

William Crossing - Dartmoor Walker and Writer
A Famous Local Victorian

Born on the 14th November, 1847, in the St Andrews district at the heart of Plymouth, William Crossing was a man of several passions; theatrics, exploring Dartmoor, collecting local stories and writing.



Figure 1 a 1904 newspaper sketch of an 1896 photo of William Crossing, reproduced by Dunlop, T.¹

Best known for his still widely sought after books on Dartmoor, William was the adventurous son of a businessman; a calling he did not share.

Early Life

In 1851 the Crossing family are recorded as dwelling at 17 Drake Street, with a servant, one Geraldine Ellis, a naturalised Bermudan, and 4 children, 3 sons and a daughter; Elizabeth, 10, Joseph, 6, Samuel 1 and William 3. At that time, William's father was listed as a grocer, with a canvas merchant living next door. By 1861 the family had moved to 45 Portland Square in the parish of Charles, (where the university now stands) and his father was recorded as a corn merchant. The family suffered unhappiness when William's younger brother, Samuel, died aged 13, the following year.

Family holidays to the moor on Roborough Down, where his mother, Elizabeth, taught him to love nature and the stories of the moor people, shaped who young William was to become.ⁱⁱ

Adventures as a Young Man

Upon leaving school the young Crossing was made apprentice to a canvas sail maker; one wonders if this was to the family's old neighbour on Drake Street, but William did not enjoy the work.

As a young man he suffered a broken arm though it is not known how this accident occurred. Le Messurier, writing in 1966, tells us that the arm was not set correctly. Nevertheless, with an adventurer's soul, William embarked upon a sea voyage to Wales in 1863, and the following year set sail for Canada where an unfortunate collision with an iceberg occurred. After that he stayed on *terra firma*.

Crossing was well educated, having studied at the Independent College in Taunton, had knowledge of Gaelic and Welsh, and wrote verse, being adept at doggerelⁱⁱⁱ. He had a great love of the theatre, running a small company, writing some plays, and even going on tour, but this seems not to have been a success. Fortunately, theatre was not his only love. The moor had claimed his heart as a child. However, the 1871 census, taken on the 2nd April, finds William, now aged 23, the only child still living with his parents, and working with his father as a corn merchant, at 43 Portland Square. During that time he was involved with writing verse for the Theatre Royal in Plymouth^{iv}, though he did not seem to achieve any monetary success with his endeavours.

Finally, Mr Crossing junior decided to follow his father's advice and was sent to manage the family mill, *Crackhills*, at Lydia Bridge in South Brent.

In 1870 his father's company; Crossing, Philp and Co, was mentioned in the Morris' and Co trade directory as being flax spinners and sail cloth manufacturers at the Coker Works, in Brent. Mr Philp, (John Henry), Joseph Crossing's partner, lived at Splatton House, a short walk away^v. (It is possible that Philps built the current house, or extended it, from the five cottages that the tithe apportionment tells us stood at Splatton, with their orchards and gardens in 1841). Local historian, Greg Wall told South Brent Archive that William had lived at the mill, so Crackhills, with its view over the Aune, is likely to have been his first home in Brent, within the bounds of the Forest of Dartmoor, as it was then known.

