

MONAGHAN - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Lemgare
Other names used for site	
IGH THEME	IGH 6 Mineralogy
TOWNLAND(S)	Lemgare
NEAREST TOWN	Annayalla
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	15
ITM CO-ORDINATES	680359E 828198N
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	28
GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	8/9

Outline Site Description

This is a former mine site occupying an overgrown area at the edge of cattle pasture. Mine waste, in the form of two small boulder piles, a collapsed, filled-in shaft and covered adit portal are the only surface remains of mining.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The bedrock consists of massive sandstones of the Silurian Lough Avaghon Formation, part of the Northern Belt of the Longford-Down inlier.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The Lemgare Pb deposit was mined briefly and apparently unproductively in 1840–41 along a single 150m-long adit that ran from north to south. Waste dumps mark the area of the adit portal and the air shaft sunk on the southern end of the adit. The mine structures are filled in or obscured and the main interest at the site is the mineral assemblage recorded in the waste dumps. This includes *wulfenite* (PbMoO_4), rare in Ireland.

The mineralization consists of galena, sphalerite and iron carbonate in irregularly oriented fractures over a width of c. 4.5m. Minerals previously recorded in the include anglesite, ankerite, barite, calcite, cerussite, chalcopryrite, native copper, dolomite, galena, goethite, pyrite, pyromorphite, quartz, siderite, sphalerite and wulfenite.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

The mine features are poorly preserved and insufficiently interesting to require any designation for the site. However, the presence of rare wulfenite means Lemgare warrants CGS status.

Management/promotion issues

The site is part of a working farm and the fields immediately surrounding the mine dumps are used for grazing cattle. Many of the minerals recorded here can only be studied satisfactorily with specialist equipment and the site is thus likely to be of interest mainly to scientists. Therefore, it does not require further promotion.



Lemgare air shaft: view of spoil around air shaft (overgrown, on left)



Lemgare, view to north along line of adit, with air shaft spoil heap in foreground



