

A Welsh Coal Mines web page

Gelliceidrim No.1 Slant, c.1924

Situated near Glanamman the Gelliceidrim Collieries Co. opened the No.1 Slant in 1891.

From the Inspector of Mines list 1896, there were 181 men employed, producing anthracite.

The workforce had grown to 510 in 1908 and numbered 413 in 1918.

In 1923 there were 588 men employed, producing from the Big, Peacock, Brynllloi and Trigloin seams.

No.2 Colliery slants were started in 1924.

Gelliceidrim No.1 closed early 1927 and was abandoned December the same year. Although it reopened in 1934 for pumping purposes and was retained until the final closure of the colliery.

A disaster was avoided in 1929, when the colliery was flooded and 250 men were saved by the actions of these seven fellow workers- Stephen Jones, David Bevan, David Williams, William Lloyd, Gwyn Morgan, S. S. Cowley (Manager), David Llewelyn and Vincent Thomas

Later the Amalgamated Anthracite Collieries Ltd. took over the running of this mine and in 1938 Gelliceidrim Nos.1 and 2 slants were idle.

The colliery was closed on 14th May 1949 and dismantling work was reported as started. On 17th August, dismantling work ceased in readiness for the reopening of the mine and preparatory work for this started on 22nd August.

It was to be reopened in four stages on a mechanised basis. Phase two started on 12th September.

It finally closed on 27th November (or the 13th December) 1957, the annual production 1954-56 being between 25,000 and 30,000 tons, with 225 men.

Glanamman Colliery.

Glanamman Colliery first appeared in the List of Mines for 1890. It probably took over the workings of Old Brynllloi colliery, which ceased in 1889.

Mr. J. Rhydderch Davies was at Bankruptcy Court on 15th of August 1894, when it was said that in 1889 he, with another, entered into partnership and acquired Glanamman Colliery, which was sold in 1890.

The HMIM Annual Report for 1890 covers a shaft accident in which it was stated? This was a case where twin pits were being reopened? It also mentions that both were 45 yards deep.

The two pits of Glanamman were working at least the Tyllwyd or Middle seam and were abandoned in 1908. The later Glanamman Colliery, on a different site, worked by slant under the ownership of the Glanamman Anthracite Colliery Co. Ltd., employing a total of 19 men in 1908.

During 1923 the workforce numbered 262, producing anthracite for the Lower and Middle veins.

In 1929, the Colliery was taken over and expanded by Glanamman Anthracite Collieries Ltd., who employed 220 in 1938.

From a report of 1942 "No. 2 drift commenced in 1935 and was driven 434 yards. Last June [June 1941] a heading commenced to the right of the drift and was driven 80 yards."

The Varteg Anthracite Collieries Ltd., later became the owners, employing 111 in 1945

After nationalisation in 1947, Glanamman Colliery was placed in the National Coal Board's South Western Division, No.1 (Swansea) Area. This Area produced huge losses, which were noticeably more than any other NCB Area. The NCB decided to re-organise the Collieries in order to make the Area more productive and profitable. This resulted in the closure of many Collieries, including Glanamman, during 1948.

Information from Tony Cooke, Ray Lawrence and John Williams.