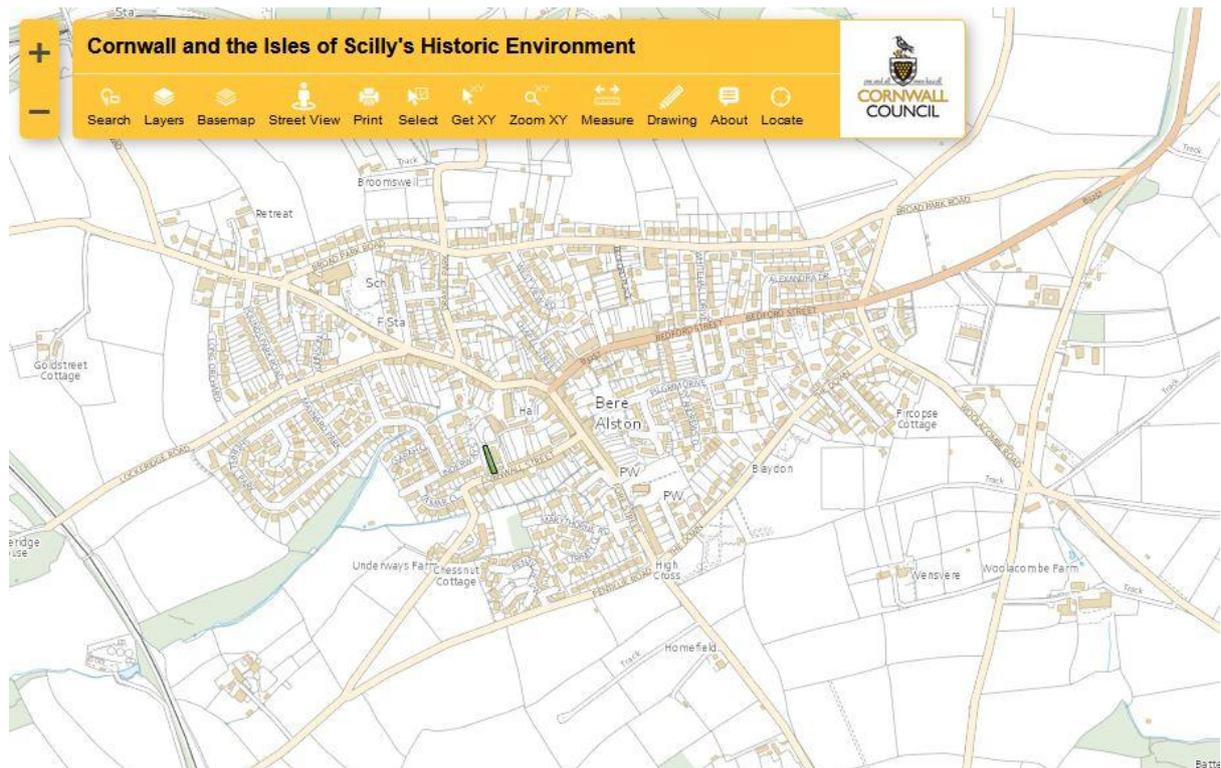


Parish: **Bere Ferrers**

Mine Worker: **Nathaniel Robins**

Plot Location (1842-44 Tithe): Bere Alston. Dwellings at Pepper Street (now Cornwall Street), appears to be two terraced cottages on the Tithe Map. The dwellings were located at what is now no. 43 Cornwall Street, and the area immediately west adjoining no. 45, on Cornwall Council's Historic Environment interactive map (2022). The buildings were still extant on the 1892-1914 OS Map.

Grid Reference: SX44630 66678 (site of dwellings)

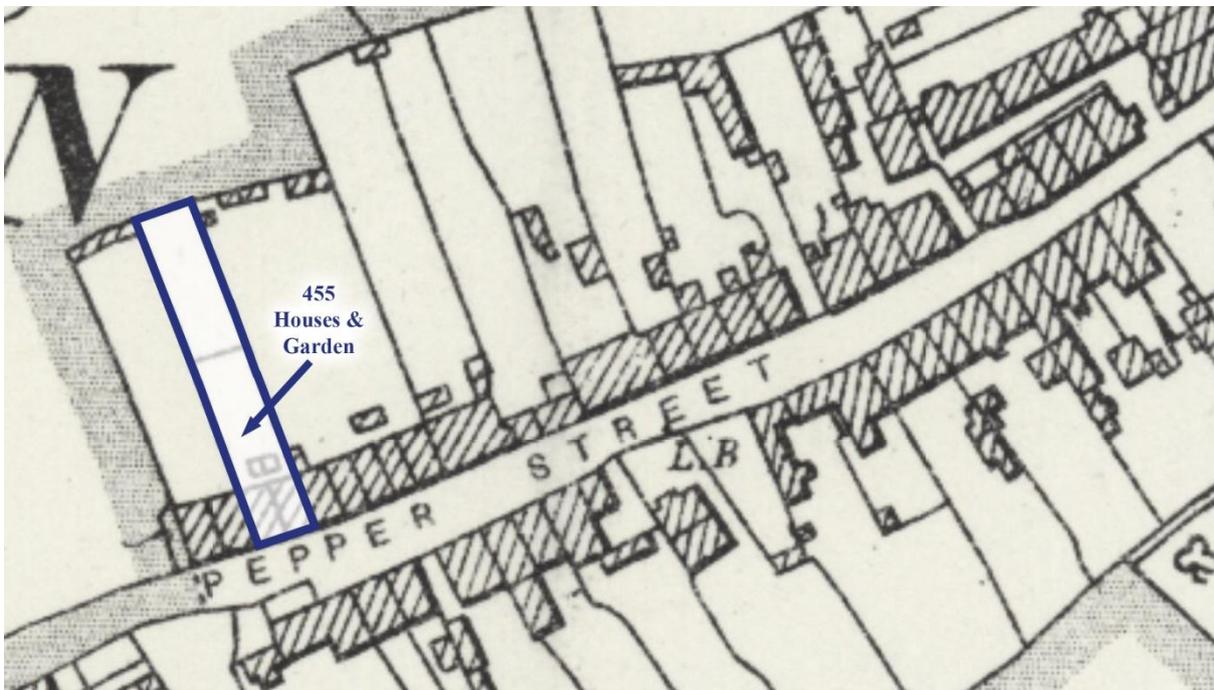


Occupier: Nathaniel Robins (Miner)

Landowner: Himself

Tithe Apportionment Details:

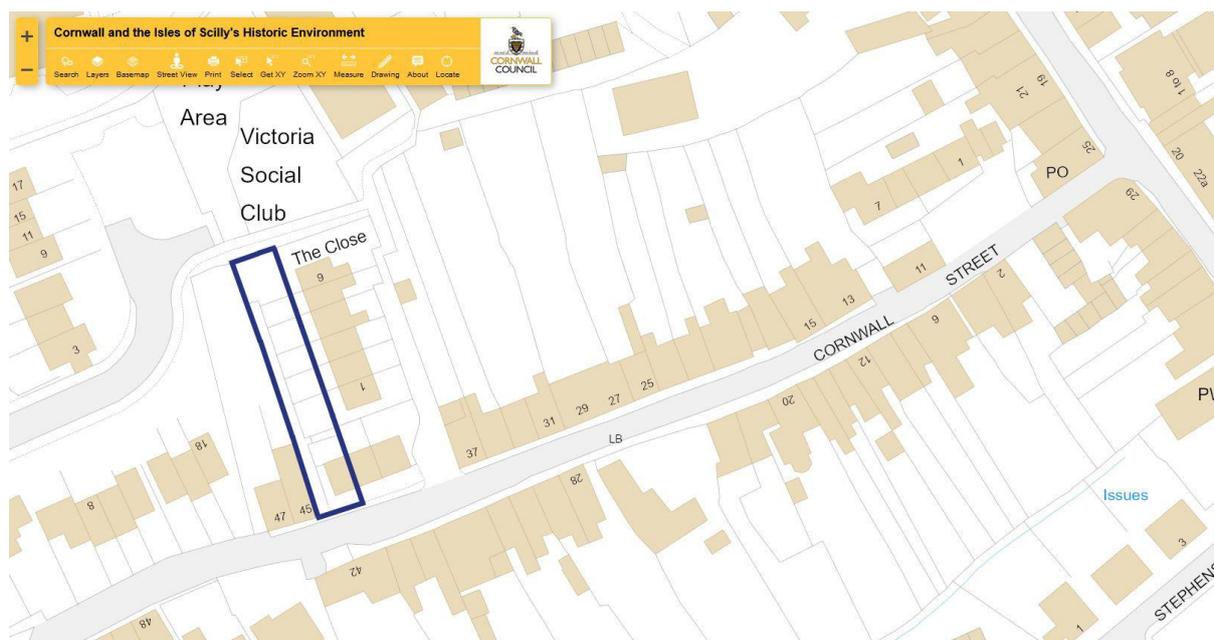
Plan Number	Name and Description of Lands & Premises	State of Cultivation	Quantities in Statute Measure			Amount of Rent Charge apportioned on the several Lands, & payable to the Rector.		
			A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
455	Houses and Garden				14			
					14			



