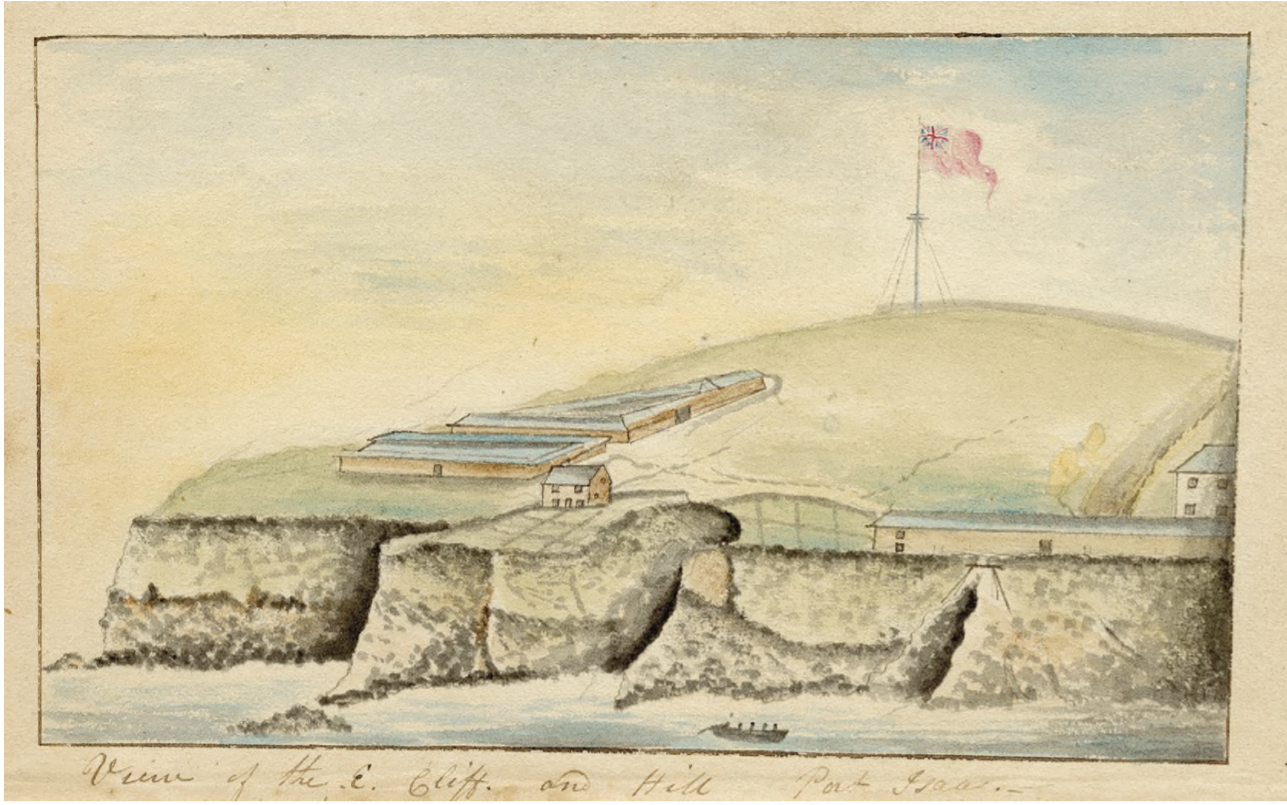


The Trevan Book



View of the E. Cliffs and Hill Port Isaac

Endellion Parish, in the Hundred of Trigg situated in the N.E. part of the County of Cornwall, all this parish is about five miles long, and two at its greatest breadth. It is bounded on the N. by the Atlantic Ocean, on the E. by the parish of St. Teath, on the S. by St. Kew and on the W. by that of St. Minver. This is a very elevated parish, as much so as any in the county, being seen from a great extent of country all around.



