

Cogan Labour Exchange; much changed, it is now a residence. Andrew Road is an interesting mixture of private houses, c.1890s, Council houses built in the 1920-30s and some post-war housing.

Opposite, we climb up the path to Cogan Station (11) built by Charles Shepherd and Son, Cardiff, opened in 1888. To cross the railway lines we use the original, ornate, cast-iron footbridge. Up until 1893 passengers from Barry wishing to travel to Cardiff had to leave their train at Cogan, pass through a subway, which can still be seen, to Penarth Dock and Harbour Station and catch a T.V.R. (Taff Vale Railway) train.

Leaving the Station we enter Station Approach, originally part of the old Cardiff Road before it was straightened in the 1880s. Moving down the slope we pass the old entrance to Penarth Dock, recently blocked by the C.B.D.C. (Cardiff Bay Development Corporation). The entrance road ran under a bridge and then through a long subway, both beautiful examples of Victorian civil engineering. The single-storey building above the entrance road, now home to Cogan O.A.F.s, was Penarth Dock's last Mission to Seamen building (12). Up until the 1950s a magnificent, large, ornate cast-iron alfresco gentlemen's toilet stood outside on the corner.

Across Windsor Road stands the remains of the Penarth Dock and Harbour Station, opened 1878; the buildings are the last example of a small Taff Vale Railway Station. Also, sections of the two platforms can be seen (13). The Station was built on what had been the site of Cogan Isaf Farm, a ruin by the 1830s, but the land was still being farmed by the tenant, Francis Love. The tenancy included fishing rights to one of the many fish weirs on the River Ely.

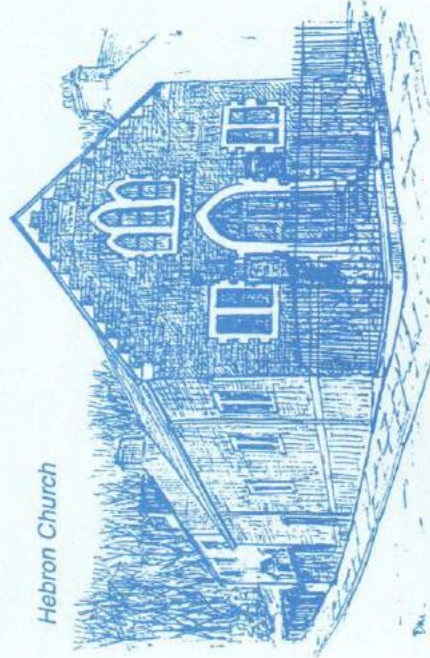
Directly behind the Auto Valet Service building (14) is a sub-way, now blocked, built in 1878 to maintain a right of way and to replace the original Penarth Dock Road, lost when the Penarth Extension Railway was built from Cogan up to Penarth Town. There were 3 cottages on the road, approximately where Tesco's car park stands; early occupants included Archie Boland at No. 1 with his wife and 7 children. He was a dock bargeman. No. 2 was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. G. Walters and family, and at No. 3 Mr. and Mrs. Brookes lived and also operated a Tea Room. The cottages were demolished c.1880, and later the Penarth Dock Locomotive Sheds were built on the site. The substantial stone houses opposite the Station Hotel were built c.1870 by the Taff Vale Railway.

The house at the corner of Windsor Road and Pill Street (15), now 160 Windsor Road, was originally No. 1 Clive Crescent c.1880, then became No. 7 Station Terrace in about 1888, and then in the early 1890s, 160 Windsor Road. Original William Hughes' Post Office, it was at various times a Temperance Hotel and a shop; for example in the 1920s it was the Cogan Refreshment Rooms, Post Office and drapery run by Mrs. Mary Douglas.

