Geologic Map of the Seboyeta Quadrangle, Cibola County, New Mexico

By

Steven J. Skotnicki, Paul G. Drakos, Fraser Goff, Cathy J. Goff, and Jim Riesterer

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Scale 1:24,000

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INTRODUCTION

The Seboyeta quadrangle rests about 35 miles east of Grants, New Mexico, north of the Laguna Pueblo. The village of Paguate resides hear the southeast part of the map. The area also encompasses a portion of the Cebolleta Land Grant. The oldest rocks in the study area are Cretaceous. They include thick deposits of dark marine shale, interbedded with tan-colored beach and barrier-island sandstone and coal and sandstone units deposited in a marshy river system. These sediments record the transgression and regression of the ocean along the Cretaceous Western Interior seaway between about 84 and 99 million years ago (Molenaar, 1974). During the late Cretaceous/early Tertiary Laramide orogeny the region was uplifted and eroded, gently tilting the Cretaceous layers to the northeast by about 2-3° and creating a gently south-dipping peneplain (or pediment). Between about 3.3 and 1.2 Ma volcanic rocks of the Mount Taylor volcanic field erupted across this surface (Perry et al., 1990). The earliest rocks included rhyolite and trachydacite, but most of the eruptive products on the mesas are variations of basalt. The alignment of cinder cones in the Seboyeta quadrangle suggests they erupted along a buried fissure that is oriented northeast-southwest. For a good overview of the geology of the Mount Taylor volcanic field see the New Mexico Bureau of Geology's link at http://geoinfo.nmt.edu/tour/landmarks/mt_taylor/home.html.

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PREVIOUS WORK

Dane (19??) made detailed studies of the Mancos Shale in the eastern San Juan basin and was able to make correlations with other upper Cretaceous strata in northeastern New Mexico and eastern Colorado. Moench (1963a, b) mapped the Seboyeta 7.5' quadrangle and the Laguna 7.5' quadrangle to the south. Schlee and Moench (1963a, b) mapped the Mesita 7.5' quadrangle to the southeast and the Moquino 7.5' quadrangle to the east. Lipman and others (1979) made a 1:24,000 scale geologic map of the Mount Taylor quadrangle to the west, which was remapped by Osburn and others (2008). Additional quadrangles in the Mount Taylor volcano area have been recently completed by Goff and others (2008; 2010) and McCraw and others (2009).

SOME SPANISH WORD DERIVATIONS

Celosa – Jealous, suspicious, zealous (female) Chivato – Young goat (male) Chupadero – Anything that serves to pacify Cubero – Cask or tub maker (?) Encinal – Evergreen oak place Prieta – Dark, black (female) Seboyeta – Is it Anglicized from onions (Cebolleta) or is it related to fat (Sebo)?

CRETACEOUS ROCKS

Mancos Shale, Satan Tongue

The Satan tongue of the Mancos Shale is exposed only in the northeast part of the map along the northern part of Seboyeta Canyon. Because it is high above the canyon floor, and below the steep cliffs of volcanic rocks, it is difficult to access. There are only a few good exposures and each requires quite a climb to get to. Measured sections 1 and 20 show the stratigraphy of two good exposures. In each, the unit actually contains quite a few sandstone layers up to 3 and 7 meters thick. These sandstone beds are mostly fine-grained quartz, are thin- to medium-bedded, and commonly show faint planar cross-beds in sets up to 50 cm. **Photo 1** shows the thickest of the sandstone layers near the base of the unit (see measured section 20 for the location of the photo). The interbedded shale is dark gray and poorly exposed on slopes between the sandstone beds.

Point Lookout Sandstone, Hasta Tongue

The Point Lookout Sandstone forms the stratigraphically uppermost light gray sandstone cliff visible in the study area (**Photos 2 and 3**). Also, this unit is also only exposed in the northeast along Seboyeta Canyon, and exposures are not very accessible. It is a light gray, fine-grained quartz sandstone and contains rare darker lithic grains. The uppermost 5m shows planar cross-bedding in sets up to 1 m thick. Below the cross-bedded layers, bedding is mostly horizontal with some low-angle cross-beds, particularly in the lowermost 2-3 meters.

Gibson Coal member, Crevasse Canyon Formation

The Gibson Coal member is poorly exposed, except in two exceptional exposures on the west and south sides of Mesa Chivato (measured sections 2 and 20, respectively). The unit is composed of thick accumulations of shale that commonly contain dark brown and black layers of lignite coal up to about 2 meters thick or more. The coal is commonly interbedded on the millimeter to centimeter scale with lighter gray siltstone beds that give some exposures a weakly laminated appearance. Nearly all of the shale beds crumble easily and form slopes. Interbedded with the shale are several fine-grained quartz sandstone layers (**Photos 4 through 6**). Most are less than 1 meter thick, though some crumbly sandstone beds are up to 5 meters thick. Most sandstone beds are massive and show horizontal burrows along bedding planes, suggesting that these beds may have been bioturbated. Ripple marks are locally visible along bedding planes. Well-preserved plant impressions are visible in the upper half of the unit west of the mesa (**Photos 7 through 9**).

Dalton Sandstone member, Crevasse Canyon Formation

The Dalton Sandstone looks very similar to the Point Lookout Sandstone. It is a fine-grained quartz sandstone that contains minor dark lithic grains. Some beds appear massive to very weakly bedded. Other beds show planar cross-bedding in sets up to about 50 cm thick, particularly the uppermost 8 meters. The Dalton Sandstone forms a prominent light gray cliff. On the top of the cliff in measured section 20 is a thin orange-colored massive bed that contains what appears to be wood impressions (**Photo 10**). It is not clear if this bed is part of the Dalton Sandstone or the base of the Gibson Coal member. Below the base of the Dalton Sandstone the upper part of the Mancos Shale, Mulatto tongue, is interbedded with abundant thin- to medium-bedded fine-grained sandstone beds (**Photos 11 and 12**).

Mancos Shale, Mulatto Tongue

The majority of the Mulatto tongue of the Mancos Shale is dominated by quartz siltstone and very fine-grained platy beds of quartz sandstone. The Mulatto is characterized by an overall tan to ocher color. Shale is actually a very minor component of this unit. From a distance the unit is characteristically a muted pale greenish orange, which is distinct from the overlying lighter gray Dalton Sandstone and the underlying slope-forming Dilco Coal member. The Mulatto tongue contains at least two intervals that are dominated by thinly-bedded very fine-grained quartz sandstone. These intervals commonly form cliff ledges that show no distinct cliff-forming beds (**Photo 13**). Many of the thin platy beds throughout the unit contain molds and casts of brachiopods, the large bivalve *Inoceramus*, and darker shell fragments that resemble shell debris and echinoderm plates (**Photos 14 and 15**).

Dilco Coal member, Crevasse Canyon Formation

In the study area the Dilco Coal member is characterized by interbedded shale and thin sandstone layers. The shale beds commonly contain brown to black coal (**Photos 16 and 17**). The base of the Dilco coal member is characterized in most areas by a basal mottled sandstone layer 1-2 meters thick. This basal sandstone contains abundant horizontal tubular burrows up to about 1 cm in diameter. The burrows are filled with sandstone identical to non-burrowed areas, but for some reason are slightly more resistant than the surrounding matrix and stand out in relief, especially on the bottom of beds. Hematite preferentially stains certain areas within the sandstone and, together with the burrowed regions, gives the sandstone layer a mottled appearance, rusty orange color. The shale that immediately overlies this basal sandstone layer has eroded back, in places providing the basal sandstone layer with a resistant cap resting directly on top of the underlying Gallup sandstone. Some workers have lumped this basal layer into the Gallup Sandstone, which has led to different interpretations as to where to place the contact between the Gallup Sandstone and the Dilco Coal member. In this map and report, the contact is placed at the base of the basal sandstone layer.

Overlying the basal sandstone layer is a sequence of interbedded dark gray shale and very finegrained yellow sandstone. The sandstone layers are typically between 0.5 and 2 meters thick, while the shale intervals are commonly between 3 and 7 meters thick. The interbedded sandstones are fine- to very fine-grained quartz, are thin- (<1 cm) to medium-bedded (between 1 and 10 cm), and commonly contain planar cross-beds in sets up to about 10 cm. The shales are typically dark gray to black and form weak, crumbly, slope-forming outcrops. Several of the intervals contain abundant dark, carbonaceous matter and layers of brown to black lignite coal several tens of centimeters thick. Locally, some shale layers contain permineralized wood fragments up to 10 cm or more across, in addition to plant impressions and fossilized plant fragments (**Photos 18 through 20**).

Gallup Sandstone

The Gallup sandstone is a light tan-colored, fine- to very fine-grained quartz sandstone. It contains subangular to subrounded quartz grains and sparse dark lithic grains. The unit is typically horizontally bedded to massive. Planar cross-beds are common in sets up to 1-2 meters. The unit is well exposed from the southwest corner of the map to the northeast corner. It is best exposed near the mouth of Seboyeta Canyon where it forms a prominent cliff (**Photos 21 and 22, and Panorama 1**). Here, the overlying Dilco Coal member has eroded recessively so that the Gallup sandstone forms a flat bench. Near Bear Canyon the formation splits into two distinct sandstone layers separated by dark shale. Unfortunately this split cannot be measured further south because the Gallup Sandstone has been completely removed by erosion.

Mancos Shale and Interbedded Sandstones

Because the Mancos shale is crumbly, it erodes into slopes that are commonly mantled by basalt clasts or other material eroded down slope. As a result, good exposures are uncommon. The best, most continuous exposure of this unit is exposed near the southern margin of the map, where a ravine has dissected deeply into the landslide deposits exposing the underlying Mancos Shale below (see measured sections 12, 13, 18, and 19).

The Mancos Shale is dominated by dark greenish gray shale. Weathering at the surface has created a thin surface layer a few centimeters thick that is lighter gray in color, but the material underneath is typically darker colored. No obvious fossils were seen within the shale except for small carbonized fragments a few millimeters across that resemble fish scales, found near the bottom of measured section 14 in the Paguate open pit mine near the southeast corner of the map. The unit contains a distinctive fossiliferous bed about 4 meters above sandstone Kms₃, which contains abundant oyster shells (the shells are intact but separate ventral and dorsal halves). Almost everywhere the shale is cut by abundant very thin platy veins of selenite gypsum that weather out and litter the slopes with fragments locally up to as large as 10 cm across. It is possible that this gypsum represents remobilized sulfate originally disseminated within the shale. The shale also contains very distinctive concretions that preferentially form along specific stratigraphic horizons. There are at least two different types of concretions. The first, and most common, are septarian concretions/nodules up to a meter across that contain star-shaped coarse-grained calcite in their cores (Photo 23). Other septarian concretions contain more nodular calcite and exhibit dark orange colors (Photo 24). The second type of concretion is stratigraphically higher in the section and consist of light orange oblate spheroids up to 2 meters across. These concretions are composed of curious feathery fans that resemble chevron-shaped gypsum fans, but they appear to have been replaced by silica (see measured section 18). These fans crumble easily when struck with a hammer (Photo 25). In the lower part of the formation, a few meters above the top of sandstone layer Kms₃ is a characteristic bed about 2 meters thick that contains abundant oyster shells (Photo 26).

Two thin light gray massive beds were observed within shale in the ravine near the south edge of the map (**Photo 27**). Each bed is about 10 cm thick and is slightly more resistant that the interbedded

shale (see measured section 18). There are no apparent internal laminae and these two beds are interpreted to be possible tuff beds, altered to bentonite (?).

Within the lower part of the section, exposed only in the southeast corner of the map, are three relatively thick sandstone units interbedded with the Mancos Shale. Previous workers assigned labels to them of Kms₁ (**Photos 28 and 29**), Kms₂, and Kms₃ (**Photos 30 through 32**). This same terminology was used in this report.

