

SAMPLE NUMBER: 431484

SUMMARY:

This is a sericite-silica \pm pyrite-altered formerly glassy aphyric andesitic lava.

HAND SPECIMEN:

This is a medium grey massive silicified felsic(?) lava with chloritic fractures.

THIN SECTION:

This sample is a weakly vesicular even-textured sparsely plagioclase-phyric felsic lava that was originally largely glassy. The glassy matrix has altered to a quartz-sericite intergrowth in which scattered small pyrite grains and finer-grained Fe oxide dust are set. The rare small feldspar phenocrysts are replaced by sericite. Chlorite occurs as three associations: firstly in microshears with calcite, secondly in vesicles with secondary quartz and pyrite, and thirdly with disseminated pyrite as small marginal coatings and pressure fringes.

There is nothing petrographically in this sample to judge with any certainty whether the rock was originally dacitic to andesitic. It looks more like the glassy aphyric andesites I have seen (and analyzed) from the Placer holes W of the highway. I think it can also correlate with the diverse andesite-dacite \pm basalt sequence in the lower half (360m - 495m depth) of the Mines Dept Mt Charter hole MCH-1.