

HALSGROVE DISCOVER SERIES

CORNWALL'S CHINA CLAY COUNTRY

EXPLORING THE LAND
OF THE WHITE PYRAMID

Roger Fogg & Adrian Brown

The granite uplands around St Austell in Cornwall have been at the centre of the china clay industry for more than two hundred years yet they remain almost unknown to outsiders. Visitors speeding down the Goss Moor on their way to the beaches and holiday resorts further to the west of the county may be aware of the strange silhouettes and hills of the area yet their thoughts are on the sands and the seaside delights that await them. Retirees may pause on their coastal walks to gaze inland; holidaymakers flying into Newquay may wonder briefly what the strangely coloured lakes below might be. Tourists on their way to the Eden Project in coaches may get a commentary on the strange landscape but rarely do they stop and investigate further. Even those who live in other parts of Cornwall have only a vague idea of what goes on in the mines and refineries, the dryers and the ports.

Cornwall's China Clay Country seeks to inspire readers to explore the St Austell china clay area and to help visitors to interpret what they see, and locals to remember how things were. Through a series of walks and drives around the district the authors invite their readers to explore the history of the area following the routes of Clay Trails that have been established for walkers and cyclists. Period photographs illustrate bygone methods of winning the clay, the buildings that were once so typical of the industry and the people that did the work, while superb colour photographs reinforce impressions of a modern landscape that is quite unique to this part of Cornwall.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Roger Fogg has grown up in china clay country and comes from a family with close connections to the clay industry. He is an award-winning author of several books and has contributed to many magazines, particularly on the subject of vintage motorcycles. He has worked in special education for over 40 years and lives near St Austell.

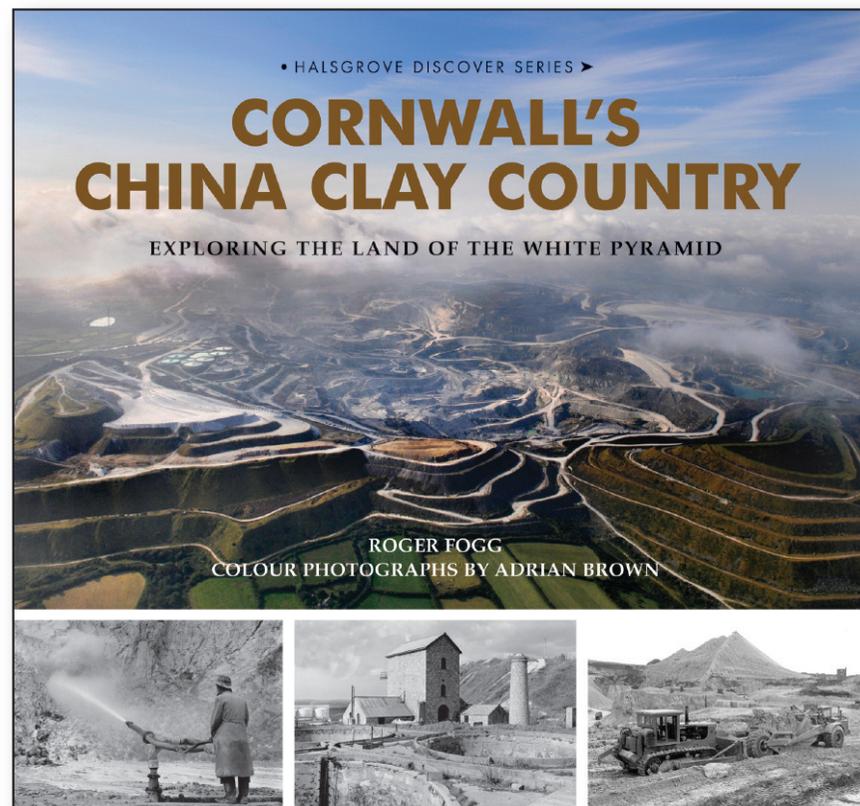
Adrian Brown left the Royal Marines and studied photography at Manchester University, working for 20 years as a London-based advertising photographer with Virgin, HSBC and Porsche GB among his clients. He has had his work short-listed for the AOP 2008 Awards and the Landscape Photographer of the Year Awards. He now lives in Cornwall, lecturing part time at University College Falmouth.

HALSGROVE CATALOGUE

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Halsgrove Publishing
Halsgrove House,
Ryelands Business Park,
Bagley Road, Wellington,
Somerset TA21 9PZ
Tel: 01823 653777
Fax: 01823 216796
www.halsgrove.com
e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



Format: Hardback, 144 pages, 214x230mm including over 120 colour and historic photographs
Price: £16.99
ISBN: 978 0 85704 103 6
Imprint: Halsgrove
Published: August 2011



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The wagon tip at Fowey no 8 jetty in 1910. CCHS



Above: A long-since demolished 46 1/2" rotative beam engine at Blackpool. CCHS

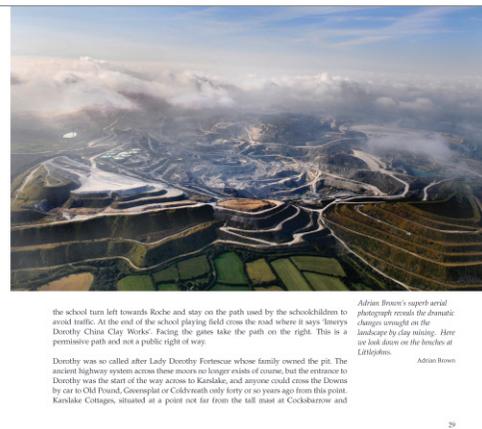
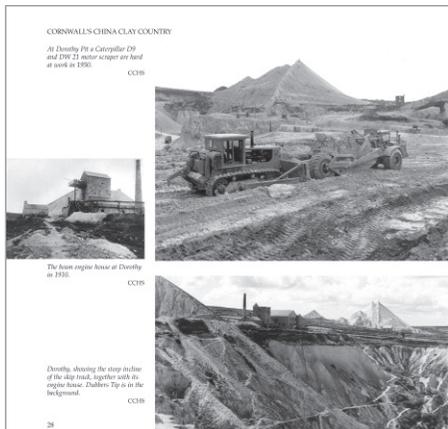


Left: The high-pressure hose known as the monitor washing clay away from the stent or unwanted rock. The manually controlled old-fashioned versions were hard work, in winter the spray would freeze and it was not uncommon for the hoseman to be completely covered in an icy coating. Now they are remotely operated from a heated cabin some distance away from the actual jet of water. CCHS



Mica particles in suspension refract the light causing the startling colours in the pool at Blackpool Pit. Adrian Brown

Below: Example of a double-page spread.



Spoil being removed (Fal Valley) St Dennis and Parrandillick in the distance. Adrian Brown