

Returning to **ST. MARY'S CLOSE**, this open space is on the site of a row of old shops demolished in 1976; even before the shops, the butchers' market, a row of cottages, and one of the parish poor houses stood on or near this site. Before you leave the Close cross to the back wall and look at the **RATTENBURY TROUGH**, this drinking trough was given by Simon Philip Rattenbury of Polhisa, a leading figure in the area 100 years ago. It stood originally at the corner of Tavistock Road and Saltash Road at the top of the hill,

Enter the church gates and to the left of the path is the **LANTERN CROSS** on a granite post. The four faces of the cross show the Crucifixion; the Virgin Mary with the Holy Child; a bishop, possibly St. Peter; and a fourth figure praying. The date of this weathered granite post is unknown.

This trail starts at St Mary's Close, just in front of the Church. The inside of our 15th century parish church requires a 'trail' of its own, this one is concerned with what can be seen as you walk around the town.

**Refreshments.** There are various inns, cafes and shops in Callington.

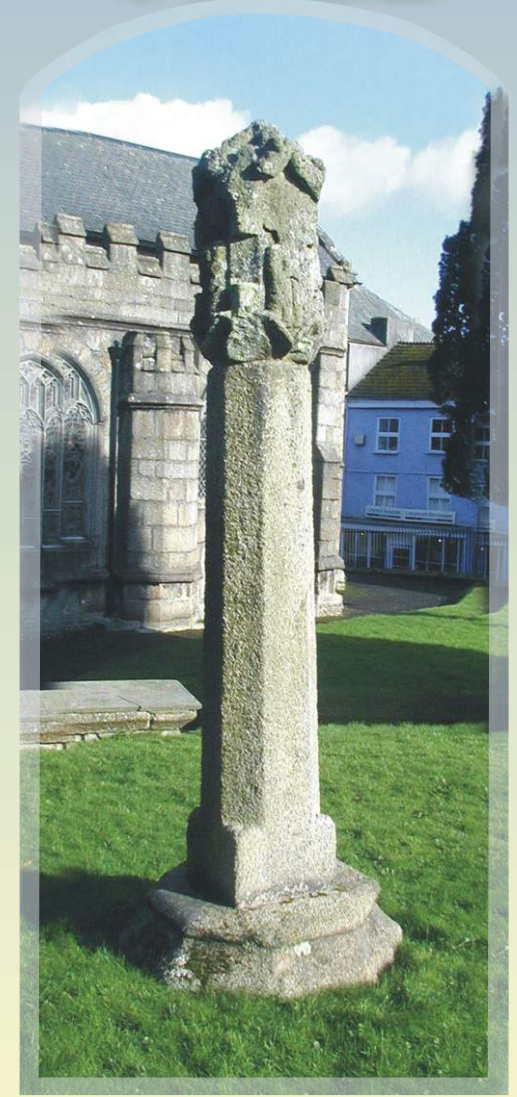
**Public Conveniences.** These are in New Road, just opposite the bus stop.

**Transport.** Callington is served by buses from the adjoining towns. The bus stop is in New Road, just a short distance from the start of the walk [go down to Fore Street and turn left]. There is a free car park on the southern entrance to the town, from there walk down across the park, turn downhill and then left into New Road.

*Length of walk approximately 3 kilometres or 1.6 miles.*

## CALLINGTON THE HERITAGE TRAIL

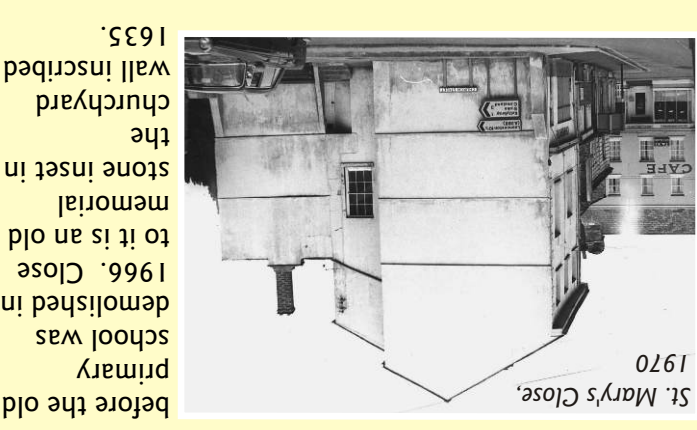
# HERITAGE TRAIL



# CALLINGTON



Now cross the road to the Bull's Head and walk along the pavement. The **BULLS HEAD** is said "to be as old as the church", i.e. 550 years old. Walk to the Post Office and look at New Road. Opposite to the left is the portico of Goldings Flats; that was the entrance to the **NEW INN**, an extensive building which once stretched right across to the chemist; it was an important staging point for coaches running between Saltash and Launceston and between Tavistock and Liskeard. The bus station end of New Road was the yard and stabling, the town car park and cricket ground and Westover estate beyond were all part of the inn property. In the 19th century it became **GOLDINGS HOTEL** and the length of New Road which runs from Saltash Road to the car park was cut through to provide easier access for the stage coaches. The Assembly Rooms on the first floor, extensively used in those days for dinners, concerts and public meetings, disappeared along with the old archway and the tap room when Goldings was partly demolished in 1959 to connect New Road with Fore Street.



