

Phil Newman

The Yarner copper mine.

The copper mine here at Yarner was a mildly successful copper mine which operated between 1857 and 1862; in that period it reached a depth of 50 fathoms on the main shaft and it produced over 2,000 tons of copper, which is said to have had a value of around £62,000 at that time, so it almost broke even, but not quite, in the time it operated. The most obvious part of the mine is the remains of the engine house which stands just above a deep shaft called the Engine Shaft and this engine house was used for pumping water out of the mine at the lower levels and the remains you see today are basically just the stump or foundation level of the building,. The building would have been very substantially built, you can see bits of brick and stone on it and you can see that the walls are very very thick, it would have stood to a height of over 20 metres when it was in use. In addition to the remains you can see there would have also been a boiler house on one side of the building containing one or usually two Cornish boilers there would have also been a chimney to actually draw the fire in the boilers, but all these remains seemed to have collapsed leaving a stump surrounded by rubble.