

Philip J. Bradley, Heather D. Hanna and Randy Bechtel

Geologic data collected in August 2010 through July 2011. Map preparation, digital cartography and editing by Heather D. Hanna, Michael A. Medina and Philip J. Bradley.

INTRODUCTION

Pre-Mesozoic crystalline rocks in the Rougemont Quadrangle are part of the Virgilina sequence of the Late Proterozoic to Cambrian Carolina terrane of the Carolina Zone (Hibbard et al., 2002). In the vicinity of the map area, the Virgilina sequence can be separated into two lithotectonic units: 1) the Hyco Formation and 2) the Aaron Formation. The Hyco Formation consists of ca. 615 to 633 Ma (Wortman et al., 2000; Bowman, 2010; Bradley and Miller, 2011.) layered volcaniclastic rocks and plutonic rocks. Available age dates (Wortman et al., 2000; Bradley and Miller, 2011) indicate the Hyco Formation in Orange and Durham Counties may be divided into lower (ca. 630 Ma) and upper (ca. 615 Ma) members (informal) with an apparent intervening hiatus of magmatism. In southern Orange County, Hyco Formation units are intruded by the ca. 579 Ma (Tadlock and Loewy, 2006) East Farrington pluton and associated West Farrington pluton. The Aaron Formation consists of layered volcaniclastic rocks with youngest detrital zircons of ca. 578 and 588 Ma (Samson et al., 2001 and Pollock, 2007, respectively).

The Virgilina sequence was folded and subjected to low grade metamorphism during the ca. 578 to 554 Ma (Pollock, 2007) Virgilina deformation (Glover and Sinha, 1973; Harris and Glover, 1985; Harris and Hibbard and Samson, 1995). In the map area, original layering of Virgilina sequence lithologies are interpreted to range from shallowly to steeply dipping due to open to isoclinal folds that are locally overturned to the southeast. In the Roxboro, NC area, folded Virgilina sequence lithologies are intruded by the ca. 546 Ma Roxboro pluton (Wortman et al., 2000). The Vermiforma antiqua fossil locality reported by Cloud et al. (1976) is present within the map area. Seilacher et al. (2000) indicates the fossil may be a tectograph and not a true fossil.

Unit descriptions common to Bradley and Hanna (2010) and Bradley et al. (2004) from Caldwell and Northwest Durham geologic maps, respectively, were used for conformity with on strike units in adjacent quadrangles. All pre-Mesozoic rocks of the Rougemont quadrangle have been metamorphosed to at least the chlorite zone of the greenschist metamorphic facies. Many of the rocks display a weak or strong metamorphic foliation. Although subjected to metamorphism, the rocks retain relict igneous, pyroclastic, and sedimentary textures and structures that allow for the identification of protolith rocks. As such, the prefix "meta" is not included in the nomenclature of the pre-Mesozoic rocks described in the quadrangle. Jurassic diabase dikes are unmetamorphosed. The nomenclature of the International Union of Geological Sciences subcommission on igneous and volcanic rocks (IUGS) after Le Maitre (2002) is used in classification and naming of the units. The classification and naming of the rocks is based on relict igneous textures, modal mineral assemblages, or normalized mineral assemblages when whole-rock geochemical data is available. Past workers in adjacent areas (Allen and Wilson, 1968; McConnell, 1974; McConnell and Glover, 1982) have used various nomenclature systems for the igneous rocks. The raw data, when available, of these earlier workers was recalculated and plotted on ternary diagrams and classified based on IUGS nomenclature. Pyroclastic rock terminol-

ogy follows that of Fisher and Schmincke (1984). DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS

Sedimentary Units

Qal – Alluvium: Unconsolidated poorly sorted and stratified deposits of angular to subrounded clay, silt, sand and gravel- to cobble-sized clasts, in stream drainages. May include point bars, terraces and natural levees along larger stream floodplains. Structural measurements depicted on the map within Qal represent outcrops of crystalline rock inliers surrounded by alluvium. Intrusive and Metaintrusive Units

grayish-brown weathering rind. Red station location indicates outcrop or boulders of diabase.

Amphiboles are typically altered to chlorite and actinolite masses. May be gabbroic locally. Zmpf – Moriah Pluton felsic phase: Dominantly leucocratic (CI 10-30) light pinkish gray to gray, fine- to medium-grained equigranular to porphyritic granite to granodiroite. Major minerals include plagioclase, actinolitic amphiboles, alkali feldspar, and quartz. Outcrops locally contains enclaves of fine-grained and darker colored granodiorite to diorite. Locally, melanocratic (CI 40-50), grayish-green, fine- to medium-grained quartz diorite to diorite present. Wortman et al. (2000) report a 613.4 +2.8/-2 Ma U-Pb zircon date from a granite and a 613.9 +1.6/-1.5 Ma U-Pb zircon date from a diorite in the pluton sampled from the adjacent Lake Michie quadrangle. The Moriah Pluton is part of the Flat River Complex (Glover and Sinha, 1973; McConnell, 1974 and McConnell and Glover, 1982).

