

Oberlin

Digital Commons at Oberlin

Honors Papers

Student Work

1931

Geology and Acid Intrusions of Marlboro Township, Vermont

Stanley Gordon Elder
Oberlin College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.oberlin.edu/honors>



Part of the [Geology Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Elder, Stanley Gordon, "Geology and Acid Intrusions of Marlboro Township, Vermont" (1931). *Honors Papers*. 18.

<https://digitalcommons.oberlin.edu/honors/18>

This Thesis - Open Access is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Work at Digital Commons at Oberlin. It has been accepted for inclusion in Honors Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Oberlin. For more information, please contact megan.mitchell@oberlin.edu.

June 1931

Oberlin College

A Thesis in Geology
Submitted to the Department of Geology and
Geography in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts.

STANLEY G. HEDEN

by

ATMOSPHERIC

GEOLOGY AND ACID INTRUSIONS OF MARLBORO TOWNSHIP,

*Hubbard
independent
form for*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	.....	1	.....	1	.....
2	.....	2	.....	2	.....
2	.....	2	.....	2	.....
3	.....	3	.....	3	.....
4	.....	4	.....	4	.....
4	.....	4	.....	4	.....
4	.....	4	.....	4	.....
5	.....	5	.....	5	.....
7	.....	7	.....	7	.....
9	.....	9	.....	9	.....
9	.....	9	.....	9	.....
9	.....	9	.....	9	.....
9	.....	9	.....	9	.....
9	.....	9	.....	9	.....
11	.....	11	.....	11	.....
13	.....	13	.....	13	.....
15	.....	15	.....	15	.....
16	.....	16	.....	16	.....
19	.....	19	.....	19	.....
19	.....	19	.....	19	.....
19	.....	19	.....	19	.....
20	.....	20	.....	20	.....
20	.....	20	.....	20	.....
21	.....	21	.....	21	.....
22	.....	22	.....	22	.....
24	.....	24	.....	24	.....
27	.....	27	.....	27	.....
27	.....	27	.....	27	.....
27	.....	27	.....	27	.....
28	.....	28	.....	28	.....
28	.....	28	.....	28	.....
28	.....	28	.....	28	.....
28	.....	28	.....	28	.....
29	.....	29	.....	29	.....
30	.....	30	.....	30	.....
30	.....	30	.....	30	.....
32	.....	32	.....	32	.....
33	.....	33	.....	33	.....
33	.....	33	.....	33	.....
34	.....	34	.....	34	.....
35	.....	35	.....	35	.....
36	.....	36	.....	36	.....
37	.....	37	.....	37	.....
38	.....	38	.....	38	.....
39	.....	39	.....	39	.....
41	.....	41	.....	41	.....
43	.....	43	.....	43	.....
44	.....	44	.....	44	.....

LIST OF PLATES

1.-	Illustrations.....	5
2.-	Illustrations.....	6
3.-	Illustrations.....	7
4.-	Illustrations.....	8
5.-	Illustrations.....	14
6.-	Illustrations.....	21
7.-	Illustrations.....	22
8.-	Illustrations.....	22
9.-	Correlation Map.....	23
10.-	Correlation Chart.....	23
11.-	Cross-section of Area.....	25
12.-	Structure Map.....	25
13.-	Columnar Section.....	25
14.-	Columnar Section.....	44

It is the aim of this paper to examine the mineral-

ization resulting from the intrusion of acid dikes and

veins into the schists of Marlboro township, Vermont,

and to give a brief account of the geology of the area.

The problem of mineralization in southern Vermont

is one which has been treated very slightly and is one

which is deserving of more study than it has received.

This problem results from the presence of numerous acid

igneous masses in all the formations of the region.

Petrographic research in the igneous intrusions was done

partially with the hope that the study would reveal min-

erals of economic importance and partially for the know-

ledge which the study would yield.

Grateful acknowledgement is due to Prof. G. D.

Hubbard for suggesting this problem and for his untrir-

ing interest and assistance. Much appreciation is due

also to Prof. A. A. L. Mathews, Mr. R. B. Frost, and

Mr. Fred Foreman for valuable criticism and advice.

PREFACE

During the summer of 1930 the Oberlin Geological Survey studied the geology of a portion of southern Vermont. This area is in Windham County and includes all of Marlboro township, except the portion west of the road extending north and south through West Marlboro and the portion north of latitude $42^{\circ}55'N.$, the western third of Brattleboro township and the extreme southwest portion of Dummerston township. Within the region studied are two villages, Marlboro and West Marlboro, both located in Marlboro township in the west-central and extreme western parts of our area.

The section studied is about eight miles east and west and about six and a quarter miles north and south, or a total area of about fifty square miles. This area lies between latitude $42^{\circ}49'N.$ and $42^{\circ}55'N.$ The eastern boundary is about $72^{\circ}37'39''W.$ and the western boundary is about $72^{\circ}46'30''W.$ Physiographically the region is located in the New England Division of the Older Appalachians.

The geologic location of the area is in the under-

terminated early Paleozoic rocks of New England.

Location and Area

INTRODUCTION

The interpretation of the extensive mineralization and alteration which has resulted from acid intrusions is the main problem of this paper.

A most intricate problem of the region proved to be the interpretation of the structure. This was dependent entirely upon the relation between the original structure within the rocks and schistosity which was developed later. While the bedding and schistosity did not always agree, they were usually parallel. Interpretation of available data explains the structure satisfactorily by the presence of a homocline followed by an unconformity and by a fan-antiform fold.

The problem presented by the porphyroblastic phase in the Marlboro Schist was very difficult. Its origin is doubtful, because suggestions for either sedimentary or igneous origin are found in the field. Careful consideration of both sides of the question points to sedimentary origin as being the more probable.

Summary of Problem

PHYSIOGRAPHY

The general area is characterized by considerable

irregularity of surface and has been reduced to slope,

only the floors of the largest valleys approaching level-

ness. The summits of the hills often show a gradient of

5° to 20°. However, on middle slopes the rise is 6° to 24°

with a tendency toward the steeper slope. On lower slopes

the gradient becomes still steeper and ranges from 20° to

40°. The slope of valley floors is less than 1°. (See pro-

file of cross-section opposite page 25, Plate 11). However,

the relief is not great, averaging only about 600 feet. The

elevations above sea level range from 500 feet northeast of

Round Mountain in the valley of Whetstone Brook to 2060 feet

at the crest of a hill one mile northeast of West Harbors.

Many of the hills are more than 1,500 feet above sea level

and a few exceed 2,000 feet, but there is no marked accord-

ance of summit levels.

The extreme upper parts of the hills appear to represent

the remnant of an old topography rising above a plain of e-

rosion which has been uplifted at least twice. Prof. G. D.

Hubbard (1) has recognized two penneplanations in the vicinity

(1) Hubbard, G. D. - Geology of a Small Tract in South

Central Vermont - 1923-1924 Report of the Vermont

State Geologist - pp. 326-330.

(1) Hubbard, G. D. - Op. Cit. - p. 350.

two ages of drift in the Readboro region. ages of drift are not found. In 1924 Prof. Hubbard (1) observed Although this presents evidence for two periods of glaciation, two the directions being N.19° E. at N-14 and b-6 and N.32° E. at T-25. drift. Two sets of glacial strias are present at two locations, areas being unevenly covered with a heterogeneous mass of glacial The effects of glaciation are widespread, a large part of the surface. the glacial drift but has done little in dissecting the older mature the upland surface. A younger post-glacial cycle has been eroding present topography were developed, produced the mature outlines of an older pre-glacial cycle, in which the major features of the The entire region shows the effects of two cycles of erosion; drift unevenly deposited in pre-glacial valleys. and one small lake in the region; they are the result of glacial V-shaped end, therefore, are youthful. There are two large lakes and essentially follow pre-glacial drainage. These valleys are streams are superimposed on broad mature pre-glacial valleys Connecticut River drainage system. The valleys of the present but in a general easterly direction, forming a part of the form and the streams flow eastward, northward and southward, many with those of our area. The drainage is dendritic in of Readboro and Wilmington. These observations are in har-

The corrosional effects of glaciation are most apparent on the bare ledges, both in the valleys and on the hills. Many of the outcrops are distinctly rounded and show a polished surface. In many cases huge boulders of country rock are found, which had been plucked from outcropping ledges on the sides of hills.

Ground moraine with an irregularly undulated surface is the most common glacial form in the region. Lateral moraines of well-defined continuity may be seen near the middle parts of ridges with a north-south trend. Kames are relatively uncommon, only one being found (V-18); it is a small mound of assorted clays, sands, and gravels, the beds dipping down around the margin. Outwash plains with stratified gravels and sands are found at several places in the region (H-7-8, H-19, and M-15). The beds dip at varying angles toward the south, showing that the source of the materials was north of the outwash plain.

The Augur Hole is a broad U-shaped valley extending northward from Central Mountain and presents unique evidence of a valley glacier. Six terminal moraines within a distance of less than two miles may be counted in the most southerly part of the valley. They loop concavely toward the south across the valley. On both sides of the valley at an

altitude of 1060 feet are distinct and continuous terraces
 which contain unsorted drift; these features suggest lat-
 eral moraines. Covering most of the floor of the valley are
 stratified sands and clays with a horizontal attitude. It
 appears that a lake occupied the part of the valley in front
 of the glacier and sorted the sediments of the receding ice.
 The valley immediately west of the Augur Hole is notably
 different in appearance. It is characterized by many alluvial
 fans in contrast to the Augur Hole. Moreover, this valley is
 more V-shaped than the Augur Hole, showing that it was not
 occupied by a valley glacier. The evidence found in both valleys
 indicates that while the Augur Hole contained the valley glacier
 the other valley was relatively free of ice; this resulted in ter-
 minal and lateral moraines being deposited in the Augur Hole and
 alluvial fans in the valley to the west.

The lithology and structure of the formations have exerted
 a pronounced control over erosion. This is decidedly noticeable
 in the horrible member of the Ames Hill Schist. This member
 outcrops with a general northeast-southwest trend and because
 it is very resistant to erosion forms a strike ridge, which is
 represented by a series of hills, Hill 1284, Round Mountain,
 Glines Hill, and Governors Mountain, the original continuous
 ridge having been divided into four separate hills by erosion.

These hills are "hogbacks", with the hornblende members dipping steeply toward the west. Other strike ridges are found (T-24) where the resistant hornblende strata of the Barrows Schist stand out above the surrounding topography. On the other hand, the siliceous strata of this formation tend to form depressions. In the other formations erosion has been differential, the hills being formed where the schists were most resistant.

DESCRIPTIVE GEOLOGY

Metamorphic Rocks of Sedimentary Origin

Cambrrian (?)

Borrow Schist. - The oldest formation in the area is the

Borrow Schist and extends westward beyond the limits of the

area studied. Within the area there is a thickness of at least

3000 feet.

This formation outcrops east and southeast of Hogback

Mountain in the area around West Marlboro and southwards to the

edge of the township (N. 37). The contact to the east with the

Central Mountain Schist is quite irregular except just north of

West Marlboro where the contact swings west before continuing

its general northerly course. This may be explained by a change

in dip to the north within the Borrow Schist; this structure

probably influenced the original dissection of the region, erod-

ing away the less resistant overlying Central Mountain formation

rather than eroding the more resistant Borrow. The contact of

the two formations before erosion had taken place between hills

2060, 1936, and 1943, was more to the west. The contact, being

gradational, is difficult to determine.

