

“Merchant” Curnow’s Quay



In 1750, John “Merchant” Curnow of Bodriggy House set up his Trading Company on the Quay at the entrance to Copperhouse Pool, importing timber, coal and household goods. His Cellars or Warehouses stood on the site of the garage opposite the Quay.

At first the ships were small but when the Copperhouse Canal was dug in 1768 ships of over 70 tons could sail up the Pool to Ventonleague. The Quay lost its importance after 1811 when North Quay was built, but it did remain in use until the end of the 19th century.

The Three Mooring Bollards represent each phase in Hayle’s maritime and industrial History. The wooden one is from 1750 when the Quay was built, the granite bollard is from the time of the Cornish Copper Company (1768-1867) and the re-used mine drainage pipe is from the time of Harvey and Company’s ownership of the Harbour (1867-1979).

The Newlyn Artist, Stanhope Forbes immortalised the Quay in his painting “Young Anglers at Hayle” painted in 1930. Anglers still fish from the Quay and it was a favourite vantage point for spectators at the Hayle Regattas.

After a long period of neglect the Quay has recently been cleared and planted as a Garden and Amenity Area as part of Hayle’s “Britain In Bloom” project for 2004.