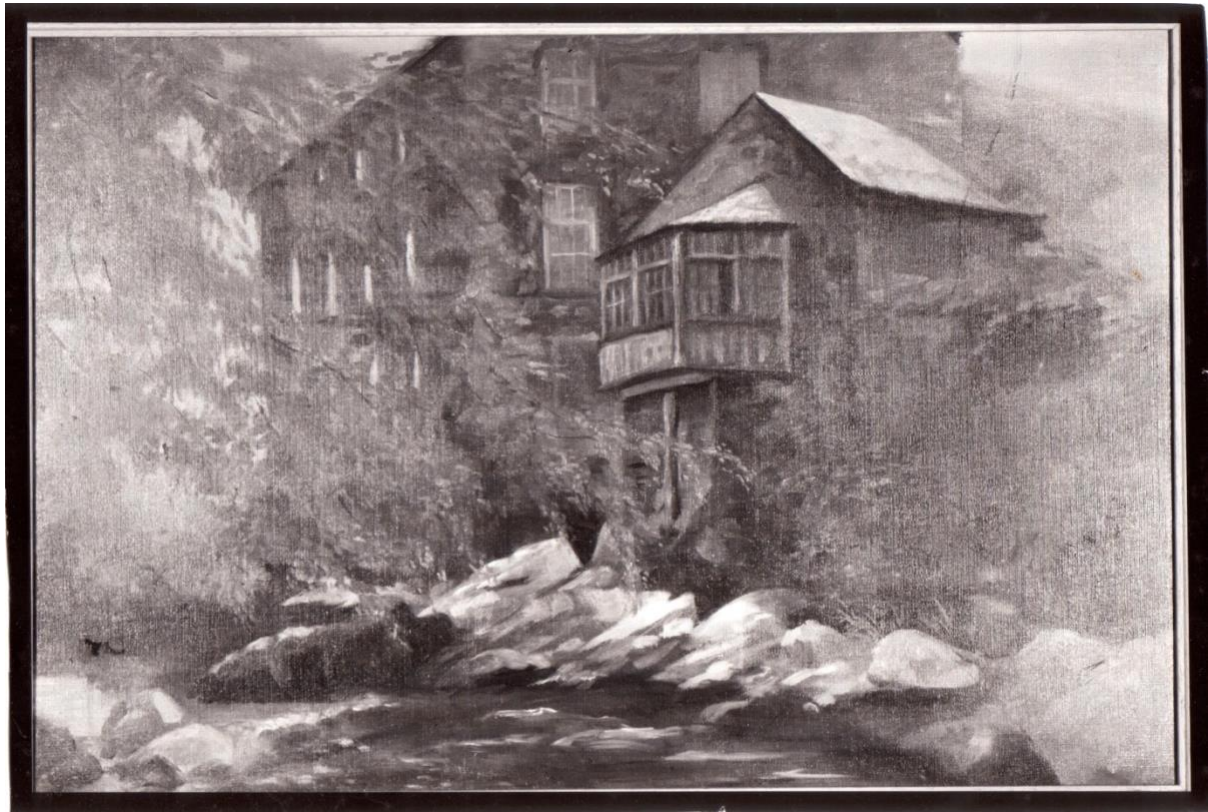


Figure 2 Crackhills in the 19th Century, from the Greg Wall Collection

Crossing in Brent

It is not known exactly when, but sometime between 1870-1872 Crossing moved to South Brent. What is known is that once there he launched himself into the theatrical life once more. We may never know where, but recent Archive research has shown that the current Bowling House, on the corner of Totnes and Plymouth Road, was, on census records for 1881 and on a Devon map surveyed in 1885^{vi}, recorded as the Institute, a place where the public may have been able to put on entertainments. On the 5th June 1886 the Totnes Weekly Times mentions children's concerts having been staged there and on February 12th 1898 it reported a dispute over the ownership of a piano, referring to entertainments put on for 'negroes and children'. The piano saga continued with the town or village hall, on the corner of Church Street hosting an event to clear off debt of *its* piano on the 22nd February in 1887.^{vii}

It wasn't until 1889 that the rev Spear Coles applied for a theatrical licence for the new village hall, although it had, on the 13th February 1886, held a sale to raise funds for the Institute, followed by a tea and a promenade concert^{viii}.

The Institute is still mentioned in newspaper articles in 1891. So it appears to have been a part of village life for at least 10 years of Crossing's time in Brent. It is likely to have been upstairs as the Blights, boot and shoe makers, had the downstairs from 1871-1901 at least, according to census returns. Perhaps Mr Blight made walking boots for Mr Crossing.

In 1872 William married Emma Jane Witheridge, daughter of the manager of the Wesleyan papermill in Ivybridge^{ix}. According to census records Emma was one year William's senior, marrying late for a Victorian lady. The couple were married at St Mary's C. of E. in Plympton, as Wesleyan chapels were still not licensed for weddings. In Brent, however, William and Emma were known to attend services at the congregational church^x on the old Barracks Road, just across from the barracks wall which still survives by the Old School. Remains of the chapel can still be seen high up on the wall of 14-15 Totnes Road in the form of a gothic window arch^{xi}. William had been baptised in a Wesleyan chapel and it seems he kept that faith.

