

Searching for the Correct Josiah Lanyon

By Richard Fred Lanyon, October 2024

My paternal great grandparents were found through my genealogical research in the 1970s, they were never mentioned by my parents. I had no living grandparents as all had died prior to my birth. Most of the genealogical data came from family members and the balance through my direct research of genealogical data banks. Without the internet and world wide web, the research was hands-on visiting data repositories, or through postal inquiries and responses. By 1980, I was faced with conflicting information, there was more than one person named Josiah Lanyon having similar ages and from places in or near St. Allen Parish, Cornwall, England. The conflicting information was resolved as explained on pages 2 through 5. Note: I refer to the Adobe page numbers, not what appears on each page image.

My travel to Cornwall in 1981 affirmed the resolution that I had reached, enriched my experience by visiting the many places discovered in my research, and provided an opportunity for research on life in Cornwall at the time my great grandparents lived there. Helpful maps of Cornwall are found on pages 6 through 11. Photographs of my visit are found on pages 12 through 59.

Additional context on St. Allen Parish and its church is found in the 1935 photographs and their descriptions when a Lanyon family member visited Cornwall. See pages 60 through 65.

Richard Lanyon
May 1, 1980

Reference paper: On the marriage of Josiah Lanyon, my great grandfather.

The purpose of this paper is to present certain evidence which leads me to conclude that the above Josiah married one woman named Esther Brenton. This is at variance with information reported by others that Josiah Lanyon married Charlotte Mitchell first, then Esther Brenton second.

The St. Allen, Cornwall, Parish registers (LDS, Salt Lake City, microfilm number 226,183) contain the following entries:

- 1- 4 March 1815, baptised Josiah, son of William and Peggy Lanyon of Churchtown, St. Allen, farmer.
- 2- 26 May 1816, baptised Josiah, son of John & Peggy Lanyon of Zelah, St. Allen, butcher.
- 3- 18 June 1816, baptised Josephus & Josiah, twin sons of Simon & Dorothy Lanyon of Trevalsa, St. Allen, farmer.
- 4- 15 February 1837, married Josiah Lanyon of St. Allen, bachelor, & Charlotte Mitchell of St. Allen, spinster, in the St. Allen Church, by banns.
- 5- 5 August 1842, baptised Mary Jane, daughter of Josiah & Charlotte Lanyon of Zelah, miner.
- 6- 14 July 1846, buried Josiah Lanyon of Zelah, age 32. Note in the register explains this burial and seven others as resulting from a mine disaster.
- 7- 6 May 1900, buried Charlotte Lanyon of Zelah, St. Allen, age 86.

The St. Merryn, Cornwall, Parish registers (LDS, Salt Lake City, microfilm number 226,209) contain the following entry:

- 8- 4 October 1838, married Josiah Lanyon of St. Merryn, bachelor, carpenter, son of John Lanyon, farmer, and Esther Brenton of St. Merryn, spinster, daughter of John Brenton, mason.

The Josiah Lanyon referred to in items 3 and 9, is the same person to whom I refer as Josiah Lanyon (1816, Simon). It is not known if this Josiah was married. However, from the age at death and the lack of a marriage entry on the Parish register, marriage appears unlikely.

Therefore, Josiah Lanyon (1816, John), my great grandfather, born to John & Peggy Lanyon: did not marry Charlotte ~~Mitchell~~; did marry Esther Brenton; migrated to the USA; lived in Mineral Point Wisconsin, and Chicago, Illinois; and died in Chicago, Illinois.

This conclusion is not in agreement with information contained in the following references:

- A. Chart of the Lanyon family descendants starting with John Lanion, baptised 8 April, 1711, Paul Parish, prepared by Emily B. Lueck of Sonoma, California. This chart came into my possession in May, 1979, from Mrs. Lueck.
- B. A tabulation of the Lanyon descendants, titled "Lanyon Family History" starting with the listing of Henry Lanion, baptised 4 May 1752, St. Allen. This tabulation came into my possession from Esther Lanyon of Chicago, Illinois in August, 1979. This listing was typed by Virginia A. Williams of Marengo, Illinois, using information from several sources.
- C. "The Family Records of the Lanyon Family from 1244 A.D.", collected by Samuel Lanyon, Born 1834, Died 1908. A copy of this manuscript came into my possession in December 1979 from William S. L. Lamparter of Hickory, North Carolina.

References A and B indicate that Charlotte Mitchell was the first wife and Esther Brenton the second wife of Josiah Lanyon (1816, John). However, these references do not account for the conflicting information in items 5 and 14. Reference C indicates that Charlotte Mitchell was the only wife of Josiah Lanyon (1816, John). However, this reference does not contain information regarding the other two Josiahs. Furthermore, the page relating to the family of John & Peggy Lanyon (page 21) has several unexplained notations in brackets and much missing and/or fragmentary information.

Complete documentation for the above information and other supporting evidence is in the possession of the author. Questions and comments are invited.

Having presented these findings and my conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to those who encouraged my efforts and provided guidance. I am also grateful to the LDS organization for making such records available, and for the help provided by the staff of the LDS Wilmette branch library.



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My Lanyon Ancestors in Cornwall, UK

Prepared by Richard Fred Lanyon in August 2013, updated in 2024.

My ancestors that migrated to the United States were originally from Saint Allen Parish, Cornwall, UK

Three maps prepared by me, Dick Lanyon, define what is about to be told: a general map of Cornwall west of Bodmin Moor; a map of St. Allen Parish, a rural area lying north of Truro, the county or duchy seat of government; and a detailed map of the northern part of the parish showing the village of Zelah and certain farm fields and houses. The first map was prepared in 1980. The other two were prepared following my September 1981 trip to Cornwall and are based on research in Truro, the Cornwall County seat.

Refer to the first map, titled CORNWALL, to find St. Allen and Zelah just to the right of center. On this map, St. Allen is not the parish, but a dot to indicate the location of the St. Allen Parish Church. Refer to the second map, titled ST. ALLEN PARISH AND VICINITY, to find the St. Allen Parish Church identified as a cross about in the center. Truro is at the bottom. The principal regional highway, A-30, crosses the area in a northeast-southwest direction, passing through Zelah, a village of a few buildings. The church is reached by local roads etched over time into the landscape and bordered by rock walls. It is often not possible to view the landscape because of the walls and intersections are treacherous for limited vision.

St. Allen Parish has an irregular shape and is generally two miles in the east-west direction and three miles in the north-south direction. The dotted line outlines the border of the parish. In modern times, the parish has little significance in terms of governance. In times past, the parish was the local division of the Church of England and, more or less, the center of community life, housing vital records of births, baptisms, marriages and death. The parish on the map is populated with tiny squares identifying farm sites and houses. Each has a name used in popular conversation and in a postal address. Just north of Zelah is one in particular, Henvver. These and others are significant as the homes and livelihoods of my ancestors and other St. Allen Lanyons.

The third map, titled HENVER FARM AND VICINITY, shows these two houses and Zelah in detail. Sir Christopher Hawkins was at one time the dominant landowner in the region and the Hawkins Arms, a public house, is named in his honor. In the early part of the 19th Century this inn was owned and operated by Richard Lanyon, not a direct antecedent of mine, but part of the St. Allen Lanyons. The house and farm known as Henvver was once leased from Sir Christopher by John and Peggy Lanyon, my great-great grandparents. In John and Peggy's time, it was called Henvver Wartha, meaning upper house, as there was another, Henvver Wallis, a house at a lower elevation. Each farm field is numbered as part of the land records maintained by the county record office.

Henvver is located in field 266. All of the numbered fields were part of the Lanyon leasehold from Sir Christopher. Each field is bordered by a granite block wall about six feet high and covered with a profuse growth of brambles. These field numbers were found on an 1840 tax map and the accompanying tax roll lists the name of owner, lessee and land usage. The fields of Henvver are soft and gently rolling, stretching out to the horizon. Field number 253 was reached by a lane off

a local road in a slight hollow and contained some out buildings, probably used for machinery and animals. A spring was also found in this slight hollow, providing water for the farm animals.

Henver Wallis and Henver Cottage not shown on the map were close the Henver Wartha. Henver Cottage, Henver Wallis, Polstain and Trevalsa were also leased by other Lanyons.

The St. Allen Church was the spiritual home for many of my ancestors, including those who chose to immigrate to Mineral Point, Wisconsin, USA. No Lanyons were known to live in St. Allen Parish when I visited in 1980, but at one time the Lanyons were a significant part of the population. The church had a small membership and attendance in 1980 and was served by a visiting preacher. Maintenance was sparse and I was informed that some funding for maintenance was left to the church by prior Lanyon members. The church is unique in having two towers, as most parish churches have only one tower. The main tower at St. Allen is square, with an attached octagonal tower. The original main entrance was in the rectangular has been changed to a side wall.

