one, on the east boundary.

## **Sources**

### **Primary**

1<sup>st</sup> (1881), 2<sup>nd</sup> (1897) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (1919) edition 25 in. Ordnance Survey maps.