

Morris Mine

The Gilmore Coal Company opened its Morris Mine in 1922 to reach a five foot thick coal seam about 160 feet below ground level.

As with many mines of the time, two shafts were dug to the coal seam. A vertical shaft hoisted coal out of the mine into the tipple building where it was sorted and loaded into railroad hoppers. A tramway from the tipple dumped slate and waste rock on the hillside across the creek.

The other shaft was a sloped shaft used for men and supplies to access the mine. The portal is at the base of the hillside across the creek behind you.



The sloped shaft portal is seen during construction in 1922. Mine tracks have not been laid and the slate dump which now covers the hillside is yet to be activated. Picture from Iva Mae Lose Hinton / Alan Hinton.



Morris Mine in 1956. The hoist shaft and buildings were located in front of this sign location. The Montour branch line to Westland is the right-hand track, where the current railroad track is now situated. The white posts are along the edge of Rt. 50. Fred Bradley photo.

The coal company built a village of houses for the miners and employees and also a company store.

The Montour Railroad constructed a spur from its main line in 1922 to service the mine. In 1928, this line was extended several miles to also reach the mine at Westland.

Morris Mine's stormy history included several bankruptcies and ownership changes. It closed for the final time in the 1970's and its buildings were demolished in 1982.



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