

BYW GYDA CHOPR LIVING WITH COPPER

Sgwâr y Farchnad, Amlwch, tua 1875
The Market Square, Amlwch, about 1875



Drwy ganiatâd Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru | By permission of The National Library of Wales



Oilon Castell Morris, Abertawe, un o'r blociau tŵr cyntaf
Remains of Morris Castle, Swansea, one of the first tower blocks

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Esgorodd diwydiant copr Cymru ar gymunedau a llefydd newydd. Pentrefan bach oedd Amlwch ond fe dyfodd i fod yn dref brysus a wasanaethai fwyngloddwyr copr Mynydd Parys a llongwyr ac adeiladwyr llongau'r porthladd. Erbyn canol y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg roedd y boblogaeth yn 6000 - bron ddwywaith ei phoblogaeth heddiw.

Sefydlwyd nifer o aneddiadau gweithwyr yn Abertawe, rhai ohonynt gan y cwmnïau oedd yn eu cyflogi. Ym 1775 roedd Castell Morris yn Nhreforys yn gartref i 24 o deuluoedd o weithwyr. Y 'castell' hwn oedd un o'r blociau fflatiau modern cyntaf.

Trevilian, yr Hafod, yw un o'r aneddiadau gwaith copr sydd wedi goroesi orau yn y byd. Adeiladwyd Ysgol Gwaith Copr yr Hafod tua 1857-48. Roedd llawer o gapeli, a sefydlwyd gan y gweithwyr, a thafarnau yn cefnogi bywydau cymdeithasol a diwylliannol y gweithwyr a'u teuluoedd.

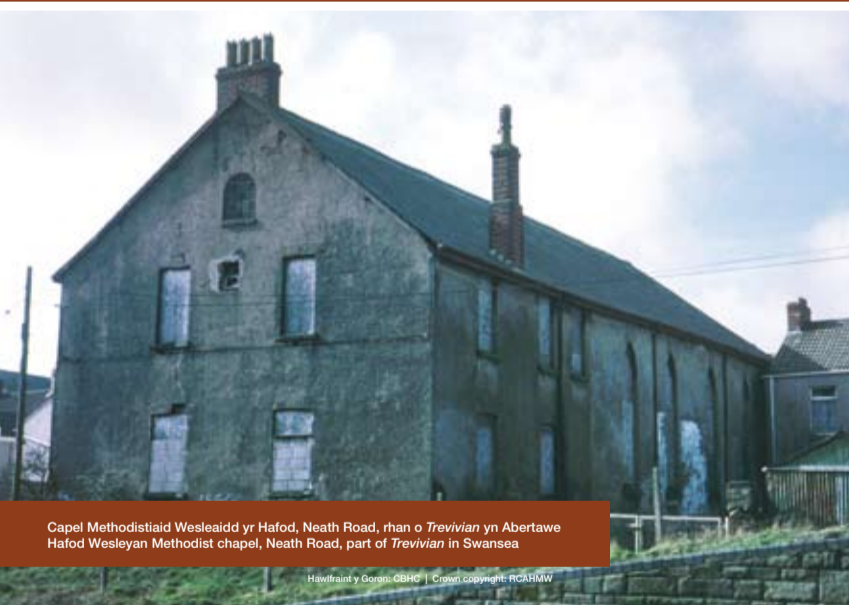
Cafodd trefgorddau copr Cymreig eu hadeiladu mewn rhannau eraill o'r byd. Roedd Llchwyr, ger Burra yn Ne Awstralia, yn drefgordd copr a adeiladwyd yn bwrpasol, a gafodd ei henwi ar ôl pentref Llchwyr yng Nghymru. Ym 1848 mewforiodd y Patent Copper Company waith cyfan yno o Lanelli, yn cynnwys ei staff.

The Welsh copper industry gave rise to new communities and places. Amlwch was a tiny hamlet but grew into a bustling town to serve the Parys copper miners, sailors and shipbuilders of the port. By the mid-nineteenth century its population was 6000- almost double that of today.

Several workers' settlements emerged in Swansea, some established by the companies they worked for. In 1775 Morris Castle in Morriston was home to 24 working families. This 'castle' was one of the first modern blocks of flats.

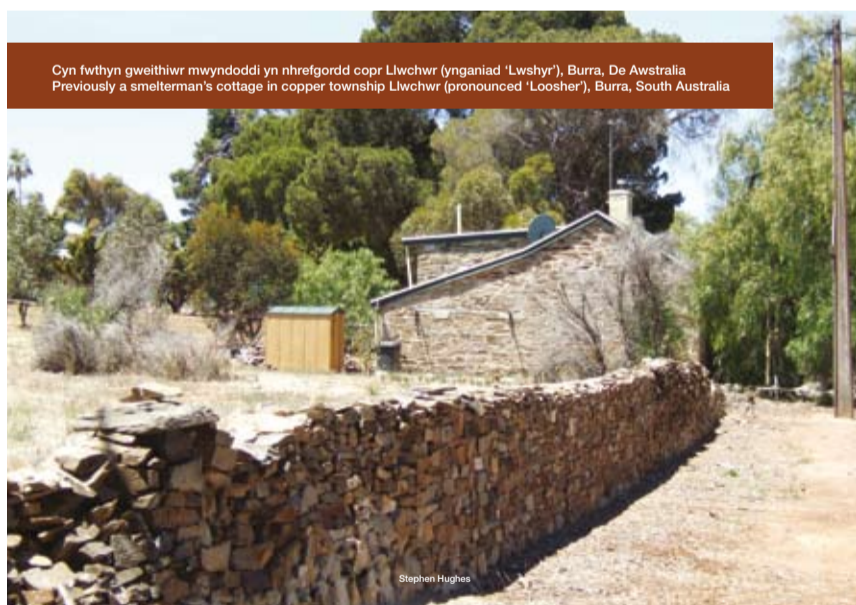
Trevilian or Vivian's Town, Hafod, is one of the best surviving copperworks settlements in the world. Hafod Copperworks School was built around 1847-48. Many chapels, founded by the workers, and pubs supported the social and cultural lives of the workers and their families.

Welsh copper townships were created elsewhere in the world. Llchwyr, near Burra, South Australia, was a purpose-built copper township, named after the Welsh village of Loughor. In 1848 the Patent Copper Company imported an entire works there from Lanelli, including its staff.



Capel Methodistiaid Wesleyaidd yr Hafod, Neath Road, rhan o Trevilian yn Abertawe
Hafod Wesleyan Methodist chapel, Neath Road, part of Trevilian in Swansea

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Cyn fwthyn gweithiwr mwyndoddi yn nhrefgordd copr Llchwyr (ynganiad 'Lwshyr'), Burra, De Awstralia
Previously a smelterman's cottage in copper township Llchwyr (pronounced 'Loosher'), Burra, South Australia

Stephen Hughes