Sandstone layer Kms₂ contains a very characteristic three-layer interval that forms a small fourmeter-high cliff below the main cliff on which rests the village of Paguate (see measured sections 14, 15, and 16; and **Photo 32**). The lower most layer of this cliff is composed of very fine-grained quartz sandstone and siltstone that is thin- to medium-bedded, thick-bedded near top, and contains sparse thin dark calcite chips that may be shell fragments (**Photo 33**). It also contains sparse dark organic matter. Above this is a very think fossiliferous layer up to about 50 cm thick. The uppermost 0.35 m or so is planar laminated very fine-grained quartz sandstone. It contains abundant tubular burrows up to 1 cm diameter on top surface. Below this, the lowermost 15 cm is massive to horizontally bedded very finegrained quartz sandstone that contains very abundant bivalve shell fragments. The bed fizzes strongly in HCl. The third uppermost layer of this lower cliff of Kms₂ is crumbly very fine-grained quartz sandstone, is mostly massive, and contains abundant burrows and oyster shell halves (**Photo 34 through 36**).

Sandstone Unit Ks

In the southern part of the quad, near the upstream end of the deep gully near the quad boundary, is a ledgy sandstone unit composed of thin beds of fine-grained quartz sandstone. This unit was mapped only in this one location, where it forms a small cliff a few meters high (**Photo 37**). It also contains locally abundant dark brownish gray fossil fragments of unknown origin (**Photo 38**)

TERTIARY ROCKS

Pebbles and Pre-volcanic Erosion Surface

On most slopes small rounded siliceous pebbles, though sparse, are ubiquitous (**Photo 39**). They are typically well rounded and range in size from less than 1 cm to over 10 cm across. They are composed of black, gray, and red chert, white vein quartz, light gray to purple quartzite, and rare granite. Nowhere are these pebbles visible in any of the exposed Cretaceous formations. They are found on the colluvium-covered slope just below the base of the Tertiary volcanic rocks, but not above. Because of this relationship it is likely that the pebbles are eroding out of a thin deposit immediately below the volcanic rocks. Since siliceous pebbles are very resistant to weathering and erosion they probably formed a lag on the pre-volcanic erosion surface (or pediment surface) that formed on the Cretaceous rocks. This erosion surface forms a planar surface that dips to the south about 2°, and forms a slight angular unconformity with respect to the underlying Cretaceous rocks which dip to the north-northeast by about 2°.

When standing on the northeast side of and looking across Seboyeta Canyon and Bear Canyon there appears to be a small amount of relief on the underlying Cretaceous rocks. Locally, the lowermost

basalt flows appear to truncate against paleo-topographic highs formed by the resistant sandstone layers of the Dalton and Point Lookout Sandstones.

Volcanic Rocks

Crumpler (1980a, 1980b), Perry et al. (1990), Hallett et al., (1997) and Fellah (2011) provide the most recent ideas on the magmatic evolution of the Mount Taylor volcanic field (MTVF) and Mesa Chivato. Volcanism in the Seboyeta quadrangle commenced with emplacement of Picacho Peak plug and dike at 4.49 Ma (Figure 1). This and other similar plugs and dikes are part of the Rio Puerco necks, which skirts the SE margin of the quad (Hallett et al., 1997). The plugs of Cerro de la Celosa (2.57 Ma) and Cerro Negro (3.39 Ma) intrude Cretaceous rocks just east of the quad boundary. Presumably, these plugs fed lava flows that have long since eroded away.



Figure 1: Photo of Picacho Peak, a "quartz" basalt plug and dike intruding Cretaceous rocks in southwestern Seboyeta quadrangle. Dated at 4.49 Ma, this intrusion also contains sparse dunite xenoliths.

The next volcanic eruption in the quad is an unusual alkali-olivine basalt filling a paleo-valley on the southwest margin of Encinal Mesa (Lipman and Moench, 1972). This is overlain by a widespread analcite basanite erupted at 3.26 Ma (Figure 2) that consists of one to three flow units filling a network of shallow paleo-valleys (Lipman and Moench, 1972; Lipman and Mehnert, 1979; Perry et al., 1990). Following this, fall deposits of Grants Ridge rhyolite tuff (3.26 Ma; Goff et al., 2008) were erupted from the Grants Ridge rhyolite center southwest of Mount Taylor. These aphyric pumice deposits, most of them reworked, remain as a few thin, highly eroded outcrops on top of the basanite.

From about 3.1 to 2.8 Ma, the first "high mesa basalts" (Lipman and Moench, 1972) were erupted from a variety of vents in the Mount Taylor-southwest Mesa Chivato area, covering most of the Cretaceous terrain and early valley-filling volcanics (Figure 3). These basalts are interlayered with slightly porphyritic rhyolite tuffs (unit Ttrt) originating from the early Mount Taylor complex (Osburn et al., 2009). Additional high mesa basalts were erupted until about 2.5 Ma. "High mesa" lavas form widespread caps on what we have informally named Encinal, Silver Dollar, Chupadero and Seboyatita mesas.



Figure 2: Photo of analcite basanite (Tbas, 3.26 Ma) overlying alkali-olivine basalt (Tmaob) west of "Encinal Mesa." These "early basalts" display distinctive texture and mineralogy (**Appendix 1**).



Figure 3: Photo of volcaniclastic sandstone beds (Tvss) underlying "high mesa basalt" (Tcopb) in ravine just west of "Encinal Mesa." Lower beds of this exposure are reworked rhyolitic tuffs (Ttrt and Tgrt).

The intermediate composition edifice of Mount Taylor stratovolcano formed from about 3.0 to 2.4 Ma (Goff et al., 2008, 2010; Osburn et al., 2009). On northwest Seboyeta quad, thick deposits of interbedded debris flows, mudflows, hyper concentrated flows and minor stream flow deposits represent eroded products of this volcanism as unit QTvs. Most of the cobbles and boulders in QTvs are porphyritic trachyandesite to trachydacite. We found two intermediate composition lava flows and several trachydacitic tuffs (Ttdt; **Figure 4**) within the sedimentary package. At the bottom of QTvs, we found several outcrops of volcaniclastic sandstone (Tvss) that is locally interbedded with older high mesa basalt (**Figure 3**). Probably 90% of QTvs is Pliocene in age and we mapped several tongues of these sediments interbedded with younger "high mesa" lava flows. However, the upper part of QTvs apparently extends into Pleistocene time (now defined as ≤ 2.5 Ma) because some of the deposits overlie lava flows dated at 2.65 Ma (unit Tmctb) and engulf another lava (unit QTfqxb) at a higher stratigraphic level.



Figure 4: Photo of reworked top of trachydacite pumice bed (Ttdt) in unit QTvs (UTM 0277663/3897487). Similar tuffs are dated at about 2.75 Ma elsewhere in the Mount Taylor region (Goff et al., 2008, 2010).



Figure 5: Photo of Cerro Ortiz and flow top of unit Qfqtb, the youngest lava within the Seboyeta quad (1.56 Ma).

The youngest volcanism in the Seboyeta quad is represented by lavas that have been previously called "late basalts" (Lipman and Moench, 1972). The youngest of these flows is unit Qfqtb, a distinctive "quartz" basalt that overlies unit QTvs and is dated at 1.56 Ma (Lipman and Mehnert, 1979). This flow originates from Cerro Ortiz (Figure 5) just north of the quad boundary, and extends 9 km to the south. Qfqtb overlies or abuts two other mafic flows that are probably Pleistocene in age; Qfob2 and Qmplb. The latter flow originates from Cerro Frio, well within the next quadrangle north. There are at least 10 Pleistocene-age flows north and west of Seboyeta quad (Goff et al., 2010). The youngest eruption identified in the immediate area of Mount Taylor is the Cerro Pelon cone and flow dated at 1.26 Ma.

An exceptional reference section of the different mafic lava types originally defined by Lipman and Moench (1972) is exposed in an unnamed canyon trending northeast off Bear Canyon (Figure 6). No other cliff exposures in the quad contain all type units and interbedded sediments. A thick flow (\leq 30 m) of "early" analcite basanite (unit 1) sits on Cretaceous rocks at the bottom of the section. This flow has a well-developed colonnade at the base overlain by a thick, rubbly entablature. Overlying the basanite are a few meters of reworked rhyolitic ash and volcaniclastic sandstone with a baked upper contact (units Tvss/Ttrt). This layer pinches out in either direction and is not shown on the geologic map. The next flow up (unit 2) is Tmotb, a medium-grained olivine basalt exemplifying initial "high mesa" basaltic volcanism. This flow is also overlain by thin local accumulations of volcaniclastic sediment (QTvs). Unit 3 in the photograph is Tfctb, a roughly 10-m-thick lava with distinct but sparse, black augite phenocrysts erupted from a nearby cinder cone. This younger "high mesa" basalt caps most of "Chupadero Mesa." Again, as much as 6 m of sediments (QTvs) locally overlie this flow. The uppermost lava (unit 4) is Qfqtb, the "quartz" basalt, which is 5 to 10 m thick. Unit Qfqtb is the type example of "late basalt" and the youngest mafic lava in Seboyeta quad.

Volcanic rocks in the Mount Taylor area are slightly alkalic. Few units contain primary quartz, although many of the mafic lavas contain quartz xenocrysts. Previous workers have variously classified the volcanic rocks as basalt-andesite-rhyolite to hawaiite-latite-trachyte-rhyolite (e.g., Baker and Ridley, 1970; Lipman and Moench, 1972; Crumpler, 1980a; 1980b; Perry and others, 1990; Hallett et al., 1997). For this map, we are using the widely accepted classification scheme of La Bas et al. (1986) and previously published chemical analyses to rename the volcanic units (Fig. 9). Thus, the alkali basalts (hawaiites) are called trachybasalts, basaltic andesites (muegerites) are called basaltic trachyandesites, and quartz latites are called trachydacite. The only volcanic rocks with no name changes are the rhyolites and basanites.



Figure 6: A reference section of volcanic rocks is exposed in unnamed ravine northeast of Bear Canyon (top of section is located at UTM 0277449/3894935, 7600 ft). Basal flow (unit 1) is analcite basanite dated at 3.26 Ma, part of "early basalt." Reworked rhyolitic tuffs above basanite are dated at roughly 3.0 Ma. Flow 2 is olivine trachybasalt equivalent to early "high mesa basalt" (about 2.9 Ma). Flow 3 is clinopyroxene-phyric trachybasalt, a late "high mesa basalt" with an age of roughly 2.7 Ma. Capping flow is "quartz" trachybasalt (1.56 Ma) equivalent to "late basalt." These lava names were originally defined by Lipman and Moench (1972) but were changed to a more complicated and less useful hierarchy by Lipman and Mehnert (1979). Dates are discussed in text and rock descriptions.

The latest comparison of chemical data for volcanic rocks in the southeastern Mount Taylor – southern Mesa Chivato area was presented in the Le Bas diagram of Hallett and others (1997: Figure 7). Most of the mafic rocks hover near the portion of the diagram where basalt, trachybasalt, and basanite intersect. Thus, it is not possible to positively name the mafic rocks without chemical



Figure 7: Total alkalis versus silica diagram of Le Bas et al. (1986) plotting rock compositions from the eastern Mount Taylor region; MC = Mesa Chivato, RPV = Rio Puerco Valley, MP = Mesa Prieta (modified from Hallett et al. 1997). Red arrow points at the field for trachybasalt (hawaiite) compositions. Data are from Lipman and Moench (1972), Crumpler (1980b), Perry et al. (1990) and Hallett et al. (1997).

analyses or thin sections of every unit. For this map we could reliably distinguish the analcite basanite from other lavas because of previous chemistry, spotted texture, blue-gray weathering and presence of groundmass analcite. Mafic lavas with abundant visible groundmass plagioclase were named trachybasalt (hawaiite). Commonly, the plagioclase in these lavas is aligned by flowage into a crude trachytic texture forming zones of platy texture. Dense black massive mafic lavas were named basalt.