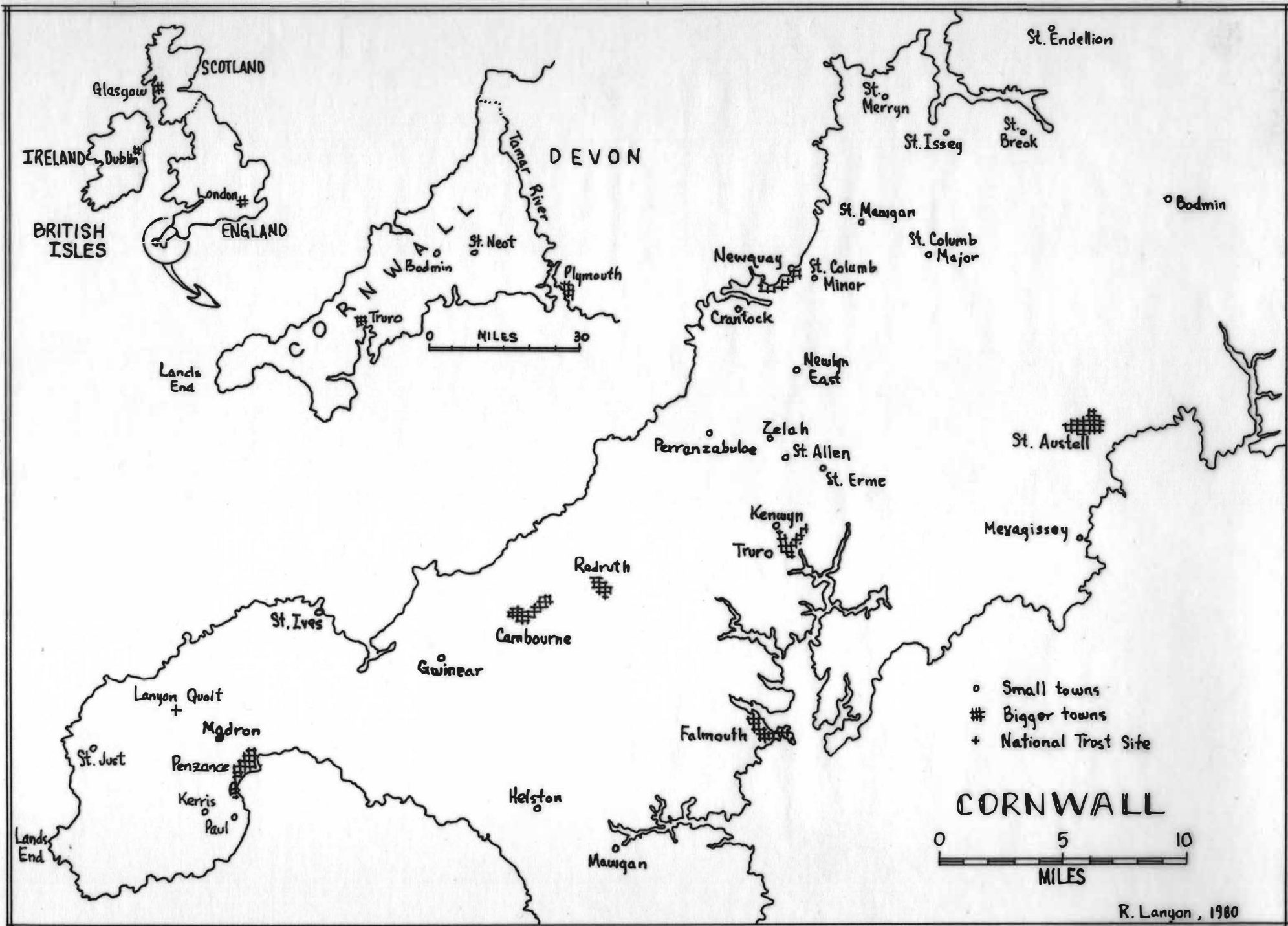
The graveyard outside the church is populated with Lanyon headstones, including John and Peggy Lanyon, who died in 1859 and 1875, respectively; and Henry and Mary Lanyon, my great-great-great grandparents, who died in 1838 and 1837, respectively. Henry's father John settled in St. Allen Parish in 1735. The walls and windows of the church have a few memorials and plaques donated by past Lanyons. Peggy Lanyon was Peggy Vincent prior to marriage. Her brother Oliver dedicated a stained glass window in her honor. Another window was dedicated in 1899 to John and Peggy by Simon Henry Lanyon, a grandson, whose father, my great grandfather's brother, migrated to Mineral Point in 1840. Simon Henry made his wealth in the lead smelting business in the USA.

Another window in the church was donated by Henrietta Lanyon as a memorial for her parents, Henry and Isabella Lanyon. These are not my antecedents, but Henry was noted for his accomplishments in the Royal Navy. As a Commodore he directed the blockade and shelling of Washington, D.C. in the War of 1812 and was called out of retirement to command the royal flotilla on a state visit to the Russian royal family. Henrietta also donated a brass lectern in the Truro Cathedral in memory of her parents.

Referring again to the CORNWALL map, far north of St. Allen is St. Merryn Parish where the church sits on high ground overlooking the Bristol Channel on a clear day. The church is of significance as it is where my great grandparents, Esther Brenton and Josiah Lanyon, were married in 1838. Esther's name appears on a brass plaque, listing the names of an 1825 Sunday school class.

To the southwest along the Penwith Peninsula is found Gwinear Parish, the location of Lanyon of Gwinear, once the home of a prominent Lanyon family. Even farther is Madron Parish, another area where Lanyons once flourished. The church commands a beautiful view of Penzance and the English Channel beyond. Northwest of Madron is found Lanyon Farm, Lanyon Quoit and West Lanyon Quoit. Other older Lanyon sites are gone, no longer shown on recent maps.

Traveling in Cornwall in September 2013 it was found that Route A-30 bypassed Zelah by a few hundred feet. We missed the town and had to backtrack to find it.



