Reconnaissance Geologic Map of the
White Rock 7.5' Quadrangle,
Oregon

A. S. Jayko

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Menlo Park, California
1996
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Introduction

The White Rock Mountain 7.5 minute quadrangle is situated near the edge of two major geologic provinces, the northernmost Klamath Mountains and the western part of the Cascade Range (Figure 1). Lithologies of the Klamath Mountains province that lie within the study area include mafic, intermediate and siliceous igneous rocks (Diller, 1898, Ramp, 1972, Ryberg, 1984). Similar rock associations that lie to the southwest yield Late Jurassic and earliest Cretaceous radiometric ages (Dott, 1965, Saleeby, et al., 1982, Hotz, 1971, Harper and Wright, 1984). These rocks, which are part of the Western Klamath terrane (Western Jurassic belt of (Irwin, 1964), are considered to have formed within an extensive volcanic arc and rifted arc complex (Harper and Wright, 1984) that lay along western North America during the Late Jurassic (Garcia, 1979, Garcia, 1982, Saleeby, et al., 1982, Ryberg, 1984). Imbricate thrust faulting and collapse of the arc during the Nevadan orogeny, which ranged in age between about 150 to 145 Ma in the Klamath region (Coleman, 1972, Saleeby, et al., 1982, Harper and Wright, 1984), was syntectonic with, or closely followed by deposition of the volcano-lithic clastic rocks of the Myrtle Group. The Myrtle Group consists of Late Jurassic and Early to middle Cretaceous turbidity and mass flow deposits interpreted as either arc basin deposits and/or post-orogenic flysh basins that were syntectonic with the waning phases of arc collapse (Imlay, et al., 1959, Ryberg, 1984, Garcia, 1982, Roure and Blanchet, 1983). The intermediate and mafic igneous rocks of the Rogue arc and the pre-Nevadan sedimentary cover (the Galice Formation, (Garcia, 1979)) are intruded by siliceous and intermediate plutonic rocks principally of quartz diorite and granodiorite composition (Dott, 1965, Saleeby, et al., 1982, Garcia, 1982, Harper and Wright, 1984). The plutonic rocks are locally tectonized.

The Jurassic arc rocks and their sedimentary cover occur as a tectonic outlier in this region (Figure 2) as they are bound to the northwest and southeast by melange, broken formation and semi-schists of the Dothan Formation and Dothan Formation (?) that are considered part of a Late Mesozoic accretion complex (Ramp, 1972, Blake, et al., 1985) The plutonism that accompanied arc formation and tectonic collapse of the arc does not intrude the structurally underlying Dothan Formation, suggesting major fault displacements since the early Cretaceous. Semischistose and schistose rocks of the accretion complex have yielded metamorphic ages of around 125-140 Ma where they have been studied to the southwest (Dott, 1965, Coleman, 1972). These rocks were unroofed and unconformably overlain by marine deposits by late early and middle Eocene time (Baldwin, 1974).

During the Eocene, the Mesozoic convergent margin association of arc, clastic
basin, and accretion complex was partly unroofed and faulted against early Cenozoic rocks of the Oregon Coast Ranges (Ramp, 1972, Baldwin, 1974, Champ, 1969, Ryberg, 1984). Faults associated with this period of deformation are found in the adjacent Lane Mountain 7.5 Minute quadrangle to the north, where high-angle reverse faults with a very strong component of strike-slip displacement characterized by the low-angle rake of striae are found. Thrust and oblique-slip faults are also ubiquitous in early Tertiary rocks to the northwest (Ryberg, 1984, Niem and Niem, 1990).

The late Mesozoic and early Cenozoic arc and forearc rocks are unconformably overlain by the Late Eocene and younger, mainly continental fluvial deposits and pyroclastic flows of the Cascade arc (Peck, et al., 1964, Baldwin, 1974, Walker and MacLeod, 1991). Minor shallow marine sandstone is locally present. The volcanic sequence consists of a homoclinal section of about 1 to 2 kilometers of andesitic to rhyolitic flows and ash flow tuff. The section is gently east-tilted and is slightly disrupted by NE trending faults with apparent normal separation.

**Previous Work**

The first major geologic study of the Roseburg and adjacent areas was carried out by Diller (1898) and Wells and Peck (1961) who mapped the basic geologic framework of the region. More detailed mapping relevant to this map area was carried out through a concerted effort at University of Oregon, Eugene under the direction of E.M. Baldwin that resulted in the completion of three Masters theses (Hixson, 1965, Champ, 1969, Seeley, 1974) which helped refine major unit boundaries. The area compiled in the Douglas County Report by Ramp and Beaulieu (Ramp, 1972) was primarily generalized from Diller (1898). Ryberg (1984) and Niem and Niem (1990) have provided regional tectonic syntheses of the evolution of the early Tertiary sedimentary rocks of the region.

