

The National School No. 2 Lewis Road

National Schools were set up in the first half of the nineteenth century to provide poor children with an elementary education, in accordance with the teachings of the Church of England. They eventually became voluntary aided or voluntary controlled schools within the state system.

The stone building on the corner of Penlan Road and Lewis Road, dating from 1825, was the first National School in the Penarth area. It was the initiative of the rector, Rev. James Evans, and was supported by the 2nd Marquess of Bute. At that time the population of Llandough was around 200, and the majority had Welsh as their first language.

The school building was built in stone, with a slate roof and brick-edged windows. It was planned to accommodate between 50 and 60 children. A smaller house (2 Lewis Road) was built later as a residence for the schoolteacher. By 1870, Llandough's population had increased to over 700, and the Old School was replaced in 1872 by a new building opposite the old school, which was planned to accommodate around 125 children. This building served as an elementary school until January 1941, when it was badly damaged by bombing.

The Old School is now a private house.



Pictures from days past

From 1876



From 1903



From 1922



Top row: Mrs Edmonds (teacher), Norman Edmonds, Enis Ackland, Eunice Bennett, Ginney Fish. Lorna Davies

Second row down: Joan Williams, Doreen Lonquist, Edith Ackland, Nancy Lang, Mary Lang, Cyril Davies,

Third row down: Betty Coles, Walter Burse, Mary Berry, Reg Bush, Molly Bordinave, Alberly Bennett, Miss Howe (teacher)

Front row seated: Blanch Hyatt, name unknown, Ben Price, Gertie Cashman., Joan Wernham

Dancing 1926



Top row: Mollie Bordinave, Pat Hares, Grace Griffiths, Anita Hemmings

Front row: Joan Williams, Joan Wernham, Edith Ackland, Pat Williams

Dancing 1926



Top row: Mollie Bordinave, Anita Hemmings, Grace Griffiths

Front row: Joan Wernham, Joan Wiliams, Adith Ackland

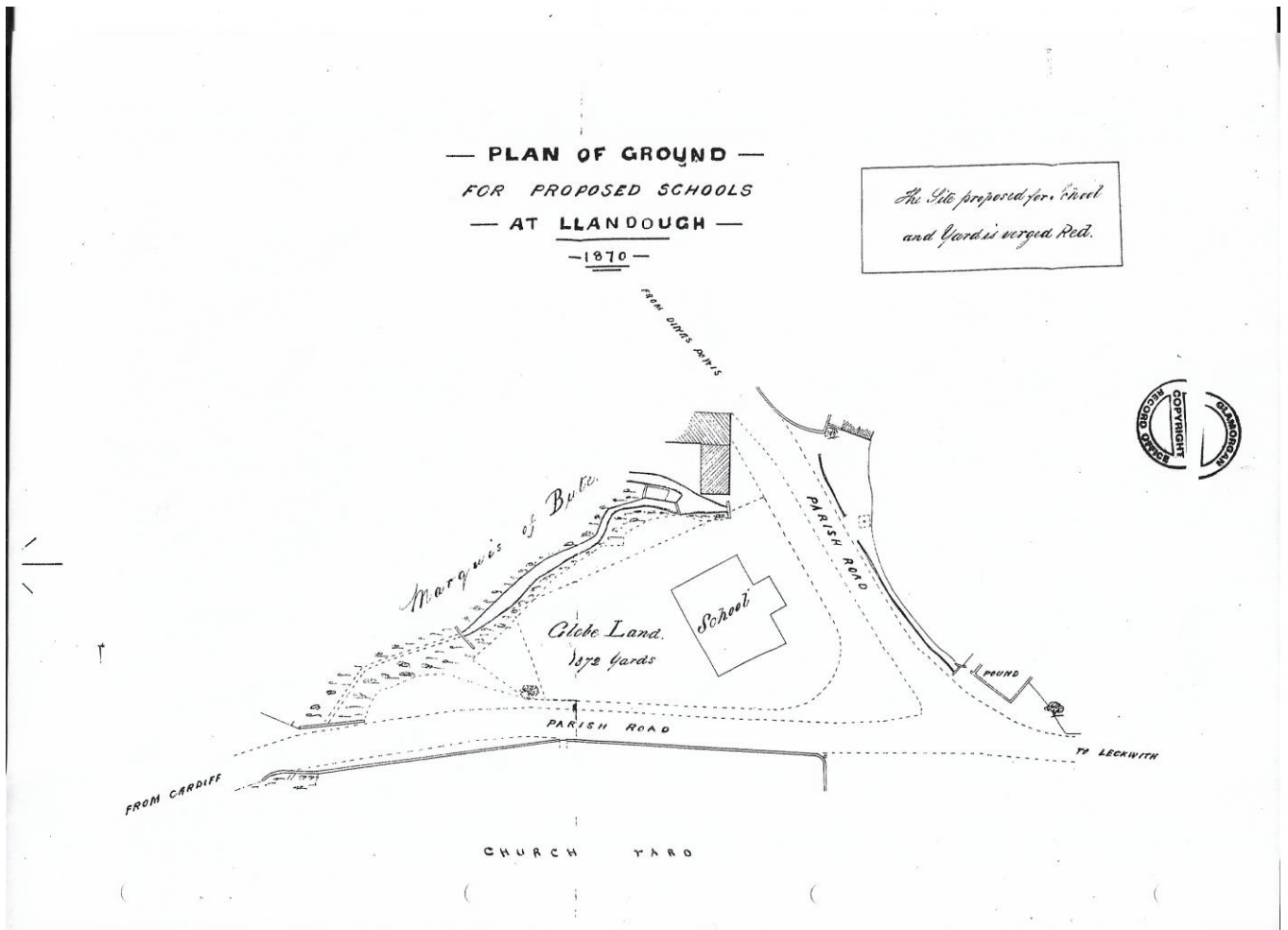
School Report 1855

Copy of Report of A.M.V. May. 1885.
"Llandough National School" (Glamorgan)

Mixed School. "There has again been a change of head teacher, and the School has consequently been disturbed. Order is good, and Singing satisfactory. Geography (Boys) is about fair in the first class, but is very imperfect below this, and no Grant can be recommended. Needlework (Girls) good in the first and second standards and fairly so higher up. Recitation is monotonous and Grammar is rather below than above fair. Reading generally is about fair; there should be more expression and intelligence. Spelling fairly well done but Composition needs practice. Copy Books need more supervision in every class. Arithmetic is imperfect in the fifth standard and above, and only fair in others. Mental Arithmetic is also weak, and the setting down of sums needs care. I regret to be unable to advise payment of a Merit Grant. For Geography a school plan, Globe and outline Maps are needed. Some blinds are required. The Offices have not yet been formally subdivided (see last report) a lady is good enough to assist with the Needlework."

Infants' Class. "The number of Infants has very much decreased. The upper division has done about fairly, the lower is backward. There has been a change of teacher, and this has disturbed the work. Recitation and Colour are satisfactory. Form is about fair. Some simple Kindergarten work might be instituted. Needlework good. Pictures of animals, and a collection to illustrate object lessons would be useful. The gallery requires alteration, and in the Offices there should be provision for Infant Boys (see last report). A Blind is needed."

Plan for School 1870



A short history is given by Margaret Irene Grenville in "Education in Llandough Juxta Cardiff 1825 to 1941". Dissertation for Certificate of Higher Education, University of Wales, Cardiff 1977.