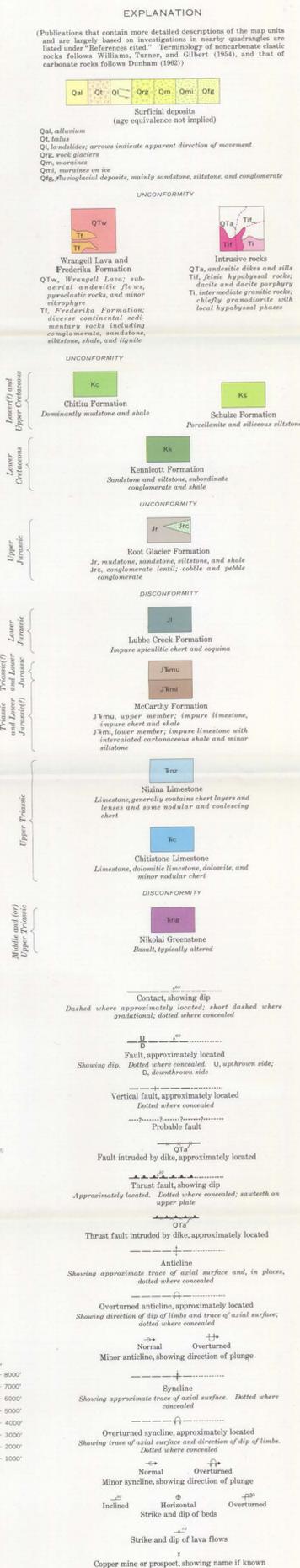
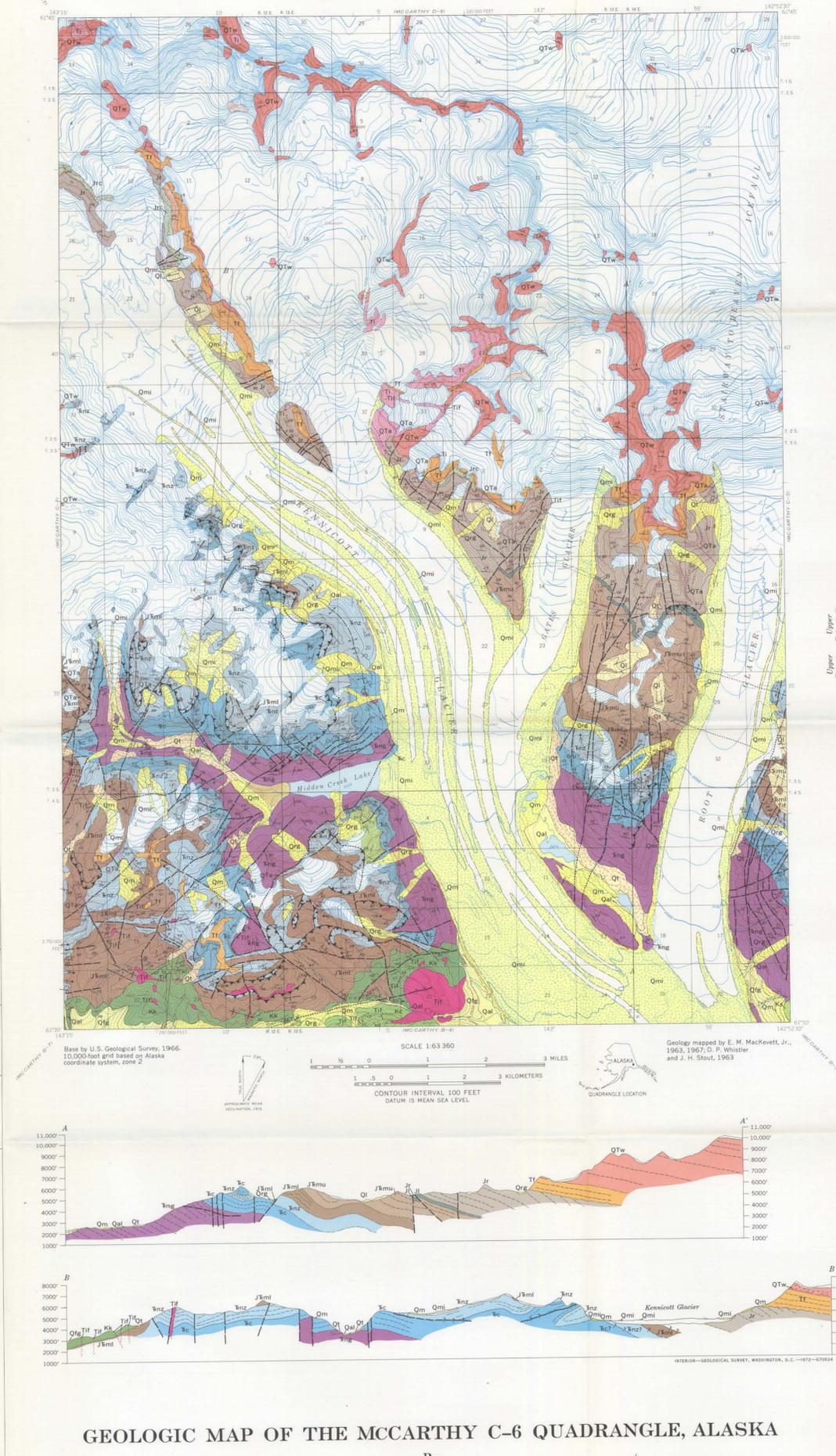