It is believed that the teetotal chapel did not continue much beyond 1880 although it was still listed as such on the 1901 census. In 1878 the landlord of the Royal Oak was William Petherbridge, according to the *Ascott & Brewer*^{xii}. The current building dates from the 1850s as Temperance Activists had closed the original pub, which had been next door. We do not know if William was a teetotaler but we do know that he enjoyed smoking a pipe, playing music, telling stories, and playing the odd practical joke.^{xiii}

The newly married couple's first home was Island House, just opposite St Petroc's church, where the rev William Spear-Cole was vicar. William was registered as living at that address at the time of his marriage. The Crossings were seemingly comfortably off as William employed a man servant, George, who would sometimes accompany William on his tramps across Dartmoor^{xiv}.



Figure 3 Island House, 1990s, photo credit: Mr JR Chapple^{xv}

The Brent of 1872 already had its train station and a Post Office, and was described in Wilson's gazetteer^{xvi} as being a former market town which still held 'large fairs on the last Tuesday of April and September'. From Island House William and Emma would have heard the trains go past, and walked over the bridge, past the manor, where a gallows still hung in 1868, to reach Lutton and Aish and from there, to explore the moor. The Kingsbridge

branch line (the Primrose Line) did not open until 1891 with Irish navvies employed in the building of it, swelling the population of Brent to 300 more^{xvii}. On the 1st May 1872, the Buckfastleigh – Brent – Totnes line had opened, so we can imagine that the Crossing's Brent must have been a lively village, to say the least.

After his marriage, William continued to manage Crackhills, although it did not seem to stop him taking lengthy walks out onto the moor.



Figure 4 Crackhills, mill, courtesy of the Greg Wall Collection



Figure 5: Scant remains of Crackhills mill water driven power source to the right of the modern corrugated roof, 2023, Author's image

The ruins of Crossing's mill can still be seen on the western bank of L'Aune (the River Avon) just upstream of Lydia Bridge, on private land, over the wall to the right as you walk along *Fat Man's Trouble* – an old rope walk which would have been in use in Crossing's time. Crackhills produced canvas for ships' sails and the lengths of ropes made for hoisting the

sails would have been laid out along the long thin pathway that edges the Avon on its way to Penstave copse.



Figure 6 Rope Walk Workers, WyeDean^{xviii}

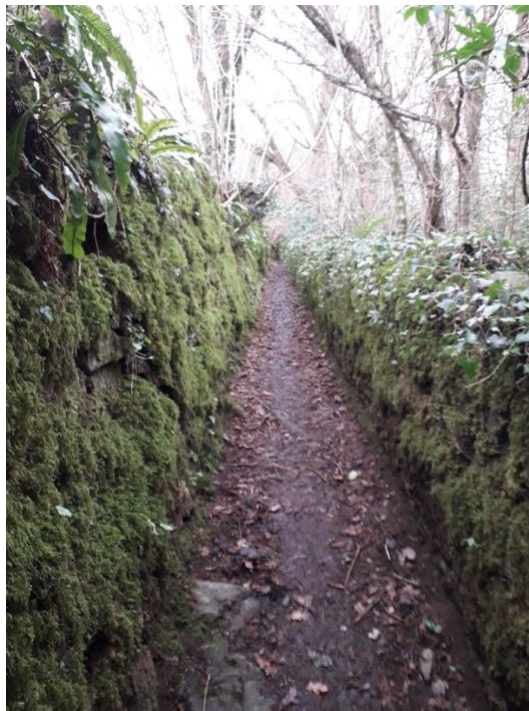


Figure 7 The Rope Walk or 'Fat Man's Trouble' in 2023, Author's Image.

Peter Taylor, in his excellent history of St Petroc's^{xix} states that the Crossings moved to Splatton in 1874 (presumably after Mr Philips, who was still there in the August, had moved on.) This 4 bedroom house with wooded gardens and nearly an acre of land plus outbuildings and a 4 room cottage was certainly a perfect spot for William, perched as it is on the south facing foothills of Brent Hill looking out over the valley with the moor to the right. From here he and Emma would have been able to watch the train wending its way through Brent on its way to Plymouth and see the oft snow covered Ugborough Beacon.

The view from Splatton looks out over the village with Brent Hill behind protecting it from some of the vagaries of the weather. The fields below had once been the scene of the horse fairs that had, prior to 1831, moved down closer to the village and finally, in the Crossings'

time, to the village streets themselves. Crossing tells us that the fair was still happening on the last Tuesday of April and September, under the glove, as it always had, representing the ancient charter that had been first given by the king in 1340^{xx}.

