

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

GARTH-ERYR

Date of Notification: 1992

National Grid Reference: SJ 164236

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125
1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ 12

Site Area: 0.46 ha

Description:

This site is notified for its species interest, notably bats.

The site comprises a disused phosphate mine set into Ordovician black shales on a north-east facing scarp overlooking the Afon Tanat. Situated on the edge of an ancient woodland site, the woodlands of this area provide rich feeding grounds for bats.

This old phosphate mine is one of the most important hibernation sites in Britain for the rare and endangered lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* with over 200 bats present in late winter. Three other species of bat have also been recorded, the brown longeared bat *Plecotus auritus*, Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri* and Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*.

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