

## **Poltimore**

Poltimore is located within East Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Wonford Hundred. It falls within Aylesbeare Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 250 in 1801 298 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 75 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Pinhoe Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

## **Maps**

The image pictured here is of the Poltimore area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 68/12,16
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 68SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX966968]
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
  - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX99NE
  - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 114
  - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 192
- Geological sheet 325 also covers the area

## **Illustrations**

The image below is of Poltimore as included in the Library's illustrations collection. Other images can be searched for on the local studies catalogue.



**Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954)**, included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Poltimore gives its name to the barony of Poltimore, created 1831. The manor came to the Bampfylde soon after 1303 and has remained with them to the present day. Their house, a plain square mansion in a dull park, was probably rebuilt by Sir Coplestone Bampfylde, the 2nd baronet (1636-91). The date 1681 appears on the stone gate-piers at the main entrance to the park and may indicate the date of completion of the house, which was altered in the 1840s by the first Lord Poltimore. A new wing was added in 1909. The house is now a private hospital.

The church (St. Mary) was rather heavily restored by Medley Fulford in 1878-84 when a number of drastic changes were made, but it retains some interesting features, including a fine chancel screen. This has its ancient tracery, with beautiful Renaissance detail of late date in the vaulting (c. 1520-30). The 18th century Bampfylde pew is a good specimen of its kind with a fireplace. In the south transept is the tomb with recumbent figures of Richard Bampfylde (d. 1594) and Elizabeth, his wife (d. 1599).

## Poughill

Poughill is located within Mid Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of West Budleigh Hundred. It falls within Cadbury Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 274 in 1801 222 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 83 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Crediton Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

## Maps

The image below is of the Poughill area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 44/15
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 44SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS857084
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
  - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS80NE
  - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 114
  - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 310 also covers the area

**Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954)**, included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Poughill (pron. *Poil*) is in the remote, hilly country between the Exe and Taw valleys. The church (St. Michael) was heavily restored in 1855-6 and is consequently of little interest.

## **Powderham**

Powderham is located within Teignbridge local authority area. Historically it formed part of Exminster Hundred. It falls within Kenn Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 175 in 1801 238 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 68 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Dawlish Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 92/12
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 92SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX972844
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
  - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX98SE
  - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 031
  - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 192
- Geological sheet 339 also covers the area

### **Illustrations**

The image below is of Powderham as included in the Library's illustrations collection. Other images can be searched for on the local studies catalogue.



**Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954),** included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Powderham consists of little more than the red sandstone church, familiar to all who travel on the Great Western Railway beyond Exeter, and the castle and park of the Earl of Devon. The church (St. Clement) is entirely a 15th century building with the usual Beer stone arcades. Margaret Courtenay says in her will (1487) that she and her husband had made the new aisle and the body of the church at their own cost "except that I had of the parish to the help of the said building 8d."(Cresswell, Churches of the Deanery of Kenn, 131) They were both buried here, almost certainly under a fine tomb as the builders of the church; but not a single Courtenay monument remains to-day except that of Elizabeth, Countess of Devon (1867), hidden behind the organ.

On the N. side of the chancel is the cenotaph of a lady who is probably Elizabeth de Bohun, daughter of Edward I, and mother of Margaret de Bohun who married Hugh Courtenay, 2nd Earl of Devon. Powderham then belonged to the Bohuns and Margaret brought it with her as her marriage portion. By her will dated 1390 she bequeathed it to her fourth son, Sir Philip Courtenay. So began the long line of the Courtenays of Powderham, who are still there, though Powderham did not become their principal home until after the attainder of Henry Courtenay, Marquess of Exeter, and the forfeiture of all his lands to the crown in 1539.

Sir Philip Courtenay, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (d. 1406), began the building of Powderham. There is no evidence that a castle existed here before his time.

Sir Philip Courtenay's building must be regarded as a strongly fortified manor house (like Compton Castle in Marldon) rather than as a true castle, but the site was much stronger than appears today as one steams by the placid and almost level park, catching a fleeting glimpse of the battlemented towers of the castle between the trees. Until the late 18th century the Exe spread its waters almost to the E. walls of the castle, and its tributary the Kenn almost washed the S. walls.

The original building comprised a hall, kitchen, and other offices, strengthened by four angle-towers and an entrance tower facing the Exe. This building can still be traced, though swamped by later alterations. Leland describes Powderham as a strong castle, with a bulwark or barbican to protect the haven here. This would be the small harbour of Kenton. By the attainder of Henry, Marquess of Exeter, all the great estates of the elder branch of the Courtenays were lost for ever. Though Edward Courtenay, son of the Marquess, was recreated Earl of Devon by Mary in 1553, the family did not recover their ancient honours and castles; and from this date onwards Powderham became their principal residence.

