

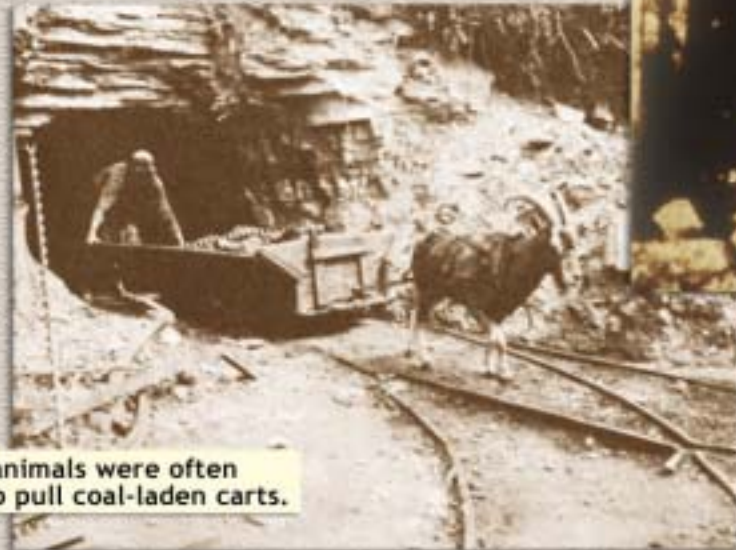
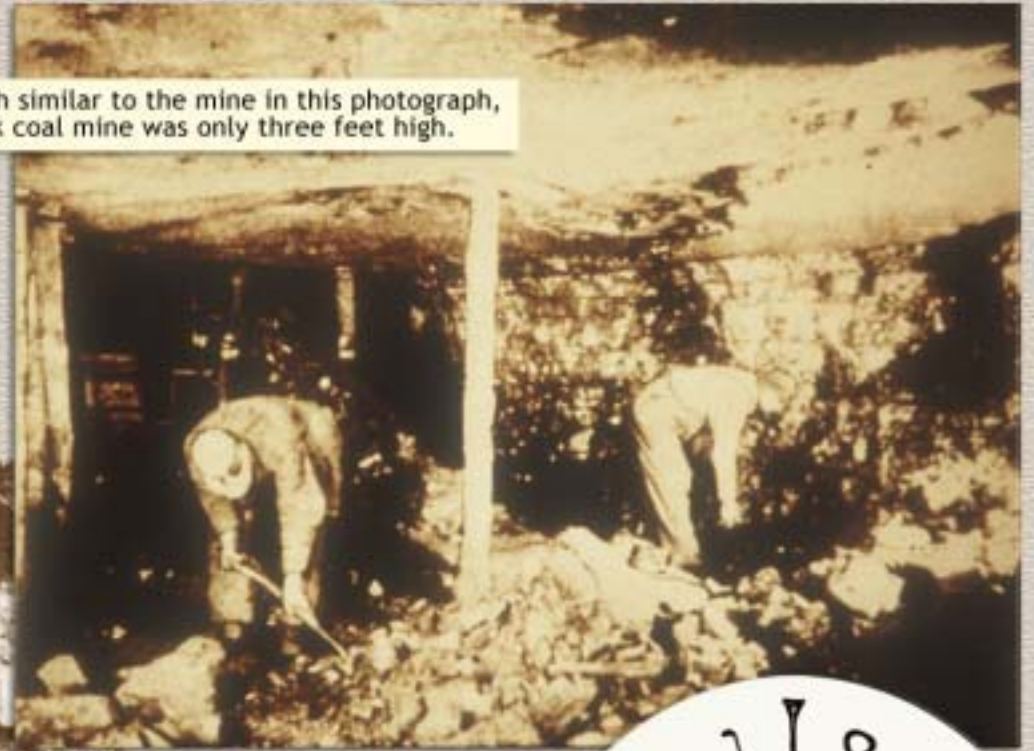
WORKING IN A DRIFT MINE

By the dim light of smoky oil lamps, miners labored long hours. They excavated coal, a reliable and inexpensive fuel, under cramped and dangerous working conditions.

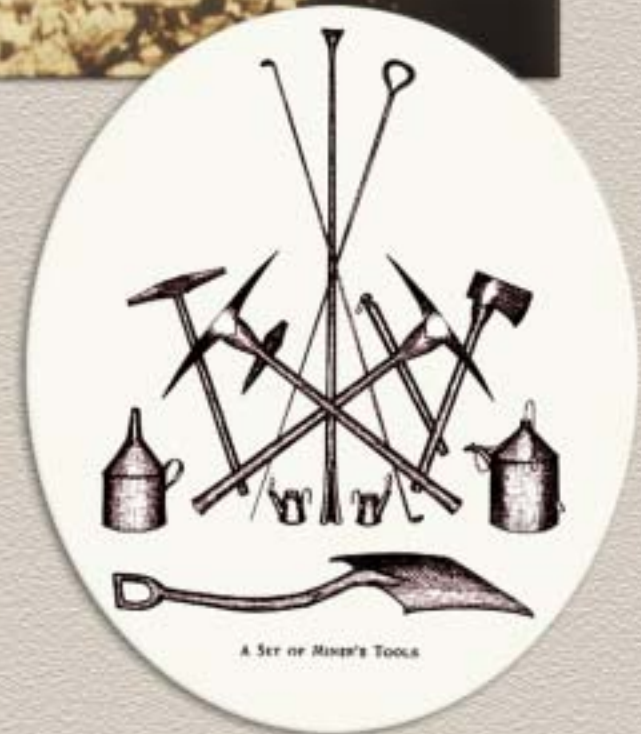


Coal-bearing rocks in Indiana (in green).