This formation is not consistent in composition or texture.

The typical Borrow is a black, fine grained hornblende schist

with hornblende, quartz, black mica, and pyrite; the hornblende

makes up a large percentage of the rock. There is a banded

arrangement of the minerals giving the rock a gneissic appear-

of about sixteen feet. These phases vary in width from six to thirty feet, with an average
 Between the hornblende and sillaceous strata are transition zones.
 depressions between the ridges of the hornblende outcrops (4'-26').
 ing it erodes more quickly than the hornblende phase and forms the
 pyrite becomes oxidized. Because of its less resistance to weather-
 ing a light brown color in the weathered surface as the contained
 phase was more resistant to deformation. It weathers easily, hav-
 sillaceous and most hornblende layers, evidently the sillaceous
 folding, particularly in more massive horizons, than do the most
 an equal amount of metamorphism, this phase shows much more minor
 is occasionally found. Although the formation as a whole received
 gives it a definite schistosity, jointing, although not common,
 is medium to almost fine grained. The greater amount of mica
 coarse grained, although there are instances where the texture
 there is pyrite and sometimes garnet. Ordinarily this phase is
 usually present making up a small percentage of the rock; often
 and carry more mica of the black and green type. Hornblende is
 These phases are much more sillaceous than the typical hornblende
 schistose layers which vary considerably in mineral content.
 interbedded with the typical hornblende layers are more
 It is very hard and resistant to weathering.
 ture is coarse and jointing is often developed to a great extent.
 coarse with larger crystals of hornblende and quartz. Tex-
 more sillaceous strata. Occasionally the texture is rather
 Garnets are to be found occasionally near the contact with
 ones, the quartz and hornblende being segregated in layers.

whereas the smaller stringers and lenses, which have the same schist differs considerably from the strike of the stringer, be of an igneous origin, since the strike of schistosity of the to a maximum of four feet. The larger ones are massive and may and biotite. These stringers vary from half an inch in width essentially of hornblende and quartz and occasionally of pyrite out the mass. Throughout the formation are lenses or stringers magnetite. Quartz is both in layers and intercalated through- chlorite, black brittle mica, sericite, and occasional pyrite and siliceous green mica schist with garnets, hornblende, chlorite-

The typical Central Mountain Schist is a medium grained

becoming very micaceous.

completed through four hundred feet, first quite siliceous and the Central Mountain to the Marlboro Schist. This gradation is horizon. A gradation of greater extent marks the passing from Central Mountain Schist takes place through a coarse siliceous

The gradation from the Barrows Schist into the overlying feet to the formation.

average dip to the east of 45° would give a thickness of 7000 a mile. An average width across the strike of two miles with an with a maximum width of about three miles and a minimum width of

The formation outcrops in a northeast-southwest direction tion outcrops.

main topographical feature within the area in which the forma- has been applied to this schist because Central Mountain is the

Central Mountain Schist.—The name "Central Mountain"

strike as the schistosity and show bedding, may represent changes
 in the original sedimentation. Many of these stringers and lenses
 grade into the surrounding rock in a way that suggests sedimentary
 origin.

In the direction of the strike any horizon remains quite con-
 stant while across the strike there is often considerable change
 within a relatively short distance. Such changes are occasionally
 abrupt but are most often gradational. Some beds are micaceous,
 others are very siliceous, and still others have a predominance of
 hornblende. The hornblende and quartz layers offer more resistance
 to the agents of erosion while the normal and very micaceous phases
 are easily eroded. On the weathered surface the hornblende and
 quartz horizons stand out as much as a quarter of an inch above the
 adjacent layers. Kettle-erosion is common on the weathered surface
 of outcrops in which there is a small percentage of pyrite. Al-
 though garnets are more abundant in the western part of the forma-
 tion, they are usually to be found as a result of contact meta-
 morphism at the contacts of the quartz and pegmatite dikes. These
 dikes are common throughout the formation. Wherever garnets occur
 the schistosity is always found to bend around them.

Schistosity is well developed except in very siliceous phases.
 Several locations show severe crumpling, Hill 1906 (S. 4-16-17) in
 particular. At this location the attitude of the beds varies great-
 ly within a short distance; strikes range from N. 45 E. to N. 55 W.
 with the beds dipping in every quadrant of the compass. Such dis-
 tortion is due to the presence of a ferro-magnesian mass of igneous

The gray-blue siliceous schist of the north contains a large percentage of quartz. Mines present are chlorite, some biotite, pyrite, and epidote are frequently present, except where the percentage of quartz is high. This phase is typically massive and is rarely jointed. Indications of this siliceous phase are found about

ing in all three of the other phases. The Marlboro schist is the most variable formation in the region varying greatly within a short distance. In general there are four distinct phases in the formation, a gray siliceous schist in the extreme north, a green micaceous schist in the central part, a chlorite schist in the extreme south and hornblende layers occur-

The Marlboro Schist is the most variable formation in the separated the two in all places where the contact was found. adjoining Ames Hill Schist to the east, a sharp line of demarcation mass of approximately 8000 feet. Instead of a gradation into the width of outcrop of two and a quarter miles, would give a thick- strike is N.40°E. with a 60° dip to the southeast which, with a eral places where they meet at angles as high as 45°. The average ion of bedding is parallel to the schistosity, but there are sev- Marlboro Schist. - In the formation as a whole the direct-

A jointing system is usually absent. medium, it is sometimes very coarse and rarely fine grained. fully later. While the texture of the formation is ordinarily underlie a part of it. This intrusion will be discussed more origin which is located on the western side of the hill and may

has a fine to coarse grained porphyroblastic structure with a matrix

The last phase is characteristic of the entire formation. It

from South Pond to the southern edge of the area.

surface is usually a brownish green. This type of schist occurs

phyllitic. It is not massive and has few joints. The weathered

garnet and magnetite. It is fine textured and is quite often

with quartz, pyrite, hornblende, and occasionally biotite, graphite,

The chlorite schist in the south appears to contain chlorite

when contact it becomes very siliceous and massive.

phase as in the siliceous phase to the north. Towards the west-

a sulphate of iron ore to be seen. Jointing is as rare in this

of efflorescence due to the oxidation of the pyrite resulting in

weathers to a dark brown and where pyrite is present, white lines

poor and the rock is more resistant to weathering. This schist

more abundant schistosity is not as well developed. Cleavage is

with good cleavage, and weathers easily, while where quartz is

is given its name. In micaceous horizons it is very schistose

outcropping around the town of Marlboro from which the formation

this phase, the description of it being applicable to the part

If any part of the formation could be called typical, it would be

of sericite, pyrite, hornblende, garnet, and locally graphite.

schist contains biotite, chlorite, quartz, and accessory amounts

In the central part of the formation the green micaceous

the Central Mountain where it becomes much more micaceous.

is consistently very siliceous except toward the contact with

two and a half miles northeast of Marlboro. In the north it

(1) Richardson, O.H. - The Geology and Petrography of Reading, Cavendish, Baltimore, and Chester, Vermont 1937-1938 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - pp. 229-232.

Memphremagog Group, which Richardson (1) determines to be un-

This formation is correlated with the lower member of the

studied and is treated as belonging to the Ordovician Period.

The Ames Hill schist is the youngest formation in the area

Ordovician (?)

massive and usually has well developed jointing.

ed in strike with the bedding of the schist. The structure is

where the bedding of the enclosing rock was apparent, correspond-

noted, but such gradations are lacking as a rule. These lenses,

tion from the normal schist to the porphyroblastic lenses has been

from five feet to two hundred feet. In some cases a slight grada-

They range in width from half an inch to fifty feet and in length

schist; the schistosity nearly always bends around these lenses.

as lenses, varying greatly in size, throughout the surrounding

crystals has no schistosity. This porphyroblastic phase occurs

slight extent, while the black variety with no alignment of

rocks containing the green hornblende show schistosity to a

types of hornblende are distinguished - black and green; the

rock, they are seldom arranged in any well defined order. Two

so numerous that in some cases they make up 75% to 80% of the

an horizon where blasts are abundant. Although the blasts are

however, a gradation takes place from the blastless variety into

quartz and epidote. Occasionally there is an absence of blasts;

with coarse porphyroblasts of an acid feldspar, saussurite,

dominantly of hornblende with quartz, epidote, and pyrite and

The typical Ames Hill Schist is garnetiferous, with biotite, quartz, pyrite, sericite, and disseminated graphite. The garnets vary from 1/16 to 1/4 of an inch in diameter. It has a lead-blue color and on fresh planes of schistosity it has a silvery luster. Schistosity is well developed and bands around the garnets, which are aligned in parallel planes. Ordinarily the schist has a slaty cleavage and is finely plicated and folded. The formation

then 12,000 feet. steep dips, the thickness of the formation is without doubt more of beds, and considering a width of outcrop of three miles with evidence of any major disturbance which may have caused a repetition dip is from 45° to the southwest to vertical. Since there is no dip is vertical; and, throughout the eastern part of the area the east; within a mile from the contact with the Marlboro Schist the In the extreme western portion the schist dips steeply to the south- from N. 36° W. to N. 74° E. with a tendency toward a northeast strike. determined from present data. The strike of the formation varies area under consideration, the entire width cannot be definitely Because the Ames Hill Schist extends east of and beyond the tion outcrops.

From the hill upon whose east side the type section of the forma-
Ames Hill Schist. -- The Ames Hill Schist receives its name reasonable to place them in the Upper Cambrian Period. then the Ames Hill Schist grade into one another, it appears questionably of Ordovician age. Since all the formations older

only a lens within the Ames Hill Schist; therefore, the Whetstone
them separate formations, and because the Round Mountain Schist is
the Ames Hill Schist and the Whetstone Schist to warrant calling
Ames Hill Schist, because there is not enough distinction between
Round Mountain Schist should all be included under the name of the
the writer that the Ames Hill Schist, the Whetstone Schist, and the
the lens of the Round Mountain Schist. But, it is the opinion of
rock directly east of the typical Ames Hill and west and east of
The name of Whetstone Schist has been applied to the type of
strike of the formation.

length appear to be continuous for several hundred feet with the
These layers vary in thickness from six inches to six feet, and in
ward, leaving very porous residual material surrounding the core.
to a core which seems to be impervious to waters percolating down-
while the weathered surface is reddish brown. It weathers inwardly
of iron carbonate. The unweathered surface is slate gray in color
even, medium grained quartz cemented by calcite and a small amount
interbedded with the typical schist are numerous lenses of
showing pinch and swell structure.

occasional quartz stringers, lenticular in shape, and sometimes
cases there is an absence of quartz. Parallel to schistosity are
phases in which there is a total absence of garnets, but in these
where garnets and pyrite weather out. Occasionally there are
to a reddish-brown color with white streaks of an iron sulphate
is soft rather than resistant and weathers easily but uniformly

unconsolidated, stratified, and therefore, have been water-laid, but which are these deposits consist of clays, sands, and gravels, which are streams, and at the foot of gullies on the sides of slopes; found on the small flood plains, on the beds of the present which have formed since the retreat of the glacier. They are unconformably upon the glacial drift are alluvial deposits

Recent

where the drift has filled pre-glacial valleys. nothing, where the bedrock is bare, to one hundred feet or more, falls by water from the receding glacier. The thickness varies from sands, although sometimes there has been a sorting of the material, heterogeneous mass of boulders of all sizes, gravels, clays and more compact and consolidated. This drift is composed of a layer since the glacier withdrew, the drift has tended to become drift, which has been unconformably deposited upon the surface. Covering the greater part of the area is a mantle of glacial

Pleistocene

Sedimentary Rocks

of this location. Mountain phase disappears at 1-14-15 and does not reappear north continuous across the valley was not determined. The Round of which are arranged in thin layers. Whether these lenses are quartzose, but also have chlorite, hornblende, and biotite, all light gray lenses six or seven inches wide which are highly

BASIC IGNEOUS ROCKS

Upper Cambrian (?)

