

### DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS<sup>1</sup>

**Qal ALLUVIUM**—Unconsolidated stream deposits composed of poorly to well-sorted gravel, sand, silt, and clay. Only major deposits mapped.

**COLLUVIUM**—Unconsolidated, poorly sorted, bouldery to fine-grained debris of local origin. Present as talus blocks, boulders, which commonly merge with valley fill in many stream courses, and as talus or fan deposits at the base of steep slopes. Not mapped.

**pgw PEGMATITE**—Very coarse to coarse grained. Composed of quartz, plagioclase, muscovite, and mica. Matrix is very fine grained and is composed of plagioclase (44 percent), quartz (33 percent), biotite (7 percent), sericite (4 percent), potassic feldspar (2 percent), probably of secondary origin, and traces of carbonate, epidote, garnet, apatite, sphene, and opaque minerals. White to light-gray oligoclase phenocrysts, 0.5 to 2 mm across, twinned, commonly zoned and perthitic, comprise about 90 percent of the rock. Occurs as thin dikes and sills, massive to very weakly foliated, and commonly contains well-foliated xenoliths derived from surrounding rocks. Intrudes map units northwest of the Brevard zone. Not mapped.

**TRONDHJEMITE**—Light to medium-gray, porphyritic. Matrix is very fine grained and is composed of plagioclase (44 percent), quartz (33 percent), biotite (7 percent), sericite (4 percent), potassic feldspar (2 percent), probably of secondary origin, and traces of carbonate, epidote, garnet, apatite, sphene, and opaque minerals. White to light-gray oligoclase phenocrysts, 0.5 to 2 mm across, twinned, commonly zoned and perthitic, comprise about 90 percent of the rock. Occurs as thin dikes and sills, massive to very weakly foliated, and commonly contains well-foliated xenoliths derived from surrounding rocks. Intrudes map units northwest of the Brevard zone. Not mapped.

**um ALTERED ULTRAMAFIC ROCK**—Lustrous greenish-gray, fine- to medium-grained, moderately foliated. Composed of talc, chlorite, amphibole, minor serpentine (7), and opaque minerals.

**am AMPHIBOLITE**—Medium-gray to greenish-black. Composed mainly of hornblende (60 to 80 percent) and plagioclase (1 to 30 percent) with lesser quartz (1 to 10 percent), biotite (0 to 10 percent), and epidote (0 to 4 percent). Chlorite, sphene, garnet, apatite, calcite, and opaque minerals may also be present. Includes coarse-grained, nonlayered rock masses with poorly developed foliation; fine-grained schistose rock; and fine- to medium-grained hornblende gneiss consisting of alternating dark-colored and light-colored layers. Amphibolite occurs as discontinuous, generally concordant bodies several centimeters to as much as 1,500 meters in length, which are interlayered with other units throughout the map area. Weathers to a distinctive yellowish-brown to dark-red-brown clayey scoriolite. Only larger bodies mapped.

**ms MICA SCHIST**—Lustrous, yellowish-gray to dark-gray, medium-grained. Composed of muscovite, biotite, plagioclase, and quartz; minor garnet and epidote, and traces of zircon, sphene, and opaque minerals. Schist is well foliated; locally gneissic. At some places interlayered with micaceous felspathic metasediments, which range from a few centimeters to more than a meter in thickness. Probably derived from argillaceous sediments with minor sandy layers. Thin, conformable granitic or quartz-rich pegmatite layers present throughout unit.

**PARAGNEISS AND METAGRAYWACKE**—Dominated by laterally and vertically interbedded paragneiss and felspathic biotite metagraywacke. Paragneiss is more abundant to the northwest where the metamorphic grade is higher, and metagraywacke is more abundant to the southeast where the metamorphic grade is lower. Paragneiss and metagraywacke are likely derived from argillaceous and felspathic sandstone and graywacke, in part calcareous, with minor interbeds of mudstone, siltstone, and rare conglomerate.