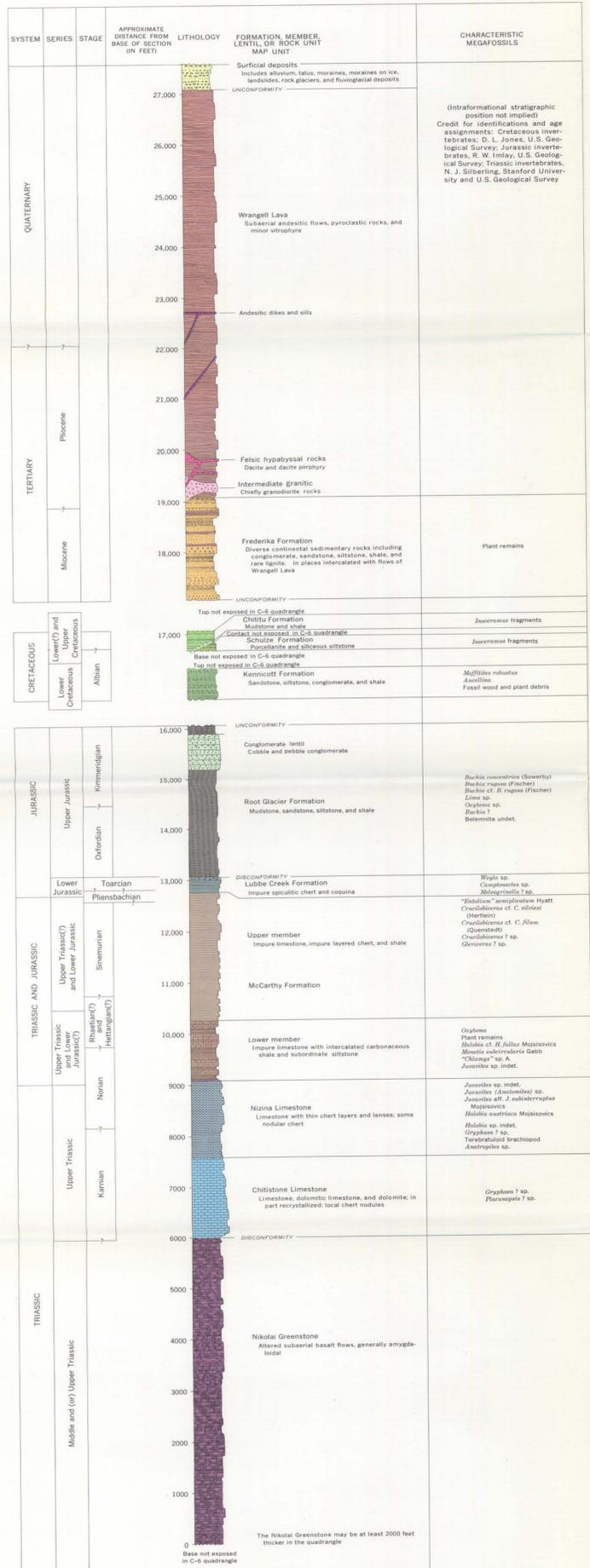


