

Photo 4 is a view of ironstone quarrying by hand. 'Toppers' are removing the overburden by hand and depositing it on the worked-out ground to the right. A job with a very high accident rate!

The work was hard and the pay small. An idea of the rates paid is taken from the nearby Astrop quarries, also owned by Hickman. Four pence (in old money) per ton for wet ore and three and one-half pence for dry ore, with twenty tons per day being the average output per man. Three pence per yard was paid for removing the earth and an extra farthing for tipping wagons was also paid. However, in 1920 another twenty-ton steam navvy was brought into operation, similar to the one in photo 5.