

Field identification of many of these rocks based on textural patterns on weathered surfaces suggests a pyroclastic origin. Thin section descriptions infer that many of the rocks are flows (lavas) rather than pyroclastics as no primary pyroclastic features (shards, fiamme etc) were observed. In general mapping has followed field evidence although the problem remains essentially unresolved.

Apart from one small outcrop of reworked intermediate tuff on line 5,370,500N at 382,670E (sample No. 29968 C.M.S. Report 80/2/22) and a similar thin (5m wide) band on the Stitt Track, no sedimentary rocks of subaqueous origin were observed in the area. Locally, sheared fine grained primary tuffs resemble sediments, however, later petrological work proved this assumption to be erroneous. In general the volcanics were massive, poorly cleaved and, apart from the pervasive regional metamorphism, unaltered.

The volcanics were variously intruded by fine grained basaltic dykes (up to 10m wide). In the southern Stitt area on lines 5,366,500N and 5,367,000N, granophyres up to 160m wide have intruded the pile. No significant alteration occurs around the contacts.

Apart from minor disseminated pyrite within the volcanics and associated quartz veining and magnetite within the rhyolitic flows, no mineralisation was observed in the Stitt area.

Alteration observed in thin section descriptions consists of chlorite, sericite, epidote and albite which is consistent with alteration patterns observed in the field. Locally, around faults, shearing and chloritisation is intense but otherwise no distinct alteration zones were observed other than the regional pattern.