BRITISH ISLES

ENGLAND

SCOTLAND

DEVON

St. Endellion

0 30
MILES

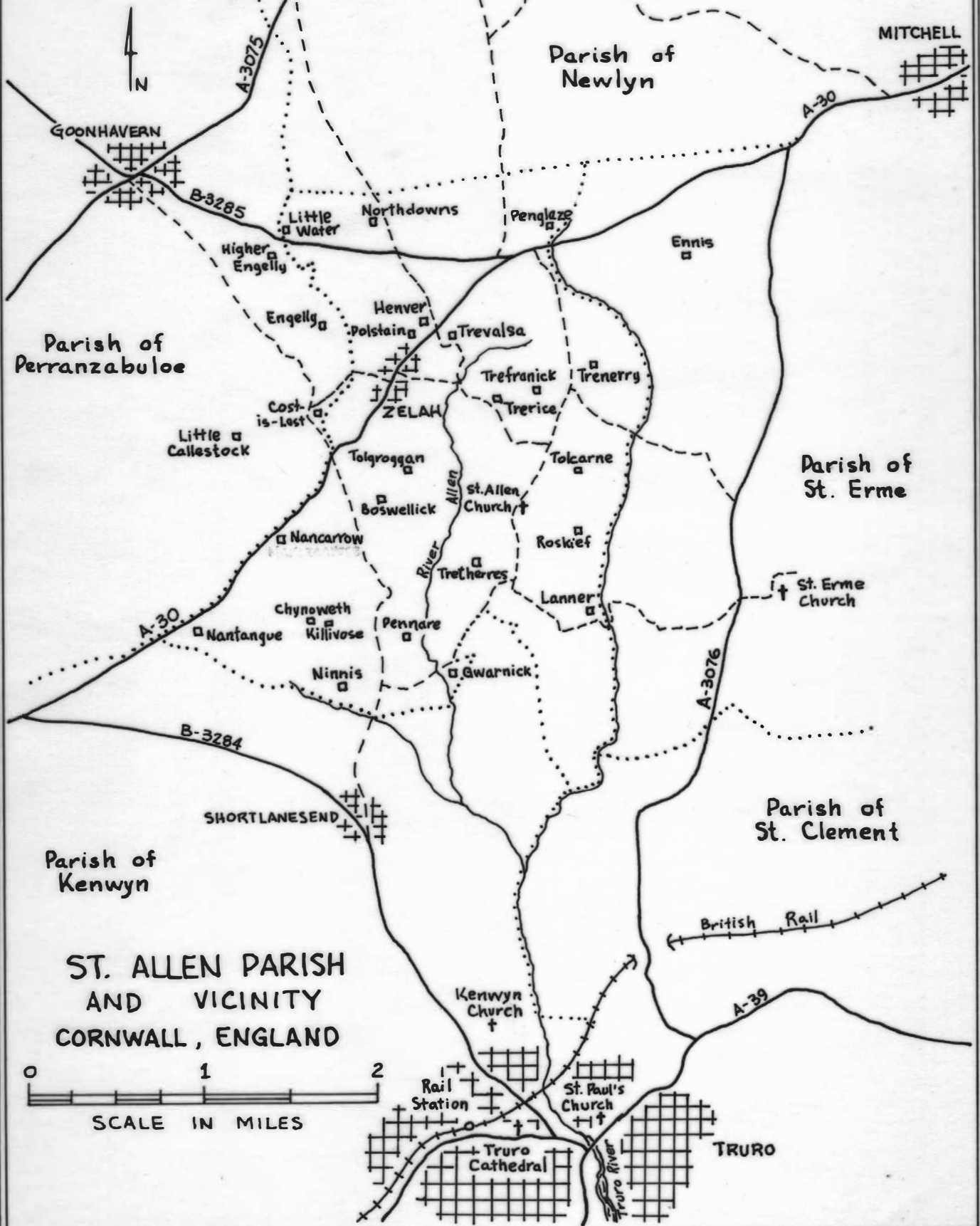
CORNWALL

0 5 10
MILES

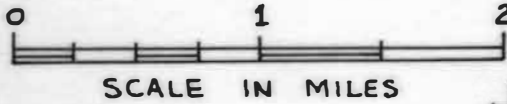
- o Small towns
- # Bigger towns
- + National Trust Site

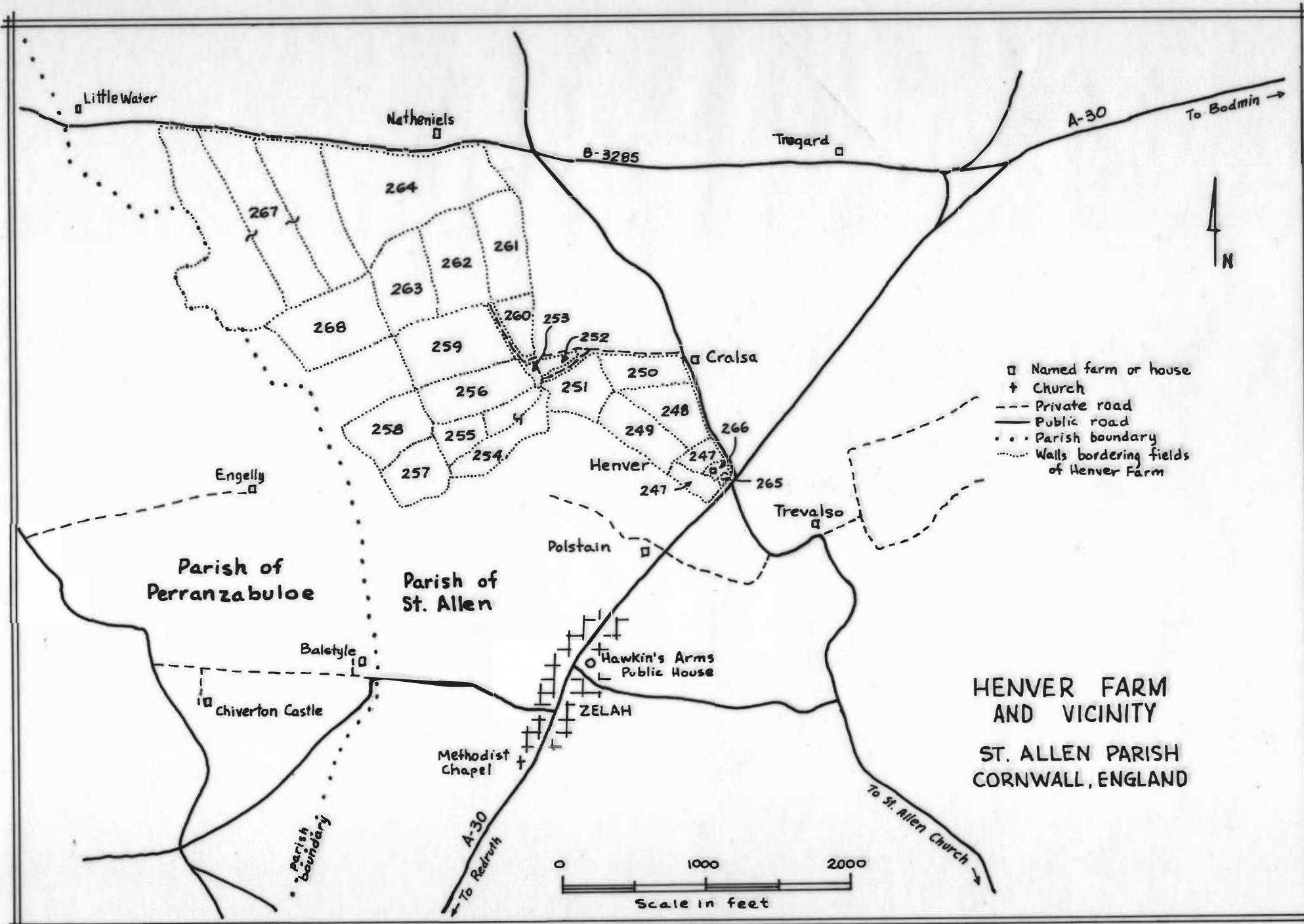
R. Lanyon, 1980

- Farmsite
- † Church
- Main roads
- - - Local roads
- ⋯ Parish boundary
- ~ Streams
- ⊞ Towns



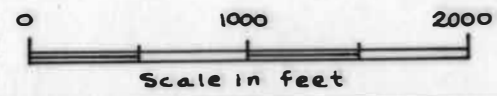
**ST. ALLEN PARISH
AND VICINITY
CORNWALL, ENGLAND**





- Named farm or house
- † Church
- Private road
- Public road
- ... Parish boundary
- Walls bordering fields of Herver Farm

**HENVER FARM
AND VICINITY**
**ST. ALLEN PARISH
CORNWALL, ENGLAND**



Richard Lanyon's Cornwall Visit September 1981

1. Photo descriptions.
2. Photo descriptions
3. Begins my visit to Cornwall. The landscape of Cornwall reminded me of the area around Mineral Point, WI, and I could understand why my ancestors settled there.
4. I did my family history research at the county museum and record office. I lodged at the Pencowl Guest House.
5. Streetscapes around Truro.
6. Lectern in Truro Cathedral and visited the south coast.
7. More along the south coast where the wind blew my camera strap in front of the lens. St.
8. Michael's Mount is on the English Channel opposite St. Michael's Mount on the Brittany coast.
9. Churches with some mention in Lanyon history, not necessarily among my ancestors.
10. All churches have a distinctive square tower. Esther Brenton, my great grandmother, was from St. Merryn Parish Church.
11. St. Merryn Church sits on a height of land about a mile from the coast.
12. Church interiors are as beautiful as the exteriors, one of the better kept churches. Esther's name appears on the Sunday school plaque.
13. St. Allen Parish Lanyons came from Kerris in Paul Parish. An old mine near Paul Parish.
14. The mine was located in a valley and a flood inundated the mine, killing several including a Josiah Lanyon, a cousin of my great grandfather Josiah Lanyon. Jean and Margaret were both descended from Lanyons, but we could not establish a definite relationship.
15. More of Jean and Margaret.
16. We could be distant cousins.
17. St. Allen is the parish where my great grandfather was born and was raised.
18. The church and grounds are not well kept, evidence of a small and non-affluent membership.
19. Lanyon gravestones. John and Peggy were my great-great grandparents.
20. More Lanyon gravestones.
21. Modest interiors.
22. More modest interiors.
23. Beautiful windows dedicated to Lanyons and Vincents.
24. My camera wasn't up to the task to show the beautiful windows.
25. Route A-30 formerly was the main street of Zelah, the town in St. Allen Parish. Present day Route A-30 bypasses the town of Zelah.
26. Polstain is a house along former Route A-30 east of Zelah.
27. Farm buildings, a typical country lane and rolling fields. My rented bicycle parked along the lane.
28. Beautiful landscapes of St. Allen Parish.
29. Lanyons lived in Henvier House in the 1800s.
30. Little had changed in Henvier House between 1935 and 1981.
31. Lower Henvier House was a separate homestead.

