



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



**You are here:** The Journey > Selected Heritage sites > Fecit End Delf

## Fecit End Delf

Although only small, this offers a very clear illustration of the style of working in the Rossendale quarries.

**Location:** The quarry is positioned about 400m west of Turn village on the end of Fecit Hill. Lying at about 350m above sea level, it can be accessed from a public footpath leading from the Rossendale Way.

### Historical Summary

**Geology:** The workings are in the Upper Haslingden Flagstones.

**Products:** Included road setts, kerb stones and flagstones.



**Quarry Firms:** The quarry was in operation before 1844. So far we know of only 1 quarry owner: Woodvine who worked the quarry around 1939 to 1940.

**Summary of Surviving Remains:** The hillside quarry consists of outcrop quarrying with some open pit quarrying. In the south eastern corner of the quarry is an extraction pit which contains the remains of a collapsed crane.



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



The remains of a loading and processing area is located within the SE section of the quarry, consisting of a series of stacked dressed stone lintels and waste debris located on a probable loading platform. The stone 'banker benches' used by the masons also survive.

The spoil 'fingers' and mounds are all clearly defined and have been colonised by moorland vegetation. An extensive area of quarry debris extends down the southerly slope of Fecit Hill and creates a prominent landscape feature, which can be observed from Rochdale Road (A680) and the Rossendale Way.

In recent years a gun club has constructed a shooting gallery to the north-east of the processing site.

---

**You are here:** The Journey > Selected Heritage sites > Heald Slate Quarries

## Heald Slate Quarries

The main block of this quarry extends between SD 875 261 and SD 885 254. They lie close to the series of springs that are the source of the River Irwell, north of Bacup. The quarries are on the south-west edge of Heald Moor at a substantial distance from Deerplay Hill, and it would seem likely that they may be more correctly identified with the Heald Slate Quarries ( Davies 1985-96: Deerplay entry). Deerplay Hill Quarries are situated approximately one kilometer to the west at SD 862 267. The area was formally part of the medieval pasture land of Deerplay, adjacent to the



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



Bacup vaccary (see Tupling 1927, 20; VCH Lancs xi, 437n6), which was gradually enclosed during the post medieval period. No tithe survey was compiled for this area.

## Historical Summary:

**Working Life:** there may have been stone quarrying in the area from the sixteenth or seventeenth centuries. The quarries were near their final size by the 1840s and disused by 1893.



**Quarry firms:** Lords, and Blezzards owned Heald Slate quarries (Davies 1985 – 96 Deerplay Hill entry).

**Geology:** Dyneley Knoll Flags. Methods: hillside outcroppings. Transport: horse and cart.

**Products:** included roofing slate (to all parts of country) Davies 1985-96 – Deerplay Hill entry).



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



## Events:

1601 Plan of Horlaw Head and Cliviger Common shows a series of stone quarries running from Deerplay Hill to Tooter Hill. One of these quarries may relate specifically to this site, 'a stone of the salatte pites' (ie Slate Pit) which is shown situated somewhere north of 'the graffe dytche' (presumably Greave Clough).

1848 OS 1st edn 6" (sheet 72) shows series of quarries labeled from north to south: 'Sandstone Quarry (Flags)', 'Sandstone Quarry (Flags and Ashlar)'. 1850 Heald slate quarries (and Deerplay Hill quarries) in full production (Davies 1985-96)

1893 OS 25" map shows 'Old Quarries' and 'Old quarry'.

1909 OS 25" map shows as 1893 map.

1923 OS 6" geology map (sheet 72NE) shows quarry in Dyneley Knoll Flags of Lower Coal Measures, NW group labeled 'Flags with Sandy Shale Partings'; SE group, Micaceous Brown Flagstone'.

1928 OS map shows as 1909 map.

**Summary of surviving remains:** The group of quarries are hillside outcroppings with a series of small working faces, broadly lying on the north side with the spoil tipped down the slope to the south. The spoil heaps are extensive and relatively undisturbed. The main approach to the quarries is from Heald Lane with a trackway running along the south side of the area. Identified quarry features include the foundations of several structures (quarrymen's shelters or storage, earthwork platforms and possibly processing areas, and a leat. The foundations of 'Top' cottages, seen on the OS maps from 1844-7 to 1928, were also located here.



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



**You are here:** The Journey > Selected Heritage sites > Cloughfold scrubbing mill

## Cloughfold scrubbing mill

Cloughfold Scrubbing Mill is located at NGR: SD 818 218 and is positioned on the junction of a series of mineral tramways. The site can be accessed from a public footpath from Cloughfold, which follows the line of a tramway incline. The Cloughfold Mill is an exceptional archaeological site and one of the most important industrial processing remains in Rossendale.