The Seboyeta Canyon Vent

The youngest eruption in the Seboyeta quadrangle is probably the small, eroded basaltic vent on the east side of Seboyeta Creek about 1 km north of Seboyeta village (Unit Qctc; Fig. Add 1). This feature was first identified by Moench and Schlee (1967). Later it was described by Hallett (1994) who recognized the initial phases of the eruption as a tuff ring (maar volcano). Hallett and others (1997, figure 1) incorrectly show it as a volcanic neck. The vent consists primarily of three cycles of alternating massive basaltic hydromagmatic beds overlain by layers of coarse pyroclastic breccia and welded basaltic scoria (**Figures 8 through 11**). The cycles represent wet and dry phases during eruption. The hydromagmatic beds consist of fragments of quenched basalt of varying sizes mixed with abundant fragments of Cretaceous sandstone and rounded chert. Pale brownish yellow palagonite, a clay typical of mafic hydromagmatic eruptions, is common in these beds. The pyroclastic breccia layers also contain fragments of Cretaceous sandstone and chert. An infill of lava cuts across the beds and layers of cycle 2 and forms a thin lava flow dipping south on the southwest side of the vent. The lava is covered by cycle 3 (uppermost) hydromagmatic and scoria layers. Two thin vertical dikes trending S30W cut cycle 1 deposits on the northeast side of the vent, visible along an abandoned trail. The lava, dikes, scoria and hydromagmatic fragments all consist of trachybasalt containing conspicuous phenocrysts and/or megacrysts of black clinopyroxene.

Cycle 1 (lowermost) deposits dip to the west under both the basal northeastern and southeastern exposures of the vent suggesting that the initial eruption covered a west-dipping slope on the wall of Seboyeta Canyon. Much of the west end of the vent is eroded away by Seboyeta Creek. If the eruption formed a surrounding apron of hydromagmatic beds typical of maar volcanoes (e.g., Fisher and Schmincke, 1984, p. 255), these are also eroded away. The location of this vent in the bottom of the canyon is significant because it indicates a late Quaternary age for the eruption. Thus, it is probably similar in age and stratigraphic position to the Laguna basalt flow (0.38 to 0.128 Ma, Lipman and Mehnert, 1979; Champion and Lanphere, 1988) located roughly 15 km to the southeast (see also Laughlin et al., 1993).



Figure 8: Photo looking east of eroded Qctc vent in Seboyeta Canyon: 1 = scoria layer of cycle 1; 2 = hydromagmatic beds of cycle 2; L = lava infill of vent; 3 = hydromagmatic beds of cycle 3; D = dikes cutting cycle 1 scoria beds. Cliffs in background are Cretaceous Gallup Sandstone.



Figure 9: Cathy Goff and Phil Kyle examine cycle 1 hydromagmatic beds and overlying scoria layers.



Figure 10: Cycle 1 mafic scoria with 0.7 m-long block of Cretaceous sandstone in Qctc vent.



Figure 11: Northwest trending dike cutting cycle 1 pyroclastic breccia on northwest side of Qctc vent; holes are paleomagnetic cores sampled by Hallett (1994), but only magnetic intensities are reported.

Volcaniclastic Deposits (Tvss)

The east side of Mount Taylor is mantled by a thick conglomeratic deposit that drapes downhill across the landscape into the western side of the Seboyeta quadrangle. Although the unit is deeply dissected by drainages, good exposures are rare. The best exposures are along its southern margin where the unit caps the edge of the prominent south-facing cliff along Encinal Mesa. Here the deposits are dominated by coarse conglomerate containing minor sandstone and tuffaceous sandstone. Where exposed, beds are typically up to a few meters thick and are characteristically non-bedded, exhibiting massive, chaotic internal structures. Clasts are typically subangular to subrounded from sand-size up to large boulders 2 meters across. The vast majority of clasts are composed of crystal-rich trachyte identical in composition to the trachyte exposed to the northwest on Mount Taylor (with minor basalt and pumice). The boundaries between beds, however, are very sharp and planar and are commonly defined by a recessively weathering basal layer of graded and cross-bedded pumice-rich sandstone, commonly between 10 and 20 cm thick. Where visible, the basal layers are commonly quite planar across the outcrop, but in some exposures they wrap around and across older beds and thus appear to form erosional scours in the underlying beds.

The chaotic, non-bedded textures within the beds suggest they were deposited by non-turbulent flow, which is consistent with debris flows or lahars. The cross-bedded pumice-rich basal sandstones were probably surge and/or pumice-fall deposits. Taken together, these volcaniclastic deposits were likely

the result of a series of explosive volcanic eruptions (pumice-rich sandstones) followed closely in time by lahar and/or debris flow deposits (the non-bedded conglomerate beds).

QUATERNARY DEPOSITS

Mapping of surficial deposits follows the style and terminology developed by Grimm (1985), Drake et al. (1991), Goff et al. (2008), and Osburn et al. (2009). The Plio-Pleistocene stratigraphy in Mt. Taylor area includes one Pliocene and one early Pleistocene pediment, and three widespread Quaternary units that lie above the modern flood plain or arroyo floor. In the Seboyeta Quadrangle, the Pliocene and early Pleistocene pediment deposits are poorly exposed and do not form mappable units. In adjacent areas, Pliocene deposits are limited to pediment and axial gravel deposits that cap erosional surfaces cut on Cretaceous sedimentary rocks, and are typically overlain by volcanic units. Pliocene deposits are generally coarse-grained and contain greater proportions of granite and quartzite clasts than are observed in Quaternary deposits (Drake et al., 1991).

Quaternary sediments mapped in the Seboyeta quadrangle include fluvial terrace, alluvial fan deposits, valley floor alluvium, and eolian deposits. Quaternary terrace and fan deposits contain a predominance of volcanic clasts of mixed lithologies, secondary Cretaceous sandstone clasts, and minor chert pebbles. Fan units Qf0-Qf4, mapped in the southwest corner of the Quadrangle, are the eastern part of the Water Canyon fan. Deposition of the Water Canyon fan, which began by early Pleistocene time (correlative fine-grained deposits exhibit reversed polarity; Drake et al (1991)), record incision into the volcanic edifice, erosion of the amphitheater on Mt Taylor and piedmont aggradation. The presence of multiple buried soils in Qf0 (**Figure 17**) record periods of landscape stability and soil formation in between episodes of aggradation during deposition of Qf0. The piedmont has been extensively dissected since Qf0 deposition, therefore Qf0 through Qf2 surfaces are preserved as relatively small remnants. Much of the modern piedmont in the vicinity of the Water Canyon fan is composed of the middle to late Pleistocene Qf3 surface, overlain in places by younger deposits. Aggradation of Qf3 (and overlying Qf4) is likely a result of aggradation along the Rio San Jose drainage associated with eruption of the Laguna flow at 0.38 to 0.128 Ma (Lipman and Mehnert, 1979; Champion et al., 1988), which flowed down the Rio San Jose drainage.

Deposits underlying terrace surfaces along Rio Paguate, Seboyetita Creek, and Seboyeta Creek comprise coarse-grained gravelly sediments. Qt2 is a fill terrace up to 12 m thick, and Qt3 is a strath terrace 2-3 m thick that is cut on the Cretaceous section (**Figure 11.5**). The valley floor alluvium is composed primarily of fine-grained sand, silt and clay with gravel lenses. Drill log data indicate a thickness of valley floor alluvium of 11 m near Encinal and 18 m near Paguate (Risser and Lyford, 1983). Recent aggradation of alluvial deposits has resulted in burial of older colluvial deposits in some drainages (**Figure 12**).



Figure 11.5. Qt3 strath terrace cut on Km near Paguate. Note stage II carbonate, reddened Bt horizon at top of gravel deposit.

The Pliocene and Quaternary deposits and associated geomorphic surfaces in the Mt. Taylor area record a history of long-term incision interrupted by relatively brief periods of base level stability. In contrast to the overall Plio-Quaternary history, the late Quaternary has been characterized by alternating periods of erosion and deposition. Approximately 200-300 m of incision has occurred into the Pliocene pediment surface between 2.5 m.y. and the present time, likely in response to regional uplift. Periods of erosion and deposition during the late Quaternary are likely in response to climatic fluctuations, continued regional uplift, and/or episodic volcanism in the Zuni Bandera volcanic field periodically blocking drainages (Drakos et al., 1991). Periods of temporary base level stability are reflected in the formation of Qf0-Qf3 at the mouth of Water Canyon and Encinal Canyon, and Qt2 and Qt3 along Rio Paguate, Seboyetita Creek, and Seboyeta Creek. The drainages in Seboyeta Quad, which are tributary to the Rio San Jose, incised 10-20 m below the modern valley floor. This was in response incision along the Rio San Jose, which cut a canyon 50-60 m below the modern valley floor (Drake et al., 1991).

Soils

The semiarid climate of the Grants-Laguna area and the regional carbonate dust influx have favored the development of carbonate soils. Soils were described based on methods described in Birkeland (1999). Carbonate morphology and Bt horizon development are the morphologic characteristics that best distinguish soils in the Grants-Laguna area. Soils in the study area exhibit stage I through III carbonate morphology (terminology after Gile et al. (1981) and Machette (1985)). Colors range from 5YR to 2.5Y, soil structure ranges from massive to strong subangular blocky, and clay film morphology ranges from absent to thick, continuous (**Appendix 2; Table 1**).

STRUCTURE

The only structure is defined by the alignment of three mafic vents. We interpret this to be a buried fissure system with a NE-trend. However, we found no corresponding offset of lava units in the cliffs. So it does not appear to be an actual fault. Other than that, the Picacho Peak dike in the southwest corner of the map also has a NE trend. These northeast dike and fissure trends parallel those in both the Lobo Springs and Cerro Pelon quadrangles, and mimic the general NE trend of the Jemez volcanic lineament (Goff et al., 2008; 2010).

HYDROTHERMAL ALTERATION

Weak hydrothermal alteration was found in the older alkali-olivine basalt (Unit Tmaob) beneath the cliffs west of "Encinal Mesa." The alteration is pale red to yellow to green in color and consists of combinations of clay, silica, carbonate, Fe-oxides and possibly chlorite found in groundmass, fractures, cavities and vugs. We observed no hydrothermal alteration in other volcanic lavas or tuffs. We found no evidence for significant hot spring activity or subjacent deposition of epithermal ore deposits.

HYDROGEOLOGY

Numerous cold springs issue from either the base or near the base of the volcanic rocks. Many of these springs are found in the ravines of the major streams, commonly at or near a cliff of lowermost lava on Cretaceous rocks. The largest collection of cold springs occurs along middle Encinal Creek where it bends around the north side of vent Qfqgb (rough location UTM 027500/3896000, 7650 ft). This cluster of springs issue from the colonnade of the underlying basanite (Tbas; **Figure 8**). Presumably, the Cretaceous section occurs <20 m below these springs. Possibly, the northeast-trending buried fissure system contains dikes that impound water north of the vent. As mentioned before, we found no obvious evidence of a fault offset here but a small offset could easily be hidden in this area.

The village of Encinal has historically obtained water from the springs near the head of Encinal Canyon, which are reported to have a combined flow of about 100 gallons per minute (Risser and Lyford, 1983). Shallow groundwater supply targets include the thicker alluvial section along the Rio Paguate (utilized by the village of Paguate) and the Seboyeta Creek alluvium. Deeper water supply targets include the Dakota Sandstone and the Westwater Canyon member of the Mirrison Formation.



Figure 18: Photo of several cold springs entering middle Encinal Creek from colonnade of basanite (unit Tbas). This water supports growth of lush grasses and watercress over a distance of several hundred meters.

MINERALIZATION

Uranium mines (appear to be targeting the Morrison Formation) near Paquate

The Seboyeta quadrangle lies within the Grants uranium district, one of the largest uraniummining areas in the world. The district is more than 85 miles wide and is divided into smaller, widely separated mining localities. Although no uranium mines lie within the quadrangle, immediately adjacent to the southeast edge of the map lie two of the largest open-pit uranium mines in the world—the Paguate and Jackpile mines. The northwestern edge of the Paguate mine just barely touches the southeast corner of the map. Exposed here at the edge of the open quarry is a cliff-face containing the lowermost sandstone unit of the Mancos Shale (unit $\mathbf{Kms_1}$). No other mineralization was seen in the quadrangle.