This study was undertaken as part of a contribution to 1:100,000 mapping of the Roseburg 30' x 60' quadrangle. Field studies were made during the middle summer months of 1992 and 1993. The mapping was greatly facilitated by the numerous logging roads that lace the national forests lands, otherwise heavy vegetation and deep weathering of the region would have limited access to rock exposure.

There are several important modifications to the regional mapping (Walker and MacLeod, 1991) that have resulted from this investigation. The nature of the contact relations between the major units within Klamath lithologies has been investigated in greater detail and were found to be dominantly major fault zones, and commonly normal faults. The sense of displacement on the major bounding structures was given careful attention. Many high-angle normal faults cut low-angle thrust faults that are interpreted as Nevadan in age. There were no depositional contacts between Myrtle Group rocks and plutonic rocks evident in the field, likewise the abundant conglomerates of the Myrtle Group were devoid of intermediate plutonic clasts.
Similarly the contacts between Rogue volcanic and hypabyssal rocks were characterized by semi-ductile to cataclastic fabrics of low greenschist facies that were generally devoid of silicification, siliceous veins or aplite dikes suggesting the contacts are faults and the faults were post-plutonic. The sense of displacement on the major structural boundary between the semi-schistose Dothan Formation(?) is shallowly to moderately low east-dipping and west-verging.

**Stratigraphy**

The rocks of the area consist of three major sequences that are characteristic of the tectonic provinces they represent. From oldest to youngest, as described above are the Late Jurassic Rogue arc complex, associated plutonic rocks and an unmetamorphosed cover sequence that is stratigraphically equivalent to the Great Valley Sequence; broken formation and semi-schists of the Late Mesozoic accretion complex, the Dothan Formation(?) and lastly, the late Eocene? to Miocene? strata of the western Cascade volcanic arc complex.

The Rogue arc complex consists of an igneous complex of predominantly hornblende gabbro, hornblende diorite, and diabase rocks that are commonly slightly to strongly foliated. The extrusive part of the complex is characterized by quartz keratophyre, keratophyre, plagioclase porphyry flows, pillows, hypabyssal dikes and flows, flow breccia, and minor tuffaceous sedimentary rock. These rocks are commonly tectonically brecciated and have undergone low to moderate greenschist facies metamorphism. They are locally intruded by quartz diorite, granodiorite and similar siliceous plutonic rocks that are generally unfoliated or are weakly foliated near the margins. Metamorphosed country rock that was gabbroic to intermediate in composition is preserved; however, along many contacts the primary intrusive contact between the 'older arc' and younger siliceous plutonic rock is obscured by faults that are interpreted as low-angle normal faults.

The Rogue arc complex is unconformably overlain by unmetamorphosed clastic rocks of the Myrtle Group which includes the Riddle and Days Creek Formations that in this area range in age from lowest Cretaceous (Berriasian) to Late Albian. The basal part of the section includes tuffaceous sedimentary rocks and volcanic breccia suggesting that deposition was in part coeval with arc volcanism. Conglomerates in the lower part of the section are rich in mafic to intermediate volcanic clasts and dark chert or cherty tuff, and lack any significant component of plutonic rock. In contrast, plutonic clasts are quite abundant in conglomerate within the basal Tertiary section in the quadrangle.

In the SE part of the White Rock quadrangle, semi-schistose siltstone, graywacke, and slaty mudstone are tentatively assigned to the Dothan Formation(?) following the earlier interpretations of (Ramp, 1972; and Seeley, 1974). This assignment is based on the medium and fine-grained, arkosic, micaceous graywacke and subordinate slate and phyllitic mudstone. The rocks typically have a well-defined crenulation lineation and tight coherent fold
hinges. Although exposures of this unit were quite good, greenstone and chert were not observed within the limits of the quadrangle as in more typical of Dothan Formation rocks mapped elsewhere in the region.

Rocks of the western Cascade Province consist of a basal sedimentary unit, the Colestin Formation of (Peck, et al., 1964, Baldwin, 1974), that represents a transition between shallow marine and fluvial conditions. The clastic rocks at the base of the section generally fine towards the north. In the southeastern part of the map area, the basal section is characterized by coarse boulder to cobble, conglomerate of pre-Tertiary clast composition, whereas to the north consists of fine-grained sandstone, siltstone and shale. The unit also generally becomes finer-grained up section. The Colestin is overlain by a regionally extensive, generally chaotic unit that is olistostromal and lahar-like in character with abundant blocks of andesitic volcanic rock as well as disrupted and slumped sedimentary rock. This unit heralds the arrival of voluminous andesitic and dacitic flows and breccias that are followed by several cooling units of rhyolitic, moderately welded ash flow tuff making up approximately half of kilometer of section. The rhyolitic ash flow tuffs are locally capped by a pyroxene-phyric andesite. The volcanic units have previously been mapped as part of the Oligocene Little Butte Volcanic Series (Peck, et al., 1964, Ramp, 1972).

