

Pillaton in the 1880's

The following transcription from Kelly's Post Office Directory of Cornwall (Published London, 1883) gives an idea of the social structure of the time and lists many of the inhabitants of the parish during the 1880's.

PILLATON is a parish and village, 5 miles north from St. Germans station on the Cornwall railway, situated on the river Lynher, in the Eastern Division of the county, middle division of the hundred of East, St. Germans union, Stonehouse county court district, rural deanery of East, archdeaconry of Bodmin and diocese of Truro. The church of St. Odolph is a modern structure of stone, in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave of six bays, north aisle, south transept, south porch and a lofty embattled western tower, with pinnacles, and containing 3 bells, of which the first two were cast in 1809; the tenor is undated: in the chancel is a memorial window to the Rev. Henry Woolcombe M.A. 1816, nearly 40 years rector; there is an ambry in the transept, and a curious stone recess in the north aisle; the monuments are of modern date. The register dates from the year 1557. The living is a rectory, tithes rent-charge £200, net yearly value £220 with residence and 33 acres of glebe, in the gift of Digby Collins, esq. J.P., D.L. of Newton Ferrers, and held since 1876 by the Rev. Edward Polwhele M.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge, and surrogate. There is a Wesleyan chapel. A fair for pleasure and cattle is held on Whitsun Tuesday. Pentillie castle, situated 2½ miles east of the village on the west bank of the Tamar, is a building of stone with embattled parapet and a square embattled tower, from which a commanding view of the river Tamar and surrounding country is obtained; it was erected from designs by W. Wilkins esq. architect; the entrance hall has a fine stained window; north of the castle is a wooded hill called "Mount Ararat" on which Sir James Tillie kt. the original builder of Pentillie Castle, erected in 1712 a small tower, within which, by his own desire, he was buried, his effigy in marble being placed in the upper room; it is the seat of Col. Augustus Coryton D.L., J.P. Digby Collins, esq. J.P., D.L. who is lord of the manor, and Col. Coryton, are the principal landowners. The soil is clay and slate; subsoil, slate and freestone. The chief crops are cereal root, potato &c. The area is 2,478 acres (including 20 of water); rateable value, £2,630; and the population in 1881 was 338.

Letters through St. Mellion R.S.O. The nearest money order & telegraph office is at Callington

National School (mixed), Miss Rebecca Goard, mistress

- o Coryton Col. Augustus D.L., J.P. Pentillie castle
- o Coryton William J.P. Pentillie castle
- o Herring Nicholas, Sillaton
- o Polwhele Rev. Edward M.A. [rector]
- o COMMERCIAL.
- o Collins James, mason
- o Drown Richard & Son, agricultural implement makers
- o Elliott James, farmer
- o Elliott William, farmer
- o Gregory William, farmer
- o Herring Edmund, farmer
- o Herring John, farmer
- o Lucas George, farmer
- o Lucas Reuben, farmer
- o Netting John, smith
- o Nichols James, farmer
- o Paynter John, farmer
- o Pearce John Brenn, carpenter
- o Pearce Thomas Voisey, wheelwright
- o Pearce Voisey, farmer
- o Rickard Thomas, farmer
- o Skinnard Simon, miller (water), Pillaton Mill
- o Stevens William, farmer
- o Tamblyn Jeremiah, farmer
- o Veal Saml. Colwill, Royal Oak, & grocer
- o Vosper John, shoe maker