

Welcome to Luxulyan Valley

Dynnargh a Glydn Logsulyan



Treffry Viaduct



The Eurasian Otter (*lutra lutra*) can also be found in the Valley

Eurasian Otter - Eric Christensen CC BY-SA 4.0

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Valley. The map shows the main footpaths. Please note some paths are steep and the surfaces uneven:

- The climb to the top of the Viaduct from Black Hill Car Park
- The Incline from Pontois Mill Car Park
- The upper loop of the Velvet Path from either car park

The Hidden Kingdom of Treffry – where nature and industry merge

The Luxulyan Valley is an internationally important historic landscape and part of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site.

The Valley contains an extraordinary concentration of industrial remains, which are unique in southwest Britain. They are the product of one man's vision - Joseph Thomas Treffry (1782-1850).

Treffry used the Valley's natural resources to create one of Cornwall's few canals, an industrial railway, a 700-metre-long water-powered inclined plane and the spectacular granite Treffry Viaduct. It is the only known viaduct in Britain combining both a horse-drawn tramway and a channel (known as a 'leat'), to carry water to power the water wheel for the Carmears Inclined Plane and later china stone mill.



Joseph Thomas Treffry (1782-1850) of Place, Fowey

People Power

Treffry was the largest employer in mid Cornwall in the 19th century and relied upon hundreds of workers to build and run his industrial empire. The mine and quarry workers that made up much of the populations of St Blazey, Tywardreath, Par and Luxulyan were essential to his success.

Bedrock of Industry

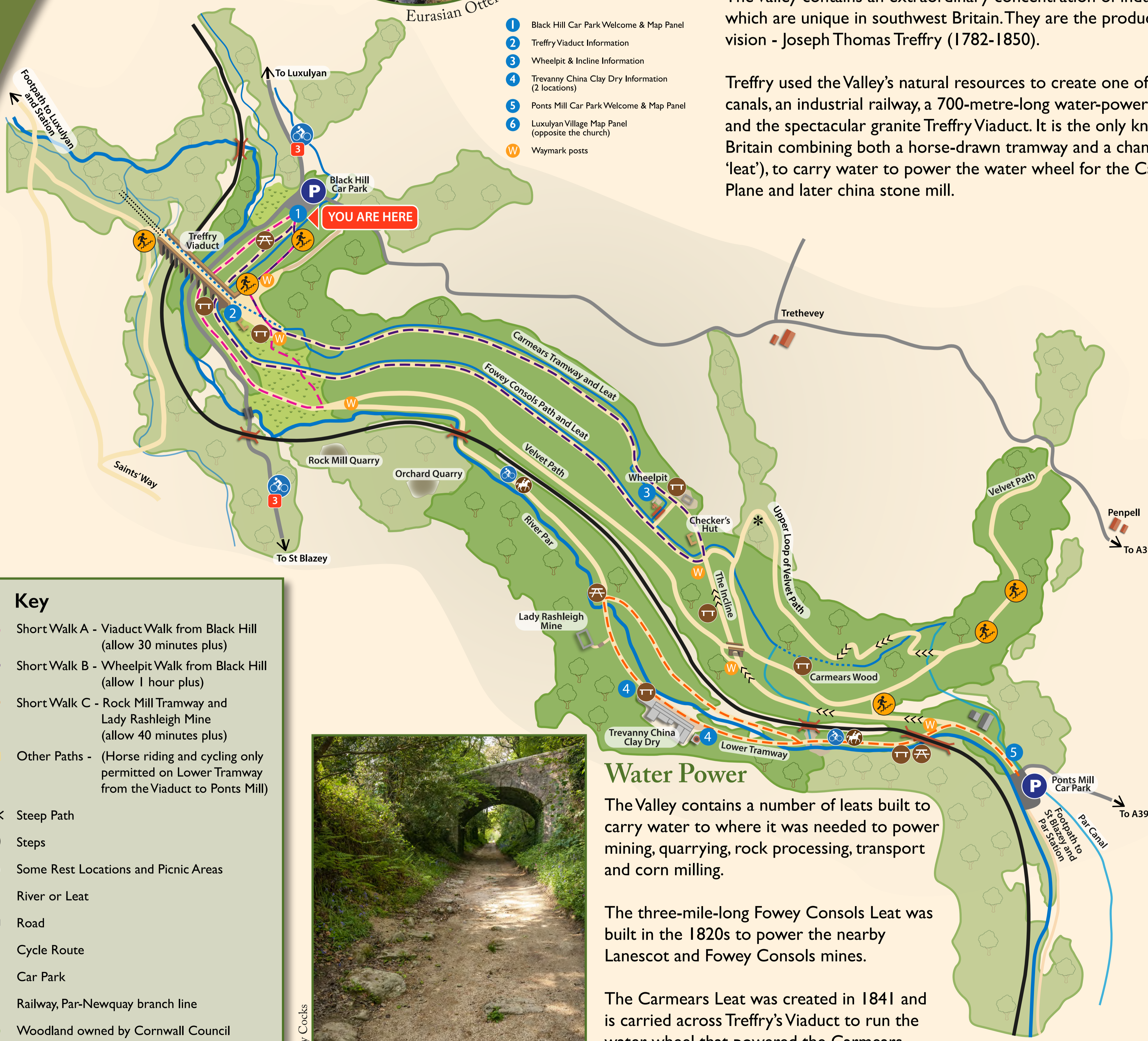
The mineral riches of this part of mid Cornwall were the motivation for industrialisation. Copper and tin were increasingly in demand in the early 19th century, while china clay and china stone were needed for pottery manufacture in Staffordshire. The high-quality granite from in the Valley was used as a building material.

