

CORRELATION OF MAP UNITS



DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS

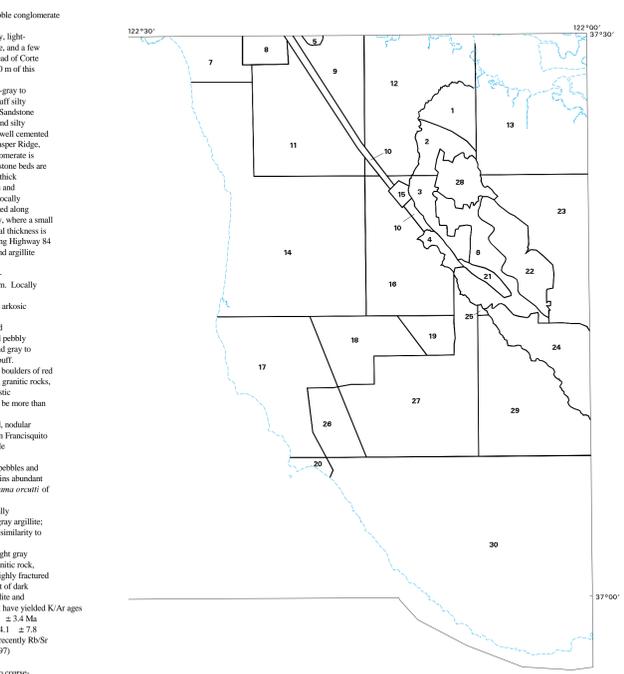
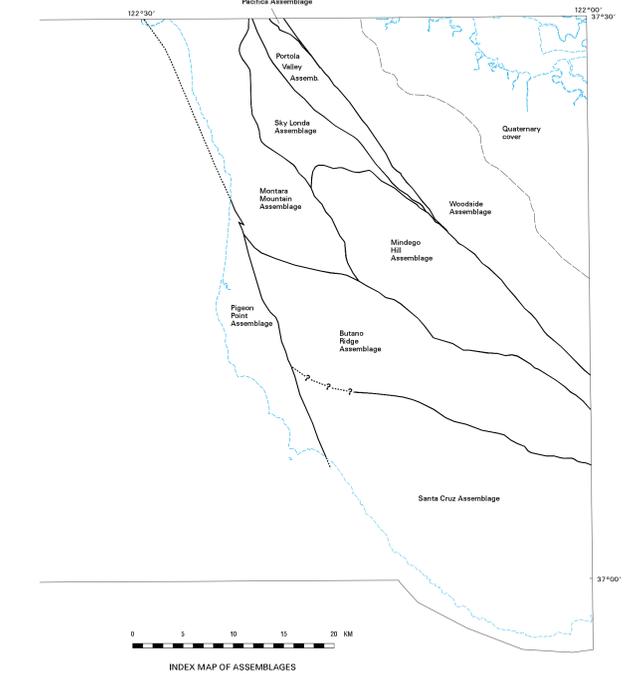
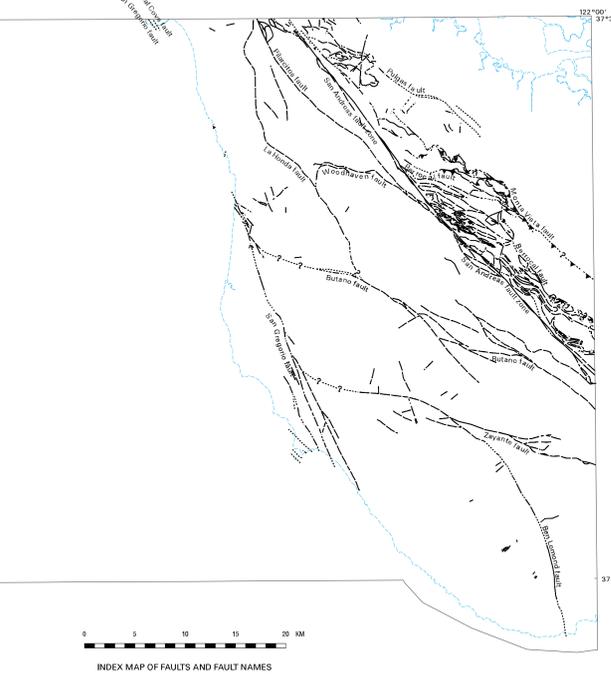
- af** Artificial fill (Holocene)—Loose to very well consolidated gravel, sand, silt, clay, rock fragments, organic matter, and man-made debris in various combinations. Thickness is variable and may exceed 30 m in places. Some is compacted and quite firm, but fill made before 1965 is nearly everywhere not compacted and consists simply of dumped materials.