Paragneiss is medium to bluish gray and medium-grained. Composed of quartz (44 percent), plagioclase (25 percent), muscovite (15 percent), biotite (14 percent), minor chlorite and garnet, and traces of epidote, zircon, calcite, and opaque minerals. Interlayers more commonly associated with paragneiss include biotite schist (1 to 10 cm thick) and medium- to coarse-grained felspathic metasediments (as much as 60 cm thick). Garnetiferous mica schist and phyllonite are also present locally. Felspathic biotite metagraywacke is massive, yellowish-gray to dark gray, and fine- to medium-grained. Composed of quartz (44 percent), plagioclase (17 percent), biotite (16 percent), muscovite (7 percent), minor chlorite, sphene, zircon, and opaque minerals. Minor interlayers, generally from a few centimeters to a few meters thick, associated mostly with the metagraywacke, include biotite metasediments, biotite-muscovite schist, metasediments, and rare metaconglomerate.

Throughout the paragneiss and metagraywacke unit are amphibolite pods and layers which are identical to the amphibolite unit (see previous description), as well as pods and lenses of garnetiferous calc-silicate granulites. Calc-silicate granulites is medium grained and is composed of quartz (60 percent), plagioclase (15 percent), epidote-cinnabarite (12 percent), biotite (8 percent), and garnet (6 percent); minor carbonate, muscovite, and sphene; and traces of hornblende, rutile, zircon, and opaque minerals.

**pgwb**—Biotite metasandstone, bluish-gray to yellowish-gray, medium- to fine-grained, thick- to thin-layered. Composed principally of quartz, feldspar, biotite, muscovite, and locally garnet.

**mgn MICA GNEISS**—Gray to dark-gray, fine- to medium-grained, moderately foliated; locally in saucer gneiss. Composed of quartz (40 percent), plagioclase (26 percent), biotite (15 percent), muscovite (8 percent), garnet (2 to 9 percent), minor carbonate, epidote, sphene, and opaque minerals; and traces of apatite and zircon. Interlayers include biotite schist, felspathic metasediments, and garnetiferous mica schist; pods and thin layers of calc-silicate granulites are locally present. Stratigraphically equivalent to paragneiss and metagraywacke unit (see above).

**gms GARNET-MICA SCHIST**—Lustrous, dark-red-brown, fine- to medium-grained schist. Composed of muscovite-sericite (33 percent), biotite (10 percent), chlorite (9 percent), garnet (1-20 percent; as large as 1 cm across), plagioclase (17 percent), quartz (14 percent), minor epidote, graphite, pyrrhotite, and other opaque minerals, and traces of sphene, apatite, and zircon. Locally contains sillimanite, kyanite, or staurolite. Includes interlayers of mica gneiss and felspathic metasediments. Garnet-mica schist unit was probably derived from argillaceous, siltstone sediments which contained minor felspathic, sandy interbeds. Weathers to orange-brown to dark-brown, micaceous argillite, which commonly contains conspicuous garnet grains. Stratigraphically equivalent to paragneiss and metagraywacke unit (see above).

**lgn LAYERED BIOTITE GNEISS**—Map unit includes layered biotite-plagioclase-quartz gneiss, biotite-muscovite gneiss, calc-silicate granulite pods and lenses, and migmatite. The dominant biotite-plagioclase-quartz gneiss is composed of quartz (37 percent), plagioclase (31 percent), biotite (13 percent), potassic feldspar (6 to 17 percent), muscovite (3 percent); minor chlorite, hornblende, garnet, and epidote; and traces of calcite, sillimanite, apatite, zircon, magnetite, and other opaque minerals. Granitic veins, which are common throughout, are leucocratic mixtures of quartz, plagioclase, potassic feldspar, and muscovite.

**m MARBLE**—White and light-gray, fine- to medium-grained, thick-bedded marble; in part dolomitic. Composed mostly of calcite, with minor amounts of quartz, pyrite, and magnetite. Marble encloses a few discontinuous layers of scoriolite phyllonite as much as 10 cm thick.

