

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

ALLT Y MAIN MINE

Date of Notification: 1990

National Grid Reference: SJ171152

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125
1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ11

Site Area: 0.8 ha

Description:

A small disused lead mine level, extending for about 80m into a well-wooded hillside, noted as an important winter roost for lesser horseshoe bats *Rhinolophus Hipposideros*. This species is known to be very susceptible to disturbance and has declined in numbers and range in Britain and Western Europe in recent years. The mine is known to have been occupied by bats for some years, and at least 130 individuals were recorded in December 1988, making this the most important hibernation colony known in Montgomeryshire, and one of the most important in Wales. There is some evidence that the bats also frequent the mine occasionally during the summer and autumn.

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