Basic igneous activity probably took place at the close

of the Cambrian period contemporaneous with the Green Mountain

Disturbance for neither in the Marlboro area nor in the regions

to the north (1) do such types of igneous rock occur in any

formations younger than the Cambrian. In Massachusetts (2) are

similar rocks which occur only in the equivalents of the Cam-

brian formations.

So far as known, there is only one mass of a basic igneous

rock in the area, which is located at S. 17 within the Central

Mountain Schist. A central core of coarsely crystalline, dark

green hornblende with small amounts of actinolite, pyrrhotite,

quartz, and secondary sericite stands prominently above the flood

plain of a nearby stream. Around the core is a layer of crystalline

serpentine, which has altered from hornblende. On one side of the

core in the stream bed is found fibrous serpentine, talc, and ank-

erite. The entire outcrop is coarse grained and hornblende in

the center with a gradual transition to the serpentine on the outer

rim. The present constituents are the result of metamorphism and

hydrothermal alteration of the original mass. The outcrop has an

oval form about 40 feet in diameter. It may extend under Hill 1906,

which shows severe crumpling.

- (1) Perry, E. L., - Geology of Bridgewater and Plymouth - 1927-1928 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - pp. 41-42.
- (2) Emerson, B. K., - Geology of Massachusetts and Rhode Island - U. S. G. S. Bulletin 597 - pp. 156-157.

considered later.

with the enclosing schists; the products of mineralization will be
 have caused the formation of secondary minerals along the contacts
 action were observed in the area. Both types of acid igneous rocks
 matite dikes into quartz veins; however, no instances of such a grad-
 in length. It is known that gradations do take place from the peg-
 six inches to three feet in width and from four feet to thirty feet
 composed of albite, orthoclase, and quartz, and vary in size from
 ocity in the same way as the quartz veins. The pegmatite veins are
 phism. The pegmatites are found to follow and to cross the schist-
 undergone exhumation, having been involved in the regional metamor-
 width and seventy-five feet in length. In many cases the quartz has
 ocity. They vary in size from minute veinlets up to six feet in
 is massive they are as likely to cut across as to follow the schist-
 the planes of schistosity of the country rock, but where the schist
 in all the formations. The quartz dikes are usually intruded in
 region - quartz dikes and pegmatite dikes, both of which are found
 Of the acid igneous rocks, two distinct kinds occur in the
 intrusion.

Revolution and the metamorphosed ones with an earlier period of
 able to associate the unmetamorphosed dikes with the Appalachian
 formations and are, therefore, of two ages. It seems reason-
 and unmetamorphosed dikes occur in the Cambrian and Ordovician
 beds of intrusion, is difficult to determine. Metamorphosed
 The age of the acid dikes, which appear to be of two per-

ACID IGNEOUS ROCKS

COMPARISON OF THE FORMATIONS

Correlation of the section in the Marlboro area with those of other nearby regions is made on the basis of lithology, unconformities, and stratigraphic succession. The use of fossils is impossible since none were recognized in any of the formations.

The accompanying correlation map (Plate 9) shows a basis for correlating Emerson's formations in Massachusetts with those in

the Marlboro region. Since Emerson's work in Massachusetts came within six miles of the area under consideration, it is believed that exact interpolation can be made of the contacts between the two regions by projecting the known contacts of the formations

along their general strikes.

Interpolation of the contacts between the area of Ferry's

study to the north and those of the Marlboro region is more

difficult, since there is a distance of forty-six miles between

the two locations. The mapped areas are drawn to scale, and,

while the unmapped portions are exaggerated north and south, the

general trend of the formations may be traced.

Since Ferry has correlated his formations of Bridgewater

and Plymouth Townships with those of Richardson (1) and since

the areas studied by the latter lie northeast and northwest of

the Marlboro area, only the region studied by Ferry is mapped

for northern correlation.

(1) Richardson has studied in Reading, Cavendish, Baltimore, Chester, Bethel, Barnard, Pomfret, Woodstock, Springfield, Gratton, and Rockingham Townships.

The correlation table (Plate 10) shows the comparative

descriptions which characterize the formations and offer

further reasons for the correlation of similar formations.

The names of the formations as determined in the New-

boro region are used instead of the formation names of Inner-

son, Richardson or Perry, because no type section has been

established in Vermont.

Note - Data for the correlation of the formations are taken from the following sources:

1. Emerson, B. K., - Geology of Massachusetts and Rhode Island - U.S.G.S. Bulletin 597 - pp. 43-47; Geological Map.
2. Hubbard, G. D., - Geology of a small tract in South Central Vermont - 1923-1924 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - pp. 288-289.
3. Perry, E. L., - Geology of Bridgewater and Plymouth - 1927-1928 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - pp. 29-30; 32-36.
4. Richardson, C. W., - The Terranes of Bethel, Vermont - 1923-1924 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - pp. 82-83.
- Geology and Petrology of Bernard, Ferris and Woodstock - 1925-1926 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - p. 157; 150-151.
- Geology and Petrology of Reading, Cavendish, Baltimore, and Chester, Vt. - 1927-1928 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - pp. 221-222; 224-225; 227-229.

STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY

From the accompanying structure map and cross-section

(Plates II and 12), it may be seen that the dips in the west-

ern and central portion of the area are essentially toward the

east. Since Pumpelly (1) ascribes antiform structure to the

Green Mountains, the structure of the Marlboro region is prob-

ably a part of the eastern flank of this antiform. Because of

the consistency of dip, it is certain that the formations of the

central and west portions of the Marlboro area have a homoclinal

structure dipping to the east. Superimposed upon the major struc-

ture of the area are small wrinkles. Such folds do not extend

throughout the length of the formation but are local and may dis-

appear within a short distance. At 9'-36 is a small antiform

with a northeast-southwest trend having moderate dips. At 1'-53

is a small over-turned antiform, which shows older layers over-

lying younger beds.

In the eastern part of the region where the Ames Hill Schist

outcrops, the dips are for the most part to the west, except for

a strip of about a mile wide immediately east of the contact with

the Marlboro Schist, where the beds dip steeply toward the east,

become progressively steeper, and eventually become vertical.

The interpretation of such attitudes of the beds is a fan-anti-

clinal fold with its axis about a mile east of the Ames Hill -

(1) Pumpelly, Raphael; Wolff, J.E.; Dale, F.N. -

Geology of the Green Mountains in Massachusetts -

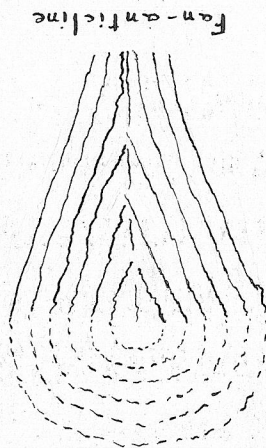
U.S.G.S. Monograph 23 - pp. 5-9.

(1) Richardson, C.H., - The Areal and Structural Geology of Springfield, Vermont - 1929-1930 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - p. 204

These plications are usually of small magnitude and occur in very In all the formations are horizons which are very plicated.

on the top of the hill are complex contortions. resulting in a series of small synclines and anticlines. Even ing from N.40° W. to N.24° E. with dips to both east and west hill. Across the southern flank of the hill are strikes vary- ty which intruded the ferro-magnesian mass at the foot of the severely contorted, due probably to a period of igneous activ- In the region of Hill 1906 (S-16) the beds have been

and synclines. Township to the north as a series of closely folded anticlines ion of the structure of the same formation in Springfield Hill Schist is substantiated by Richardson's (1) interpretation of the fan-anticlinal fold of the Ames



as shown in the accompanying illustration. Marlboro contact. The fold has been squeezed at the bottom

schistose and massive structures. They are so common in the schistose structures that no mention will be made of locations. They occur in the massive hornblende schists at 4'-29 and 1-17. In the area as a whole the strikes of the beds are generally northeast-southwest with local variations. The average strike is N. 25°-30° E. In the extreme eastern part of the area, beds with a northwest strike change abruptly to a northeast strike. Locally, the strikes of beds change from 5° to 40° as they swing around old dikes.

There is known to be only one major fault in the area (G-29), where a block of the Round Mountain member lies within the whatstone member of the Ames Hill schist. One side of the mass is characterized by a zone of brecciation, in which is a series of minor faults which terminate small folds and plications of the hornblende schist. This mass is only five feet wide and about two hundred yards long. Since the main mass of the hornblende schist outcrops on the top of the hill and since the displaced block apparently slipped down, the fault is classified as a normal fault.

A number of displacements of only a few inches occur in nearly all the formations. At F-16, an outcrop of the Central Mountain schist shows two displacements of four inches and two inches respectively and a slight drag in the beds adjacent to the displacements. At G-14, a quartz stringer has been displaced several inches.

Review of Literature

Very little literature has been published on the mineralization of acid dikes in Vermont. In 1922 Harvill G. Bray and Alden H. Emery (1) wrote a paper entitled, "Mineralization Along the Dikes of Southern Vermont." The center of their field of activity was in Wilmington located nine miles west of the center of the area under consideration. This is the only published article bearing directly on the mineralization of dikes in this region. It, therefore, serves as a valuable means of comparing the products of mineralization in Wilmington with those in Marlboro Township.

G. O. Smith (2) has written a report on the quartz veins in Maine and Vermont, which discusses chiefly the economic values of these veins, but not their mineralogical occurrence.

Materials and Methods

While the area was being studied, data on the occurrence and specimens of the acid dikes were collected. A megascopic study was first made to ascertain which specimens should be used in gathering data for the problem. Fifty thin-sections were made of the selected specimens for microscopic study. In the laboratory, a petrographic study was made of the thin-sections to determine the minerals of the dikes, their paragenesis, and the alteration of the intruded rocks along

(1) Bray, H.G., and Emery, A.H., "Mineralization Along the Dikes of Southern Vermont - The Ohio Journal of Science, Vol. 23, No. 2, March 1923, pp. 83-86.
 (2) Smith, G.O., "Quartz Veins in Maine and Vermont - U.S.G.S. Bulletin 223 - pp. 86-88.

the contacts of the dikes.

Account of Investigation

The acid intrusions are coarse crystalline rocks, in

which quartz and feldspar are the essential minerals. They

vary in relative percentages of quartz and feldspar from

veins of entirely quartz to pegmatite veins in which the amount

of quartz is small.

A specific account of the petrographic study of the slides

presenting both typical and unusual features is necessary to

show the relation of the minerals to the intrusions and to the

country rock.