It also shelters a wide range of other plants and animals, including protected species such as bats, otters and dormice. Most of the Valley is deciduous woodland, including ancient oaks.



Geological Bedrock

- Older biotite granite
- Granite with china clay
- China stone with lithium granites
- Notable copper and tin mines
- Cornwall & West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site, Area A8 - Luxulyan Valley and Charlestown



Key

- Short Walk A - Viaduct Walk from Black Hill (allow 30 minutes plus)
- Short Walk B - Wheelpit Walk from Black Hill (allow 1 hour plus)
- Short Walk C - Rock Mill Tramway and Lady Rashleigh Mine (allow 40 minutes plus)
- Other Paths - (Horse riding and cycling only permitted on Lower Tramway from the Viaduct to Pontois Mill)

Steep Path
Steps
Some Rest Locations and Picnic Areas
River or Leat
Road
Cycle Route
Car Park
Railway, Par-Newquay branch line
Woodland owned by Cornwall Council
* Use of footpath permitted by private landowner.



The Carmears Inclined Plane

Water Power

The Valley contains a number of leats built to carry water to where it was needed to power mining, quarrying, rock processing, transport and corn milling.

The three-mile-long Fowey Consols Leat was built in the 1820s to power the nearby Lanescot and Fowey Consols mines.

The Carmears Leat was created in 1841 and is carried across Treffry's Viaduct to run the water wheel that powered the Carmears Inclined Plane, which transferred wagons full of granite from his quarry to the canal below.

Further information

Visit Wheal Martyn Museum, at Carthew near St Austell, for a fascinating insight into the metal mining and china clay history of both the Valley and mid Cornwall www.wheal-martyn.com
Wheal Martyn, St Austell, Cornwall, PL26 8XG
Tel: 01726 850362, info@wheal-martyn.com

The following websites provide further information on the history of the Luxulyan Valley:

The Friends of Luxulyan Valley - www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk
Cornwall Heritage Trust - www.cornwallheritagetrust.org
Cornish Mining World Heritage Site - www.cornishmining.org.uk
The Luxulyan Valley is managed by Cornwall Council (www.cornwall.gov.uk)