GENERALIZED COLUMNAR SECTION



ALLUVIUM—Unconsolidated detritus with a wide size range, chiefly silt and sand; deposited mainly along streams; locally cross-bedded.

TALUS—Generally forms thin veneers on flanks of overstepped valleys; composed of unconsolidated angular fragments and shales of locally derived fresh rock.

LANDSLIDES—Jumbled mixtures of rock and regolith characterized by hummocky surfaces, irregular configurations, and broad size range of constituent material.

ROCK GLACIERS—Crestly lobate, sinuous, or spatulate deposits of disarticulated angular, shaly, or blocky boulders of local derivation; locally monolithic; partly cemented by ice. See MacKevett (1970b).

MORAINES—Mainly end moraines of alpine glaciers and lateral moraines of large valley glaciers; typically hummocky surfaces; composed of jumbled masses of angular and subangular boulders with broad size ranges and diverse lithologies. See MacKevett (1970b).

MORAINES ON ICE—Mainly supraglacial lateral, medial, and end moraines on the Kennicott Glacier and its tributary glaciers; physically similar to moraines (Qm) but underlain by ice.

FLUVIOLACIAL DEPOSITS—Poorly consolidated sandstone, siltstone, and conglomerate; generally in buff to light-brown beds that are as much as 12 feet thick and easily eroded; locally well stratified; clasts in the coarser rocks are dominantly subangular or angular lithic varieties; those in the finer grained rocks are mainly subangular quartz and plagioclase. See MacKevett (1970b).

INTRUSIVE ROCKS

ANDESITIC DIKES AND SILLS—To 30-foot-thick resistant dikes and sills of andesite with subordinate dacite; generally greenish gray where fresh and brown where weathered; slightly to moderately porphyritic with plagioclase phenocrysts as much as 0.5 mm long in fine-grained interstitial or intergranular groundmass; contains plagioclase, less abundant augite, and minor to trace amounts of quartz, biotite, sphene, magnetite, pyrite, and ilmenite; and locally abundant alteration products including quartz, calcite, chlorite, epidote, leucocane, hematite, and clay minerals. See MacKevett (1970b, d).

FELSIC HYPABYSSAL ROCKS—Dacite and dacite porphyry that form dikes and sills 1-50 feet thick and a few small stocks; conspicuously light-colored rocks that crop out boldly and locally form steeply light-colored ridges; in places erode to aggregates of small angular chips; rarely contains small inclusions of intruded host rocks; characteristically porphyritic and strongly altered; contains abundant plagioclase phenocrysts in an extremely fine-grained groundmass whose primary interstitial or feltly texture is partly obliterated by alteration products; most phenocrysts 0.5 to 3 mm long, generally corroded and altered; other phenocrysts include minor hornblende and biotite; the groundmass contains plagioclase microlites, sphene, zircon, and an array of alteration products including illite, other clay minerals, sericite, calcite, hematite, leucocane, limonite, chlorite, and dolomite; some of the dacitic rocks contain disseminated pyrite. See MacKevett (1970a, b, c).

INTERMEDIATE GRANITIC ROCKS—Granodiorite with local hypabyssal phases; forms small epizonal stocks with moderately rugged outcrops that are locally mantled by rubble; typically fine grained and hypidiomorphic-granular in texture; composed of plagioclase (andesine), less abundant quartz, K-feldspar, hornblende, biotite, and traces of sphene, apatite, magnetite, and ilmenite; sparsely distributed alteration products including chlorite, epidote, and dolomite; some of the dacitic rocks contain disseminated pyrite. See MacKevett (1970a, b, c).

ROOT GLACIER FORMATION—Mudstone, sandstone, siltstone, and shale with subordinate conglomerate lens; cobble and pebble conglomerate.

LUBBE CREEK FORMATION—Impure spiculate chert and coquina.

MCCARTHY FORMATION—Jmu, McCarthy Formation; Impure limestone, impure chert and shale; Jml, McCarthy member; Impure limestone with intercalated carbonaceous shale and minor siltstone.

NIZINA LIMESTONE—Limestone generally contains chert layers and lenses and some nodular and coalescing chert.

CHITSTONE LIMESTONE—Limestone, dolomite, dolomitic, and dolomitic; local chert nodules.

NIKOLAI GREENSTONE—Basalt, typically altered.

