SAMPLE NUMBER: 431565

SUMMARY:

This is a formerly sparsely plagioclase-phyric glassy dacite that has undergone a silica-sericite ± pyrite alteration.

HAND SPECIMEN:

This is a pale grey-green recrystallized and possibly silicified glassy dacitic lava with thin quartz veinlets, disseminated pyrite and a few tiny fuchsite spots.

THIN SECTION:

This sample was clearly a sparsely plagioclase-phyric glassy dacitic lava that has been devitrified and extensively recrystallized. Former plagioclase phenocrysts are either totally altered to sericite or recrystallized as aggregates of small polygonal quartz grains. They were rarely larger than 1mm long and make up only about 2-3 modal% of this rock. There were no quartz phenocrysts in this rock, but the occasional small FeTi oxide phenocrysts are altered to sericite and limonitic material.

The groundmass of this sample was originally entirely glassy. The glass probably devitrified but then was strongly altered, recrystallizing to a fine-grained patchy mosaic quartz intergrowth streaked with fine meshes of sericite. Subparallel with the sericite streaking are many elongate patches of coarser-grained secondary quartz. These are cut by narrow veinlets of fibre quartz. Disseminated small pyrite grains make up about 1 modal% of the rock, and are scattered throughout the recrystallized groundmass. Fine-grained granules of either Fe oxide of pyrite are very common in the quartz-sericite groundmass.

This sample was a glassy dacite that has suffered some silica-sericite-pyrite alteration.