Generally northwest trending basaltic to andesitic dikes can be found cutting the Mesozoic plutonic rocks and well as the Cenozoic rocks up through the rhyolite unit 1. Such dikes could range in age form Eocene to Miocene, however are generally considered to be of Oligocene age in this area (Walker and MacLeod, 1991).

**Structure**

The structural grain of the region, as well as this quadrangle, is strongly dominated by north 30 to 40 east trending faults and lithologic belts. The faults represent upper and middle crustal brittle structures including high-angle reverse faults, and associated overturned folds; deeper-seated north-west verging brittle and ductile shear zones within the plutonic complex, and high-angle faults with apparent normal separation that drop unmetamorphosed rock of the Mesozoic forearc basin, as well as the Tertiary Cascade arc rocks down against the plutonic complex. Many of the low-angle contacts between the Rogue arc complex and underlying plutonic rocks are interpreted as low-angle normal faults.

The contact between the mafic rocks of the Jurassic Rogue arc complex and the underlying siliceous plutonic rocks is typically characterized by a broad zone of cataclastic deformation, the hanging wall and foot wall rocks are commonly strongly foliated as well. Mineralization associated with this deformation is typically of the lower greenschist facies with abundant secondary epidote, albite and pumpellyite. These faults and breccias zones are not invaded by magmatic fluids suggesting they are not syntectonic with the plutonism but were subsequent. The structural pendants of
Rogue arc are locally strongly hydrothermally altered. Leaching of the mafic phases is common, particularly adjacent to high-angle normal fault zones. The high-angle normal faults are locally characterized by broad breccia zones and more rarely by intrusion of Tertiary andesitic and basaltic dike rocks. Siliceous quartz diorite dikes are found locally within the extrusive and intrusive parts of the Rogue complex. Such dike rocks have not been observed in the overlying Mesozoic sedimentary rocks.

In the White Rock quadrangle the Mesozoic igneous rocks and sedimentary cover sequence are structurally juxtaposed with semischistose rocks of the Dothan (?) Formation which appear to be thrust to the northwest over the upper part of the arc complex. A strong metamorphic fabric in the meta-sedimentary rocks particularly near the structural contact suggest the fault dips moderately (30-50 degrees) to the southeast. Footwall rocks of the structurally underlying Myrtle Group are locally overturned and southeast dipping near this contact, as are small tectonic slivers of Rogue igneous complex that are caught up in the fault zone.

Metamorphism

Regional, contact, and hydrothermal metamorphic rocks are present within the study area. Regional metamorphic rocks include low to moderate-grade greenschist facies rocks of the arc complex that are inferred to have formed during the Nevadan orogeny of Late Jurassic age. Retrograde assemblages with epidote-pumpellyite and lower greenschist facies assemblages are commonly associated with cataclastic fabrics particularly near the major fault contacts which bound the arc complex units. This post plutonic semi-brittle deformation may be post-Nevadan and Cretaceous in age. The cataclastic fabrics are inferred to have formed during extension associated with uplift and unroofing of the plutonic rocks.

In addition, low-grade schists and semi-schists of prehnite-pumpellyite facies are characteristic of the higher-grade accretion complex rocks of the Dothan Formation in this area. These rocks generally structurally underlie major thrust faults that have the Rogue arc complex in the hanging wall. Schists of the Dothan Formation are generally partially reconstituted meta-sedimentary rocks with a moderately developed pressure solution fabric and incipient development of chlorite, white mica, + pumpellyite. Detrital tourmaline, epidote, biotite, muscovite, hornblende and pyroxene common constituents are common constituents of these rocks, but are not indicative of the metamorphic grade.

Hornfelsic hornblende gabbro rocks are locally present near the margins of large quartz diorite and granodiorite plutons. Hornfelsic rocks were also locally developed in Mesozoic country rock near one of the larger Tertiary dike intrusions. Hydrothermal alteration is widespread near high-angle faults that cut the Rogue volcanic rocks.
References
Harper, G. D., and Wright, J. E., 1984, Middle to Late Jurassic tectonic evolution of the Klamath Mountains, California-Oregon: Tectonics, v. 3, p. 759-772.


DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS

Surficial Deposits divided into:

Qcl Colluvium (Holocene and Pleistocene?)—unconsolidated or poorly consolidated; angular and sub-angular cobbles, pebbles, gravel, and sand sized clasts, poorly sorted commonly reddish or yellow orange weathering

Qls Landslide deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene?)—chaotic mixture of clay, silt, sand, gravel and boulders of weathered and fresh bedrock composition

Qal Alluvial deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene?)—Alluvial deposits consisting of unconsolidated or poorly consolidated; angular and sub-angular cobbles, pebbles, gravel, and sand sized clasts; poorly sorted commonly reddish or yellow orange weathering

Qfl Fluvial deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene?)—Fluvial deposits consisting of poorly sorted, well-rounded to subrounded; boulders, cobbles, pebbles, grit, sand, silt and clay sized unconsolidated material

Tdi Tertiary intrusive (Miocene and/or Oligocene?)—Dominantly glomero-porphryric clinopyroxene phric dikes with diabasic texture, ± plagioclase phryic phases, some dikes that cut Mesozoic basement and basal Tertiary section may be feeder dikes to Ta unit; some dikes also cut Tr1 unit locally; contact aureoles in Mesozoic rocks developed around largest of dikes

Little Butte Volcanic Series of Peck and others (1964) divided into:

Tr2 Rhyolite unit 2 (Oligocene?)—Rhyolitic moderately to poorly welded ash flow tuff; white to pale gray weathering, very quartz rich, quartz, sanidine and plagioclase phryic, crystal rich, crystal tuff; very minor biotite, minor sphene aggregates, trace epidote and tourmaline, also trace amounts of very fine grained euhedral amphibole that may represent vapor phase crystallization, mafic poor, disseminated very fine-crystalline opaques, rare xenoliths of mica schist?, phenocrysts typically broken and partially resorbed; approximately 120 to 150 meters thick

Trl Rhyolite unit 1 (Oligocene?)—Rhyolitic moderately to poorly welded ash flow tuff; white to pale gray weathering, quartz and plagioclase phryic, crystal rich, trace white mica and epidote, rare rounded and resorbed biotite, abundant opaques, mafic mineral generally badly altered, crystal tuff; approximately 120 meters thick

Ta Andesite (Oligocene? and/or Upper Eocene)—Andesitic rocks including amygdaloidal flow breccia, dominantly plagioclase porphyry plagioclase and pyroxene porphyry, and massive andesitic flow, and flow breccia, locally columnar jointed; locally overlain by dacitic plagioclase phryic unit; approximately 120 to 180 meters thick

Ts Sedimentary rocks (Oligocene? and/or Upper Eocene)—Sedimentary rocks; undifferentiated, pebble conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone, generally well-bedded or crossbedded

To Olistostrome (Oligocene? and/or Upper Eocene)—Lahar, olisostromal or mass flow diamicite unit; disrupted chaotically oriented blocks of
sedimentary and volcanic rock; locally deposited concurrently with andesitic flows and flow breccia; approximately 60 meters thick

Tc **Colestin Formation (Upper Eocene?)**—Sedimentary and volcano-clastic rocks, basal sedimentary unit consists of boulder, cobble and pebble conglomerate sandstone and tuffaceous sandstone, pale whitish, orange and ochre weathering, well-rounded to subangular clasts of Klamath lithologies including schistose graywacke, Riddle Formation? pebble conglomerate, porphyritic volcanic rocks, chert, angular to subangular arkosic sandstone with little or no mica, and gritty-angular plutonic derived sandstone that resembles disarticulated, deeply weathered diorite; poorly consolidated, matrix supported, conglomerate; clasts commonly imbricated; marine fossils found at one locality, massive red sandstone with well-developed grooved casts observed at one locality, generally shallow marine to nonmarine deposit, nonmarine facies predominate; approximately 300 to 400 meters thick

m **Metamorphic complex, (Jurassic or older)**—includes foliated mafic rock that was country rock to Late Jurassic and/or Cretaceous intrusives (JKi), locally includes rock with tectonite fabrics that range from weakly foliated to augen gneiss, commonly lineated, nubbly whitish weathering, commonly deeply weathered and disaggregated; locally cut by abundant siliceous and keratophyric dikes

**Sedimentary rocks overlying Klamath basement**

**Myrtle Group (Late Jurassic to middle Cretaceous)**—Mudstone, sandstone and conglomerate of the Days Creek and Riddle Formations. These units represent forearc or foreland mass flow and channel deposits that were laid down during the waning stages of the Nevadan orogeny or just following. The Riddle Formation unconformably overlies Rogue volcanic rocks