WANGELL LAVA—Subaerial andesitic flows, pyroclastic rocks, and minor ventifacts; some flows weathered; generally forms bold outcrops; most flows between 2 and 15 feet thick; the vitrophyre forms columnar jointed lava domes; the flows consist of andesite, basaltic andesite, and minor dacite, typically porphyritic rocks with fine-grained hypalitic, interstitial, or rarely feltly groundmass; some flows amygdaloidal or vesicular; many have well-developed flow structure; the phenocrysts include strongly oscillatory zoned plagioclase (mainly andesine) 1 to 3 mm long and sparsely distributed corroded hypersthene or relict olivine groundmasses; dominantly plagioclase microlites, subordinately clinopyroxene (augite), hypersthene, glass, quartz, and minor magnetite, ilmenite, apatite, and sphene; the alteration products comprise calcite, chlorite, and related ferruginous serpentine minerals, sericite, illite, other clay minerals, and hematite; the pyroclastic rocks consist of crystal or little lapilli tuff, agglomerate, and volcanic breccia; the tuff is generally altered and contains numerous fractured and broken clasts, chiefly plagioclase, quartz, and andesitic rock fragments; the agglomerates and volcanic breccias contain coarse andesitic ejecta cemented by lava or by compacted volcanic debris; the vitrophyre contains plagioclase phenocrysts in a glassy groundmass. See MacKevett (1970a, b).

FREDERIKA FORMATION—Diverse continental sedimentary rocks including conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone, shale, and lignite; generally well or moderately indurated; in places intercalated with flows of Wangell Lava; forms beds that range from less than an inch to more than 30 feet in thickness; marked contrast in erosional resistance and color, reflecting diverse lithologies; colors range from buff, tan, or light gray to grayish black; conglomerates generally at base and at several other horizons; the conglomerates are polymict and include pebble, cobble, and boulder conglomerate, commonly with subangular or subcircular clasts in sandstone matrix; lithic clasts in the other conglomerates mainly derived from Root Glacier Formation, those in the younger conglomerates mainly from Wangell Lava; intrusive rocks of Frederika Formation, the sandstones range from very fine to very coarse grained types with varied lithologies and textures; their dominant clasts are generally lithic fragments, quartz, and plagioclase; the siltstones and shales are also lithologically diverse and include siliceous, carbonaceous, calcareous, and tuffaceous variants; some dark carbonaceous shales locally grade into thin seams of lignite. See MacKevett (1970a, b).

CHITINA FORMATION—Dominantly mudstone and shale; fissile to massive; locally blocky; erodes to smooth, rounded slopes; generally well indurated; locally finely laminated with blocky fracture; dark greenish gray, dark gray, or grayish black on both fresh and weathered surfaces; composed of widely scattered comminuted clasts embedded in a silica-rich microcrystalline matrix that also contains illite and other clay minerals, sericite, chlorite, and dispersed secondary iron minerals; the clasts include quartz, subordinate plagioclase, chert fragments, biotite, and K-feldspar, and minor zircon and magnetite. See Jones and MacKevett (1969, p. K13-K15); MacKevett (1970b).

SCHULZE FORMATION—Porcellanite and siliceous siltstone; generally highly fractured, thin bedded, or platy; forms subdued outcrops partly masked by abundant rock chips; typically light to medium gray where fresh and light to yellowish brown where weathered; generally finely laminated and rich in microcrystalline silica; clastic constituents are uncommon in the porcellanite and fairly abundant in the siltstone and include quartz, calcite, micro-fossil tests, chert fragments, glauconite, and opaque minerals; small amounts of clay minerals, sericite, secondary iron oxides, and carbonaceous material are associated with some of the microcrystalline silica. See Jones and MacKevett (1969, p. K13-K15); MacKevett (1970b).

