

The school started with 68 scholars drawn from rural and seafaring families. Later the number rose to 110. The estimated income was:- Government grant £40, outfit grant (furniture) £25, Grant from Westminster £35, Chapel Anniversaries £5, school pence £45. (Boys paid 6d a week, girls 3d or 2d, infants 2d, according to the position of their parents). Expenditure:- Teacher's salary £86 with £8 for an assistant, books £20, building £50, charwoman £5, fuel £1. This school seems to have closed in 1871, possibly because the master moved to Truro, but was open again by 1873, the master was W.J.N. Oliver with his wife Martha as assistant. The fee for boys rose to 9d, girls 3d and infants 2d. About 75 children attended in 1875. James Whitburn was Correspondent.

We do not know exactly what other schools existed in the parish but there were dame schools and small private school in each district. At one time there was a school in the top storey of a building at the back of the chapel in Carnon Downs and another is said to have been held in a barn at the junction of Old Carnon and Carnon Hill. There was certainly a British School at Point in 1861, but where was it situated? What type of school was at Rope Walk? A Sunday School was provided by the Daniells for their workers at Trelassick and there was a school at Four Turnings near Mount Pleasant in 1842.

Altogether there must have been quite a number of places of learning because in the 1851 census, 322 children are given as scholars, just one being listed as Sunday scholar only. By 1861 the number was 550. There are instances of children remaining at school up to 16 years of age and in 1874 a boy of 18 years was re-admitted to Devoran school when Carnon Mine, where he had been working, closed down.

This is a brief review of the local situation, taken mainly from Parish Council records up to 1863, after which date individual school log-books give detailed accounts of the day to day working of each school and will provide material for a further chapter.

## SHIPBUILDING IN THE PARISHES OF FEOCK AND DEVORAN IN THE 19th CENTURY

These notes are only an interim result of an incomplete study of the original sources. Much work remains to be done on the written sources and also in discussion with local residents.

Sources consulted up to date are:-

1. Lloyds register of shipping. Nat. Maritime Museum.
2. The Merchant Shipping Registers. " "
3. Lloyds Certificates of Registry " "
4. Wreck Registers. " "
5. Lloyds Shipping Lists. Guildhall Library
6. Custom House Registers. Truro & Falmouth.
7. Various Documents. County Record Office.
8. Files of the Royal Cornwall Gazette & West Briton By courtesy of Mr. Douch & Mr. Davies.
9. "Merchant Schooners" by Basil Davidson.

During the 19th century small ships were built at many sites on all rivers and estuaries so that it is not surprising to find that there were several yards even in one parish. The most important building site was at Point, where the location is still known as Yard Point, there were also building sites at Pill, Devoran, Cowlands and Roundwood.

1. Pill. The earliest record of building that I have found so far was at Pill, where the following builders worked:-

(a) <u>Hitchins and Ford</u>			
1819	William Thomas	Barge	37 tons.
1877	J.W.T.	Schooner	100 tons.
1879	Lizzie Edith	Schooner	90 tons.
(b) <u>William Hodge</u>			
1863	Glenfeadon	Schooner	128 tons.
1865	A.D. Gilbert	Schooner	177 tons.
(c) <u>Charles Burt</u>			
1875	Reaper	Schooner	94 tons.

2. Devoran. Devoran was not a very convenient site for ship building as there was little depth of water and no good place for building slips. Nevertheless several ships were built there.

(a) <u>W. Stephens, Jnr.</u>			
1844	?	Smack	?
(b) <u>Richard Gilbert</u>			
1881	R.H.G.	Ketch	45 tons.



(c) Hugh Eddy Stephens

1869	Eaterprise	Smack	53 tons
1870	Annie	Sloop	15 tons
1875	Maggie	Schooner	132 tons
1875	Mary	Smack	25 tons
1877	Mary & Julia	Schooner	136 tons
1878	P.H. Stephens	Schooner	85 tons

H.E. Stephens built on a site near Tallack's creek which can still be seen, and lived in one of the cottages at Carnon Mine

3. Roundwood Quay (Cowlands Creek).(a) J. Wellington

1872	W.R.T.	Schooner	60 tons
1876	Bushman	Schooner	? tons

(b) W.M. Burley & W. Hitchens

1877	William & John	Schooner	83 tons
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(c) H.S. Trethowan

1876	Flora	Schooner	99 tons
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Launches unfinished at Little Falmouth and completed at Roundwood.

4. Point. The site at Yard Point seems to have been used for ship building from an early date and members of the Ferris family were connected with it for many years. The early records showing builders names can be confusing and it is not easy to confirm the attributions to individual members of the Ferris family. There is also doubt sometimes whether a ship was built at Point or Pill.

According to Mr. Ben Ferris of Carnon Mine the Ferris family were running the yard when it was taken over by Mr. John Stephens in 1859 and William Ferris, known as "Foreman Ferris" stayed on there as designer and foreman throughout John Stephens' time, J. Stephens lived at "Valletort", St. Johns Terrace, Devoran.

(a) Thomas Ferris

1836	Two Brothers	Smack	37 tons
1842	Elizabeth Ann	Schooner	83 tons
1851	Clipper	Schooner	114 tons
1853	Morwenna	Schooner	51 tons
1854	William Henry	Schooner	102 tons
1855	Jane & Catherine	Schooner	99 tons
1856	Cock of the Walk	Schooner	143 tons
1856	Mary Ann	Smack	33 tons
1856	Symmetry	Cutter	30 tons
1857	March Hare	Schooner	104 tons

This yard was advertised for sale 23.7.'59 (R.C.G.)

(b) Peter Ferris

1806	Caroline	Barge	43 tons
1819	William Thomas	Barge	37 tons
1832	Union	Barge	37 tons
1834	Amelia	Smack	49 tons
1855	Mary	Schooner	67 tons
1855	Weasel	Schooner	81 tons
1855	Ariel	Schooner	24 tons
1858	J.S.T.	Schooner	127 tons
1858	Commodore	Cutter	34 tons
1861	Charles Gray	Smack	54 tons
1862	Deerfoot	Schooner	129 tons
1865	Dream (yacht)	Schooner	41 tons

(Some of these may have been built at Pill)

(c) William Ferris

1883	Cormorant	Yawl	4.4 tons
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(d) William Sara Martin

1861	Fear Not	Cutter	21 tons
1861	Cordelia Williams	Schooner	76 tons
1864	Golden Light	Schooner	120 tons

(d) John Stephens

1859	Primus	Schooner	59 tons
1865	Kate	Sloop	19 tons
1866	Racer	Schooner	67 tons
1867	Arrow (yacht)	Schooner	17 tons
1868	Rhoda Mary	Schooner	130 tons
1869	North Star	Steamer	29 tons
1870	Nelly	Schooner	105 tons
1870	R.K.P.	Schooner	76 tons
1871	J.W.V.	Schooner	75 tons
1872	Fanny	Sloop	18 tons
1874	Goonlaze	Schooner	?
1875	Bessie	Schooner	116 tons
1875	Gleaner	Smack	42 tons
1876	Lizzie R. Wilce	Schooner	175 tons
1877	Hetty	Schooner	100 tons