Metavolcanic Units Za – Aaron formation: Brown, gray to grayish green or light gray; typically foliated, arkosic sandstones, silty sandstones and phyllitic siltstones.

Hyco Formation – Upper Portion

Zhe/p - Mixed epiclastic rocks: Grayish-green to greenish-gray, tuffaceous sandstones, conglomeratic sandstones, siltstones and minor phyllite. The siltstones typically are weakly phyllitic. Contains lesser amounts of fine- to coarse tuff and lapilli tuff. Tuffs are differentiated from other volcaniclastic rocks by the presence of cryptocrystalline texture that exhibit conchoidal-like fractures in between foliation domains. Minor andesitic to basaltic lavas and tuffs present. Silicified and/or sericitized altered rock similar to Zhat unit are locally present. Unit is interpreted to grade into Zhe/pl unit. Contact with Zhe/pl designated at first occurrence of dacitic lavas. Zhe/pl - Mixed epiclastic-pyroclastic rocks with interlayered dacitic lavas: Grayish-green to greenish-gray, locally with distinctive reddish-gray or maroon to lavender coloration; conglomerate, conglomerate, sandstone, sandstone, sandstone and mudstone. Lithologies are locally bedded; locally tuffaceous with a cryptocrystalline-like groundmass. Siltstones are locally phyllitic. Locally contain interbedded dacitic lavas identical to Zhdlt unit. Contains lesser amounts of fine- to coarse tuff

Cloud et al. (1976) fossil locality from this unit. rocks. Map area contains boulders (up to several feet in diameter) and outcrop of massive milky quartz and quartz + sericite rock.

Zhdlt (u) – Dacitic lavas and tuffs of the upper portion of the Hyco Formation: Greenish-gray to dark gray, siliceous, aphanitic dacite, porphyritic dacite with plagioclase phenocrysts, and flow banded dacite. Welded and non-welded tuffs associated with the lavas include: greenish-gray to grayish-green, fine tuff, coarse plagioclase crystal tuff and lapilli tuff. Locally, interlayers of immature conglomerate and conglomerate an interpreted to have been coherent extrusives or very shallow intrusions associated with dome formation. The tuffs are interpreted as episodic pyroclastic flow deposits, air fall tuffs or reworked tuffs generated during formation of dacite domes. The unit occurs as map scale pods surrounded by clastic rocks of Zhe/pl unit. Wortman et al. (2000) reports an age of 615.7+3.7/-1.9 Ma U-Pb zircon date for a dacitic tuff from the unit. Red Mountain, a prominent topographic feature of the quadrangle is underlain by this unit.

granodiorite. Relict plagioclase phenocrysts are sausseritized in a matrix of recrystallized feldspar and quartz with dark colored clots (<1 mm to 4 mm) interpreted in hand sample as chlorite(?) masses and/or relict enclaves of dark gray dacite. Contains lesser amounts of dark gray, aphanitic dacite. Interpreted as shallowly emplaced dacite probably co-magmatic with Zdlt (u) unit. Zhablt – Andesitic to basaltic lavas and tuffs: Green, gray, green, gray, dark gray and black; typically unfoliated, amygdaloidal, plagioclase porphyritic, amphibole/pyroxene porphyritic; and aphanitic; and estic to basaltic lavas and shallow intrusions. Hyaloclastic texture is common and imparts a fragmental texture similar to a lithic tuff on some outcrops. Locally interlayered with meta-sediments identical to the Zhe/pl and Zhe/p unit. Hyco Formation – Lower Portion

of volcanic sandstones, and greywackes with minor siltstones and phyllite.

