

GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE/ARCHIFDY MORGANNWG

Reference code: GB 0214 ESB/17

Title: EGLWYSILAN SCHOOL BOARD

Dates : 1873-1903

Level of description: Fonds

Extent and medium: [] cubic metres (3 vols., 1 file, 4 bdles)

Name of creator(s): Eglwysilan School Board

Administrative/biographical history

The inadequacy of the provision for elementary education before 1870 - largely provided by the National Society for Anglicans, the British and Foreign Society mainly for religious nonconformists, and the Catholic Poor Schools' Society - attracted the attention of education reformers and central government throughout the earlier part of the 19th century. Central government first introduced grants for the establishment of schools in 1833 and established the Committee of Council in 1839 largely to oversee the system; this was renamed the Education Department in 1861. General concern with the situation and religious debate led to the setting up of the Newcastle Commission 1861 but the complacency of the subsequent report was not welcomed. The urgency of providing elementary education in the industrial valleys of south Wales owing to the rapid influx of workers, and their families, to provide labour in the ironworks and particularly the coal-mines was widely appreciated.

Pressure from educational and religious bodies, and politicians, led to the passing of the Education Act 1870 setting up a system of School Boards. Boards were elected by members of burgesses in boroughs and ratepayers in rural areas, and although the powers given to the boards, the system was essentially adoptive before 1876 and education provided by them was neither free nor compulsory. School Boards, however, established school attendance committees and most sharply reduced or abolished fees. The establishment of boards often depended upon local demands and local concern for gaps in the provision of elementary education by the religious societies. School Boards, however, possessed the right of making elementary education compulsory in their areas and the advantage of being able to use local rates to cover costs. School Boards were also not expected to teach any particular form of religious education and, as a consequence, most of the British Society schools rapidly transferred to the boards after the Act. Without access to rates, religious educational societies suffered financially, and management of public

elementary education was placed in the care of local education authorities under the Education Act 1902. These bodies - generally known as Part III authorities - consisted of county boroughs (Cardiff, Swansea and Merthyr Tydfil, municipal boroughs with a population over 10,000 and urban districts over 20,000. Other areas were covered by Glamorgan County Council.

Eglwysilan School Board covered the ecclesiastical parish of Eglwysilan which extended from the river Rhymni to the river Taf. This included a small part of Pontypridd until the formation of the Pontypridd School Board in 1895.

Archival history

Immediate source of acquisition

Glamorgan County Council and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

Scope and content

Minutes 1876-1903, Cilfynydd School questionnaire 1891, inspectors' reports for Cilfynydd School 1888-1894, Coedpenmaen School 1873-1894, Hawthorn School 1879-1893, and Pontshonnorton School 1891-1894

Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information

All records which meet the collection policy of the Glamorgan Record Office have been retained.

Accruals

Accruals are not expected

System of arrangement

Conditions governing access

Open access

Conditions governing reproduction

Normal Glamorgan Record Office conditions apply.

Language/scripts of material

English

Physical characteristics and technical requirements

Fair to poor condition

Finding aids

Detailed list available.

Existence and location of originals

Existence and location of copies

Related units of description

Publication note

Note

Archivist's note

Compiled by the Glamorgan Record Office; revised with additions May 2007

Rules or conventions

This description follows Glamorgan Record Office guidelines based on ISAD(G) compatible cataloguing guidelines for fonds level descriptions used by the Archives Network Wales.

Date of description

Revised May 2007

EGLWYSILAN SCHOOL BOARD**ESB/17**

ESB/17/1	Minutes book of managers of Coedpenmaen Board School [1 vol.]	1876-1889
ESB/17/2 ESB/17/3	Board minutes book Board minutes book [2 vols.]	1899-1903 1903
ESB/17/4	Cilfynydd School questionnaire [1 file]	1891
ESB/17/5	Cilfynydd School. Reports of Education Department inspectors [1 bdle]	1888-1894
ESB/17/6	Coedpenmaen School. Report of Education Department inspectors [1 bdle]	1873-1894
ESB/17/7	Hawthorn School. Report of Education Department inspectors [1 bdle]	1879-1893
ESB/17/8	Pontshonnorton [Pont-siôn-norton] School. Report of Education Department inspectors [1 bdle]	1891-1894