# MEMOIRS 1975





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#### BRITISH MINING No.1

# NORTH MOSSDALE MINE

#### M.C. Gill

The Mine lies at the eastern end of a group of east - west trending veins that traverse the flanks of Conistone Moor. They are to the North of the extensive vein network on Grassington Moor, but in similar beds, although not proving as rewarding to their owners.

The North Mossdale Mine is on the east bank of Mossdale Gill at N.G.R. SE022702 which is approximately 1500 foot A.O.D. The workings have been in the 'Bearing' Grit with some work in the overlaying Plate and 'Top' Grit and the underlaying Yoredale Limestones. The 'Thick' Coal also outcrops in Thorpengill and it is probable that it was worked to some extent (Thick Coal varies from two feet at Old Providence to 10 inches near Grassington Moor).

Although the mine is in a position to receive a continuous flow of water for wheels, all winding was done by horse whim and no significant dressing machinery was installed. All the ore being rough dressed at the shaft eye and transported to the Kettlewell Mill or for a time to the cupola Mill.

Prior to 1800, mining in the Mossdale region was carried out by numerous small partnerships in a superficial manner.

In 1808, Tennent & Horner; Conistone, Rathmell and Wrathall of Grassington and other local men formed a partnership to work the North Mossdale area.

In the late 1850's the Mossdale Mining Company were active and sank the deeper shafts on to North and Butcher Veins and developed them southwards.

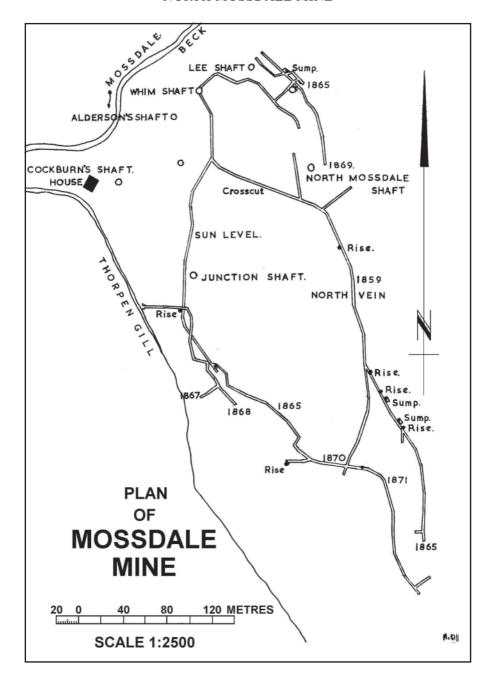
Dr Close and Co. took the mine in 1862, his 'Cost Book' company being divided into 3,000 shares. They employed J.R. Place as Agent. From Whim Shaft he drove Sun level along Royal Exchange Vein to its junction with Butcher vein and cross-cutted to the North Vein. A level was also driven from the side of Thorpengill on to Butcher Vein and a connection was made with a rise from the Sun Level.

By 1868, Place held all but 80 of the shares and was making arrangements to sell out to George Montgomery, a London Merchant; who in turn sold out nearly at once to William Gibson & Co. of London.

In 1872, The Mossdale Lead Mining Company Limited was formed and made Gibson the Secretary, buying him out with £5,000 cash and £7.000 in fully [17] paid up shares.

It would seem that difficulties were found in raising Capital as later in 1872, the shares were revalued as 20,000 shares of £1.

# NORTH MOSSDALE MINE



# **BRITISH MINING No.1**

# MOSSDALE LEAD MINING COMPANY (Limited)

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 and 1867

Capital £20,000, in 4,000 Shares of £5 Each.

£1 per share to be paid on application.

2 per share on allotment.

<u>2</u> per share one month after allotment, when all liability will cease.

£5

Where no allotment can be made, the deposit will be returned in full.

# **DIRECTORS**

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Auditors - Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Evans,

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Secretary - Mr W.R. Gibson.

OFFICES - 32, Great St. Helen's, London. E.C.

The mine is said to have been in the hands of the receivers by 1874, but records indicate that the mine did not close until c.1877.

# **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Mining Journal, 1872.

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