

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

CONSERVATION AREA	Ilston
Date of Notification:-	1972
National Grid Reference:-	SS 5561590370
O.S. 1:10,000 Sheet No.:-	SS 59 SE
Conservation Area No.:-	CA:007

Notes:-

Ilston is a Gower hamlet which lies in the valley of Ilston Cwm midway between the B4271 and A4118 about 9 miles from Swansea.

It has a magnificent setting and is one of the most picturesque Gower settlements. Ilston Cwm flows through fairly steep sided and heavily wooded valley providing an axis for the village which is following by the road winding north east from Lunnon.

The village comprises of a church and 11 dwellings scattered informally in the valley floor and lower hillsides around a meadow containing many mature trees which lies to the west of the river. The Church of St. Illtyd is of 13th Century origin but was restored during the last Century. It has a massive battlement and ivy covered tower and the saddleback roof characteristic of many medieval Gower churches.

The dwellings around the valley floor form a loosely-knit group of a variety of designs, materials and colours and the informality of their siting contributes materially to the environmental quality of the area. The richness of the vegetation which softens their outlines forms a pleasing contrast between the flat central open space and the steep and wooded hillside which frame and enclose the settlement.

The limestone quarries in the hillside to the west of Ilston are now disused and have been designated as an Area of Special Scientific Interest.

Ilston was awarded the title of the Best Kept Village in Gower in 1970 by the Gower Villages Association.

The Conservation Area includes the whole settlement, the Area of Special Scientific Interest, the road approaches and the immediate hillsides which form an integral part of the visual character of Ilston.