View of the Cliff over the West Quay Port Isaac

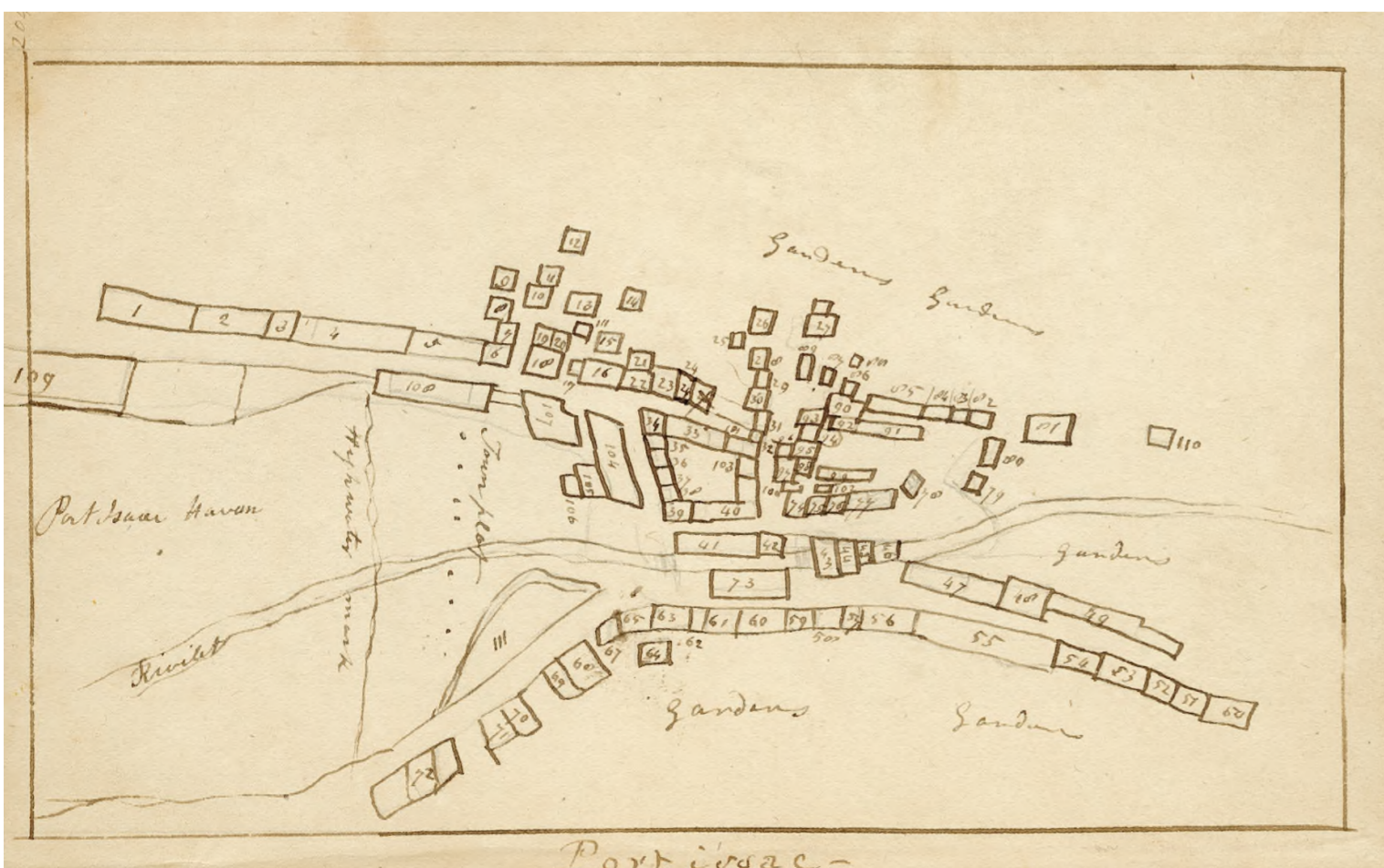


Ebenezer at Port Isaac

'Ebenezer' 1833 On the morning of 31st. August, it blowing a gale of wind at N.W., a ship appeared off Port Isaac endeavouring to work off the land but, in her attempts, continually falling to leeward every tack, and having a Jack flying in her rigging for a pilot on this, the colours on the flag staff on the Eastern hill and a large fire was instantly made, the tide at the time being about half ebb. The people on board the ship was then perceived throwing lumber, water casks, etc., etc., overboard to clear ship. And then being but a short distance from the W. point of the cove, wore ship, and run for the place and took ground on the sands opposite the old W. quay, and went athwart, her stern swinging ...



Saint Endellion Church



Port Isaac

In 1834 John Watts Trevan, who lived in White House Cottage on Roscarrock Hill, put together his comprehensive 328-page manuscript on the parish of Endellion and its inhabitants as it was just prior to the Victorian era. This fascinating document has pen portraits of the families and people living here eg. fond of a tippie..., got pregnant by the Baptist preacher..., run off and left his family..., reputed a witch..., and many more of Trevan's forthright comments and opinions. It also describes local wildlife, fishing, mining, boats and who owned them, imports and exports, together with details of local wrecks between 1800 and 1834. Trevan illustrated the book with his own watercolour drawings, showing some of the people, buildings and views, including a map of Port Isaac numbering all the properties to show who owned them at that time.

