

TERMINOLOGY NAMING OF MINES

General comment: many names were given to passages and mines in the 1970s when the DCC started to compile more detailed records and needed to be able to identify mines and shafts. Where “1950s” is given as a date, this should be taken to include the previous one or two decades when there were many unofficial visitors to the mines; 1950 is used as a key point for this period as this is when an article about the mines appeared in a caving journal. The date “1960s” generally refers to names identified by Geoffrey Warrington in his 1965 paper in *Mercian Geologist*.

MINE OR PASSAGE NAME	DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY	ORIGIN OF NAME (IF KNOWN)
ABBADINE'S LEVEL	Part of Pillar Mine, very uncertain if this is his 1708 level. This is most likely to be a 19 th C level driven to take ore from Doc and Pillar Mines to Square Shaft	Popularly ascribed to Abbadine before history better known and Hough Level opened
ALDERLEY COTTAGE ADIT	Dug by Steve Mills and others. Some traces of copper	In grounds of Alderley Cottage
BEACON LODGE MINE	Possibly 18 th C but probably early 19 th C working on Engine Vein western extension	Locality 1970s
BLOCKEND	mine? Also known as “Powder Store”	Descriptive of passage 20 th C
BRADFORD LANE SHAFT	Also known as Warden's Shaft. Dug near junction between Bradford Lane and Macclesfield Road. Dead end.	Locality 1990s
BRYNLOW BOTTOM LEVEL	(or Lost Adit)	Locality. “Lost Adit” refers to fact that it could not be found for some time
BRYNLOW FIELD OPENCAST	No previous name, now partly infilled - site of Dawkins' 1874 discovery of prehistoric pit workings. Otherwise known as Old Opencast, or Field Opencast. Includes Old Opencast Shaft no.1, 2, and 3, and? Field Shaft]	Locality 1970s. Old Opencast is to distinguish with Canyon Opencast. Field Shaft is a 1970s name when the shaft was dug by the DCC
BRYNLOW MINE	Also known BRINLOW MINE: includes Brinlow Adit, Car Shaft, Roadside Shaft, Other Roadside Shaft, Topless/NORWEB Shaft, Brinlow End Entrance	Main name is from the locality 1970s. Car Shaft had the remains of a car in it. Roadside Shaft is by the road. Other Roadside Shaft was found after Roadside Shaft. Topless Shaft was originally known from within the mine as being open but with no trace on the surface. NORWEB contractors subsequently found

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		the entrance while laying a cable. Brinlow End Entrance is now known as Trembling Den (qv)
CANYON OPENCAST	Also known as Canyon Mine, The Opencast	Descriptive name given 1970s. The shaft at the southern end is known as Round Shaft (1950s) and at the northern end, communicating with the Hough Level, as Square Shaft. Both names are descriptive.
CHURCH QUARRY TRIAL ADIT	Also known as Church Quarry Mine and Naked Mine. Probably driven by quarrymen to prove extent of stone deposit.	Named after Church Quarry
COBALT MINE	Original name unknown, and record seems likely. Includes Well Shaft, Visitor's Centre or Tom's Shaft, Car Park Entrance Shaft and Holly Root Shaft. Note: Wizard's Inn Well is different from Well Shaft, and is not a mine working - though it does connect	Cobalt Mine was named as such in 1980s and is based on suspected identity as early 19 th C cobalt mine. All shaft names are 1980s. Well Shaft was used as a well. Visitor's Centre Shaft is under the Visitor's Centre and was renamed Tom's Shaft in memory of Tom Fowden (1912-2000). Car Park Entrance is in the corner of the Wizard Car Park. Holly Root Shaft had holly roots down it.
CROSS MINE	Also known as Lower White Mine	Descriptive name 1970s
COW LANE OPENCUTS	Ancient workings, now flooded ponds etc. in woods	Locality 1980s. The lane from Artists Lane to the Brinlow field is known as Cow Lane
DEVIL'S GRAVE	Also known as Devil's Grave Mine. Some of exterior is as result of collapse and erosion	Unknown
DOC MINE	Inclined entrance. Part 18 th C and part 19 th C worked from a lower entrance	Named after Alastair (Doc) Mycroft who was a character in the area in the 1950s. Also known in the 1950s as Chocolate Mine from the mud.
EASTERN MINE	All mines other than West Mine during late 19 th C working period.	Name given in the 19 th C to all mines being worked other than West Mine (then known as the Western Mine)

