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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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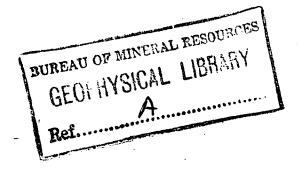
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BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES
GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS.

RECORDS.

1961/78





ATHERTON 4-MILE GEOLOGICAL SERIES SHEET E 55-5 EXPLANATORY NOTES

Compiled by

J.G.Best

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ATHERTON 4-MILE GEOLOGICAL SERIES SHEET E 55-5

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES
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ATHERTON 4-MILE GEOLOGICAL SERIES SHEET E 55-5

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Compiled by

J. G. BEST.

Record No. 1961/78

INTRODUCTION.

The Atherton 4-mile Sheet is bounded by longitudes 144°E and 145°30'E, and littitudes 17°S and 18°S; it covers most of the Chillagoe Gold and Mineral Field and about half the Herberton Mineral Field.

The area is accessible from the port of Cairns by road and railway. There is a regular air service to Chillagoe, and there are airstrips suitable for light aircraft at Sunnymount and Mount Garnet, and for medium sized aircraft at Mareeba.

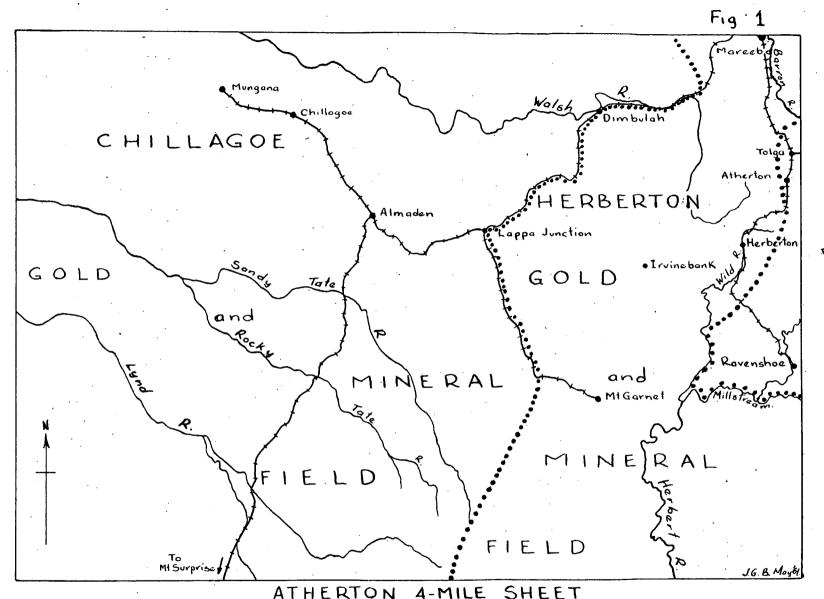
Figure I shows the Gold and Mineral Fields, railways, main streams and principal towns in the area covered by the Atherton 4-mile Sheet.

The map, which these notes accompany, was compiled from information gathered by combined parties of the Bureau of Mineral Resources and Geological Survey of Queensland which mapped this area in October, 1956, from May to October, 1958, and from May to October, 1959.

The maps and air-photographs covering this Sheet are listed in Tables I and II. (See page 2.)

Most of the Atherton Sheet is covered by mixed tropical woodland; along the eastern edge of the Sheet there are narrow belts of tropical rain forest and mixed coastal woodland; the distribution of vegetation closely follows that of the rainfall, which ranges from 30 inches per year in the west of the Sheet to over 60 inches per year along the eastern edge. Most of the precipitation falls during the period November to April; December, January and February are the wettest months with an average rainfall of over 5 inches per month.

The mean summer (December-January-February) temperature ranges from 80° to 85°F over the western half of the Sheet and 75° to 80°F over the eastern half. The normal mean winter (June-July-August) temperature ranges from 65° to 70°F.



ATHERTON 4-MILE SHEET

Scale linch to 10 miles

Showing Goldand Mineral Fields, railways, main streams and principal towns. · Gold and Mineral Field boundary. Railway ,

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Fig.Z

ATHERTON 4-MILE SHEET Showing component

ONE-MILE SHEETS 145.30 MUNGANA CHILLAGOE . DIMBULAH FISCHERTON ALMADEN: HERBERTON M'DEVITT MTGARNET MUNDERRA MT BRIDGE FOSSILBROOK TIRRABELLA

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Table I - Maps covering the Atherton 4-mile Sheet.

મું	· ·	Type	Scale	Name of Sheet & Number	Produced	by <u>Date</u>	Availa	ble from
	· · · · · ·	Photo- map	1"to 4miles	Atherton E 55/5	Division Nationa Mapping	l	Divisi Natior Canber	nal Mapping
		Plani- metric	1" to 4miles	II .	ıi	Jan. 1959		11
	,	Military Sheet	, II	ti	Aust. Arm Survey Cor			National Dev- ent.Melbourne
		Military Sheet	7 11	Atherton Tablelands (special)	11	July 1944		ıı
.ē.		Photo- map	1" to 1 mile	Half of Dimbulah	11	Published 1/1/59 & 3		Queensland Lands Dept.
		11	11	Mt. Garnet	11	Published 1/1/ &		11
		11	· II	Tirrabella	11	31/12	2/59	ħ

Table II - Air-photographs covering the Atherton 4-mile Sheet

	Scale	Name	Flown by	For	Date	Available from
	1: 50,000	Atherton	Royal Aust. Air Force	Dept. of National Development	1951	Secretary, Dept. of Air Canberra.
- -	1: 24,000	Mungana	Adastra Airways Pty.Ltd.	Queensland Lands Dept.	12/8/49 3/9/49	Queensland Lands Dept.
	'n	Chillagoe	11	11	3/9/49	Ή
	it	Mt.Garnet (eastern 1/3rd only)	11	11	June - December 1951	r II
	1: 28,000	Tirrabella	11	11	1956 and	1 "

Fig.2. Illustrates the component One - mile Areas of the Atherton Four - Mile Sheet.

Previous Investigations.

J.V. Mulligan, in 1874, discovered alluvial cassiterite in a stream which he named the Wild River; but it was not until 1880 when payable tin was found in Prospector's Gully, a tributary of the Wild River, by Messrs. Jack, Newell, Brandon and Brown, that any interest was shown in the deposits. The 1880 discovery led to a spate of prospecting and mining which, over the succeeding twenty to thirty years, opened up numerous deposits of tin, wolfram, copper, silver/lead and gold. Mining was at its height in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; since then there has been a gradual decline in activity, arrested temporarily during periods of national emergency and economic depression.

The great number of lodes and prospects discovered on this Sheet fired lead to numerous investigations and publications; in this summary it is proposed only to mention the more significant of them.

R.L. Jack examined the Wild River tin mines in 1880 and his report (1881) was the first geological report on any part of the Atherton Sheet;

Jack described about ten lode tin mines and made brief mention of the alluvial workings. The first reference to red granite (Elizabeth Creek Granite of this survey) and coarse-grained granite intimately associated with the cassiterite lodes, is in Jack's report.

In 1883 Jack reported on the "Tin Mines of Herberton, Western and Thompson Creek Districts and the Silver Mines of the Dry River", in the report he described more than 120 mines and prospects: the number greatly exceeds those examined a few years earlier and illustrates the rapid expansion of the mining industry in the area at this time. Jack (1883) was of the opinion that the cassiterite had been introduced by basic dykes.

Jack (1884) first used the name "Hodgkinson" for the "slaty formation" which ranged "in fineness from shales to conglomerates", in his report on the Hodgkinson Goldfield; and in 1888 he stated that a thickness of 21,000 ft. had been calculated for the Hodgkinson Formation "although neither top nor bottom has been recognised".

In 1891, A.G. Maitland described the Coolgarra Tin Mines and surrounding district. Maitland subscribed to Jack's basic-dyke concept to

explain the tin mineralisation and in support he drew attention to the many basic dykes around Coolgarra. Maitland recognised an unconformity between "acidic lavas and ashes" underlying "altered sedimentary rocks" about six miles south-west of Coolgarra. Maitland also described the thermal springs at Innot on Nettle Creek.

In 1892 Jack, in the Geology and Palaeontology of Queensland and New Guinea, summarized the knowledge of the geology of this area to that date.

In 1895, S.B.J. Skertchly examined the Herberton Deep (Tin) Lead and his report (1896) was the first to deal specifically with these deposits, which had been discovered in 1883.

R.C. Ringrose in 1895 published "Notes on the Conglomerate and Sandstone Series of the Wild River and the Headwaters of the Walsh River"; and in 1899 Skertchly considered the "Ringrose Conglomerate" to be part of the "Herberton Beds".

In 1898, Jack published a report on the Chillagoe mining district and the projected railway; he described many of the mines in the area and included a map which is of considerable assistance in appreciating the area as it was at that time.

In 1900, B. Dunstan found <u>Halysites</u> in a collection of corals he gathered from about three miles south-west of Mungana. This genus indicated a Silurian age for rocks which up to that time had been considered to be:-

- (a) Permo-Carboniferous (Jack and Etheridge 1892).
- (b) Carboniferous (Jack R.L. 1891).
- (c) Carboniferous (Skertchly S.B.J. 1899).

W.E. Cameron in 1904 reported on wolfram and molybdenite mining in Queensland and included in this report is the first geological account of the mines around Wolfram Camp and Petford where wolfram, in payable quantities, had been found in 1894.

