

## GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE/ARCHIFDY MORGANNWG

Reference code : **GB 214 BUBLLA**

Title : **LLANGYNWYD BURIAL BOARD**

Dates of creation : **1871 - 1906**

Level of description: **Fonds**

Extent : **4 vols., 6 boxes; 0.15 cubic metres**

### **Name of creator**

Llangynwyd Burial Board (1874 - 1951)

### **Administrative history**

By the mid nineteenth century, many church and chapel graveyards were full, particularly in populous areas. In an attempt to solve this problem, the Burial Act of 1853 (16 & 17 Vict. c.134) enabled parish vestries to establish burial boards, if they so wished, to provide and manage new burial grounds. These burial boards, consisting of between three and nine parish ratepayers, could purchase land for a cemetery and provide chapels; money was to be raised through a precept on the poor rates. Borough councils were allowed to establish similar burial boards by an Act of 1854 (17 & 18 Vict. c.87) and local boards of health enabled to do the same by the Local Government Act of 1858; by the Sanitary Act of 1866, an existing burial board could transfer its powers to a local board. The Local Government Act of 1894 enabled all civil parishes in rural districts to exercise the powers of burial boards; under section 62, the 1894 Act also enabled the newly-created urban district councils to take over any burial boards in their area if they so wished.

In summary, between 1853 and 1894, burial boards could be set up by either parish vestries, borough councils, or local boards of health, and these burial boards could provide cemeteries. After 1894, burial boards already in existence could continue; alternatively, their powers could be taken over by parish councils (in rural districts) or by urban district councils; while parish councils or urban district councils where no burial board was in existence could themselves adopt the provisions of the Burial Acts, and provide cemeteries using money raised by the rates.

In Llangynwyd, an attempt by the parish vestry to establish a burial board first appears to have been made in 1871. However, this attempt failed, and the Llangynwyd Burial Board was not formally constituted until 1874, its first meeting taking place in December of that year. The history of the Board appears to have been marked by dissention between its members, the lack of support of some of the ratepayers, and disagreement over where to site a cemetery. As a consequence, it was not until 1883 that the Board opened a cemetery, situated in Maesteg. Under the Local Government Act, 1894, the extensive area covered by the Llangynwyd Burial Board

was divided, for local government purposes, into Maesteg Urban District Council, Llangynwyd Middle Parish Council, and Llangynwyd Lower Parish Council; a small part also lay in Glyncoed Urban District Council. The Board was dissolved by the Local Government Board in November 1895, and reconstituted in June 1896 as a joint committee with representatives of each of these authorities. The Burial Board appears to have been taken over subsequently by Maesteg Urban District Council, but the date at which this happened is unclear. The Burial Board was taken over by Maesteg Urban District Council in July 1951.

**Dates of accumulation**

1871 - 1906

**Custodial history**

The records appear to have passed into the custody of Maesteg Urban District Council.

**Immediate source of acquisition**

Deposited by Maesteg Urban District Council on 31 October 1952 (accession no. 480, file 11/0118/07).

**Content of collection**

Minutes, 1874 - 1904; cash book, 1883 - 1906; register of fees, 1883 - 1904; receipts of grants of grave space, 1886 - 1892).

**Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information**

All records offered have been accepted and listed.

**Accruals**

None.

**System of arrangement**

Minutes, in chronological order; financial records.

**Legal status**

Non-public records

**Access conditions**

No restriction on access.

**Copyright/Conditions governing reproduction**

Usual Glamorgan Record Office conditiond apply.

**Language of material**

English.

**Physical characteristics (condition)**

Some items in good condition. Covers of many volumes in poor condition. Need cleaning.

**Finding aids**

A detailed list is available.

**Location of originals**

The records are original.

**Existence of copies**

Not applicable.

**Related material in the Glamorgan Record Office**

UD/M 3-10                      Minutes of Maesteg Urban District Council, 1903 - 1927

**Associated material held in other repositories**

Burial registers for Maesteg Cemetery are held by the Burials Officer, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 1LX.

**Publication note**

None known.

**Note**

These records are stored in an outside repository. They should be ordered at least a week in advance of an intended visit so that they can be brought into the Record Office for consultation in the search room.

Description compiled in the Glamorgan Record Office in December 1999.

