
Calcite Mining in the Peak District - Postscript by T.D. Ford.

Further to my review in *Mining History* 15:1, pp29-37, Ivor Brown has drawn attention to the fact that a calcite mine was operating at Topley Head (on the west side of Topley Pike, in a branch off Deepdale) in the 1960s. It seems to have been a short-lived operation and was apparently not recorded by the Geological Survey map and memoir.

Ivor also notes that the Inspector of Mines recorded Derbyshire calcite production in 1964 as 19300 tons.

Regarding Putwell Hill mine in Monsal Dale, Ron Schofield has written to say that as a young man in 1939 he found an adit open on the left side of the quarry and explored it with a single flashlight. The adit was six feet high with a roof of sleepers. Beyond was a high stope eight or ten feet wide, extending further than his torch beam. A pile of deads led into another sleepered section of adit which he did not fully explore. This confirms the description in Stephens' unpublished memoir (1942). It seems that the adit was level with the quarry floor and much of the vein above was worked-out almost to the surface. As no post-war account has mentioned adit or stopes it is likely the entrance collapsed long ago. The probable stope mentioned here was illustrated by Richard Bird in his *Britain's Old Metal Mines: A pictorial survey.*, p62 (Bradford Barton, Truro 1974 pp111) and two small steam engines, apparently to raise water to the dressing floors, are displayed at Peak District Mining Museum.

Any further information would be welcome.