before the old primary school was demolished in 1966. Close to it is an old memorial stone inset in the churchyard wall inscribed 1635.

which is open from Easter to October each year on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If you need a rest there are many seats in the cemetery with beautiful views of Kit Hill and Caradon Hill.

Walk back towards town. On the right before the road narrows you will see the **CHANTRY HOUSE**, which was once the home of James Venning. As you turn the sharp corner by Haye Road you come to the **PHOENIX INN**, this was called the Red Lion in the 18th century. In Victorian times it became Bond's Commercial Hotel, catering mainly, as its name implies, for commercial and less affluent travellers than the patrons of the New Inn and its stage coach service. William Bond and his son Sidney ran a horse-bus and later the first motor omnibus in Callington. The yard through the archway formed the original depot and livery stables.

Cross the road to St Mary's Close and glance along the lane to your left. This was **TILLIE STREET**, the oldest part of Callington, and the white-washed house on the left was the birthplace of John Knill in 1733, famous in St. Ives for the Mausoleum which he built.

In front of you by the west gate to the church is the **'OLD CLINK'**. This square building, which was erected in 1850 at a cost of £60, housed the parish vestry room, where the twelve members of the vestry arranged parish affairs - although from their minutes it is evident that they usually adjourned their meetings to one of the town's hostleries. On the ground floor below the vestry room are two small lock-ups, where the parish constable confined the drunk and disorderly, petty thieves and vagabonds waiting to come before the magistrates.



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Immediately above Chyvarhas is Callington **PRIMARY SCHOOL**. Originally built as the county secondary school in 1907, it became the grammar school in 1944 and the primary school in 1965 after the grammar school had moved to the Launceston Road premises. *Continues inside leaflet*

At the corner turn up Saltash Road, watch out for the **BOROUGH BOUNDARY STONE** set in the garden wall of Chyvarhas. In the days when Callington was a pocket Parliamentary Borough electing two MPs, you could not vote in the election unless you owned property within the borough. You can find other borough boundary stones in Tavistock Rd., Liskeard Rd., at West End and at Newport.

Proceed along New Road towards Saltash Road. On your right is Chyvarhas Residential Home. The name is Cornish for Market House, and the home stands on the site of the **CATTLE MARKET** which operated weekly for nearly 70 years until it closed in 1965.



Cross the road and imagine you are walking through the hotel as you start up New Road. Ahead of you on the right is **CALLINGTON TOWN HALL**; the original entrance was on the other side from the Panier Market. It was built in 1832 as the Corn Market and was restored and converted into a public hall and named **COMPTON HALL** in honour of the young lord of the manor, Lord Compton, who opened it on February 15th 1912.

Stand on the corner of Haye Road and **VALENTINE ROW** and look down the Row at what is still a typical row of 19th century cottages. Also on the corner you will see another Borough boundary stone

In front of you is the Callington **METHODIST CHURCH**, the church was built in 1845 as the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel and enlarged in 1872. At the rear of the building is a small door which was the boys' entrance to the Wesleyan day school established in the rear of the chapel building in 1882. This school became the official 'council' school, moving in 1913 to new premises in Launceston Road.

Follow the service lane which starts almost opposite Valentine Row. This takes you past **COLMER'S COURT**, where there are examples of 19th century workers' cottages amalgamated, modernised and enlarged.

As you turn left at the top of this lane you are alongside the **YOUTH CENTRE**. This was a chapel built by the Plymouth Brethren in 1860 and given to Callington as a youth club by the late Mrs. Isaac Foot in 1947. Under the floor is an area for complete immersion baptism. Behind the building there is a small burial ground with some interesting tombstones. [Key from Town Hall]

Turn right in front of the chapel and proceed away from the town centre until you come to the cemetery. This was opened in 1879 when the churchyard became full. The chapel was built later as a mortuary chapel, one half now houses the **CALLINGTON HERITAGE CENTRE**



Walk up to the corner and admire what was the **TOLLGATE** Hotel, an ornate Victorian toll house which replaced the tollgates at the bottom of Saltash Road. In the days of the weekly cattle market it was known as Chubbs Hotel, a family temperance hotel where good dinners could be obtained for 1/6d. (approx. 7½p), and a good lunch for school children cost 4d. The ornate tiles at first floor level came from the Phoenix Brick Works, you will also see them on the Chantry House and above the Spar shop.