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UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

Quaternary Deposits

- d Disturbed by human action (Anthropocene).
- **Qy Younger alluvial deposits (Holocene).** Deposits of sand, gravel and silt in main valley bottoms; locally includes stream terraces, alluvial fans, and canyon wall colluvium; Late Holocene in age; maximum thickness of various alluvium deposits is uncertain but is at least 10 m. A well drilled in the NE ¹/₄, SW ¹/₄ of section 27, T 11 N, R 6 W (in Encinal Canyon) penetrated a total thickness of 11 meters of alluvium overlying Mancos shale. Alluvium in canyon bottoms and along major drainages is typically coarse-grained, cobble to boulder size sandy gravel of mixed volcanic lithologies and subordinate sandstone clasts. Alluvium in embayments adjacent to main drainages is typically finer-grained, silt and sand dominated deposits with pebble-gravel lenses and minor interbedded gravel beds. Valley floor alluvium and low terrace deposits are characterized by weakly-developed soils with 10YR-2.5Ycolor, none to minimal carbonate accumulation, and lack of Bt horizon development. As mapped, Qy also contains some units possibly equivalent to Qy4.
- **Qp Playa deposits (Holocene and possibly also Pleistocene).** Mostly fine-grained deposits that fill small depressions in soil-covered basalt on the plateau and within the small volcanic maar in the northeast corner of the map.
- Qt4 Alluvial deposits underlying Qt4 terrace surfaces—Deposits of sandy pebble to boulder size gravel underlying terrace surfaces located approximately 3 to 5 m above local base level (Figure 1). The only Qt4 deposits on the Seboyeta Quadrangle are located along Encinal Canyon, where deposits are in excess of 5 m thick (basal contact is not exposed). Soils developed in deposits underlying Qt4 surfaces are weakly developed, with 10YR-2.5Y color, Bw horizon development, none to minimal carbonate accumulation, (Table 1). Late Holocene (?) in age.
- Qt3 Alluvial deposits underlying Qt3 terrace surfaces—Deposits of sandy pebble to boulder size gravel 1 to 3 m thick underlying strath terrace surfaces located approximately 6 to 24 m above local base level along Rio Paguate, Seboyetita Creek, and Seboyeta Creek drainages. Bt horizon is typically absent (stripped), with stage I to II carbonate horizon exposed at surface. Late Pleistocene (?).
- Qt2 Alluvial deposits underlying Qt2 terrace surfaces—Deposits of sandy pebble to boulder size gravel underlying terrace surfaces located approximately 11 to 30 m above local base level. Surfaces typically have a slope greater than the adjacent valley floors, so elevation above base level can vary significantly for one depositional unit. Deposit thickness ranges from 2 to 12 m or more. Where preserved, soils are well developed, exhibit Stage II to III carbonate morphology, Bt horizon with 5YR to 7.5YR color. Likely middle to late Pleistocene in age.
- Qf4 Deposits underlying Qf4 fan surfaces—description is from Mt. Taylor quad. Qf4 surfaces form part of the modern piedmont. Deposits of fine sand to coarse gravel; typically interbedded fine to medium sand and imbricated cobble-toboulder-size gravel with individual gravel beds 1-3m thick. Qf4 deposits often bury Qf3 deposits and include buried soils (Figure 2, from Mt Taylor Quad). Total thickness 3 to 10 m or more. Where present, Qf3 buried soils are 1 to 5 m

below the Qf4 surface. Qf4 soils are characterized by A-Bw-C or A-Bk-C profiles with maximum Stage I carbonate morphology (Table 1), locally include buried A horizons. Middle to late Holocene. The large deposit in Seboyeta is covered locally by younger (Qy?) deposits.

- Qf3 Deposits underlying Qf3 fan surfaces—Qf3 surfaces form part of the modern piedmont. Deposits of sandy pebble to boulder gravel of mixed volcanic lithologies and subordinate sandstone clasts. Total thickness is from 4.5 m to more than 7 m. Soils are partially eroded, but exhibit Stage III carbonate morphology, Bt horizon with 5YR to 7.5YR color where preserved (Figures 3 and 4, Table 1). Likely middle Pleistocene.
- Qf2 Deposits underlying Qf2 fan surfaces—Deposits of subrounded to subangular sandy pebble to boulder gravel underlying remnant fan surfaces. Deposits range from isolated remnants that are less than 1 m thick to continuous surfaces where deposits are up to 19 m thick. Qt2 fan surfaces in the Seboyeta Quadrangle are approximately 12 m above local base level. Soils are typically stripped although stage I-II carbonate morphology is locally preserved. Early to middle Pleistocene?
- Qf1 Deposits of subrounded to subangular sandy pebble to boulder gravel. Forms one small terrace remnant in the southwestern part of the map, just below the level of Qf0 deposits.
- Qf0 Deposits underlying Qf0 fan surfaces—Deposits of subrounded to subangular sandy pebble to boulder gravel underlying remnant fan surfaces. Deposits are approximately 18 m thick (Figure 5). Qf0 fan surfaces on the Seboyeta Quadrangle are approximately 60 m above local base level. Multiple buried soils are present within the deposits including Bt soil with 5YR color, Bw soil with 10YR color, and multiple Bk soils with Stage II carbonate morphology (Figure). The surficial soil exhibits Stage III carbonate morphology, Btk horizons with 7.5YR to 10YR color. Early Pleistocene?
- Qls Landslide deposits. Poorly sorted debris that has moved chaotically down steep slopes; slumps or block slides (toreva blocks) partially to completely intact, that have moved down slope; slumps and block slides usually display some rotation relative to their failure plane; thickness varies considerably depending on the size and nature of the landslide. As mapped includes colluvium and talus deposits that contains material deposited on slopes that originated as avalanches, debris flows, and reworked deposits of each. There appear to be deposits of different ages, some with well developed laminar caliche horizons.
- Qg Old alluvial deposits along Seboyeta Canyon. These remnants are composed of very poorly sorted subrounded to angular debris composed mostly of basalt clasts. The deposits reside more than 400 feet above the modern drainage and most do not appear to be continuous with the more extensive landslide deposits. They appear to be remnants of deposits that are older than the landslide deposits. Locally, this unit may include Qls deposits.
- Qes Eolian deposits. Typically 0.3 to 0.8 m thick deposit of silt and very fine sand forming sand sheet on Encinal Mesa. Characterized by thin (approximately 10 cm thick) late Holocene deposit overlying buried middle Pleistocene eolian deposit approximately 20 to70 m thick. Surficial soil is weakly developed with 7.5YR color, absence of carbonate morphology, and lack of Bt horizon

development. Buried soil is well developed, exhibits Bt horizon with 5YR color (Table 1). Underlying volcanic rubble has continuous carbonate coatings.

Volcanic Rocks of Southeastern Mount Taylor and Southern Mesa Chivato

Quaternary (Pleistocene)

- **Qctc** Young basalt in the bottom of Seboyeta Cyn. The vent consists primarily of three cycles of alternating massive basaltic hydromagmatic beds overlain by layers of coarse pyroclastic breccia and welded basaltic scoria. The hydromagmatic beds consist of fragments of quenched basalt of varying sizes mixed with abundant fragments of Cretaceous sandstone and rounded chert. Pale brownish yellow palagonite, a clay typical of mafic hydromagmatic eruptions, is common in these beds. The pyroclastic breccia layers also contain fragments of Cretaceous sandstone and chert. An infill of lava cuts across the beds and layers of cycle 2 and forms a thin lava flow dipping south on the southwest side of the vent. The lava is covered by cycle 3 (uppermost) hydromagmatic and scoria layers. Two thin vertical dikes trending S30W cut cycle 1 deposits on the northeast side of the vent, visible along an abandoned trail. The lava, dikes, scoria and hydromagmatic fragments all consist of trachybasalt containing conspicuous phenocrysts and/or megacrysts of black clinopyroxene.
- **Qfqtb** Fine-grained quartz-bearing olivine trachybasalt—Flows of dark gray, finegrained trachybasalt containing sparse, but easily recognizable, small xenocrysts of quartz, and small sparse phenocrysts of olivine and black augite in groundmass of tiny plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides, and glass; many of the xenocrysts have pale green clinopyroxene reaction rims with host lava; olivine shows minor high-temperature iddingsite alteration; flows originate from Cerro Ortiz just north of quad boundary; flows overlie QTvs and Qfob2, and abut Qmptb; maximum observed thickness about 55 m; K-Ar date is 1.56 ± 0.17 Ma (whole rock; Lipman and Mehnert, 1979).
- Qfob2 Fine-grained olivine basalt—Flows of dark gray to black, fine-grained basalt with sparse small phenocrysts of olivine in groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; contains rare small quartz xenocrysts; olivine displays minor high-temperature iddingsite alteration; flows originate from the north; overlie Qmptb but underlie Qfqtb; maximum observed thickness is about 10 m.
- **Qmptb** Medium-grained plagioclase-phyric olivine trachybasalt—Gray, mediumgrained, sparsely porphyritic trachybasalt flows containing plagioclase phenocrysts ≤3 cm long in groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; olivine shows very minor high-temperature iddingsite alteration; flows originate from Cerro Frio north of quad boundary; underlies Qfob2 but overlies Tfob; maximum observed thickness is about 15 m.

Quaternary- Tertiary (Plio-Pleistocene)

- **QTfob** Fine-grained olivine basalt—Dark gray to black, fine-grained basalt flows with rare megacrysts of 0.25 cm resorbed plagioclase and sparse phenocrysts of small olivine in groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; superficially resembles flows of unit Qfob2; flows apparently originate from the northeast; underlies Qmptb, Tfcpb, and Tfab; maximum observed thickness is about 35 m.
- **QTfqxb** Fine-grained, quartz- and xenolith-bearing olivine trachybasalt—Dark gray to black, fine-grained, occasionally flow-banded, nearly aphyric trachybasalt flows; contain sparse small quartz xenocrysts with green clinopyroxene reaction rims; contains very rare, resorbed dunite xenoliths ≤4 cm in diameter and rare resorbed black augite megacrysts; groundmass consists of tiny plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; olivine displays minor high-temperature iddingsite alteration; one of younger flows in Seboyeta quad but is submerged in upper part of debris flows of QTvs; overlies Tmctb, and Tmcpb; maximum observed thickness about 20 m.
- QTvs Volcaniclastic sedimentary rocks—Gray to tan to white debris flows, fluvial deposits and interbedded tuffs (Ttdt and Ttrt) shed from the Mount Taylor stratovolcano during growth. Debris flow component is most abundant near source (northeast part of quadrangle) and consists primarily of boulders and cobbles of angular to subangular trachydacite and trachyandesite in a volcanic sand matrix. Boulders form a lag deposit on surface of debris flows. Fluvial component contains rounded to subrounded cobbles including a higher proportion of basaltic clasts, especially to south. Tuffs are described below. Underlies a multitude of mafic flows and cones east of Mt. Taylor; interbedded with two intermediate composition flows along northeast margin of quad (Tpota and Tbhtd). Overlies a few older trachybasalts and basalts throughout much of the quadrangle. Maximum exposed thickness is >200 m.

