

What treasure still lies buried beneath Cornwall's ancient rocks?

Making metal from ore dug from the ground is a skill, a passion and a business that is fundamental to the character and identity of Cornwall. Beneath the rolling fields, buried in the cliffs, far below the crashing sea is a hidden world of strength, sorrow, triumph and struggle. Know this world and we know something of Cornwall. In *The Story of Mining in Cornwall*, Allen Buckley narrates 4,000 years of mining history with clarity, detail and a warm human sympathy.

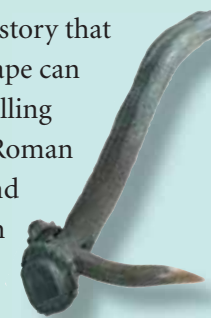


This is a new history, based on the most recent research and findings. It is magnificently illustrated, with much rare and original material. Allen Buckley's qualifications as a working miner and an academic historian make him uniquely equipped to deliver this narrative, this technical understanding, this social awareness and this foresight into the future of Cornish mining.



The ancient tanners

The author brings alive the ancient tales, myths and shreds of history that tell of the earliest workings whose marks on the Cornish landscape can still be seen today. The story unfolds from Bronze Age tanners selling their white metal to foreign traders to Iron Age merchants and Roman invaders. Who were these tanners and how did they live, work and trade? How were the Stannaries formed and how did the English governments control and exploit them? What were the tanners' ancient rights, laws and liberties?



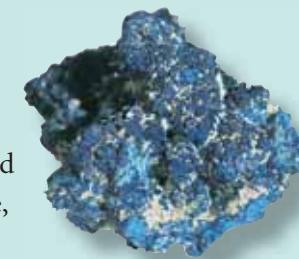
Riches from moor and valley

We discover mediaeval miners on the high moorlands of Bodmin, Hensborough and Hingston Down and in the valleys of St Austell, Red Moor, Carnon and the Hayle River. New industrial buildings and docks were developed to prepare and ship the ore. Land-owners became rich and Tudor magnates built ever more magnificent houses. Inventors and industrialists pushed back the boundaries of technology and developed the unique political and legal structures that emerged throughout the mining industry.



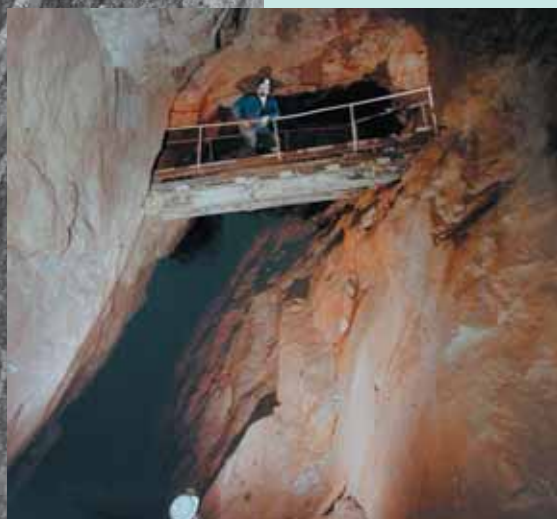
Copper's glory

In the 18th century Cornwall became the biggest copper producer in the world. Tens of thousands of men were employed. The mines reached ever deeper. Miners developed their prowess in the hard rock of Cornwall and took their skills in an explosive emigration of experience, techniques and machinery to in every continent.



Decline, the present ...and the future

Allen Buckley brings deep insight to the familiar paradoxes of Cornish mining as it reached the heights of technical and financial success and catastrophic decline almost simultaneously. He evokes the daily struggles of the miners and their families, often apart for many years, often on different continents. He brings the story within living memory as he charts the changing fortunes of the Cornish miner in the 20th century. And he tells us of the present and the future, as Cornish miners continue to bestride the world of technological change, prospecting for mineral wealth wherever it may be found.



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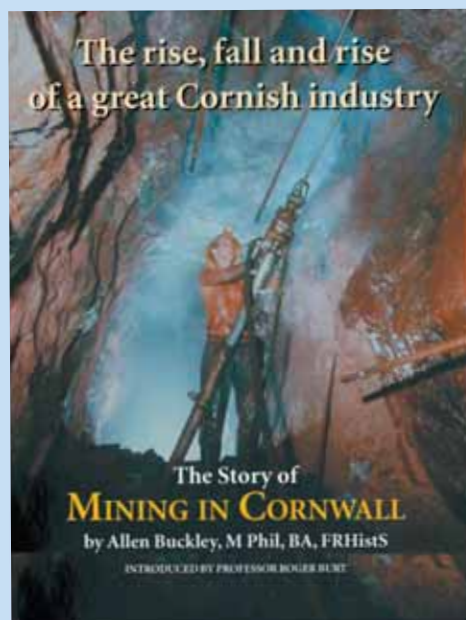
HOWTO ORDER – OPEN FLAP

A major new study of Cornish mining

This is a completely new work. Some of the ground is familiar but the narrative is based on fresh research and drawn together by the unique insight into matters of mining history brought to the subject by Allen Buckley. Its compass is wide: it covers the ancient past, the complex and dramatic 18th and 19th centuries and, most unusually, the present and the future. This is not a volume in praise of past glories – it challenges our understanding of history and gives us an awareness of the currency of Cornish mining expertise that is rarely explored.

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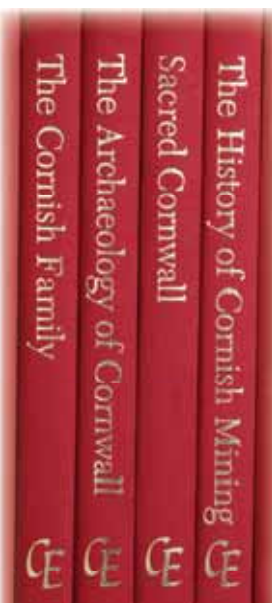
Allen Buckley, MPhil, BA, FRHistS

Allen Buckley has worked in the mining industry for more than 30 years – underground at South Crofty and Geevor and then as the Manager of Crofty Consultancy. He studied history at Exeter University and took his M. Phil degree at the Camborne School of Mines, of which he was Master in 1992. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in the same year. He is a writer of considerable note, having published more than 20 books of mediaeval, local and mining history. A bard of the Cornish Gorsedd, he was editor of the *Trevithick Society Journal* for 13 years and lectures frequently to many historical groups and gatherings of the Old Cornwall Society. He has taught at various educational levels and institutions

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