32. Gwinear was once owned and occupied by Lanyons. In 1981, it was owned by Tony Lanyon who lived and farmed near Stanstead, northeast of London.
33. Gwinear, all three photos were taken by my parents, Dick and Nell, in 1963. In the top photo, Howard is standing at right.
34. The top photo was taken by Nell in 1963 and Howard is standing at the rear of their Volkswagen camper van. I took the other two photos of the nearby church.
35. Gwinear Church showing how the edifice was expanded to accommodate a growing congregation.
36. Lanyon Quoit, the middle photo is from 1963 with my dad in view.
37. The top two photos are from 1963. I framed the abandoned Ding Dong Mine, about a mile distant, with the quoit.
38. Lanyon Quoit is distinctive up on the moor.
39. What was Lanyon Farm in 1981 is Lanyon Tea Garden in 2024, about half a mile northwest of the quoit.
40. My father is standing by the end of the wall in the middle photo. Little appears to have changed between 1963 and 1981.
41. Farm house, moor and abandoned Ding Dong Mine.
42. These two antiquities are near the quoit. Madron Church, known as the Mother Church of Cornwall, is southeast of the quoit, near the coastal town of Penzance.
43. Different views of Madron Church and the last photo in 1981 Cornwall.
44. 45, 46, 47 and 48. Streetscapes and views of London before I return home.

SEPTEMBER 20 TO 30,
1981, MY TRIP TO
CORNWALL, ENGLAND

NORTH OF TRURO
OVERLOOKING THE
KENWYN RIVER VALLEY
HIGH RISE BUILDINGS OF
TRURO HIGHTOWN IN
DISTANCE



A13



HIGHTOWN TRURO
A NEWER AREA

DOWNTOWN TRURO
BOSCAWEN STREET



B
12



COUNTY MUSEUM
TRURO

B19

COUNTY RECORD
OFFICE
TRURO



B17



PENCOWL GUEST
HOUSE, TRURO

B18

SPIRES OF THE
TRURO CATHEDRAL
FROM KENWYN ROAD



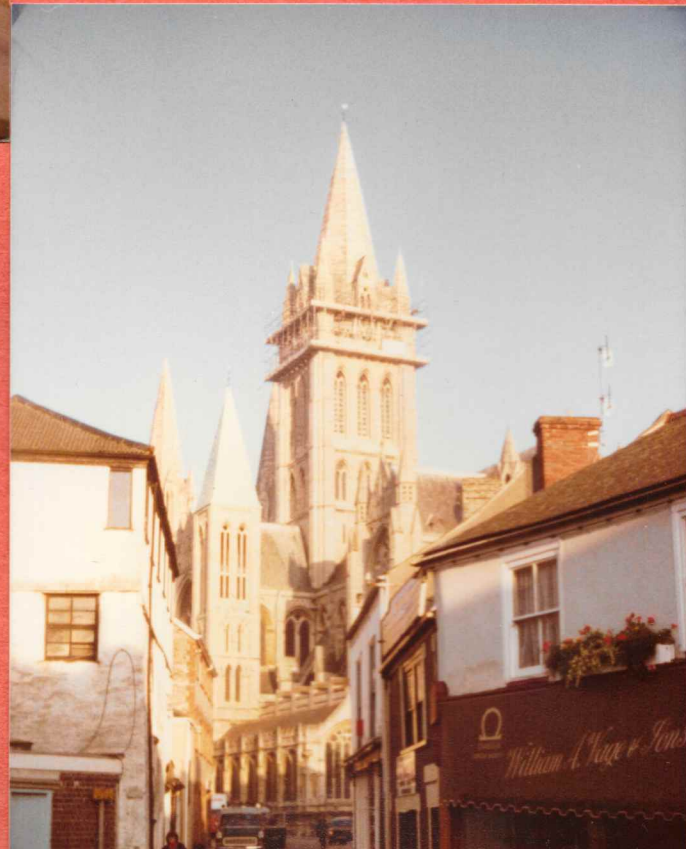
B10

TRURO AND THE CATHEDRAL
FROM THE ROAD TO
FALMOUTH



B11

MAIN SPIRE OF CATHEDRAL
AND OLD ST MARY'S CHURCH
AND SPIRE FROM
RIVER STREET



B13



B
14



B
15

THE BRASS LECTERN IN CATHEDRAL DONATED BY
HENRIETTA LANYON IN MEMORY OF HENRY LANYON,
HER FATHER



THE TOWN OF
PRAASANDS ON THE
SOUTH COAST.
WELLOE ROCK INN
NEAR LEFT EDGE

D3

2

THE COASTLINE
NEAR PRAASANDS



D3



D4

MOUNTS BAY
TO LEFT



D6



ST MICHAELS
MOUNT
AT LOW TIDE

C23

THE CAUSEWAY
AND TOWN OF
MARAZION



D1



QUAY ON
ST MICHAELS MOUNT

C24

ST MICHAELS MOUNT
CASTLE ON TOP OF
HILL. ENTRANCE TO
CEMETERY ON LEFT.
ENTRANCE TO CASTLE
IN CENTER.



D
2



ST BURIAN CHURCH

E6

ST ERME
CHURCH



C6

5



PAUL CHURCH

E7



SANCREED
CHURCH

E5



ST MERRY N
CHURCH

E12

6

ST MERRYIN
CHURCH

FROM SW



E13



FROM SE

E11

FROM EAST



E10



ST MERRYN CHURCH
INTERIORS

From SW

E14

From NW



E15



FROM NE

ST CHARLES PLAQUE
IN RIGHT BACKGROUND

E16

ST MERRY N CHURCH
INTERIOR FROM
SE. SUNDAY
SCHOOL PLAQUE
ON EXTREME RIGHT



E17



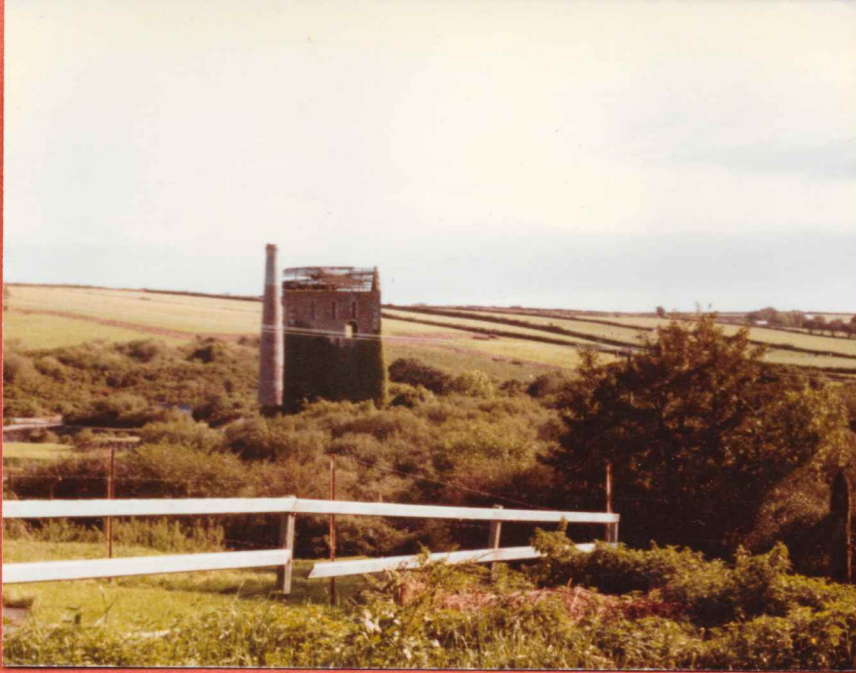
KERRIS FARM
IN PAUL PARISH
MAIN HOUSE

E8

KERRIS FARM
TENNENT BUILDING
AND STOCK PENS



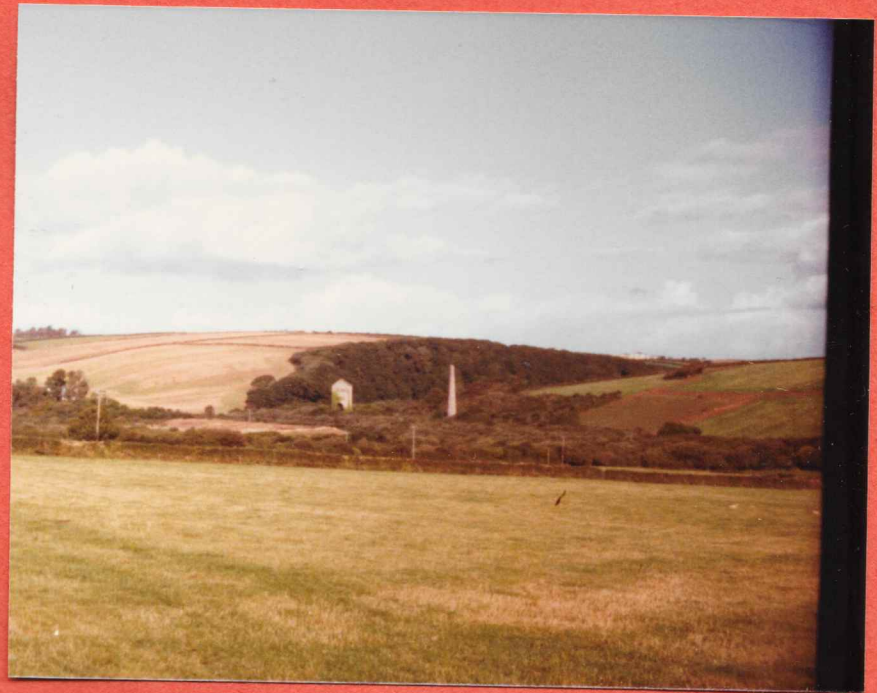
E9



EAST WHEAL ROSE
MINE NEAR
NEWLYN EAST

CB

MINE FROM
DISTANCE



C7



JEAN KROL AND
MARGARET PHILLIPS

C5

10



Photographs taken by
each of us using
Jean Krol's camera.
We are on the front
lawn of Margaret
Phillips house in St
Columb Major.