Pegmatite dike in the Barrows Schist. - A specimen from

the edge of a pegmatite dike includes the contact with the

Barrows Schist (r'-15) and mineralization products (1) and re-

crystallized minerals (2). Introduced minerals are muscovite,

albite, orthoclase, and quartz. Small inclusions of muscovite

are found within crystals of quartz and feldspar, and crystals

of orthoclase occur within quartz. This is evidence that the

order of crystallization was muscovite - feldspar - quartz.

Only a portion of the quartz has euhedral form, most of it

occupying the spaces between the crystals of feldspar. A large

(1) By mineralization is meant the development of minerals

in and adjacent to an acidic intrusion due to accompanying

gases or mineralizers.

(2) These minerals which are essential or accessory to the

enclosing schist and which are the result of pressure and

hydrothermal activity are referred to as recrystallized

minerals.

are believed to be near the outcropping intrusion. The hand specimen
a pegmatite intrusion, occurring within the Ames Hill Schist (1-15),
Pegmatite intrusion in the Ames Hill Schist. - Loose rocks of

muscovite occur in an indefinite arrangement throughout the slide.
that the magnetite was the first to crystallize. Small flakes of
of the magnetite inclusions to the feldspar and quartz is evidence
ings which sometimes curve and cross each other. The relation
quartz. These inclusions are generally arranged in linear groups.
Small inclusions of magnetite characterize the orthoclase and the
between the feldspar; all of the quartz shows strain extinction.
mm., occurs in idiomorphic crystals, and fills the interstices
diameters vary from 0.2 mm. to 3.5 mm. quartz, 0.5 mm. to 4.0
lized minerals. The feldspar crystals are orthoclase whose
large flakes of black and green mica in the zone of recrystal-
Schist (1-22) contains crystals of feldspar and quartz, and
of the contact of a pegmatite dike with the Central Mountain
Pegmatite dike in the Central Mountain Schist. - A sample

thermally altered the country rock.
being due to the heat and gases of the intrusion which hydro-
dominant mineral of the enclosing schist, recrystallization
The hornblende is known to be recrystallized since it is a
the wall of the intrusion into the zone of mineralization.
Large crystals of hornblende project irregularly from
sericite.

part of the feldspar has been hydrothermally altered to

are feldspar and quartz which occur in large crystals. A feldspar fact with the country rock. The essential minerals of the dike pegmatite dike in the Marlboro Schist (T-17) contains a thin con-

Pegmatite dike in the Marlboro Schist.— The sample of a

quartz. In this instance the quartz shows normal extinction. In a network and is associated with even grained recrystallized recognized as being recrystallized. The hornblende is arranged Hornblende and quartz border on introduced minerals and are anomalous optical effects.

Fluorite strain to produce granulation, but great enough to give strain extinction, and shows that it has been subjected to insur- crystals of quartz and feldspar. This quartz is characterized by other, and occur within and between the contacts of large euhedral produced minerals. Rutile and magnetite are associated with each shows that orthoclase, quartz, rutile, and magnetite are the in- of the contact of a pegmatite dike and the Marlboro Schist (M-39) Pegmatite dike in the Marlboro Schist.— Microscopic study

is present due to the weathering of the magnetite. quartz, and therefore were recrystallized first. Some limonite magnetite occur as inclusions within the feldspar, mica, and interstices between the feldspar and muscovite. Small grains of Flakes of muscovite characterize the specimen. Quartz fills the and oligoclase vary from 3.0 mm. to 6.0 mm. in diameter. Large but is not included in the thin-section. The crystals of albite zone of country rock. Blue tourmaline is shown in the sample men consists chiefly of pegmatite minerals and a thin contact

crystal having a length of 2.6 cm. was found. The thin-section reveals the zoning of albite around an initial nucleus of orthoclase. All of the feldspar is in large crystals from 4.0 mm. to 6.0 mm. in diameter, and much of it has been sericitized. Quartz fills the interstices between the feldspar and shows undulatory extinction. Small flakes of muscovite are arranged irregularly in the quartz and feldspar.

Chlorite and kaolinite are the only recrystallized minerals and are associated with each other. They occur in a zone adjoining the pegmatite minerals and are the results of hydrothermal alteration and unknown minerals of the country rock.

At the same location (T-17), and within five feet of the sample just described, another specimen of the contact of the intrusion with the Marlboro Schist shows still other features. The introduced minerals are orthoclase, albite, quartz, magnetite, biotite, rutile, and topaz. The feldspars have been partially sericitized; the alteration probably immediately followed the intrusion of the dike. The crystals of feldspar vary from 0.2 mm. to 6.0 mm. in diameter. The spaces between the feldspar crystals are filled with quartz. The biotite is irregularly associated with quartz and feldspar. Magnetite, 0.005 mm. to 0.04 mm. in diameter, and rutile, 0.01 mm. to 0.05 mm. in diameter, are enclosed in crystals of biotite, feldspar and quartz.

Chlorite is the only recrystallized mineral because it occurs alone outside the zone of mineralization. In this case,

the chlorite is the result of hydrothermal activity, and the parent mineral is unknown, but was likely actinolite or some other monoclinic amphibole.

Pegmatite Intrusion in the Central Mountain Schist.— A

sample containing the contact of a pegmatite intrusion with the Central Mountain Schist (C-22) shows plates of ilmenite and large flakes of biotite cutting through large crystals of feldspar and quartz. The thin-section shows that the introduced minerals are quartz, orthoclase, microcline, biotite, and ilmenite. Ilmenite was the first mineral to crystallize, because some splinters occur within biotite and others are partially enclosed by feldspar. A part of the feldspar has been altered to sericite, and the quartz is characterized by anomalous extinction and by minute indeterminate inclusions whose index of refraction is lower than that of quartz.

The recrystallized minerals are biotite, chlorite, garnet, muscovite, and epidote. The chlorite is associated with and appears to be altered from recrystallized biotite. The chlorite is secondary because it retains the structure of the biotite. Pleochroic halos characterize the recrystallized biotite. The muscovite is found to be irregularly arranged in small flakes. Microscopic garnets and rounded grains of epidote are common within the area occupied by recrystallized minerals.

Acid vein in the Marlboro Schist. - A specimen of an acid

vein near the contact in the Marlboro Schist (P-5) contains

needles of black tourmaline which pierce quartz crystals.

Chlorite near the wall of the intrusion surrounds long tour-

maline crystals. Part of the tourmaline has been altered to

chlorite by hydrothermal solutions. The presence of the tour-

maline shows that pneumatolytic metamorphism of the country

rock took place along the wall of the intrusion. In this pro-

cess the united effects of heat and intrusive gases, including

water vapor and boron, combined with the country rock to form

tourmaline. Only small amounts of orthoclase and microcline are

present, and they are entirely enclosed by large euhedral crystals

of quartz. Occasional flakes of muscovite and biotite and small

irregular grains of magnetite are present throughout the quartz

and feldspar.

Pegmatite intrusion in the Marlboro Schist. - A sample from

the edge of a pegmatite intrusion in the Marlboro Schist (J-59)

shows inclusion of chlorite within the feldspar. Microscopic

crystals of tourmaline are enclosed in orthoclase crystals ranging

from 2.0 mm. to 4.0 mm. in diameter. The orthoclase has a peculiar

arrangement of minute inclusions. These inclusions are arranged

in linear groups which intersect almost at right angles, forming

parallelograms. Small flakes of biotite are included within the

orthoclase and were, therefore, introduced with the intrusion.

Parts of the edges of the biotite have altered to chlorite, still

From microscopic size to 0.66 cm. in diameter and are usually sur-
 appear to have a parallel arrangement. The pyrite crystals vary
 medium to coarse grained quartz and mica. The mica and pyrite
 Central Mountain Schist (C-22) contains large cubes of pyrite with
 of recrystallization just outside the zone of intrusion in the
Recrystallization in the Central Mountain Schist. - A sample

etc.

bring about such complete granulization and alignment of the miner-
 all metamorphism. Intense pressure must have been necessary to
 minerals, and this is evidence that the intrusion preceded region-
 the other minerals. There is a parallel arrangement of all these
 0.05 mm. to 0.10 mm. by 1.65 mm., often including small grains of
 throughout the slide. Muscovite is developed in large sheets,
 are common. Small grains of magnetite, epidote, and zoisite occur
 smaller. Fragments of actinolite, partially altered to chlorite,
 0.01 mm. to 0.07 mm. in diameter, the quartz grains being the
 tween the two. Quartz and orthoclase are crushed to granules
 actinolite on the other side, with an uneven line of contact be-
 dark minerals on one side and chlorite and radiating slivers of
 within the intrusion shows a banded arrangement of light and
 acid intrusion within the Marlboro Schist (T-14), taken from
Acid Intrusion in the Marlboro Schist. - A specimen of an

the tourmaline and the biotite.

between the minerals show that the feldspar crystallized after
 leaving the original structure of the biotite. The relations

chlorite, quartz, biotite, and muscovite. Chlorite is present as
of the andradite type. The matrix of the garnets is composed of
garnets. Tests for index of refraction show that these garnets are
netite occurs as cubes, pyritohedrons, and aggregates within the
along some fracture planes, and limonite stain along others. Mag-
shattered garnets, which have unstrained, recrystallized quartz
are occasionally cut by thin quartz veins. Microscopic study shows
are arranged in either straight or curved long strings which
garnets, 0.65 mm. in diameter, in a fine grained chloritic matrix,
contact of an intrusion, shows a peculiar arrangement of garnets.
probably, since the intrusive body was not present, close to the
boro schist. - A specimen from the Marlboro Schist (H-35),

Unusual development of garnets and magnetite in the Marl-

slide.

size is found as inclusions within the other minerals in the
the quartz has been recrystallized. Magnetite of microscopic
quartz which show no strain extinction. This is evidence that
and projecting into the leaves of mica are uniform grains of
existed in the schist before the intrusion occurred. Between
its immediate origin must be laid to the fact that it already
eral. Since chlorite is an accessory mineral of the schist,
throughout the slide and have no relation to any other min-
have a parallel alignment. Large masses of chlorite occur
covite and biotite are often irregularly interwined, they
rounded by rims of limonite. Although broad leaves of mis-

an essential mineral of the schist in which the intrusion occurred. The quartz of the matrix is in small uniform grains which show undulatory extinction. The biotite and muscovite are present in small flakes. The study of the thin-section yielded no clue as to the explanation of the remarkable appearance of the garnets.

At the same location (H-35), and within ten feet of the feet-ure just described, octahedrons of magnetite, 0.32 cm. along the c-axis, occur in a fine grained green matrix. Microscopic study reveals that the matrix consists of chlorite, garnet, quartz and biotite. The garnets are irregular in outline, shattered, and have limonite stains on the fracture planes. The quartz is even grained and contains small indeterminate inclusions whose index of refraction is less than that of quartz. Biotite occurs only in small flakes. Evidence to explain the occurrence of the magnetite is also lacking.

Quartz vein in the Ames Hill Schist. - A sample of a quartz vein and its contact with the Ames Hill Schist (1-25) contains This vein has without question been subject to pressure of a vectorial type. The presence of the eyanite proves that it was formed under stress conditions, because it is typically a stress mineral. The quartz of the vein is granulated and shows strain extinction. Since silice was the only introduced mineral, a portion of it must have combined with aluminum oxide in the country rock to form eyanite (SiO₂·Al₂O₃).