Zhdlt (I) – Dacitic lavas and tuffs of the lower portion of the Hyco Formation: Distinctive gray to dark gray, siliceous, cryptocrystalline dacite, porphyritic dacite with plagioclase phenocrysts, and flow banded dacite. Welded and non-welded tuffs associated with the lavas include: greenish-gray to grayish-green, fine tuff, coarse plagioclase crystal tuff; lapilli tuff; and tuff breccia. The dacites are interpreted to have been coherent extrusives or very shallow intrusions associated with dome formation. The tuffs are interpreted as episodic pyroclastic flow deposits, air fall tuffs or reworked tuffs generated during formation of dacite domes. Wortman et al. (2000) report a 632.9 +2.6/-1.9 Ma zircon date from a sample within the unit in the Chapel Hill quadrangle. Zhdsi (I) – Dacitic shallow intrusive of the lower portion of the Hyco Formation: Gray-green, light green to green; plagioclase porphyritic dacite with a granular-textured groundmass to micro-granodiorite (intrusive texture visible with 7x

plagioclase. Amphibole intergrowths distinguish rock from fine-grained tuffs. Enclaves of dark gray, plagioclase porphyritic dacite are common and at times give rock a psuedo-clastic appearance. Bradley and Miller (2011) report an age of 628.5 ± 1 Ma for a dacite from this unit in southern Orange County.

REFERENCES

Allen, E.P., and Wilson, W.F., 1968, Geology and mineral resources of Orange County, North Carolina: Division of Mineral Resources, North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Bulletin 81, 58 p. Bowman, J.D., 2010,. The Aaron Formation: Evidence for a New Lithotectonic Unit in Carolinia, North Central North Carolina, unpublished masters thesis, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, 116 p. Bradley, P.J., Phillips, C.M., Witanachchi, C., Ward, A.N., Clark, T.W., 2004, Geologic map of the Northwest Durham 7.5-minute quadrangle, Durham and Orange Counties, North Carolina: North Carolina Geological Survey Open-file Report 2004-03a Revision-01 (2010), scale 1:24,000, in color. Bradley, P.J. and Hanna, H.D., 2010, Geologic map of the Caldwell 7.5-minute quadrangle, Orange and Person Counties, North Carolina: North Carolina Geological Survey Open-file Report 2010-03, scale 1:24,000, in color Bradley, P.J. and Miller, B.V., 2011, New geologic mapping and age constraints in the Hyco Arc of the Carolina terrane in Orange County, North Carolina: Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs, Vol. 43, No. 2. Brown, H.S., 1997, Superconducting Super Collider: Appendix: Petrography and photomicrographs. Open-file report 97-3. North Carolina Geological Survey: Raleigh. Cloud, P., Wright, J., and Glover, L., 1976, Traces of animal life from 620-million-year-old rocks in North Carolina: American Scientist, v. 64, p. 396-406. Fisher, R.V. and Schmincke H.-U., 1984, Pyroclastic rocks, Berlin, West Germany, Springer-Verlag, 472 p.

Glover, L., and Sinha, A., 1973, The Virgilina deformation, a late Precambrian to Early Cambrian (?) orogenic event in the central Piedmont of Virginia and North Carolina, American Journal of Science, Cooper v. 273-A, pp. 234-251. Harris, C., and Glover, L., 1985, The Virgilina deformation: implications of stratigraphic correlation in the Carolina slate belt, Carolina Geological Society field trip guidebook, 36 p. Harris, C., and Glover, 1988, The regional extent of the ca. 600 Ma Virgilina deformation: implications of stratigraphic correlation in the Carolina terrane, Geological Society of America Bulletin, v. 100, pp. 200-217.

Hibbard, J., and Samson, S., 1995, Orogenesis exotic to the Iapetan cycle in the southern Appalachians, In, Hibbard, J., van Staal, C., Cawood, P. editors, Current Perspectives in the Appalachian–Caledonian Orogen. Geological Association of Canada Special Paper, v. 41, pp. 191–205. Hibbard, J., Stoddard, E.F., Secor, D., Jr., and Dennis, A., 2002, The Carolina Zone: Overview of Neoproterozoic to early Paleozoic peri-Gondwanan terranes along the eastern flank of the southern Appalachians: Earth Science Reviews, v. 57, n. 3/4, p. 299-339. Le Maitre, R.W., Ed., 2002, Igneous Rocks: A Classification and Glossary of Terms: Recommendations of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) Subcommission on the Systematics of Igneous Rocks: Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 252 p.

