

Cornwall's Mining History of over 2000 Years

Cornwall is one of the most extensively mined areas of the world. For over 2000 years, the rich mineral geology of the county has sustained the persistent efforts of Cornish miners in search of minerals.

During different periods of time, Cornwall has provided copper, tin, lead, arsenic, tungsten, silver, zinc and iron. Well over 2000 individual mines are known to have operated in Cornwall and, in times of great activity, as many as 350 have been operating at the same time.

The effect has been extensive

Whilst certain areas of the county are known to have seen a great deal of mining activity, in other areas the activity may have been sporadic and relatively limited.

In addition to the large mines and areas of major mining activity, large numbers of exploratory workings were also excavated, leaving very few areas of Cornwall completely unaffected by mining.

The Mine Search Report

An archival documentary mine search report is a study of plans and records with an interpretation in order to indicate the likelihood of mine workings, which may affect the site or property.

In many cases the mine search will confirm that the property is unaffected by past mining activity.

If, however, any evidence suggests that mining may affect the property, the report will outline recommendations for further site investigation.

The reliability and accuracy of a mine search will depend upon the use of the best available plans and the expert interpretation of them.

Evidence of mining – what next?

Where an archival mine search suggests that historical mining activity could affect the property, appropriate further investigations may be recommended, such as Structural Surveys, Drilling or Trenching. These will quantify the likely impact upon the property and suggest a solution to the problem.

The presence of previous mining activity does not usually prevent development or occupation of land or property, as remedial work can normally be undertaken.

Other Services Offered

Structural Surveys
Expert Witness Service
Water Interest Surveys
E-mailed Reports Available
Contaminated Land Surveys
Stage 1, 2 & 3 Mundic Testing
Archaeological Assessment Reports
Phase 1, 2 & 3 Site Investigation Reports

Expert Consultants:

The Consultancy has at its disposal fully qualified Researchers, Mining Geologists and Chartered Engineers.

Accuracy:

Crofty Consultancy owns the largest and most comprehensive private collection of mine plans in Cornwall, together with over 10,000 plans on microfiche.

Back-Up:

The consultancy, backed by our sister company Carnon Contracting, can provide a full range of mining and remedial services, including shaft capping, piling works, exploration drilling and site investigations.

Speed:

Reports are usually completed within 7 working days or within 48 hours if urgent.