- alf** Artificial levee fill (Holocene)—Man-made deposits of various materials and colors, forming artificial levees as much as 6.5 m high. Some are compacted and quite firm, but fill made before 1965 is almost everywhere not compacted and consists simply of dumped materials. The distribution of levee fill conforms to levees shown on the most recent U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle maps.
- Qhac** Artificial stream channels (Holocene)—Modified stream channels; in most places where streams have been straightened and realigned.
- Qhsc** Stream channel deposits (Holocene)—Poorly to well-sorted sand, silt, silty sand, or sandy gravel with minor cobbles. Cobbles are more common in the mountainous valleys. Many stream channels are presently lined with concrete or rip rap. Engineering works such as diversion dams, drop structures, energy dissipaters and percolation ponds also modify the original channel. Many stream channels have been straightened, and these are labeled Qhsc. This straightening is especially prevalent in the lower reaches of streams entering the estuary. The mapped distribution of stream channel deposits is controlled by the deposits of major rocks on the most recent U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangles. Only those deposits related to major creeks are mapped. In some places these deposits are under shallow water for some or all of the year, as a result of reservoir release and annual variation in rainfall.
- Qbs** Beach sand (Holocene)—Unconsolidated, well-sorted sand. Local layers of pebbles and cobbles. This discontinuous layer of silt relatively common in back-beach areas. Thickness variable, in part due to seasonal changes in wave energy; commonly less than 10 m thick. May intertuff with other well-sorted sand and silt, where adjacent to coastal cliff, poorly-sorted colluvial deposits. Iron- and magnesium-rich heavy minerals locally form places as much as 0.7 m thick.
- Qhbm** Bay mud (Holocene)—Water-saturated estuarine mud, predominantly gray, green and blue clay and silty clay underlying marshlands and tidal mud flats of San Francisco Bay, Presidio, and Pacific. The upper surface is covered with cordgrass (*Spartina* sp.) picketwood (*Solifera* sp.). The mud also contains a few lenses of well-sorted, fine sand and silt, a few shaly layers (systers), and peat. The mud intertuff with and grades into fine-grained deposits at the distal edge of Holocene fans, and was deposited during the post-Wisconsin rise in sea level, about 12 ka to present (Imbre and others, 1984). Mud varies in thickness from zero, at landward edge, to as much as 40 m at the north coast.
- Qhb** Basin deposits (Holocene)—Very fine silty clay to clay deposits occupying flat-floored basins at the distal edge of alluvial fans adjacent to the bay mud (Qhbm). Also contains unconsolidated, locally organic, plastic silt and silty clay deposited in very flat valley floors.
- Qhbs** Basin deposits, salt-affected (Holocene)—Clay to very fine silty clay deposits similar to Qhb deposits except that they contain carbonate nodules and iron-stained mottles (U.S. Soil Conservation Service, 1958). These deposits may have been formed by the interaction of bicarbonate-rich upland water and saline water from the San Francisco Bay estuary. With minor exceptions, salt-affected basin deposits are in contact with estuary deposits.
- Qhfp** Flood-plain deposits (Holocene)—Medium to dark gray, dense, sandy to silty clay. Lenses of coarse material (silt, sand, and pebbles) may be locally present. Flood-plain deposits usually occur between levee deposits (Qh) and basin deposits (Qhb).
- Qhr** Natural levee deposits (Holocene)—Loose, moderately to well-sorted sandy or clayey silt grading to sandy or silty clay. These deposits are porous and permeable and provide conduits for transport of ground water. Levee deposits border stream channels, usually both banks, and slope away to flatter flood plains and basins. Abandoned levee systems, no longer bordering stream channels, have also been mapped.
- Qhuf** Younger alluvial fan deposits (Holocene)—Brown, poorly sorted, dense, sandy or gravelly clay. May represent the modern local of deposition for Qhuf, although small fans on mountain fronts may have a debris-flow origin.
