GEOLOGICAL SURVEY BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND ENERGY
GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

GEOLOGY OF THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Geology compiled by S. P. Colman-Sadd, J. P. Hayes and I. Knight, 1990, from published and unpublished sources.

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Geological maps have been supplemented locally by GSC aeromagnetic and radiometric data and GSB lake sediment geochemical data.

Base map prepared by W.R.M.S. Inc., Amherst, Nova Scotia, for the Newfoundland Department of Development and Tourism from 1:250,000 topographic maps published by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

GSC—Geological Survey of Canada, Energy Mines and Resources Canada
GSB—Geological Survey Branch and predecessor organizations, Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy
GAC—Geological Association of Canada

Zones are determined from surface geology and are distinguished on the basis of Ordovician and older features. Younger rocks are not part of the zonal system and are shown separately as overlap sequences, intrusive rocks and undifferentiated cover. Zone boundaries are adapted from Williams et al., 1988; GSC Paper 88-1B, p. 91-98.

The Humber Zone has a basement of continental crust, metamorphosed and intruded during the Middle Proterozoic. It includes Late Proterozoic to Middle Ordovician cover rocks, which were deposited during development of the ancient North American continental margin and the Taconian Orogeny.

The Dunnage Zone is characterized by Cambrian to Middle Ordovician submarine volcanic rocks and Early Ordovician ophiolite suites. The geochemistry of many of the volcanic rocks is typical of island arcs and back-arc basins. Rocks of the Notre Dame Subzone, extrusive and intrusive igneous rocks are dominant and are overlain unconformably by non-marine Silurian overlap sequences. In the Exploits Subzone, Cambrian to Middle Ordovician rocks are dominated by deep-water facies, and black shales of Middle to Late Ordovician age, which extend across most of the subzone. The black shales pass upwards into Late Ordovician to Early Silurian turbidite deposits, which are overlain, with apparent conformity, by shallow-marine and non-marine Silurian strata. Rocks of Late Proterozoic age near Terra Nova Lake, in the Gander Zone, are of uncertain zonal affinity and are provisionally included in the Exploits Subzone.

The Gander Zone is characterized by quartz-rich siliciclastic sedimentary rocks, although Cambrian to Ordovician volcanic and volcaniclastic rocks are rare. Gander subzones reflect progressive deposition and are not geologically distinct. Part of the Port aux Basques gneiss adjacent to the Cabot Fault is included in the Gander Zone, but its true zonal affinity is uncertain.

The Avalon Zone contains Late Proterozoic submarine and subaerial volcanic rocks and turbiditic, deltaic and shallow-marine sedimentary rocks. These are overlain unconformably by a Late Proterozoic to Cambrian cover sequence, the Musgravetown Group, which contains a distinctive Acado-Baltic shelly fauna.

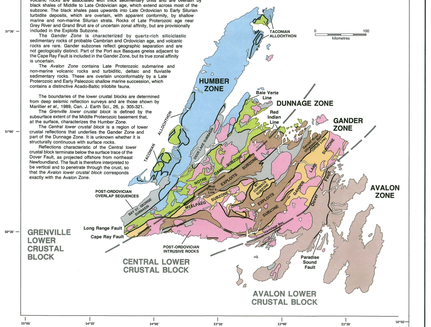
The boundaries of the lower crustal blocks are determined from deep seismic reflection surveys and are those shown by Marillier et al., 1989, Can. J. Earth Sci., 26, p. 305-321.

The Long Range Fault is interpreted as a terrane boundary, the subsurface extent of the Middle Proterozoic basement that, at the surface, characterizes the Humber Zone.

The Cape Ray Fault, a major ductile shear, is a region of lower crustal deformation that separates the Gander Zone and part of the Dunnage Zone. It is uncertain whether it is structurally continuous with surface rocks.

Reflections characteristic of the Central lower crustal block project upward to the surface trace of the Dover Fault, as projected offshore from northeast Newfoundland. The fault is therefore interpreted to separate the Avalon Zone from the Gander. It is not clear that the Avalon lower crustal block corresponds exactly with the Avalon Zone.

PRINCIPAL TECTONIC DIVISIONS



INDEX TO MINERAL DEPOSITS

The location of a mineral deposit on the legend is determined by the age of the host rock, and does not necessarily reflect the time that the deposit was formed. The outcrops of units that host deposits 299, 1372, 1502, 1714 and 3914 are too small to be separated from surrounding rocks on the map, but the host units are correctly delinquished on the legend.