William knew Brent Hill well and his book *Amid Devon's Alps* tells us that several walks set out 'from Splatton.' This book also tells of a 2 day walk he and a friend did without any sleep after which William was no worse for wear, though his friend had clearly found it rather more of an endurance.^{xxi}

In an article for the *Western Morning News*, for whom he later wrote a regular 'Guide to Dartmoor', William wrote that part of Brent Hill was also known as Beara Common^{xxii} and described the view from the top as having 'a fine panorama' with glimpses of the sea. According to Jenkinson, Crossing was the first to describe the rock piles found on the hill above Lutton.

By 1875, it seems that William had settled down to a respectable life as a mill owner. On the 27th July the local paper listed him as a nominee for the Totnes school board of trustees. However, that same year the bank repossessed Crackhills, and William had to negotiate a reduced rent to keep the mill going^{xxiii}. In 1876 discussions were being had by local dignitaries and landowners to hold more than two fairs a year in Brent, but only if they could use a field as it was felt too much to have them in the streets.

Once settled at Splatton, William began to keep notes of his walks on Dartmoor. In 1878, according to Tim Sandle^{xxiv}, the Crossings stayed at the Forest Inn at Hexworthy for several months. Newspapers from that year show that Splatton was being advertised for rent by William's mother, suggesting that this was the way the Crossings funded their extended holiday. Whilst there, Emma assisted her husband in learning shorthand. Though sources are not explicit about her influence on William, it does seem that he became more systematic about recording his experiences of his explorations after his marriage. Certainly he began to publish the first of his works on Dartmoor whilst living with Emma in Brent. On the 1st December, 1880, he joined the Devonshire Association and had an article published in the Devon Evening Express about Dartmoor's ancient remains and from then on writing about the moor became a regular pursuit.

Still he did also have responsibilities. Census records for 1881 show William at Splatton, now aged 33, as a sail cloth manufacturer employing '15 men, 2 boys, 8 women and 4 girls', employing a maid and housing his niece. In the cottage was Elias Gard, a millhand, his wife Mary and daughter Emma. Stanbrook believed Elias was also the gardener at Splatton.^{xxv}



Figure 8 Splatton House, the Crossings' home from c1874-1897, Author's Image, 2023

However, many sources tell us that William loved to explore the moor rather more than he appreciated his work overseeing the mill. In 1883 Crossing wrote about the ancient crosses of Dartmoor, followed by his *Wanderings and Adventures in Dartmoor* in 1888, when he was 41, and *Tales of Dartmoor Pixies* in 1890,^{xxvi} a body of work that speaks volumes about how William spent his time during those years.

‘What joyous anticipation [...], how eagerly do we look forward [...] to clamber again over the rocks’ says he in 1888 in an enthusiastic page written at Splatton that prefaces the description of a familiar walk, reminding us of how childhood adventures made the man^{xxvii}. It was the people as well as the landscape of Dartmoor that enthralled him. He collected their tales as well as documenting the places, both ancient and natural. ‘The good old dame to whose old-time stories we were never tired of listening’ is not named but perhaps the Pixie tales preserve her memories^{xxviii}.

While walking and writing were clearly successful aspects of William’s life, others were more challenging. In 1882 Joseph Crossing had retired, leaving William to manage the mill. Then, in January 1883, his young under gardener, George Peathyjohn of Lutton, stole from him whilst he was away. Mr Gard saw the boy leave the back of the house and on his return William missed several items including a gold pen, a guinea and a gold dollar. William pleaded clemency for the boy once he had admitted the theft, but nevertheless George was sentenced to spend 4 months in jail. William’s liberal attitude is confirmed by a newspaper

article dated the 16th July that states William was secretary for a meeting of the Brent Liberal party, who met at the Anchor.

In 1885 Crossing & Co was dissolved and later newspaper articles show that William must have taken a new partner. However, in March, June and September 1887 Splatton was being offered once more for rent for visitors; as furnished apartments in a 'country house with large gardens', so maybe once again the Crossings turned to rentals to help make an income. The village centre in June of that year was apparently free of sewage and water gushing down the streets, according to a letter to the local paper where the writer declares that wellington boots were commonly required. By the end of that year an article published in the paper about *The Ancient Crosses of Dartmoor* mentions William as a member of the Dartmoor Preservation Association.