**Kdc** **Days Creek Formation (Early and middle Cretaceous)**—Bedded and massive sandstone and siltstone; generally friable, arkosic composition. Locally contains *Inoceramus anglecus* of Late Albian age and elsewhere, *Buchia Pacifica* of lower and middle Valanginian age (William Elder, per. comm.) and tubular fossils or burrows. Unit is extensively faulted
**JKr**  **Riddle Formation (Late Jurassic? to Early Cretaceous)**--Well-beded pebble to cobble conglomerate, volcanogenic sandstone and shale deposited by turbidity currents and mass flow processes; locally interbedded tuffaceous sedimentary rock and volcanic breccia near the base; conglomerate dominated by volcanic and dark chert rich clast types; unit is unmetamorphosed and moderately indurated; locally silicified with quartz veins near major faults, thin-beded siltstone and shale slightly concretionary, mudstone-rich facies locally very fossiliferous and bioturbated. Conglomerate clasts are very well-rounded, poorly sorted and consist predominantly of mafic and felsic volcanic rock, dark to gray chert, diabase and volcanic sandstone; dark green-brown weathering. Contains abundant *Buchia uncitoides* of Lower Cretaceous, (Berriasian age) and possible *Buchia elderensis* or *piochii* of Upper Jurassic, Tithonian age (William Elder, per. comm.)

**Accretion Complex**

**JKd2? Dothan Formation(?) Semischistose (Late Jurassic and/or Early Cretaceous)**--slate, phylitic siltstone, fine and medium grained metagraywacke, weakly to moderately foliated where thick-beded, semi-schistose where thin-beded, pumpellyite facies metamorphism?, argillaceous mudstone with minor pebble and cobble conglomerate. Graywackes are micaceous feldspathic to lithic in composition, locally contains abundant detrital epidote, white mica, chlorite and lesser biotite, rare detrital quartzo-feldspathic clasts containing fine-grained euhedral brown hornblende; locally very orange-red weathering. The unit has previously been correlated with semi-schistose rocks of the Dothan Formation (Seeley, 1974; Ramp, 1972) as well as with the Galice Formation (Irwin, 1964; Ryberg, 1984, Coleman and Länphere, 1991)

**JKms**  **Metasedimentary rock (Late Jurassic?)--**semischistose to schistose and phyllic metasedimentary rock that occurs along a major fault zone. The unit is inferred to be tectonized Dothan Formation

**JKmv**  **Metavolcanic rock (Late Jurassic?)--**semischistose to schistose and phyllic metavolcanic rock that occurs along a major fault zone. The unit is inferred to be tectonized Rogue Volcanic rock

**Western Klamath terrane**  
**Jurassic continental arc complex**

**Jrv**  **Rogue Volcanics? (Late Jurassic)?--**Extrusive and hypabyssal intrusive rocks of mafic and intermediate composition, commonly very fine grained aphyric or plagioclase-pyroxene porphyry, extrusive rocks commonly amygdaloidal, extremely rare thin bedded intermediate and siliceous, thin-beded, crystal-lithic, plagioclase phryic tuffs locally. Dense, dark green where fresh, weathers rusty, locally contains pillow and pillow breccia texture. Locally hydrothermally altered and leached of mafic constituents

**Jri**  **Mafic intrusive unit (Late Jurassic?)--**Intrusive rocks, intermediate to mafic in
composition (hornblende gabbro and diorite with subordinate quartz diorite), generally medium to coarse grained, metamorphosed to pumpellyite facies and lower greenschist facies. Commonly chlorite and epidote bearing. Unit tends to weather dark rusty red
Map Symbols

Attitudes

Bedding: Inclined, vertical, horizontal
Bedding: Top direction known
Bedding: Overturned
Crumpled or disrupted bedding
Foliation: Inclined, vertical, horizontal
Foliation and Bedding: Inclined and vertical
Brittle or cataclastic foliation
Dike orientation: Inclined and vertical
Lineation

Overturned syncline, dashed where approximately located
Overturned anticline, dashed where approximately located

Contacts

Depositional contact: dashed where approximately located, dotted where concealed, queried where inferred
Fault, ball on down-thrown block, open arrow indicates dip where known, lineation symbol indicates rake of striae, dashed where approximately located, dotted where concealed, queried where inferred
Thrust fault, teeth on hanging-wall, dashed where approximately located, dotted where concealed, queried where inferred
Low-angle normal fault, dashed where approximately located, dotted where concealed, queried where inferred
Small faults with known dip
Strike-slip fault, paired arrows indicate relative displacement
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**Mesozoic fossils identified by Will Elder**