Tertiary (Pliocene)

- **Tfptb** Fine-grained plagioclase-phyric olivine trachybasalt—Flows of gray, fine- to medium-grained, slightly porphyritic trachybasalt containing 0.5 to 1.5 cm plagioclase phenocrysts in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite and opaque oxides; contains virtually no glass; flows originate from eroded vent with barely any cinders at north end of Silver Dollar Mesa; overlies QTvs, Tfqgb, and Tbas; maximum exposed thickness about 35 m.
- **Tmctb** Medium-grained clinopyroxene-phyric olivine trachybasalt—Dark gray, medium-grained, slightly porphyritic trachybasalt flows with abundant small phenocrysts of black augite, plagioclase and olivine in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; olivine shows hightemperature iddingsite alteration; occasionally displays spotted appearance; underlies QTfqxb and Tfptb; interbedded within QTvs; maximum exposed thickness about 35 m; K-Ar age is 2.65 ± 0.15 Ma (Lipman and Mehnert, 1979).
- **Tmcpb** Medium-grained clinopyroxene plagioclase-phyric olivine trachybasalt— Flows of gray, medium-grained sparsely porphyritic trachybasalt having phenocrysts of plagioclase and black augite in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass. Flows are exposed along most of the upper Rio Paguate; underlies Qfqtb and QTfqxb; interbedded in QTvs abuts Tmctb; overlies Tmotb; maximum exposed thickness is about 25 m.

- **Tpota Porphyritic olivine trachyandesite**—Light gray, highly porphyritic lava flow with abundant 0.5 to 2.0 cm phenocrysts of complexly zoned plagioclase, and tiny phenocrysts of olivine, augite, plagioclase and sparse biotite in a very fine-grained, devitrified groundmass of plagioclase and opaque oxides; olivine shows extensive iddingsite alteration; minor Fe-oxide staining in cracks; contains sparse enclaves of plagioclase-augite ≤ 12 cm in diameter; flow is massive to sheeted; unit forms thick viscous flow in NW corner of quad; interbedded in QTvs; maximum exposed thickness is about 75 m.
- **Tbhtd Porphyritic biotite-hornblende trachydacite**—Light gray to pale pink, highly porphyritic lava flow containing conspicuous phenocrysts of plagioclase, biotite and hornblende in a fine-grained devitrified groundmass of plagioclase, sanidine, biotite, augite and opaque oxides. Flow is massive and is exposed as two low knobs interbedded in QTvs on unnamed ridge in western part of quad. Maximum exposed thickness is about 7 m.
- **Ttdt Porphyritic trachydacite tuffs**—White to light gray beds of pumice and pumice-rich sediments interbedded in middle to lower parts of unit QTvs; pumice is highly vesicular containing sparse, small phenocrysts of plagioclase, augite \pm sanidine, biotite, hornblende and quartz; tuffs originate from sources within Mount Taylor; beds are up to 5 m thick; ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar dates on similar deposits to west and northwest range from 2.71 to 2.76 Ma (n=4; Goff et al., 2008, 2010).
- **Tfctb** Fine-grained clinopyroxene-phyric olivine trachybasalt—Flows of gray, fineto medium-grained slightly porphyritic trachybasalt containing sparse plagioclase phenocryst ≤1.5 cm long and very sparse phenocrysts of equant, black augite in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and minor glass. Olivine displays high-temperature iddingsite alteration. Flows originate from eroded cinder cone (Tfctc) and cover all of southern Chupadero Mesa. Flows underlie Qfqtb, QTvs and QTfob; flows overlie Tmotb and Tbas. Maximum exposed thickness is about 20 m.
- Tfctc Eroded cinder cone for lava flows of Tfctb. Scoria and cinder deposits.
- **Tfcpb** Fine-grained, clinopyroxene porphyritic olivine basalt—Flows of dark gray to black, fine-grained, porphyritic basalt with conspicuous black megacrysts of resorbed augite and small phenocrysts of plagioclase, olivine and magnetite in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; olivine is extensively altered to high-temperature iddingsite; flows cover most of Seboyatita Mesa and apparently originate from the east; unit underlies QTfob and overlies QTvs, Tmpcb and Tfab; maximum exposed thickness is about 20 m.
- **Tfotb** Fine-grained olivine trachybasalt—Dark gray, fine-grained trachybasalt flows with sparse phenocrysts of olivine, plagioclase and augite in groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; flows originate from eroded hills of cinders and scoria (**Tfotc**) on southern Mesa Chivato; overlie Cretaceous rocks; maximum exposed thickness of flows is about15 m.
- Tfotc Eroded cinder cone for lava flows of Tfotb. Scoria and cinder deposits.
- **TmpcbMedium-grained plagioclase-phyric trachybasalt**—Flows of gray, medium-
grained porphyritic trachybasalt with phenocrysts of plagioclase and very small
phenocrysts of olivine and augite in groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite,
opaque oxides and glass; underlies Tfcpb and overlies Cretaceous rocks along
northeast edge of Seboyatita Mesa; maximum exposed thickness about 15 m.

- **Tfab Aphyric basalt**—Black, very fine-grained, aphyric basalt flows with tiny microphenocrysts of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and abundant glass; olivine displays extensive iddingsite alteration; flows originate from eroded cinder cone (**Tfac**); underlies Tfob and Tfcpb; overlies Cretaceous rocks; maximum exposed thickness of flows is about 40 m.
- **Tfqgb** Fine-grained quartz- and xenolith-bearing trachybasalt—Flows of gray, finegrained trachybasalt with rare quartz xenocrysts and very rare xenocrysts (0.5 to 2 cm) of pyroxene gabbro in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; quartz may have pale green clinopyroxene reaction rims; gabbro is medium-grained and equigranular; highly eroded vent (**Tfqtc**) is mostly stripped of scoria and bombs; underlies Tfptb; interbedded in QTvs; overlies Tmpxb and Tbas; maximum exposed thickness of flow is about 15 m.
- Tfqtc Eroded cinder cone for lava flows of Tfqgb. Scoria and cinder deposits.
- **TmpxbMedium-grained clinopyroxene-phyric olivine trachybasalt**—Gray, medium-
grained, slightly porphyritic trachybasalt flows with sparse megacrysts of
resorbed black augite in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque
oxides and a little glass; olivine shows considerable iddingsite alteration; forms
distinctive flows along southwest margin of Silver Dollar Mesa; probable source
is low hill on east side of middle Encinal Creek; underlies QTvs and Tfptb;
overlies Tcpob, Ttrt, Tbas and Cretaceous rocks; K-Ar date is 2.93 ± 0.12 Ma
(whole rock; Laughlin et al., 1993).
- **Tvss Volcaniclastic sandstone**—Gray to tan, fine- to course-grained fluvial sandstone containing small clasts and grains of quartz, plagioclase, olivine, augite, chert, pumice, and various types of basalt and intermediate composition volcanics; may contain thin beds of trachydacite or rhyolite tuffs too thin to map; occupies shallow channels cut into earliest lava flow surfaces in the region; underlies QTvs; interbedded with various older lava flows; overlies Tbas; maximum exposed thickness is about 35 m but usually is much less.
- TmotbMedium-grained olivine trachybasalt—Flows of gray to black, medium-
grained, trachybasalt containing about 3% of ≤ 1 mm olivine phenocrysts in a
slightly trachytic groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and
glass; olivine is extensively altered to iddingsite. Flows originate from small
exhumed cinder cone (Tmotc) on west side of upper Paguate Creek; underlies
Tvss and several lava units; overlies Tbas and Cretaceous rocks; maximum
exposed thickness is about 35 m.
- **Tmote** Eroded cinder cone for lava flows of Tmotb. Scoria and cinder deposits.
- **Tcpob** Medium-grained augite- and plagioclase-phyric olivine trachybasalt—Gray, medium-grained, porphyritic trachybasalt flows with phenocrysts of plagioclase, olivine, sparse augite and magnetite in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; olivine displays extensive high-temperature iddingsite alteration; augite phenocrysts are very sparse in some locations but porphyritic texture is quite distinctive; covers most of Encinal Mesa; flows originate from low hill of cinders (**Tcpoc**); underlies QTvs and Tmpxb; interbedded with Tvss and Ttrt; overlies Tgrt and Tbas; maximum exposed thickness about 20 m.
- **Tcpoc** Eroded cinder cone for lava flows of Tcpob. Scoria and cinder deposits.

- **Ttrt Porphyritic rhyolite tuffs**—White to pale pink beds of pumice, pumice-rich sediments and thin ignimbrites; pumice is highly vesicular containing sparse, small phenocrysts of sanidine and biotite \pm hornblende, clinopyroxene and quartz; tuffs originate from sources within Mount Taylor; underlies QTvs and Tvss; interbedded with Tcpob; overlies Tbas; beds are up to 25 m thick near western margin of quadrangle; 40 Ar/ 39 Ar dates on similar deposits to west and northwest range from 3.08 to 2.79 Ma (n=3; Goff et al., 2008, 2010).
- **Tbas Spotted aphyric analcite basanite**—Dark gray to bluish gray, fine-grained, nearly aphyric basanite flows with rare tiny phenocrysts of plagioclase and olivine in a groundmass of plagioclase, abundant olivine, augite, analcite, opaque oxides and glass; the analcite displays ocellar texture (Lipman and Moench, 1972); olivine shows intense, high-temperature iddingsite alteration; vugs, vesicles and cracks are commonly filled with opal/chalcedony, calcite and Feoxides; weathered surfaces are distinctly to vaguely spotted in outcrop; upper part of unit is massive to rubbly; lower part is columnar jointed; underlies all other Mount Taylor volcanic rocks except Tmaob; source is apparently within Mount Taylor; flows fill shallow paleo-valleys developed on top of Cretaceous rocks; maximum exposed thickness is about 45 m. K-Ar date is 3.26 ± 0.31 Ma (whole rock, Perry et al.,, 1990).
- **Tfqxd** Fine-grained quartz- and xenolith-bearing olivine basalt dike—Dark gray, fine-grained, slightly porphyritic basaltic dike containing sparse small phenocrysts of olivine in a groundmass of plagioclase, olivine, augite, opaque oxides and glass; contains sparse small quartz xenocrysts with pale green clinopyroxene reaction rims and sparse xenoliths of dunite; olivine shows iddingsite alteration; dike extends northeast from Picacho Peak plug, which is just south of quad; intrudes Cretaceous (?) rocks; Ar^{40/39} date on plug is 4.49 ± 0.08 Ma (groundmass; Hallett et al., 1997).

Cretaceous and Jurassic Rocks

- KmsaMancos Shale, Satan tongue. Intgerbedded dark shale and less abundant very
fine-grained quartz sandstone. Only exposed in the far northeast part of the map.
See measured sections 1 and 20 for a more detailed description. About 65 meters
thick but top is covered.
- Kph Point Lookout Sandstone, Hasta tongue. Fine-grained quartz sandstone with rare darker lithic grains. Uppermost 5 meters shows planar cross-bedding in sets up to 1 m. Below about 5 meters bedding is mostly horizontal with low-angle cross-beds, especially in the lowermost 2-3 meters. Forms prominent light gray cliff. Thickness 45 meters.
- Kcg Gibson Coal member, Crevasse Canyon Formation. Interbedded light orange very fine-grained quartz sandstone in massive to thinly bedded layers up to 4 meters thick and dark shale. The shale commonly contains dark brown to black lignite coal in seams up to 2 meters thick. Locally contains light gray fragments of fossilized wood. Thickness 95 meters.

