

INTRODUCTION

The pre-Mesozoic crystalline rocks of the Lake Michie 7.5-minute Quadrangle are part of the Virginia sequence of the Carolina terrane, specifically the upper portion (ca. 615 Ma) of the Hyco Formation (Wortman and others, 2001; Hubbard and others, 2002; Bradley and Miller, 2011). These rocks are metamorphosed to the dioritic zone of the lower greenschist facies during Late Precambrian and Paleoproterozoic tectonic activity. Only Late Triassic sedimentary rocks and Jurassic diabase are not regionally metamorphosed, although contact metamorphic effects occur locally where diabase intrudes sedimentary rocks. While subjected to this low-grade metamorphism and locally deformed by fracturing, foliation, and lineation, most crystalline rocks preserve relic plutonic, volcanic, or volcanogenic sedimentary textures, which when combined with bulk rock compositions, allow for precise identification. Therefore, the prefix "metre" is not included in the nomenclature of the pre-Mesozoic rocks described in this quadrangle. In some exposures, especially adjacent to the western boundary of the Deep River Mesozoic rift basin, highly partitioned strain produces either variably fractured, phylonic, or protomylonitic and mylonitic rocks of meta-igneous origin. Local outcrops of highly silicified, epidotized, and/or sericitized, or silicified-epidotized calcareous rock have unclear protolith affinity. All sedimentary rocks of Mesozoic and Cenozoic age have a detrital origin involving mass to gravel-sized clasts.

The classification and naming of metamorphic rocks in the Lake Michie 7.5-minute Quadrangle uses the nomenclature of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) Subcommittee on the Systematics of Igneous Rocks after Le Maître (2002). Relict igneous textures, modal mineral assemblages, or normalized mineral assemblages when whole-rock geochemical data are available, provide the basis for naming metamorphic lithologies. A preliminary lithological classification is developed here following Articles 11-15 of the North American Stratigraphic Code. These rock units, which lack a geochronologic date and stratigraphic timing directions, warrant such a designation. Past maps and lithologic descriptions of McConnell and Glover (1982), Blake and others (2009), and Bradley and others (2011) assisted the development of the current U.S. Geological Survey STATEMAP mapping results.

SEDIMENTARY UNITS

- Qal** - alluvium: Tanish-yellow to gray to reddish-brown, unconsolidated, and poorly sorted and stratified deposits of angular to subrounded clay, silt, sand and gravel- to cobble-sized clasts. Deposits generally occur in major stream drainages and around the shorelines of Lake Michie and Lake Butler.
- Trcs1** - sandstone with interbedded siltstone and conglomerate of the Chatham Group Lithofacies Association I: Pinkish-gray, light gray, and light tan, fine- to coarse-grained, micaceous, slightly clayey, moderately poorly to moderately well sorted, subangular to subrounded arkose and lithic arkose, massive, very silty, micaceous, moderately well sorted, fine-grained sandstone; maroon, massive, and thickly laminated, poorly to moderately well sorted, angular to subangular meta-arkose and meta-lithic conglomerate clasts conglomerate derived from surrounding meta-igneous crystalline rocks that may be clast or matrix supported with reddish-brown to tanish-brown, medium- to coarse-grained, poorly to well sorted sandstone, micaceous siltstone or mudstone. Beds are massive or locally thin bedded, wavy, or cross bedded. Rocks are assigned to the Lithofacies Association I of Hoffman and Gallagher (1989) and have been extended into the Lake Michie Quadrangle to edge-match with the Northeast Durham Geologic map (Phillips et al., 2004 revised 2010).
- Trcs2** - sandstone with interbedded siltstone of the Chatham Group Lithofacies Association II: Cyclical depositional sequences of whitish-yellow to grayish-pink to pale red, coarse- to very coarse-grained, tough cross-bedded lithic arkose that fines upward through yellow to reddish-brown, medium- to fine-grained sandstone, to reddish-brown, barrowed and reworked siltstone. Barrowation is usually surrounded by greenish-blue to gray red-brown halos. Coarse-grained portions contain abundant muscovite, and basal gravel lags consist of clasts of quartz, bluish-gray quartz crystal tuff, and mudstone rip-ups. These rocks are assigned to the Lithofacies Association II of Hoffman and Gallagher (1989) and have been extended into the Lake Michie Quadrangle to edge-match with the Northeast Durham Geologic map (Phillips et al., 2004 revised 2010).