The recrystallized minerals are zircon, biotite, magnetite, muscovite, garnet, and quartz, all of which have a banded arrangement. Grains of zircon, 0.01 mm. to 0.03 mm. in diameter, occur within the leaves of biotite and are enclosed by pleochroic halos. There are perfect dodecahedral garnets varying in diameter from 0.15 mm. to 0.25 mm. The recrystallized quartz is characterized by normal extinction. Specks of magnetite have an irregular distribution throughout the biotite, muscovite, and quartz.

The results of this research are in general agreement with those reported by Bray and Emery (1). The same suite of minerals, with a few exceptions, is noted.

The essential minerals of the acid intrusions in the Marlboro region, were likewise found in the Wilmington area. The scarcity of muscovite and the relative abundance of other minerals is unique. The occurrence of both accessory and recrystallized minerals, such as tourmaline, hornblende, pyrite, ilmenite, magnetite, epidote, and hematite, is common to both reports. Pyrite is rare, and occurs only as a recrystallized mineral; it is absent within the acid dikes of Marlboro Township, while Bray and Emery report it as being common.

This study reveals the presence of rutile, zircon, topaz and garnet, which Bray and Emery do not report. Although these minerals are not important, they help to show that the products

Discussion of Results

The results of this research are in general agreement with those reported by Bray and Emery (1). The same suite of minerals, with a few exceptions, is noted.

The essential minerals of the acid intrusions in the Marlboro region, were likewise found in the Wilmington area. The scarcity of muscovite and the relative abundance of other minerals is unique. The occurrence of both accessory and recrystallized minerals, such as tourmaline, hornblende, pyrite, ilmenite, magnetite, epidote, and hematite, is common to both reports. Pyrite is rare, and occurs only as a recrystallized mineral; it is absent within the acid dikes of Marlboro Township, while Bray and Emery report it as being common.

This study reveals the presence of rutile, zircon, topaz and garnet, which Bray and Emery do not report. Although these minerals are not important, they help to show that the products

(2) Hager, A. D., - Report of the Geology of Vermont - Vol. 2, 1861 - Geological Map.

7. There are no minerals of economic importance.
6. Some intrusions have preceded and others have either accompanied or followed the latest regional metamorphism.
5. The products of recrystallization are chlorite, biotite, hornblende, penninite, magnetite, epidote, zoisite, garnet, zircon, muscovite, and pyrite. These products have depended largely upon the minerals composing the enclosing rock.
4. The volatile mineralizers contained in the intrusives, as deduced from the minerals subsequently formed were zirconium, boron, fluorine, titanium, water vapor, oxygen, and carbon dioxide.
3. The order of crystallization was basic minerals - muscovite - feldspars - quartz.
2. Accessory minerals of the intrusions are magnetite, ilmenite, muscovite, biotite, tourmaline, topaz, zircon, and rutile.
1. Essential minerals of the veins and dikes are orthoclase, microcline, albite, oligoclase, and quartz.

Conclusions

In 1861, A. D. Hager (2) reported the presence of gold in the alluvium of Marlboro Township. Since gold is known to occur commonly in quartz dikes, and since the usual origin of gold in alluvium is considered quartz dikes at an altitude higher than the stream valley, traces of it should be found, but no evidence of the presence of gold was revealed.

of mineralization in the two areas, although similar in several aspects, are not identical.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Origin of the Country Rocks

J. D. Trueman (1) has established certain criteria for

determining the sedimentary origin of metamorphic rocks. Re-

sults obtained from the application of these criteria to the

study of the formations show that they are sedimentary, except

the porphyroblastic phase of the Meriboro Schist.

These may be summarized as follows:

1. The original bedding planes are preserved.

2. There is a persistency of composition along the same bed.

3. Abrupt change in texture and composition occurs across

the beds.

4. Quartz constitutes 50% to 55% of the formations.

5. Graphite is evenly distributed in the Ames Hill and Meri-

boro Schists.

The origin of the porphyroblastic phase of the Meriboro Schist

is a difficult problem, because there is evidence for both igneous

and sedimentary origin. Arguments in favor of an igneous origin are

as follows:

1. The character of the outcrops is lenticular.

2. All outcrops show massive characteristics.

3. The strike of schistosity tends to cross the strike of the

lenses at an acute angle.

(1) Trueman, J. D., - The Value of Certain Criteria for the
Determination of the Origin of Related Crystalline Rocks -
Journal of Geology, Vol. 20, 1912 - pp. 236-244.

according to Ferry (1) "is typically a product of the metamorphism Mountain Schist, is, without doubt, of igneous origin. "Ankerite",

The talc and hornblende mass, which occurs in the Central

few blasts.

bands with many blasts alternate with fine grained bands with very
ation in the distribution of the blasts. At S-16, coarse grained

schist into the lenses. In any one lens there may be a wide vari-

changes in mineralogical composition takes place from the enclosing

lenses and the surrounding schists. On the contrary, a gradual

5. There is an absence of contact metamorphism between the

bedded with a green siliceous schist.

In the region of S-15 the porphyroblastic phase appears to be inter-

2. Bedding planes occur in the lenses at J-37, O-14, and S-25.

other formations.

of igneous origin, similar lenses should have been found in the

1. The lenses occur only in the Marlboro Schist. If they are

with those for igneous origin:

The following arguments for sedimentary origin appear to out-

occurs in the blasts.

7. Sausurite, usually derived from basic igneous foldings,

6. The jointing system is composed of rhomboidal blocks.

schistosity bands around the lenses.

5. The enclosing schist appears to be spread apart, so that

basic igneous rock in the schist.

4. The porphyroblastic outcrops suggest apophyses of a

of igneous rocks." Serpentine with the association of ankerite

is almost indisputable evidence of igneous origin.

Metamorphism

The schistose structures in the rocks of Marlboro Township

show that recrystallization and rock flowage have taken place.

The parallel relation of the strike and dip of schistosity to the

strike and dip of the bedding is evidence that folding and regional

metamorphism were contemporaneous. The only disturbance which could

have caused this deformation was the Appalachian Revolution which

is recognized as the major disturbance in New England. This is evi-

dence against the theory of Wigglesworth (1) who ascribes enough

deformation during the Taconic Disturbance to develop schistose

structures. If folding had occurred in the Ordovician Period, as

Wigglesworth infers, the strike of schistosity developed at the end

of the Permian would have had an angular relation to the strike of

the bedding. Only locally is the strike of schistosity different

from the strike of the bedding.

The Green Mountain, the Taconic, and the Acadian disturbances

certainly caused the New England rocks to be uplifted and, likely,

resulted in further consolidation of the arenaceous shales and

argillaceous sandstones.

The mass of the schists show that their basal cleavage is

oriented at right angles to the direction in which pressure must

have been applied, and the hornblende shows a tendency toward the

(1) Wigglesworth, Edward, - The Serpentine of Vermont -
1913-1916 Report of the Vermont State Geologist - p. 289.

parallelism of the longer crystallographic axes. The presence of granulated feldspar with recrystallized quartz indicates that great pressure must have been exerted. It has already been proved that no disturbance previous to the Appalachian Revolution could have resulted in more than mere uplift of the rocks. Therefore, the disturbance which resulted in the schistose structures of the formations of the Harlboro area was the Appalachian Revolution. The presence of garnets and unoriented biotite and hornblende shows that pressure was still great after rock flowage had ceased and led to a state of mass-static metamorphism, causing the adjustment of these minerals to the pressure. The occurrence of mica flakes in dodecahedral forms as pseudomorphs after garnet, notably at K-18, is evidence that garnets are unstable in the zone of katectomorphism and that retrogressive metamorphism is taking place. Garnet is typically a high pressure mineral and breaks down to minerals which are stable in the zone of katectomorphism.

Unfortunately, minerals of economic importance are very scarce in the entire region. Although the many quartz and pegmatite veins would lead one to expect silver and gold, these minerals are not found. The deposit of talc on the southwest side of Hill 1906 and the many pegmatite dikes, of which talc is a valuable mineral, are not large enough to be of economic importance. Glacial gravels and sands are exploited extensively for road and building materials. The soil is most important to the inhabitants of the region because it is suitable for agricultural pursuits. Since many of the slopes are heavily timbered, lumber is an important resource.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Bray, H.C., and Emery, A.H., - Mineralization Along the Dikes of Southern Vermont - The Ohio Journal of Science, Vol. 23, No. 2, March 1923.

2. Emerson, B.K., - Geology of Massachusetts and Rhode Island - U. S. G. S. Bulletin 597.

3. Hager, V.D., Report of the Geology of Vermont - Vol. 2, 1861.

4. Hubbard, G.D., - Geology of a Small Tract in South Central Vermont - 1923-1924 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.

5. Perry, E.L., - Geology of Bridgewater and Plymouth - 1927-1928 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.

6. Purpelli, Raphael; Wolff, J.H.; Dale, T.M., - Geology of the Green Mountains in Massachusetts - U.S.G.S. Monograph 23.

7. Richardson, C.H., - The Terranes of Bethel, Vt. - 1923-1924 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.

8. Richardson, C.H., - Geology and Petrology of Bernard, Pomfret, and Woodstock, Vt., - 1925-1926 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.

9. Richardson, C.H., - Geology and Petrography of Reading, Cavendish, Baltimore, and Chester, Vt. - 1927-1928 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.

10. Richardson, C.H., - The Areal and Structural Geology of Springfield, Vt., - 1929-1930 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.

11. Smith, G.O., - Quartz Veins in Maine and Vermont - U.S.G.S. Bulletin 225.

12. Trueman, J.D., - The Value of Certain Criteria for the Determination of the Origin of Foliated Crystalline Rocks - Journal of Geology, Vol. 20, 1912.

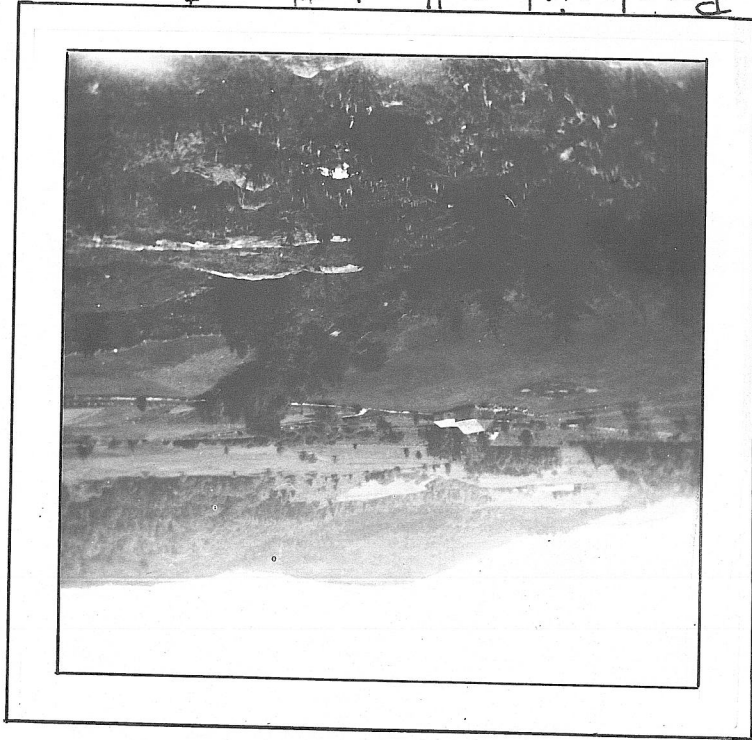
13. Wigglesworth, Edward, - The Serpentine of Vermont - 1915-1916 Report of the Vermont State Geologist.