**ls PORPHYROCLASTIC PHYLLOMITE AND PHYLLOMITE SCHIST**—Lustrous gray and greenish-gray, fine- to medium-grained groundmass that commonly contains porphyroclasts of silvery muscovite or muscovite-sericite. Groundmass exhibits well-developed fluxion structure and is composed mostly of quartz, muscovite-sericite, and biotite-chlorite; locally contains garnet and garnet. The mica-aggregate porphyroclasts comprise from 30 to 60 percent of the rock and occur as boudin masses as much as 2.5 cm long and 1 cm thick. They are flattened in the foliation planes and give rise to a distinctive "fish-scale" appearance. Lenses of fine-grained, bluish-gray mylonite and highly graphic phyllonite present locally.

**my PORPHYROCLASTIC MYLONITE AND ULTRAMYLONITE**—Interlayered cataclastic rocks with less than 35 percent phyllosilicate minerals. Porphyroclastic mylonite is light gray, greenish gray, and medium to dark gray. Porphyroclasts are mostly microcline, rounded to lenticular, 1 to 3 mm across. The finely laminated, fine-grained groundmass constitutes more than 80 percent of the rock; composed of quartz, plagioclase, microcline, muscovite-sericite, biotite-chlorite, and minor amounts of opaque minerals. Ultramylonite is gray to greenish gray, very fine grained to aphanitic; feldspar porphyroclasts are less than 0.2 mm in size. Composition of ultramylonite is very similar to porphyroclastic mylonite. Interlayers of porphyroclastic phyllonite and phyllonitic schist, and dark-colored mylonite are present at some places.

**chg HENDERSON GNEISS**—Cataclastic augen gneiss, light- to dark-gray, medium-grained, moderately foliated, with conspicuous pink feldspar augen. Locally includes layers of medium-grained, bluish-gray mylonite as much as 60 cm thick. Augen 0.2 to 2 cm across, commonly composed of microcline, constitute about one-fourth of the rock and are enclosed in a matrix of potassic feldspar, biotite-chlorite, plagioclase (albite-oligoclase), quartz, muscovite-sericite, and epidote; with minor zircon, sphene, apatite, and opaque minerals.

<sup>1</sup>Detailed description of the map units is on page 16 with the North Carolina Geological Survey, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611.

Mineral percentage values are averaged from thin-section examinations: trondhjemite, 5 sections; amphibolite, 15 sections; metagraywacke, 10 sections; mica gneiss, 10 sections; biotite metasandstone, 11 sections; mica schist, 6 sections; garnet-mica schist, 10 sections; layered biotite gneiss, 10 sections.

### STRUCTURAL SYMBOLS

(Where structural symbols are combined, their intersection marks the point of observation)

**CONTACTS AND FAULTS**

- Contact, dashed where approximately located, short-dashed where indefinite or inferred, dotted where concealed
- Thrust fault, dashed where approximately located, dotted where concealed, sawtooth on upper plate
- Inferred fault
- Shear zone, showing dip

**FOLDS**

- Bearing and plunge of axis of small antiform
- Bearing and plunge of axis of small synform
- Bearing of horizontal axis of small fold

**PLANAR FEATURES**

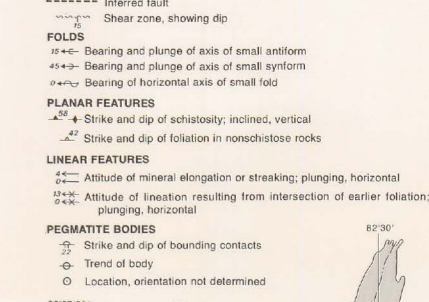
- Strike and dip of schistosity; inclined, vertical
- Strike and dip of foliation in non-schistose rocks

**LINEAR FEATURES**

- Attitude of mineral elongation or streaking; plunging, horizontal
- Attitude of lineation resulting from intersection of earlier foliation; plunging, horizontal

**PEGMATITE BODIES**

- Strike and dip of bounding contacts
- Trend of body
- Location, orientation not determined



**FIGURE 1**—Index map showing location of Brevard zone and inferred major structural features in the Skyland quadrangle and the immediately adjacent area to the northeast. Garnet-mica schist unit indicated by shading. Zone of pronounced catadaxis shown in red.