Jean is in the
red outfit

Margaret is in the
white print dress

Richard is the fella.





Photograph taken by Margaret Phillips and sent to me by her as part of her Christmas card for 1981



FROM WEST



B9

FROM SW

B8

ST ALLEN PARISH CHURCH



TOWER FROM S B7



FROM NE

B5



FROM N

B3



FROM SE

B6

ALTER AND HENRY LANYON
ON LEFT

LANYON GRAVE STONES



FROM NW

B4

NEW CEMETERY
ACROSS ROAD
TO WEST OF
CHURCH

B20



LANYON
GRAVE
MARKERS



B2



JOHN LANYON ON LEFT
PEGGY LANYON ON RIGHT



MY GREAT GREAT
GRAND PARENTS

E19



E18



B1



E22



MORE OF JOHN AND PEGGY

ELIEL AND SOPHIA WERE TWO OF THEIR FOURTEEN CHILDREN

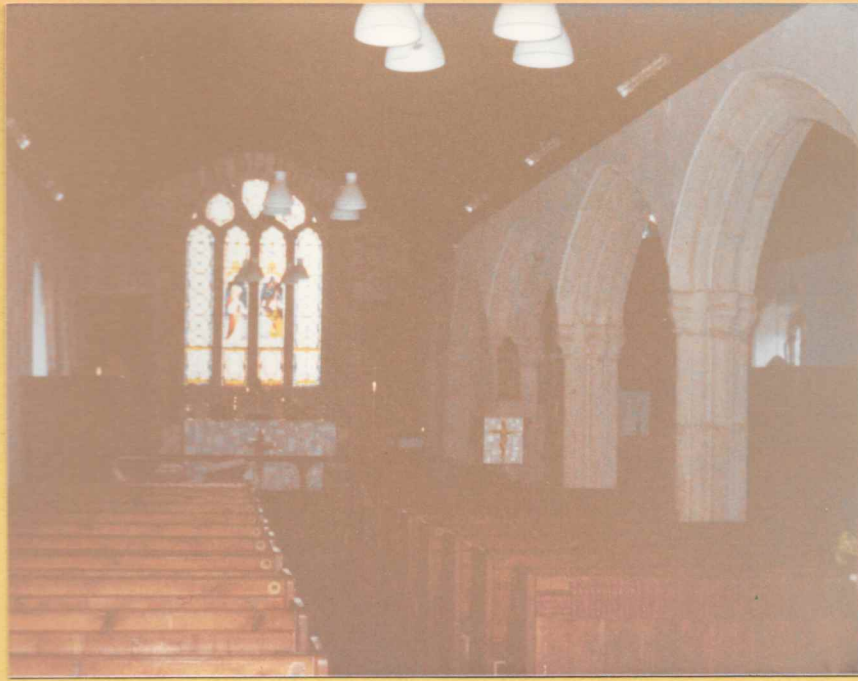


E21

HENRY AND MARY LANYON
 MY GREAT GREAT GREAT
 GRAND PARENTS



E 20



C1

ALTER AND HENRY LANYON WINDOW
(NE CORNER) FROM WEST END
OTHER LANYON WINDOWS ON LEFT (NORTH) WALL

INTERIOR OF ST ALLEN CHURCH



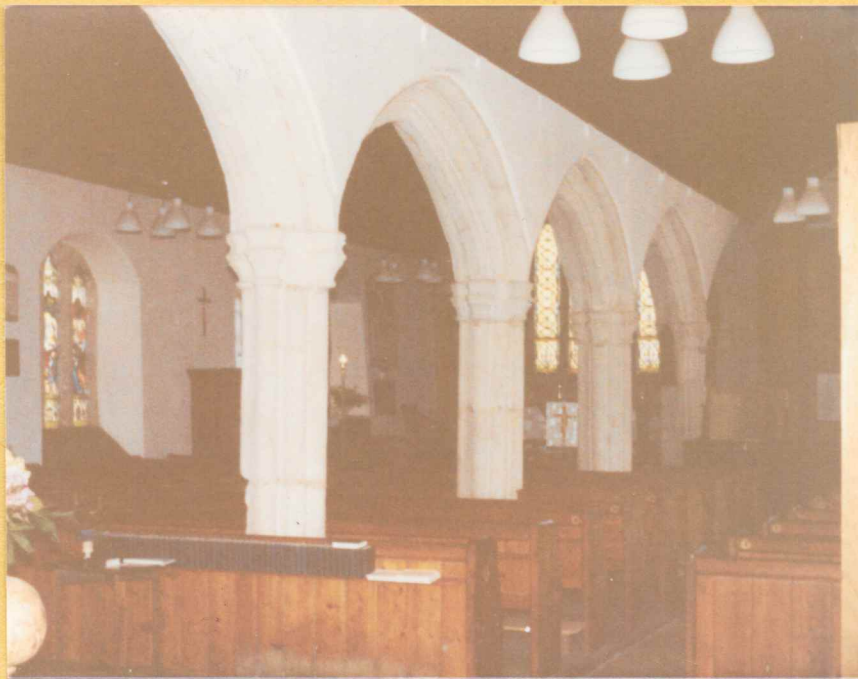
C2

FROM ALTER TO NW CORNER.
BASE OF TOWER THRU LARGE
ARCH IN END WALL.



E24

FROM SE CORNER TOWARD WEST
VINCENT WINDOW ON SOUTH WALL (LEFT)
JUST BEYOND PARTITION IN FOREGROUND.



E23

FROM SW CORNER TOWARD NE
HENRY LANYON WINDOW AND ALTER
TO RIGHT OF CENTER. JOHN AND PEGGY
WINDOW ON LEFT.



