

FUNGI ON LUNDY

9TH TO 12TH SEPTEMBER, 1972.

Tricholoma gambosum—New barn area

Hebeloma sp—New barn area

Stropharia semiglobata—New barn area and S.W. Fields

Hypoglyphor turundus—S. of Old Light

Panaeolus semiovatus—Airfield

Panaeolus rickenii—In field above goldfish pond

Bolbitius vitellinus—S. of Old Light

Lycoperdon sp—West Cliffs (Quarter)

R. MONTAGU

LUNDY PONIES

ELIZABETH H. PARSONS

As Chairman of the National Pony Society I have just paid a short visit to Lundy to see the ponies.

My Society was approached by the Landmark Trust who are anxious to get the ponies recognised as a definite Lundy breed. This is difficult at the moment as the stock on the island are very mixed. Starting basically some 45 years ago with New Forest mares, there have been stallions of several breeds introduced since. Over the last few years a Connemara stallion has been running with the mares. The ponies on the island are a good type of working hunter pony, 13.0 to 14.0 hands. Mostly clean with black points and black manes and tails, showing distinct Connemara attributes. There are also two extremely nice lively chestnut mares that could well throw back to the original New Forest stock.

The National Pony Society have advised the Trust to start a Foundation Stock Register of approved mares, culling those not true to type and of poor conformation. Two inspectors (Mrs. Alison Taylor and Mrs. Daphne Alexander) visited the island early in the spring and approved 14 mares and some young fillies including two nice yearlings. The rest of the mares and all the young colts were rejected and the young ones were sold on the mainland. They also approved an extremely nice young stallion, born on the mainland out of a mare from the island. He is a good dun colour with excellent bone and will make a very good foundation stallion.

I found the condition of the ponies to be excellent even after the wet summer, and the stallion who arrived in the spring has obviously taken to life on the island extremely well. He will be returning to the mainland for the winter, and some good mainland hay is being imported for the mares. The island is lucky in having Mrs. Catherine Blaxhall whose full-time job is caring for the ponies. She is very knowledgeable and keenly interested.

The 'approved' mares will now be branded with a Lundy brand registered with the National Pony Society. The progeny will also carry a letter A for those foaled in 1972, then B, C, etc. in subsequent years, and a number, so that they can be easily identified and a proper Register kept. Only foals that come up to the required standard will be branded and entered in the Register. Thus in some 10-15 years it should be possible with careful selective breeding to establish a definite Lundy Pony, and so add a tenth native breed to the nine already indigenous to the British Isles. There are now 18 mares, 8 foals and one stallion on the island.

THE COPPER MINES OF LUNDY

During visits in 1967-9 the three known mines were located, entered and surveyed. Details of the mines are given below and the accompanying surveys show their layout. The assistance of W. N. Tolfree and G. Raymont in carrying out this investigation is gratefully acknowledged.

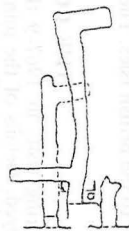
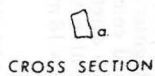
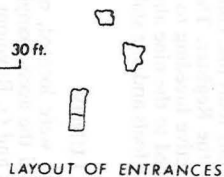
Long Ruse (MR. 1306 4776)

At the rear of a bay floored with boulders some 400 yards S. of the North Lighthouse on the W. Coast. Situated just above high water mark the mine

Long Ruse Mine

Lundy. M.R. 1306 4776

0 30 ft.
scale



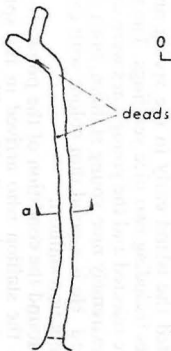
Benjamin's Chair Mine

Lundy. M.R. 1383 4374

LAYOUT OF ENTRANCES



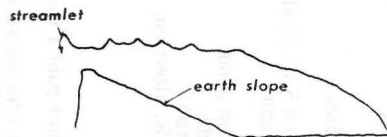
0 30 ft.
scale



Tibbett's Point Mine

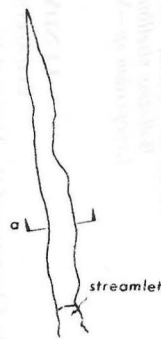
Lundy. M.R. 1402 4634

streamlet



LONGITUDINAL SECTION

0 30 ft.
scale



appeared to consist of two adits driven into the granite cliff. In 1967 about 13 ft. above the entrance to the northern adit and in the same dyke was noted a further irregular opening some $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, 3 ft. high, above a vegetated ledge and 5 ft. back from the line of the two lower entrances. At that time due to its position this opening was not reached, and it was thought it might be only a natural opening or a mining probe. In 1969 the upper entrance was reached by climbing and proved to be the longest of the three adits.

