



Bath 3 – at chest height to the east of the zawn, high up on the second reef.



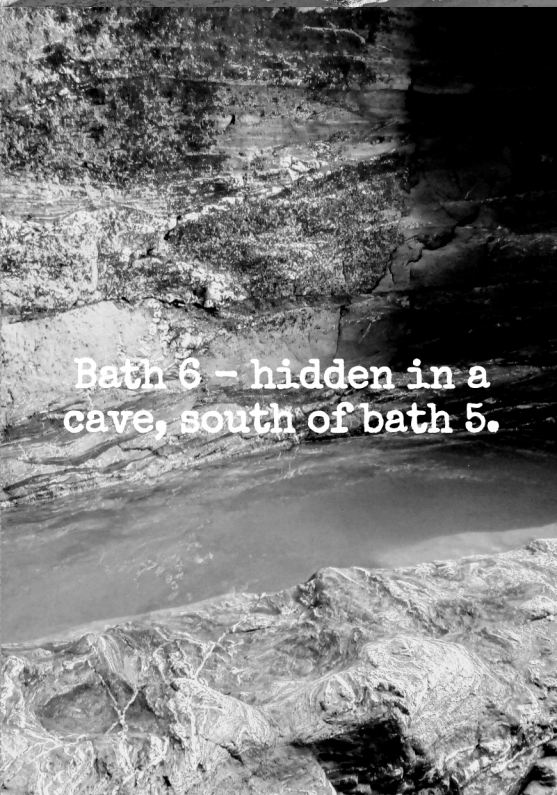
Bath 4 – high up on the point or headland with its long side facing east.



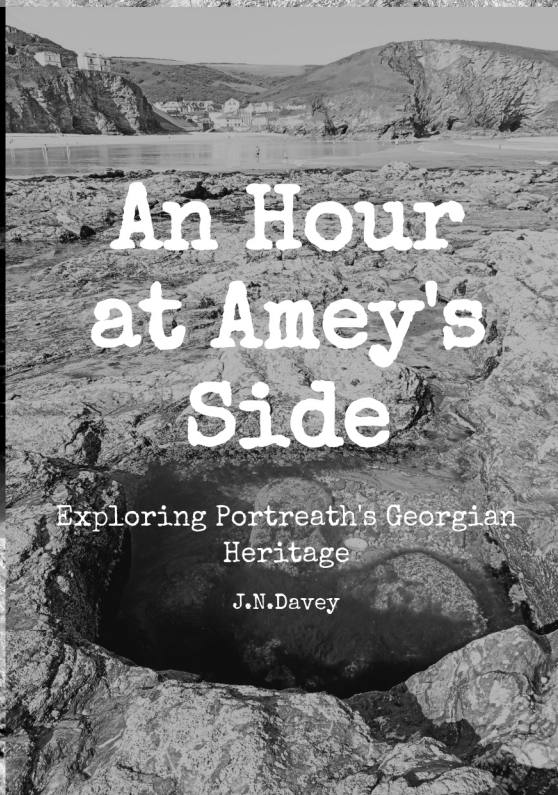
Bath 5 – at chest height to the east of the zawn.



Bath 2 – low down on rocks in front of zawn.

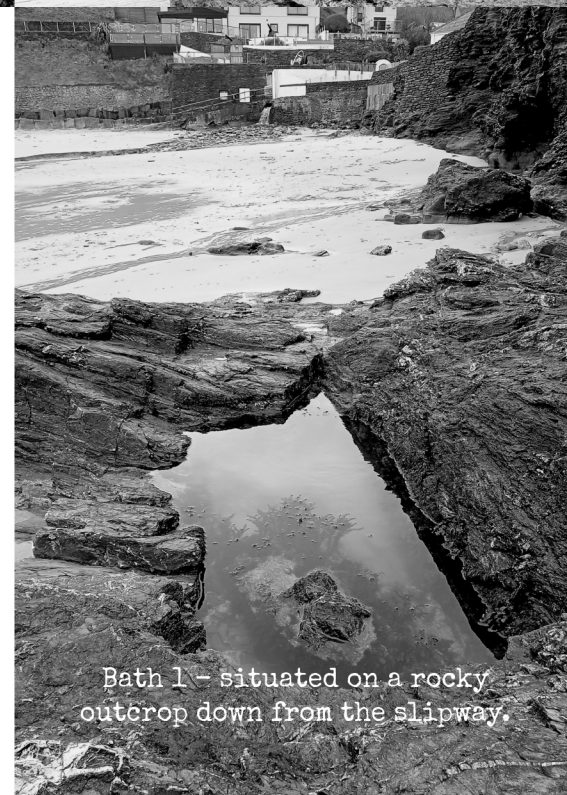


Bath 6 – hidden in a cave, south of bath 5.



Exploring Portreath's Georgian Heritage
J.N.Davey

The Lady Basset's Baths at Portreath were created at the behest of Francis Basset, 1st Baron de Dunstanville (1757 -1835) so that his wife Susanna and his young daughter Frances could indulge in the Georgian craze for saltwater bathing. The baths, along with a house for a bathing machine, were constructed circa 1782 by estate mason William Harry. The site chosen was the secluded western side of the beach known successively as Carvannel Cove, Smugglers Cove and Amey's Side. The baths were arranged so that the water was warmed by the morning sun and that the maximum amount of privacy could be afforded. Only the latter is true for bath 6, however, which is sited within the chilly shadows of a cave! On visits to the beach the Basset family and their friends based themselves at the now redeveloped Smugglers Cottage. The baths are close to the site of Portreath's original jetty, the proposal for which appears in a document of 1713 in which a conglomeration of local investors headed by Francis Basset (1674-1721) of Tehidy engaged Samuel Nott of Devon to carry out the work. For years there was no evidence for the jetty having been built until storms in 1983 revealed its foundation stones. The foundations re-emerged in 2014 and in the Spring of 2026 when the writer was lucky enough to view them.



Bath 1 – situated on a rocky outcrop down from the slipway.