In the Civil War, Powderham was garrisoned for the king. Fairfax, in the final campaign in the west, sent a party to attack it on 14 December 1645. Meeting with unexpectedly strong resistance they fell back and took possession of Powderham church, which was then attacked by a royalist detachment from Exeter, during which hand grenades were thrown into the church. No doubt the Courtenay monuments suffered severely on that occasion. The next day Sir Hardress Waller relieved the parliamentary garrison in the church. The castle surrendered a few weeks later (25 January 1646).

In the 18th century the medieval house was transformed by a series of large-scale alterations, beginning in 1717 when the chapel was built, together with the library above. The major reconstruction took place when the 2nd Viscount Courtenay succeeded to the estates, particularly between 1770 and 1788. The great hall was divided into two parts, one of which was transformed by the insertion of a grand staircase. The park was improved by the making of an embankment along the Exe estuary, and extensively planted with fine trees, and the Belvedere was built (1773) on the ridge NW. of the castle.

Other internal changes were made under the direction of James Wyatt, and a further extensive remodelling of the whole building was carried out by the 10th earl, who ruled from 1835 to 1859. Among other changes he rebuilt the W. front (except the centre tower) and made it the principal entrance, instead of the E. front as hitherto. The latter now (after 1846) faced the South Devon Railway and the fine river view had been shut off. Thus Powderham is today a house of the period 1760-1860, with a medieval core (plate 31). (This account of the structural history of Powderham Castle is based on *Trans. Exeter Diocesan Archit. Soc.*, Second Series, (1867), i, 170-83; *Archaeological Journal* 70 (1913), 531-2; and Polwhele, ii, 158, 169-70.)

Among the pictures at Powderham are a full-length of the Duchess of Suffolk, attributed to Holbein; General Monk by J. M. Wright; Lady Honeywood and her son by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Lady Frances Courtenay by Hudson; the 2nd viscount with his

wife and family by Hudson; and some full-size portraits by Cosway of the 9th earl and six of his sisters. There is also a fine portrait of Louis XVI, attributed to Gallet. A history of the Courtenays, the most eminent and distinguished family in Devon, is in course of preparation. The present earl, the 17th from the re-creation of 1553, resides at Powderham.

## **Princetown**

Princetown is located within West Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Lifton Hundred. It falls within Tavistock Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

A parish history file is held in Princetown Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

### **Maps**

The image below is of the Princetown area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.

