

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

LISTED BUILDING	Quay Walls at Upper Bank Works, Bonymaen Swansea
Grade:-	II
Date of Notification:-	22.10.2003
National Grid Reference:-	SS 6653295265
O.S. 1:10000 Sheet No:-	SS 69 NE
CADW Reference No:-	81961
C & C of S Reference No:-	LB:492

Notes:-

Location:-

On the E bank of the Afon Tawe some 350m NE of the junction of the A4217 and Foxhole Road.

History:-

Quay walls, part of the stone quays and tidal basins, which by the early C19, almost continuously lined the 4.8 km dredged and navigable length of the lower Afon Tawe. This quay enabled sea going vessels to service the Upper Bank Works on the E side of the river. The works were founded mid C18 by London merchant Chauncey Townsend initially smelting lead and zinc. The main activity changed to copper smelting around 1775 and as a result of George Muntz patenting 'yellow metal' for the sheathing of ships, zinc smelting was reintroduced on a large scale in 1838-42. The works closed in 1928.

Exterior:-

Quay walls of squared rubble stone originally with rounded slag coping. Some 100m in length with curve in one third of the way along and at the S end, the curves serving to angle the quay out of the river current. Only a short length at the N end has original copings.

Listed:-

Listed as early industrial quay walls and for group value with Morfa bridge and quay.

Reference:-

J Newman, Buildings of Wales: Glamorgan, 1995, p 617

S Hughes and P Reynolds, A Guide to the Industrial Archaeology of the Swansea Region, 1988

S Hughes Copperopolis – Landscapes of Early Industrial Period in Swansea, RCAHMW, 2000, p 67