- Kcd Dalton Sandstone member, Crevasse Canyon Formation. Light tan-colored very fine-grained quartz sandstone. Grains are mostly subrounded quartz and light gray grains that appear to be either altered feldspar or argillite grains. Some beds appear massive to very weakly bedded. Other beds show planar cross-bedding in sets up to about 30 cm thick. Forms a prominent light gray cliff. See measured sections 2 and 20 for a more detailed description. Thickness 24 meters.
- Kmm Mancos Shale, Mulatto tongue. This unit is composed mostly of very thinly bedded siltstone, and minor shale and fine-grained sandstone. The unit typically forms a steep resistant slope which contains two intervals of medium-bedded fine-grained sandstone. These two intervals form light tan cliffs composed of thin planar beds. Thickness 80 meters.
- Kcdc Dilco Coal member, Crevasse Canyon Formation. Interbedded very finegrained, well sorted yellow quartz sandstone and dark carbonaceous shale. Thinto medium-bedded sandstone beds are typically mottled in appearance, contain abundant horizontal burrows up to 1 cm in diameter, and are between 0.5 and 1 meter thick. Quartz grains are subrounded. Minor biotite flakes. Low-angle planar cross-beds are locally common in sets up to 20 cm thick. Ripple marks are common on the undersides of some sandstone beds. Shale horizons are characteristically dark gray, contain abundant dark carbonaceous matter and brown to black lignite coal beds up to several tens of centimeters thick, and are between 3 and 7 meters thick. Shale beds also contain permineralizied wood fragments and leaf and seed molds.
- Kg Gallup Sandstone. Very fine- to fine-grained quartz sandstone Light tancolored, fine- to very fine-grained quartz sandstone. It contains subangular to subrounded quartz grains and sparse dark lithic grains. The unit is typically horizontally bedded to massive. Planar cross-beds are common in sets up to 1-2 meters. The unit is well exposed from the southwest corner of the map to the northeast corner. It is best exposed near the mouth of Seboyeta Canyon where it forms a prominent cliff. Here, the overlying Dilco Coal member has eroded recessively so that the Gallup sandstone forms a flay bench. Near Bear Canyon the formation splits into two distinct sandstone layers separated by dark shale. Unfortunately this split cannot be measured further south because the Gallup Sandstone has been completely removed farther south.
- Mancos Shale. Thinly layered and laminated dark shale and quartz siltstone.
 Weathered surfaces are typically medium gray to light tan, but fresh surfaces are characteristically dark gray to dark grayish green. Locally contains thin very fine-grained sandstone layers a few tens of centimeters thick, septarian concretions up to 1 meter across, and one thin light gray bentonite layer 15 cm thick within the lower 1/3rd of the mapped unit within the study area. Lower part also contains one layer 1 meter thick composed of very abundant oyster fossils. Translucent to clear platy crystals of gypsum up to 10 cm long are common weathering out of

	slopes. Sandstone layers contain sparse but ubiquitous very fine green-colored grains of unknown composition, the same size as the quartz grains.
Kms ₃	Sandstone. Thin to medium bedded very fine grained quartz sandstone. Sparse darker lithic grains. Dark bivalve shell fragments up to 7 cm. Most beds appear massive. Low-angle planar cross-beds are visible in the upper 3 m. Darker lithics are locally mostly dark green in color common in dark laminae. Abundant bedding-parallel burrows above cross-beds. Forms cliff.
Kms ₂	Sandstone. Upper part is thin to medium bedded very fine grained quartz sandstone. Sparse darker lithic grains. Dark bivalve shell fragments up to 7 cm. Most beds appear massive. Low-angle planar cross-beds are visible in the upper 3 m. Darker lithics are locally mostly dark green in color, common in dark laminae. Abundant bedding-parallel burrows above cross-beds. Forms cliff. Lower parties thin to medium bedded very fine grained quartz sandstone. Sparse darker lithic grains. Dark bivalve shell fragments up to 7 cm. Most beds appear massive. Low-angle planar cross-beds are visible in the upper 3 m of lower part. Darker lithics are locally mostly dark green in color, and are most common in dark laminae. Abundant bedding-parallel burrows above cross-beds. Forms cliff.
Kms ₁	Sandstone. Very fine-grained to fine-grained quartz sandstone. Upper part is mostly massive. Abundant burrows on bed planes. Faintly to strongly laminated. Medium- to thick-bedded, with low-angle planar cross-bedding. Lower part is thin- to medium-bedded. Faint horizontal laminae. Flecks of dark organic matter. Crumbly. As mapped this unit contains beds of dark shale.
Kd	Dakota Sandstone (shown only in cross-section).
Jm	Morrison Formation (shown only in cross-section).
Jt	Todilto Formation (shown only in cross-section).
Je	Entrada Sandstone (shown only in cross-section).

APPENDIX 1

The following thin-section descriptions are of volcanic samples from the Seboyeta 7.5' Quadrangle, Mount Taylor Region (by Fraser Goff)

General Comments: Locations use US Geological Survey, Seboyeta 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle, UTM NAD 27 (1982) unless otherwise noted. Textures, petrology and rock names generally follow the examples in Williams et al. (1954). Rock names use classification schemes of Le Bas et al. (1986) for volcanic rocks.

Abbreviations: Kspar = generic potassium feldspar (variety noted if possible); plag = plagioclase, qtz = quartz, bio = biotite, hbd = hornblende, opx = orthopyroxene, cpx = clinopyroxene, ol = olivine; io = generic iron ore, mt = magnetite, ilm = ilmenite, gl = glass; HT-idds = high-temperature iddingsite (mainly reddish orange hematite and maghemite); ser = sericite, chl = chlorite, cc = calcite, ep = epidote, Fe-oxide = generic low-temperature secondary iron oxide(s).

F11-48: Medium-grained olivine trachybasalt (map unit Tmotb)

Location: 0276534/3897190, 7660 ft, bottom upper Bear Canyon by main Silver Dollar Rd. Relations: Overlain by QTvs, bottom of unit not exposed here Color & Texture: Gray to black, medium-grained, intersertal, slightly trachytic and vesicular Primary: Contains about 3% of small ≤1 mm ol phenocrysts in groundmass of felty, semi-aligned plag, cpx, abundant tiny ol, io and minor gl Secondary: Ol is altered to HT-idds; larger crystals have fresh core Comments: This unit is observable both up and downstream *Petrographic Name: Medium-grained olivine basalt*

F11-51: Porphyritic trachydacite pumice (Ttdt layer in QTvs)

Location: 0277885/3897419, 7700 ft, end of dirt road in overflow of "Trout Pond" Relations: 3 to 5-m-thick discontinuous bed of pumice in volcaniclastic sandstone Color & Texture: White, glassy, pumiceous, highly vesicular, and slightly porphyritic Primary: Contains <1 % small phenocrysts of qtz, sanidine, dark green cpx and oxidized hbd; very minor plag; qtz and sanidine are broken and partially resorbed; gl is fresh Secondary: Minor amounts of fine volcanic sandstone in some larger vesicles Comments: Pumice fragments average 2-3 in in diameter; submitted for ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar date *Petrographic Name: Slightly porphyritic dacite pumice*

F11-52: Medium-grained plagioclase-phyric olivine trachybasalt (unit Qmptb)

Location: 0277059/3900757, 7995 ft, on main Silver Dollar Rd Relations: Underlies Qfob2; overlies Tfob and abuts Qfqtb Color & Texture: Dark gray, medium-grained, intersertal, slightly vesicular, sparsely porphyritic Primary: Sparse plag phenocrysts ≤3 cm long in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx, io and gl; plag phenocrysts contain gl inclusions and display complex zoning Secondary: Very minor HT-idds in ol Comments: Somewhat distinctive flow originates from north; submitted for ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar date *Petrographic Name: Medium-grained plagioclase porphyritic olivine basalt*

F11-53: Fine-grained olivine basalt (unit QTfob)

Location: 0277773/3901850, 8060 ft, on low rise ¹/₄ km west of Seboyetita Creek Relations: Underlies Qmplb; abuts Tfac; overlies Tfcpb Color & Texture: Dark gray to black, fine-grained, hyalopilitic to intersertal, slightly vesicular and sparsely porphyritic Primary: Rare megacrysts of resorbed, complexly zoned plag and rare phenocrysts of ol in groundmass of felty plag, ol, tiny cpx, io and gl Secondary: Minor HT-idds in ol Comments: Flow originates from the north *Petrographic Name: Fine-grained sparsely porphyritic olivine basalt*

F11-55: Fine-grained olivine basalt (unit Qfob2)

Location: 0276576/3902322, 8155 ft, along "Southwest Road" Relations: Overlies Qmplb; underlies Qfqtb Color & Texture: Dark gray to black, fine-grained, hyalopilitic to intersertal, slightly vesicular and porphyritic Primary: Sparse ol phenocrysts in groundmass of plag, ol, tiny cpx, io and gl; contains rare small embayed qtz xenocrysts Secondary: Minor HT-idds in ol Comments: Resembles F11-53 in color and texture; can't tell them apart without field relations; flow originates from north *Petrographic Name: Fine-grained sparsely porphyritic olivine basalt*

F11-56: Fine-grained quartz-bearing olivine trachybasalt (unit Qfqtb)

Location: 0276218/3901763, 8135 ft, along "Southwest Road"

Relations: Overlies Tfob2 and QTvs; youngest flow on quadrangle

Color & Texture: Dark gray, fine-grained, hyalopilitic, slightly vesicular and porphyritic

Primary: Sparse small phenocrysts of ol and black cpx in groundmass of tiny plag, ol, cpx, io and gl;

contains sparse but noticeable qtz xenocrysts, some with pale green cpx reaction rims Secondary: Minor HT-idds in ol

Comments: Qtz xenocrysts are distinctive; flow originates from Cerro Ortiz just north of quad; K/Ar date is 1.56 ± 0.17 Ma (whole rock; Lipman and Mehnert, 1979)

Petrographic Name: Fine-grained quartz-bearing olivine basalt

<u>F11-57: Fine-grained, clinopyroxene porphyritic olivine basalt</u> (unit Tfcpb)

Location: 0279714/3903314, 8000 ft, just north of quad boundary, W side Seboyeta Canyon Relations: Overlies Tmpcb in canyon wall; underlies QTfob to west Color & Texture: Dark gray to black, fine-grained, intersertal, slightly vesicular and porphyritic Primary: Conspicuous black megacrysts of resorbed cpx and small phenocrysts of plag, ol and mt in groundmass of tiny plag, ol, cpx, io and gl Secondary: Considerable HT-idds alteration of ol Comments: Distinctive flow presumable originates from north or west *Petrographic Name: Fine-grained clinopyroxene megacrystal olivine basalt*

F11-59: Aphyric basalt (unit Tfab)

Location: 0280311/3900626, 7830 ft, W side Seboyeta Canyon Relations: Underlies QTvs and Tfcpb; overlies Cretaceous rocks Color & Texture: Black, very fine-grained, aphyric, hyalopilitic, slightly vesicular Primary: Groundmass contains tiny microphenocrysts of plag, ol, cpx, io, and abundant gl

Secondary: Minor HT-idds of ol

Comments: Distinctive flow originates from hill 8061 to west; submitted for ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar date

Petrographic Name: Aphyric olivine basalt

<u>F11-61: Fine-grained basanite</u> (unit Tbas)

Location: 0279449/3897352, 7625 ft, in cliff exposure, W side Bibo Canyon

Relations: Overlies Cretaceous rocks; overlain by 10 m of Tvss with pumice layer of Ttdt(?) Color & Texture: Dark gray, fine-grained, vaguely spotted, intersertal, nearly aphyric, slightly vesicular Primary: Abundant microphenocrysts of ol in groundmass of plag, tiny cpx, io and tiny patches of analcite; spots contain more plag and analcite; les io

Secondary: Ol altered to HT-idds; some cc in vesicles

Comments: Fills shallow paleo-valley in Cretaceous rocks; spots and tiny ol are distinctive *Petrographic Name: Fine-grained analcite basanite*

Petrographic Name: Fine-grained analotte basanite

<u>F11-63: Fine-grained, clinopyroxene phyric olivine trachybasalt</u> (Tfctb)

Location: 0279418/3897327, 7700 ft, about 30 m above F11-61 in cliff wall Relations: Overlies OTvs; lower of two flow units

Color & Texture: Gray, fine- to medium-grained, intersertal, slightly porphyritic and vesicular Primary: Sparse phenocrysts of plag up to 1.5 cm long and very sparse phenocrysts of black, equant cpx in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx and io; very little gl; plag phenocrysts have complex zoning Secondary: Minor HT-idds in ol

Comments: Flows cover SW Chupadero Mesa; originate from hill 7781; upper flow submitted for ${}^{40}\text{Ar}/{}^{39}\text{Ar}$ date