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ENGINE TRIAL	Trial level near to Engine Vein adit entrance	Locality and descriptive
ENGINE VEIN MINE	Otherwise known as Engine Vein. Includes Bear Shaft, Ring Shaft, Bell Pit Shaft, Blue Shaft, Balloon Shaft, Pot Shaft, Engine Vein Side Entrance (suggest EV Adit?), Plan B Shaft, Second Shaft, and Top Level Shaft.	The Engine Vein name is descriptive and appears to be quite early appearing in the 19 th C. The other names are mostly 20 th C. Bear Shaft or Bear Pit has been around since the 1950s and may be descriptive when the shaft was partly filled at the bottom. Ring Shaft was capped with a concrete ring (1980s). Bell Pit Shaft <i>looks like</i> a Bell Pit. Blue Shaft is very blue (1950s). Balloon Shaft was found from below and measured with a helium balloon (1990s). Pot Shaft was where a pot of coins was found (1990s). Plan B shaft was the second choice of two shafts to be dug one day – and a bee was found in it (1990s)! Second Shaft is the second one identified from the eastern end. Top Level Shaft drops into the Top Level at the western end of the mine (1980s)
FINLOW MINE	Also known as Finlow Wood Mine, Finlow Hill Mine or Findlow Mine	Locality 1980s
HAGG OPENCAST	An infilled opencut within Windmill Wood with associated early workings and stone tools	Presumed to be the site of the Hagg described in early literature (e.g.L D Stanley)
HOLY WELL LEVEL	Very short level by Holy Well	Locality 1970s
HOUGH LEVEL ADIT ENTRANCE	Also known as Hough Level, Hough East Entrance.	Descriptive and linked to name Hough Level (1980s)
HOUGH LEVEL	Should rightly refer to whole of driveage. Includes Hough West Entrance, Hough Covered Shaft, Field Shaft, Square Shaft and Hough End Shaft. Stump Shaft, Sand Shaft, and Probationer's Series are probably part of Wood Mine but are commonly associated with the branch of the Hough Level which starts near Blue Lake	The name Hough Level is presumed to come from its exit in or near the Hough. Strictly speaking, the exit is near to Dicken's Wood. Hough Covered Shaft is covered with stone slabs in The Field (1980s). Field Shaft is in the Field. Square Shaft is actually rectangular

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	in Wood Mine.	but was named as such to distinguish it from Round Shaft (see Canyon). Hough End Shaft is the one nearest the end of the Hough Level (1980s). Stump Shaft had a beech tree stump in it (1970s). Sand Shaft was plagued by running sand during digging (1970s) and two club probationers were trapped for a short while beyond Sand Shaft in the Probationers' Series (1970s).
MOTTRAM MINE	[also known as the Kirkleyditch Mine] Mottram St Andrew	
NEW VENTURE MINE	Has been divided into three separate workings by N.D.: New Venture I, II, and III.	Named as such on early plans (1870s?)
NORTH MINE	Passage of uncertain size and length to north of West Mine entrance	Locality relative to West Mine entrance (1950s)
ROUND SHAFT	part of Canyon Opencast	See Canyon Opencast
QUARRY OPENCAST	Just west of Old Alderley Quarry	
PILLAR MINE	Referred to as Dickens Wood Mine (Roeder & Graves), and also as C.C.H. Mine (see The Northern Caver Vol.2 no.!)	Long-standing local name for this working, although pillar since destroyed. C.C.H. is supposed to stand for Campers' Cave of Happiness (1950s)
REEKING MINE	Includes Reeking Shaft and Reeking Mine	Named from odour when explored in 1970s.
ROCK SHAFT	Includes Rock Shaft and Rock Shaft Level	Had a rock over the shaft in the 1970s. This has now gone.
SADDLEBOLE MINE	A warren of very early, shallow workings. Includes Saddlebole Side 1, Side 2, Level 1, 2, and 3, and Tunnel 1, and 2. [These terms are a little confusing, so should perhaps be re-named]	Locality 1960s
ST.HILARY'S SCHOOL	Small working within grounds of school, proper name uncertain	Locality
SCOUT HOLE	Also known as Scout Mine, although this term is possibly inaccurate, since tunnel may have been driven	Locality on the Edge of land owned by the Scout movement (1950s?)