### Historical Summary

**Working life:** Post 1849 (OS 6" 1st edn map)/pre- 1894 (OS 6" 2nd edn map). Its construction may be contemporary with construction of the tramway system in 1867. Probably disused by 1920 when the track of the Cloughfold – Ding tramway lifted (Groundwork Rossendale n.d.)

**Quarry firms:** Butterworth & Brooks. Brooks & Brooks.

**Methods:** Steam-powered machinery. Hand dressed stone.

**Transport:** The tramway moved material from the quarry and scrubbing mill to the main railway at Clough Fold. A system of tramways also connected the mill with Cragg, Ding, Great Height, Hurdles and Brow Edge quarries.

**Products:** Building stone, stone flags.

### Events:

**09.02.1867** Thomas Greenwood had his leg broken below the knee on the quarry incline. He was riding on the third wagon of three when the front wagons became loose and rolled back and struck him breaking his leg.

**03.10.1868** A young man in charge of wagons bringing stone from the quarries was killed when the brakes and sprags failed and the wagons went out of his control.

**23.11.1867** Robert Dawson, 55, was killed while oiling rollers on the tramway wire haul rope. He was struck by the full wagons coming down the incline and carried 20 yards before the wagons stopped. Both legs and his right arm were broken and his back and head were cut and bruised. He died later of his injuries.

**15.12.1877** James Rawlins and Samuel Payne were injured when a copper chain attached to three laden wagons broke. The two men, along with two others who were uninjured had been riding the wagons and jumped off. The rock flew from the wagon and injured Edward Croasdale who would need amputation of one or two limbs.

**29.07.1882** Patrick Callaghan, farm labourer, suffered a crushed right arm as he tried to jump onto empty wagons.



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



**02.08.1884** Two laden wagons were descending the incline when the rope broke and they ran down the slope until eventually coming to a standstill. Little damage was done.

**15.08.1885** Five anvils offered for sale from Whinberry Naze. One for double blasted bellows, tongs, top and bottom steel swages, swage blocks, vice, screwing tackle, quantity of iron and steel.

**13.06.1889** Goodshaw Church rambling club visited the mills. The stones are prepared by putting a layer of stone on a circular ring of iron with another set of stones on top and are fastened by iron bands. They are turned in opposite directions to polish them.

**04.08.1888** Three laden wagons left the track after the wire haul rope parted. The wagons dropped into the road leading to Victoria Buildings, two of the upright pillars by which the bridge over that road can be raised when required were snapped off, the sleepers on the bridge were broken. A stone smashed through a panel of the office door adjoining and a considerable amount of damage was done.

**07.12.1895** William Fields was loading flags onto a wagon when some of the flags fell breaking both bones in one leg. He was taken to Manchester Infirmary by train.

**05.04.1899** A fatal accident occurred to John Isaac Ashford, 22. When accompanying laden wagons with another man a stone fell under the wheels of a wagon tipping it, and the deceased, onto the road below. The wagon had fallen on his head and he died a short time later.

**23.01.1909** Martin Varley was going home along the tramway when a link broke on the wire haul rope. Portions of the link flew up and hit him on the leg causing a compound fracture.

**16.10.1920** References to the sale of cranes, wagons and other appliances for Brooks Cloughfold Quarries. Includes two locomotives and the railway they formerly run over. Tearing up the railway will remove one of the features on the further side of Cowpe Lowe. The track was laid about 1844-5 and runs from the top of the tramway at Cloughfold, along the breast of the hill around Foe Edge Farm to Cragg Quarry. One spur runs to Ding Quarry and then the quarries at Britannia. Over 5 miles long. Before the railway the stone was conveyed on horse drawn sledges over Rooley Moor and down to Rochdale and Heywood. The quarries were closed at the outbreak of war and very little work has occurred there since. The railroad is now being torn up and the buildings and quarry plant dismantled.

**29.10.1932** Demolition of a large wooden bridge on the east side of Cloughfold crossing. Bridge formerly used for carrying a tramway from Brooks & Brooks Quarry over the River Irwell to the Cloughfold railway sidings.



# Journey through the Valley of Stone

... a living history



## Summary of Surviving Remains

This mill site contains a series of ruinous structures and features which are related to both the processing and movement of stone. The structures include a building which may have been used as a dwelling, a structure which appears to have acted as a polishing mill and boiler house, and a structure which probably housed three stone sawing machines. Both of the mill sites appear to have associated water channels, probably housing pipes, which supplied water to the mills from a reservoir located in the north-west area of the site. The remains of a possible engine shed and chimney are also located to the south-west of the polishing mill, whilst at the southern end of the site are the degraded remains of a winding house. Surrounding the mills are a series of visible tramways and the piers for trestle bridges, loading and processing platforms, a number of crane platforms and bases, deposits of boiler slag, ash, and exposed dumps of processing waste. An arcing section of processing waste on the eastern side of the site is particularly well defined and appears to represent waste material from the saw mill.



Journey through the  
**Valley of Stone**  
... a living history