On the 9th June, 1888, William and his new partner William Creasy dissolved their partnership at the mill and the 28th September finds William advertising that coal is going up on 1st October due to colliery price increases. Enquiries to be made to his office is at Harbour Avenue on Exeter Street. It seems that Joseph Crossing had diversified into this new commodity and it was this that gave William an income even after his father's retirement and the loss of the mill.

Sadly, Joseph, died the following year in Plymouth, and we may wonder if without his father's shrewd business head, his son was not able to keep the mill on track especially as the coming of the railway and the new line that linked Brent to Totnes had meant that trading by shipping was gradually less relied on than before, and sales of sail canvas dropped off.

Exploring in all Weathers

William and Emma walked in all weathers, and though we might hazard a guess that even they would not have ventured out after the evening of Monday the 9th March 1891 when a great blizzard blew over the south west, causing one train to be stuck at Ivybridge and another to become stranded in Brent, on the Tuesday William was out on Brent Hill assisting in the search for lost livestock.

Animals had been lost to farmers in Brent Mill and Lutton amongst other places, with hundreds of sheep found dead in the drifts, as well as ponies. Crossing describes taking part in the search for a lost beast from first light on the 10th; the rescuers digging their way through drifts to reach the summit of Brent Hill in a climb that took four times as long as usual, and yet, once at the top, all that was to be found were some ponies and a scant covering of snow.^{xxix} Just a week earlier William had had a letter to the paper published where he had complained about the cruel treatment of the ponies, who, he said, were not being left sufficient food to get through the harsh winters. We know from Crossing's *Dartmoor Workers* that Brent had a Pony Society, which bred and exhibited them^{xxx}.

It was not until Thursday the 12th March that work could begin to clear the train lines. Post began to be delivered again but in Ivybridge disaster struck when 1 man was killed and two more injured whilst working on the line when the Plymouth train came through.



Figure 9 Cutting a road through a snowdrift at Brent, 1891 Blizzard^{xxx}

It is not surprising to hear William describing the clamber through the drifts. We know that he and Emma were rather foolhardy and had already undertaken long walks in the depths of winter as an episode William describes in *Devonia* is testament to. Conditions one January were so bad that William had had to resort to carrying Emma over a submerged bridge, during a tempest, later leading his pony through a drift down a hill, whilst having to turn Emma and Snap the dog out to walk behind the carriage, to stabilise it, and finally turning up at an inn in the evening when no one had got through the snow to them all day.

Later In 1891 the Primrose Line to Kingsbridge opened and census records show William still working as a coal merchant and having taken in a young Welsh engineer as a lodger to help make ends meet, though still employing a live in maid, a May Bovett from Honiton. During the long cold winter, we can imagine that a coal merchant must have earned reasonably well.

Over the next year William busied himself giving talks at the Sunday school and at the congregational Sunday school room, about Dartmoor, and then in 1893 his mother Elizabeth, who is believed to have had a lot of influence on her son's early love of Dartmoor died at 7 Radnor street, Plymouth. This house is still extant, one of a row of terraced houses less than half a mile from where the family home had stood on Portland Square.

William then became the editor of *The West Country Annual* and published several articles there^{xxxii}. 1895 found him still involved in theatrics; on the 26th January he appeared in comic sketches at the boys' board school room at the cricket club with Mr Edwin Tope. By the 27th March Splatton was once more up for rent, managed by a Mrs Newman at Hillside. William had an article written about him in 1896 in the *West Country Poets* and it is thanks to that publication that there is a picture of William, aged about 50, and whilst living at Splatton (see figure 1).

Finally, in 1897, the Crossings sold Splatton to Frederick Hamilton (who later complained of workers at nearby Lutton Quarry throwing stones onto his roof), and moved to Mary Tavy.

Later Life

William and Emma moved to a small cottage; Tor View at West Blackdown, Brentor, where they were to remain until the summer of 1902, according to Brian Le Messurier in his introduction to *Crossing's Dartmoor Workers*, (compiled from articles written in 1903 for the local paper).^{xxxiii} William, now 54, recorded that he was an author and a journalist, a profession he was faithful to until he retired. In the census taken on the 2nd April 1911, the Crossings were living at Dartmoor Cot, where they had been since 1902 and William was still listed as an author but also as a private tutor and living on private means.

