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phenocrysts and subordinate small totally sericitized plagioclase phenocrysts, set in a recrystallized groundmass composed of equigranular almost saccharoidal quartz with interstitial webs of sericite. Well-formed pyrite grains to 1.5mm across occur scattered throughout the sample, but make up much less than 1 modal% of this rock. Most pyrite grains are <0.2mm across, and many are associated with quartz veinlets and have pronounced quartz pressure fringes.

This sample is clearly a sparsely quartz+feldspar-phyric formerly highly glassy rhyolitic lava in which the groundmass recrystallized via strong silica-sericite alteration, as in most of the felsic samples described in this set of rocks.

SAMPLE NUMBER: 431553

SUMMARY:

This is a strongly silica-altered sparsely plagioclase and quartz-phyric formerly glassy rhyolitic lava.

HAND SPECIMEN:

This is a creamy pink coloured probably silicified aphyric felsic lava.

THIN SECTION:

This sample is a formerly glassy felsic lava with around 3-5 modal% of small (<<1mm long) completely sericitized feldspar phenocrysts, and one or two small almost totally resorbed quartz phenocrysts set in a strongly silicified very fine-grained groundmass composed of almost chalcedonic silica with much less interstitial sericite than is present in many of the other recrystallized groundmasses in the felsic lavas described in this report. A few microshears are emphasized by coarser-grained recrystallized quartz and concentrations of extremely fine-grained Fe oxides in a manner resembling stylolites, indicating these shears are sites of pressure solution. A very small amount of well-formed pyrite grains to about 0.5mm across are disseminated throughout the sample. This sample has suffered stronger silicification than many of the other samples of felsic lavas in this hole.