B24

VINCENT WINDOW, WINDOW OF PEGGY (VINCENT) LANYON



A21

WINDOW DEDICATE TO BROTHER

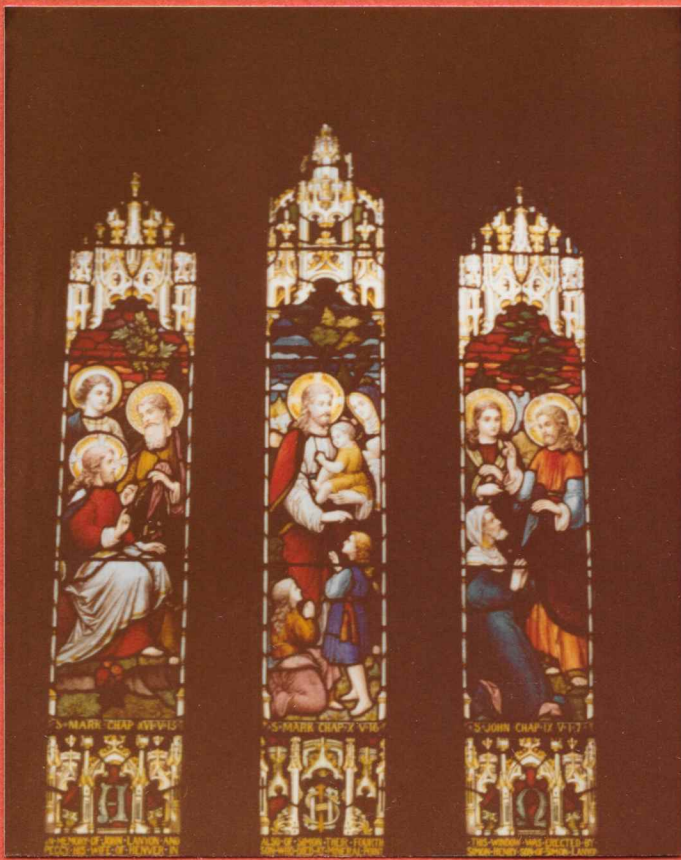


A22

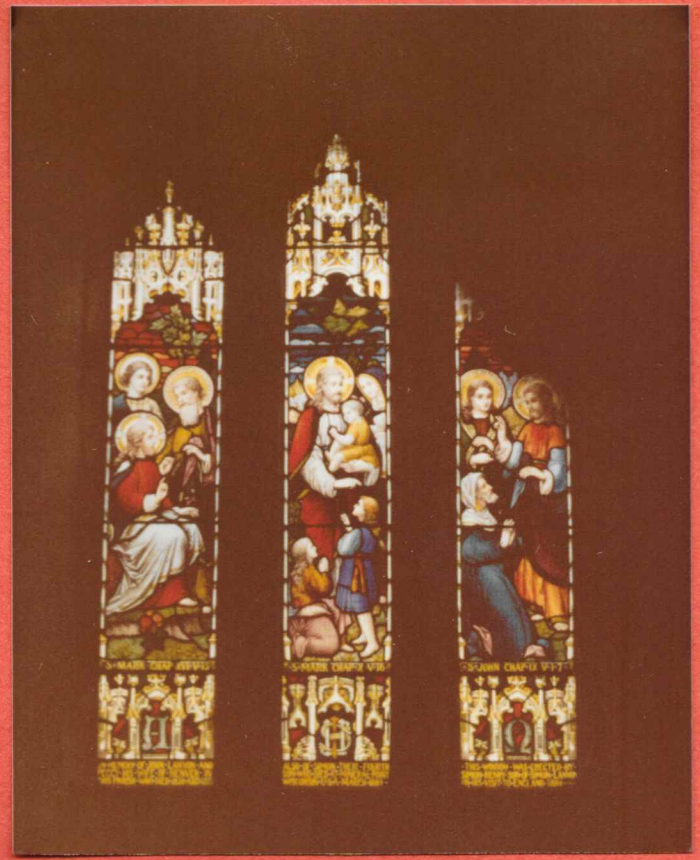
WINDOW DEDICATED TO HENRY AND ISABELLA LANYON BY DAUGHTER HENRIETTA. HENRY WAS A COMMODORE IN THE ROYAL NAVY. NOTE ANCHORS AND ARMS.



B21

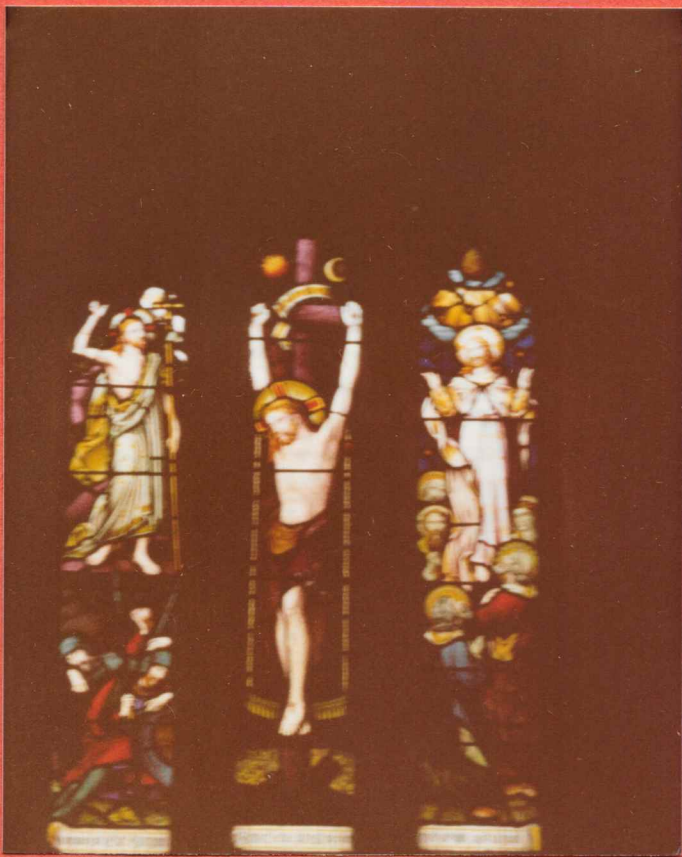


A
23

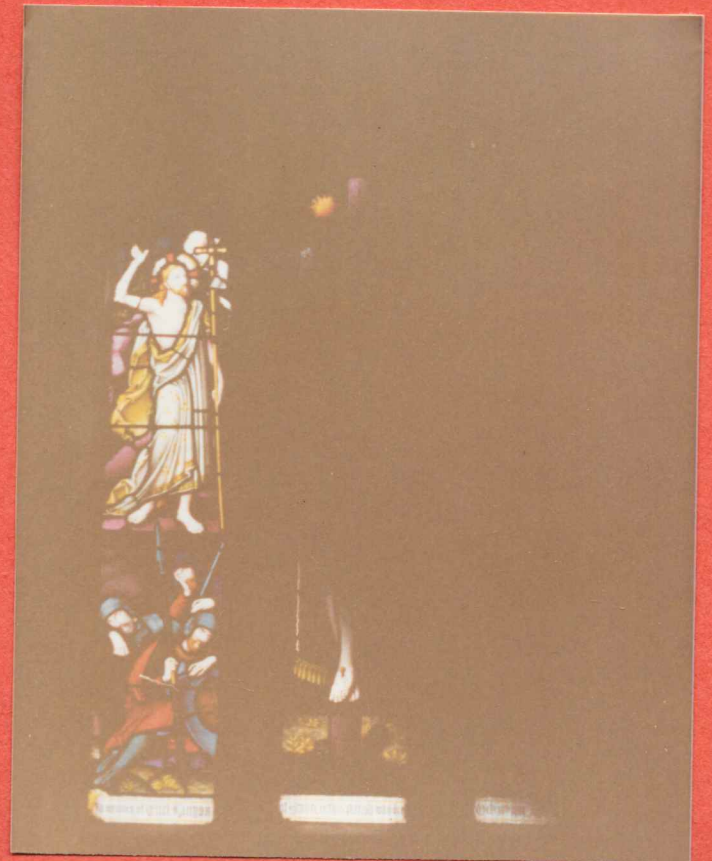


B
22

WINDOW DEDICATED TO JOHN AND PEGGY LANYON AND SIMON,
THEIR FOURTH SON. SIMON MIGRATED TO USA. WINDOW WAS
GIVEN BY SIMON'S SON, SIMON HENRY.



B23



A24

10

TOWN OF ZELAH
IN ST. ALLEN
PARISH ALONG
ROUTE A-30, A
MAIN ROAD.



A
14



HAWKINS ARM WAS
ONCE OWNED BY
RICHARD LANYON

A
15

POLSTAIN, A
FARMSTED ALONG
A-30 EAST OF
ZELAH



A17



~~PORAT~~
POLSTAIN YARD AND
OUTBUILDINGS

A16

FROM A-30, ACROSS
THE FIELDS OF
ST ALLEN PARISH
LOOKING SOUTH.
REAR OF TREVALSA
IN CENTER



C
18



FRONT OF TREVALSA.

A
18

2

TREVALSA
OUTBUILDINGS



A
19



LANE SOUTH
OF TREVALSA

A
20

FIELDS OF HENVER,
HOUSE TOO.



C3



C4

FIELDS OF HENVER



C9



HENVER OUTBUILDINGS
SPRING IN LOW AREA

C16

HENVER HOUSE



C
17



JOHN AND PEGGY
LIVED HERE AS
DID THE TWO
GENERATIONS BEFORE
THEM.

C
15

OUTBUILDINGS
IN DISTANCE



C
14



HENVER HOUSE ON
LEFT. HENVER LOWER
HOUSE ON RIGHT

C
12



HENVER COTTAGE
ON RIGHT

C
11



HENVER LOWER

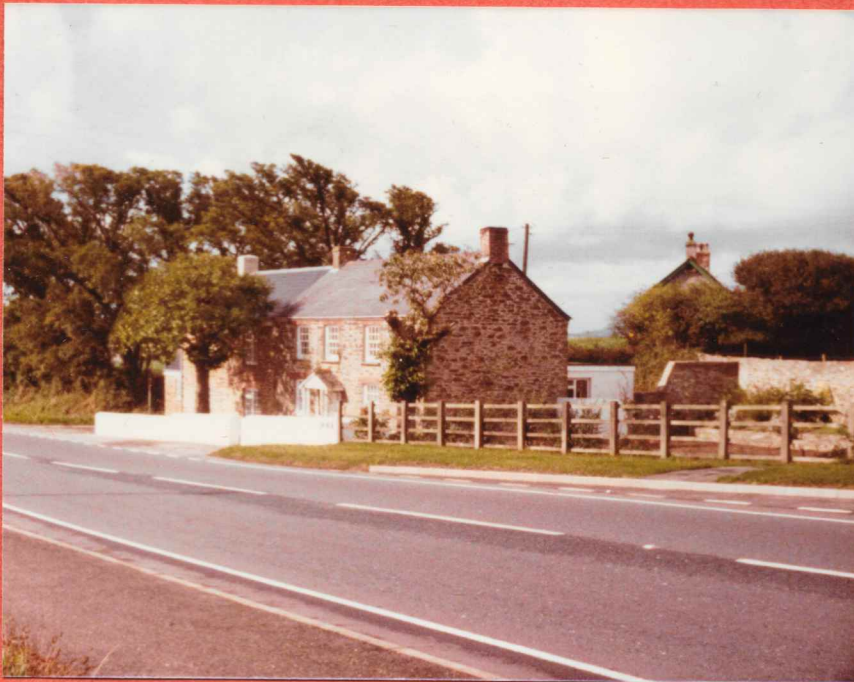
C13

6

LOWER HENVER TO
LEFT, HENVER
COTTAGE TO RIGHT



C
10



HENVER COTTAGE

C
19



C
20

7



LANYON OF GWINEAR
APPROACHING FROM
THE SOUTH

C
22

FROM THE
FIELD TO
THE WEST



D
12



FROM THE EAST
SHOWING THE FRONT
ENTRANCE, DETACHED
WEST WING AND
STONE WALL ENCLOSING
FRONT YARD.

