

REPORT CMS 62/7/22

Twelve rock samples were received for brief petrological description and results are compiled in the attached tables. Descriptions incorporate data from K-feldspar staining tests and microscopic (stereobinocular, petrological) examination of representative thin-sections and offcuts, and include interpretative and comparative comments.

Summary

This suite consists essentially of psammitic sediments and basic to acid volcanics. In general, there is a good agreement between petrological relationships and the hand specimen descriptions appended to the submission sheet. Divergences relate largely to the semi-aphanitic components (e.g. clasts in clastic sediments, matrix of pyroclastics, particularly 46640) and a misinterpretation of carbonaceous films and graphite flakes (46652, 46661) as detrital biotite.

Volcanics are extensively altered, with the assemblages partly reflecting primary compositional variations (chloritisation of basic-intermediate; sericitisation of relatively acid types). Alteration hinders specific compositional identification, although these rocks can be placed in semi-distinct categories ("basaltic-andesitic", "dacitic", etc.) on the basis of inferred primary mineralogy and relict textural features. The suite as a whole (i.e. sediments, volcanics) is devoid of specific contact-metamorphic effects. Alteration in the volcanics appears largely "deuteric", although no doubt enhanced by burial and low-grade metamorphic effects.

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