Crossing wrote 17 books about Dartmoor during his career as an author, of which his authoritative and comprehensive *Guide to Dartmoor* (compiled from his 1901 series of articles^{xxxiv}) is perhaps the best known. After his earlier Brent publications, William contributed many more articles to West Country newspapers, between the years of 1899-1909.^{xxxv}

The couples' home at Dartmoor Cot was to be their final one, where they lived until Emma became ill, no doubt as a result of all those lengthy tramps in all weathers across Dartmoor. William himself is recorded as having both gout and rheumatism in his later years.^{xxxvi}

The infirm and once comfortably off couple were supported from 1904 onwards by subscriptions raised by contemporaries such as Sabine Baring Gould and Eden Philpott, and then in 1906 by a Mr WP Collins who was to remain Crossing's patron until the end of William's life, both by employing him as tutor for his sons, and by paying for accommodation.

A highlight of those later years for William must have been his eventual success in the theatrical world. He had written the script for a play based on an allegorical work of fiction by Florence Eaton in which TB is demonised and cured by Hygiene. *The Triumph* was performed at the Royal Court theatre before King George VI and toured England in November 1912. Sadly Crossing no longer felt well enough to travel to London for the royal performance.^{xxxvii}

When Emma became too ill to manage a household, the couple turned to relatives in Ivybridge and it is there that they moved in with Emma's sister, Cordelia, who had a haberdashery next to the Kings Arms on Fore Street, where the Exchange was in the 1990s . The house was to prove too small for them all ^{xxxviii}



Emma Witheridge's house and shop, to the right of The King's Arms Hotel.
Courtesy Charles Hankin.

Figure 10 *Cordelia* Witheridge's shop & house, to the right of the King's Arms^{xxxix}

Finally, after moving to lodgings, first in Lydford and then Blackdown, Emma's sickened so much that she had to be taken to the Tavistock workhouse where she died on the 6th June, 1921. Two years later, Joseph, William's brother died, at the end of 1923.

William survived Emma by just a few years, and after a spell in the workhouse himself in July 1925, was given a place in a gentleman's home, paid for by his patron, Collins. The last straw in the unhappy ending to the story of this intrepid explorer who mapped Dartmoor's landscape like no one before or since, had been to lose the manuscript to his final book, a history of Dartmoor, when his housekeeper at the Blackdown lodgings burnt it, thinking it ruined as the mice had got to it.

William Crossing, a gentleman's son, who had inherited a mill, and once had the funds to keep servants, died in a Plymouth nursing home, alone, ill and in poverty, his keep paid for by the ever loyal Collins. Dartmoor had in the end not been a gracious mistress, but rather a demanding and capricious love. The testament to that love are his books which enthusiastically and in great detail tell the reader of the tales of the moor folk and the landmarks to watch out for as you find your way across the splendour of the moor, taking in scenes of both great beauty and of great antiquity. His work has never yet been equalled, though Eric Hemery's 1980's volumes went some way to bringing Crossing's legacy into the 20th century. Perhaps it will be Hemery's granddaughter, Emma Cunis^{xi}, who leads walks across the moor following some of Crossing's directions, as referred to in her grandfather's book, who will finally bring Crossing's work into the 21st Century. I believe William, who was positively scathing towards guides in his *Dartmoor Workers* for not knowing the moor as a local, would have admired both her knowledge and her spirit^{xii}.



The last portrait taken of William Crossing in the late 1920s.

Courtesy John Collins.

Figure 11 William Crossing, from Stanborough's 1997 article in the 'Dartmoor' magazine

William died on the 3rd September, 1928 in the private nursing home where Collins had placed him, and was buried in the churchyard at Mary Tavy, together with Emma. He was 80 years old.

By *Stephanie AW Bradley*, Founder & Volunteer Manager of [South Brent Storytellers and Archive](#). With grateful thanks to Greg Wall, Elizabeth Stanbrook, Peter Taylor, and Lily Style.