FAULT ZONE UNITS

- FX** - silicified and epidotized calcareous: White, tan, tan-green and pale-green, silicified, epidotized, and highly fractured zones containing mm- to cm-scale, angular silicified and locally original protolith clasts. Silicified and epidotized clasts of metamorphic diorite, tonalite, granodiorite, and diorite have been observed. Fragmental veins filled with syntaxial silicified quartz grains and epidote common. In many samples, silicification and epidotization is so extensive protolith relationships are completely obscured, in some samples, epidote invades and overprints the crystalline rocks as diffuse, fine-grained mineral domains reminiscent of fluid fronts. Considered to be Mesozoic or late Cenozoic in age, but may also be attributed to middle or late Paleozoic deformation.

INTRUSIVE AND META-INTRUSIVE UNITS

- Jd** - diabase: Black to greenish black, fine to medium phaneritic or aphanitic, dense, consists primarily of plagioclase, augite and may contain olivine. Occurs as dikes and sills and is typically seen as epidotized weathered stream boulders and cobbles. Weathered surfaces are generally brownish to grayish in color. Red stain location indicates outcrop or borders of diabase.
- Jd-reco** - diabase reconnaissance: Jurassic diabase from reconnaissance and geophysical data as depicted in Gottfried, et al., (1991).
- Zab** - dioritic shallow intrusions: Gray-green, light green to green, greenish-gray to light gray, plagioclase porphyritic aphanitic diorite, aphanitic diorite and micro-gabbroite. Plagioclase phenocrysts range from less than 1 mm to 5 mm and are commonly unzoned. Biotite, less than 1 mm to 1 mm quartz also occur as phenocrysts. Contains lesser amounts of dark gray, phenocryst poor aphanitic diorite. Leucocratic (C1-5-10) granodiorite ranges from fine to medium crystalline. Major minerals include plagioclase, alkali feldspar, quartz and lesser amounts of biotite and amphibole, interpreted to be hornblende. Plagioclase is highly sericitized and in lesser amount unzoned, especially in calcic-rich phenocryst cores. Alkali feldspar typically displays granophyric textures in thin section. If present, biotite is commonly recrystallized to chlorite, epidote, and actinolite-sage mineral. Metamorphosed muscovite and amphibole phenocrysts are present and represent diorite or differentiated portions of the pluton. Locally becomes granitic in the eastern portion of the Lake Michie. Outcrop locally contains enclaves of microdiorite of the Zdm and Zdm units. Locally, mm- to cm-scale granite dikes cross-cut granodiorite. Wortman et al. (2000) report a 613.4 ± 2.8 Ma U-Pb zircon date from granite and a 613.9 ± 6.1 Ma U-Pb zircon date from diorite samples from the Mariah pluton in the western portion of the Lake Michie Quadrangle. Aggregates of white mica, quartz, plagioclase, and orthoclase highlight steeply dipping foliation and dip-parallel lineation domains inferred to be highly fractured and/or phylonic and protomylonitic high strain zones (Zdm). This unit is correlative to the Zdm unit of Bradley and others (2011) in the adjacent Roughtown 7.5-minute Quadrangle.
- Zgm** - granodiorite tonalite of the Stem and Mariah plutons: Leucocratic (C1-5-15), light tan-gray white, bluish-gray white, or pinkish-white, medium- to coarse-grained, hydromorphic to xenomorphic granular granodiorite and tonalite. This unit combines the previously mapped Zgm unit in the Stem (Blake and others, 2009) and eastern Lake Michie Quadrangles and the Mariah pluton of McConnell (1974) in the western portion of the Lake Michie Quadrangle. Major minerals include plagioclase, alkali feldspar, quartz and lesser amounts of biotite and amphibole, interpreted to be hornblende. Plagioclase is highly sericitized and in lesser amount unzoned, especially in calcic-rich phenocryst cores. Alkali feldspar typically displays granophyric textures in thin section. If present, biotite is commonly recrystallized to chlorite, epidote, and