The houses in the former Clive Crescent are larger than those in most of Cogan and housed people further up the social ladder than the dockers, railway workers, quarrymen, seamen etc, who resided in Pill, Dock Street etc: e.g. J. Hosbons, Brickworks Manager in No. 12, Sam John, T.V.R. Inspector in 16, Peter Thorne, master mason at No. 24. No. 15, later 144 Windsor Road, was home to Andrew Garrick M.M., who was also landlord of the Ship Hotel, Penarth and the Penarth Railway Hotel, Ferry Road, Grangetown. Garrick was drowned in 1908 when his barque 'The Amazon' was wrecked on Margam Sands. By the 1880s Nos. 28 and 29 had become the Cogan Church Mission Rooms. Recently demolished, the site now contains a small block of flats.

The building at the end of the old crescent (16) was originally a shop and Post Office run by Miss B. E. Leavers, tobacconist, confectioner and Post Mistress. In the 1920s it was a general shop run by S. H. Thomas, and is now a private residence.

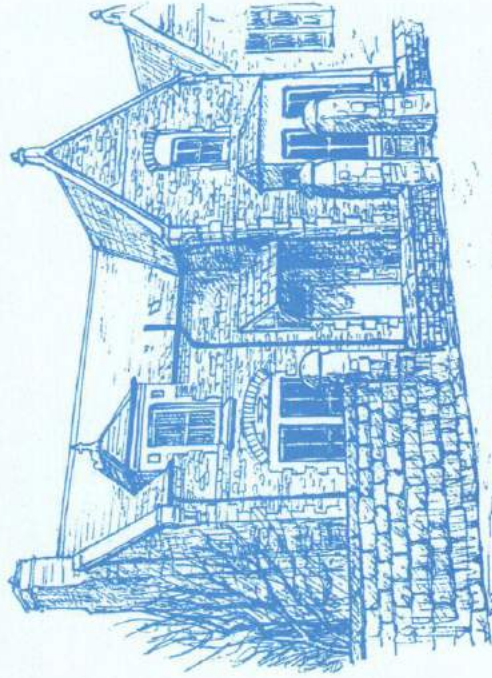
Hebron Church



Across Bridge Street is the former Penarth Brickworks (17), opened c.1880s, with James Pickersgill as Manager. The extensive ovens, buildings, reservoir and network of tramways have all gone – all that remains is a section of the original stone boundary wall and the massive hole excavated from the Cogan escarpment.

Bridge Street, built c.1880s, contained a number of corner shops, and was home to Thomas W. Jones, a singer of renown, and ever present at concerts, 'smokers' etc in the 1890s. The street ends at the junction with Harnet Street, and a lane runs at the foot of the heavily wooded escarpment known colloquially as 'Milkies', but known historically as 'Coed-y-Hebog' ('The Hawks' Wood') and also as 'Adam's Wood' (18). Turning into Agnes Street, built 1890s, we reach the Hebron Hall, built 1904, and the end of the Trail (19).

Town Trails No. 8



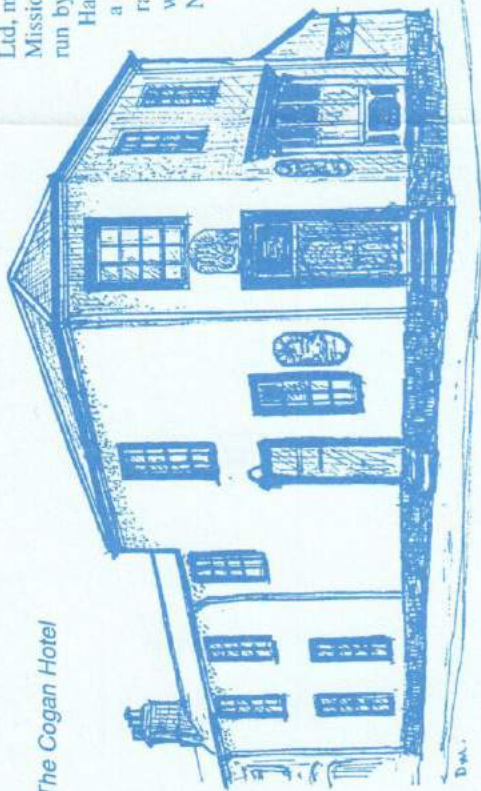
Former Head Teacher's House,
Cogan Board School

PENARTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Duration of Walk:
Approximately 1 hour**

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Illustrations © Diana Mead

The Cogan Hotel



The 'village' of Cogan was built c.1850-60s, in a glacial bowl, an area of tide-fields bisected by a pill. The first houses, for men excavating the dock, were a row of 7 standing in splendid isolation, known as both Back Row and Cogan Row, which now stand at the west end of Cawnpore Street (1). No. 1, demolished after the 2nd World War, was reputed to have been a pub, but no evidence can be found to confirm this. The houses opposite were built by the Council in the 1920s. The classic town houses nearer Pill Street, Nos. 1-23, were built in the early 20th century in what was then Cawnpore Road and later became Cawnpore Street c.1920 when joined with Back Row.

The Cogan Board School (2), opened in 1884, has remained largely unspoiled. It is a classic example of a small Victorian school retaining many of its original features all built of local materials e.g. the Headteacher's house (see front cover), playground shelter etc.

Pill Street was built by the Dock company and was known as Company Row. The short streets that run off Pill Street bear witness to the Windsor/Clive family. Harriet was the wife of Robert Henry Clive, grandson of Clive of India, Lord Plassey. Agnes and Charlotte were daughters of Robert Clive, son of Robert Henry. Hewell Street bears the name of one of the Windsor/Clive estates in Worcester.

The building at the junction of Harriet and Pill Streets (3) housed Cogan's first 'official' drinking club c.1870-80s, the Cogan Club Company

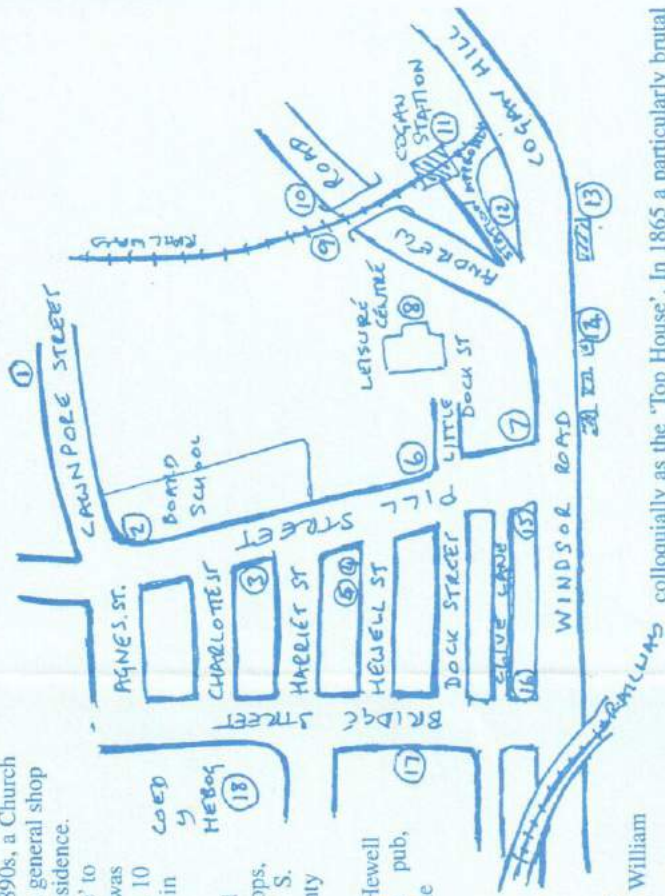
Ltd, manager F. Smith. Ironically, it became, in 1890s, a Church Mission run by Albert Biffert. It later became a general shop run by Francis Taylor and is now a private residence. Harriet Street in the 19th century was 'home' to a number of 'shebeens' - one at No. 25 was raided by the police as late as 1892! No. 10 was the Cogan Reading Rooms opened in November 1902.

Pill Street is Cogan's 'main' street and originally contained over 20 shops, including in the 1880-90s Tansher S. Bomash, pawnbroker, at 56. The County Police Station was at 36.