Cameron's 1904 paper on the Herberton Tin Field was a major contribution to the geology of the area; it presented many criginal observations on the distribution and origin of the lodes in the Herberton, Irvinebank, Coolgarra and Smith's Creek areas; and in addition to a map, it included statistics of production to 1904. Cameron (p.9) recorded that "the greater number of the more important lodes, aregenerally in the coarser greywackes and quartzites". Up to 1904, the consensus of cpinion on the origin of the tin had been in favour of injection by basic dykes (Jack et al.), but Cameron (p.10) stated "Genetically there seems little doubt that the lodes owe their presence to the intrusion and solidification of the granite mass in and around which they occur". Of the lodes he recorded (p.9) "The lode material is only in exceptional cases separated by well-marked planes of division from the enclosing country. As a rule it merges into it with a gradational change from lode material to barren rock. The lode material is in almost all places evidentally a product of the alteration of the country rock by the action of mineralising agents, which changed its constitution by chemical action, and have at the same time deposited tin and other minerals within its interstices".

In 1904, R. Etheridge junior published a description of the <u>Halysites</u> from the Chillagoe area and proposed a specific name <u>Halysites chillagoensis</u> for the new species. Etheridge was in favour of a Silurian age for these fossils.

L.C. Ball in 1915 reported on the Wolfram, Molybdenite and Bismuth Mines of Bamford, and in 1918 on the Arbouin Copper Mines at Cardross in the Chillagoe Mineral Field. In his 1918 report, Ball recorded the discovery of Favosites sp., Heliolites sp., Cyathophyllum sp.,

Campophyllum sp., Halysites sp., Rhynchonella sp., Pentamerus sp., from the limestones south-west of Mungana.

H.I. Jensen (1923,p.5) drew attention to the "important lithological differences between the greywacke of the Herberton field and those of the Hodgkinson field". Jensen considered the Herberton series to be Ordevician. The map which accompanied the report shows the distribution of the Herberton Series.

In 1938 the Aerial, Geological and Geophysical Survey of Northern Australia mapped about one thousand square miles of the Herberton Mineral Field, and Jensen's report (1939) is the first account of systematic regional mapping in this area. The base-map (scale 2 inches to 1 mile) for this survey was prepared from air photographs flown by the Royal Australian Air Force.

A geophysical survey of the Herberton Deep Lead was carried out by the Aerial, Geological and Geophysical Survey of Northern Australia in 1938. The survey was initiated with the object of tracing the lead eastward from the extensively worked section between Nigger and Flaggy Creeks.

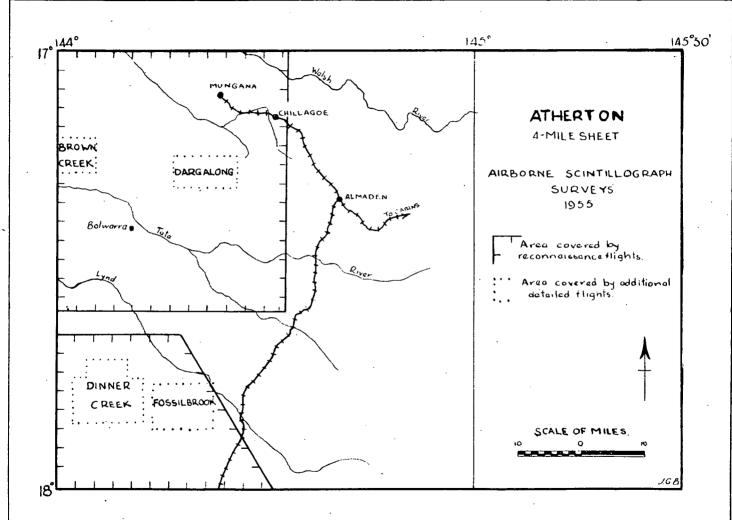
In 1942 the Queensland Mines Department unsuccessfully attempted to locate, by drilling, payable stanniferous deposits in the area indicated as favourable by the 1937 geophysical survey. Cribb (1946) reported these operations.

Between 1938 and 1956 many mines and prospects were investigated, most of these investigations were made by officers of the Queensland Geological Survey, the rest were by private companies.

In 1949, the Bureau of Mineral Resources geophysically prospected several mineralised areas around Chillagoe; the investigation was reported by Langron in 1957.

In 1955, the Bureau of Mineral Resources flew airborne scintillograph surveys over the western third of the Sheet area. This work was reported by Parkinson & Mulder (1956) (see Fig.3).

In 1956, a combined Bureau of Mineral Resources and Queensland Geological Survey party began geological mapping in North Queensland; this party spent about one month on an examination of the north-west corner of Atherton Sheet. In 1958 this work was carried a stage further when the Chillagoe, Mungana and Almaden 1-mile areas were mapped, particular attention being paid to the mineralised Palaeozoic rocks. The remainder of the 4-mile Sheet was completed, on a regional scale, by the party during the 1959 field season.



Physiography.

The Atherton 4-mile Sheet spans a climatic transition from Tropical Highlands on the least to Tropical Inland in the west. Summer rainfall prevails and ranges from about 30 inches per annum in the west to more than 60 inches along the eastern side of the Sheet.

Most of the land is pastoral, devoted chiefly to beef-cattle raising; in the centre and south-west of the Sheet the country is rugged, and waterless for most of the year, and is avoided by all but the miner and prospector. Formerly rain-forest covered a narrow belt along the eastern side of the sheet, but more than half of it has now been felled to provide land for agriculture and dairying.

With the exception of the eastern high-rainfall strip, most of the vegetation is open savannah woodland. 'Spear grass', Heteropogon contertus is ubiquitous throughout the low rainfall areas and its presence is a dominant factor in precluding sheep from the area.

'Heart Leaf Poison', <u>Gastrolebium grandiflorum</u>, is fatal to stock and commonly flourishes on laterite-capped areas; so far no satisfactory method of eradication has been devised and the infested areas are, at present, generally fenced out.

Further information on climate, vegetation and scils can be obtained from the Atlas of Australian Resources prepared by the Division of Regional Development, Department of National Development, Canberra.

The Great Dividing Range, commonly a barely perceptable reversal of slope, traverses the Sheet area south-south-west direction from near the north-east corner of the Sheet area area drained by the Welsh, Tate and Lynd Rivers which trend north-west and empty ultimately into the Gulf of Carpentaria. The remainder of the Sheet area is drained to the east into the Coral Sea.

Most of the streams which empty into the Gulf of Carpentaria occupy wide shallow valleys and there has been little down-cutting erosion except in the headwaters. A spectacular exception is the median section of the Walsh River, whose course through the rugged Featherbed Range is obviously controlled by the well developed joints in the Featherbed Volcanics.

That this river traverses this range rather than flows around it is strong evidence in favour of it being an antecedent stream.

The streams which drain to the Coral Sea are perennial and most of them are engaged in exhuming valleys partly filled with Tertiary basalt; consequently their valleys range from youthful to mature.

The topography on this Sheet ranges from level alluviated plains to area rugged, deeply incised ranges. Over most of the western half of the Sheet the country is gently undulating and the altitude ranges from 1100 ft., to 1500 ft. To the east the country rises irregularly and reaches its maximum altitude of about 4,300 ft. six miles west of Atherton. East of this point the country descends abruptly to the Atherton Tableland, whose altitude at Atherton township is about 2,500 ft. Fig. (4) illustrates, broadly, the geomorphological units on this Sheet.

The <u>Newcastle Rango</u> has its maximum development to the south on the adjoining Georgetown and Einasleigh 4-mile Sheet areas; but its northern areas extremity is on the Atherton and westerly adjoining Red River 4-mile Sheet. The average altitude of about 2000 ft. is 300 to 400 ft. above the general surrounding level. On the Atherton Sheet, the Newcastle Range is essentially a ring-complex involving Upper Palaeozoic granites and volcanics, and capped with remnants of Cretacecus sediments.

Red Plateau. Twidale (1956) has outlined the Red Plateau on the adjoining Red River Sheet. On the Atherton Sheet the eastern boundary of the plateau has been taken to coincide with the boundary of the Mesozcic sediments; it is commonly a scarp. The plateau forms a narrow belt along part of the western side of the Sheet. It has an altitude of about 1000 ft., and slopes gently westwards on to the Red River Sheet.

The <u>Tate-Lynd Upland</u> occupies about 2000 square miles in the central region of the Sheet. The Upland has been formed from Precambrian granites and metamorphics, Palaeczcic granites, and Mesozcic sediments. It has a topography which ranges from level soil-covered plains to steeply undulating hills, the average altitude ranges from about 1100 ft. in the north to about 1600 ft. in the south, and the relief is about 100 to 200 ft. Outliers of Mesozcic sediments form mesas near the western side of the Upland. The <u>Tate-Lynd Upland</u> grades north-east into the <u>Mungene-Chillagoe</u>

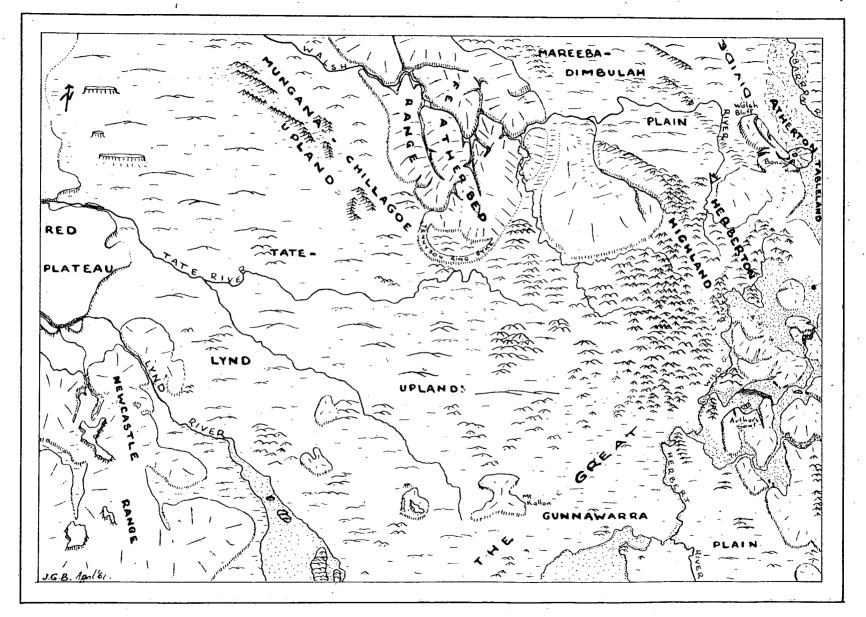


Fig. 4.