Petrographic Name: Medium-grained, clinopyroxene phyric olivine basalt

F11-68: Porphyritic trachyandesite (unit Tpota)

Location: 0272753/3901225, 8395 ft, N side unnamed ravine near W edge of quad

Relations: Thick flow-banded to massive flows submerged in QTvs

Color & Texture: Light gray, porphyritic, fine-grained pilotaxitic groundmass

Primary: Abundant 0.5 to 2.0 cm phenocrysts of complexly zoned and resorbed plag and small

phenocrysts of ol, cpx, plag, mt, apatite, rare bio and sanidine in groundmass of felted plag and io. No glass, devitrified appearance; some plag contain many tiny resorbed cpx

Secondary: Minor HT-idds in ol; low-temperature Fe-oxides in cracks and spots

Comments: Ol is BIG surprise; lava contains enclaves of plag and cpx up to 5 in across; submitted for ${}^{40}\text{Ar}/{}^{39}\text{Ar}$ date

Petrographic Name: Porphyritic olivine trachyandesite

F11-70: Aphyric spotted basanite (unit Tbas)

Location: 0277203/3894190, 7505 ft, in cliff W side of Bear Canyon Relations: Overlies Cretaceous rocks; overlain by Tfptb Color & Texture: Dark gray to black, fine-grained, intersertal, vaguely spotted, practically aphyric Primary: Abundant tiny ol in groundmass of plag, cpx, io, analcite and gl Secondary: HT-idds in ol; cracks filled with chalcedony-opal and clay Comments: Very similar to F11-61; submitted for ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar date *Petrographic Name: Aphyric analcite basanite*

F11-71: Fine-grained plagioclase-phyric olivine trachybasalt (unit Tfptb)

Location: 0277203/3894190, 7550 ft, top of cliff, W side of Bear Canyon Relations: Overlies QTvs, Tfqgb and Tbas; flows cover top of Silver Dollar Mesa Color & Texture: Gray, fine- to medium-grained, slightly porphyritic, sub-ophitic Primary: Small 0.5 to 1.5 cm plag phenocrysts in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx (titanaugite) and io; virtually no gl Secondary: No HT-idds!

Comments: Very fresh rock; submitted for ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar date *Petrographic Name: Fine-grained plagioclase phyric olivine basalt*

F11-74a/74b: Fine-grained, quartz- and xenolith-bearing olivine trachybasalt (unit QTfqxb)

Location: 0274710/3898611, 7990 ft, on slender ridge between two unnamed drainages Relations: Submerged in QTvs; overlies Tmopb

Color & Texture: Dark gray to black, fine-grained, flow-banded, intersertal, nearly aphyric Primary: Contains sparse resorbed qtz xenocrysts, small dunite xenoliths, and cpx megacrysts in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx, io and glass; qtz commonly displays pale green cpx reaction rims Secondary: Minor HT-idds in ol

Comments: Distinctive rock but easily confused with Qfqtb if xenoliths and megacrysts not observed; dunite contains dark brown, translucent chromite blobs; possibly one of younger flows in quad *Petrographic Name: Fine-grained, quartz- and xenolith-bearing olivine basalt*

F11-83: Medium-grained alkali-olivine basalt (unit Tmaob)

Location: 0272459/3894548, 7400 ft, in cliff SW side of Encinal Mesa

Relations: Overlies Cretaceous rocks; underlies Ttrt, Tcpob, and Tbas

Color & Texture: Dark brown, medium-grained, slightly porphyritic, spotted, sub-ophitic groundmass Primary: Small sparse phenocrysts of ol and plag in groundmass of ol, plag, cpx (titanaugite), and io. No glass.

Secondary: Low-temperature Fe-oxides and clays (possibly chlorite) alteration of ol makes brown spots in lava; cc amygdules in some vesicles

Comments: Texture different, courser grained than F11-61/F11-70; submitted for ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar date *Petrographic Name: Medium-grained olivine basalt*

F11-85: Clinopyroxene and plagioclase phyric olivine trachybasalt (unit Tcpob)

Location: 0274535/3892006, 7380 ft, southern end of Encinal Mesa

Relations: Overlies Cretaceous rocks; covers entire southern end of mesa Color & Texture: Gray to black, medium-grained, porphyritic, intersertal, slightly vesicular Primary: Phenocrysts of plag, ol, sparse cpx and mt in groundmass of plag, oliv, cpx, io and gl Secondary: HT-idds in ol

Comments: Distinctive porphyritic flow on this mesa; cpx phenocrysts <u>very</u> sparse in places *Petrographic Name: Medium-grained, clinopyroxene and plagioclase phyric olivine basalt*

F11-87: Aphyric spotted basanite (Tbas)

Location: 0275241/3895767, 7615 ft, W side of upper Encinal Creek

Relations: Oldest lava in local area; underlies QTvs

Color & Texture: Dark gray to black, aphyric, intersertal, slightly vesicular

Primary: A few larger microphenocrysts of plag in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx (titanaugite), analcite, io and gl

Secondary: HT-idds in ol; clay in vesicles and cracks

Comments: Different, finer-grained texture than F11-83

Petrographic Name: Aphyric analcite basanite

<u>F11-88: Medium-grained clinopyroxene-phyric olivine trachybasalt</u> (unit Tmpxb)

Location: 0275694/3894203, 7460 ft, cliff along Encinal Creek Relations: Overlies Tcpob and Tvt; underlies QTvs and Tfqgb Color & Texture: Gray, medium-grained, intersertal, slightly porphyritic Primary: Sparse megacrysts of resorbed cpx in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx, io and a little gl Secondary: HT-idds in ol Comments: Distinctive flow along lower SW cliffs of Silver Dollar Mesa: dated at 2.93 ± 0.12 Ma (Laughlin et al., 1993)

Petrographic Name: Medium-grained clinopyroxene phyric olivine basalt

F11-93: Fine-grained quartz- and xenolith-bearing olivine basalt dike (unit Tfqxd)

Location: 0272961/3889683, 6605 ft, dike extending NE of **Picacho** Peak plug Relations: Intrudes Cretaceous rocks

Color & Texture: Dark gray, fine-grained, intersertal, slightly porphyritic

Primary: Small ol phenocrysts in groundmass of plag, ol, cpx (titanaugite) io and gl. Contains sparse xenocrysts of qtz with pale green cpx reaction rims and sparse resorbed dunite xenocrysts Secondary: HT-idds in ol

Comments: Dunite contains small blebs of dark brown chromite; plug dated at 4.49 ± 0.08 Ma (Hallett et al., 1997)

Petrographic Name: Fine-grained, quartz- and xenolith-bearing olivine basalt



Photo 1. Outcrop of cross-bedded sandstone unit within Kmsa.



Photo 2. Outcrop of the upper part of the Point Lookout Sandstone below Mesa Chivato.



Photo 3. Outcrop of the lower part of the Point Lookout Sandstone below Mesa Chivato.



Photo 4. The upper part of the Gibson coal member is interbedded with this sandstone beds below Mesa Chivato.



Photo 5. A good exposure of the Gibson coal member in Seboyeta Canyon.



Photo 6. Interbedded shale, coal, and sandstone in the Gibson coal member.



Photo 7. Plant fossils in the Gibson coal member in Seboyeta Canyon.



Photo 8. Plant fossils in the Gibson coal member in Seboyeta Canyon.



Photo 9. Plant fossils in the Gibson coal member in Seboyeta Canyon.



Photo 10. Top of Dalton Sandstone below Mesa Chivato showing what appears to be wood impressions.



Photo 11. Cliff exposure of the Dalton Sandstone below Mesa Chivato.



Photo 12. Below the Dalton Sandstone the Mancos Shale is interbedded with shale, south of Bibo Canyon, measured section 6.



Photo 13. Mulatto tongue of the Mancos shale south of Bibo Canyon.



Photo 14. Brachiopod moulds and casts are common in the Mulatto tongue beds.



Photo 15. Fragment of *Inoceramus* bivalve cast in the Mulatto tongue.



Photo 16. Interbedded shale and sandstone of the Dilco coal member.



Photo 17. The Dilco coal member is overlain by the Mulatto tongue of the Mancos shale south of Bibo Canyon.



Photo 18. Ripple marks and burrows are common in the Dilco coal member.



Photo 19. Permineralized wood fragments in the Dilco coal member.



Photo 21. The Gallup Sandstone forms a prominent cliff in the SW part of the map.



Photo 23. Septarian concretions are common in some layers of the Mancos Shale.



Photo 20. Large bivalve impressions in the Dilco coal member.



Photo 22. The Gallup Sandstone is overlain by the Dilco coal member and the Mulatto tongue of the Mancos Shale.



Photo 24. Large orange-weathering nodules in the Mancos Shale.



Photo 25. Feathery pseudomorphs in the Mancos Shale may be replaced gypsum.



Photo 26. Oyster-rich layer is exposed a few meters above Kms3.



Photo 27. Light gray beds in Mancos Shale near southern edge of map may be tuff.



Photo 28. Kms1 is interbedded with shale in the pit was near the SE corner of map.



Photo 29. Another view of Kms1 in the pit was outside the SE corner of the map.



Photo 30. Sandstone layer Kms3 near the south edge of the map.



Photo 31. Cross-beds within Kms3 west of Paguate.



Photo 32. Burrows are abundant on bedding planes within Kms3.



Photo 33. Lowermost sandstone unit in Kms2 contains three distinct layers.



Photo 35. Inverted teepee above burrow in laminated sandstone.



Photo 34. Lower unit of photo 32 showing curving burrows and massive zone above.



Photo 36. Middle layer of photo 32 is massive and contains abun. shell fragments.



Photo 37. Cliff exposure of Ks near the southern edge of map.



Photo 38. Close up of brown fossil fragments in Ks.



Photo 39. An assortment of siliceous pebbles found as float on the slopes.



Photo 40. Road-cut of the upper part of the Dakota Sandstone about 1 mile SE of Paguate.



Panorama 1. Looking southwest to northwest towards Mount Taylor. The prominent cliff is composed of Gallup Sandstone.