Reference: OS 25 Inch Map 1892-1914

Source: National Library of Scotland (Map Images) -

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=19.0&lat=50.47943&lon=-4.18999&layers=168&b=1>



Nathaniel Robins

Nathaniel Robins appears on the 1841 Bere Ferrers Census at Pepper Street, Bere Alston. He is listed as a lead miner aged 30, in the same household are Elizabeth (30) and Louisa (8), all born in Devon.¹

Nathaniel was born in the parish of Bere Ferrers in 1808, and was baptised on 13th November, son of Nathaniel and Rosamond Robins (née Langman)², who were married at Bere Ferrers on 23rd February 1803.³

Nathaniel Robins (senior) was born in Redruth in 1763, and was baptised on 20th November, son of William and Mary Robins (née Noble)⁴, who were married at Redruth on 27th December 1751.⁵

Nathaniel (senior) died (aged 60) at Bere Alston in 1823 and was buried at Bere Ferrers on 16th February.⁶

Rosamond was probably the "Rose Robins" who died (aged 64) at Bere Alston in 1832, buried at Bere Ferrers on 16th November.⁷ Her origins are unclear - there is no baptism of a Rosamond Langman or variants anywhere for the period. She may have been a widow at the time of her marriage to Nathaniel Robins - there was a Rosamond How who married a James Langman at Bere Ferrers on 28th May 1788⁸ (the couple had five children baptised at Bere Ferrers 1788-98⁹, and possibly a sixth, John Lobb Langman baptised at Stoke Damerel on 26th October 1800)¹⁰, and there do not appear to be any further children after 1800.

Rosamond How may be the "Rose Howe" baptised at Truro St Mary on 2nd June 1769, the daughter of James Howe (junr.) and Ann.¹¹ It is also worth noting that How (without the e) is the more usual spelling of the surname at this time in the parish of Truro St Mary.

Nathaniel Robins married Elizabeth Robins at Plymouth St Andrew on 7th July 1832.¹²

Elizabeth Robins was born at Bere Alston in 1805, and was baptised at Bere Ferrers on 4th August¹³, the daughter of Bartholomew and Elizabeth Robins (née Harris) who were married at Bere Ferrers on 16th February 1805.¹⁴

Bartholomew Robins was born in Redruth in 1781 and baptised on 26th April the son of William and Elizabeth Robins (née Pollard)¹⁵, who were married at Redruth on 16th July 1774.¹⁶ Bartholomew was a Mine Captain - the 1841 Census lists him as the Mine Agent at Wheal Concord in the parish of Sydenham Damerel¹⁷, and in 1851 he was back in Bere Ferrers as Mine Agent (Lead) at Lockridge Mine.¹⁸ This Census mistakenly notes him as born in Bere Ferrers, there was a Bartholomew Robins born at Bere Ferrers in 1784 (son of Bartholomew and Martha)¹⁹, but he was a first cousin of Nathaniel Robins (i.e. Nathaniel snr. and Bartholomew snr. were brothers), and he died at Bere Alston in 1836, aged 51.²⁰

So Elizabeth Robins was certainly from the same Redruth family as husband Nathaniel, but likely a third or fourth cousin. The Robins family have been in the Redruth area for centuries, there was a Bartholomew Robins baptised in Redruth as long ago as 1592!²¹

Nathaniel and Elizabeth appear to have had just the two children - Louisa Robins born on 27th November 1832, and baptised at Bere Alston (Independent) on 12th December 1832²², and Lozetta (sic) (likely Rosetta) born on 10th September 1834, and baptised at Bere Alston (Independent) on 19th September 1832.²³ Oddly, both entries note the family as of Redruth and although both of their fathers were from Redruth, (as noted above) Nathaniel and Elizabeth were both born in Bere Alston, in the parish of Bere Ferrers.

“Lozetta” died (aged just 3 months) at Bere Alston, the Bere Ferrers register records the burial of “Rosetta Robins” on 22nd December 1834.²⁴

By 1851 the family had moved the short distance to Fore Street, Bere Alston. Nathaniel was now an Innkeeper. Nathaniel Robins (41) Innkeeper and wife Elizabeth Robins (45), both born Bere Alston.²⁵

1861 shows the family back in Pepper Street, and Nathaniel had returned to mining. Nathaniel Robins (52) lead miner, wife Elizabeth (56), daughter Louisa Roberts (29) (miner's wife), with granddaughters Louisa Roberts (10) and Fanny Roberts (8), all born Bere Ferrers.²⁶

Louisa Robins had married David Roberts (a miner) at Plymouth St Andrew on 28th November 1848.²⁷ In 1851 they were living next-door to Louisa's parents in Fore Street, Bere Alston - David Roberts (24) mine lab., born Kenwyn, with Louisa (18) and Louisa (4 mths) both born Bere Ferrers.²⁸

In 1866 Nathaniel Robins was evidently employed at East Tamar Silver Lead Mine. In July of that year he took one of the Mine's Shareholders (Thomas Vosper) to Court for non-payment of £8 8s. 11d. for work done earlier in the year.

Fellow miner Hugh Kent (of Hatches Green, Gunnislake - see separate entry for William and Ann Reynolds (Hugh's sister) in the Calstock section for further details of the Kent family) did likewise.

See the following reports of the case from The Tavistock Gazette:^{29, 30}

TAVISTOCK COUNTY COURT.

Saturday July 14th, 1866.

[Before MATTHEW FORTESCUE, Esq., Judge.]

Nathaniel Robins v. Thomas Vosper.—Mr. Luxton appeared for plaintiff, who sought to recover £8 8s. 11d., for work done in March, April, and May last, at East Tamar silver lead mine, in which defendant was stated to be a shareholder. Plaintiff and his witnesses were examined in support of the correctness of the claim, and to shew that defendant had acted as a shareholder in the mine, and in the course of the evidence, a transfer and acceptance of shares by defendant was put in, but he explained that this was a private arrangement between himself and some other parties connected with the mine, but they had broken faith with him, and he had not therefore become a shareholder. His Honor observed that such a defence might be urged as between the defendant and those parties, but in this case he had held himself out to the public as a shareholder, and was therefore liable. But he would defer payment for a month, to give defendant an opportunity of seeking some remedy.

Hugh Kent v. Thomas Vosper.—This was a similar action to recover £9 1s. 5d., and a verdict was given for plaintiff by consent.

TAVISTOCK COUNTY COURT.

Saturday, August 18th, 1866.

[Before MATTHEW FORTESCUE, Esq., Judge.]

Nathaniel Robins v. Thomas Vosper, Hugh Kent v. Same.—Mr Chilcott for defendant made an application for a new trial in each of these cases. They were tried at the last court when verdicts were given for the plaintiffs, who are miners, and sought to recover from the defendant wages due to them from the East Tamar Silver Lead Mine, in which it was alleged that defendant was a shareholder. Defendant denied that he ever was a shareholder but it was then proved that he had been on the mine giving orders to the men, as a shareholder would do, and evidence was also given shewing that defendant had signed the usual cost book transfer, accepting a number of shares transferred to him by Mr Joseph J. Reynolds.

Mr Chilcott in support of his application produced a number of affidavits and said that with reference to the defendant going on the mine, it was only for the purpose of conferring with the men as to the best course to be adopted to obtain payment of his own and their debts, as he was a creditor of the mine, and as to the transfer, it was true that defendant had accepted it but it was to be treated as null and void, unless certain conditions were fulfilled. Those conditions were that the mine should be forked, and a lease be obtained of the mine which should be worked on the cost book system. A purser was to be appointed at a meeting to be held for the purpose. When the transfer was made it was agreed that it should not be registered nor used in any manner until the whole of the conditions had been fulfilled. Neither of them had been fulfilled, and therefore he (Mr Chilcott) contended that the transfer was null and void. He further argued that the evidence given by the plaintiffs on the trial took defendant by surprise, which was another reason why a new trial should be granted.