Physiographic Units

Alherton 4-mile Sheet

Scale lin:12 miles. <u>Upland</u> which, along its scuth-western side, consists of ridges of limestone, weathered into stark, fluted pinnacles and surrounded by soil-covered plains. The limestone ridges are flanked on the north-east by undulating hills eroded from Palaeozoic sediments and intrusive granite.

The Mungana-Chillagee Upland is flanked on the east by the

Featherbed Range and the change in topography is abrupt from gently undulating hills to a rugged rock-strewn deeply incised range. The Featherbed Range is composed of pink rhyolite flows overlain by grey ignimbrites and bounded by faults; it stands about 1000 ft. above the Mungana-Chillagoe Upland and occupies about 600 square miles on the atherton Sheet. To the south, it descends abruptly to the Tate-Lynd Upland and, to the east more gradually to the Mareeba-Dimbulah Plain.

The Mareeba-Dimbulah Plain occupies about 800 square miles in the north-west corner of the Sheet; it grades east into the Atherton Tableland and is bounded on the south by the Herberton Highland. The Walsh River drains from east to west across the plain and is flanked on both sides by extensive alluvial flats. Elsewhere the plain is gently to moderately undulating and is dominated by several north to north-west trending hills which range up to 2500 ft. above sea level and about 900 ft. above the alluvial flats.

The Atherton Tableland has its maximum extent on the easterly adjoining Innisfail 4-mile Sheet; area the Atherton Sheet it covers about 100 square miles of the north-east corner of the Sheet. The tableland ranges in altitude from 2500 ft. at Atherton to 1100 ft. at Mareeba; it is developed mainly over Cainczcic basalt flows and pyroclasts and ranges from flat to moderately undulating. The drainage in general is deeply incised and contrasts strongly with the Mareeba-Dimbulah Plain where the streams occupy wide shallow valeys partly filled with alluvium. Bones Knob, a prominent hill west of Tolga, is the remnant of a Tertiary volcano which produced most of the basalt in this segment of the Atherton Tableland.

The <u>Herberton Highland</u> occupies about 1700 square miles on the eastern side of the Sheet; it is bounded roughly by a line from Atherton north-west to Walsh Bluff thence south-west to about Emuford, thence south-east to the south-east corner of the Sheet. This is the most rugged

part of the Sheet; it is high and deeply dissected and reaches its maximum altitude at Wallum Trig. (4253 ft.) about 6 miles west of Atherton. In this area lithology has had a marked effect on topography; thus the valleys incised in Palaeczoic sediments are deep and narrow, and separated from one another by sharp interfluves; in the areas of acid extrusives, the valleys are deep and narrow but the interfluves are commonly broad and rock-strewn: generally, the topography over granite is more subdued, but there are places where it vies for roughness with the areas of sediments and acid extrusives. Along the eastern side of the Sheet, Cainczoic basalt flows have partly filled some of the valleys and subdued the topography.

The Gunnewarra Plain occupies about 750 square miles in the southeast corner of the Sheet. Most of it is a level to gently undulating plain covered with soil and alluvium, through which protrude isolated low hills of metamorphic and granitic rocks. The Herbert River drains from north to south across the centro of the plain. In Tertiary time, basalt flows from vents on the Atherton Tableland, coursed down this valley and junctioned (near Gunnawarra Homestead) with the distal portion of flows emitted from vents within the McBride Basalt Province (Einasleigh 4-mile Sheet). Most of the Atherton Easalt is now covered with alluvium, but inversion of topography has preserved the EcBride Basalt as low, broad, boulder-strewn ridges flanked by Bell, Gunnawarra and Rudd Creeks.

STRATIGRAPHY AND PALAEONTOLOGY

<u>General</u>

Rocks ranging from Archean to Cainozoic cropout in the Sheet area; generally, the Precambrian rocks occupy the area south of the north-west diagonal, the Palaeozoic rocks occupy the area north of this diagonal, and outliers of Cainozoic rocks are distributed along the eastern and southern sides of the Sheet area.

More than half the rocks which crop out on the Sheet are igneous intrusives and extrusives, and the ages assigned to most of them are tentative. Some of the intrusive bodies have been sampled for radicactive age determinate ion but none has been dated yet.

The stratigraphy and palaeontology of the Sheet area in Table III. The type localities for all the rock units lie within the boundaries of the Atherton and four adjoining 4-mile Sheet areas Geological History of the Sheet area is illustrated in Fig.5.

Procambrian

The Precambrian has been mapped on this Sheet as three units:-

(a) Dargalong Metamorphics, named the Dargalong Beds by

Skertchly (1899), have been tentatively assigned to the archaean. The

rocks are mica schist, gneiss, granulite, muscovite pegmatite, granitic

rocks and quartzite and amphibolite; de Keyser, Bayley and Wolff (1959)

suggest they belong to the albite-epidote amphibolite facies. They crop

out extensively in the north-west corner of the Sheet, and it is probable

that most of the undifferentiated Precambrian in the scuth-west of the

Sheet are Dargalong Metamorphics.

Type localities for the Dargalong Metamorphics are the Cardross area (Ball, 1917a) five miles west-north-west of Mungana, and the Mt.Wandoo goldfield (Ball, 1918) eight and a half miles south-west of Mungana.

The Dargalong Metamorphics have a faulted boundary with Middle

Palaeczoic sediments to the north-east; along the western side of the

Sheet they are unconformably everlain by Mesozoic sediments. Granites

ranging in age from Precambrian to?Lower Mesozoic intrude the metamorphics.

(b) The McDevitt Metamorphics are named from Mount McDevitt latitude longitude 144°17'E and/17°34'S; they crop out over 300 square miles in an east-trending U-shaped area around Tate Township. The rocks are quartz-mica schist, and alusite schist, quartzite and garnet mica schist. The grade of metamorphism is not as high as in the Dargalong Metamorphics and on this basis they have been assigned to the Proterozoic.

The type area for the McDevitt Metamorphics is along the Tate River from Bolwarra Homestead to the Tate Township.

Granites ranging from Precambrian to ?Lower Mesozoic intrude the metamorphics and dolerite sills and dykes have been mapped about 4-8 miles south of Tate Township. Upper Palaeozoic -?Lower Mesozoic acid volcanics unconformably overlie the metamorphics along the southern boundary of the Sheet; Mesozoic sediments overlie them unconformably along the western

boundary of the Sheet area.

(c) Undifferentiated <u>Precambrian</u> has been mapped over most of the south-west quadrant of the Sheet; time did not permit delineating the formations here, but there are rocks similar to the Dargalong Metamorphics, McDevitt Metamorphics and Forsayth Granite in the area.

Inliers of metamorphic rocks have been mapped well over on the eastern side of the Sheet, they have been included in the undifferentiated Precambrian but most of them are gneissic and probably belong in the Archaean.

PALAEOZOIC

The Herberton Beds do not appear in the stratigraphic table, and because this unit has long occupied a place in Queensland stratigraphy, the reasons for its omission are enumerated below.

Skertchly (1899) defined the Herberton Beds as "the enormous series of slate, shales, conglomerates, grits, sandstones, and greywackes, which constitute the mass of the country between Herberton and Arbouine" (west of Mungana). Skertchly ascribed a Devonian age to these sediments and stated that in general they were "more arenaceous towards the east" and "more argillaceous westward". From Skertchly's description there is little doubt that his "Herberton Beds" included practically all the Palaeozoic sediments in the Atherton 4-mile Sheet area.

Jensen (1923) drew attention to "important lithological differences between the greywackes of the Herberton field and those of the Hodgkinson field"(p.5). He (p.6) ascribed an Ordivician age to the Herberton Beds and a Silurian age to the sediments cropping out south-southeast of Petford towards Mount Garnet. In his formal description of the "Herberton Series" Jensen (p.8) included "coarse greywackes, arkoses and quartzites interbedded with chlorite schists typically developed in the Herberton, Irvinebank, Koorboorah, and Emuford districts". The recent mapping, up to 1960, has shown that in the area delineated by Jensen, the greywackes belong either to the Mount Garnet or Hodgkinson Formations,

the arkose is part of the Montalbion Sandstone (?Carboniferous), and the quartzite is part of the Ringrose Formation (?Carboniferous).

Walsh Bluff

GEOLOGICAL HISTORY ATHERTON 4-MILE SHEET

LEGEND

Cza Atherton Basalt

K Cretacoous sediments

Pf Featherbed Volconics

Ph Walsh Bluff Volcanics.

Paz Elizabeth Creek Granite

Pgh Herbert River Granite.

Pny Nychum Volcanics

Cn Nanyeta Volcanics

Cm Montolbion Sandstone

Cr Ringrose Formation

Csi Silver Valley Conglomerate Rdc

D-Ch Hodgkinson Formation

Cam Mareeba Granite S-Dh Chillage Formation S-Om M'Garnet Formation

Ess Sandalwood Serpentinite

McDevill Metamorphics 2m

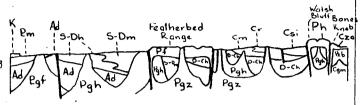
Cobbold Dolerite

Rgf Forsayth Grante

Ad Dargalong Metamorphics

10 LATE TERTIARY to RECENT

Mainly a period of urosion. On the costern side of the Sheet area strong vertical faulting coused beheading of west flowing streams, and their diversion and capture, mostly, by east flowing streams.



