

GRAY, THOMAS (1847 - 1924), mining engineer and local historian

**Name:** Thomas Gray  
**Date of birth:** 1847  
**Date of death:** 1924  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** mining engineer and local historian  
**Area of activity:** Business and Industry; Engineering, Construction, Naval Architecture and Surveying; History and Culture; Literature and Writing; Scholarship and Languages  
**Author:** Thomas James Hopkins

Born 22 September 1847, at Usworth, co. Durham, son of William and Jane Gray. In 1848 the family came to Tai-bach, Margam, Glamorganshire, where he lived the remainder of his life. After serving as an assistant to his father, who was mineral agent to Messrs. Vivian and Sons, he became a consulting engineer to the same industrialists, an inspector of mines, and the inventor of the 'Gray' safety lamp for miners (patent specificat on no. 10,503; 12 June 1900). Among his other interests were local government, the Volunteer movement and, above all, local history and archaeology. His published work includes ' Notes on the granges of Margam Abbey ' (reprinted from the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, 1903); ' The hermitage of Theodoric and the site of Pendar ' (in*Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1903); and *The Buried City of Kenfig* (London, 1909). He died 9 July 1924, and was buried at the chapel-of-ease at Tai-bach.

Author

Thomas James Hopkins, (1919 - 1987)

Sources

- South Wales News, 10 July 1924
- Cardiff Manuscript 4882
- inscription on family vault at Tai-bach
- 1851 census returns at P.R.O.

Additional Links

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