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BLUBBERHOUSE MOOR LEAD MINE

by M.C. Gill

The mine is situated at the head of Hall Beck adjacent to the A59 road at NGR SE13795541 at an elevation of 975 ft. AOD.

A level has been driven onto a weakly mineralised east-west fault in gritstone. At approximately 8 m inbye of the collapsed entrance, a sump was put down onto a small cross joint, which is now completely flooded. At 8 m past the sump, the level is blocked by a roof fall; surface indications suggest this was a shaft.

The mine is recorded in the Mineral Statistics by R. Hunt in 1864 as being at Otley. In 1867, Lady Frankland leased Blubberhouse Moor to Thomas Sykes, Solicitor, Pateley Bridge. Sykes was also secretary for the Stoney Grooves and Grimwith mines.

In 1868, W.S. Winn of the Hebden Moor Mines was manager.

On January 21st 1871 the following advertisement appeared in the Mining Journal:-

To be sold by private contract, the right and interest of the present company in the agreement for lease and mining plant. Various levels have been driven, which are in practical operation. The take comprises about seven square miles surface, is about six miles from Craven Moor and twenty from Leeds, and is contiguous to rich mines which have paid good dividends. There is a fair prospect of an enterprising company obtaining good results.

For prices etc., apply to W.S. Winn, Blubberhouses, Nr. Otley; or W. Stead, 21, Bond Street, Leeds.

The sale appears to have failed to attract a buyer, the management remaining unchanged when the mine was renamed Perseverance in 1872.

Closure appears to have been about 1877 but the amount of work done in 13 years appears to have been limited to one short level and a number of shallow pits.

REFERENCES.

Mining Journal 21 - 1 - 1871

Memoirs of the N.C.M.R.S. Vol.2. No.4. Mines & Mine Owners in the Central Pennines.

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