- Qhvf** Alluvial fan and fluvial deposits (Holocene)—Alluvial fan deposits are brown to tan, medium dense to dense, gravelly sand or sandy gravel that generally grades upward to sandy or silty clay. Near the distal fan edges, the fluvial deposits are typically brown, never reddish, medium-dense sand that fines upward to sandy or silty clay.
- Qyf** Younger (inner) alluvial fan deposits (Holocene)—Unconsolidated fine to coarse-grained sand, silt, and gravel, coarse grained at heads of fans and in narrow canyons.
- Qyfo** Younger (outer) alluvial fan deposits (Holocene)—Unconsolidated fine sand, silt, and clayey silt.
- Qcd** Colluvium (Holocene)—Loose to firm, friable, unsorted sand, silt, clay, gravel, rock debris, and organic material in varying proportions.
- Qs** Sand dune and beach deposits (Holocene)—Predominantly loose, medium to coarse-grained, well-sorted sand but also includes pebbles, cobbles, and silt. Thickness less than 6 m in most places, but in other places may exceed 30 m.
- Qal** Alluvium (Holocene)—Unconsolidated gravel, sand, silt, and clay along streams. Less than a few meters thick in most places.
- Qla** Landslide deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene)—Poorly sorted clay, silt, sand, and gravel. Only a few very large landslides have been mapped. For a more complete map of landslide deposits, see Nissen and others (1979).
- Qpaf** Alluvial fan and fluvial deposits (Pleistocene)—Brown, dense, gravelly and clayey sand or clayey gravel that fines upward to sandy clay. These deposits display variable sorting and are located along most stream channels in the county. All Qpaf deposits can be related to modern stream courses. They are distinguished from younger alluvial fan and fluvial deposits by higher topographic position, greater degree of dissection, and stronger soil profile development. They are less permeable than Holocene deposits, and locally contain fresh-water mollusks and extinct late-Pleistocene vertebrate fossils. They are overlain by Holocene deposits on lower parts of the alluvial plain, and incised by channels that are partly filled with Holocene alluvium on higher parts of the alluvial plain. Maximum thickness is unknown but at least 50 m.
- Qpaf1** Alluvial terrace deposits (Pleistocene)—Deposits consist of crudely bedded, clay-supported gravel, cobbles, and boulders with a sandy matrix. Clasts are as much as 35 cm in intermediate diameter. Coarse sand lenses may be locally present. Pleistocene terrace deposits are cut into Pleistocene alluvial fan deposits (Qpaf) a few meters and are as much as several meters above Holocene deposits.
- Qpof** Older alluvial fan deposits (Pleistocene)—Brown, dense, gravelly and clayey sand or clayey gravel that fines upward to sandy clay. These deposits display various sorting qualities. All Qpof deposits can be related to modern stream courses. They are distinguished from younger alluvial fan and fluvial deposits by higher topographic position, greater degree of dissection, and stronger soil profile development. They are less permeable than Holocene deposits, and locally contain fresh-water mollusks and extinct Pleistocene vertebrate fossils.
- Qaf** Coarse-grained older alluvial fan and stream terrace deposits (Pleistocene)—Poorly consolidated gravel, sand, and silt, coarse grained at heads of old fans and in narrow canyons.
- Qmf** Marine terrace deposits (Pleistocene)—Poorly consolidated and poorly indurated well to poorly sorted sand and gravel. Thickness variable but probably less than 30 m.
- Qtrc** Santa Clara Formation (lower Pleistocene and upper Pliocene)—Gray to red-brown poorly indurated conglomerate, sandstone, and mudstone with some schist, serpentinite, and limestone. On Coal Mine Ridge, north of Potrero Valley, conglomerate contains boulders of an older conglomerate as long as one meter. Gray to buff claystone and siltstone beds on Coal Mine Ridge contain carbonized wood fragments as large as 60 cm in diameter. Included in Santa Clara Formation are similar coarse-grained clastic deposits near Burlingame. Sama Wojcicki (1976) found a tuff bed in Santa Clara Formation near Woodside, and correlated it with a similar tuff in the Merced Formation. Later work indicated that the tuff correlates with the 435 ka Rockland ash (Sama Wojcicki, 1976) and common, 1997). Thickness of Santa Clara Formation is variable but reaches a maximum of about 500 m along Coal Mine Ridge.
