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MEMOIRS 1965

HOW GILL MINE FISSURE

N.C. & M.R.S. Records

How Gill Mine Fissure. N.G.R. SE 023681 Depth not known.

At the foot of How Gill Nick on Grassington Moor, 2,500 ft. N.W. of the West Turf Pits Shaft is the How Gill Mine. A large crater marks the position of its shaft which collapsed some years ago. It is recorded that from this shaft a crosscut being driven South crossed a deep cavernous fissure, down which waste rock was tipped for many years without making any impression upon it.

[47]

In May 1963 members of the N.C.M.R.S. attempted to locate this fissure using a commercial divining rod (Plate D, fig.2). Weather conditions were not ideal as a strong wind was blowing, but this did not affect the rods to any great extent. To locate the fissure a series of traverses was made from east to west across the presumed line of the South Crosscut from How Gill Mine. Four traverses were made with positive results. A long SE-NW traverse contacted one end of the fissure. Traverses on a N-S line located the direction of the fissure, which it would appear forms a continuation of the fault on which a series of shake holes are situated to the SW of How Gill. In 1955 members of the Craven Pothole Club discovered an opening in the side of one of these shake holes. A tight descent of about ten feet leads to a 60 ft. pitch in a large shaft. The floor of the shaft is covered with boulders, but digging proved that the fault had closed up to a few inches in width. The pothole was named Lunar Pot SE 019683. Several of the other shakes in this series would probably repay a closer examination.

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HOW GILL MINE FISSURE