9 CAINOZOIC

Epairogenic upliticaised withdrawal of the K
Sea, a possure of Crotacoous sediments, incresed aresion, and ultimately inversion of lopography over most of the area covered by acid volcanic rocks! About Precambrian Pala Middle Tertary time baselt folcanoes erupted and olivine baselt flows covered down valleys along the astern and southern sides of the Sheet area, and in places buried slann, forousa gravels. Lule-slage explosive activity covered some of the flows with baselt pyroclasts.

Palacozoic

8 CRETACEOUS

The area had low relief; marine trans-gression from the west led to deposition of conglomerate, sand stone and sittatione (K) along Precombrian western side of the Sheet area.



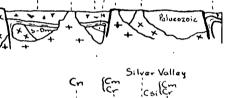
Ŋz

Pf

? PERMIAN - TRIASSIC Extrusion of basic, intermediate and acid volcanics over Glossopteris bearing sediments. Younger acid volcanics(Pny) lopped onto Atherton Sheet area. Then followed extensive foulting, grabane formed, rhyolite erupted along fiseuros; later activity violently explose and ignimbrites pourod into the grabens. Intrusion of grey granity (Pgh) and later pny (granite (Pgx) caused in copper, silvaried, motivary metybelenum and theorem in control of the grabing of the control of present the proper silvaried, motival metybelenum and the proper invarience of the control of the proper silvaried, motivation metybelenum and the proper silvaries.

Pny

Pny Pgh



Mild orogeny, Carboniterous sediments
folded; block faulting followed, and
sodiments and and volcanics were deposited
in the resulting grubens. Grey granite
intruded in east of Sheetaraa

CARBONIFEROUS (a)

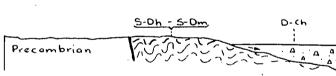
Major orageny. Hodgkinson sediments folded and uplifted. Conglomerate sandstone and siltstone deposited in a basin or basins on the eastern held of the sheat area.



Palaeozoic

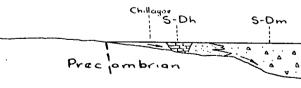
DEVONIAN

Major orogeny - Siluro- Devonian sediments folded and uplifted in most of the area but marine conditions prevailed in the north; deposition of greywaekes, eitstone, chert and rare limestone began about Middle Devonian.



4 UPPER SILURIAN-LOWER DEVONIAN

Eostern port of area submerged strond line trended SE from a bout Mungano to near Glen Gordon and from those trended SSW. Limestone, sandstone, siltstone and chert (S-Dh) deposited on shelf in N.W. of area. Conglomerate massive graywacke, chert and rare limeston deposited east of S-Dh in North: In the South of the sheet, S-Dm flanks pt. S-Dhis absent



3. Late PRECAMBRIAN
Major orageny - Proterozou sediments folded area uplifted and strongly foulted along the eastern side; serpentenite, daterite and granite intruded.



2 PROTEROZOIC

Basement uplifted above see level on eastern side, and quartz sand and sill deposited in shallow basins on the west.



ARCHAEAN

Bosement (A) formed from metamorphosed igneous rocks sediments and



To have persisted in using the name "Herberton", it would have been necessary to use it either as a formation name or a group name. Its use as a formation name would have necessitated restricting Skertchly's distribution and lithology; and, in addition, would have conflicted with Jensen's interpretation, because his description specifically rejected the only formation to which it could have been applied, namely the Mount Garnet Formation. Its use as a group name was precluded because of the intervening unconformities.

In order to preserve Herberton as a geological name, and to indicate its position in the stratigraphy, the units it embraces have been bracketed and labelled "Herberton Beds" on the map which these notes accompany.

Upper Silurian - Lower Devonian.

The Chillagoe Formation is the oldest Palaeozoic unit on the Sheet; it was named by Jack and Ltheridge in 1892. Many fossils, particularly corals, have been collected from it; the a ssemblage has Upper Silurian affinities, but may range into the Devonian (de Keyser et al. 1959). The rocks of this formation are limestone, chert, quartz greywacke, shaley siltstone, sandstone, conglomerate and rare basalt flows (de Keyser et al. 1959); with the exception of the limestone they crop out poorly.

Mount Garnet Formation has been proposed for the belt of sediments which lie to the east of the Chillagoe Formation and trend south-east to Mt. Garnet and beyond to the south-east corner of the Sheet. The formation consists of greywacke, radiolarian jasper, greywacke conglomerate, limestone lenses, limestone conglomerate and fine dark grey quartz sandstone. These rocks are considered to be off-shore equivalents of the Chillagoe Formation. In the Chillagoe area both formations are present, but farther south the Chillagoe Formation is missing and this has been interpreted as indicating a change in the depositional environment - in the Chillagoe area, in Upper Silurian time, there is a wide shallow shelf and a deeper area of deposition offshore; in the Mt. Garnet area the wide shelf was missing, probably due to a steep coast line.

The fossils from the small limestone lenses in the Mount Garnet
Formation are few and poorly preserved but are probably contemporaneous with
the Chillagoe fauna.

Devonian - ? Carboniferous

The Hodgkinson Formation, named the Hodgkinson Eeds by Jack in 1884, crops out over about one quarter of the north-east quadrant of the Sheet. The lithology is more uniform than in the older Silurian formations and consists of rhythmic, thin, well-bedded siltstones to medium arenites, showing abundant turbidity current structures, and rare thick greywacke beds and minor limestone lenses, limestone conglomerate and jasper horizons.

The relationship between the Hodgkinson Formation and the Mount Garnet Formation is not precisely known, but palaeontological evidence suggests that they are unconformable: the Mount Garnet Formation is Upper Silurian - ? Lower Devonian and the Hodgkinson Formation is Middle Devonian - ? Lower Carboniferous. About six miles north-west of Emuford the contact between the two formations is faulted, and elsewhere the contact is obscured.

The type area for the Hodgkinson Formation is in the Hodgkinson Goldfield on the Mossman 4-mile Sheet area.

Carboniferous

The Ringrose Formation was first described by R.C. Ringrose in 1895 and named the Ringrose Conglomerate by S.J.B. Skertchly in 1899. The rocks are dark grey quartz siltstone, silty mudstone, dark to pale grey fine sandstone, pale grey coarse sandstone, dark grey quartz conglomerate with clay galls. The beds are fairly tightly folded, but they are lithologically dissimilar to the underlying Hodgkinson Formation and have a much smaller distribution than it; for these reasons they are considered to unconformably the Hodgkinson Formation. So far they have proved to be unfossiliferous but they are overlain by Middle Carboniferous Silver Valley Conglomerate, and have been intruded and mineralised by Permian and Upper Permian -? Triassic granites. On this evidence they have been assigned to the Carboniferous. The type areas are near Empress Trig. west of Herberton, and between Irvinebank and Coolgara.

The <u>Montalbion Sandstone</u> was named by S.B.J. Skertchly in 1899 and consists of white to pale grey sandstone with a ? basal pebble and cobble

conglomerate. The beds are only moderately folded and generally have shallow dips; they overlie the underlying rocks with a marked unconformity. The outcrops are almost invariably restricted to the crests of hills and ridges and are commonly bounded by faults. This unit is considered to be a near-shore equivalent of the Ringrose Formation. The type area is around the former Mantalbion silver/lead mines.

Silver Valley Conglomerate crops out in a 6 square mile fault bounded block about 8 miles south-west of Herberton. This unit is a thin
sequence of sediments chiefly conglomerate, sandstone and shale with
interbedded rhyolite. The fine-grained sediments near the top of the
sequence contain <u>Fhacopteris inequilatera</u> (? Middle Carboniferous). The
sediments unconformably overlie the Hodgkinson Formation and Ringrose
Formation and are faulted against them.

Igneous Rocks.

The history of igneous activity of this area ranges from Upper Precambrian to Cainozoic and shows a marked periodicity; the magma injected into and through the crust has alternated between basic and acid (the volume of intermediate igneous rocks is insignificant), and the total volume of acid magma injected greatly exceeds the volume of basic magma.

Precambrian

Ultrabasic and basic. Swarms of dolerite and amphibolite dykes crop out within the Precambrian rocks on the western side of the Sheet. They have been intruded by Palaeozoic granites and are considered to be equivalents of the Cobbold Dolerite (White, 1959) on the Einasleigh 4-mile Sheet area.

A lenticular body of serpentinite was mapped near Gunnawarra

Homestead; it crops out along the faulted eastern edge of the Precambrian basement and is similar to the bodies of "Sandalwood Serpentinite" mapped on the Einasleigh Sheet area.

Massive to porphyritic biotite granite, have been mapped on the western half of the Sheet. The Forsayth Granite intrudes Precambrian metamorphics and is unconformably overlain by Upper Palaeozoic - ? Lower Mesozoic volcanics, and Mesozoic sediments. It is probable there are other masses of Forsayth Granite in the area shown as undifferentiated Precambrian.

PALAEOZOIC

Ultrabasic and Basic Rocks

A few small bodies of ultrabasic and basic rocks, predominantly dolerite, crop out through the eastern half of the sheet; they are commonly located along strong faults, but no evidence of their age was detected. They are possibly equivalent to the Devonian basic intrusions on the Einasleigh Sheet.

Chromite boulders and talc crop out on the surface of a probable fault-scarp about 10 miles south of Marceba on the Atherton road which suggest the presence of basic and ultrabasic rocks; however, Tertiary basalt obscures the older rocks in this area.

CARBONIFEROUS.

Acid Volcanics.

Acid volcanic rocks are intercalated with sediments bearing Carboniferous plant remains (Rhacopteris sp.) in the Silver Valley area.

Nanyeta Volcanics

North-west of Mount Garnet a belt of acid volcanic rocks unconformably overlie the Mount Garnet Formation, and are conformably overlain by a few feet of light grey and green siltstones; these volcanics have been tentatively assigned to the Carboniferous.