His Honour declined to grant a new trial, observing that it would lead to an immense amount of mischief if a party losing an action could afterwards be allowed to hire an ingenious counsel, and obtain a new trial on the ground that he had ignorantly conducted the case, and omitted to bring forward proper evidence. There might possibly be some hardship, but a great deal of mischief would result from it if it were a common practice. It would lead parties who were disposed to act dishonestly to say the whole of the facts were wrong, as in this case, and a new trial being granted, the other side might also come forward and say that they were taken by surprise by facts which they did not expect to have had brought forward. The practice would lead to endless litigation and perjury in leading parties to obtain that character of evidence which they would from time to time see would be valuable for these cases. He was inclined to believe that there was a private arrangement between defendant and Reynolds, but that there was a transfer and acceptance of shares defendant could not deny, and therefore as between himself and the public to whom he held himself out as a shareholder, he was liable for the debts of the mine.

In the Tavistock Gazette of 25th June 1869 (and some earlier editions), there was an advertisement placed for the sale of freehold property belonging to Nathaniel Robins in Bere Alston:³¹

Sales by Auction.

Tavistock, Beerferris, and Marytavy.
TO BE SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, by Mr. F. A. DAVIS, Auctioneer, at the Queen's Head Hotel, in Tavistock, on FRIDAY, the 25th day of JUNE inst., at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, (subject to the Conditions to be then produced, and in the lots hereinafter named, or in such other lots as may be determined on at the time of Auction,) the following PUBLIC-HOUSE, SHOPS, and DWELLING-HOUSES, Viz:—

Lot 2.—The fee-simple and inheritance of and in all those 2 Messuages or Dwelling Houses, and Gardens, situate at Beeralston, in the Parish of Beerferris, now, or late, in the possession of Messrs. Nathaniel Robins and R. Jago.

It is not known whether this relates to his original Pepper Street plot, or property purchased subsequent to the Tithe Assessment.

Whatever the sale outcome, the family were still at Pepper Street, Bere Alston in 1871. Nathaniel Robins (62) miner, and Elizabeth (65) both born Bere Ferrers.³²

Again in 1881, they were living at Pepper Street. Nathaniel Robins (72) copper miner, Elizabeth Robins (74), Fanny Crompton (26) (granddaughter, now married) all born Bere Ferrers, Peter Crompton (2) (great grandson) born Stoke Damerel, William J Crompton (1) (great grandson) born St Stephens (Saltash), Cornwall, and also in the household was a lodger, Eveline Dalwood (20), general domestic servant, also born St Stephens, Cornwall.³³

Elizabeth Robins died (aged 83) at Bere Alston in 1888, and was buried at Bere Ferrers on 27th December³⁴, following her death it seems that Nathaniel went to live with his daughter Louisa Tucker and family in Plymouth (the widowed Louisa married Chelsea Pensioner Nicholas Tucker at Tiverton in 1882).³⁵

1891 Census, 4 Victoria Street, Charles, Plymouth - Head of Household - Nicholas Tucker (73) pensioner, born Tiverton, Louisa (58) born Bere Alston, Nathaniel Robins (83) (father-in-law) born Bere Alston, Peter Crompton (12) (grandson (step)) born Devonport and William J Crompton (11) (grandson (step)) born Burraton, Cornwall.³⁶ As noted above, Peter and William Crompton were the sons of Louisa's daughter Fanny Roberts, so Nathaniel's great grandsons.

Nathaniel Robins' death (aged 88) was registered in the Plymouth Registration District in 1897.³⁷

Notes:

1. 1841 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN240 BN3 FN14 PN22.
2. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/2 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).

3. Devon Marriages & Banns - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
4. Cornwall Baptisms - Redruth, St Uny. CFHS Transcriptions (findmypast.co.uk).
5. Cornwall Marriages - Redruth, St Uny. CFHS Transcriptions (findmypast.co.uk).
6. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
7. Ibid.
8. Devon Marriages & Banns - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
9. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/2 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
10. Devon Baptisms - Stoke Damerel. Ref:166/8/b - Plymouth & West Devon Record Office Collection (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
11. Truro St Mary's Register of baptisms, marriages, banns & burials, 1722-1789. Ref: KK P236/1/3.
12. Devon Marriages & Banns - Plymouth, St Andrew. Plymouth & West Devon Record Office Collection (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
13. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/2 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
14. Devon Marriages & Banns - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
15. Cornwall Baptisms - Redruth, St Uny. CFHS Transcriptions (findmypast.co.uk).
16. Cornwall Marriages - Redruth, St Uny. CFHS Transcriptions (findmypast.co.uk).
17. 1841 Devon Census, Sydenham Damerel. Ref: HO107 PN233 BN14 FN10 PN15.
18. 1851 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN1883 FN11 PN14.
19. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/2 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
20. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
21. St Euny's Parish Church, Redruth, Register of baptisms, marriages & burials, 1560-1689. Ref: KK P197/1/1.
22. England & Wales Non-Conformist Births & Baptisms - DEVON: Beer Ferris (Independent) (original document scan). Ref: TNA/RG/4/514 - DC Thomson Family History (findmypast.co.uk).
23. Ibid.
24. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
25. 1851 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN1883 FN35 PN6.
26. 1861 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: RG09 PN1457 FN15 PN24.
27. Devon Marriages & Banns - Plymouth, St Andrew. Plymouth & West Devon Record Office Collection (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
28. 1851 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN1883 FN35 PN6.
29. *The Tavistock Gazette*, Tavistock, No. 464, 20 July 1866, pg. 4, col. 5.
30. *The Tavistock Gazette*, Tavistock, No. 469, 24 August 1866, pg. 5, col. 2.
31. *The Tavistock Gazette*, Tavistock, No. 617, 25 June 1869, pg. 4, col. 1.
32. 1871 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: RG10 PN2142 FN16 PN5.
33. 1881 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: RG11 PN2215 FN25 PN8.
34. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/20 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
35. Devon Marriages & Banns - Tiverton, St Paul. Ref: 4815A/PR/1/3 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
36. 1891 Devon Census, Plymouth, Charles. Ref: RG12 PN1726 FN32 PN58.
37. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007 - Civil Deaths - Nathaniel Robins - 3rd Q of 1897 - Plymouth Registration District - Volume 5B - Page 166. (findmypast.co.uk).

Parish: **Bere Ferrers**

Mine Worker: **Edward Stephens**

Plot Locations (1842-44 Tithes): Bere Alston. Edward occupied two properties in the parish - Plan no. 411 named "House & Garden" on Tithe Map at Bedford Street. Dwelling located at no. 6 Bedford Street on Cornwall Council's Historic Environment interactive map (2022).

Plan no. 645 "Three Corner Down". The plot was located just to the west of Main Stroll Wood, as it was at the time. Approximately one mile from the cottage in Bedford Street.

Grid References: SX44763 66844 (6 Bedford St) & SX46470 66782 (nominal centre of Plan no. 645)



Occupier: Edward Stephens (Miner)

Landowner: Himself

Tithe Apportionment Details:

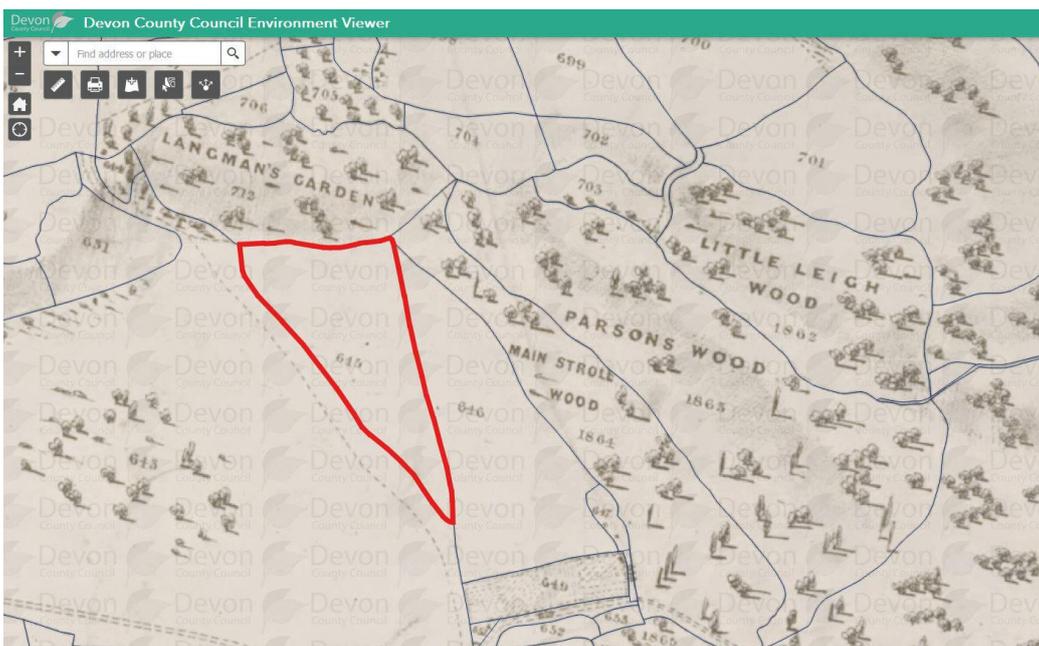
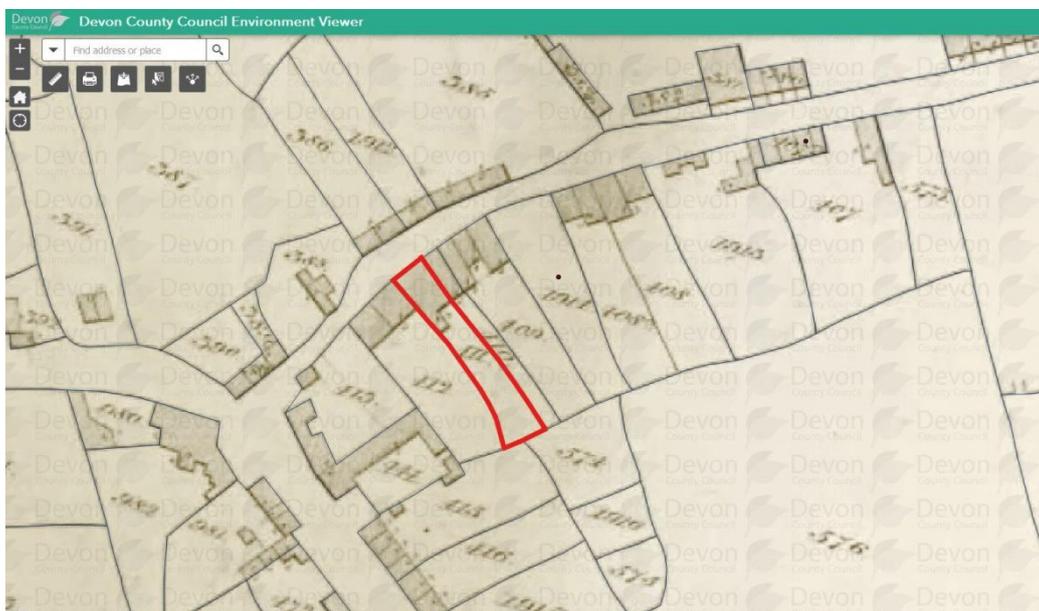
Plan Number	Name and Description of Lands & Premises	State of Cultivation	Quantities in Statute Measure			Amount of Rent Charge apportioned on the several Lands, & payable to the Rector.		
			A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
411	House and Garden				12			
					12			

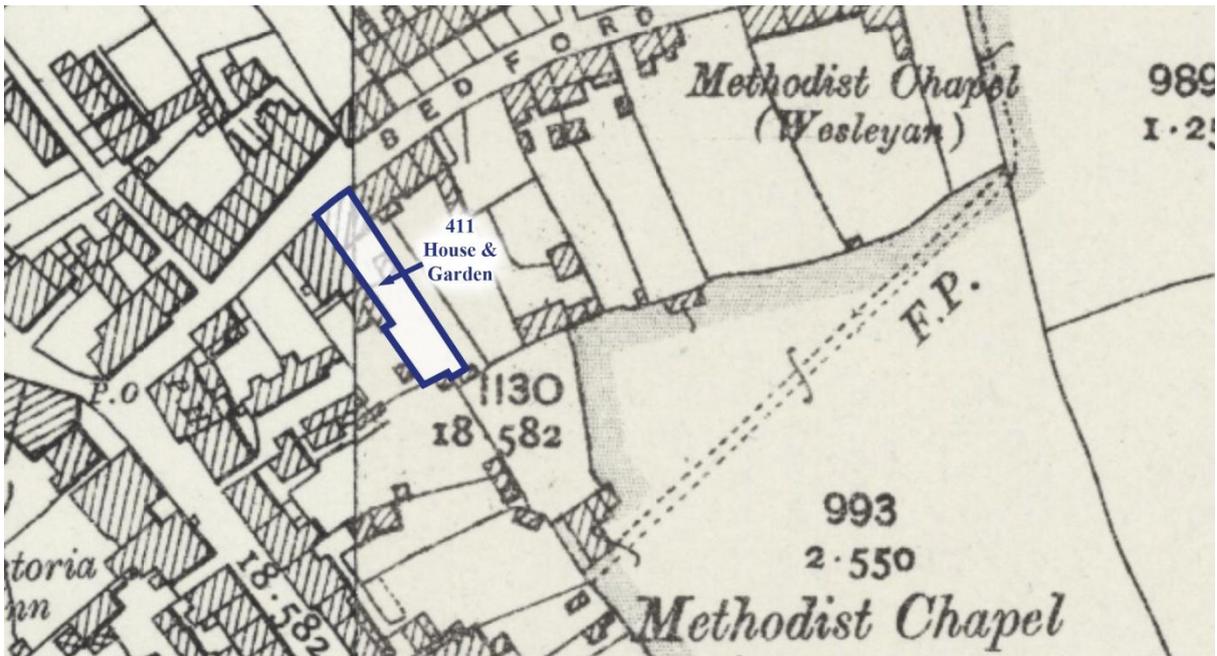
Occupier: Edward Stephens (Miner)

Landowner: The Earl of Mount Edgecumbe

Tithe Apportionment Details:

Plan Number	Name and Description of Lands & Premises	State of Cultivation	Quantities in Statute Measure			Amount of Rent Charge apportioned on the several Lands, & payable to the Rector.		
			A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
645	Three Corner Down	Arable & Coarse Pasture	4	2	18	2	10	
			4	2	18	2	10	

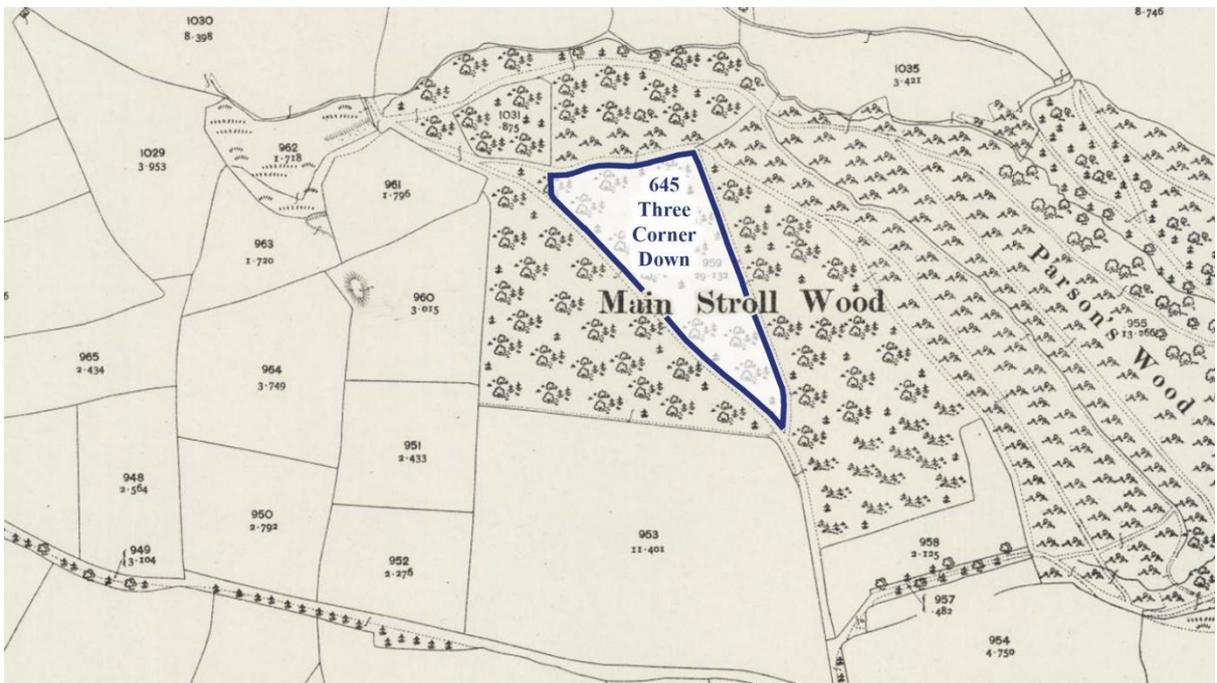




Reference: OS 25 Inch Map 1892-1914

Source: National Library of Scotland (Map Images) -

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=19.2&lat=50.48069&lon=-4.18852&layers=168&b=1>