C
21

8



LANYON OF GWINEAR

FROM NORTH OF
FRONT ENTRANCE

28



DETACHED WEST
WING

29



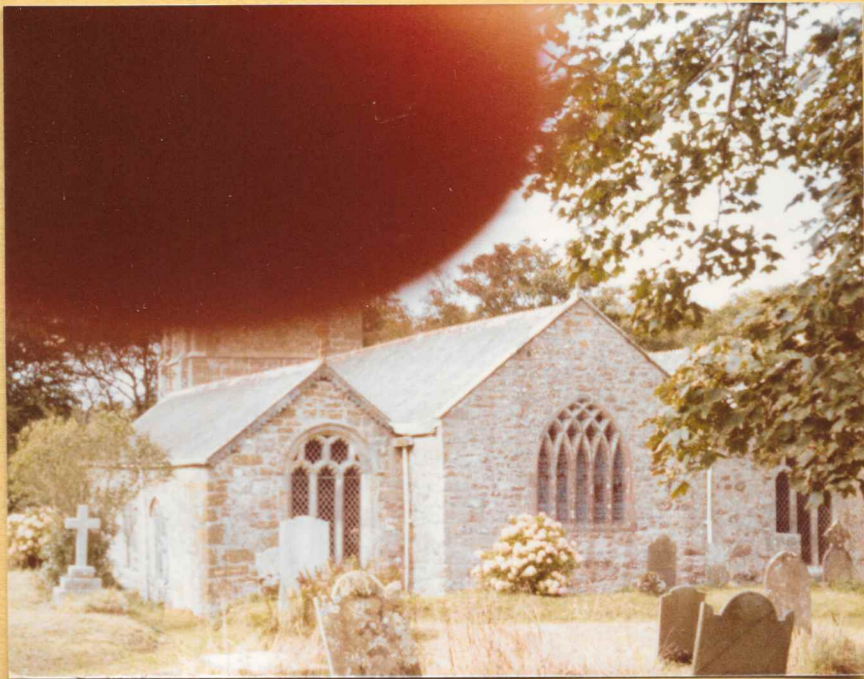
CLOSEUP OF
ARMS CARVED
IN STONE OVER
FRONT ENTRANCE

25



LANYON OF GWINEAR
BACK OF THE HOUSE
FROM THE EAST

30



GWINEAR PARISH
CHURCH

FROM EAST

D
10



SIDE GRAVEYARD
AND ENTRANCE
GATE SHELTER

D
11

10

GWINEAR CHURCH

FROM EAST



D9



D8

FROM NORTH OF TOWER

FROM NORTH OF
ENTRANCE TO
CHURCH



D7



LANYON QUOIT
IN
MADRON PARISH

THE PLAQUE OBSERVING
DONATION TO THE
NATIONAL TRUST

7



THE PLAQUE, QUOIT
IN CENTER REAR
AND HOWARD
LANYON (1963).

8



DESCRIPTIVE PLAQUE
AND QUOIT

D16

2

NELL AND HOWARD
LANYON AT THE
QUOIT IN 1963



LOOKING NE
THE DING DONG
MINE APPEARS
THROUGH THE LEGS



3

D
17



Looking SE

D
18



Looking SW

D
19



Looking NW

D
20

4

LANYON FARM
FROM SE, THE
QUOIT IS BEHIND
THE CAMERA



D
21



FARM FROM NW

E
2

FROM W



E
4

5



FARM OUTBUILDING
ACROSS ROAD FROM
FARM HOUSE

E
3



FARM HOUSE FROM
YARD IN FRONT
OF OUTBUILDING,
NOTE WALL OF
YARD TO RIGHT

14



FARM HOUSE FROM
ROAD. NOTE
WALL AGAIN

15

6

YARD IN FRONT
OF HOUSE NOTICE
WALL TO RIGHT



16



FROM DING DONG MINE
LOOKING SW. QUOIT
TO LEFT OF CENTER

D
22

DING DONG MINE



D
23

7



NINE MAIDENS

D
24

MEN-AN-TOL



E
1



MADRON CHURCH
IN 1963 WITH
HOWARD LANYON
AND VW CAMPER

11

8



D
14



D
15

THE MADRON CHURCH IS REFERRED TO AS THE
MOTHER CHURCH OF CORNWALL

FROM ITS LOCATION YOU CAN LOOK OUT
OVER PENZANCE AND MOUNTS BAY



D
13

9
SO ENDS MY CORNWALL TRIP

1 OCTOBER 1981
LONDON, ENGLAND

THE TOWER OF LONDON
ON LEFT AND APPROACH
TO ~~THE~~ TOWER BRIDGE
ON EXTREME RIGHT
EAST END OF TOWER

1



TOWER BRIDGE
AND THE THAMES



2



TOWER OF LONDON
WEST END

3

10

ST PAUL'S
CATHEDRAL

FROM THE EAST
ON CANNON STREET



4

THE CLOCK TOWER ON
ST. PAUL'S FROM THE
WEST ON LUDGATE
HILL AND PATERNOSTER
SQUARE



5

THE LAW COURTS
WHERE FLEET STREET
BECOMES THE STRAND
AS ONE WALKS WEST



6



TRAFALGAR SQUARE
PIGEONS & PEOPLE

7

LORD NELSON LOOKING
DOWN WHITEHALL WITH
TRAFALGAR SQUARE AT
~~THE~~ HIS BACK. THIS
VIEW FROM THE WEST



8



PICCADILLY CIRCUS

9

PICADILLY CIRCUS
FROM THE WEST
ALONG PICADILLY



10

BIG BEN AND HOUSES
OF PARLIMENT FROM
WEST ALONG GREAT
GEORGE STREET



11

ACROSS PARLIMENT
SQUARE LOOKING
SOUTHWESTERLY TOWARD
WESTMINSTER ABBEY



12



13

LOOKING SOUTHWESTERLY ACROSS THE THAMES
FROM THE PROMENADE IN FRONT OF THE
COUNTY HALL OF THE GREATER LONDON COUNCIL
AND JUBILEE GARDENS TOWARD BIG BEN,
HOUSES OF PARLIMENT, WESTMINSTER ABBEY
AND WESTMINSTER BRIDGE

SO END MY TRIP TO ENGLAND -

Cornwall 1935

Prepared by Richard Fred Lanyon.

This history and photos were found in the family archives. The source of the photos is unknown, but most have hand-written details on the reverse, which I have copied below. Except as noted, all are dated August 10, 1935. Presumably, a family member visited Cornwall in 1935, perhaps it was Howard Posey shown in the last photo.

Page 3, this history appeared in a local publication in 1889 or later. I am a descendent of the Henvver Lanyons.

Page 4, two photos of the Henvver House. The inscription on the reverse of the top photo reads: "This is Henvver House, nearest small town is Zelah, near the county seat of Truro, Cornwall, England. Now rented from the local Squire by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Paynter. They took it when Eliel Lanyon died in 1909. It had a thatched roof until two years ago when a new roof was necessary, and as it is so expensive to have it thatched, that a slate roof was put on." The inscription on the reverse of the bottom photo reads: "Mrs. Paynter showed me the room on the right where Eliel died and the room upstairs rear where he kept the wool from the sheep to be worked. A very quaint old place with walls about three feet thick. Mr. Paynter is a carpenter and cabinet maker and has his shop across the side road. They serve tea or will put you up overnight, although I believe very few people ever stop. It is right on the main road to St. Ives and Land's End along the north coast of Cornwall." Note, the main road is Route A-30 and as of 2013, the main road bypasses the small town of Zelah.