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	for access to a furnace, perhaps even used as an early incline into West Mine Opencut. However, there is an earlier un-named working beneath entrance	
SOUTH MINE	Associated with West Mine Opencut. The genuineness of the identity is uncertain. There are stories of extensive workings but these are unproven and may in fact refer to 20 th C workings just inside West Mine. The name is to contrast with North Mine.	Locality relative to West Mine entrance.
STRAIGHT MINE	Straight level in Brinlow Dell	Descriptive 1970s
TRACKSIDE SHAFT	Cobalt Mine shaft opposite tea room. Probably 1805-15 period. Connects all levels.	Adjacent to main track to Edge House.
TREMBLING DEN	Dig at north end of Brinlow Fault where it comes to surface	Named 1990s because walls not very secure.
TRIAL 1		Tags given in 1970s
TRIAL 2		Tags given in 1970s
TWIN SHAFTS	Indications that this was a significant working	Descriptive 1960s?
VAMPIRE SHAFT	Alternate unapproved name for Trackside Shaft	
WEST MINE	Also known as the Western Mine or The Great West Mine. Includes; Doctor's Shaft, Sphinx Shaft, Sitting Down Shaft, White Shaft, Main Chamber Shaft, Top Gallery Shaft. Main Entrance, Plank Shaft, SW Mine, Over West Level, Over West Shaft, and Fireman's Entrance, Side Entrance, First Shaft and West Mine Opencast, though now filled in, was a distinct entity, and possibly included part of a much older working. Names given to parts of the mine within map 'Land of the Dim Grey King' should generally be avoided as they were short-lived but should not be ignored as some are much more generally used.	Western Mine is a 19 th C name for the West Mine. Great West Mine is a grandiose name, probably from the 1950s. Etymologies where know: Doctor's Shaft (1950s) comes up in the garden of a doctor's house, Sphinx Shaft (1950s) is in Sphinx Chamber named after a prominent rock feature (now destroyed), White Shaft (1970s) has white streaks on the rock below it, Main Chamber shaft and Top Gallery Shaft are based on location (1980s), Plank Shaft was fitted with a builder's plank for many years (1950s), Over West Level and Shaft are names given in the 1980s for the new entrance opened at that time and are based on location, Fireman's entrance is a

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		1950s name because the fire brigade were supposed to have used it once, First Shaft is the first shaft in the mine (1980s).
WIZARD'S CAVE MINE	Roeder referred to this working as the 'Iron Gates', although this is likely to lead to confusion with the presumed site of this on Glaze Hill	
WIZARD'S WELL LEVEL		Locality (1960s?)
WOOD MINE	Includes Wood Mine Adit, Adit End Shaft. Graffiti Chamber, North End Chamber, Bottom Shaft, Squeedle Shaft, Rabbit Cavern, Temple Shaft, Pillar and Post, Blue Lake, Timber Shaft. The 1865-1866 Settings Book refers to the original names for parts of the working e.g. Oakes Level, Gards Shaft, Windmill Level, and driveages south, west, and north of The Slide.	Locality in Windmill Wood (1950s?). Once known as "The Windmill" or the Eastern Mine which would have included Engine Vein etc. Significant names are: Graffiti Chamber from graffiti on walls (1950s), North End Chamber from its location, Bottom Shaft (1970s) comes into bottom of the mine, Squeedle Shaft (1950s) was a squeeze through waste, Rabbit Cavern is unknown, Temple Shaft (1980s) was named after the timber support put in by the DCC, Pillar and Post (1970s) has a stone pillar and a wooden support (post), Blue Lake is descriptive (1950s) Timber Shaft had tree trunks in it (1950s), Oakes level is unknown but Gard was company secretary and director in the late 19 th C.

UNNAMED WORKINGS:

line of workings between Well Shaft and Engine Vein
workings to the north of Engine Vein and east of Old Alderley Quarry
assorted workings in Brynlow Field
workings in field north of White Barn Farm and west of Macclesfield Road

working between Bradford Lane and Artist's Lane, to the west of Macclesfield Road

Based on Simon Timberlake (07/01/98) but heavily modified by Nigel Dibben (2001)