Reference: OS 25 Inch Map 1892-1914

Source: National Library of Scotland (Map Images) -

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=17.2&lat=50.48014&lon=-4.16349&layers=168&b=1>

Edward Stephens

Edward Stephens appears on the 1841 Bere Ferrers Census at Bedford Street, Bere Alston. He is listed as a miner (silver-lead mine) aged 40, Mary Stephens (wife) (45) both born in Devon, also in the household were John Hugh (20) agricultural labourer, not born in Devon, and Mary Hugh (20) born in Devon.¹

Despite being noted as born in Devon in the 1841 Census, there does not appear to be a baptism of an Edward Stephens in a likely location east of the Tamar. However, to the west, in the neighbouring parish of Calstock there are two possible candidates:

1. Edward Stephens, son of Edward & Susanna Stephens (née Small), baptised on 4th May 1800.²

Edward Stevens (sic) & Susannah Small (both "of this parish") were married at Calstock on 30th August 1795.³

2. Edward Stephens, son of William & Grace Stephens (née Stephens), baptised on 8th August 1801.⁴

William Stephens & Grace Stephens were married at Calstock on 13th August 1787, William "of this parish" and Grace "sojourner, of this parish".⁵

It has not been possible to determine for certain which of the two Edwards was at Bere Alston on both the Tithe and the 1841 Census. If Edward was the son of William and Grace Stephens, then his brother Samuel Stephens has a separate entry in the Stoke Climsland section.

Edward Stephens died (aged 49) at Bere Alston in 1849, and was buried at Bere Ferrers on 21st August (surname recorded as Stevens).⁶

Unfortunately a marriage for Edward Stephens and Mary cannot be found.

The 1851 Census lists the widowed Mary, continuing to live at Bedford Street, Bere Alston. Head of the Household - Mary Stephens (59) (widow) baker, Kitty Use (Hughs) (83) (visitor), both born Bere Ferrers and Emelin Judge (14) house servant, born Tywardreath.⁷

In 1861 Mary is still at Bere Alston, there is no road name given but her residence is listed as "Grocer Shop" (next-door to a Bakehouse). Mary Stephens (69) (widow) grocer, born Bere Alston, and Mary Hughs (41) (daughter) (unmarried), born Cornwall, St Stephens (does not state which one - Saltash, Launceston or Brannel).⁸

So the Mary Hughs (and likely John Hughs) with Edward and Mary Stephens in 1841 were Mary's children. A check of the marriage records at Bere Ferrers finds a John Hughes (aged 24) (labourer) who married Elizabeth Barkel (daughter of John Barkel (miner) on 9th February 1843.⁹ The box on the marriage certificate to record the name of John Hughes' father is left blank, this would almost certainly indicate that he was born to a single woman with the surname Hughes - so we have Mary Stephens' maiden name. Incidentally, John Hughes died (aged 29) at Bere Alston in 1848, and was buried at Bere Ferrers on 21st January.¹⁰

The Bere Ferrers baptism register does indeed contain the baptism of a Mary Hughs, on the 9th May 1790, the "Base Child" of Mary Hughs.¹¹

It has not been possible to locate the burial of Mary Stephens (née Hughs), and she does not seem to appear on the 1871 Census.

Notes:

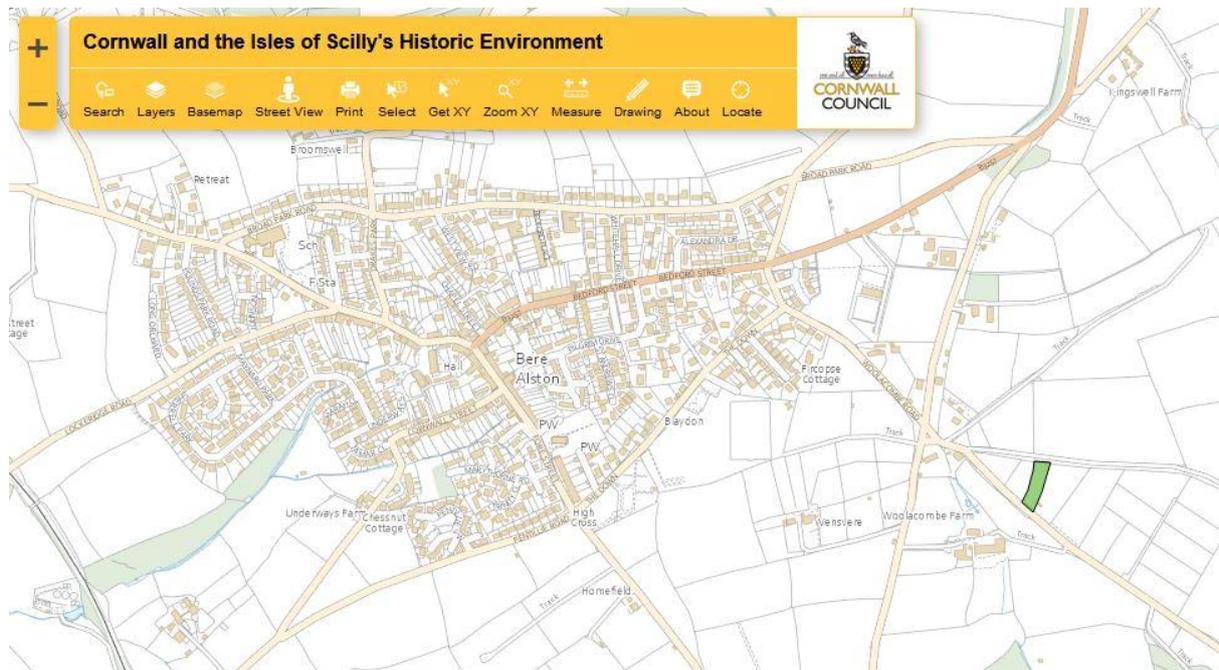
1. 1841 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN240 BN2 FN9 PN13.
2. Calstock Register of baptisms, marriages and burials, 1716-1807. Ref: KK P26/1/2.
3. Calstock Register of marriages, 1754-1805. Ref: KK P26/1/4.
4. Calstock Register of baptisms, marriages and burials, 1716-1807. Ref: KK P26/1/2.
5. Calstock Register of marriages, 1754-1805. Ref: KK P26/1/4.
6. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/19 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
7. 1851 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN1883 FN41 PN18.
8. 1861 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: RG09 PN1457 FN41 PN36.
9. Devon Marriages & Banns - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/9 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
10. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/19 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
11. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/2 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).

Parish: **Bere Ferrers**

Mine Worker: **William Trathen, son of Johanna Trathen (both Occupiers)**

Plot Locations (1842-44 Tithe): Woolacombe Cross, Bere Alston. Johanna Trathan and son William occupied adjoining plots at Woolacombe to the south east of Bere Alston. Plan nos. 669 and 670 on the Tithe map and Apportionment.