- Qtd** Lake beds (upper Pliocene)—Fine-grained sandstone, calcareous mudstone, and mud. Locally contains vertebrate fossils of the Pliocene (Blancan) age. Fossiliferous mud is best exposed near Stevens Creek Reservoir, where it is about 30 m thick.
- Qtm** Merced Formation (lower Pleistocene and upper Pliocene)—Medium-gray to yellowish-gray and yellowish-orange, medium- to very fine grained, poorly indurated to friable sandstone, siltstone, and claystone, with some conglomeratic lenses and a few friable beds of white volcanic ash. In many places sandstone is silty, clayey, or conglomeratic. Some of the conglomeratic, especially where fossiliferous, is well cemented. Volcanic ash is in beds as much as 2 m thick and consists largely of glass shards. In type section of Merced Formation north of the map area, the ash was originally reported by Sama Wojcicki (1976) to be 1.5 ± 0.5 m; old, but more recent work by Sama Wojcicki and others (1991) indicates that the formation contains both the 738 ± 3 ka Bishop ash and the 435 ka Rockland ash (Sama Wojcicki, 1976). Merced Formation is about 1,525 m thick in the sea cliffs north of Mussel Rock.
- Tp** Purisima Formation (Pliocene and upper Miocene)—Predominantly gray and greenish-gray to buff, fine-grained sandstone, siltstone, and mudstone, but also includes some porphyroclastic shale and mudstone, chert, siltstone, and volcanic ash. West of Potrero Valley, this unit consists of fine to medium-grained silty sandstone. Locally divided into:
- Tpu** Tunitas Sandstone Member (Pliocene)—Greenish-gray to light gray, pale orange, or greenish-brown, very fine to medium-grained sandstone with clay matrix. Concretions generally less than 30 cm across are present locally. Tunitas ranges in thickness from 75 to 78 m in type section to 122 m elsewhere.
- Tpi** Lohites Mudstone Member (Pliocene)—Dark gray to light gray and reddish-brown, unbedded, siltstone, mudstone. Lobites has a maximum thickness of 140 m.
- Tpn** San Gregorio Sandstone Member (Pliocene)—Greenish-gray to light brown, fine to coarse-grained sandstone containing calcareous concretions less than 30 cm across. San Gregorio Member ranges in thickness from 45 m in type section to about 140 m elsewhere.
- Tpp** Pompano Mudstone Member (Pliocene)—Gray to white porphyroclastic shale and mudstone, in places rhythmically bedded with alternating layers of noncalcareous mudstone. This unit resembles Monterey Shale, Santa Cruz Mudstone, and Lambert Shale. At its type section in Pompano Creek the member is 700 m thick.
- Tpt** Tahama Member (Pliocene and upper Miocene)—Greenish-gray to white or buff, medium to very fine grained sandstone and siltstone, with some silty mudstone. Locally, such as at San Gregorio State Beach, sandstone is tuffaceous and weathers white. Near Memorial Park, this member includes dark gray porphyroclastic mudstone. Pebble conglomerate crops out near base from Memorial Park eastward. Maximum thickness is 655 m. A tuff bed in this member west of the San Gregorio fault has been tentatively correlated with the 2.6 Ma Old Tuff (Sama Wojcicki and others, 1991).
- Tm** Santa Cruz Mudstone (upper Miocene)—Brown and gray to light gray, buff, and light yellow, siliceous mudstone with noncalcareous mudstone and siltstone and minor amounts of sandstone. Santa Cruz Mudstone is more than 1,000 m thick.

- Tm** Santa Margarita Sandstone (upper Miocene)—Light gray to grayish-orange to white, friable, very fine to very coarse grained arkosic sandstone. Fine-grained sandstone commonly contains glauconite. A quartz and feldspar pebble conglomerate crops out locally at the base of section. Santa Margarita Sandstone is as thick as 60 m.
- Tms** Unnamed marine sandstone and shale (upper Miocene)—Light gray, grayish-orange, and white, soft, friable, very fine to medium-grained, well-sorted, poorly cemented quartzose sandstone with minor interbeds of siliceous mudstone and semi-siliceous shale. Contains late Miocene, shallow-water marine fossils (Seay and McLaughlin, 1975).