The Port Isaac Local History Group purchased the manuscript in 1999 and it is now on permanent loan at the County Records Office in Truro, to be available for future historians.

The group has now published the complete manuscript, together with all its illustrations in full colour, as a hardback book at an affordable price. Copies, priced £10, are available from *Secrets*, Port Isaac.

To witness a gale of wind here baffles almost description it is truly sublime, well may it be said.

The sky is dark, the rain descend
In torrents from on high,
The winds with huffling bursting gusts
Proclaim the storm is nigh.

The foaming waves with fury beat
Against the stubborn rocks,
The wind then hurls it up on high
Against the cliff it smacks.

The sea birds wild and screaming voice
Is heard along the shore
Seeking its high and rocky nest
Amidst the dismal roar.

The lightning flashes from the sky
In forked flashes it darts
The thunder's awful rumbling noise
Strikes terror to the heart.

The vessels are now tossed about
Upon the wanton wave
Each sailor now with pale affright
Expects a watery grave.

Then who is he who caused this storm
Thus awfully arrived
Who guides the lightning from on high
The thunders thus to lead

The god who lives above the sky
Who made this storm it is
He made the heavens earth and sky
And all that in them is.



Castle Rock, Port Govern, with a Distant View of Tintagle Castle



Shooting of the Sean in Port Isaac Bay

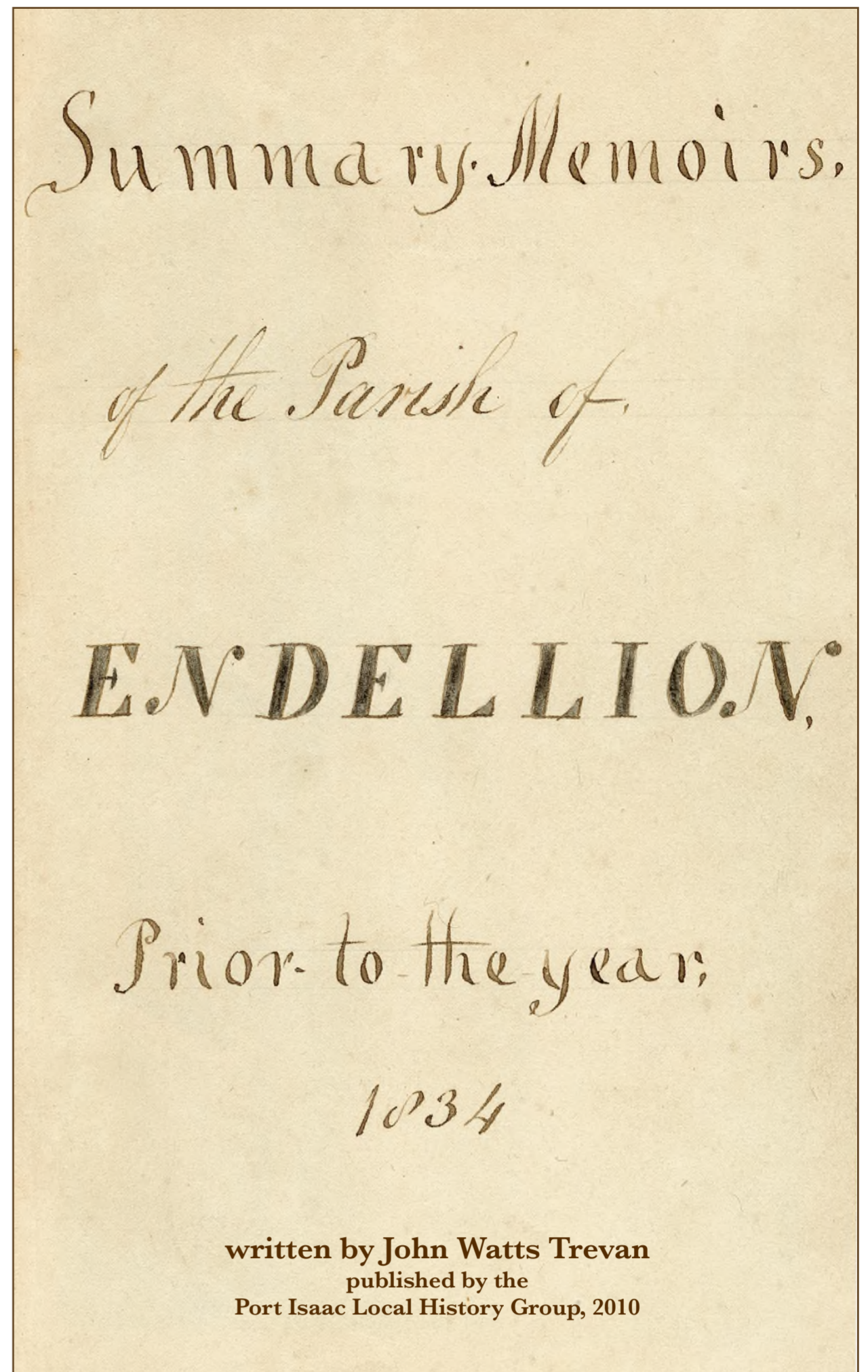
Port Isaac

Port Isaac a small fishing town, but the largest and most thickly inhabited place in this parish. It contains about one hundred and forty dwelling houses, inhabited mostly by seafaring people. Being as mean, dirty, tumultuous place as can well be conceived, therefore a refuge for all tag, rag, and bobtail from all quarters and without the least control or government, the streets narrow and filthy as almost to render them impassable in the time of wet weather. It contains open place of worship which is a commodious Wesleyan Methodist chapel which about fifty-five members of society are attached thereto. Port Isaac is fast going to decay, not being near so lovely as formerly, as many respectable families once resided here, and all the better most houses are occupied by poor families and likewise in consequence of the slate trade being removed to Port Govern and the failure of the pilchard fishing.