KENNICOTT FORMATION—Sandstone and siltstone, subordinate conglomerate and shale; in thin to massive beds that erode to form moderate slopes; locally abundant fossiliferous limy concretions as much as 3 feet in diameter; mainly platy and poorly indurated; weather light to medium brown; the sandstones are dominantly feldspathic wacke consisting of moderately sorted subangular grains 0.02 to 0.2 mm long in a microcrystalline matrix that locally exceeds 10 percent of the rock's volume; the clastic grains include quartz and plagioclase, less abundant calcite, chlorite, biotite, glauconite, and minor to rare K-feldspar, epidote, zircon, opaque minerals, and apatite; matrix constituents include chlorite, calcite, quartz, clay minerals, sericite, and dispersed secondary iron minerals; most of the siltstones are finer grained replicas of the wackes; the shales are rich in silt and clay minerals; microfossils abundant in the pelitic rocks; the conglomerates include thin pebble conglomerates near the base of the formation and a poorly indurated massive conglomerate, questionably assigned to the Kennicott, at the top of the formation about 2 miles southeast of the southwest corner of the quadrangle; the conglomerates have a sandstone matrix and subangular to subrounded lithic clasts largely derived from Triassic rocks. See Jones and MacKevett (1969, p. K5-K11); MacKevett (1970b).

ROOT GLACIER FORMATION—MUDSTONE, SANDSTONE, SILTSTONE, AND SHALE.—In beds from a few inches to about 4 feet thick; generally forms moderate to subdued outcrops; the pelites generally have splintery fracture and erode to small chips; dark gray, dark greenish gray, or grayish black where fresh; light to medium brown where weathered; rare small disoidal limy concretions; the mudstones are extremely fine grained masses of illite and other clay minerals, chlorite, carbonaceous material, and sericite that enclose scattered small clasts comprising quartz, lithic pellets, plagioclase, calcite, and minor pyrite, hematite, ilmenite, and leucocane; the sandstone types include gray wacke and less abundant lithic arenitic; the gray wacke contains abundant, poorly sorted subangular clasts

between 0.01 and 0.5 mm long in chaledony-chlorite-clay matrix that locally constitutes more than 20 percent of the rock's volume; the clasts include abundant plagioclase (mainly oligoclase), quartz, and calcite; minor lithic fragments, biotite, and opaque minerals, and rare epidote, zircon, biotite, and pyrite; the lithic arenite consists of subangular clasts between 0.01 and 0.3 mm long cemented by clear calcite; the clasts include quartz and plagioclase, some lithic fragments and calcite, and locally uncommon K-feldspar, biotite, and opaque minerals; the shale and siltstone are mineralogically similar to the mudstone; the shale is finely laminated and fissile; the siltstone contains more abundant and larger clasts than the mudstone and in places is calcite cemented; intergradations between Root Glacier rocks common; microfossil remains in many of the pelites. See MacKevett (1969, p. A45-A48, 1970b).

CONGLOMERATE LENTIL—Cobble and pebble conglomerate; thick bedded; forms bold outcrops; generally medium or dark gray and weathers brown; contains well-rounded or subrounded cobbles and pebbles in a sandstone matrix that forms 10-20 percent of the rock; the cobbles and pebbles include limestone and subordinate chert derived from Chitstone and Nizina Limestones, less abundant altered basalt derived from Nikolai Greenstone, and small amounts of quartz and granitic rocks. See MacKevett (1969, p. A45-A48, 1970b).

LUBBE CREEK FORMATION—Impure spiculate chert and coquina; in beds to 2 feet thick that form rugged outcrops; medium gray; weathers brown or dark yellowish brown. The impure chert contains a chaledony-rich matrix that encloses fairly abundant microfossil tests, spicules, calcite, quartz, and chlorite, with subordinate limestone fragments, plagioclase, pyrite, and leucocane and rare zircon. The coquina forms a few beds near the top of the formation; it consists mainly of whole and fragmented megafossils and scattered detrital grains cemented by chaledony. See MacKevett (1969, p. A37-A42, 1970b).

MCCARTHY FORMATION—Impure limestone, impure chert, and minor shale; beds range from less than an inch to about 4 feet in thickness; locally fissile; ribby to smooth outcrop; cut by calcite veinlets; the impure limestones are very fine grained, medium to dark greenish-gray rocks, mainly wackestones, with light- to medium-brown weathered surfaces; some are partly recrystallized; the limestone contains grains of calcite and quartz, microfossil tests and spicules, and subordinate plagioclase, dolomite, and biotite, in a microcrystalline matrix of carbonaceous lime mud and less abundant chaledony, chlorite, clay minerals, scattered pyrite, and rare apatite; some impure limestones grade into calcareous carbonaceous cherts characterized by abundant quartz or chaledony and siliceous microfossils; the shales are medium-dark gray, brown-weathering, finely laminated carbonaceous and calcareous rocks that contain abundant clay minerals and scattered microfossils and opaque minerals, chiefly pyrite. See MacKevett (1970a, b, c).