On the other side of the road below the park railings note the stone set in the grass inscribed: '**COUNTY POLICE STATION 1866**'. This stone is NOT on its original site, it was rescued from the site of the old police station in Tavistock Road just beyond the United Methodist Chapel which closed in 1953.



The Old Primary School

Walk back down to the traffic lights. The modern **POLICE STATION** and new houses at the corner of Saltash and Tavistock Road were put up after the old C of E primary school was demolished in 1966 (with much press publicity because of its decrepit condition and the Government's reluctance to provide the funds for a new school). The old school was built in 1841 as the National School, on land given by the lord of the manor at that time, Baron Ashburton. The site had been the Sheep Fair in the days when wool was a very important commodity and flocks were kept on all the unenclosed common land.



Moonsfield

Turn along Tavistock Road and take the second turn on your left into **MOONSFIELD**. Although it is difficult to believe today, Moonsfield was once a squalid overcrowded ghetto. In the late 19th century many

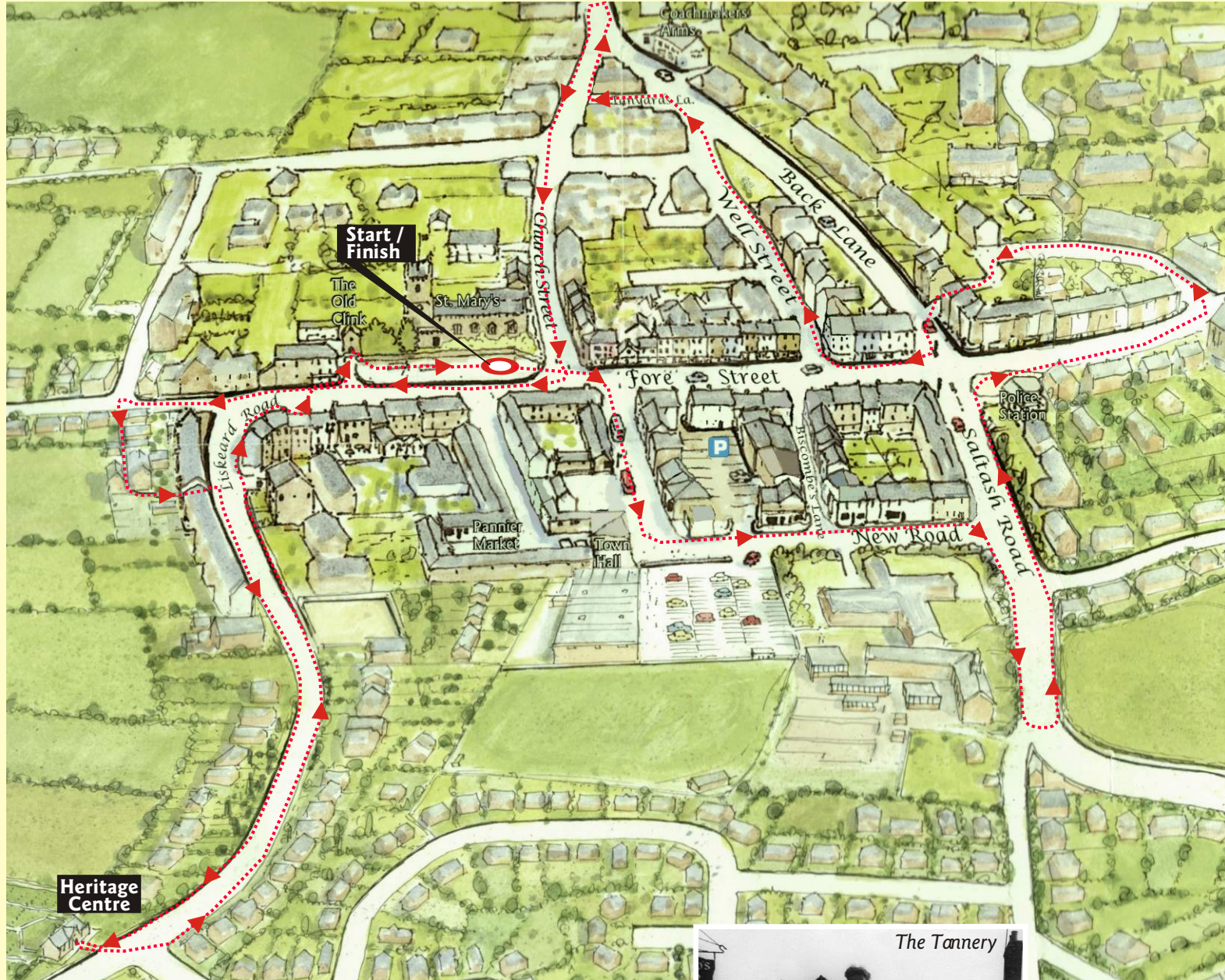
miners and their large families lived in this area. Some of the cottages still retain interesting historical features like coffin holes. This was a hole between the first and ground floor to enable the removal of coffins as the stairs were too steep and narrow.