Sunday Creek Volcanics

In the south-east corner of the Sheet, acid volcanic rocks with a considerable range of lithologies are unconformably overlain by younger, more homogeneous acid volcanics and are intruded by Herbert River Granite. These rocks are considered to be equivalents of the Nanyeta Volcanics.

PERMIAN

Volcanics.

Nychum Volcanics

The Nychum Volcanics have their maximum development on the Mossman 4-mile Sheet area. At the type locality, near Jug waterhole, the lithologies range from dominant acid lavas and tuffs to subordinate intermediate and basic lava flows. On the Atherton Sheet, this unit crops out in five small areas north of Mungana and the rocks are dominantly acid lavas.

Granites

The Herbert River Granite crops out over about 800 square miles on the Atherton Sheet. The granite is grey, medium-grained and commonly contains pink feldspar phenocrysts, but there are variants and it is probable that the batholith contains a range of types which may differ slightly in age. The Herbert River Granite intrudes ? Carboniferous sediments and is intruded by Upper Permian - ? Triassic Elizabeth Creek Granite; it has been tentatively placed in the Permian and probably belongs in the Lower Permian.

The Almaden Granite is a quartz-poor variant of the Herbert River Granite; it intrudes Permian - Triassic volcanics near Chillagoe.

PERMIAN - ? TRIASSIC

Acid Volcanics

Pink rhyolite flows and grey ignimbrites crop out extensively over the Atherton Sheet; the largest continuous outcrop forms the Featherbed Range. On the Atherton Sheet no definite evidence of their age has been found; but on the adjacent northerly Mossman Sheet area there is evidence for a possible Lower Mesozoic age. At Jug waterhole, about 50 miles north-north-west of Mungana, sediments containing fossil plants are overlain by the Nychum volcanics (Morgan, 1961). Elsewhere the Nychum Volcanics are intruded by the Almaden Granite, and the Almaden Granite is overlain by the Featherbed Volcanics. The plant fossils are uppermost Permian, possibly Lower Triassic (White, Mary E., 1961a).

Granite

Pink even-grained granite, the <u>Elizabeth Creek Granite</u> crops out over 1300 square miles on the Atherton 4-mile Sheet; it intrudes the Featherbed Volcanics and its age is probably Upper Permian - Triassic.

Cainozoic

Small local deposits of unconsolidated to partly lithified flat-lying argillaceous and arenaceous sediments are exposed in valleys on the eastern side of the Sneet. Most, if not all, of these sediments have been deposited in lakes formed by Tertiary basalt flows. On the Atherton Sheet they have area, so far proved unfossiliferous, but similar deposits on the Einasleigh Sheet are associated with diatomite deposits (White and Crespin, 1959).

Basic Volcanics

Atherton Basalt

There are two Tertiary volcanoes in the Atherton Sheet. Bones Knob, an old shield volcano, about 3 miles west of Tolga, extruded most of the basalt in the north-east corner of the Sheet; late-stage explosive activity has reamed out the crater and built a pyroclastic dome overlapping the crater on the southern side. Hypipamee crater about 10 miles south of Atherton is a diatreme, which has been reamed through massive Elizabeth Creek Granite by violently explosive activity; basalt lapilli and fragmented granite are scattered for hundreds of yards around this vent.

Along the eastern and southern sides of the Shoet are several valleys partly filled with the distal portions of basalt flows extruded from vents on the Innisfail and Einasleigh Sheet areas.

STRUCTURE

FOLDS

Precambrian

Palaeozoic

The folding in the Precambrian is tight and probably isoclinal; near the boundary with the Palacozoic sediments the fold axes in the Dargalong Metamorphics appear to parallel the boundary, but farther west they trend south-west. The foliation is commonly steep to vertical.

The early and middle Palaeozoic sediments are tightly folded and their axes, generally, follow the trend of the edge of the Precambrian basement; thus in the Mt. Garnet area it is about north, and near

Chillagoe, north-west.

The Montalbion Sandstone is moderately folded, and the Silver Valley beds, away from their faulted margin, are flat-lying.

Faults

Strong, vertical faulting is a major feature of tectonic history in the Sheet area:

- (a) a major linear fault-zone has defined the eastern edge of the Precambrian basement.
- (b) strong linear and a remate faults have delineated cauldron-

subsidence areas, located volcanic focii, and aided the emplacement of plutonic rocks in the Precambrian and Palaeozoic.

The faults trend in all directions but the preferred azimuths are north, east, north-west, and north-east.

In most places it is not possible to date the faults precisely, but it is certain that some of them have been active for a long time.

There has been strong faulting during the Tertiary. In the headwater valleys of the Herbert River, west and south-west of Ravenshoe, outliers of basalt were mapped on the flanks of valleys 200 to 300 feet above flows of basalt in the floor of the valley. These valleys have been eroded along fault lines and movement of these faults during Tertiary time has elevated portions of the early basalt flows.

The most recent fault mapped in the Sheet area is in the north-east corner of the Sheet. The fault trends north-west and crosses the Atherton-Marceba road about 10 miles south of Marceba. The fault has displaced a Tertiary basalt flow about 100 feet (vertically); the western side has been upthrust. Chromite float and tale is exposed on the fault-scarp and its presence suggests that this fault-line is old and has, in the past, been the site of basic and ultrabasic intrusions.

<u>Joints</u>

The most strongly jointed rocks are the Upper Palaeozoic - Lower Mesozoic acid volcanics, and the Elizabeth Creek Granite. The joints are mainly vertical and trend in all azimuths, but the north-west, north-east, north and east directions are preferred.

ECONOMIC GECLOGY

The Atherton 4-mile Sheet area covers part of the :
Chillagoe Gold and Mineral Field and

Herberton " " " "

Mining began in this area about 1870, reached a peak in the late

19th and early 20th centuries and has declined irregularly to a low ebb at
the present day. During this period twelve main minerals have been mined
from about one thousand different localities within the Sheet area.

It is beyond the scope of these notes to treat each deposit individually, and, accordingly, the production, distribution, and type of deposit of the minerals will be treated generally.

COAL

Coal has been reported from north of Koorboora; it is interbedded with the Featherbed Volcanics and is probably equivalent to the Mount Mulligan Coal Measures on the Mossman Sheet area. The deposit is not economic.

COBALT

Cobalt has been reported from the Cambourne lode about 5 miles north-east of Mungana. It is not an economic deposit.

COPPER

The copper deposits around Chillagoe and Mungana were first prospected in 1888, but it was not until 1901 when the Chillagoe smelters opened that these deposits were seriously exploited.

Although most of the principal copper mines were in the Chillagoe-Mungana area, copper has been produced from many parts of the Atherton Sheet area. Most of the mines produced only a few tons of copper, but the Mount Garnet copper mine yielded about 4,500 tons.

The recorded production of copper from the Chillagoe and Herberton Mineral Fields is 45,308 tons, but included in this figure is the production from the O.K. and Mount Molloy mines on the Mossmah Sheet; so it is probable that the production from the Atherton Sheet aggregates somewhere between 35,000 and 40,000 tons.

At first glance the recorded figures of production give an erroneous impression of the relative importance of Chillagoe and Herberton Districts as copper provinces, but this impression is corrected when it is realized that up to 1908 the Chillagoe production was included in the Herberton returns

The copper ores from the Chillagoe - Mungana area were commonly associated with silver and lead, and, from the Herberton area, with tin.

Most of the deposits in the Chillagoe - Mungana area were located on the contact of limestone and grano diorite. One marked exception was the Ruddygore which was a disseminated deposit in granodiorite.

Throughout the Sheet area most of the copper ore bodies are fairly closely associated with the Herbert River Granite, or its equivalent the Almaden Granite, and it is considered that this granite was responsible for the copper mineralisation. Likewise the Elizabeth Creek Granite has been the tin mineraliser, and it is significant that in the Herberton area, in the Copper Firing Line, where the lodes contain both tin and copper, both Herbert River Granite and Elizabeth Creek Granite crop out in close proximity.

FLUORSPAR

Most of the fluorspar has been won from the western side of the Sheet area, principally from fissure lodes in the Precambrian metamorphics. Production began in 1916 and up to 1960 31,728 tons had been mined.

The lode-containing fissures are strong and commonly can be traced for several miles, but the fluorspar is sporadically distributed along the fissure as discrete bodies. The gangue is commonly white quartz. The fluorspar is crystalline and massive, commonly clear, glassy and white, but may be coloured brown, purple or green.

GOLD

Gold was won from a number of localities, principally on the western side of the Sheet, towards the end of the last century and early in the present century. The economic depression of the 1930's revived the gold mining industry and resulted in new finds in the Mt. Wandoo and Flüorspar areas.

Most of the gold has been won from the Chillagoe Gold and Mineral Field and recorded production for this field for the years 1909 to 1955 is 56,218 fine ozs.

IRCN

Almost all of the iron ore mined in the Atherton Sheet has been used as flux at the Chillagoe and Mt. Molloy copper smelters; commonly the ironstone was cupriferous. Most of the ironstone bodies are replacement lodes in limestone and they commonly grade into garnet rock. The largest deposit is Mt. Lucy, about 3 miles west of Almaden on the Chillagoe road, and estimated by Dunstan (1905) to contain about 350,000 tons of ore. About 45,000 tons of ore has been mined from this deposit.

SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC

Towards the end of the nineteenth century rich deposits of silver/lead ores were found in the area west and south of Herberton.

Towns and smelters sprang up on the sites of richer deposits, flourished for a few years, then waned and were finally deserted. The main centres of the early silver/lead mining era were Muldiva, Dargalong, Montalbion, Orient Camp and Silver Valley. Subsequently the Lady Jane and Girofla mines near Mungana became the main producers.