On the corner of Pill and Hewell Streets stands Cogan's first pub, c.1850s, the Cogan Hotel (4). The first landlord was Will Richards from Cadoxton.

Behind the pub stands No. 50 Hewell Street, originally No. 2. Larger than the other houses in the street, it has an arched entrance to one side, leading to a yard and stable. In the 1860s it was a grocer's shop and Cogan's first Post Office (5) run by William Hughes.

Moving along Pill Street we reach Little Dock Street; the block of flats (6) occupies the site of the former Cogan United Free Methodist Church opened in 1883 and closed in 1952. Dock Street is separated from Windsor Road by Clive Lane; the houses in Windsor Road were originally Clive Crescent. At the junction of Pill Street and Windsor Road stands the imposing Station Hotel, built c.1860s (7), originally named the New Inn. The first landlord was Will Griffiths. The pub was also called the Railway Hotel c.1892 and is known

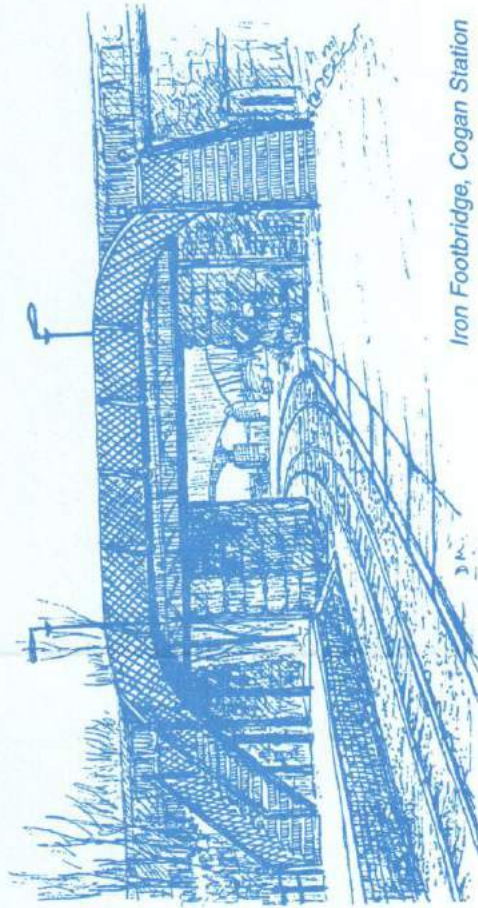


colloquially as the 'Top House'. In 1865 a particularly brutal murder was perpetrated in the Skittle Alley when Charles Bush bludgeoned Edward Taylor to death with one of the heavy skittles. Arrested by Sgt. Adams, later Insp. Adams, Bush initially appeared at Penarth Petty Sessions in front of the Rev. H. H. Rickard JP, Rector of Llandough and J. S. Corbett JP, Cogan Pill House.

The pub and the five elegant houses alongside, built c.1870s, were initially in Station Terrace, becoming part of Windsor Road in the 1890s. Original occupants included Tom Footell who ran Refreshment Rooms at No. 5, and Cogan's first chemist, Richard Proctor, at No. 1.

Moving westwards we enter Andrew Road, possibly named after Andrew Corbett, son of J. S. Corbett Kinsman and agent to the Marquis of Bute. To the left is Cogan Recreation Ground and Leisure Centre (8) built on what was in the 1860-80s the site of the Cogan Pill Tile and Brickworks, with its extensive ovens, buildings and numerous large deep 'brick-ponds'. One remains today known colloquially as the 'Duck Pond'. Andrew Road was cut into the Llandough escarpment in the late 1890s, and much of the spoil was used to fill the 'brick-ponds'.

Passing along Andrew Road we go under a railway bridge (9), constructed in 1888 by the Barry Railway Company with massive blocks of Radyr Redstone. The first building after the bridge was the Cogan Military Band Rooms, built c.1890s (10). The bandmaster J. Bryant lived in the house next door. In the early years of the 20th century the building housed the



Iron Footbridge, Cogan Station