

Site Name: Craig Rhiwarth Mine

Grid Reference: SJ 054 264

RIGS Category: Scientific

Earth Science Category: Mineralogy

Geology 1:50,000: BGS Sheet 136 Bala

RIGS Statement of Interest:

Craig Rhiwarth mine is of regional importance as one of a small number of sites where ore deposit geologists have the opportunity to study the quartz-base metals mineralisation of the very much under-researched Llangynog Orefield. The mineralisation comprises quartz with ferroan dolomite, galena, sphalerite and chalcopyrite. Two episodes of quartz deposition are present: an early one forming breccia cements is white with small prismatic crystals, while the later one forms crusts of stumpy colourless crystals. This is remarkably similar to the Central Wales early and late quartz generations. In addition, secondary minerals are common and some excellent specimens of these have been collected by amateur mineralogists over many years.

Surveyed by: J.S. Mason