A week-long festival will be held in South Brent in 2028 to commemorate William Crossing's life and work. For more information, and to know how to get involved, contact info@southbrentarchive.org.uk

You might like to join us on Sunday the 4th June, for our annual summer walk, which this year walks the old Brent Road – now simply the remains of a track across the moor between Owley Gate and Harford Gate; a walk Mr Crossing knew well.

To Book: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/s-brent-annual-summer-walk-st-petroc-and-the-old-brent-road-tickets-629838011447?fbclid=IwAR25_FtecP1m9vqZw_RJI7ltnflkTvPOsXux8AHGHNmd8pDeeBG73vamczs

End Notes

ⁱ Dunlop, T., Available at: <https://www.devonperspectives.co.uk/williamcrossing.html> Accessed March 2023

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- ii Sandles, T., (2016) *William Crossing* Available at: <https://www.legendarydartmoor.co.uk/2016/09/17/williamcrossing/> Accessed March 2023
- iii 'William Crossing' in *The West Country Poets* (1896) , p128. Available at: <https://archive.org/details/westcountrypoets00wrigrich/page/126/mode/2up?view=theater> Accessed 11/04/23
- iv 'William Crossing' in *The West Country Poets* (1896) , pp127-130. Available at: <https://archive.org/details/westcountrypoets00wrigrich/page/126/mode/2up?view=theater> Accessed 11/04/23
- v Morris' & Co Trade Directory, (1870) Transcribed by Cameron, S., (2001) Available at: <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~valhender/genealogy/dirtrans/mor1870/southbre.htm> Accessed April 2023
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- vii Style, L., (2022), *When Brent Had Three Halls*, Available at: <https://www.theoldschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/When-Brent-had-3-Halls.pdf>
- viii op cit
- ix Stanbrook, E., (1997) 'William Crossing' in *Dartmoor* p7 & 9
- x Peter Taylor, in his excellent but as yet unpublished history of St Petrocs^x tells us that congregational church records list the Crossings as members in the 1870s: <https://stpetrocsandstmarys.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Guidebook-PDF4.pdf>
- xi The Devon and Dartmoor Heritage Gateway (2018) Available at: https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=MDV13311&resourceID=104&fbclid=IwAR17VhdaNVyvbNz73Y5MZFAZrmlFS9tBCclFzLSq5_QbhqVPNd0vn_Hcg Accessed March 2023
- xii Research done by Betty Severn, aged 97, on the Royal Oak Cottages in September 2019. Archive ref 25SBC/
- xiii Stanbrook, E (1997) 'William Crossing' in *Dartmoor* p8
- xiv Crossing, W., (1889) *Amidst Devon's Alps* (1974 Edition, Edited by Le Messurier, B.), David & Charles, Newton Abbot, *A Rainy Day on Dartmoor*, p31-52
- xv via the South Brent Storytellers and Archive facebook page, shared by Sara Chapple, on a post on Island House 13th February 2023: https://www.facebook.com/groups/sbstorytellersandarchive/posts/874529793811888/?comment_id=884133489518185&reply_comment_id=905767807354753¬if_id=1681219449285568¬if_t=group_comment_mention 11/04/23
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- xxi Crossing, W, (1888) *Amid Devon's Alps* (1974 Edition, Edited by Le Messurier, B.), David & Charles, Newton Abbot, p73
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- xxiii Stanbrook, E., (1997) 'William Crossing' in *Dartmoor*, p8
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- xxvii Crossing, W., (1889) *Amidst Devon's Alps* (1974 Edition, Edited by Le Messurier, B., David & Charles, Newton Abbot, p19
- xxviii op. cit.
- xxix Le Messurier, B., (1967) *Crossing's 100 Years on Dartmoor* p152 Available at: <https://archive.org/details/crossingshundred0000bria/page/212/mode/2up> Accessed 11/04/23
- xxx Le Messurier, B., (1966) *Crossing's Dartmoor Workers* p153 Available at: <https://archive.org/details/dartmoorworker0000unse/page/182/mode/2up> Accessed 08/05/23
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- xxxix Stanbrook, E. (1997) 'William Crossing' in *Dartmoor* p10
- xl Emma Cunis is the founder of [Dartmoor's Daughter](#)
- xli Le Messurier, B., (1967) 'The Guide' in *Crossing's 100 Years on Dartmoor* p142 Available at: <https://archive.org/details/crossingshundred0000bria/page/212/mode/2up> Accessed 11/04/23