

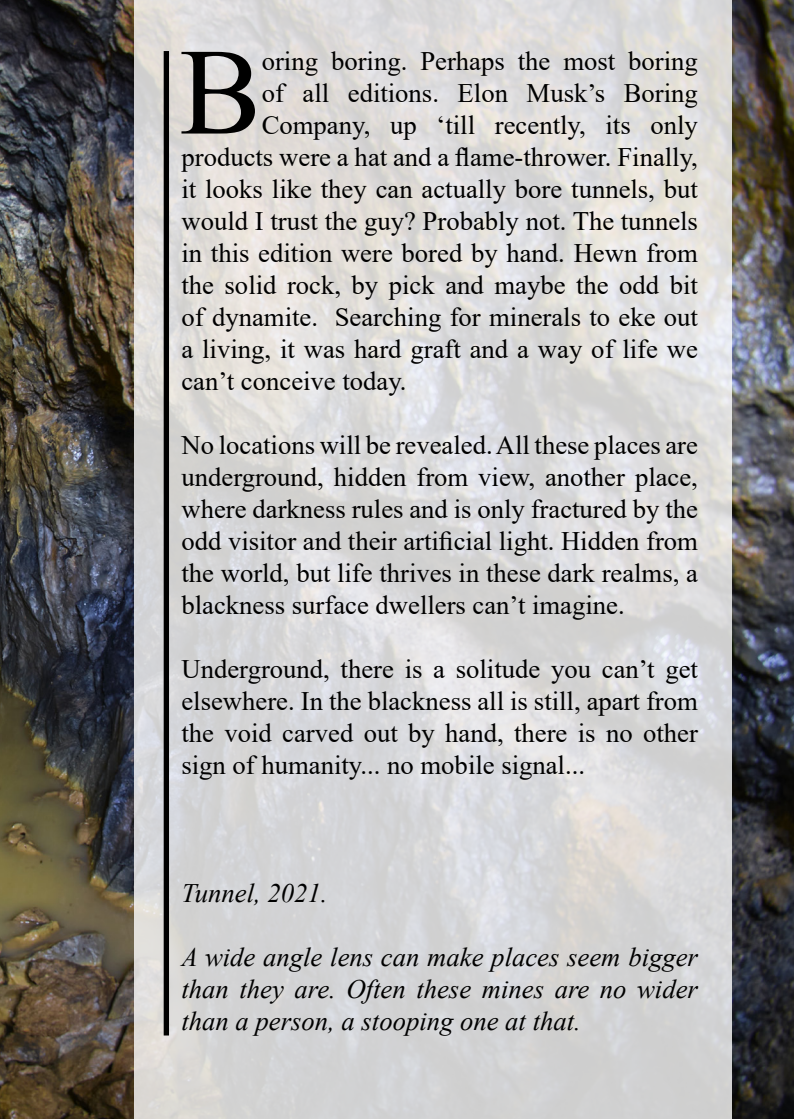


**PHOTOGRAPHING
BORING
PLACES**

BORING BORING

JASON RUFFELL





Boring boring. Perhaps the most boring of all editions. Elon Musk's Boring Company, up 'till recently, its only products were a hat and a flame-thrower. Finally, it looks like they can actually bore tunnels, but would I trust the guy? Probably not. The tunnels in this edition were bored by hand. Hewn from the solid rock, by pick and maybe the odd bit of dynamite. Searching for minerals to eke out a living, it was hard graft and a way of life we can't conceive today.

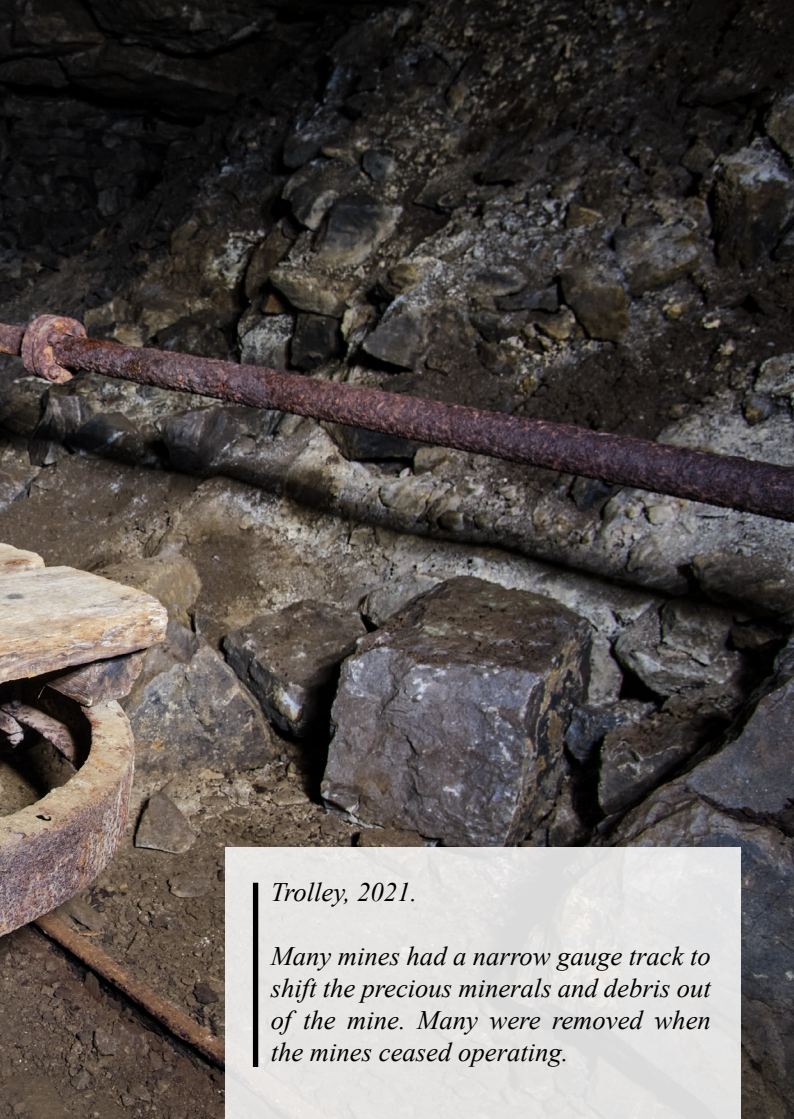
No locations will be revealed. All these places are underground, hidden from view, another place, where darkness rules and is only fractured by the odd visitor and their artificial light. Hidden from the world, but life thrives in these dark realms, a blackness surface dwellers can't imagine.

