

The Hayle Steam Brewery



The original Brewery at Bodriggy was owned by John Richards. In the early 1800's he sold the business to Christopher Ellis Snr., who developed it and founded the Ellis Brewery in 1815.

They began as importers of fine wines and spirits, expanding into brewing as the Hayle Foundries grew in importance and demand for beer increased. When Christopher Ellis Snr. died in 1857 his son, Christopher Ellis Jr. took over the Brewery and began to build hotels, such as The Cornubia in Copperhouse and the Old Quay House in Lelant. He also built up a network of franchised public houses in the surrounding areas.

The Brewery utilised the fields at Bodriggy Farm to grow its own barley and built the Malthouse on the corner of St. John's Street in 1835. They also stabled horses at Bodriggy Farm and the Head Horseman was the best paid worker in Hayle, receiving 18 shillings per week and a gallon of beer !

In 1934 the Hayle Brewery merged with St. Austell Brewery, and even though it was still producing 3,000 barrels per year, brewing ceased in Hayle. The buildings have since been used as a storage depot.