The northern lower adit has a total length of 40 ft.; just inside the entrance the floor steps up 3 ft. and here with a pool on the floor the roof is $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high. Further in the roof lowers to 3 ft. before reaching the junction with the 7 ft. long branch adit trending S.W., with a gravel floor instead of rock as elsewhere, and roof height of 5 ft. At the junction with branch adit there is a pool on the floor and water drips from the roof. The southern lower adit has a length of 12 ft., with a roof height of 6 ft. at the entrance and lowering to 5 ft. at the end, and the floor of both the lower adits slopes up at 5° from the entrances. The upper adit has a total length of 6 ft., just inside the entrance the roof height rises to 5 ft. and there is a 12 ft. long branch adit trending N.E. Beyond the long pool on the floor at the end of the main tunnel is a 8 ft. long branch adit trending S.W., roof height here is $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. (Note: The various branch adits appear to be attempts to relocate the veins being followed by the other adits).

Several copper samples were taken from this area where the vein of copper was found but the quantity was trivial, hence the abandonment of the mine. The area was originally called Long Roost by the Heaven family, who owned Lundy from 1836 to 1918, and has been mis-named Long Ruse on the Ordnance Survey maps (Langham, 1960). These adits are thought to have been driven at the same time as those at Benjamin's Chair (Langham, 1970).

Tibbett's Point (MR. 1402 4634)

Whilst in correspondence with Mr. Keith Gardner in 1967 mention was made of what was thought to be a mine adit half-way down the cliff below Tibbett's on the E. coast; he had been told by Mr. Tom Saunt that it was 60-70 ft. long. In 1968 the opening was located in the zawn to the N. of the promontory between Tibbett's and Gull Rock about 40 ft. above the rock platform skirting the base of the cliffs at this point. The opening is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. square in a dyke of matrix infill, covered in grass and moss. Due to the latter, the steepness of the face and a streamlet flowing over the overhang above the entrance an attempt to climb to the opening from below was unsuccessful. In 1969 the mine was entered by laddering down from the cliff above. Presumably the adit was previously reached by a timber gantry from the base of the cliff below.

Inside the entrance on the right are a few boulders, the earth floor slopes downwards steeply to a point half-way along the total length of the adit, which is 61 ft. long. At this point the roof height has increased to 18 ft.; beyond the floor is virtually level and roof height drops gradually until the adit peters out in a fissure rather than in a face as in the other mine adits.

Benjamin's Chair (MR. 1383 4374)

In 1968 the entrances of the two adits were located just E. of Benjamin's Chair and are in the shales of the S.E. corner of the island and just E. of the granite/slate contact and about two-thirds of the way up the cliff from sea level.

The eastern adit has a length of 34 ft., the entrance is $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high and the floor falls a couple of feet in the first few feet over accumulated earth, thus the entrance may have previously been higher. The adit trends N.E. until about 8 ft. from the end it turns N.W., the floor is level and roof height is 5 ft. The western adit is the longest on Lundy at 76 ft., the entrance is only 2 ft. high and the floor falls at 15° for the first 10 ft. or so over accumulated earth, suggesting this entrance too may have previously been higher. The adit trends N.E. until about 10 ft. from the end it turns N.W. (Note: that both adits so turn and then appear to follow the same fault), the floor is level and begins to slope up towards the turn, roof height is 6 ft. At two points 'deads' (i.e. remains of timber props and shuttering to the

roof and walls) exist, and beyond the turn 5 ft. from the end there is a short 8 ft. branch adit trending N.E. No evidence of any vertical shaft, warranting any erections over same was found, as is mentioned in an early reference (see below).

Copper ore was found at the junction of the slate and granite, a shaft was opened in the mid-19th century but the quantity was too trivial and it was abandoned (Chanter, 1877, Langham, 1960). Erections over the shaft were visible around 1853 (Anon, 1853). Attempts to work copper at this site were curtailed as the quantity was too small to give much hope for profit (Page, 1895). Mr. W. H. Heaven employed some Cornish miners to drive adits just E. of Benjamin's Chair where a copper vein had been found (Langham, 1970).

REFERENCES

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