McConnell, K.I., 1974, Geology of the late Precambrian Flat River Complex and associated volcanic rocks near, Durham, North Carolina, unpublished masters thesis, Virginia Polytechnic and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia, 64 p. McConnell, K.I. and Glover, L., 1982, Age and emplacement of the Flat River complex, an Eocambrian sub-volcanic pluton near Durham, North Carolina: Geological Society of America Special Paper 191, p. 133-143. Pollock, J. C., 2007, The Neoproterozoic-Early Paleozoic tectonic evolution of the peri-Gondwanan margin of the Appalachian orogen: an integrated geochronological, geochemical and isotopic study from North Carolina and Newfoundland. Unpublished PhD dissertation, North Carolina State University, 194 p. Samson, S.D., and Secor, D., 2001, Wandering Carolina: Tracking exotic terranes with detrital Zircons, GSA Abstracts with Programs Vol. 33, No. 6, p. A-263

Seilacher, A., Meschede, M., Bolton, E.W., and Luginsland, H., 2000, Pecambrian "fossil" Verimorma is a tectograph: Geology, v. 28, p. 235-238. Tadlock, K.A. and Loewy, S.L., 2006, Isotopic characterization of the Farrington pluton: constraining the Virgilina orogeny, in Bradley, P.J., and Clark, T.W., editors, The Geology of the Chapel Hill, Hillsborough and Efland 7.5-minute Quadrangles, Orange and Durham Counties, Carolina Terrane, North Carolina, Carolina Geological Society Field Trip Guidebook for the 2006 annual meeting, pp. 17-21. Wilson, W.F., and Carpenter, P. A., 1997. Superconducting Super Collider: Location, geology, and road log. Open-file report 97-2. North Carolina Geological Survey: Raleigh.

Wortman, G.L., Samson, S.D., and Hibbard, J.P., 2000, Precise U-Pb zircon constraints on the earliest magmatic history of the Carolina terrane, Journal of Geology, v. 108, pp. 321-338.

Equal Area Schmidt Net Projection of Contoured Poles to Foliation and Cleavage Contour Interval = 1 N = 582

of the Little River Little River Qal Zhe/pl

Zhdsi (I)

South Fork

Jd – Diabase: Black to greenish-black, fine- to medium-grained, dense, consists primarily of plagioclase, augite and may contain olivine. Occurs as dikes up to 100 ft wide. Diabase typically occurs as spheriodally weathered boulders with a

Zdi – Diorite: Mesocratic (CI~50), greenish-gray to grayish-green, fine- to medium-grained, hypidiomorphic granular diorite. Major minerals include plagioclase and amphibole. Plagioclase crystals are typically sericitized and saussuritized.

and lapilli tuff with a cryptocrystalline-like groundmass. Minor andesitic to basaltic lavas and tuffs present. Silicified and/or sericitized altered rock similar to Zhat unit are locally present. Conglomerates and conglomeratic sandstones typically contain subrounded to angular clasts of dacite in a clastic matrix. Zhe/pl distinguished from Zhe/p by presence of dacites and is interpreted to represent a facies change to an area more proximal to the active volcanic centers compared to Ze/p. Zhat (u) – Altered tuffs: Very light gray to light greenish gray (whitish in areas) with red and yellow mottling, altered volcaniclastic rocks. Alteration consists of silicified, sericitized and pyrophyllitized rock. Sericite phyllite, pods of pyrophyllite, and quartz + phyrophyllite rock all with <1 mm to 2 mm diameter weathered sulfides are common. Relict lithic clasts and kaolinitized feldspar crystal shards are visible in some exposures. Relict structures are obliterated in heavily altered Zhdsi (u) – Dacitic shallow intrusive of the upper portion of the Hyco Formation: Gray-green, light green to green, greenish-gray to light gray; dacite, plagioclase porphyritic dacite with a granular-textured groundmass to micro-granodiorite (intrusive texture visible with 7x hand lens). Locally fine- to medium grained granodiorite present. Plagioclase phenocrysts, when present, range from < 1 mm to 4 mm. Black colored amphibole, when visible, occurs as phenocrysts (<1 mm to 1 mm) and as intergrowths with plagioclase. Amphibole intergrowths distinguish rock from fine-grained tuffs. Rock from the active quarry includes greenish-gray to light gray; aphanitic to weakly plagioclase porphyritic dacite to micro-

Zhft (1) - Felsic tuffs: Grayish-green to greenish-gray and silvery-gray; massive to foliated volcaniclastic pyroclastic rocks consisting of fine- to coarse tuffs, lapilli tuffs and minor welded tuffs. Tuffs are differentiated from other volcaniclastic rocks by the presence of zones of cryptocrystalline texture that exhibit conchoidal-like fractures in between foliation domains. Layering ranges from massive to thinly bedded. Contains lesser amounts of volcaniclatic sedimentary rocks consisting hand lens). Contains lesser amounts of fine- to medium grained granodiorite. Plagioclase phenocrysts typically range from 1 mm to 4 mm. Black colored amphibole, when visible, occurs as phenocrysts (<1 mm to 1 mm) and as intergrowths with



Zhdlt (I)

-1375'

Zmp