



# Simply Exploring Group

## Mine Information: Dinorwig Quarry

Entrance Grid Ref: Please contact us

Quarry grid Ref: SH595603

Number of levels: Over 20

Number of inclines:



Dinorwig Quarry is situated above Llyn Peris in Llanberis. This Quarry was established in 1787 and by the end of the 18th century work in the quarry was on a series of terraces which eventually extended over 1800 feet on more than 20 levels. From the 1830's tramway systems on each terrace and steam locomotives were introduced on the terraces in the 1870's. and

internal combustion engines in the 1930's. At its peak there was up to 50 miles of track. Although some downhill sledging to Llyn Peris continued until 1816 the use of self acting inclines began in 1789, these were in two main cascades, most of the pitches served two terraces. In some places dykes of hard rock prevented orderly terracing, this meant that some material had to be up-hauled from pits, several powered vertical lifts being used as well as several Blondin ropeways. Ultimately there were more than a score of mills there was almost 500 saws but surprisingly few dressing machines. Extensive use was made of steam, in 1905 they were one of the original users of the Cwm Dylli electricity supply. By the late 1890's the annual tonnage exceeded 100,000 and there were approx 3000 men. After this point output fell but in the 1930's the payroll was still over 2000. The quarry finally closed in 1969 following a steep post WWII run down.

### What's There

There is a great deal to see on this vast site. The Vivian quarry (which operated as a department of Dinorwig) is open to the public and you can walk around.