- Tmd** Ladera Sandstone (upper T and middle Miocene)—Medium- to light-gray to buff, fine-grained, silty sandstone and siltstone, with minor amounts of coarse-grained sandstone, yellow-brown dolomitic claystone, and white to light-gray porphyroclastic shale and porcellanite. Fine-grained sandstone comprises more than 90 percent of formation. Coarse-grained sandstone crops out in beds less than a few meters thick in lower half of section; dolomitic claystone and porphyroclastic shale beds are less than a meter thick and outcrop through the upper half of the section. Porcellanite crops out in thin-bedded lenses less than a few meters thick in the lower part of the section. At and near base of Ladera Sandstone are medium to thick lenticular beds of well-cemented, fossiliferous, chert granule sandstone which interfingers with fine-grained sandstone. About 450 m thick.
- Tm** Monterey Formation (middle Miocene)—Grayish-brown and brownish-black to very pale orange and white, porphyroclastic shale with chert, porphyroclastic mudstone, impure dolomitic calcareous claystone, and with small amounts of siltstone and sandstone near base. Monterey is generally thinner bedded than the Santa Cruz Mudstone but closely resembles parts of Purisima Formation, especially Pompano Mudstone Member. Thickness ranges from 120 to more than 600 m.
- Tlo** Lompico Sandstone (middle Miocene)—Very pale orange, fine- to coarse-grained, mostly well cemented and hard arkosic sandstone. Maximum thickness about 300 m.
- Tpm** Page Mill Basalt (middle Miocene)—Interlayered, column-jointed basaltic flows and agglomerate. Flows are dark greenish gray to light gray, dense to vesicular, and finely crystalline; agglomerate is light gray to reddish brown. Volcanic rocks are pyritiferous in part. Ranges in thickness from 0 to 15 m. The Page Mill Basalt has yielded a K/Ar age of 4.8 ± 2.4 Ma (Turner, 1970; recalculated by Fox and others, 1985).
- Tmv** Unnamed Sedimentary and Volcanic Rocks (Miocene and Oligocene)—Mainly dark gray, hard mudstone in Alto Nuevo area and thick bedded, coarse-grained and reddish, crossbedded, hard sandstone in Pescadero Point area. Mapped as Vagueros(?) Formation by Hall and others (1959), but rocks do not resemble those of Vagueros Sandstone in Santa Cruz Mountains. Includes alkalic breccia. Intrusive rocks associated with the andesite have yielded a K/Ar age of 22.0 ± 1.2 Ma (Taylor, 1990). Contains foraminifers and mollusks of Zenarion (Oligocene) and Miocene (Miocene) ages according to Clark and Brath (1978). About 135 m thick in Pescadero Point and less than 85 m thick near Alto Nuevo.
- Tls** Lambert Shale and San Lorenzo Formation, undivided (Oligocene, Oligocene, and middle and upper Eocene)—Brown and dark gray to gray, brown, and red mudstone, siltstone, and shale. Includes some beds of fine- to coarse-grained sandstone. Lambert Shale is generally more siliceous than San Lorenzo Formation, but the two units cannot be distinguished where out of stratigraphic sequence and without fossils.
- Tla** Lambert Shale (lower Miocene and Oligocene)—Dark gray to blackish-brown, moderately well cemented mudstone, siltstone, and claystone. Chert crops out in a few places in upper part of section, and sandstone bodies as much as 30 m thick, glauconitic sandstone bed, and micaceous siltstone are present in places. Lambert Shale is generally more siliceous than San Lorenzo Formation and less siliceous than the Monterey Shale. It resembles Santa Cruz Mudstone and parts of Purisima Formation. Lambert Shale is about 1,400 m thick.
- Tmb** Mindero Basalt and related volcanic rocks (Oligocene and Oligocene)—Basaltic volcanic rocks, both extrusive and intrusive. Includes dark gray to orange brown and medium to coarse grained, greenish-gray flow breccia, but includes lesser amounts of tuff, pillow lavas, and flows. Extrusive rocks have a maximum thickness of 120 m. Intrusive rock is dark greenish gray to orange brown and medium to coarse grained. It commonly weathers spheruloidal, and crops out as roughly tabular bodies as much as 180 m thick intruding older sedimentary rocks. Minor amounts of sandstone and mudstone are locally included. The Mindero Basalt has yielded a K/Ar minimum age of 20.2 ± 1.2 Ma (Turner, 1970; recalculated by Fox and others, 1985).