Underground, there is a solitude you can't get elsewhere. In the blackness all is still, apart from the void carved out by hand, there is no other sign of humanity... no mobile signal...

Tunnel, 2021.

A wide angle lens can make places seem bigger than they are. Often these mines are no wider than a person, a stooping one at that.





Trolley, 2021.

Many mines had a narrow gauge track to shift the precious minerals and debris out of the mine. Many were removed when the mines ceased operating.





Which way? 2021.

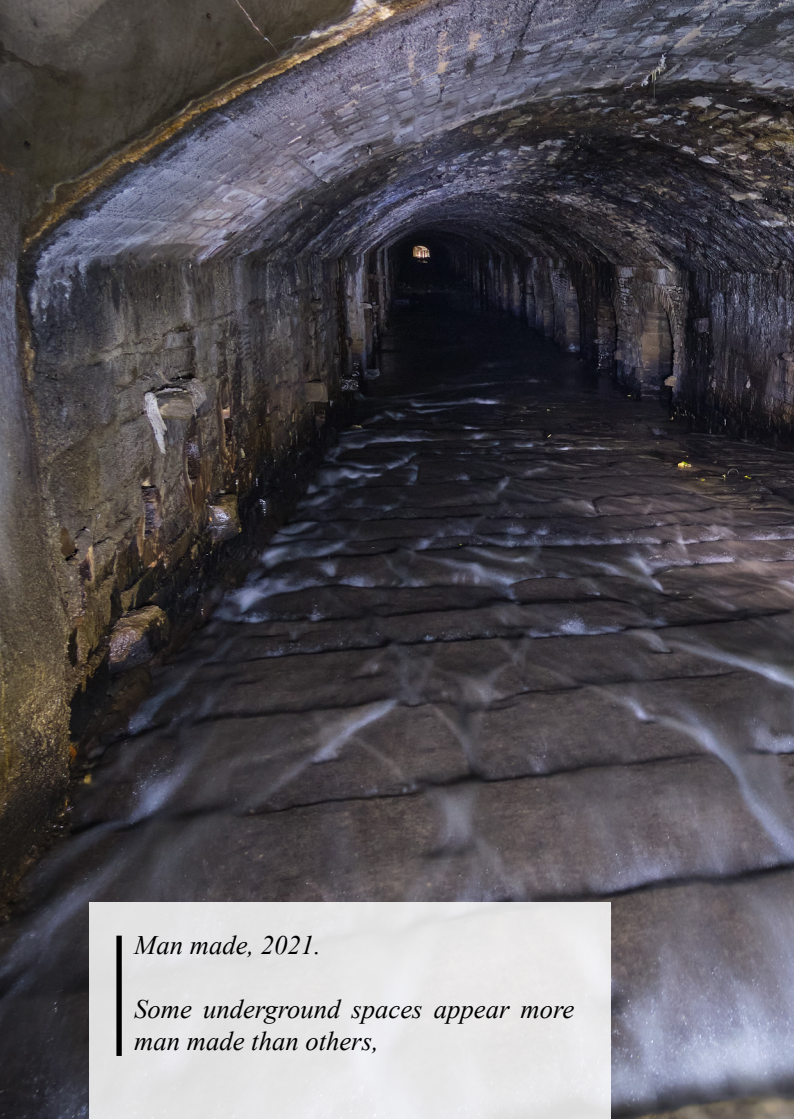
Some mines are nothing more than a single tunnel bored into the ground, others are more extensive, as the miners followed the seams to extract the resources they were after.



Cavernous, 2021.

Some mines linked up to natural cave systems, walls stained with minerals and deposits seeping from above.





Man made, 2021.

*Some underground spaces appear more
man made than others,*





Detritus #1, 2021.

Discarded tools, left behind when the mine closed.



Detritus #3, 2021.

Ventilation and drainage systems, abandoned.



*Detritus #2, 2021.
Winch.*



*Detritus #4, 2021.
Milk churn and cart, for the narrow gauge railway.*



Some mines are dry, others less so, 2021.



Minerals have been mined out leaving a cavernous space, 2021.



Light in the darkness, 2021.

*There is a blackness underground
you can't find anywhere else. Total
darkness that has to be illuminated by
artificial light.*





Entrance #1, 2021.

Some mines have been preserved...



Entrance #3, 2021.

some, just a hole in the ground...



Entrance #2, 2021.

others... just a gap in the rock face...



Entrance #4, 2021.

all, an entry point to another world.



Equipment and tools lie discarded, 2020.



A long tunnel, 2021.





A magical place, 2021.

Water filtering through the rocks can bring a magical element to an abandoned space.



Boring boring. There may be more in future editions as I spend more and more time underground. It gets me out of the house and away from people. As the world gets more and more back to normal, the more I realise I don't particularly like it. The more I want to spend time away from things, being boring.



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www.jason-ruffell.co.uk