Catalogue number in Mineral Occurrence Data System of the Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy

Selected Prospects:

No.	Name	Principal Commodities
49	Lower Fischells Brook	gypsum
102	Pinchgut Lake	Au
150	Romaine River	Cu, Zn, Au
205	Lockport Mine	Cu, Zn
1284	Little Deer	Cu
1294	Long Barrel	Cu
1370	Tompkins Ridge	Cu, Zn
1371	Tompkins Ridge	Pb, Zn
1531	Cloud Burst Lake	Cu
1582	Boundary Deposit	Cu, Zn
1583	Boundary Deposit	Cu, Zn, Au
1600	Little Deer	Cu, Zn, Pb, Ag, Au
1623	Jackie Pond	Cu
1633	Victoria Mine	Cu, Zn, Pb, Ag
1651	Tulks Hill	Cu, Zn, Pb, Ag
1652	Tulks Hill	Cu, Zn, Pb, Ag, Au
1740	Clementine	Cu, Pb, Cu, Ag, Au
1741	Little Deer	Cu
2139	Shirttail	Cu, Zn, Cu, Ag, Au
2140	Shirttail	Au
2183	Hedley's Pond	Au
2184	Hedley's Pond	Cu, Zn
2513	Penny's Pond	Cu, Zn, Au
2610	Coles Pond	marble
2611	Coles Pond	Au
2612	Tallpine Lake	Cu
2660	Tallpine Lake	Cu, Zn, Au, Ag
2663	Hennessey	Au
2670	Little Deer	Cu, Zn, Au, Ag
3911	Boncuchon Brook	marble
3912	Boncuchon Brook	Au
3913	Winter Hill	Cu, Pb, Cu, Ag
3914	Haven Steady	Cu, Zn, Pb, Ag, Au

Selected Past-Producers:

No.	Name	Commodities Produced
108	Quarry Face and West Quarries	limestone
109	Lime Rock Main Quarry	limestone
344	Pilley's Island Mine	Cu, Zn, S
373	Little Deer Mine	Cu
374	Little Deer Mine	Cu, Au
821	Betts Cove Mine	Cu, Zn
1299	Tilt Cove Mine	Cu, Au, Ag
1372	Orchestra Mine	marble
1514	Cochrane—Main Zone	Cu, Zn
1515	Cochrane Pond	Cu, Zn
1714	Consolidated Rambler Mines	Cu, Zn
1715	Rambler Mine	Cu, Zn
1775	York Harbour Mine	Au
1776	Lower Cove Mine	Cu, Zn, Au
2202	Fifty Marks Quarry	marble
2332	Bell Island Mines	Fe

Producers (January, 1990):

No.	Operator	Commodities Produced
108	St. Lawrence Gypsum Mines Inc.	gypsum
109	Dominion Gypsum Co. Ltd.	gypsum aggregate
1120	Newfoundland Zinc Mines Ltd.	Zn, Cd
1121	Buchans Mines Ltd.	Zn, Cu
1242	Baie Verte Mines Inc.	asbestos
1243	North Star Cement Ltd.	limestone
1244	Pine Cove Mines Ltd.	Au
1245	Rambler Mines Ltd.	silica
1246	Hope Brook Gold Inc.	Au
2511	Iron Ore Company of Canada	Fe
2512	St. Lawrence Fluorspar Ltd.	fluorspar
3856	Wabush Mines, Scully Division	iron ore
3857	Beothuck Crushing & Paving Ltd.	bedrock aggregate
3858	Lundrigans Ltd.	bedrock aggregate
3859	Lundrigans/Clinkards Ltd.	bedrock aggregate

Scale 1:1,000,000
Kilometres 25 0 25 50 75 Kilometres

Map 90-01

Copies of this map may be obtained from the Publications and Information Section, Geological Survey Branch, Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy, P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, A1B 4J6

Geological cartography and colour separation by T.Pallanavajee, photomechanical and colour processing by D.Leonard, cartographic supervision by K.Byrne

LEGEND

POST-ORDOVICIAN OVERLAP SEQUENCES

Carboniferous (Visean to Westphalian)
Cb *Deltaic and fluvial sandstone, conglomerate and minor carbonate rocks; intercalated marine, siliciclastic, carbonate and evaporitic rocks; minor coal beds and mafic volcanic flows (Codroy, Deer Lake and Barachois groups; Howley Formation)*