Although similar to the mine in this photograph, the Lusk coal mine was only three feet high.



Small animals were often used to pull coal-laden carts.



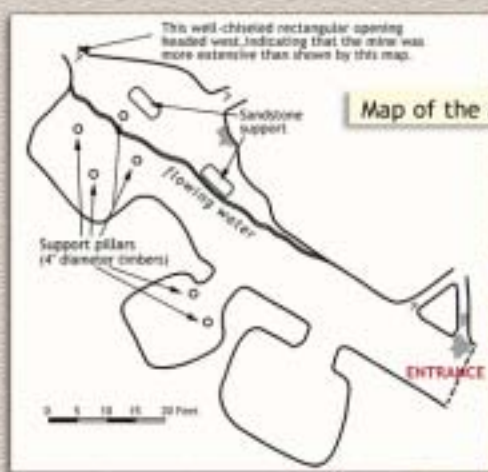
A Set of Miner's Tools

Hand tools, such as picks, axes, and shovels were used in coal mines like this one.

You are standing near the opening of an abandoned adit or drift mine.

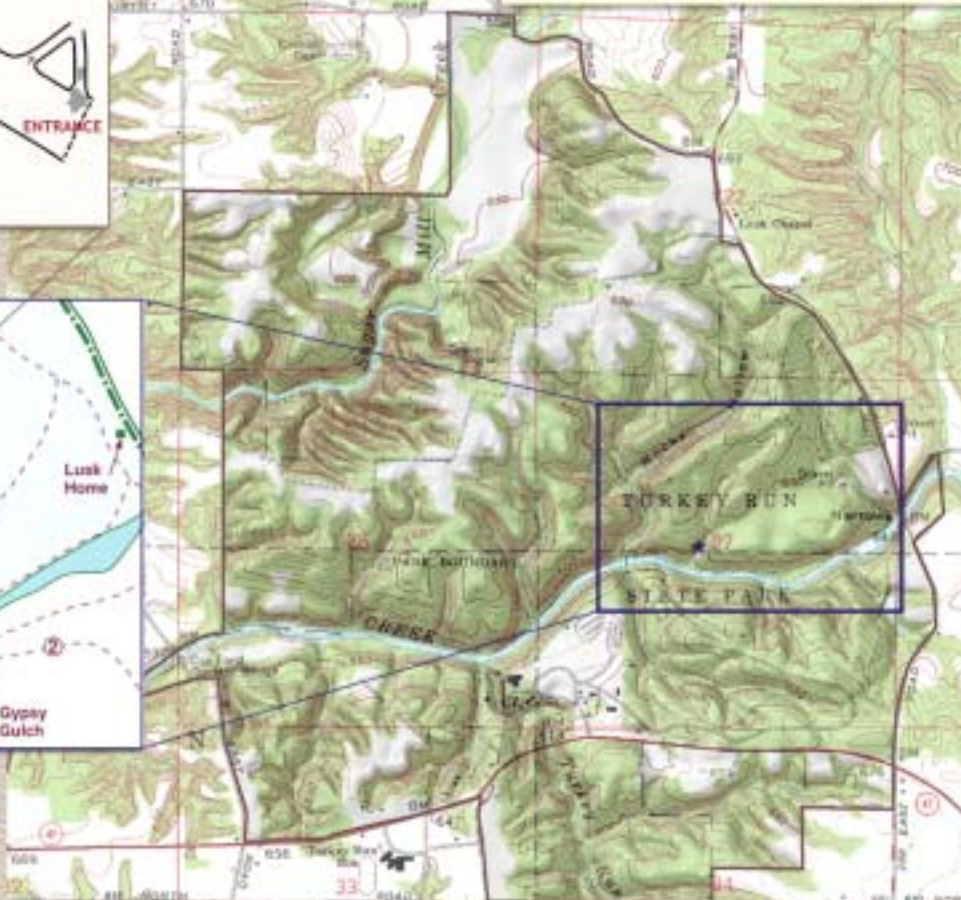
Miners followed this horizontal seam of coal deep into the hillside, holding up the fragile sandstone ceiling with timbers as they dug out the layers of coal. One former miner used small donkeys to pull the coal-laden carts on rails to the mine entrance. The coal then was hoisted to the hilltop behind you, where it was loaded into wagons and taken to the Lusk home along what is now Trail 8.

The Lusk Mine was in operation during the late 1800s and mining continued until the late 1920s. Too small for a commercial operation, the mine probably provided coal for the Lusk family cookstove, and later, for use in the park.



Map of the abandoned Lusk Mine

Shaded relief topographic map of Turkey Run



Portion of the park trail map showing the location of the old Lusk mine.



The Salmon Lusk home was built in 1841 by Turkey Run's first landowner. Salmon's fifth son, John, burned coal from this mine.



Coal was used for cooking and heating. This historic photograph shows a coal burning fireplace.