

Barnside Colliery – Hepworth, West Yorkshire (SE174052)

History & Operations

Barnside Colliery operated from 1855 to 1887 (ref: Northern Mine Research Society website NMRS).

From the Northern Mine Research Society website

Mine	Location	From	To
Barnside	Hepworth, Holmfirth	1855	1887
Barnside (a)	Hepworth, Holmfirth	1854	1863

Although in the report “**Mineral Statistics of The United Kingdom of Great Britain & Ireland For 1853 & 1854. – Robert Hunt FRS Keeper of Mining Records (Geological Survey of Great Britain)**”, the mines are listed with their owners as follows:

Mine	Owner
Barnside	i Uriah Tinker
Barnside	ii Mrs Shaw

This suggests operation prior to 1855 for the main Barnside pit.

From the entry in the Register of Mines 1869 Barnside i) has changed ownership and Barnside ii) has disappeared. The disappearance of the second Barnside Colliery fits with the operating dates recorded by the NMRS.

Table From Register of Mines 1869

COLLIERY	SITUATION	OWNER
Barnside (Hepworth)	Holmfirth	Hirst and Lockwood.
Brickworks	ditto	Uriah Tinker.
Carr Wood (New Mills)	ditto	Charles Lockwood.
Foxhouse	ditto	Mrs. Wagstaff.
Fulstone (New Mills)	ditto	Charles Lockwood.
Gatehead	ditto	Uriah Tinker.
Hepshaw	ditto	ditto
Hollin House (New Mills)	ditto	Hepworth Iron Co.
Hepworth	ditto	
Meltham	ditto	Uriah Tinker.
Thorntonsland	ditto	John Haigh.

Wood	ditto	Uriah Tinker.
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From 1873 Certificates of Competency for running a mine

Operations continue in 1873 and are managed by George Charlesworth.

Charlesworth, George	Barnside (Mr. Wardell)	637	1st	2	25	Mar	1873
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George Charlesworth is the Manager, receiving a First Class Certificate of Service as a Manager of Mines granted under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1872 (35 & 36 Vict. Cap. 76, Sec. 31). From a list published in 1896 covering the period 1873 to 1887.

The District column contains the name of the mine (if any) in which George Charlesworth was acting as Manager at the time of grant of certificate. The inspector is a Mr Wardell.

From 1880 COLLIERIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AT WORK IN, 1880.

And in 1880 operations continued under the ownership of Messrs Hirst & Lockwood. The list gives, Name of Colliery, Where situated and Owner's Name.

27 Oxlee, Hepworth, Huddersfield, Hirst and Cartwright.

1 Barnside (Hepworth), near Holmfirth, Hirst and Lockwood.

2 Clay Works, Holmfirth, C. S. and H. W. Tinker.

3 Gatehead, Holmfirth, C. S. and H. W. Tinker.

4 Hollin House (New Mills), Holmfirth, Hepworth Iron Co.

5 Hepworth, Holmfirth, Hepworth Iron Co.

6 Knab (sinking), Holmfirth, Geo. Hinchcliffe.

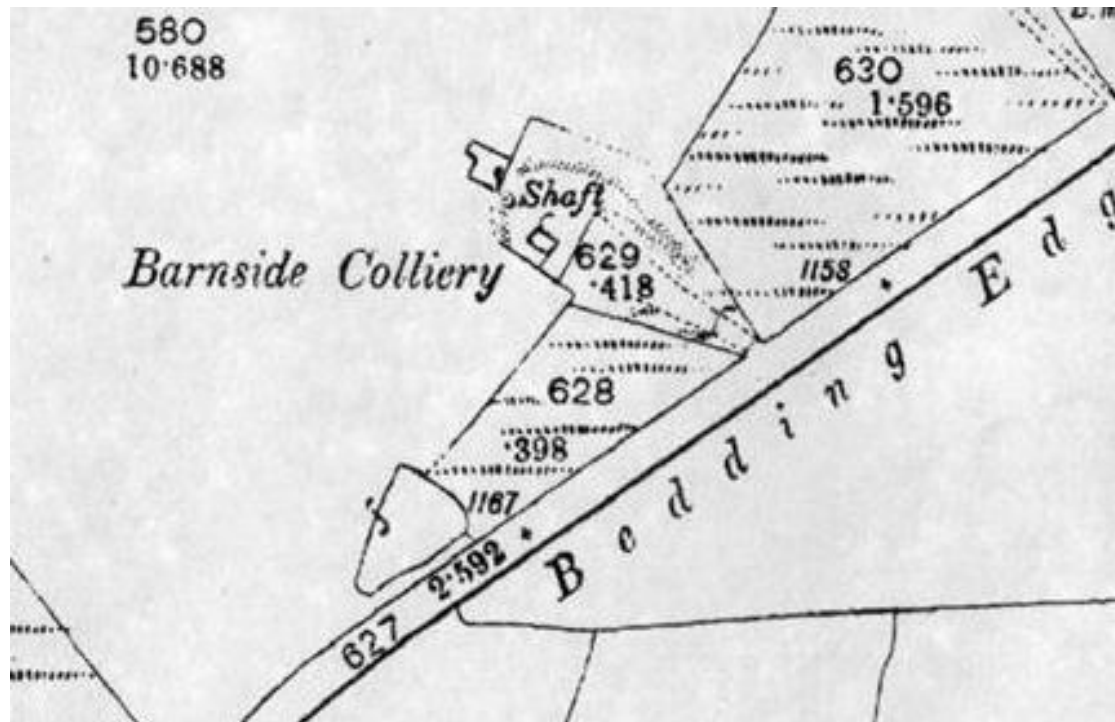
2 Crow Edge, Penistone, J. Hinchliffe and Co.

Barnside is not in the Mine records for 1896 onwards indicating closure between 1887 and that time.

The shaft was capped by British Coal in 1986

Mine Features

The Colliery layout was as captured in the 1893 Ordnance Survey map. This shows the Shaft, 2 buildings, entrance road from Bedding Edge Road and Slurry/ Settling Pond (at lower left next to number 1167)



Between the mine inception and its closure a large pond appeared to the western end of the site. This was probably related to the introduction of coal washing in the 1880's where the mines produced a lot of 'slurry' which was deposited in settling pits.

The pond can be seen on site today. It still has the "dam" at one end which was built from mine debris to help construction and hold back the water. After settling, the water was recycled into the washing area.

Here the stone and sand sank to the bottom whilst the coal floated to the top. The slurry dried out leaving a segregated layer of coal sitting on top of unwanted gangue materials. This was periodically emptied and the fine coal was piled up to dry properly (sometimes being heated).