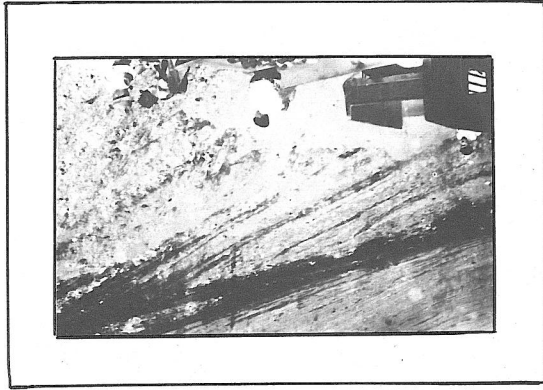
Large preglacial valley in the extreme eastern part of the region



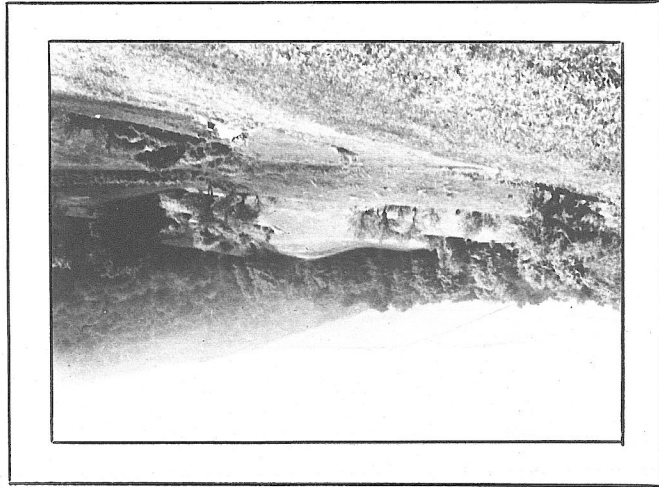
Preglacial valley in the extreme western part of the area



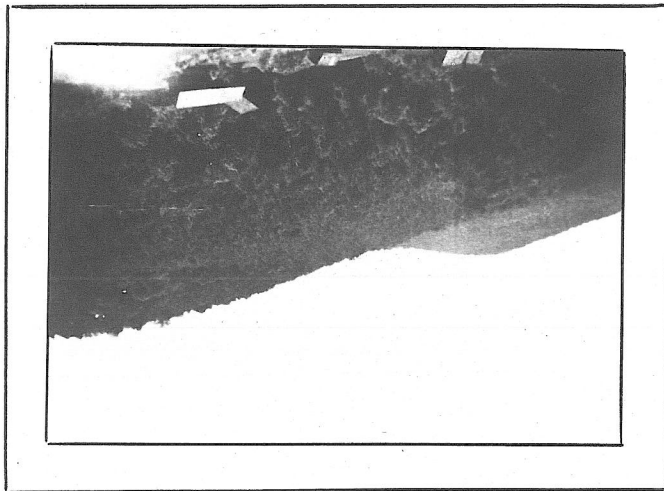
Cross section of glacial
outwash plain at h-19



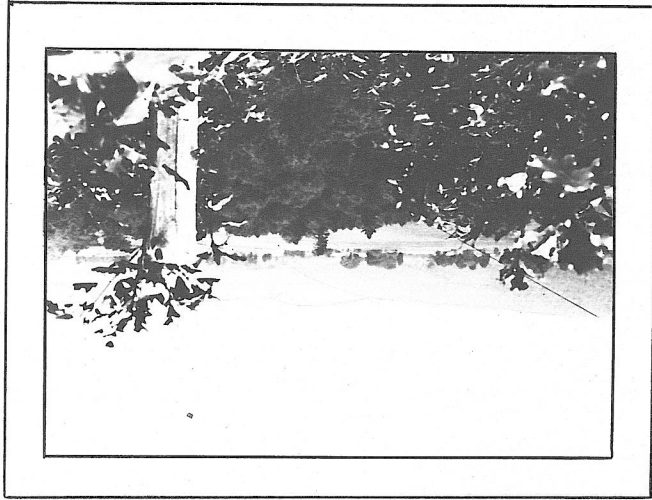
Typical moraine topography
in the Auger Hole



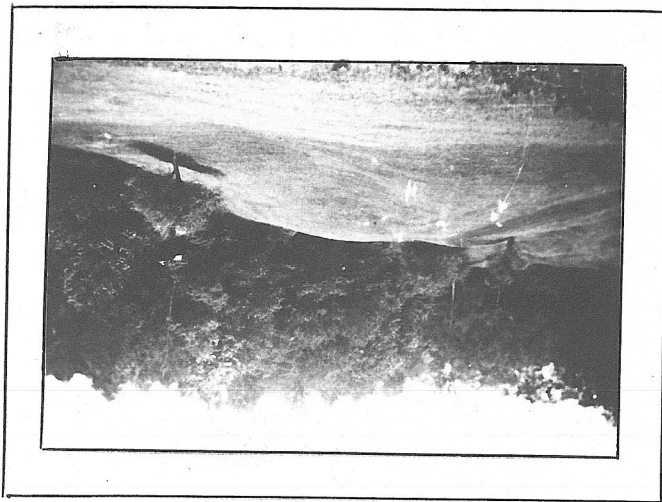
Middle slope on western
side of the Auger Hole



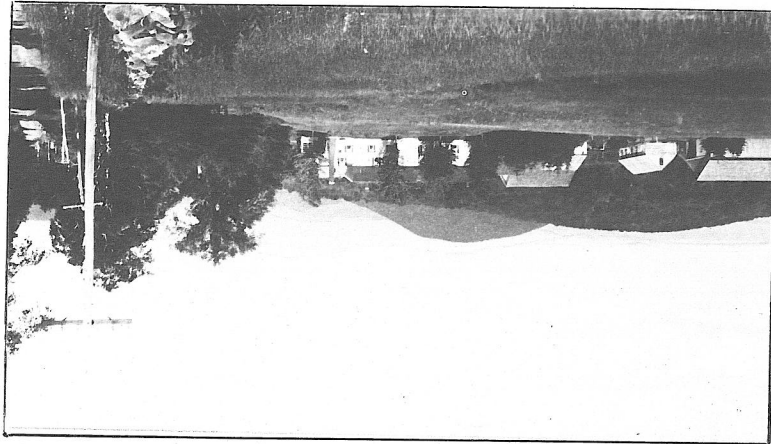
Preglacial valley in the
southern part of the area



Alluvial fan in the
Anger Hole



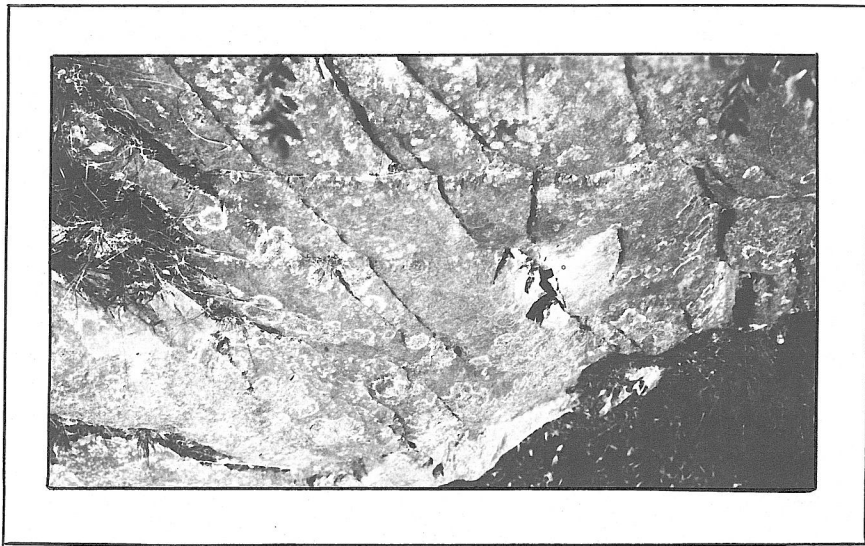
The second hill is Round Mountain showing the monadnock type of hill



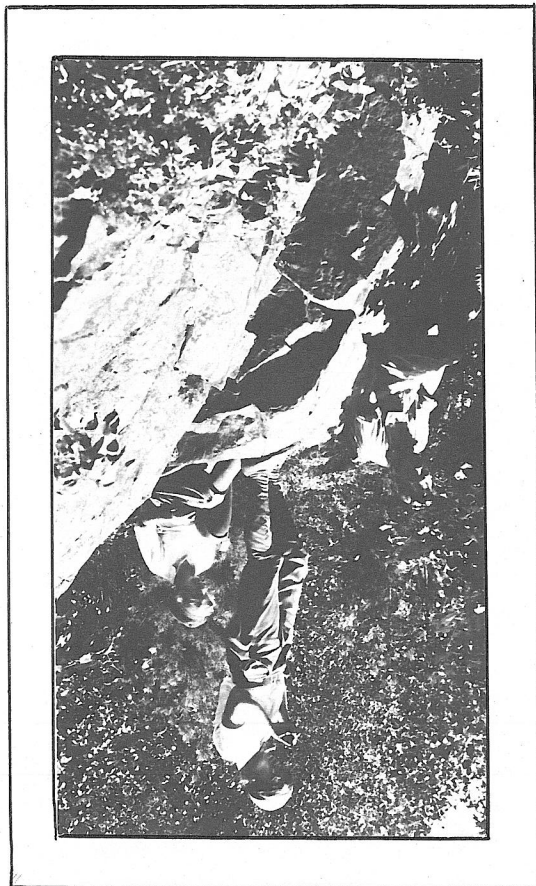
Hogback hills - Hill 1284 in the foreground, Round Mountains and Ginseng Hill in the background



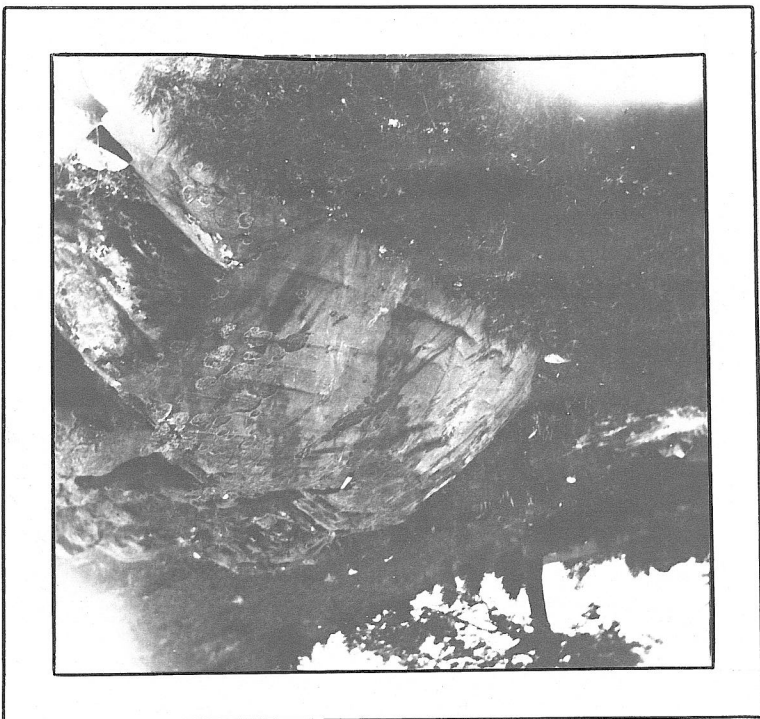
Typical outcrop of the porphyroblastic phase of the Marlboro Schist showing jointing



