

0406

SAMPLE NUMBER: 431485

SUMMARY:

This is a formerly glassy aphyric dacitic lava in which the groundmass has suffered sericite-silica alteration.

HAND SPECIMEN:

This is a massive, uniform buff-coloured felsic lava with a few tiny green fuchsite-like spots.

THIN SECTION:

This is a texturally well-preserved felsic lava in which sparse euhedral sericitized plagioclase phenocrysts and quite rounded and resorbed quartz phenocrysts less than 0.4mm across in a recrystallized formerly glassy matrix. Phenocrysts probably make up less than one modal% of this rock, which could be described as aphyric.

The groundmass of this sample was originally glassy. It devitrified and then crystallized to an even-textured, fine-grained quartz-sericite intergrowth with rare small pyrite grains. As well as forming a weakly foliated dispersed web through the groundmass, sericite also forms elongate, sheared clots that form along microshears.

This sample is petrographically rhyolitic to dacitic, and is relatively well-preserved, although the groundmass probably underwent the same silica-sericite alteration that has affected all the samples described in the previous pages.