

Site Name: Mynyddgorddu Mine

Grid Ref: SN 668 861

RIGS Category: Scientific

Earth Science Category: Mineralogy

1:50,000 Geological: BGS Sheet 163, Aberystwyth

RIGS Statement of Interest:

The spoil tips associated with Mynyddgorddu Mine are of regional importance both for their primary and secondary mineralogy, the former including examples of the later primary mineral assemblages of the Central Wales Orefield and the latter including the exceedingly rare nickel antimonate known as bottinoite.

The mine is located on the ENE-striking Hafan Lode which transects mudstones and thin sandstones of the Lower Silurian (Llandovery Series) Devil's Bridge Formation. The primary mineralisation comprises three distinct mineral assemblages in which galena, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, ullmannite, pyrite and marcasite are associated with quartz and calcite.

Secondary mineralisation includes abundant chrysocolla, common malachite and hemimorphite and scarce wulfenite, associated with pyromorphite. Anglesite, linarite and celadonite occur rarely as microcrystals. Ullmannite is frequently replaced by bright yellow antimony ochres (bindheimite and stibiconite), and occasionally by pale, apple-green bottinoite

Surveyed by: J.S. Mason