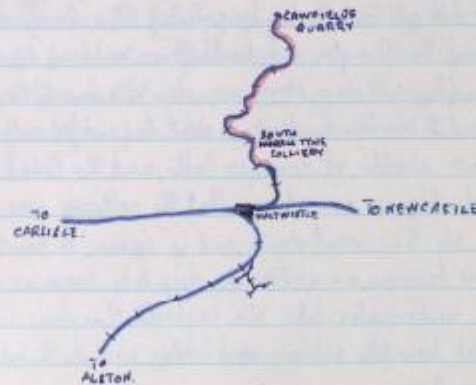


Burnhead Railway - mainly narrow gauge. Summer 1958.



Description of Exploration

As I mentioned in the last description of a railway exploration, we did go back to Lambay colliery. Our first intention had been to go along the Brampton and Hartleyburn railway again after looking at Lambay colliery. However, when it came to the point, Jeremy did not want to do this and so we went to Lambay colliery only and looked down shafts, at conveyor belts, and the truck loading machine. Incidentally we now know that the colliery was cloning.

We then went down, and up again, to Cawfields quarry which has now become an extremely deep lake because a blast made a hole in an underwater lake. We explored this place with our bicycles and then went down the military road bridge over the Burnhead railway and Hartwistle from there:-



Next we came down through a lovely valley past many old pottery kilns etc. We were not however allowed to ride our bikes down the old line for it is one of Hartwistles remaining walks. It must have been a truly lovely time when a small narrow gauge steam engine pushed its way through those woods with its little string of trucks. Now it hardly seems possible but that's the sort of thing that happened in the railway mania in the mid-Victorian era when most of the railways dealt with in this book were built.

We were soon at the old South Tynes colliery and later brick works

of the same name and deciding there was not much to be seen on the
bit of standard gauge which ^{had} started here and ^{had} ran over a bridge, which has
just been dismantled (mainly by uncle John because the landowner couldn't
be found, ^{if I was} unsafe). It then goes over A.69. - the Newcastle and Carlisle
road, at castle bank where the bridge has been taken down for quite a long
time. Now we found that it was getting dark and as I had no lights
we went as quickly as possible to the Frantery and then back home at
about 9 o'clock.

Photographs



47W 14

THE BRIDGE BURN VALLEY, HALTWHISTLE

Page