

CORK - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Kealogue Mine (South)		
Other names used for site	Kealogue, Keelogue, Keelogue		
IGH THEME	IGH15 Economic Geology, IGH6 Mineralogy		
TOWNLAND(S)	Cahermeeleboe		
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Allihies		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	127		
ITM CO-ORDINATES	458600E 543850N (centre of processing area)		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	84	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	24
GIS CODE	CK056		

Outline Site Description

Grassland and heathland site that includes a surfaced equestrian ring.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Upper Devonian red and green sandstone and siltstone of the Caha Mountain Formation.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Kealogue Mine was developed on the southern part of the 2 km-long Caminches lode, south of the Ballydonegan River. A series of shafts and engine houses that extends for almost one kilometre is here subdivided into two sites, Kealogue Mine (North) and Kealogue Mine (South), a subdivision that is further reflected in the recent collapse of a shaft that has closed the road running between the northern and southern parts of Kealogue.

Kealogue Mine was opened in 1842 and was one of the richer mines in Allihies, continuing to produce ore until its closure in 1882. Kealogue Mine (South) is centred on the former processing area at the southern end of the site. This extensive processing area included stamps for crushing ore, buddles for separating the ore from waste, a stockpile, a counting house and offices, all attesting to the large amount of mine production that took place at Kealogue. Kealogue engine shaft and the site of the disappeared former engine house lie 100 m to the northeast. Several other fenced shafts and the site of whim engines are also within this site. The processing area was subject to detailed geochemical survey as part of the HMS-IRC project in 2008 when material related to the buddles and stamps was examined and analysed. However, since then the area has become almost completely overgrown and few if any visible traces of the processing works remain.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

Kealogue Mine was the last of the significant producing mines to open in the Allihies district. The Kealogue Mine (South) is particularly interesting because it includes extensive remains of the Kealogue Mine ore processing site. This part of the site is now largely obscured by vegetation but, while this renders it less immediately interesting to the casual observer, it does provide a degree of protection for what is a significant mining heritage site.

Management/promotion issues

The site is readily accessible from the road. It is included in the Allihies Copper Mine trail as described on the Copper Mine Museum map and website. It does not require further promotion.



General view westwards over former processing area from stockpile (equestrian) area.



Processing area, view northwards of low walls of former counting house.



Processing area, close-up of former stockpile.



View northeast towards pumping engine shaft (fenced). The former pumping engine house stood in front of this shaft. The raised grassed area around comprises mine waste.