Table 1.	able 1. Summary of soil morphology Seboyeta Quadrangle mapping (described by Paul Drakos)											
Horizon	Depth (cm)	Gravel (%)	Dry Color (Matrix)	Moist Color (Matrix)	Texture	Structure	Dry Consist- ence	Wet Consist- ence	Argillans	CaCO ₃	CaCO ₃ Stage	Notes
Location: C	On high fan	surface we	est of Encinal (Canyon (Qf0). l	JTM Zone 1	3, 274164 m E	, 3890665 n	n N, NAD 2	7. Described 7/8/	1989		Field location ID NMG-89-25
Δ	0-4	25	10YR5/4	10VR3/2	sl	1f-mshk	50	ss no	no	65	-	Discontinuous to continuous coatings on clast bottoms
	04	20	1011(0/4	1011(0/2	51	IT HISDR	30	33,p0	11.0.	55		Continuous 1-5 mm coatings on clast bottoms
Btk1	4-15	20-30	8.75YR5/4	10YR4/4	scl	2m-msbk	sh	SS,DS	2n pocobr	es	1+	Discontinuous on sides and top
									•			Continuous 1-5 mm coatings on clast bottoms.
											_	Discontinuous on sides and top. Filaments % 1mm nodules
Btk2	15-23	40-50	7.5YR6/4	8.75YR5/4	scl	2msbk	h	ss,ps	1n pocobr	ev	1+	in matrix
			10YR7/3W/			lumna of						1-10 mm coatings on clast bottoms. I nin, generally
Bk1b1	23-59	40.50	nodules	10YR7/4	le	iumps of	h	ss no	no	ev	ш	to hard
DRIDT	20 00	40-50	nounco	1011(7)4	15		11	33,p0	11.0.	01		
Pk2b1	50 120 1	60.70	10VP7/2	10VP6/2		~	10.00	00.00		01/	1. or 11	Continuous 1-5 mm coatings on clast bottoms.
DKZUI	59-120+	00-70	101 K7/3	10160/3	5	111	10-50	50,p0	11.0.	ev	1+ 01 11	Discontinuous on sides and top. Matrix so-sn.
Location: C	On intermed	liate fan su	rface west of I	Encinal Canvon	(Qf2), UTM	/ Zone 13. 273	049 m E. 38	390316 m N	I. NAD 27 Descrit	oed 7/26/89)	Field location ID NMG-89-29
												Clast coatings absent to thin, discontinuous on bottoms,
A	0-9	-	10YR5/4	10YR4/3	sl	1pl to m	lo	ss,po	n.o	e-	-	sides, and tops. Some thin (2mm) chuncks of Av.
Btk1	9-27	50	8.75YR4/4	10YR4/4	scl	2-3msbk	sh-h	s,p	3-4nkpf pocobr	е	-	Thin, discontinuous coatings on clast bottoms
	07.50	50	40)/05/0									Thin (2mm) coatings on clast bottoms. Discont. to absent on
BK1D1	27-50	50	10YR5/3	10YR5/4-4/4	SI	2f-msbk	SO	ss,ps	n.o	es	I	sides and tops
						m, some						
DLOL 4	50.05	00.70	10)/07/0	40)/DC/0	_							2-15 mm coatings on clast bottoms. Thin, discontinuous to
BKZD1	50-85	60-70	10YR7/2	10186/3	S	Chunks	SN-IO	so,po	n.o	ev	II	Continuous coatings on sides, absent to discontinuous on top
Bk3b1	85-120	60-70	10YR7/3	10YR6/3	s	m	lo	so no	no	ev	1+	sides
Bittopi	00.20	00.0	101111/0	101110,0				00,00		0.		
CBkb1	120-130+	70	10YR6/3	10YR4/3	S	m	lo	so,po	n.o	es	-	Thin coatings on clast bottoms
Location: Intermediate terrace surface in Seboyeta Cyn, SE of dry reservoir (Qt2). UTM Zone 13, 281781 m E, 3900251 m N., NAD 27 Described								Field logation ID SEP 2011 27				
10/26/2011	1						1	1				Field location ID SEB-2011-27
Bt1	0-40		5YR4/3	5YR3/4	scl	2-3msbk	sh	S.D	3nk-k. pfco. pobr	non	-	A horizon is stripped
Bt2	40-80		7.5YR4/6	7.5YR5/6	scl	2msbk, 2mk	sh	ss,ps	cobr	non	-	
			7.5YR8/1-									
Bk1	80-120		10YR7/2	10YR7/3		m/csbk	so-sh	so,po	n.o.	ev	-	
Bk2	120-150+		10YR6/4	10YR5/4	I	m	so-lo	so,po	n.o.	es	I+	
Loostion: C)n vellev fle	or Of2 for	ourfood botwo	on Castilla and	Timber Co	nvono ot 6600	£4 1000 £4	weet of Se	hoveto/Mt Toylor	Ound hour	donu	
LITM Zone	13 3890750	01 01 3 1 a 1 0m N 2695	33m F NAD 2	7 Described 1	1/4/2008	inyons at 0000	n,~1000 n	west of Se	boyeta/int Taylor		iual y.	Field location ID MT-2008-31
A	0-5	10-20	7.5YR4/4	7.5YR3/4	sl	sa	lo	\$0.D0	n.o.	non	-	Derived from weathering of Bt horizon?
Bt	5-25	20	5YR4/4	5YR4/4	scl	2mpr-2msbk	h	s,ps	2npobr	e	I	Partially stripped? Gravel = pebble-cobble size, subangular
K	25-75	50-60	7.5YR8/1	7.5YR8/1	s?	3m-cabk	vh	n.a.	n.o.	ev	III	
Bk	75+											Cobbly sandy gravel with disseminated carbonate in matrix
									Field Insertion ID OFD 20044 5			
Location: Terrace in Encinal Canyon (Qt4). UTM Zone 13, 2/5533 m E, 3392661 m N, NAD 27. Described 6/2/2011.								Field location ID SEB-2011-5				
A	0-30	40	101K3/2	10162/2			IU	50,p0	11.0.	HUH	-	-
Bw	30-80	50	2.5Y3/3	2.5Y4/3		1csbk	so	SS.D0	n.o.	non	-	Cobble to boulder gravel, predominantly basalt with 10%

Table 1. Summary of soil morphology Seboyeta Quadrangle mapping (described by Paul Drakos)												
Horizon	Depth (cm)	Gravel (%)	Dry Color (Matrix)	Moist Color (Matrix)	Texture	Structure	Dry Consist- ence	Wet Consist- ence	Argillans	CaCO ₃	CaCO ₃ Stage	Notes
С	80+	70	2.5Y5/4-4/4	2.5Y4/4		m	lo	so,po	n.o.	non	-	sandstone clasts
Location: Low surface exposed in arroyo below 6/30/2011			v mouth of Enci	inal Canyor	n (Qal). UTM Z	one 13, 275	5143 m E, 3	890579 m N, NAE	0 27. Descr	ibed	Field location ID SEB-2011-13	
A	0-40	-	10YR4/3	10YR3/3		1msbk-m	so-lo	so,po	n.o.	non	-	Silty very fine sand
Bwk	40-80	scattered	10YR5/3	10YR4/3		1-2 msbk	SO	so,po	n.o.	es	-	Very fine sand
С	80-330	channels	10YR5/3	10YR4/3		m	lo	so,po	n.o.	es to non	-	Very fine sand + scattered gravel
Location: Encinal Mesa eolian deposit (Qes). UTM Zone 13, 274952 m E, 3895101 m N, NAD 83. Described 5/23/2012								Field location ID SEB-2012-10				
A	0-8	<5	7.5YR4/4	7.5YR3/4	si	1msbk	so-lo	so,ps	n.o.	non	-	si with minor gravel lag
Btb1	8-75	<2	5YR4/3	5YR4/4	sic	2-3msbk	sh	s,p	3mkcopobrpf	non	-	si with minor scattered basalt pebbles
												75+ = basalt rubble
Notes:												
¹ Age estima	tes based o	on relative so	oil development	t and compariso	n with soils i	in similar climat	e regimes a	nd parent m	aterial for which a	ige constrair	nts are ava	ilable. See Machette (1985), Drake [Drakos] et al. (1991)
See key for	explanation	of symbols.										

Structure			
Grade 1 = weak 2 = moderate 3 = strong	Size vc = very coarse c = coarse m = medium f = fine	Type sbk = subangular blocky abk = angular blocky pr = prismatic pl = platy sg = single grain m = massive	<u>Other</u> : = parting to (e.g. pr:pf)
		m – massive	
Consistence			
Dry lo = loose so = soft sh = slightly hard h = hard vh = very hard	<u>Moist</u> lo = loose vfr = very friable fr = friable fi = firm vfi = very firm	<u>Wet - Stickiness</u> so = non sticky vss = very slightly sticky ss = sticky s = sticky	<u>Wet - Plasticity</u> po = non-plastic vps = very slightly plastic ps = slightly plastic p = plastic
Cutans			
Abundance n.o. = none observed v1 = very few (< 5%)	Thickness/(Distinctness) n = thin (faint) mk = moderately thick (distinct) k = thick (prominent)	Location/Type po = along pores co = coating gravel, ped faces br = bridging grains pf = along ped faces (as co + br) pr:pf along prismatic ped faces bk:pf along blocky ped faces Lam = lamellae Non-lam = interspace between lama PI: ped interior prfc: pressure faces irg = irregular shape	Type man = mangans skel = skeletans si = silans
Horizon Boundary			_
<u>Thickness</u> a =abrupt (< 2.5cm) c = clear (2.5 - 6cm) g = gradual (6-12.5cm) d = diffuse (> 12.5 cm)	Topography s = smooth w = wavy i = irregular b = broken	Carbonate effervescence in HCI none = non-effervescent e = slightly effervescent es = strongly effervescent ev = violently effervescent	
Texture			
s = sand ls = loamy sand sl = sandy loam l = loam	sil = silt loam scl = sandy clay loam sicl = silty clay loam cl = clay loam		_

Key to symbols used in descriptions of soil morphology (from Birkeland (1984) and McDonald (1996))



Figure 12. Qal overlies Qc along arroyo west of Paguate. Note sloping Qc contact, buried soil with Bt horizon at top of Qc. 281620m E, 3890110m N, NAD 1927.

Figure 13. Stratigraphic section measured through terrace unit Qt4 Base of Qt4 section located at 275533 m E, 3892661 m N UTM Zone 13, NAD 1927 datum (SEB-11-5)





Lithologic Log

- 0-4 m: Clast supported, subangular, pebble to boulder gravel with interedded sandstone (~70% gravel). Clasts are basalt with 5-10% sandstone (no intermediate volcanics). Matrix color (dry) is 2.5Y5/4-4/4. Non effervescent in HCI
- 4-4.5 m: Silty sand (50%) and pebble gravel. Dry color is 2.5Y5/3. Non effervescent in HCl
- 4.5-4.8 m: Fine sand (60%) and pebble gravel, 10YR3/2 (dry). Non effervescent in HCl











Figure 16. Soil developed in Qf3 deposits. Bt horizon is partially stripped; A horizon derived in part from weathered Bt, plus eolian fine sand. Location 269533 m E, 38907 m N, UTM Zone 13, NAD 1927 (MT-2008-31).

Figure 17. Stratigraphic section measured through high fan unit Qf0 Base of Qf0 section located at 274065 m E, 3890369 m N UTM Zone 13, NAD 1927 datum



North end of Seboyeta Canyon



Near north end of Seboyeta Canyon



Thickness in meters

A little more than 1 mile northwest of Seboyeta. on the east side of Seboyeta Canyon.



Measured Sections 4, 5, and 6

At the mouth of Bibo Canyon, just north of the lake





 $-\circ-\circ-\circ-$ = septarian concretions



Thickness in meters



Measured Sections 10 and 11

In Bear Canyon near UTM 278500, 3893700



Measured Sections 12, 13, 18, and 19



Measured Sections 14 and 15

Immediately south of the Paguate Pueblo, and in the gully a few hundred feet to the south.



-o-o-o- = septarian concretions

Exposed in the NW side of the Paguate open-pit, immediately east of Section 15, just southeast of the Puate Pueblo.



Dark shale.

Fine-grained quartz sandstone. Massive. No obvious bedding. Abundant burrows.

Very frine-grained quartz sandstone. Thinly bedded. Crumbly.

Dark shale.

Very fine-grained quartz sandstone. Mostly massive. Abundant burrows on bed planes.

- Very fine-grained quartz sandstone. Faintly to strongly laminated. Medium- to thickbedded, with low-angle planar cross-bedding.
- Very fine-grained quartz sandstone. Thin- to medium-bedded. Faint horizontal laminae. Flecks of dark organic matter. Crumbly.

Dark sandy shale. Septarian concretions up to 40 cm in diameter near base.

Very fine-grained quartz sandstone. Crumbly. Abundant dark flecks of organic matter.

Very fine-grained quartz sandstone. Planar laminated. Some low-angle planar crossbedding. Thick-bedded.

Dark shale.

Very fine-grained quartz sandstone and siltstone. 1-2 beds pinch out laterally. Horizontal burrows on top surface.

Dark, organic-rich shale. Possible sparse fish scale impressions up to 5 mm across.

-o-o-o- = septarian concretions

Isolated road-cut exposure about along main road about 1 mile southeast of Paguate Pueblo



Thickness in meters

Near the northeastr corner of the map,

south of Mesa Chivato.



Thickness in meters







South

Dalton Sandstone member, Crevasse Canyon Formation

Dilco Coal member, Crevasse Canyon Formation

Sections 14 and 15	Paguate Pue	eblo Mancos Shale	
		Kms ₂ Sandstone	
		Mancos Shale	
		Kms1 Sandstone	
	Section 17	Mancos Shale	
		Dakota Sandstor	۱e