

SAMPLE: 562808

SUMMARY: This rock was a sparsely plagioclase+augite-phyric glassy andesitic lava.

HAND SPECIMEN:

This rock is a dark green mottled massive andesitic lava.

THIN SECTION DESCRIPTION:

This is a petrographically simple and texturally well-preserved sparsely plagioclase+augite-phyric andesitic lava not very different from 562806, except that *this sample has a more uniform groundmass*. Plagioclase phenocrysts are small (<0.5mm) and make up only about 2-3 modal% of this rock. They are tabular to elongate prisms quite different from the large blocky plagioclase phenocrysts that dominate the felsic lavas in the Mount Read Volcanics. Small elongate former augite phenocrysts are chloritized, and FeTi oxide microphenocrysts are altered to leucoxenitic material.

The groundmass of this sample was entirely glassy. It has devitrified, then crystallized to a very even-textured sugary intergrowth of quartz and albite that is permeated by quite abundant fine-grained chlorite and sericite. Remarkably sinuous stylolitic banding transects the rock in many places, and is marked by an abundance of leucoxenitic material that is presumably insoluble residues from pressure solution. This banding is responsible for the faint mottling seen in the hand specimen.

The shapes of the feldspar phenocrysts, and the abundance of chlorite in the groundmass suggest to me that this was a glassy andesitic lava.