Devonian and Carboniferous (Tournaisian)
DCs *Fluviatile and lacustrine sandstone, shale, conglomerate and minor carbonate rocks (Anguille Group)*
DCav *Fluviatile and lacustrine, siliciclastic and carbonate rocks; subaerial, bimodal volcanic rocks; may include some Late Silurian rocks (Windsor Point Group, Horsechief Tickle Formation, Spanish Room, Great Bay de l'Eau, Pools Cove and Crieg Isles formations)*

Silurian and Devonian
SDs *Shallow marine sandstone, conglomerate, limey shale and thin-bedded limestone (Clam Bank Formation)*

Silurian
Sv *Bimodal to mainly felsic subaerial volcanic rocks; includes unseparated sedimentary rocks of mainly fluviatile and lacustrine facies (Cape St. John and Micmac Lake groups; parts of Springdale, Sops Arm, Botwood and La Poile groups; sedimentary rocks at Topsails, Stony Lake and Charles Lake)*
Ss *Shallow marine and non-marine siliciclastic sedimentary rocks, including sandstone, shale and conglomerate (Rogerson Lake Conglomerate; parts of Springdale, Sops Arm, Botwood and La Poile groups; sedimentary rocks near Stony Lake)*

POST-ORDOVICIAN INTRUSIVE ROCKS

Mesozoic
Mm *Gabbro and diabase (in part indicated by aeromagnetic anomaly)*

Devonian and Carboniferous
DCg *Granite and locally alkali-feldspar granite (sensu stricto), and other granitoid intrusions that are postkinematic relative to mid-Paleozoic orogenies*

Silurian and Devonian
SDm *Gabbro and diorite intrusions, including minor ultramafic phases*
SDq *Postkinematic gabbro – pyroxenite – granite – peralkaline granite suites and minor unseparated volcanic rocks northwest of Red Indian Line; granitoid suites, varying from pretectonic to syntectonic, relative to mid-Paleozoic orogenies (southeast of Red Indian Line)*

Mesozoic mafic intrusions
aeromagnetic anomaly associated with Mesozoic mafic dykes
Mm

HUMBER ZONE UNITS

STRATIFIED ROCKS
Middle Ordovician
Obp *Shallow marine limestone, shale and sandstone (Long Point Group)*
Early and Middle Ordovician
Oef *Foreland basin facies: sandstone and shale turbidites, and carbonate breccia (Eagle Island sandstone; Lower Head Formation; Goose Tickle Group); calcareous and shale shelf, carbonate breccia and conglomerate (part of Table Head Group)*
Oc *Shelf facies and marginal facies of foreland basin: limestone and dolostone (St. George Group; part of Table Head Group)*
Cambrian
Cc *Shelf facies: thin bedded limestone, dolostone and shale (Port au Port Group; parts of Hawke Bay and Reluctant Head formations)*
Late Proterozoic and Cambrian
fCcc *Rift and transitional shelf facies: non-marine sandstone, conglomerate and mafic volcanic rocks; marine shale, sandstone, limestone, dolostone and limestone conglomerate (part of Labrador Group; part of Reluctant Head Formation and equivalents)*
Late Proterozoic to Middle Ordovician
fCOc *Siliciclastic sedimentary and carbonate rocks; excludes ophiolitic rocks west of Long Range Mountains (Corner Arm Group; parts of Labrador Group, Port au Port, St. George and Table Head groups)*

INTRUSIVE ROCKS
Late Proterozoic
fYgi *Granitoid intrusions*
fYmd *Mafic dykes*

BASEMENT ROCKS
Early (?) and Middle Proterozoic
fYgn *Granitoid intrusions*
fYm *Mafic and anorthositic intrusions*
fYfgn *Granitoid orthogneiss and subordinate mafic gneiss and paragneiss*