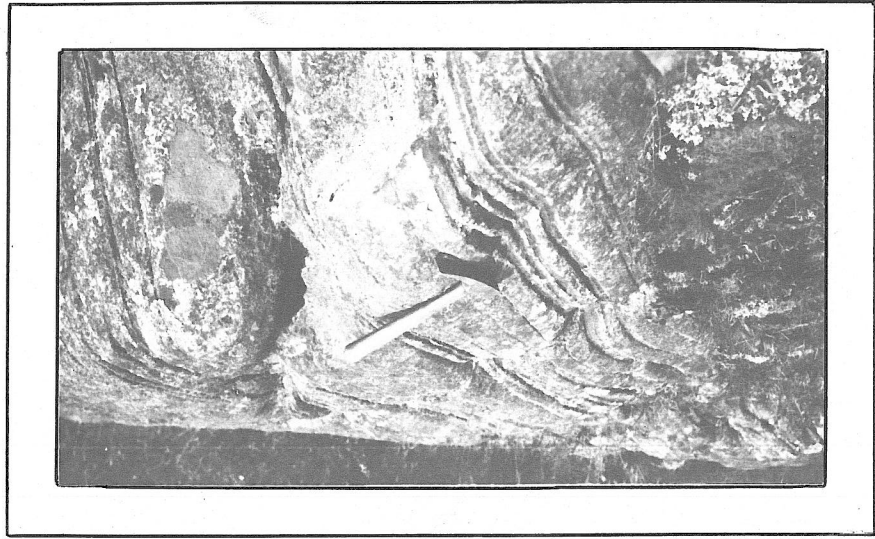
Massive siliceous Schist, typical of the northern part of the Marlboro formation



Central core of hornblende
igneous mass in western part
of the area



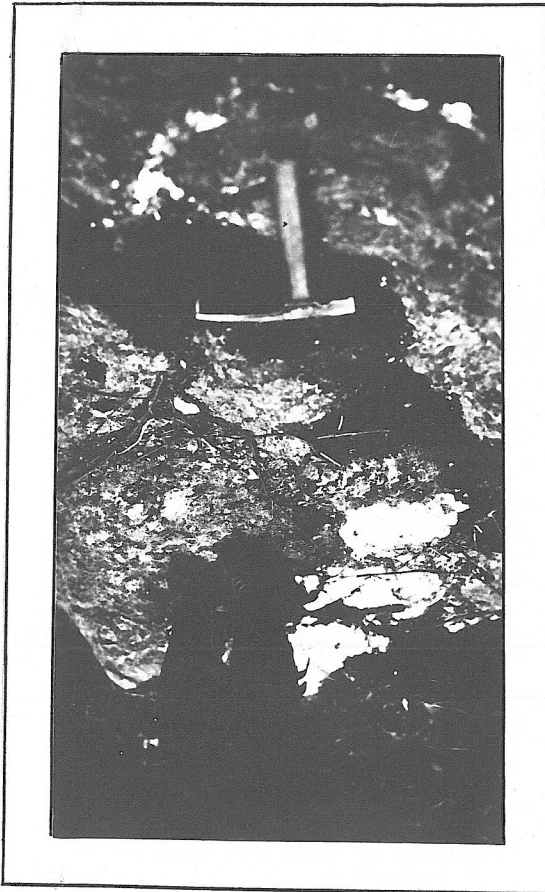
Bedding planes in the Whetstone
member of the Ames Hill Schist



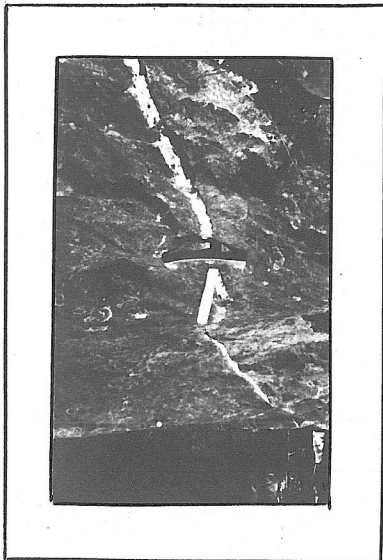
Acid dike dividing into two separate veins

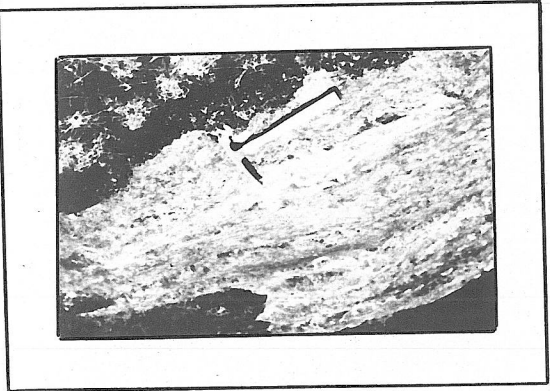


Discontinuous acid dike, a portion parallel to schistosity and the remainder at an angle.

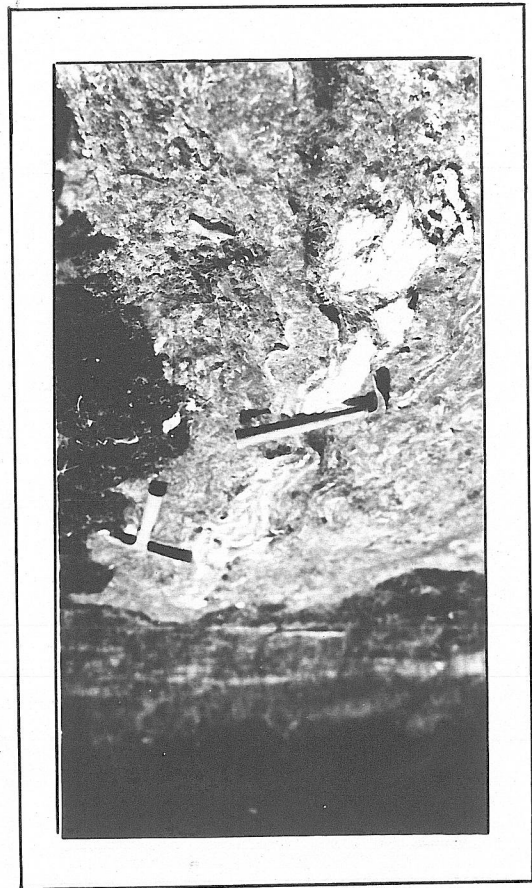


Small quartz vein cutting across schistosity

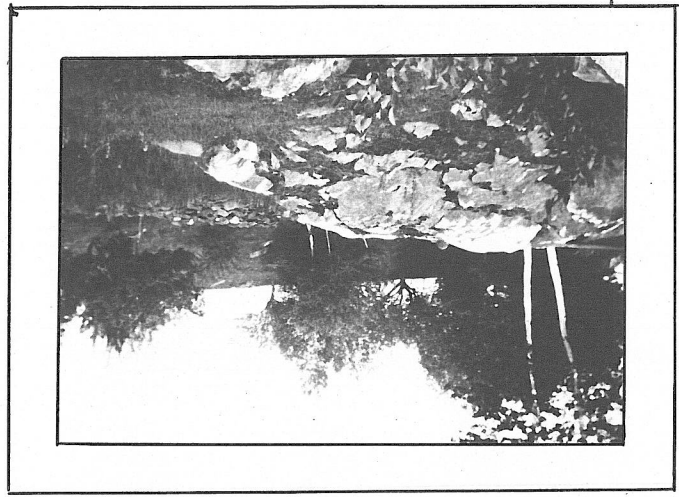




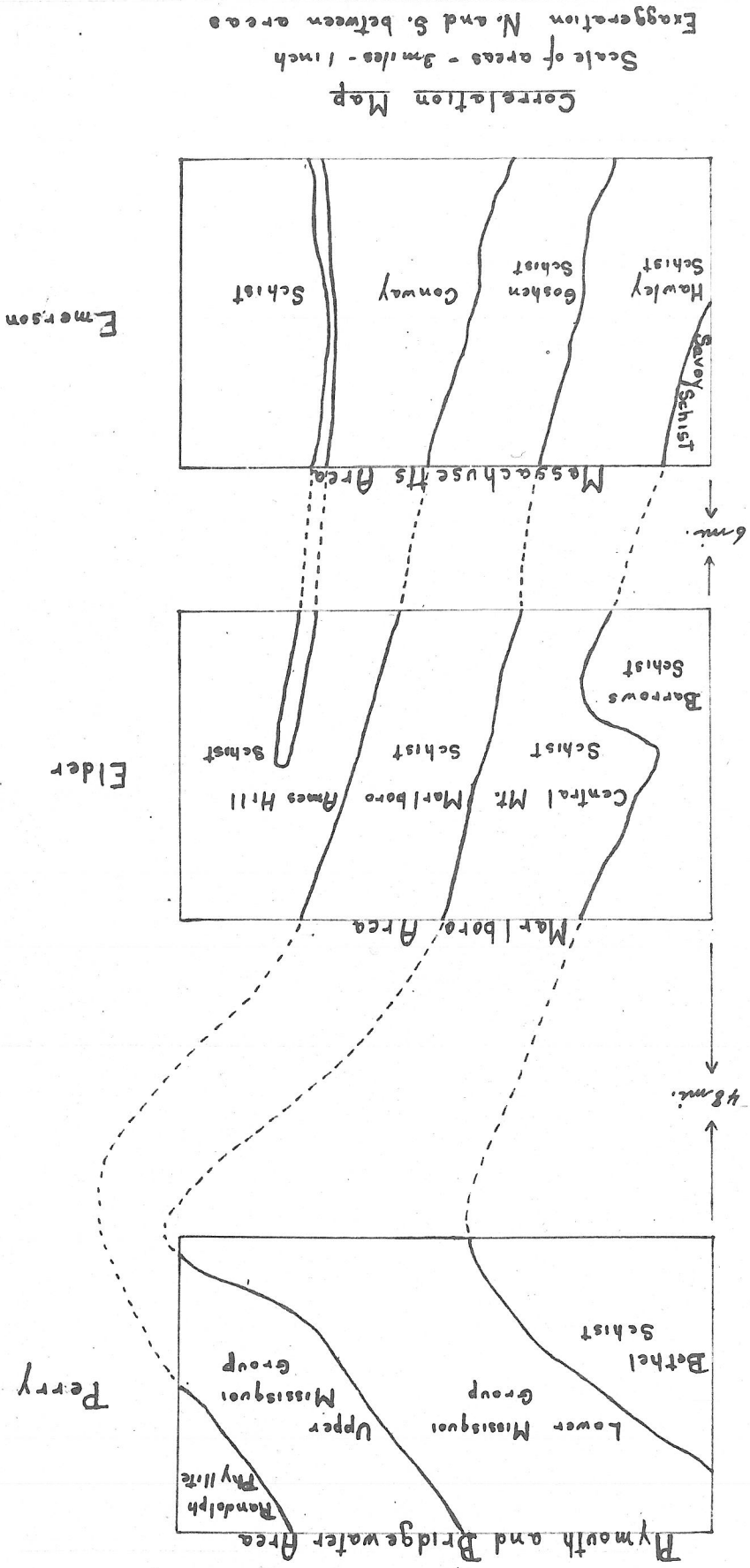
Thin quartz veins intruded parallel to schistosity



Acid dike following the planes of schistosity



Quartz dike intruded at an angle to schistosity



Correlation Map

Scale of areas - 3 miles - 1 inch
Exaggeration N. and S. between areas

Emerson

Elder

Perry

Massachusetts Area

Marlboro Area

Plymouth and Bridgewater Area

6 mi.