Total recorded production for the Herberton and Chillagoe mineral fields is 8,150,798 ozs. of silver most of which was produced from the Chillagoe area. With the exception of Dargalong, where the mineralisation was in Precambrian metamorphics, most of the silver-lead ore bodies were replacement lodes in sediments, primarily limestones and sandstones. Commonly these lodes contained other minerals in addition to silver and lead; the most abundant was copper, and zinc was subordinate. The production figures for zinc on the Atherton Sheet area are incomplete; but for the years 1924-1926 the Chillagoe District produced 200 tons. LIMESTONE

Initially limestone was mined to provide flux for the smelters and quarries were established near Chillagoe and Calcifer. To the end of 1912 about 120,000 tons of limestone had been quarried.

Subsequently deposits of "earthy lime" 5 miles north-west of Mungana were worked for agricultural purposes.

Currently all of the limestone exported from the area is being mined and processed at Ootann, 8 miles south-south-west of Almaden. Massive limestone is burnt for lime and crystalline calcite is crushed for agricultural purposes. Production in mid-1959 was 30 tons per day of crushed calcite and 30 tons per week of burnt lime.

MOLYBDENUM

Most of the molybdenum produced from the Atherton Sheet area has come from Wolfram Camp and Bamford Hill, where it is associated with wolfram and bismuth in quartz-filled vughs in granite. Production for the Chillagoe/Herberton District from 1900 to 1958 amounts to 2,930 tens of molybdenite concentrates.

SİLICA

Fine-grained sugary quartzite was mined about half a mile east of Chillagoe and used as a flux at the Chillagoe smelters.

Twenty-four pounds of piezo-electric quartz were culled from several tons of crystalline quartz obtained from dumps at the Enterprise Mine, Wolfram Camp.

Large quartz crystals are known from an area 8 miles north of Petford but they are too cloudy and opaque for commercial use.

TİN

Tin has been the most abundant mineral on the Atherton Sheet area:
it was the mineral which first focussed the attention of the prospector and
miner on the area, and it has been mined continuously ever since.

Most of the tin has been won from the eastern half of the Sheet, but some tin was mined from the south-west corner around Fulford Creek.

So far 103,973 tons of cassiterite have been produced from the Sheet area, a little over half of which has come from lode deposits.

In the Atherton Sheet there is a close association in the distribution of tin, both lode and alluvial, and the distribution of the Elizabeth Creek Granite, and it is considered that this granite was the tin mineralizer in this area. The lodes are commonly confined to competent rocks which range from Middle Palaeozoic sediments (Mt. Garnet Formation) to Lower Mesozoic ignimbrites (Featherbed Volcanics).

Currently most of the tin being won from the area is recovered by two dredges working near Mt. Garnet; together they produce between 1000 and 1500 tons per year of cassiterite. A number of small lode-mines are working in the Ord - Irvinebank - Herberton - Bamford areas, and there are batteries at Brownville, Emuford, Sunnymount, Irvinebank and Herberton which crush the ore on a custom basis. The battery at Irvinebank is operated by the Queens-land Government; the rest are privately owned and operated.

TUNGSTEN

Most of the tungsten produced from the Atherton Sheet area has come from Bamford Hill and Wolfram Camp, but there have been small deposits worked in many other parts of the Sheet area.

Wolfram was first mined at Bamford Hill in 1893 and the Wolfram Camp deposits were discovered the following year.

Total production of wolfram concentrates from the Sheet area is 11,806 tons of which Wolfram Camp has produced almost half.

The wolfram is almost invariably associated with quartz, but the host has ranged from vughs in granite to fractures in sediments.

WATER

High rainfall ensures that a narrow strip down the eastern side of the Sheet area is adequately supplied with water throughout the year. The Herbert River drains south from this high-rainfall area and waters what would otherwise be a somewhat arid area. The larger north-west trending streams contain large permanent waterholes and there are some springs, but over most of the Sheet area there is commonly a shortage of water during the greater part of the year.

In the mining areas around Stannary Hills, Herberton, Irvinebank, and Mt. Garnet many streams have been dammed, a number of dams still stand but many have been destroyed by floods and bushfires.

There are a few wind-operated pumps drawing on sub-artesian water, mainly along the southern half of the Sheet area. Apart from those there is no exploitation of underground water.

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Era	Period	Rock Unit	Thickness	Lithology	Distribution	Topography	Structure	Correlation Palaeontology and Age	Strati graphical Relationship	Nechomic Principal Goology References
	NARY	Alluvium (Qa)	0-100 ft. in the Mt. Garnet area	Silt, sand and gravel.	Flanks of streams and on floed plains; partly filling old valleys in the Mt.Garnet area.	Level to slightly undulating plains.		luch of this naterial probably ranges lack into the Tortiary		Mainly all- uvial tin, seme allu- vial geld on west of Sheet rea. Good water at shallow depth near major streams
	RETAUU	Residual Soils (Qs)		Grey, brown and red soils range in texture from pilt to sand.	Extensive deposits over Precambrian rocks, Herbert River Granite, and rost of the Atherton Easalt.	Mainly level to gently undulating plains; deeply dissected and steeply undulating over Atherton Basalt.		room vi likovas võrkalvalvalvalvas rappavalik välkillikkissastus võrka	Derived mainly from underlying rocks, some resorted alluvium.	
		Laterite (Czl)	20-30 ft.	Mottled ferrugincus berizon which grades dewn inte an indefinite pallid zone	Mainly in scutheast corner of Shect, some outliers in centre of Shoot.	Level to andulating plains, commonly bounded by cliffs 15 - 20 ft. high. Some mesas in centre of Sheet.	Hard, red ferruginous cap overlying mottled red and white clay, and send horizons.		Mainly overlies Horbert River Granite and Precombrian rocks.	Fair grazing Whitehouse land but 1940. commonly Simonett infested with 1957. "Reart Leaf Foison".
CAINOZOIC	T I A R Y	Atherton Basalt (Cza)	Unknown, flows probably about 500 ft., pyroclasts about 100 ft.	Grey fine- grained clivine basalt, mantled with pyroclastic basalt mainly tuff.	Partly filling valleys sleng the eastern side of the Sheet. Some flows have coursed about 40 miles from their vents. The pyroclasts are more restricted they were mainly subaerially deposited; there are some lahar deposits along the SW fringe of the province.	over basalt flows.	Partly filled the valleys of the ancestral Mitchell and Johnston River Overtopped low divides on the western side of the valleys and course down the headwater of the Herbert I. Late-stage explosi activity mantled a but the distal flewith up to 100 ft. baselt pyroclasts. hence knot and Hyperator are the envoluances on the Sheet srea.	Undara, and probably s Kinrara Basalts on the Einasleigh Sheet. e d s ve ll ws of	Cverlies stanniferous gravels in the Wild River. Unconformably overlies Walsh Eluff and Glen Gorden Velcanics Elizabeth Grack and Merbert R. Granites and Mt. Garnet Formation.	Deep leads Best, 1959 (stanniferous), 1960 in the Herberton / Wondeela area. Forest products, agricultural and dairying on the basalt tuff.
	ii E	Culger Basalt (Gzg)		Grey fine- grained elivine tasalt	Small outliers along Cakey Ck. valley, SE of "Springmount". hainly flews, some bombs, no obvious vents.	Very small hillside cut-crops in head-waters; floors via valley below headwaters.	Vents and inclined flows in headwater more continuous flin wide. I help he-lunters.	6 9	Unecuformably cverlies Recykinson Formation.	

Era	Period	Rock Un i t	Thickness	Lithology	Distribution	Topography	Structure	Correlation Falseontology and Age.	Strati rephical Relationship	k c onem ic Geolog y	Principel References
		basalt undifferent (Czb)	ated	Grey fine- grained clivine baselt	Small cutlier NW of Walsh Dluff.	Gently undulating with sporadic basalt boulders at the surface.		Atherton Pasalt.			
CAINOZOIG	TERTIANY	McBride Basalt (Czm)	Unknown, probably 50-100 ft.	Grey fine- grained olivine basalt; the clivine is commonly iddingstised	Partly fills ancestral stream channels along the southern side of the Sheet area.	Level surface covered with hasalt houlders and flanked by twin lateral streams.	Distal portions of flows from vents in the McBride Hasalt Province on the Einasleigh 4-mile Sheet.	Ohudleigh Dasalt and Mulla Basalt on the Olarke River Sheet. ? Pliceene - ? Pleistocene.	Unconformakly overlies Precambrian metamorphics and Upper Palaeozcic Granites.	Commonly flanked by perenn- ial streams.	Twidale 1956 White and Hughes, 1957 Fest, 1959
MESCZOIC	CRETACEGUS	Cretaceous undiffer- entiated (K)	Unknown, probably about 200 ft.	Almost continuous outer op along the west-ern edge of the Sheet area and outliers up to 50 miles cast of the western edge of the Sheet.	Mainly sandstone with under- lying conglor- erate; size of constituents and proportion of agt tosistone increases to the east.	Plateaux, commenty bounded by cliffs along the eastern side. Outliers generally as mesas.	Low regional dip to the west.	Unconformably overlies Precambrian metamorphics and Upper Palaeczoic- Lower Mesozoic igneous rocks. Everlain by .? Tertiary send	Gilbert River Formation and the Wrotham Park Sandstone.	Intake beds for the (Oripuntori Basin.	Lain and Power,1959 ic,1960
-		Igneous Rocks undiffer- entiated. (Pzu)		(1) Dolerito, (2) dicrite, (3) rhyclite.	Sheet area. (2) Scattered out-	depressions Commonly areas of low relief. Long narrow	Vertical dykes commenly trend ESE to SE. Vertical dykes commonly trend	Intrude Precambrian metamorphics and Uppor Preteroscie granite Intrudes all rocks up to	1		A CALL THE PARTY OF THE CALL T
PALAECZCIC	PERMIAN (TRIASSIC ?)	Elizabeth Creek Granite (Pgz)		Pink granite, consists mainly of salmon pink orthoclase and colourless transparent quartz; near the margins of the pluton there are variants which range from aplitic to porphyritic. The porphyritic types cormonly contain biotite.	Discontinuous outcrops aggregate about 1300 square miles on the Atherton Sheet.	Steep rough hills, which in the more arid areas are bare of soil and devoid of timber.	F to SE. Outcrops range from ring dykes with an area of 5 sq. miles to batholiths of 500 sq. riles. There is no evidence of thermal metamorphism around contact area.	Probably co- magmatic with the Upper Palacoccic Lower Mcsozcic volcanics (Fuather- bed, Glen Gerdon, Walsh Eluff, etc.)	Upper Palacozcic-	Tin, tung- sten (welf: floorite, bickuth, bolybdenum	fram) Bost et al (1959)
		Gilmore Volcanics (Pi)		Pink rhyclite and grey igninbrite.	Oregs out ever about 30 sq. miles west of Ord Railway Stn.	Steep rough Lills.	volcamic and	' Fratherbed and Glen Gordon Volcanics. Upper Pa racinto dykos) Terra			

