

LOCAL GEOLOGY

For this section refer to the geological maps, Sheets KT 27/76 5A-8A (1:10000 scale) in the folder of this report, and to the Mineralogical Report No 2261 by I.R. Pontifex and Associates, Appendix No 14.

The geological maps are essentially 'fact maps' but also display a certain amount of interpretation. A close inspection of the mapping along the streams will show that in areas of good bedrock exposure the local geology is complex.

The silica-clay-sericite alteration within the rhyolitic lava groundmass and in the tuff matrix, together with the pseudo-porphyrific appearance of the coarser tuff crystals and the often superimposed cleavage, often seriously prohibits the accurate field distinction between tuffs, lavas, tuff lavas and porphyries in the hand specimen.

In addition to the many rocks identified and plotted during the geological mapping, 620 rocks were sampled for closer macroscopic study after diamond sawing. In an attempt to overcome the problems of individual rock identification and thus the definition of rock units within the Lewis River volcanics, 21 rock samples were selected for petrographic examination by I.R. Pontifex. The selection contained both 'problem' rocks and those representative of major rock suites within the area. In few cases were his interpretative descriptions contrary to the original field name. The detailed petrographic report occurs as an appendix to this report.