Grid References: SX45667 66577 (No. 669) & SX45618 66599 (No. 670)

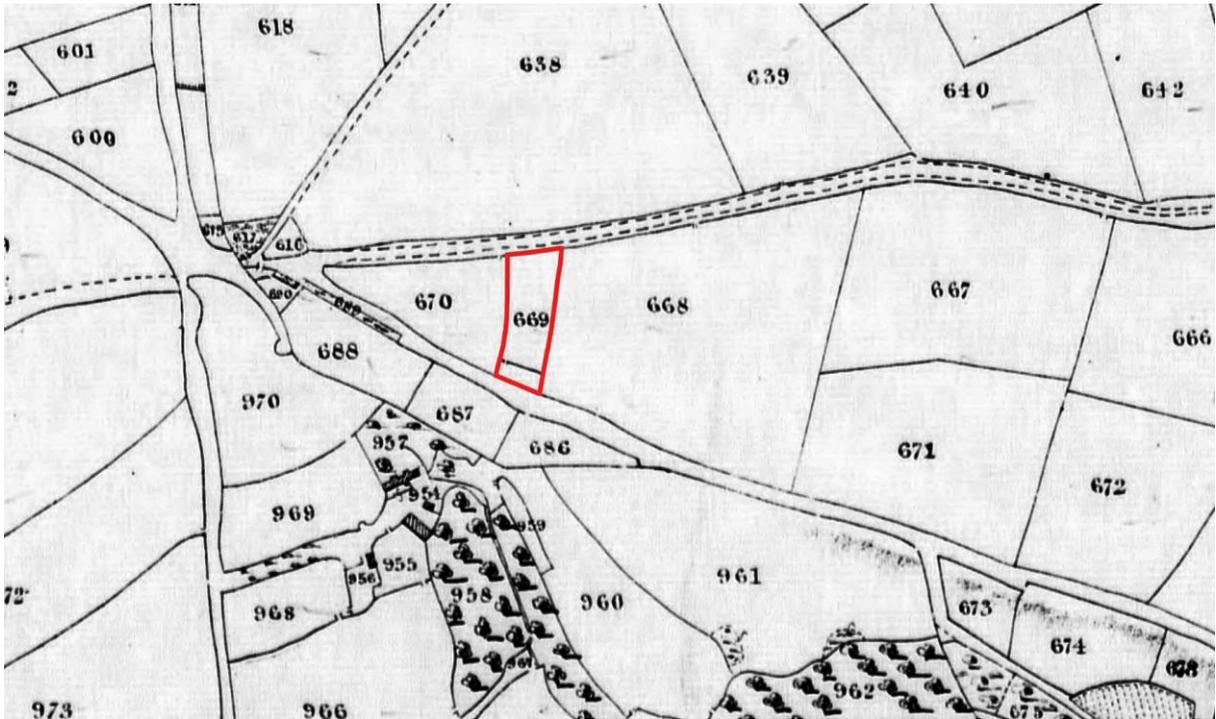


Occupier: Johanna Trathen (Miner's widow)

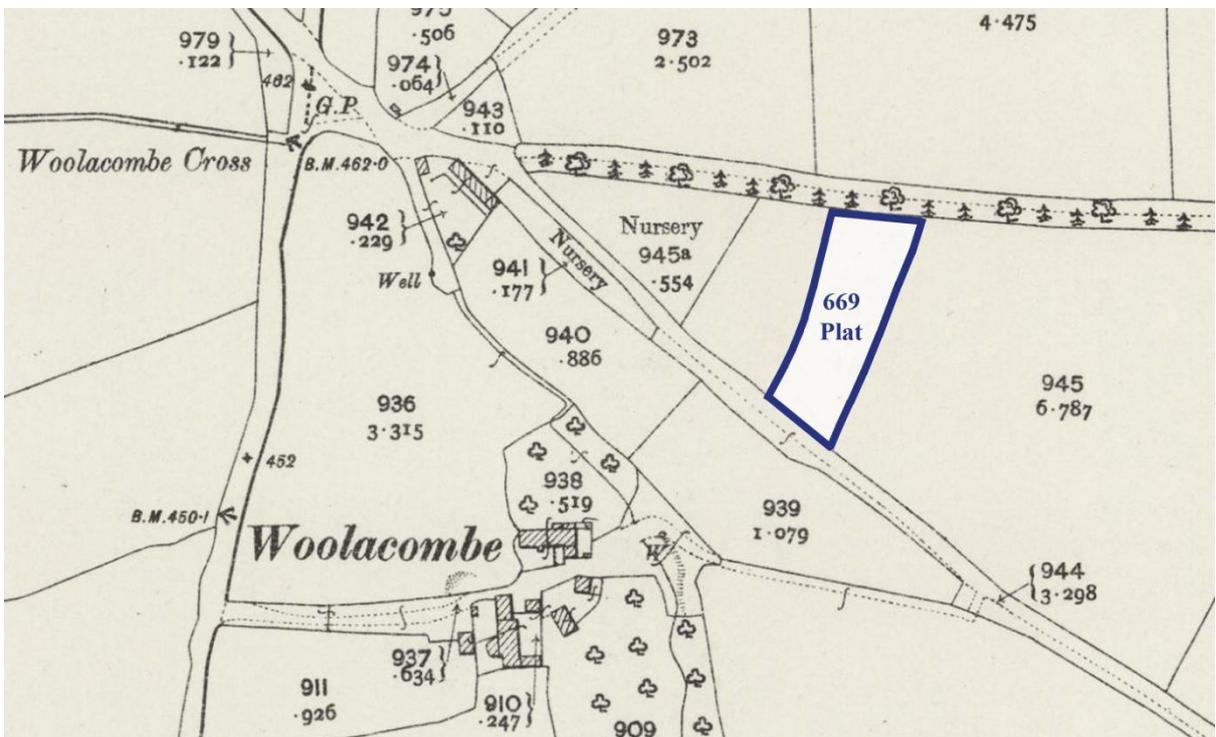
Landowner: The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe

Tithe Apportionment Details:

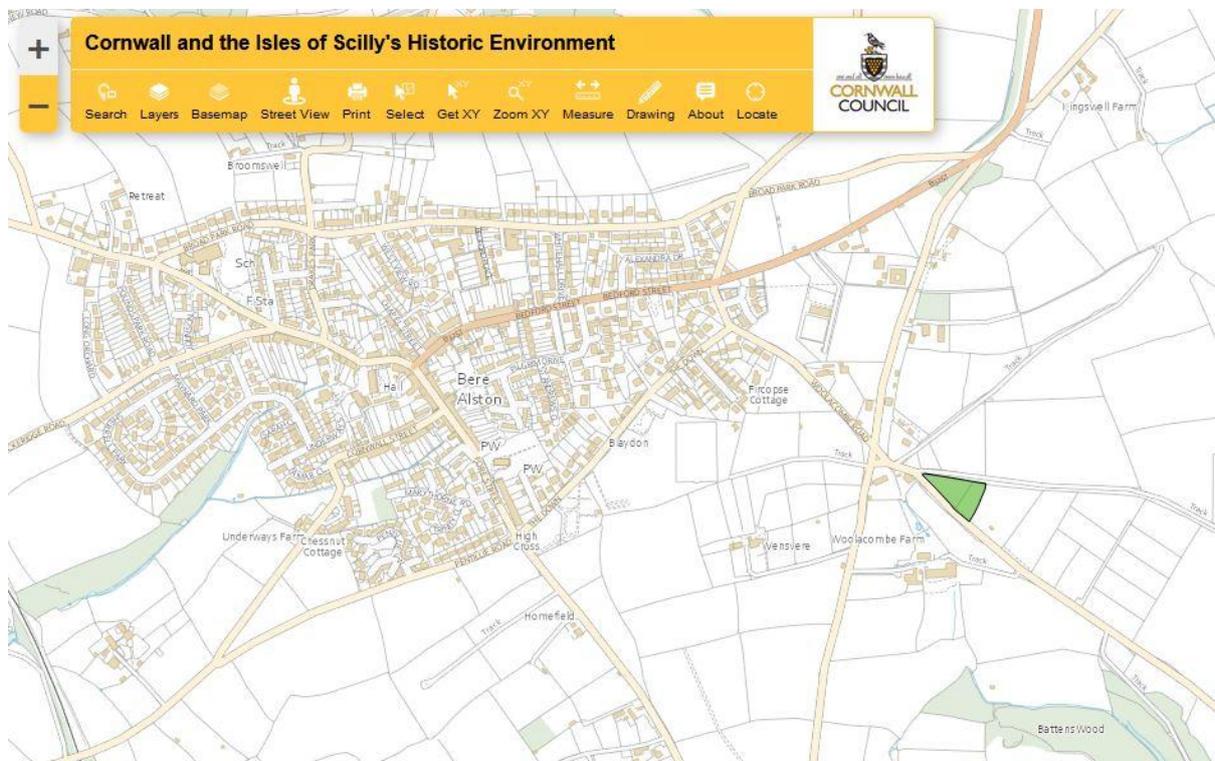
Plan Number	Name and Description of Lands & Premises	State of Cultivation	Quantities in Statute Measure			Amount of Rent Charge apportioned on the several Lands, & payable to the Rector.		
			A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
669	Plat	Arable	2	11		1	3	
			2	11		1	3	



References : The National Archives, Kew.
 IR/29/9/31 - Tithe apportionment of Bere Ferrers (parish), Devon.
 IR/30/9/31 - Tithe map of Bere Ferrers (parish), Devon.



