

Site Name: Craig-y-Mwyn Mine

Grid Reference: SJ 075 285

RIGS Category: Scientific

Earth Science Category: Mineralogy

Geology 1:50,000: BGS Sheet 136 Bala

RIGS Statement of Interest:

Craig-y-Mwyn is of regional research interest as a primary sample resource in the northern part of the Llangynog Orefield. The orefield bears a number of resemblances to the Central Wales Orefield: it features epigenetic, post-tectonic Pb-Zn-Cu dominated mineralisation, in a gangue of quartz and ferroan dolomite, occurring as crustiform veins and as breccia cements filling fractures. The fractures cut Lower Palaeozoic (Ordovician) rocks which were uplifted in the Berwyn Dome. The paragenetic sequence is similar to that of Central Wales, and the two orefields may be genetically related. However, little or no work, involving the application of modern research techniques, has been done on this orefield.

In addition to the abundance of samples at the mine, the site is of great interest to industrial archaeologists for the spectacular ravine-like workings high on the side of the valley. There is an interesting system of tramways and other ruins abound. The site is reached via the spectacular 240-foot Pistyll Rhaeadr waterfall, said to be one of the "Seven Wonders of Wales". An information panel near the falls provides some geological information about the area: see also RIGS 336 Pystyll Rhaeadr.

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