- Later fault, movement direction not known
- Area of pervasive catadaxis, western limit not well defined
- Later thrust fault, sawtooth on upper plate
- Trace of axial surface of later major fold; plunge values based on data averaged. Folds generally overturned; axial surfaces dip steeply southward
- Trace of axial surface of earlier major (isoclinal) antiform
- Earlier thrust fault, sawtooth on upper plate

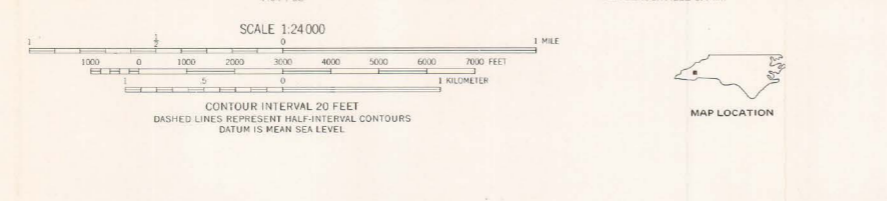
**FIGURE 2**—Approximate locations of Paleozoic prograde metamorphic isograds. Tick marks on higher grade side of boundary. Based on examination of thin sections and hand specimens.

- Area of active mining or quarrying
- Inactive quarry
- Inactive pit or mine
- Prospect or occurrence
- Clay
- Crushed stone
- Mica
- Saprolite
- Soapstone

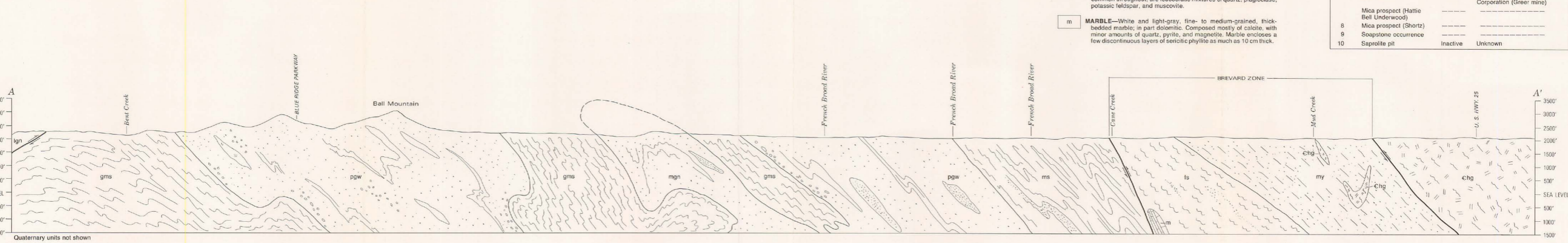
**TABLE 1—Mineral resources activities in the Skyland quadrangle.**

| Locality number | Commodity and activity                | Status   | Operator  |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------|---|
| 1               | Crushed stone (marble) quarry         | Active   | Fletcher Limestone Company (Fletcher quarry)                  |
| 2               | Crushed stone (marble) quarry         | Inactive | B & C Lime and Stone Company                                  |
| 3               | Crushed stone (marble) quarry         | Inactive | B & C Lime and Stone Company (Cogdill quarry)                 |
| 4               | Crushed stone (schist) quarry         | Inactive | Unknown   |
| 5               | Brick clay pit                        | Active   | Moland-Drysdale Brick Corporation (Fletcher North-South mine) |
| 6               | Brick clay pit                        | Active   | Moland-Drysdale Brick Corporation (Greer mine)                |
| 7               | Mica prospect (Hattie Bell Underwood) | -----    | -----   |
| 8               | Mica prospect (Shortz)                | -----    | -----   |
| 9               | Soapstone occurrence                  | -----    | -----   |
| 10              | Saprolite pit                         | Inactive | Unknown   |

Base from Tennessee Valley Authority and U.S. Geological Survey, 1965  
Geologic map cartography and printing by North Carolina Geological Survey, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development  
10,000-foot grid based on North Carolina coordinate system  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue  
Field work jointly supported by Tennessee Valley Authority and State of North Carolina



Geology mapped in 1970-71. Assistance of D. E. Dunn gratefully acknowledged  
Map compilation and editing by R. J. Floyd, L. S. Wiener, and C. E. Messchert



# GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE SKYLAND QUADRANGLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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1981