Era	Period	Rock Unit	Thickness	Lithology	Distribution	Topegraphy	Structure	Correlation Palaeontology and Age	Stratigraphical Relationship	Economic Ceclogy	Principal References.
		Foxwood Velcanics (Po)		Pink rhyolite and grey ignimbrite.	Creps out ever 15 sq. miles in the headwaters of Cakey Ch., near "Foxwood" Homestead.	Steep,rough hills.	Ring fractures bound blocks of sedimentary, volcanic and plutonic rocks.	Equivalent. to Featherbed, and Glen Gordon Volcanics. Upper Palaeozoic- Lower Mesozoic.	Is intruded by Elizabeth Creek Granite.		any, allanakakan ake- a - semala sakalan ake-ak-ak-ak-ak-ak-
		Warby Volcanics (Pw)		Pink rhyolite and grey ignimbrite.	Orops out ever about 60 sq.miles in the SW corner of the Sheet rec.	Stoe, rough hills.	Segments of pink rhyclite and grey ignimbrite bounded by ring fractured and intruded by pink granite and quartz trachyte.	Volcanics.	Intrudes Forsayth Gramite, intruded by Elizabeth Ck. Gramite, and unconformally overlain by Gretaceous sandstone.	Lode tin	
	IASSIC?)	Featherbed Volcanics (Pf)	About 4000 ft.	Pink rhyolites and grey ignimbrite.	About 500 sq. miles in a block about 40 miles long 10-15 miles vift NW from Stannary Hills.	Rough, deeply incised plateau; stream pattern rigidly controlled by jointing.	Pink flow-banded rhyelite everlain by massive grey ignimerite. Beds dip inward away from the faulted margin. These reel were probably deposited in a grabe by a predominantly explosive velcanicaction.	on 7	Unconformatly overlies Almaden Gramite, intruded by Elizabeth Ck. Gramite.	Lode tin	Jensen, (1920) Branch, White & Wyatt (1900).
0 I 0 Z	(T R	Walsh Bluff Volcanics (Ph)	About 1500 ft.	Pink rhyolite and grey ignimbrite.	About 50 sq.miles in a rectanjular block trending NW from Atherton	Rough, desply dissected plateau.	Bounded by faults, beds have a shallow dip south and inwards from the margin.	Featherbed Volcanion Atherton Sheet. Newcastle Range Volcanics on the Georgetown Sheet. Upper Palaeozoic-Lower Mesozoic.	es, Unconformably overlies Hodykinso Fermation, intrude by rhyolite perply dykes.	d	
L A E O		Kallon Volcanics (Pk)	About 2000- 3000 ft.	Pink rhyolite and grey ignimbrite.	Crops out in four areas along the south side of the Shoet area. aggregates about 70 sq. miles.	Steep, rough hills.	Bounded by arouate faults, dip shellow, inward away from the margin.	Equivalent to the Featherbod and Glen Gordon Velcanies. Upper Palaeozoic-Lower Mesozoic.	Uncenformably overlies Procentrian Metaworphies. Intruded by Elizab	oth Ck. Gren	aito.
P A I		Glen Gorden Volcanics (Pl)	About 1500- 2000 ft.	Pink rhyolite and grey ignimbrite.	About 300 sq. miles in a NNW trending belt 8-10 miles wide from the SE corner of the Sheet to about 16 miles NW of Navenshoe.	Steep, rough hills.	Dips range up to vertical, Strike generally NW. Cuterops bounded by faults.	Featherbed Velcamics on the Atherton Sheet; Newcastle Range Volcanics on the Georgetewn Sheet.	Unconformally overlie Sunday Ok. Volcanies, unconformably overlain by Atherton Basalt.		
	PERMIAN	Scardens Velcanics (Ps)	From 2000- 4000 ft.	Pink rhyolite and grey ignimbrite.	About 200 aq. miles between Lynd River and "Falleringer" Homestead.		Ring fractures bound the blocks of velcanics which are ex- poscioly fife range of levels. I enerally shallow, and	Footherhed Volearies. Upper Palacozeie- Lower Hecczeie. Tips inwards	Unconformably ever helevitt heterory intruded by Missil Greek Gramite, un- ecuformably ov rla by Oretacous sandstone.	ics, oth	

Era	Pe ri ∙d	Rock Unit	Thickness	Lithclogy	Distribution	Topography	Structure	Correlation Palaeontology and Age	Stratigraphical Rolationship	Necnomic Geology	Principal Reforences.
		Herbert River Granite (Pgh)		Massive, medium- grained grey biotite granite commonly with pink feldspar phenocrysts.	Crops out over about 800 sq.miles, trends roughly NW across the middle of the Cheet area	Commonly level to gently undulating plains covered with sandy soil.	Irregular shaped outcrops, thermal meta-morphic effects common around the margin.	Herbort Rivor Granite, Hinasleigh Sheet. Pormian	Intrudes Hontalbion Sandstone (Carlanifacous) and is intruded by Elizabeth Ck. Granite.	Copper, silver, lead, gold.	White, Best, et al., (1959) Jour.Gecl. Sec.Aust., 7,(1950)
		Almaden Granite (Pga)		Grey, medium- grained porphyrit: granodiorite	About 50 sq.riles ic between Almaden and the Walsh River.	Level to gently undulating plains covered with sandy soil.	Quartz-poor variant of the Herbert River Gramite.	Herbert River Granite Permian.	Intrudes Chillagoe Fortation & Tychun Vilcenics unconformably overlain by Featherbed Volcenics.	Copper, silver, lead, gold.	Jour.Geol. Soc.Aust., 7,(1900) DeKeyser, Eayley and Welff, (1959)
	IASSIC	Ixe Menzenite (Pmi)	e de la financia e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	Porphyritic micro-monzenite	About 20 sq.miles in two outerops west of bullock Ok. reilway siding.	Steep, rough hills.		Probably related to the Horbert River Granite.	Intrudes Forsayth Granite; intruded by Elizabeth Ck. Granite.		
°.	TR	Gingerella Trachyte (Ptg)		Trachyte and dolerite; in places flow-banded.	About 5 sq. miles around Gingerella Cutstation.	Gently undulating soil covered plain.	Discordant intrusion.	Probably genetically related to the Herbort River Granite.	Intrudes Forsayth Gramite; unconformably cverlain by Eallon Volcanics		
E O Z O I	I A N	Nychum Vclcanics (Pny)		Dominant acid lavas & tuffs, subordinate intermediate & basic lavas, rare sediments, some with coal.	Five cuterops north of lungana aggregat area about 20 sq. i.i	.ú	Gently folded volcanies.	Upger Pormian.	Intruded ly Almaden Granite everlain ly Gretaceous sandstene.		Norgan, 1961.

TABLE III page 5.

				TABLE III		ngo 5•		Correlation			
Era	Period	Rock Unit	Thickness	Lithology	Distribution	Topography	Structure	Palacentelogy and Age	Stratigraphical Relationship	Economic Geology	Principal References
	និក ០ ប ន	Nanyeta Creek Volcanics (Cn)		Perplyritic rhyelite flows and pyroclasts, basal beds contain greywacke xenclith upper beds are this bedded fine graine pale grey and created acciments.	n - ed	Steep, rough hills.	Dips generally shallow and inward from the fault-hounded margin.	Sunday Grook Volcanies. ? Carboniferous	Unconformally everties Mt. Garnet Formation, unconformally overlain by Glan Gorden Volcanies.		
	ARBONIF	Sunday Creek Volcanics (Cn)		Rhyolite and andes the lithologies ar much more diverse than in the over- lying Glen Gordon Volcanics.	re About & sq. miles in the	Steep rough hills over the rhyolite, more suldued over the andesites.	Fault-bounded and tilted blocks, dips range up to 45 degrees.	lenyota Velcanics. Our beniferous	neenforrably everlein by Glon Gordon Veleanies, intruded by Mark of River Granite,	everlain by Glen Gerden Veleanies, introded by Mark at River	
- -	9	Marcho Granite (Cgm).		Grey porphyritic biotite granite with rare horn-hlende and some tourmaline-rich variants.	About 80 sq. miles in the NE corner of the Sheet.	Commonly level plains to gently un-dulating hills covered sandy soil.	Predominantly concordant intrusion; faulted contact along the wootern side of the pluton.	Probably generically related to Harbert River Granite ?Carboniferous.	Introdes Lenter Fiver Listence hies and Listence hies and Listence hies and Listence hies and Listence hies and Acherton Lasalt.	Tin and gold.	Jengen, (1923).
0 I 0 Z		Silver Valley Conglemerate (Csi)	About 300 ft.	Shale, sandstone, pebble and cobble conglomerate, grey velcanies (rhyolit	miles, & miles r south-west of	Depression with incised dendritic drainage, surrounded by high rough hills.	Fruit-bounded block preserved by down-faulting. leds are and traversed by numerous vertical faults.	Plant fossils, Rhacostoris anequilatera. ? Middle Carboniferous	Uncenformally overlies Endykinsen Formation and Hingrose Termation, and in Sculted against them.	Silver, lead, cogar.	gt i rling, (1904). Heid, (1930).
PALABO		Montalbien Sandstone (Cm)	Commonly 100 ft., may range up to 1000 ft.	White to pale grey sandstone, basal pebble and cobble conglomerate.	Crops out over castern third of Sheet, aggregates 10-15 sq.miles.	Commonly caps steep rough hills and ridges.	Fips ecomonly N to ME. Cuterops gen- crally kounded by faults. where dips	Ringresc Formation. Carbonifercus.	Unconformally evenling acceptions acception acception, where Fermile Silver Valley & mile marking as with ling rose Fermition is intruded by Lingshoth Creek Counity.	tlic	Skort 117, (1899)
= - - -	REONIFEROUS	Ringrose Formation (Cr)	Unknown probably 1000+ ft.	Dark grey quartz siltstone, silty nudstone, dark to pale grey fine sendstone, pale grey coarse sandatone, dark grey quartz conglements with clay galls.	Sheet; aggregates about 50 sq. miles, most te of it around	Steep, s rugge d hills.	Moderate to steen bees everturned and bees ever turned eight, soutered commonly bounded by reults.	Montaltion Sandstone. Carboniferous.	Uncouse. A bly ever have I d minsen Fermation, uncon- formatic unleades dilver Valley Conglerenate. Interfingers with Hentellien Savista and is intraced by Parlant Liver have and Elizabeth Deco	silver, le 6. no ite	Liagress, (209.) (209.) Sk etc 17 (1.97)