Early and Middle Ordovician
Oam *Shale-matrix melange, containing blocks of ophiolitic, rift, continental slope and foreland basin rocks (Rocky Harbour, Companion and Millan Arm melanges)*
Cambrian to Middle Ordovician
COal *Continental slope facies (within Taconian allochthons): siliciclastic rocks, including unseparated conglomeratic carbonate rocks, chert, mafic volcanic and minor metamorphic rocks (Cow Head Group; part of Curling Group; Northeast Arm Formation); (within autochthon) metamorphic equivalents, including unseparated probable basement rocks and Cambrian to Ordovician rift facies (Hare Bay Group; parts of Grey Islands, Mount Musgrave and White Bay groups)*
Late Proterozoic and Cambrian
fCOs *Rift and transitional continental slope facies: (within Taconian allochthons) sandstone, shale, conglomerate and mafic volcanic rocks (Lower Head Formation; Point aux Mal Formation; Blow-Me-Down Brook formations); (within autochthon) metamorphic equivalents, including unseparated probable basement rocks and Cambrian to Ordovician rocks of continental slope and foreland basin facies (Hare Bay Group; parts of Grey Islands, Mount Musgrave and White Bay groups, Cormacks Lake Complex; East Pond Metamorphic Suite; metamorphic rocks of southern Long Range Mountains)*

Grenvillian mafic pre-Grenvillian mafic and anorthositic intrusions
fYm
Grenvillian granitoid intrusions
fYgi
pre-Grenvillian gneisses of Long Range and other inliers
fYfgn

DUNNAGE ZONE UNITS

STRATIFIED ROCKS
Late Ordovician and Early Silurian
OSam *Melange, containing volcanic and sedimentary blocks of Middle and Late (?) Ordovician age (Sops Head and Boones Point complexes)*
OSs *Turbidites consisting of sandstone, shale and conglomerate; other marine sedimentary rocks (Sansom, Point Leamington and Goldson formations; Indian Islands Group)*
Middle and Late Ordovician
Osc *Llandello to Ashgill black shale, slate and argillite; minor sandstone, conglomerate and greywacke (Indian Arm, Dark Hole, Rodgers Cove and Luscombe Point formations; Lawrence Harbour Shale)*
Middle Ordovician
Osp *Brecciа, shale and sandstone (Crabb Brook Group)*
Cambrian to Middle Ordovician
COam *Melange, containing sedimentary and volcanic blocks of Cambrian to Ordovician age (Dunnage, Carmanville melanges)*
COs *Marine siliciclastic sedimentary rocks, including slate, shale, argillite, siltstone, sandstone, greywacke and conglomerate; minor carbonate rocks, volcanic and intrusive rocks, and schist, gneiss and migmatite (Davidsville Group; parts of Bale d'Espoir, Bay du Nord, Victoria Lake, Exploits, Wild Bight, Western Arm, Cutwell, Roberts Arm and Snooks Arm groups; part of Port aux Basques Gneiss)*
COv *Submarine mafic, intermediate and felsic volcanic rocks, including mafic volcanic rocks of ophiolite complexes; mafic rocks predominate in northern Dunnage Zone and felsic rocks in the south; includes unseparated intrusive, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks (Bay du Nord, Bay d'Espoir, Pacquet Harbour, Buchans, Cottrells Cove, Chanceport, Flatwater Pond, Glover, Catchers Pond, Summerford and Monkstone Harbour groups; parts of Fox Island, Western Arm, Cutwell, Roberts Arm, Snooks Arm and Baie Verte groups; Lake Ambrose, Bay du Nord and Baie d'Espoir groups; parts of Bay of Islands, Birchy, Advocate, Point Rousse, Betts Cove, King George IV Lake, Annieopsquotch, Pipestone Pond, Coy Pond, Gander River, Little Port and St. Anthony complexes, Skinner Cove, Old Man's Cove and Pine Falls formations; Skidder basalt)*

Late Proterozoic and Cambrian
fCc *Siliciclastic sedimentary and volcanic rocks; amphibolite and quartzofeldspathic schist, gneiss and migmatite; includes unseparated granitoid and gabbroic intrusions (part of La Poile Group; Cinq Cerf Complex; rocks of Grey River enclave)*

INTRUSIVE AND OTHER PLUTONIC ROCKS
Cambrian and Ordovician
COg *Granitoid intrusions, including plagiogranite of ophiolite complexes and minor unseparated Late Proterozoic intrusions*
COm *Mafic intrusions, including unseparated granitoid rocks, and gabbro, diabase and plagiogranite of ophiolite complexes*
COu *Ultramafic rocks of ophiolite complexes*

