



Califat Coal Mine, St George's Hill, Swannington

Photographic Report Of LIHS Excavation - June 2020

Swannington Heritage Trust own the Califat Spinney, which is the site of the Califat Coal Mine (1855-1873). Leicestershire Industrial History Society have led the monthly excavation of the coal mine buildings near the Califat winding shaft since June 2006.

Swannington Heritage Trust produce this monthly photographic report for the benefit of SHT and LIHS, so that they can share it with their members, volunteers and supporters. LIHS make the technical recordings of the dig and will produce a report at the end of the excavation.

Califat Engine House



Lots of cow parsley and other weeds had grown in the engine house pea shingle and the surrounding area. These were removed.

While most of the weeds pulled out relatively easily there were some that were more firmly rooted. Lifting the pea shingle and the weed control fabric was deemed to be the best course of action. A couple of members of the team continued the work on the Friday as part of their Trust Land Management work.



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Break



Half a dozen diggers attended the return session after the three month coronavirus break. This made it easy to keep socially distanced.

Miners Cottages



Work was confined to tackling the weeds that had appeared during the three month break.



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Alabama Engine House Revisit



The Trust Land Management Team had already moved part of the dead hedge to enlarge the area available for the storage of removed material.



Careful mowing and disposal of the weeds plus removing the bricks has provided a storage area that can be used next month when the revisit begins in earnest by clearing loose bricks and weeds.



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The mesh fence was extended to exclude people from the site while providing access to the memorial plaques on the stones.