actinolite-sage mineral. Metamorphosed muscovite and amphibole phenocrysts are present and represent diorite or differentiated portions of the pluton. Locally becomes granitic in the eastern portion of the Lake Michie. Outcrop locally contains enclaves of microdiorite of the Zdm and Zdm units. Locally, mm- to cm-scale granite dikes cross-cut granodiorite. Wortman et al. (2000) report a 613.4 ± 2.8 Ma U-Pb zircon date from granite and a 613.9 ± 6.1 Ma U-Pb zircon date from diorite samples from the Mariah pluton in the western portion of the Lake Michie Quadrangle. Aggregates of white mica, quartz, plagioclase, and orthoclase highlight steeply dipping foliation and dip-parallel lineation domains inferred to be highly fractured and/or phylonic and protomylonitic high strain zones (Zgm). This unit is correlative to the Zgm unit of Bradley and others (2011) in the adjacent Roughtown 7.5-minute Quadrangle.
- Zgm** - altered granodiorite and granite of the Mariah pluton: Leucocratic (C1-10-30), light pinkish gray to green, fine- to medium-phaneritic, equigranular to porphyritic granodiorite and granite that is highly recrystallized and hydrothermally and chemically altered. Major minerals forming a relict xenomorphic granular phaneritic texture likely included plagioclase, alkali feldspar, and quartz that are now combinations of fine to medium crystalline, foliated and non-foliated domains of white mica and recrystallized feldspar and quartz. Outcrops, and more commonly, fault cobbles and boulders display apparent silicification, while other complex dioritic weathering that develops predominantly clay mineralization mixed with silice. Some rocks additionally display Fe-oxide-hydroxide staining. Unit interpreted to be a hydrothermally recrystallized and altered portion of Zgm. Domains of highly foliated rocks of this unit are separated as Zgms.
- Zdb** - diorite of the Butler pluton: Mesocratic to leucocratic (C1-40-70), greenish-gray to grayish-green to green, fine- to medium-phaneritic diorite, microdiorite and quartz diorite. Textures range from equigranular to porphyritic with hydromorphic to xenomorphic granular plagioclase and hornblende phenocrysts ranging up to 1.5 mm in tabular length. Major minerals include plagioclase and amphibole, interpreted to be hornblende. Plagioclase crystals are highly unzoned and in lesser amount sericitized. Some crystals display evidence of Ca-rich cores with Na-rich rims. Hornblende may be recrystallized to chlorite, epidote, and actinolite-sage mineral. Locally contains 5-10% quartz classifying it as a quartz diorite. The eastern portion of the unit is typically finer grained, having crystal size increasing towards the east. Foliated metadiorite enclaves are common within the massive unit. Silicification, sulfide mineralization, typically pyrite, and aggregates of white mica and quartz highlight steeply dipping and plunging foliation and lineation domains inferred to be highly fractured and/or phylonic and protomylonitic high strain zones (Zdb). Locally, highly leached and stained outcrops of pyrite-Fe-oxide-hydroxide mark these deformation zones. Texturally and mineralogically equivalent to Zdm.
- Zdm** - diorite of the Mariah pluton: Mesocratic to leucocratic (C1-40-70), greenish-gray to grayish-green to green, fine- to medium-phaneritic diorite, microdiorite and quartz diorite. Textures range from equigranular to slightly porphyritic with hydromorphic to xenomorphic granular plagioclase and hornblende phenocrysts ranging up to 1.5 mm in tabular and prismatic length, respectively. Major minerals include plagioclase and amphibole, interpreted to be hornblende. Plagioclase crystals are highly unzoned and in lesser amount sericitized. Hornblende may be recrystallized to chlorite, epidote, and actinolite-sage mineral. Locally contains 5-10% quartz highlighting differentiated outcrops of quartz diorite. Foliated equivalent mapped as Zdbm. Texturally and mineralogically equivalent to Zdb.