In the course of a very few years, there will not be a place for vessels or boats to lay, except on the raised rocks, in consequence of all coal vessels ballasting and carrying off the beach which is very fast diminishing. Many old people now alive remember all the western rocks all the way out entirely covered with sand and beach. There were formerly quays on both sides of the cove but very little more than their foundations now remain, when or by whom they were first erected, is lost to tradition, nor are they spoken of for certain in any history. A path way went up over the cliff over the western quay but has been fall away for many years - it is well recollected by many who have been up and down many times, a small part of a wall with lime work are there still to be seen...

a very much needed parcel
James Park & Workings purchased from
the Cooks by Mr Stephens found it having
the
Marcombes, tenement purchased by Mr
Chas Phillips from the Cook family
tenement by John Phillips
Combs tenement - bought of the Cooks family
by Revd Dr Darley for the sum of what
£340
Mill tenement a moiety to Cobbs &
Pimons on lease to a Mr Oliver of
Exmouth tenement by Mr Stephens
being 1/2 acres at 3/4 per Ann.

The last page of Trevan's manuscript



Honour Martyn



The Art of Exercising - Richard Clements



Uncle Jan in the Badger Hole - John Barrett



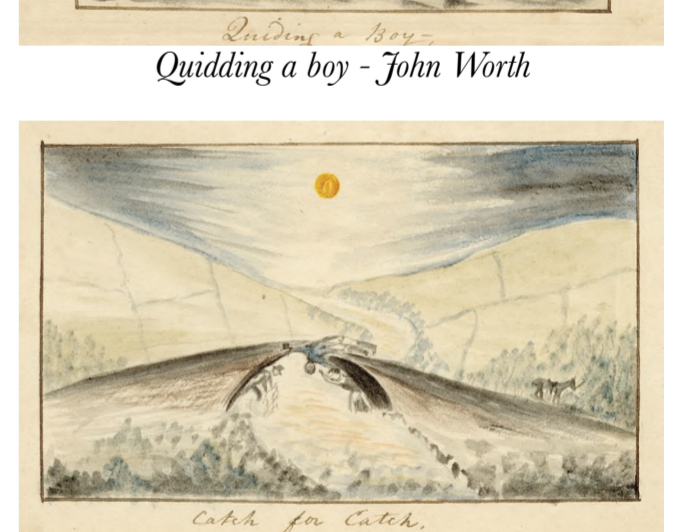
Must my Poker fly - John and Polly Adams



John Prideaux



Quidding a boy - John Worth



Catch for Catch - Richard Teague



Abm Bastard preaching on Port Isaac town plot.

Abm Bastard preaching on Port Isaac town plot



John Hawoke's mill at Port Quin



John Watts Trevan lived at White House Cottage on Roscarrock Hill. This photograph, taken c1965 by Robin Penna, shows his home as he would have known it. The cottage subsequently collapsed and was rebuilt to conform with building regulations, thus destroying it's traditional Cornish cottage shape.