- Tvq** Vagueros Sandstone (lower Miocene and Oligocene)—Light gray to buff, fine- to medium-grained, locally coarse-grained, arkosic sandstone interbedded with olive- and dark-gray to red and brown mudstone and shale. Sandstone beds are commonly from 0.5 to 1 m thick and mudstone and shale beds are as much as 3 m thick. Vagueros varies from a few meters to as much as 700 m in thickness.
- Tz** Zayante Sandstone (Oligocene)—Thick to very thick bedded, yellowish-orange arkosic non-marine sandstone containing thin interbeds of greenish and reddish siltstone and lenses and thick interbeds of pebble and cobble conglomerate. Thickness 50 to 100 m. Locally divided into:
- Tz1** San Lorenzo Formation (Oligocene and upper middle Eocene)—Dark gray to red and brown shale, mudstone, and siltstone with local interbeds of sandstone. About 550 m thick. Locally divided into:
- Tz2** Rivers Mudstone Member (Oligocene and upper Eocene)—Olive-gray to red and brown unbedded mudstone and siltstone with some laminated shale. Spheruloidal weathering is common, an elongate carbonate concretions. About 300 m thick.
- Tz3** Twohar Shale Member (upper and middle Eocene)—Olive-gray to red and brown laminated shale with some mudstone. Includes a few thin interbeds of very fine grained sandstone which thicken to as much as 30 m near Big Basin. About 340 m thick.
- Tb** Butano Sandstone (middle and lower Eocene)—Light gray to buff, very fine to very coarse grained arkosic sandstone in thin to very thick beds interbedded with dark-gray to brown mudstone and shale. Conglomeratic, containing boulders of granitic and mafic rocks and well-rounded cobbles and pebbles of quartzite and porphyry, is present locally in lower part of section. Amount of mudstone and shale varies from 10 to 40 percent of volume of formation. About 1,000 m thick.
- Tbu** Upper sandstone member—Thin- to medium-bedded, nodular, olive-gray pyritic siltstone. Thickness about 215 m.
- Tbn** Lower conglomerate and sandstone member—Thick to very thick interbeds of sandy pebble conglomerate and very thick bedded to massive, yellowish-gray, granular, medium- to coarse-grained arkosic sandstone. Thickness as much as 1,500 m.
- Tbt** Conglomerate—Thick to very thick interbeds of sandy pebble conglomerate mapped locally in the lower member.
- Tbl** Shale in Butano Sandstone (lower Eocene)—Greenish-gray, light gray, red, and reddish-brown clay shale, mudstone, siltstone, and a few thin interbeds of light-gray sandstone. Exposed near the head of Corte Madera Creek. Total thickness is unknown, but at least 200 m of this material is exposed.
- Tw** Whiskey Hill Formation (middle and lower Eocene)—Light gray to buff, coarse-grained arkosic sandstone, with light gray to buff silty claystone, glauconitic sandstone, and tuffaceous siltstone. Sandstone beds constitute about 30 percent of map unit. Tuffaceous and silty claystone beds are extensive. Locally, sandstone beds are well cemented with calcite. At apparent base of section on north side of Jasper Ridge, just east of Sealville Lake, a thin greenstone-pebble conglomerate is present. In places within this map unit, sandstone and claystone beds are tectonically disturbed. This formation is as much as 900 m thick.
- Tws** Shale in Whiskey Hill Formation (lower Eocene)—Brown and reddish-brown claystone, mudstone, siltstone, and shale. Locally contains lenses of sandstone as much as 50 m thick. Exposed along Highway 84 and along Highway 92, east of Half Moon Bay, where a small patch of red mudstone can be seen in a drainage ditch. Total thickness is unknown, but at least 200 m of this material is exposed along Highway 84.
- Tu** Unnamed sedimentary rocks (Eocene?)—Mudstone, shale, and argillite with minor sandstone.
- Tl** Localite Formation (Paleocene)—Nodular, olive-gray to pale-yellowish-brown macaceous siltstone. Thickness 245-275 m. Locally near base includes:
- Tls** Sandstone—Massive, medium gray, fine- to medium-grained arkosic sandstone. Maximum thickness 25 m.