METAVOLCANIC UNITS

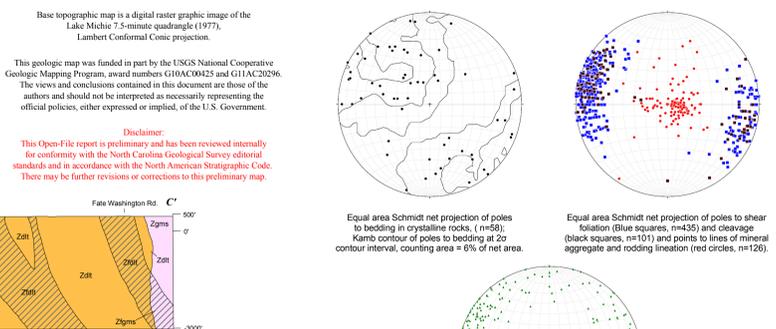
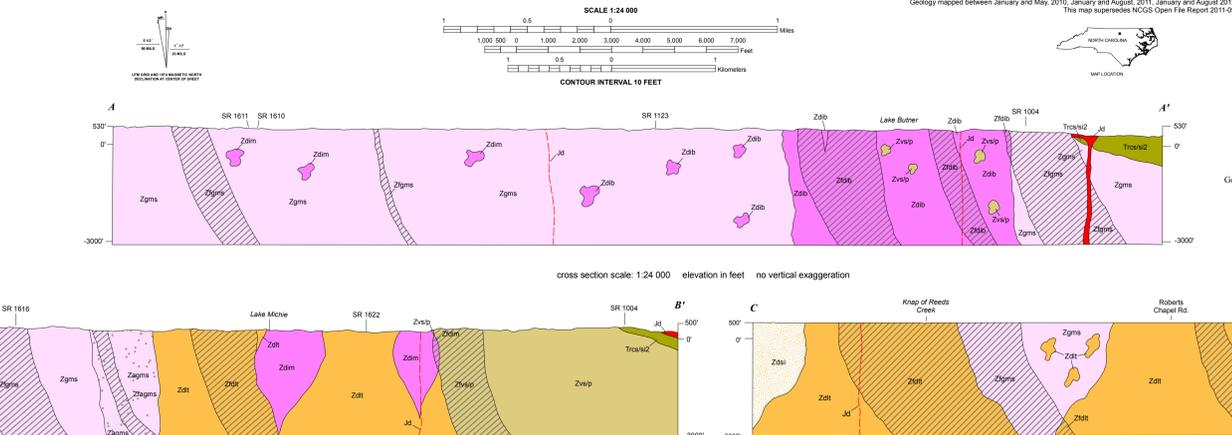
- Zwsp** - mixed volcanogenic sedimentary and pyroclastic rocks: Grayish-green to greenish-gray, siltstone/mudstone, sandstone, and tuffaceous sandstone. Contains lesser amounts of fine- to coarse ash tuff and lapilli crystal lithic tuff. Siltstone to medium to thickly laminated (3mm-7mm) and alternate in color between greenish and brownish gray. Locally contains domains of massive magnetite rock and thinly laminated layered magnetite-enriched siltstone. Sandstone generally massive with subangular to subrounded grains of plagioclase and quartz crystals. Pyroclastic tuff is generally massive and contains relict xenomorphic to subhedral plagioclase and quartz phenocrysts in a fine, non-foliated, clay granular matrix. Some basaltic to andesitic lava flows intrusions occur locally in the southern portion of the mapped unit. The western and middle portion of the mapped unit is predominantly sedimentary, volcanic material occurs in the eastern portion of the unit in contact with metapelitic rocks. Rocks are comparable to the Zwsp unit in the adjacent Roughtown Quadrangle immediately to the west (Bradley and others, 2011). Domains of highly foliated rocks of this unit are separated as Zwsp.
- Zzd** - dioritic lavas and tuffs: Greenish-gray to dark gray to tanish gray, siliceous, aphanitic diorite tuff, porphyritic diorite, and flow banded diorite. Diorite is usually massive and ranges from fine ash to coarse plagioclase crystal tuff and lapilli tuff. Locally contains intertuffally to conglomeratic sandstone having lapilli-sized diorite clasts. Also contains outcrop of massive magnetite rock, usually found within close proximity to the contact with Zwsp. Porphyritic diorite contains plagioclase and hornblende phenocrysts ranging from 3 to 10 mm in prismatic and tabular length, respectively, set in a recrystallized aphanitic groundmass. Locally, diorite may display relict and/or layered layering. Unit is correlative to the Zdm unit of Blake and others (2009) in the Stem Quadrangle to the East and the Zdm unit of Bradley and others (2011) in the Roughtown Quadrangle to the West. Silicification, sulfide mineralization, and aggregates of white mica and quartz highlight steeply dipping and plunging foliation and lineation domains inferred to be highly fractured and/or phylonic and protomylonitic high strain zones (Zzd).
- Zad** - altered dioritic lavas and tuffs: White to red to tan, siliceous, hydrothermally altered aphanitic diorite, porphyritic diorite, and diorite lavas of Zdm. Altered diorite is typically massive, finely crystalline and locally contains relict quartz and plagioclase phenocrysts and plagioclase and hornblende concentrations give the rock a "cherty" appearance. Localized pyrophyllite mineralization occur as radiating crystals that range from 0.25mm to 1cm in size. Commonly Fe-oxide mineralization gives the rock a red color. Equivalent to the Zdm unit of Blake and others (2009) in the Stem Quadrangle to the East and the Zdm unit of Bradley and others (2011) in the Roughtown Quadrangle to the West. Silicification, sulfide mineralization, and aggregates of white mica and quartz highlight steeply dipping and plunging foliation and lineation domains inferred to be highly fractured and/or phylonic and protomylonitic high strain zones (Zad).