Reference: OS 25 Inch Map 1892-1914
 Source: National Library of Scotland (Map Images) -
<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=17.9&lat=50.47879&lon=-4.17658&layers=168&b=1>

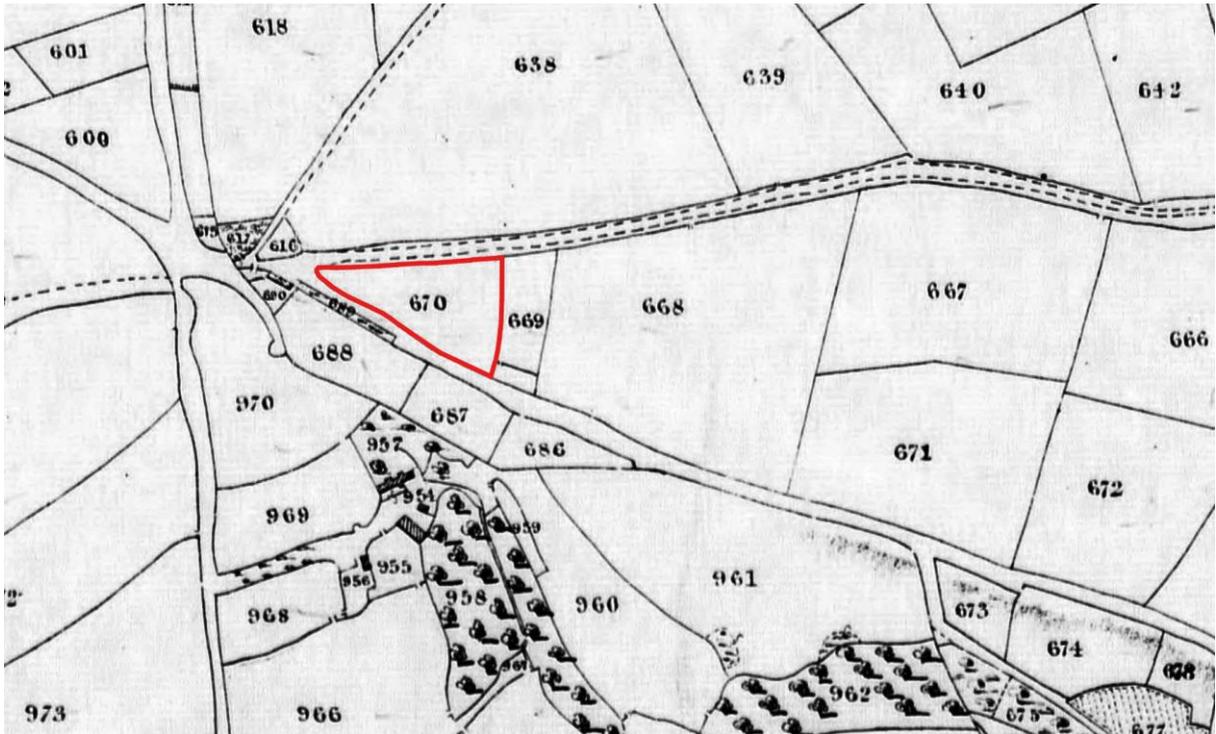


Occupier: William Trathen (Miner)

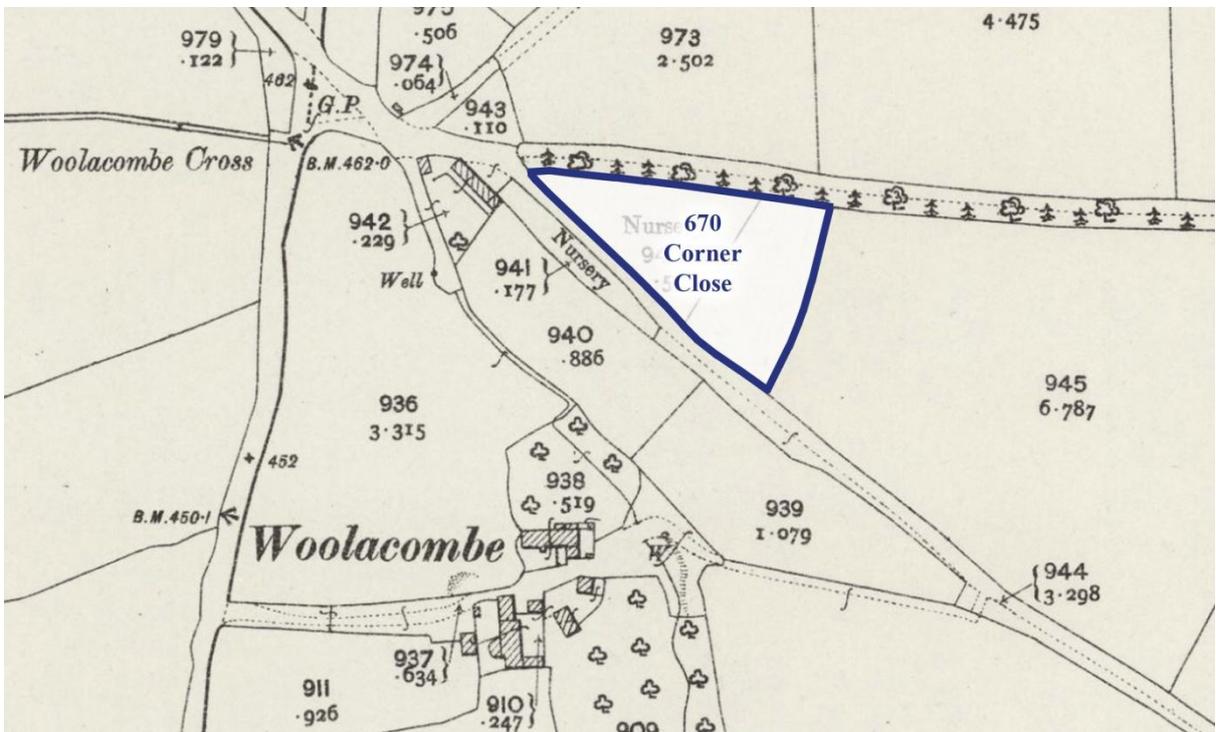
Landowner: The Earl of Mount Edgecumbe

Tithe Apportionment Details:

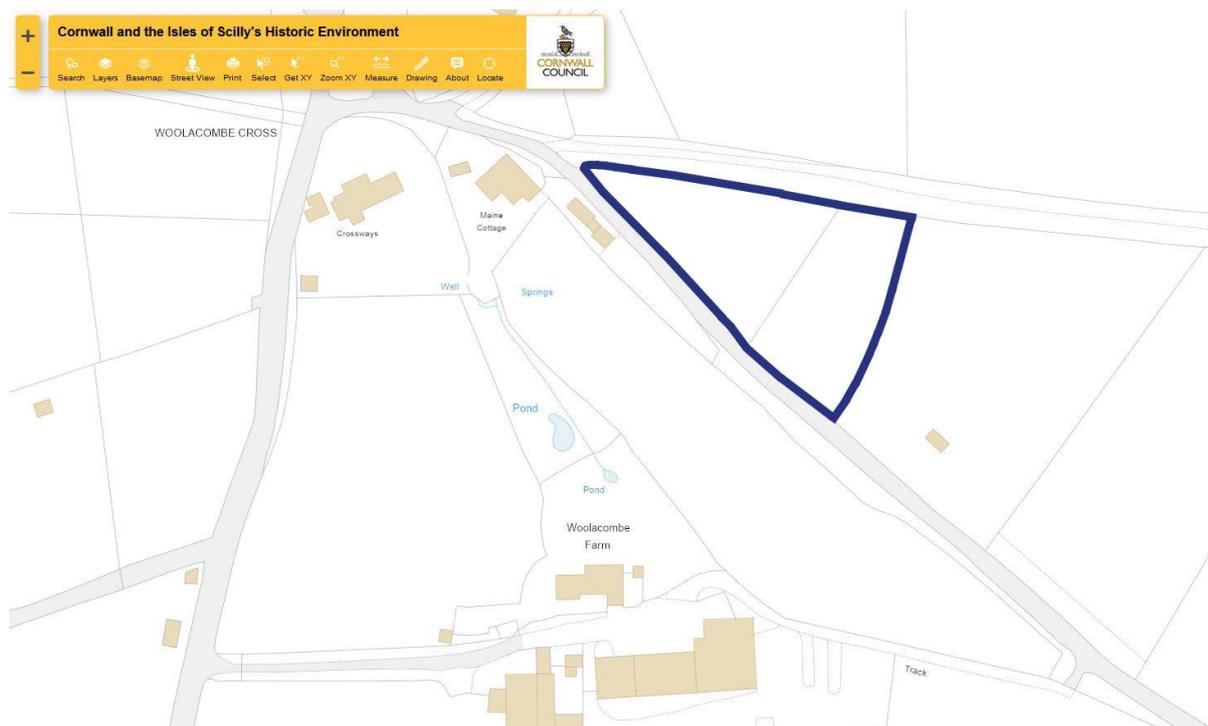
Plan Number	Name and Description of Lands & Premises	State of Cultivation	Quantities in Statute Measure			Amount of Rent Charge apportioned on the several Lands, & payable to the Rector.		
			A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
670	Corner Close	Arable	3	34		2	6	
			3	34		2	6	



