

Vulcan Quarry Field Trip - Havre de Grace, Maryland

By Jim White



On Saturday myself and 9 other members of SMRMC met in Havre de Grace at the Vulcan Quarry. We had nice weather for the trip, clear skies, not too hot, not too cold. This was a combined trip with the Baltimore Mineral Society

After a safety briefing which lasted about 30 minutes we followed the quarry representative into the pit. He took us to a spot on the highest ledge and left us to collect. In other quarries where I have collected there are usually rocks which have been blasted loose and then either left where they fell or moved away from the walls. This time there were no rocks other than the berms which had been piled up to prevent people from going too close to the walls.

We spread out and started hunting. We found some specimens of massive Pyrite and a few micros of Epidote. After spending a couple of hours on this ledge we began to migrate to the next ledge down. Here we found a few micros. The list of minerals that we could potentially expect to find had included Pyrite, Chalcopyrite, Rutile and several others. But we only found Pyrite, some interesting Epidote and some small Calcite crystals. People who I spoke to from the Baltimore club said they had found more micros the last time they had been there.

We stayed a little beyond the time we were originally scheduled to leave (noon), but by 12:30 we had gone through all the available rocks and so decided to call it a day. We went back to the quarry office and signed out, thanked the quarry rep and went on our separate ways.