

Petrological description of core from Fuch's lode, Waratah

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The following is a petrological description of a piece of diamond-drill core from 700 feet (213 m) in BH6, Fuch's Lode, Waratah.

The hand specimen is a fine-grained black rock with a few feldspathic areas up to 1 mm across and occasional prismatic crystals of pyroxene of a similar length.

In thin section the texture is partly ophitic and partly intergranular, consisting of a network of feldspar laths about 0.5 mm long enclosing crystals of pyroxene but often also being partly enclosed by them. Crystals of magnetite, some of them skeletal, averaging about 0.01 mm across are freely disseminated through the rock.

The feldspar laths show simple and multiple twinning. They are largely altered to sericite, often starting from the central twin plane, and the fresh feldspar remaining is oligoclase.

The pyroxene, which is a colourless augite, has been largely altered to fine-grained brown hornblende and sometimes further to biotite.

The rock is an altered dolerite and resembles, in some respects, other Cambrian dolerites.

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