GANDER ZONE UNITS

STRATIFIED ROCKS
Cambrian(?) and Ordovician
COsg *Quartzite, psammite, semipelite and pelite, including conglomerate, calc-silicate, conglomerate, limestone, mafic and felsic volcanic rocks, and unseparated migmatitic rocks (Gander Group; part of Bonica Brook Formation; unnamed units of Meelpaeg Subzone; parts of Port aux Basques Passage and Port-aux-Basques gneisses)*
COmg *Migmatitic schist, gneiss, and minor amphibolite, derived in whole or in part from Cambrian(?) and Ordovician pyroclastic (Hare Bay Gneiss; part of Little Passage gneiss; part of Port aux Basques Gneiss; unseparated units of Mount Cormack and Meelpaeg subzones)*

INTRUSIVE ROCKS
Ordovician
Og *Granite intrusions*

AVALON ZONE UNITS

STRATIFIED ROCKS
Late Proterozoic to Early Ordovician
fYOs *Shallow marine, mainly fine grained, siliciclastic sedimentary rocks, including minor limestone and bimodal volcanic rocks; volcanic rocks (Bay View, Random formations; Youngs Cove, Adeyton, Harcourt, Bell Island and Wabana groups)*
Late Proterozoic
fya *Fluviatile and shallow marine siliciclastic sedimentary rocks, including minor unseparated limestone and bimodal volcanic rocks (Signal Hill Group; parts of Musgravetown, Long Harbour, Connaigre Bay, Marystown and Love Cove groups)*
fyb *Bimodal, mainly subaerial volcanic rocks, including unseparated siliciclastic sedimentary rocks (parts of Musgravetown, Long Harbour and Connaigre Bay groups)*
fybd *Marine deltaic siliciclastic sedimentary rocks (St. John's Group)*
fyt *Sandstone and shale turbidites, including minor unseparated tillite, olistostromes and volcanic rocks (Connecting Point and Conception groups)*
fyv *Bimodal, mainly subaerial to subaerial volcanic rocks, including minor siliciclastic sedimentary rocks (Harbour Main Group; parts of Love Cove and Marystown groups)*
fym *Pillow basalt, mafic volcaniclastic rocks, siliciclastic sedimentary rocks, and minor limestone and chert (part of Burin Group)*

INTRUSIVE ROCKS
Late Proterozoic to Cambrian
fYCm *Mafic intrusions*
fYCg *Granitoid intrusions, including unseparated mafic phases*

SYMBOLS

Geological boundary; nature unspecified
Fault
Observed unconformity, legend only
Aeromagnetic anomaly
Mine or industrial minerals operation, producer
Mine or industrial minerals operation, past-producer
Oil well, past-producer
Mineral prospect

DOVER AND MEMBERS BAY FAULTS

PARADISE SOUND AND RELATED FAULTS

	HUMBER	DUNNAGE	GANDER	AVALON
Pre-Silurian surface tectono-stratigraphic zones		Notre Dame Subzone / Exploits Subzone	Meelpaeg, Mount Cormack, Gander Lake Subzones	
Seismically defined lower crustal blocks	GRENVILLE	CENTRAL		AVALON

The legend has been drawn as a space-time diagram, so that unit ages can be shown with reasonable accuracy relative to the time scale on the right side. Two versions of the legend are provided for users who prefer a list-style legend or who need a more compact legend for displays. Such legends can be prepared by pasting the colour blocks in the appropriate spaces in the list-style legend. Each block is labelled with the unit symbol, so that the blocks can then be mounted separately and the diagrammatic part of the legend discarded. If the colour blocks are not required, they may be folded behind the map or trimmed off.

Cs DCs DCsv SDs Sv Ss Mm DCg SDg Obp Oef Oc Cc fCcc fCOc fCOs fYgi fYmd fYgn fYfgn Oam COal fCOs COam COs COv fCc Osc Osp COsg COmg Og fYOs fya fyb fybd fyt fyv fym fYCm fYCg

Geologic time scale from: Palmer, A.R., 1983; Geology, 11, p.503-504

Time Scale in Millions of Years

CRETACEOUS	144 Ma		
JURASSIC	206 Ma		
TRIASSIC	286 Ma		
CARBONIFEROUS	360 Ma	HERCYNIAN OROGENY	
DEVONIAN	408 Ma	ACADIAN OROGENY	
SILURIAN	438 Ma	SALINIC OROGENY	
ORDOVICIAN	505 Ma	TACONIAN OROGENY	
CAMBRIAN	570 Ma	AVALONIAN OROGENY	
LATE PROTEROZOIC	900 Ma	GRENVILLIAN OROGENY	
MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC	1600 Ma		
EARLY PROTEROZOIC			

Time Scale in Millions of Years