- Kpp** Pigeon Point Formation (upper Cretaceous)—Sandstone and conglomerate, interbedded with siltstone and mudstone and pebbly mudstone. Sandstone is fine- to coarse-grained, arkosic, and gray to greenish gray; mudstone and siltstone are gray or black to buff. Conglomerate contains well-rounded pebbles, cobbles, and boulders of red and gray fine-grained and porphyritic felsic volcanic rocks, granitic rocks, chert, quartzite, dark metamorphic rock, limestone, and clastic sedimentary rocks. Pigeon Point Formation is estimated to be more than 2,600 m thick.
- Kah** Unnamed shale (upper Cretaceous)—Dark gray, thin-bedded, nodular shale and silty shale. Unit is exposed only in the bed of San Francisco Creek, in Menlo Park, where about 15 m of section is visible.
- Ks** Conglomerate of strata of Anchor Bay (Wentworth, 1968) (Cretaceous)—Massive sandstone and conglomerate with pebbles and cobbles of diabase, gabbro, and minor granitic rocks; contains abundant shell fragments of a radiolarid bivalve similar to *Corallochama orcutti* of Late Cretaceous (Campanian) age.
- Ks** Unnamed sandstone and shale (Cretaceous?)—Rhythmically interbedded, indurated micaceous sandstone and greenish-gray argillite; age uncertain, but probably Cretaceous based on lithologic similarity to other Cretaceous strata in the Santa Cruz Mountains.
- Kgr** Granitic rocks of Montara Mountain (Cretaceous)—Very light gray to light-brown, medium- to coarse-crystalline igneous rock, largely quartz diorite with some granite. These rocks are highly fractured and deeply weathered. Foliation is marked by an alignment of dark minerals and dark dioritic inclusions. Tabular bodies of apophytic pegmatite generally parallel foliation. Rocks from this unit have yielded K/Ar ages of 91.6 Ma (Curtis, Evernden, and Lipson, 1958) and 86.2 ± 3.4 Ma (Calk, Div. Mines and Geol., 1962) and fission track ages of 81.1 ± 7.8 Ma and 81.7 ± 6.3 Ma (Nasser and Ross, 1976), and most recently Rb-Sr and Ar/Ar ages of 91 ± 2.5 Ma (Kister and Champion, 1997).
- Kpl** Granitic rocks of Ben Lomond Mountain (Cretaceous)—Predominantly dark-weathering, white to light gray, fine- to coarse-grained hornblende-biotite quartz diorite. Also includes rocks and plugs of medium- to coarse-grained, light-gray alkali feldspar granite, and dark, fine- to coarse-grained, hornblende-cummingtonite gabbro. Alaskite dikes similar to the larger alaskite body, locally intrude the quartz diorite. The gabbro body appears in map view to intrude the quartz diorite as well, but contact relations have not been observed because of poor exposure of the gabbro. The quartz diorite is very similar to that of Montara Mountain, but is distinguished by having fewer dark minerals and virtually lacking metallic opaque minerals (Ross, 1972), as well as by association with other types of plutonic rocks. Rocks from this unit have yielded fission track ages of 85.9 ± 6.6 Ma (Nasser and Ross, 1976) and K/Ar ages of 71.0 ± 0.9 Ma (Calk, Div. Mines and Geol., 1965) and 86.9 ± 6.6 Ma (Leon, 1967). This unit includes:
- ga** Granite and alaskite
- hg** Hornblende-cummingtonite gabbro

- Kvj** Unnamed volcanic rocks (Cretaceous or older)—Dark-gray, dense, finely-crystalline felsic volcanic rock, with quartz and albite phenocrysts. Exposed only west of Pescadero. Thickness unknown.
- Kvj** Franciscan Complex, undivided (Cretaceous and Jurassic)—Mostly graywacke and shale (f). May be variably sheared. Partly coeval with Pigeon Point Formation (Kpp), granitic rocks of Montara Mountain (Kgr) and Ben Lomond Mountain (Kpl), unnamed shale (Ksh), Conglomerate of strata of Anchor Bay (Ks), unnamed sandstone and shale (Ks), and unnamed volcanic rocks (Kvj). Locally divided into:
- fb** Sandstone—Greenish-gray to buff, fine- to coarse-grained sandstone (graywacke) with interbedded siltstone and shale. Siltstone and shale interbeds constitute less than 20 percent of unit, but in places from sequences as much as several tens of meters thick. In many places, shearing has obscured bedding relations; rock in which shale has been sheared to gouge contains about 10 percent of unit. Gouge is concentrated in zones that are commonly less than 30 m wide but in places may be as much as 10 m wide. Total thickness of unit is unknown but is probably at least many hundreds of meters.
