

Kennisham Iron Mine was opened in 1852 by an Iron smelting company from south Wales. Initially mining Goethite/Hematite, this giving way to Siderite at a shallow depth. The discontinues east-west lode structure hosted in Devonian Slates also contains sparse Copper and rare Bismuth mineralization. The highest output of Iron Ore was in 1877 with 47,000 tons for all the Brendon Hill Iron mines.

The mine closing in 1883 due to imports from Spain and the unsuitability of Siderite as an ore. There was an abortive attempt at revival in 1907.

Dumps and collapse stopes workings in forested area 500 yards north-west of picnic site and 3 miles east-south-east of Wheddon Cross, a very recent Somerset village dating from the 1820s