48 mi.

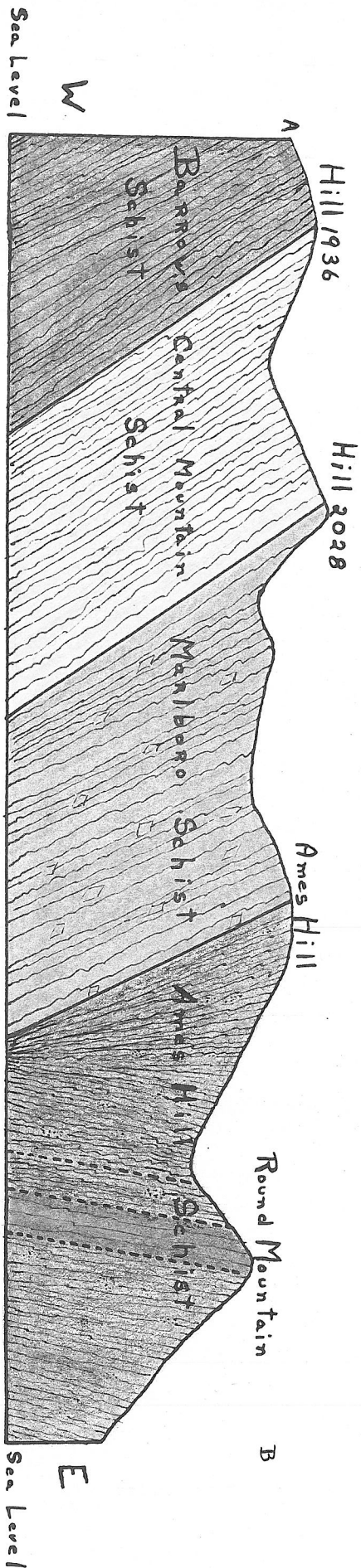
Savoy Schist
Hawley Schist
Goshen Schist
Conway Schist
Schist

Barrows Schist
Central Mt. Marlboro Schist
Ames Hill Schist
Schist

Bethel Schist
Lower Missisquoi Group
Upper Missisquoi Group
Randolph Phyllite
Schist

Correlation Chart

<p>Perry - 1927</p> <p><u>Memphemagog Group</u> (Randolph Phyllite) Dark grey strongly foliated, graphitic looking mica-schist with garnets. (Waits River limestone) Weathers readily to a porous soil brown rock on exposed surfaces. Complete break with underlying Missisquoi Group.</p>	<p>Richardson - 1927</p> <p><u>Memphemagog Group</u> (Randolph Phyllite) Fine grained, graphitic phyllite structure. Contains orange with Waits River limestone.</p>	<p>Emerson - 1917</p> <p><u>Conway Schist</u> Finely corrugated muscovite schist, dark from abundance of graphitic matter, with garnets, many beds of a sandy quartzite, bed of black limestone and numerous beds of hornblende schist.</p>	<p>Hubbard - 1924</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Elder - 1930</p> <p><u>Rimes Hill Schist</u> Finely plicated lead blue garnetiferous schist with numerous siliceous lenses and with thick lens of hornblende schist. Distinct break with underlying Marlboro formation.</p>
<p>Upper Missisquoi Group</p> <p>Fairly uniform quartz-mica schist with quartzites and numerous bands of hornblende rock.</p>	<p>Missisquoi Group (Quartzite Schists) (Hornblende Schists) Quartzite grading into sericite, chlorite and hornblende schists. Hornblende schists are lenticular.</p>	<p>Goshen Schist Dark grey muscovite schist with a bed of hornblende schist of sedimentary type.</p>	<p>_____</p>	<p>Marlboro Schist Variable grey siliceous to green micaceous schist with numerous porphyroblastic lenses.</p>
<p>Lower Missisquoi Group</p> <p>Non-uniform garnetiferous mica schist.</p>	<p>Missisquoi Group (Gossett's Schist) Silvery white, highly garnetiferous, muscovite schist. Towards south, biotite replaces sericite.</p>	<p>Hawley Schist Soft dark green chlorite schist with beds of black hornblende.</p>	<p>_____</p>	<p>Central Mountain Schist Light green garnetiferous schist with occasional hornblende layers.</p>
<p>Bethel Schist</p> <p>Grey-green quartz-chlorite-muscovite schist, locally garnetiferous. True equivalent of Richardson's Cavendish Schist.</p>	<p>Cavendish Schist Quartz biotite schist with hornblende sometimes replacing nearly all of the biotite.</p>	<p>Sawey Schist Alternating siliceous and hornblende beds.</p>	<p>Halifax Schist Chlorite formation with some bands rich in hornblende and others rich in quartz.</p>	<p>Barrows Schist Alternating hornblende and black to green siliceous horizons.</p>

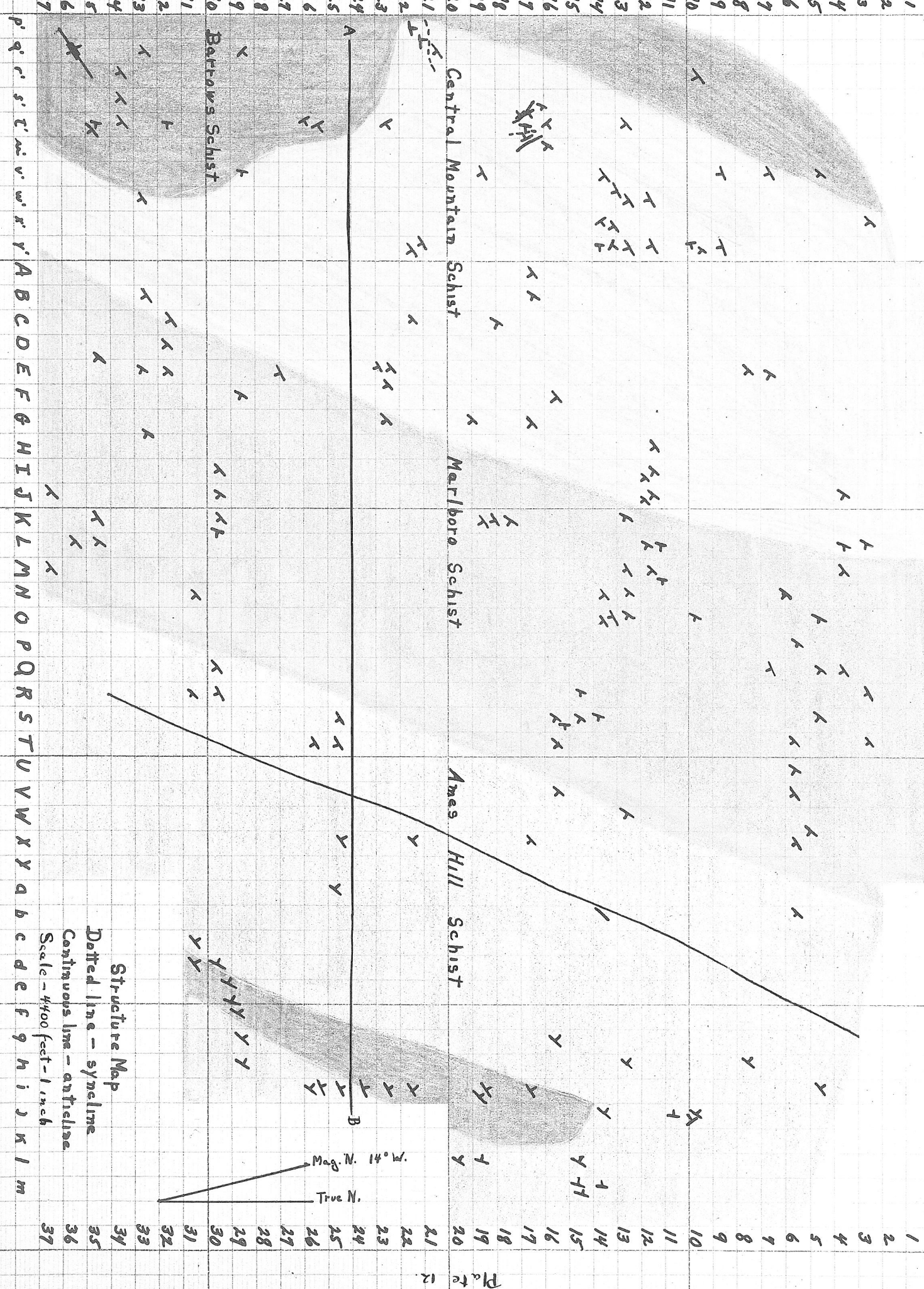


Cross-Section of Area

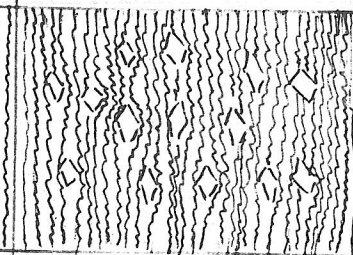
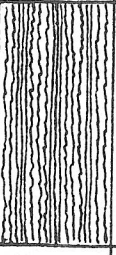
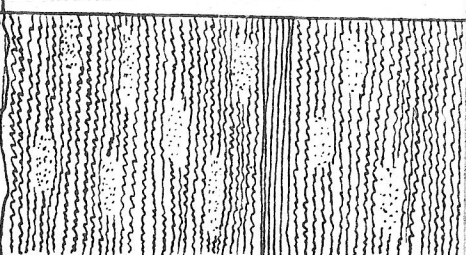
Horizontal scale - 1 mile - 1 inch

Vertical scale - 1000 feet - 1 inch

p' q' r' s' t' u' v' w' x' y' A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y a b c d e f g h i j k l m



Structure Map
 Dotted line - syncline
 Continuous line - antiform
 Scale - 4/100 feet - 1 inch

System	Series	Formation	Symbol	Columnar Section	Thickness	Character of Rocks	Character of Topography
Cambrian (?)	Croixian	Marlboro Schist	E _m		9000ft. ±	Variable gray siliceous to green micaceous schist with numerous porphyroblastic lenses	Hilly topography
		Barrows Schist	E _b		3000ft. ±	Alternating hornblende and black to green siliceous horizons	Rolling Topography
Ordovician(?)	Beekmantown	Ames Hill Schist	O _{ah}		12000ft. ±	Finely plicated lead blue garnetiferous schist with numerous siliceous lenses and with a thick lens of hornblende schist	Rolling and hilly topography

Columnar Section

Scale 1 inch - 5000 feet