

Bass no. 2, core 10 (5900-5910').

Specimen M.1708. Bedded tuff.

Hand specimen: A moderately hard, tough, grey-green banded tuff similar to that just described, but finer grained. Dark green chlorite bands are more abundant, and pale amorphous material less so. Banding is finer than in M.1707, and slightly less regular. Pale amorphous material occurs in inclined lenses and these are sharply truncated, presumably by current action.

The tuff grades rapidly into a greyish white quartzitic mudstone. Secondary pyrite is common along the contact between the rock types; more sparsely distributed along the tuff bedding. As in M.1707, joint planes are heavily coated with powdery white kaolinite.

Thin section: Consists of an extremely fine-grained mass of pale green chlorite, with patchy alteration to bright green chlorite (penninite) in places. Tiny angular fragments of feldspar, and abundant granular opaque material are also present.

A few pale bands in the rock are composed of streaks of amorphous buff material and opaque grains, interbedded with coarser tuff material similar to that in M.1707. These bands show some evidence of truncation by currents in places. Secondary pyrite crystals are common among this coarser material.

The chloritic tuff grades rapidly into a recrystallized mudstone. The latter consists of a very fine-grained interlocking mosaic of saccharoidal quartz, with patchy development of sericite from recrystallized clay, and finely recrystallized opaque material scattered throughout.