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	Era	Period	Rock Unit	Thickness	Lithology	Distribution	Topography	Structure	Correlation Palaeentology and Age	Stratigraphical Aclationship	Economic Geology	Principal Reformecs.
	:	? MIDDLE DEVCNIAN LOWER CARRONIFEROUS	Hodgkinson Formation D-Ch	Unknown probably not more than 20,000 ft.en Atherten Sheet area, but greater further north.	Silty mudstone & slate, Grey-wacke, chert sandstone, silt-stone conglomerate and limestone lenses.	300-400 eq. miles if the ME quadrant of the Sheet.	Gentle to moderately undulating.	Tightly folded commonly everfolded, trends mainly NW to N. Southern end of the Hodghinson Essin	Stor Group Pachypera sp., Gyathophyllum sp., Topidodendren custrale Retzie sp., Psilophytelen sp., ?Middle Dovenian - Lower Garbonifercus.	Unconformally over lain by Mingrose Fm., Mintellien Sandstone Silver Valley Conglerant Faulted against It. Carnet Fa Intruded by Herbert Diver Granite and Elizabeth Creek Granite.	silver, lead, copper,	Jack, (1884), (1889), (1892). Duistan, (1916) Exil,(1917). Jensen,(1943)
		VONIAN.	Chillagoe Formation S - Dh		Limestone, chert, sandstone, siltsto greywacke conglome and rare acid and basic volcanic roc	reate 30 miles long and	Prominent ridges (100-150 ft.high) of cavernous karron-eroded limestone surrounded by soil covered plains.	Tightly folded bods strike about MW and dips range up to vertical.	Envesites sp., Heliolites sp., Halysites sp., Clade core sp., Propora sp., Tryplasma sp., Kwheelyllum sp., Cysthephyllum sp., Cystiphyllum sp., Xystriphyllum sp., Pscudamplexis sp., Grypophyllum sp., ?Stringceephalus sp. Silurian to possibly Lewer Devonian.	Faulted boundary with Lurgalong Matamarynics. Interfit gers with Mt. Garnet Fm., and intruded by Almaden Granite? Lower Mesozoic rhyelite perphyry dykes.	Sopper, silver, lead, limestene.	Jack 2 Etheridge, (1092). Jack, (1091), (1092). Skertelly, (1097) Jenson, (1920) (1941). White and Huches, (1957). DoKageer, Dayley and Wolff,(1950).
	0 Z 0 I C	UPPER SILURIAN - LOVER DEV	Mt. Garnet Formation S Dm	Unknewn possibly 15,000 ft.	Massive greywacke, siltstone, sandstone, thin bedded radio-larian jasper; lenses of limestone limestone conglome; and greywacke conglomerate. ? Intrusive doleri	ne, inliers in a belt trend- ing NW across e, the sheet from rate the SE corner of the sheet.	Commonly subdued plains to gently undulating hills; prominent hills where strongthened by faulting and quartz veining	but ranges around to ME. Dips range up	Entelophyllum sp., Syringolites sp., Thanmopun sp., Lavosites sp., ?Silurien, possible Levenian.	Interfingers with and grades into Chillagee Fm. Intruded by Herbert Fiver y and Elizabeth Creek Granites. Unconformably everlain by ?Carlenifereus and Y Lever hesezeic acid volcamies.	Copper, silver lead, tin, iron, flucrite, wolfram.	Whitchouse, (1930). White, Best et al (1959).
	PALAE	UNDIFFERENTIATED.	Barron River tamorphics Pzb		Phyllite, Schist, quartzite, thin-bedded meta-morphosed grey-wacke and silt-stone, rromarble lenses.	Crops cut over 25 - 30 sq. miles in the ME corner of the sheet.	Gently to stosply undulating hills.	Tightly folded, strike ranges from FW to NE, dips range up to vertical, commonly moderate to SW. Intimately antruded by the Maresta Grante.	E Redikinson lermation at least in part, leastly winer- conging. ? Middle Devenian- Lewer Carbeniferous or greater.	Introduct ly laroche Charite, unconformably overlain by Atherten result. Sharp Note Concording with Eodykinson Fm.	Geld and tim.	White cap., (103.). (103.). (103.). (103.). (105.).

TABLE III

				TABLE II	I		٠٠,٠		Correlation			
- I	lra	Period	Rock Unit	Thickness	Lithology	Distribution	Topography	Structure	Palacontology and Age.	Stratigraphical Relationship	Reenomic Goology	Principal Referen ces
-		UNDIFFERENTIATED	Precembria undifferer		Schist, gneiss, granite,quartzite, and amphibolite	Grops out over about 250 sq.miles in the SM quadrant of the Sheet and as isolated inliers aggregatingabout 10 sq. miles on the eastern half of the Sheet.	undulating	Tightly folded commenly strongly sheared and foliated.	Protebly includes Dangalong and McDuvitt Motamorphics and Porsayth Granito.	intraded by Herbert River Granite and Elizabeth Greek Granite. Unconformably everlain by Palacezeic seid velcunics, Oretaceous sediments, and Tertiary beselt.	Gopper,	
- - - -			Forsayth Granite Pgf		Grey, coarse- grained massive to porphyritic biotite granite. Platy flow on margins.	Oreps out over about 100 sq. miles in five outcreps on the western helf of the Sheet.	Gently undulating hills and level plains covered with soil.		Robin Hood Granito 2 Dunkano Granito. Lato Precentrian	Intrudus Dangalong a maDevitt Mata- morphise. Incon- formally overlain by Palassacia acid velocities and Oretaceous pendaton		White de Emphos, (1957) White, East ob al. (1959)
	X	0 I 0	Cobbold Dolorite Pdc		Dolerito, gabbro, and amphibolite	Linear bolts in the westorn half of the theet.	Strike ridges, hills and low rises.	Stooply dipping dykes, and sills.	Cobbold Delerite on Georgetown & Einagleigh 4-mile Sheet areas. Procembrian	Intraded by Forseyth Granite (Elnesleigh Sheet) Inbrudes Preterenci sociments.		White, Rest et al. (1959)
	B R I A	TEROZ	Sandalwoo Serpenten <u>P</u> ss		Serpentenite, gabbro. Grops out commonly as brown silica boxworks.	Small lens forms a prominent hill west of "Gunnawarra" homestead.	Prominent hill.	Steeply dipping lenticular dyke.	Sandalwood Serpentenite on Binasheigh and Clarke River A-mile Shoets.	Intruded by Refinances Greek Granite (Sinceleagh 4-mile object)	?michel, go ld.	Grugg (1958) Maite Mt <u>cl</u> 1958.
	PRECA M	P R O	McDevitt Metamorph <u>P</u> m		quartz-muscovite garnet-cordierite schist, quartz- muscovite schist and quartzite.	About 300 sq. — miles in tho MV quadrant of the sheet.	Gently undulating hills interspersed with plains.	Tightly folded. Hetemorphism in low-grade regional.	Recambrica Redertson Biver betamorphics on the Georgetown 4-mile Sheet. Proterozeic.	Intruded by Forseyth Cranite Morbert River Granite, Misaboth Order Granite; and unconformably evaluate by Oratacecus solimon	Gold end tin	Whit: (1960)
•		ARCHLEAN	Dargalong Metamorph Ad		lica schist, gneiss, granulite, pegmatite, granit quartzite and amphibolite.	500-500 sq. miles in the e, NW quadrant of the Sheet.	Gently undulating hills, interspersed with plains.	Tightly folded, . foliated and lineated. high grale regional metamorphics.	Einasleigh Motemorphics on the Georgetown and Einasleigh 4-aile Sheete. ? Archaean	Automorphic unconformity with the McDavitt White erphics. Unconformably evenlain by Chillages Fm., Intruded by Formayth Granite, Herbert River Granite and Elizab	Constr, gold, dilucrita.	Skortchly (1899) Whitch and (1950) do Kayner, .cpley and Welff (1950)

Volconic vent, acid large (extinct)

small (extinct) to basic (extinct)