- fg** Greenstone—Dark green to red, altered basaltic rocks, including flows, pillow lavas, breccias, tuff breccias, tuffs, and minor related intrusive rocks, in unknown proportions. Unit includes some Franciscan chert and limestone bodies that are too small to show on map. Greenstone crops out in lenticular bodies varying in thickness from a few meters to many hundreds of meters.
- fc** Chert—White, green, red, and orange chert, in places interbedded with reddish-brown shale. Chert and shale commonly are rhythmically banded in thin layers, but chert also crops out in very thick layers. In San Carlos, chert has been altered along faults to tan- to buff-colored clay. Chert and shale crop out in lenticular bodies as much as 75 m thick; chert bodies are commonly associated with Franciscan greenstone.
- fi** Limestone—Light gray, finely to coarsely crystalline limestone. In places metamorphosed to marble. Unit is distinctly bedded between beds of black chert. Limestone crops out in lenticular bodies as much as 120 m thick, in most places surrounded by Franciscan greenstone.
- fm** Metamorphic rocks—Darkish blue to brownish-gray blocks of metamorphic rock, commonly glaucophane schist, but some quartz-mica granulite. These rocks are finely to coarsely crystalline and commonly foliated. They almost always crop out on tectonic inclinations (sheared Franciscan rocks (fr) and rock sequences). They and they reach maximum dimensions of several tens of meters though many are too small to show on map.
- fn** Argillite—Dark gray to grayish-black argillite and silt with minor beds of sandstone.
- fo** Sheared rock (untyped)—Predominantly graywacke, siltstone, and shale, substantial portions of which have been sheared, but includes dark blocks of black chert. Sheared rock is commonly associated with Franciscan greenstone.
- fp** Serpentine—Dark gray to blackish-green, silty, and silty sandstone to bluish-green sheared serpentinite, enclosing variably abundant blocks of unbedded rock. Blocks are commonly less than 3 m in diameter, but range in size from several centimeters to several meters. They consist of greenish-black serpentinite, schist, ultramafic rock, and silica-carbonate rock, nearly all of which are too small to be shown on the map.
- fv** Siliceous volcanic rocks and keratophyre (Jurassic?)—Highly altered intermediate and thick, volcanic and pyroclastic rocks. Feldspars are almost all replaced by albite. Recent biostratigraphic and isotopic analyses yielded Jurassic age for similar rocks in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties (Jones and Curtis, 1991).
- fw** Gabbro (Jurassic?)—Light greenish-gray, dark gray weathering, mafic intrusive rock, mostly gabbro but also includes some diabase locally. The age of this unit is unknown, but the unit is probably part of the Jurassic Coast Range Ophiolite.
- fb** Diabase and gabbro (Jurassic?)
- gf** Gneissic granulite (Mesozoic or Paleozoic)—Strongly foliated, black and white gneiss. Foliation due to alignment of lenses of dark minerals in light-colored matrix.
- sch** Metasedimentary rocks (Mesozoic or Paleozoic)—Mainly pelitic schist and quartzite.
- mb** Marble (Mesozoic or Paleozoic)—White to gray finely crystalline marble and graphitic marble, in places distinctly bedded, in places foliated. Near Montara Mountain, this unit also includes quartz-mica hornfels and crops out as rare isolated bodies as much as 75 m long in granitic rocks. Near Ben Lomond Mountain, the unit locally includes schist and calc-silicate rocks.

MAP SYMBOLS

- Contact—Depositional or intrusive contact, dashed where approximately indicated, dotted where concealed.
- Fault—Dashed where approximately located, small dashes where inferred, dotted where concealed, queried where location is uncertain.
- Reverse or thrust fault—Dashed where approximately located, dotted where concealed.
- Anticline—Shows fold axis, dotted where concealed.
- Syncline
- Strike and dip of bedding
- Overturned bedding
- Horizontal bedding
- Vertical bedding
- Strike and dip of foliation
- Vertical foliation



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GEOLOGIC MAP AND MAP DATABASE OF THE PALO ALTO 30' X 60' QUADRANGLE, CALIFORNIA

By E.E. Brabb, R.W. Graymer, and D.L. Jones