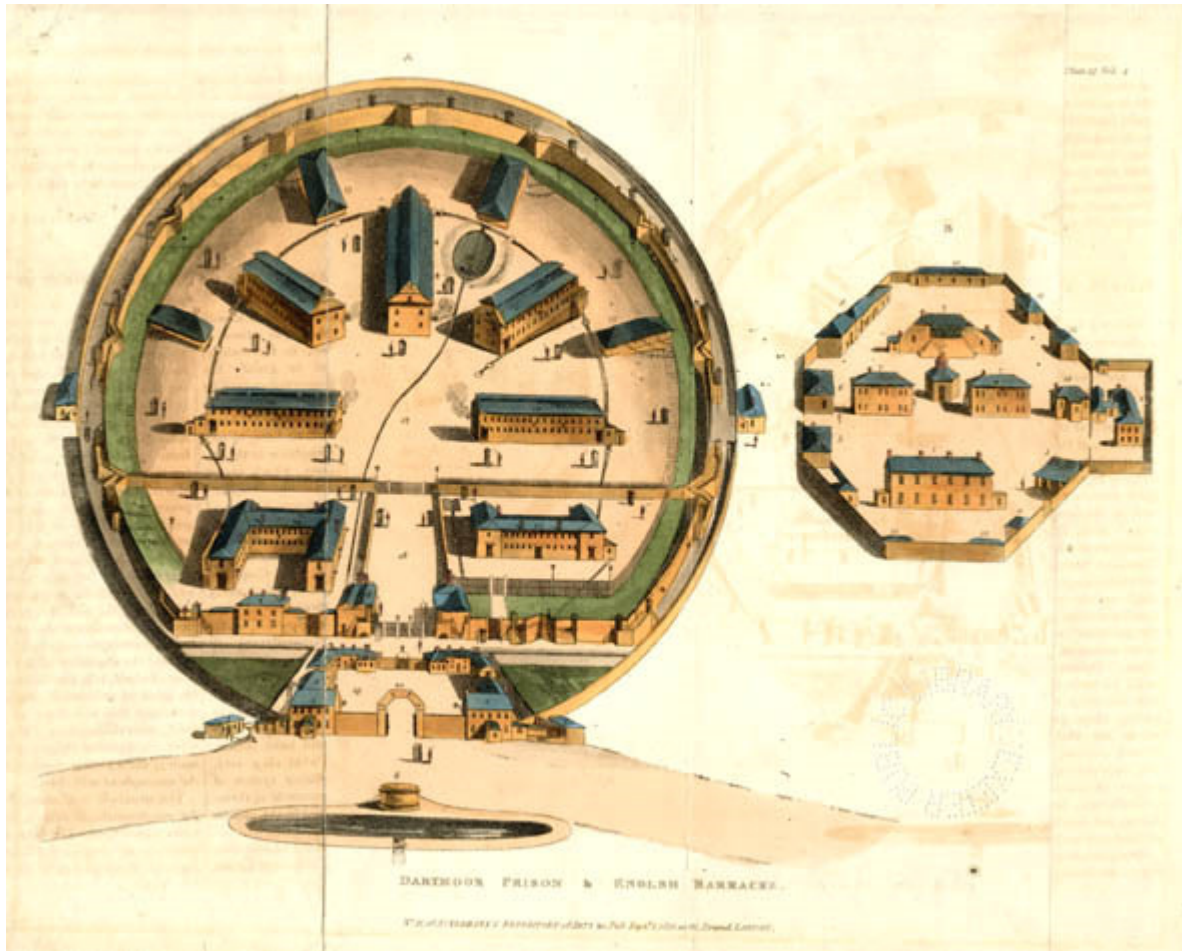


- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 106/8,12
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 106NE,SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX590735
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
  - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX57SE
  - Outdoor Leisure (1:25,000) mapping sheet 28
  - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 338 also covers the area

### **Illustrations**

The image below is of Princetown as included in the Library's illustrations collection. Other images can be searched for on the local studies catalogue.





**Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954),** included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Princetown is in the parish of Lydford, a grim little town some 1,400 ft. above sea level, with an abominable climate of fog, snow, wind, and more than 80 in. of cold rain over 100. It stands on a cot between the two Hessary Tors, exposed to the bitter N. and E. winds, the least suitable place that could ever have been chosen for a town. But the site was dictated by Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt so as to be near his granite quarries.

As early as 1780 a farm, named Prince Hall, was reclaimed on the site of an ancient tenement near Two Bridges, and in 1785 Mr. Tyrwhitt (later Sir Thomas), who had been appointed Lord Warden of the Stannaries, set about improving the moor at a place which he named Tor Royal, about ½ m. SE. of Princetown. Here he made a productive estate and built a house in 1798. (Rowe, *Perambulation of Dartmoor*, 255) He was later instrumental in building the road from Tavistock to Princetown, and the other good roads that now cross the Moor and make it (or some of it) accessible to the motorist.

It was Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt who proposed that a prison be built on the Moor to house the thousands of captives of the Napoleonic Wars, who had become too numerous to lodge in the prisons and prison-ships at Plymouth. The site was given by

the Prince of Wales, who held the lands of the Duchy of Cornwall to which all the Moor belonged: hence the name Princetown. The prison was built in 1806 (architect, Daniel Alexander) at a cost of £130,000 and at one time between seven and nine thousand prisoners were crammed into it.

A small town grew up near the prison. Two large inns were built during the war; one of them is the present Duchy Hotel. Many of the prisoners had prize-money to come from their own country; many others made their own in their hammocks at night, even forging Bank of England and local bank notes, which they passed off in the great daily market held in the prison. With the closing of the prison in 1816 the town almost collapsed, but the completion of the Dartmoor Railway in 1823 brought back many people to the granite quarries. The prison remained derelict until 1850, when it was reopened for prisoners serving long sentences. It has since been considerably extended.

## Puddington

Puddington is located within Mid Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Witheridge Hundred. It falls within Tiverton Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 135 in 1801 173 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 45 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Crediton Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

## Maps

The image below is of the Puddington area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 44/10
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 44SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS833106
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
  - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS81SW
  - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 114
  - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 310 also covers the area

**Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954)**, included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Puddington church (St. Thomas à Becket) was vigorously restored in 1837-8, but there remain 23 carved bench-ends.

## Pyworthy

Pyworthy is located within Torrridge local authority area. Historically it formed part of Black Torrington Hundred. It falls within Holsworthy Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 499 in 1801 429 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 137 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Holsworthy Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

## Maps

The image below is of the Pyworthy area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 62/1
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 62NW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS313028
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
  - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS30SW
  - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 111
  - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 190
- Geological sheet 323 also covers the area

**Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954)**, included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Pyworthy has a large church (St. Swithun) for a small village, with fine views from the churchyard. Although rather over restored, it is an interesting building structurally, being almost entirely a rebuilding of 1300-30. The S. aisle retains its 15th century wagon roof with carved bosses and wall-plates. Pyworthy is exceptional in Devon in having a clearstory. Bradford was a Domesday estate.