References : The National Archives, Kew.
 IR/29/9/31 - Tithe apportionment of Bere Ferrers (parish), Devon.
 IR/30/9/31 - Tithe map of Bere Ferrers (parish), Devon.



Reference: OS 25 Inch Map 1892-1914
 Source: National Library of Scotland (Map Images) -
<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=17.9&lat=50.47879&lon=-4.17658&layers=168&b=1>



Johanna Trathen and William Trathen

Note that in the parish the family's surname was found as Trattoon, Trathan and Trathen. It appears (incorrectly) as Trattoon in the Tithe Apportionment Book.

For both Johanna and son William, the Tithe only lists them as occupiers of the two arable plots, however, they are both in the 1841 Census at Bere Alston (at different locations). Presumably their dwellings were rented from one of the individual "occupiers" in the Apportionment, who clearly owned or were tenants of more than one property.

Johanna Trathen appears on the 1841 Bere Ferrers Census at Pepper Street, Bere Alston. Johannah Trathen (55) (widow), Elizabeth Trathen (15), Johannah Trathen (15) and Ann Trathan (15) all born in Devon (note that the three apparent 15 year olds were the result of the instruction to round down the age of anyone over fifteen to the nearest multiple of five). Also in the household were John Martin (8) born in Devon, John Sleep (20) miner (silver-lead), not born in Devon and William Pomery (20) miner (silver-lead), born in Devon.¹

Johanna's maiden name was Blagdon, she was born in 1782 and baptised in the parish of Lifton on 16th June, the daughter of John and Jane Blagdon (née Harvey).² John Blagdon and Jane Harvey were married at Bere Ferrers on 8th February 1780, John noted as "of this parish" and Jane of Lifton.³

At Bere Ferrers on 10th February 1806, Johanna Blagdon married William Trathen, Johanna "of this parish" and William "sojourner of this parish".⁴

Unfortunately it has not been possible to determine the origins of William Trathen with absolute certainty. He died before the 1841 Census, there are two possible candidates for him from the Bere Ferrers Burial Register -

William Tratto (sic) died at Bere Alston in 1834 (aged 54), buried on 26th January. So born c.1780.⁵

William Tratto (sic) died at Bere Alston in 1827 (aged 55), buried on 22nd June. So born c.1772.⁶

There was a William Trathern (sic) baptised at Stoke Damerel on 17th March 1782, son of William and Elizabeth.⁷ William Trathen had married Elizabeth Wasley at Stoke Damerel on 15th March 1781, witnessed by a Walter Trathen.⁸ The surname Wasley was especially common around Gwennap, just to the east of Redruth, and it is likely that Elizabeth came from there.

Another William Trathen had been baptised at Stoke Damerel on 24th July 1776, the son of Walter and Elizabeth Trathen.⁹ Walter Trathen and Elizabeth Bohenna were married at Redruth on 15th September 1770.¹⁰

Walter and William Trathen were probably the brothers, baptised in Redruth in 1745¹¹ and 1751¹² respectively, sons of Walter and Mary Trathen.

The two William Trathens who were buried at Bere Ferrers were therefore possibly first cousins, one of whom was married to Johanna Blagdon.

What is certain is that William Trathen was a miner and that almost certainly was from a Redruth family.

William and Johanna Trathen had at least eight children born in the parish: Thomas (1806), William (1809), Mary (1811), John Blagdon (1814), Jane (1817), Elizabeth (1821), Johanna (c.1824) and Ann (1826).

Johanna Trathen died (aged 62) at Bere Alston in 1844, and was buried at Bere Ferrers on 5th July.¹³

William Trathen (jun.) appears on the 1841 Bere Ferrers Census at Chapel Street, Bere Alston. He is listed as a miner (silver-lead) aged 30, in the same household are Sally (25), John B (8), Stephen (4), Thomas (2) and Henry (4 mths), all born in Devon.¹⁴

William Trathen was baptised on 13th August 1809 at Bere Ferrers, son of William and Johanna (as above).¹⁵

William married Sally Bishop at Bere Ferrers on 15th September 1832, both "of this parish".¹⁶ Sally was born at Bere Alston in 1813 and baptised at Bere Ferrers on 21st February, the daughter of John (a husbandman) and Sally Bishop (née Kelly)¹⁷, who were married at Tavistock on 17th December 1803, both "of this parish".¹⁸

In 1851 William and family were living at 13 Pepper Street, Bere Alston. William Trathen (40) lead miner, with wife Sally (38) and children - John B (18), William (16), Stephen (14), Thomas (12) and Henry (10) all lead miners, Sarah (8), Samuel (6) and James (4), all the family born Bere Ferrers.¹⁹

Around 1860 the Trathen family emigrated to the USA. They settled in Houghton County on the Keweenaw Peninsula in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, an area rich in copper deposits and a name synonymous with the Cornish Mining Diaspora of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

William Trathen died at Houghton on 20th March 1871, and was buried at Forest Hill Cemetery, Houghton (note there is an age discrepancy, the headstone gives a birth year of 1806).²⁰

Sally Trathen died just a year later (aged 59) on 31st March 1872, also buried at Forest Hill, Houghton.²¹

Notes:

1. 1841 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN240 BN3 FN16 PN27.
2. Devon Baptisms - Lifton. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
3. Devon Marriages & Banns - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
4. Ibid.
5. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
6. Ibid.
7. Devon Baptisms - Stoke Damerel. Ref:166/7/a, page 55 - Plymouth & West Devon Record Office Collection (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
8. Devon Marriages & Banns - Stoke Damerel. Plymouth & West Devon Record Office (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
9. Devon Baptisms - Stoke Damerel. Ref:166/7/a, page 6 - Plymouth & West Devon Record Office Collection (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
10. Cornwall Marriages - Redruth, St Uny. CFHS Transcriptions (findmypast.co.uk).
11. Walter Trathen baptised 1st March 1745, son of Walter & Mary - St Euny's Parish Church, Redruth, Register of baptisms, marriages & burials, 1716-1749. Ref: KK P197/1/3.
12. William Trathan baptised 27th July 1751, son of Walter & Mary - Cornwall Baptisms - Redruth, St Uny. CFHS Transcriptions (findmypast.co.uk).
13. Devon Burials - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/19 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
14. 1841 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN240 BN2 FN4 PN3.
15. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. Ref: 1237A/PR/1/2 - South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
16. Devon Marriages & Banns - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
17. Devon Baptisms - Bere Ferrers. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
18. Devon Marriages & Banns - Tavistock. South West Heritage Trust (original scan) (findmypast.co.uk).
19. 1851 Devon Census, Beer Ferris (Bere Ferrers). Ref: HO107 PN1883 FN17 PN27.
20. Ancestry.com. *U.S., Find a Grave® Index, 1600s-Current* [database on-line]. See: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58759356/william-trathen>
21. Ancestry.com. *U.S., Find a Grave® Index, 1600s-Current* [database on-line]. See: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58759423/sally-trathen>