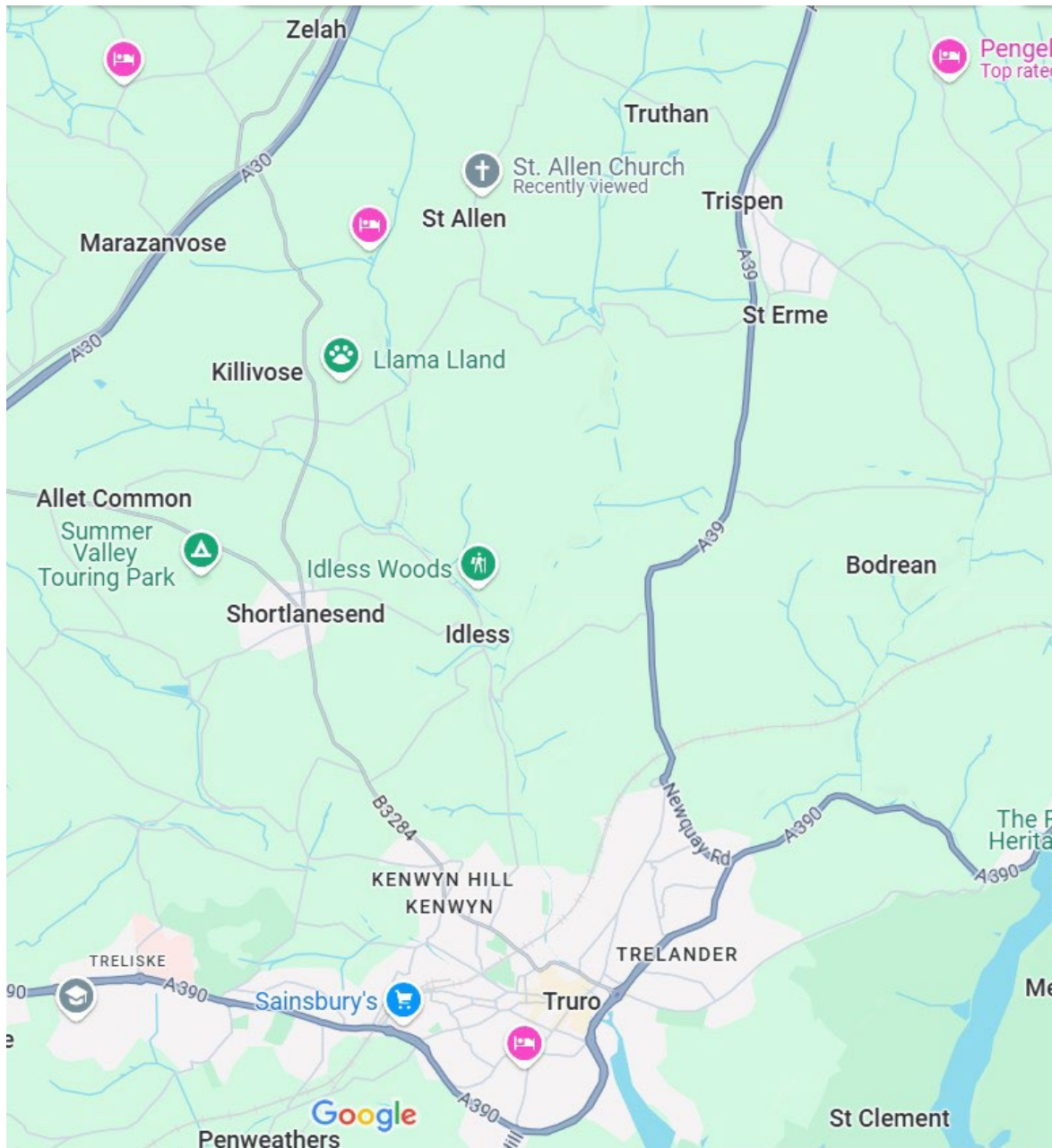
Page 5, top photo inscription reads: "This is the house of John Henry Lanyon. It is called Travalso House and is across the way from Henvver House. It is a real nice place and he has several hundred acres. This is the branch of the Lanyon family that went to Australia, his father returning to take over the homestead." Bottom photo is of the gravestones of my great-great grandparents. The inscription reads: "These are the two Lanyons for whom the two windows are dedicated in the St. Allen Church. They are buried just at one end of the church, which is about a mile or so from Henvver House. Eliel, whose name is on the bottom, was a bachelor and the last Lanyon to live in Henvver House. He was the Rector of the Methodist Church a few hundred yards from Henvver House, and Mrs. Charles Paynter, who lives there now and ever since he died, said he died about 26 years ago. The church yard is very poorly kept and the grass very seldom cut."

Page 6, Top left photo inscription reads: "This is the tower of St. Allen's Church and ones first impression is that it is in ruins. The upper arches are all boarded up and the natural entrance at the bottom is blocked up giving the appearance of a deserted tower. The real entrance is around to the right at the side. It is probably very old and historic. The rector I believe lives to the left of the church and back further from the road. I think Truro is 6 to 8 miles away and is the largest city near there." The top right photo has no inscription and is undated. It also shows the church tower, but from a greater distance. Bottom photo inscription reads: "This is the entrance to the St. Allen Church (Church of England) from a narrow country road. The tower of the church is just in back of this gateway with the entrance to the church on the right and the pulpit at the far

end. There is a Lanyon window in back of the pulpit and two on the left side facing the pulpit.” Also written but in a different hand is “Photo of Howard Posey.”

Howard Posey was born in Mineral Point, Wisconsin, USA, on 26 June 1900, and is a grandson of William Lanyon, an elder brother of Josiah Lanyon, my great grandfather. William Lanyon owned and operated the Lanyon Foundry in Mineral Point. William Lanyon’s house is on the tour of historic homes in Mineral Point.

The St. Allen Parish Church is five miles north of the Truro Cathedral on a more-or-less direct route. The church is closer to Zelah as the crow flies, but is about four miles along a circuitous route along narrow lanes.



THE LANYONS OF HENVER AND ST. ALLEN CHURCH.

From the Cornwall Advertiser.

The ancient parish church of St. Allen has just had erected in it a very beautiful three-light painted glass memorial window, by Messrs. A. L. Moore & Co., Southampton-row, London. The subjects illustrated are, in the left hand light, Christ restoring sight to the blind; in the centre, Christ blessing little children; to the right, Christ's charge to the disciples. Above and below are canopies and bases in the decorated Gothic style, corresponding with the shape of the window. In the central base is introduced the sacred monogram "I. H. S," and in the side bases the sacred emblems "Alpha and Omega." At the foot of the window is the following inscription:—

"In memory of JOHN LANYON and PEGGY, his wife, of Henver, in this parish, who died in 1859 and 1875; also of
"SIMON, their fourth son, who died at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, March, 1889. This window was erected by Simon
"Henry, son of Simon Lanyon, on his visit to England, 1889."

The window filled is the central north, known as the Trefronnick window. The inscription is arranged not only as a mark of paternal affection, but also to show Mr. S. H. Lanyon's love for the parish of his birth, which it is scarcely probable he will ever again visit. The descendants of the Henver Lanyons in America number nearly 200, and the words on this window will make it easy for future generations of this family who may visit the "Old Country" to have a clear proof of the spot their ancestors went from, which knowledge is greatly prized by families in the U. S. A. claiming English descent.

This is the second Lanyon window in St. Allen Church. The first is to the memory of Henry and Isabella Lanyon, the said Henry being cousin, and Isabella, the sister, of the above-mentioned John Lanyon, and the parents of Miss Henrietta Lanyon, of Truro, a lady well known for her gifts to the Truro Cathedral, especially as the donor of the magnificent lectern bearing her name. This Henry Lanyon, as an officer in the Royal Navy, was a man of considerable renown, being one of the most skillful sailing masters in the service at the beginning of this century, and constantly engaged in the memorable struggles of that period; and Admiral Lord Nelson frequently recognized his great aptitude for manœuvring the fleet when in action, as in no small degree contributing to his brilliant successes.

It will be in the recollection of many of the older Cornish people that the Henver family were remarkable for their physical build and great strength. Perhaps the best specimen of them in this respect was Simon Searle Lanyon, whose powers when a young man were quite remarkable. Polkinghorne, who in the wrestling ring so manfully upheld his county in the contest with Cann for the championship of Devon and Cornwall could not stand before him. As a member of the Cornish Yeomanry Cavalry, he was their first athlete on their annual sport days of the corps at the conclusion of their yearly training. The late Mr. J. C. Lanyon, of Redruth, who was his second cousin, took great delight in relating his feats on these occasions. One of the many things which he did was to ride through a narrow lane at full gallop, and with a cut of his sword divide two turnips placed opposite to each other on either side of the road.

The St. Allen Lanyons have been settled in the parish for five generations—coming to it from Kerris, in the parish of Paul—and are descendants of the Lanyons of Lanyon in Madron. For a long time they were considerable copy holders on the manor of Cargoll, their rights as such only recently coming to an end, through some informality in their last deeds, in consequence of which Mr. Hawkins, of Trewithen, is the present possessor.

They are much intermarried with the Searles, Vincents, Hoskens, Gills, Clarks, and other families of this and neighboring parishes.