The Sun Inn, circa 1910

Cross at the Traffic lights and go back along Fore Street, passing, the **PILGRIMS WAY** which was once the Sun Inn. Turn down into Well Street. On your right is the **SOCIAL CLUB**, erected in 1884 and intended as a Public Hall, Andy's Shoe Shop on the corner was the Coffee Tavern and Temperance Hotel.

The name of **WELL STREET** is explained when you cross to the well. The town's original water supply, this probably dates back to Saxon days, long before the church was built, when Callington was a tiny hamlet called Celliwic. On the old maps it is called Lady's Well, the better known name of Pipe Well probably dated



from 1816 when it was enclosed in a protective building and piped to the lower parts of the town. It was superseded by the Callington Water Company, inaugurated by the late James Venning in 1885.

On the left is an archway between two cottages leading into a long courtyard containing another dwelling and other buildings. This is the rear of No.5 Church Street, until recent times the 'surgery' of our local medical practice. Our oldest residents will still tell you about the days of Dr. Harry Davis, who lived in the house in Church Street and would drive out on his rounds in a horse-drawn carriage.

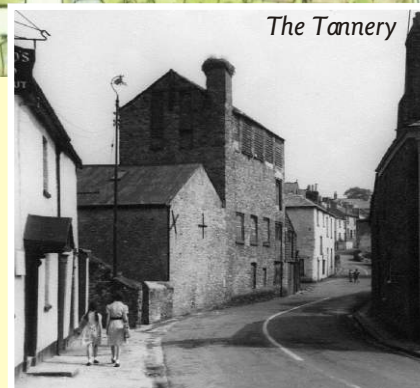


Kingston House

Next door is **KINGSTON HOUSE**, which is reputed to have been the first meeting house of the Society of Friends (the Quakers) in this district. The records do not give an exact location, but they tell us that the Friends' Meeting House in Callington was first mentioned in 1697, which makes this house one of the oldest surviving in the town.

The large house on your right - **KENDALL GREEN** was built by the Rev. J. K. Fletcher who lived in Callington for 60 years. He was a chaplain to the Prince Regent in the reign of George III, and died in 1859.

Walk down Well Street and look at the buildings ahead set on an island and surrounded by three roads, this was once the Bible Christian Chapel built in 1850. When the Chapel moved to its new premises the lean-to section became a blacksmith's as commemorated in the mural in Tanyards Lane. Either view the **COACHMAKER'S INN**, from the end of Well Street or go along Tanyards Lane and turn right down Church Street. When you look towards the Inn you are facing the old industrial area of the town. Behind the Coachmakers were gas works and the buildings which housed 19th century coach building works. Later an agricultural store, the complex was demolished in 1983.



The Tannery

On your right on the site of the new houses was a long building now demolished. This was the old **TANNERY**; the building, once 4-storied high, was the store where

oak bark was delivered for the drying of hides in the tanning process. Built and operated in the early days by William Dingle, it was run at the turn of the century by William Goodman.

Opposite the Coachmaker's is the **BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL**, built in 1903/4. The names of the local people involved, including those of other denominations, are inscribed on tablets in the front wall. Also set in the wall you will see the northern boundary stone of the Borough of Callington.

Walk up Church Street - the open area on your right now occupied by Trewartha's stores used to be the depot for Rickard's horse bus and carrier service. Here were the stables, with the grazing field beyond.

Further up on your right is **CHEQUETTS HALL**. Betjeman described this as the only building of note in Callington, but since then it has been sadly despoiled with a shop front. Built in the Regency period for the Horndon family (who later built Pencrebar), it was last lived in by the late Arthur Blight and his family, when it had extensive grounds.

Proceed to the top of Church Street, go across the Close and into Liskeard Road. On the corner proceed into Haye Road. On your right is a building that was erected in 1879 as a **FREEMASONS' HALL**, it was purchased in 1951 when it was used as a market hall before becoming residential in 1999.

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Church Street, 1908