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CONTACTS, FOLDS AND OTHER FEATURES

- Lithologic contacts - Distribution and concentration of structural symbols indicates degree of reliability.
- contact - location inferred
 - contact - location concealed
 - Qal contact
 - strike and dip of primary layering and/or bedding (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike and dip of primary layering and/or bedding (single observation at one locality)
 - strike of vertical primary layering and/or bedding (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike and dip of overprinting cleavage (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike and dip of overprinting cleavage (single observation at one locality)
 - strike of vertical overprinting cleavage (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike and dip of inclined fracture surface (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike and dip of inclined fracture surface (single observation at one locality)
 - strike of vertical fracture surface (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike of vertical fracture surface (single observation at one locality)
 - gradational contact
 - diabase contact - dashed where inferred, dotted where concealed
 - cross section line
 - strike and dip of quartz vein
 - strike of quartz vein
 - bearing and plunge of mineral rod or aggregate lineation
 - bearing and plunge of mineral rod or aggregate lineation
 - strike and dip of inclined undifferentiated shear strain foliation (multiple observations at one locality)
 - bearing and plunge of slickenside
 - strike of vertical undifferentiated shear strain foliation (multiple observations at one locality)
 - strike of vertical undifferentiated shear strain foliation (single observation at one locality)
 - Fault plane - normal
 - Fault plane - reverse
 - Fault plane - reverse (single observation at one locality)
 - station location
 - diabase station location
 - U/Pb age date location (Wortman and others, 2000)
 - Superconducting Super Collider core location (Wilson and Carpenter, 1997)
 - McConnell (1974) point count analysis sample location



GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE EASTERN AND CENTRAL PORTIONS OF THE LAKE MICHIE 7.5-MINUTE QUADRANGLE, DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND PERSON COUNTIES, NORTH CAROLINA

By Daniel L. Rhodes, David E. Blake, Robert H. Morrow, Joshua D. April, Amy L. Gross, and Jacob M. Kendall.

Digital representation by Michael A. Medina and Philip J. Bradley



Scan with smartphone for link to GeoPDF of map. Third party App required.