

CASE STUDY 6: INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION

CASE STUDY DETAILS

Key Skill Subjects:

Geography
Mining
Transportation
Industrial Processes

Duration:

1 Day ✓
2 Day ✓
3 Day ✓
5 Day ✗

Locations:

Multi – location

Accessibility:

Coastal Section ✗
Tidal Dependant ✗
Steps ✓
Unmade Footpath ✓
Open Moorland ✗
Steep Gradients ✓
Former Industrial Site ✓
Mine / Underground ✗
Weather Dependant ✓

Optional Extras:

China Clay Tour
China Clay Museum
Steam train charter / ride

Key To Symbols:

Yes: ✓
No: ✗
Optional: ◇



Treffry Viaduct

The magnificent Treffry Viaduct was built at a huge expense; but why? The modern railway no longer uses the route!

In this module, we look at aspects of bulk mining, and the transportation of these bulk goods to the ports.

We will follow several disused mineral tramways through a scenic



Old stone sleepers

wooded valley.

Along the route, there are glimpses of the old dressed granite sleepers are visible along the length of the route to remind us that we are not following a natural footpath, but a long forgotten industrial arterial route!

At one location, a grinding wheel is passed, complete with the remains of the water wheel, which powered it.

We see one of Cornwall's best preserved inclined planes, and discover how it was worked.

At the base of the plane, we complete the journey to the sea by discovering the roll which canals played in the process.



DISUSED CHINA CLAY DRY

In this module, we also look at china clay, a bulk commodity which is still mined in huge quantities in Cornwall today. It is possible to arrange a tour of a china clay pit or simply visit a museum dedicated to the unique methods of mining this substance. Students may explore a disused clay dry and learn how it worked, and also how important good transport is for such a bulk mineral.

It is possible at certain times of the year to recreate the work of the people who used the railways 100 years ago, by chartering a train of clay wagons (students ride in the brake van like the guard would have done)