LOWER MEMBER—Impure limestone with intercalated carbonaceous shale and minor siltstone; the limestone beds are between 1/2 and 3 feet thick and form bold outcrops; the shale and siltstone are fissile and platy and form shaly outcrops; chert spicules distributed as lenses or spherical nodules as much as 2 inches in maximum diameter; rare calcite concretions as much as 2 inches in diameter; some calcite veinlets; the limestone grades locally into recrystallized lime mudstone, wackestone, and rare packstone; subconchoidal blocky fracture; dark gray or dark greenish gray and weathers to shades of brown; the lime mudstone and wackestone have microcrystalline lime mud matrix that generally contains some carbonaceous material, chlorite, and flecks of pyrite; the wackestones and packstones contain abundant detritus including lime mud pellets, biotoclasts, and grains of quartz, plagioclase, calcite, and dolomite; the shales and siltstones are calcareous and carbonaceous, dark greenish gray or dark gray where fresh and brown where weathered; they contain very fine grained clasts, including quartz, calcite, fragmented fossils and microfossils, and minor plagioclase and dolomite, in a microcrystalline matrix; their matrix constituents include calcite and carbonaceous material, subordinate chlorite, chaledony, clay minerals, and opaque minerals (chiefly pyrite) and their alteration products. See MacKevett (1970b, c).

NIZINA LIMESTONE—Limestone that generally contains chert lenses and layers as much as 4 inches thick and some nodular and coalescing chert; most limestone beds are between 1/2 and 3 feet thick and form rugged outcrops; in places bleached and partly recrystallized; typically blocky fractured lime mudstone and wackestone; the limestone is very fine grained, dominantly dark greenish gray and weathers light or yellowish brown; it contains lime mud and scattered clasts including lime mud pellets, microfossils, fragmented megafossils, and rare quartz; some lime mudstone is fractured with blebs of limpid calcite or contains traces of opaque minerals or carbonaceous material; the wackestone includes fine-grained biotoclasts, micropellets, and carbonaceous varieties that are medium or dark greenish gray and weather brownish or greenish gray; it contains pellets of lime mud, biotoclasts, and a few quartz grains in a lime mud matrix that contains local carbonaceous material and scattered opaque minerals, chiefly hematite and pyrite; the chert is dark gray or black except where bleached; it consists of microcrystalline silica with abundant siliceous microfossils and a few scattered rhombs of dolomite. See Armstrong and others, (1970, p. D49-D62).

CHITSTONE LIMESTONE—Limestone, dolomitic limestone, dolomite, and minor chert nodules as much as 6 inches in diameter; ranges from local thin shaly limestone (near base) to massive cliff-forming limestone and dolomite; typically forms extremely rugged outcrops; in places strongly fractured and recemented by numerous calcite veinlets; Chitstone carbonate rocks include lime mudstone, crystalline carbonates, and subordinate wackestone, packstone, and dolomite; the mudstones include limy and dolomitic types and generally contain scattered biotoclast debris; most lime mudstones are dark greenish gray, medium gray, or olive gray where fresh, and buff, yellowish brown, or light gray where weathered; the crystalline carbonates are characterized by fine-grained crystalline mosaics of calcite or dolomite; they range from light to dark greenish gray where fresh and from light yellow brown to light gray where weathered; the wackestone, packstone, and grainstone are medium gray or dark greenish gray where fresh and light yellowish brown where weathered; they contain abundant clasts including pebbled mudstone, ooids, oolites, and fossil fragments; clasts are embedded in a matrix of lime mud or translucent calcite or are grain supported; some Chitstone rocks contain minuscule amounts of opaque minerals, chiefly hematite and pyrite, and chlorite, chaledony, and quartz. See Armstrong and others, (1970, p. D49-D62).

NIKOLAI GREENSTONE—Basalt, typically altered; in subaerial flows between 3 and 30 feet thick that form moderately rugged outcrops; dark greenish gray or dark gray where fresh; greenish brown or reddish brown where weathered; generally amygdaloidal and fine grained, rarely medium grained; mainly porphyritic with intergranular or, rarely, feltly or subophitic groundmass; the phenocrysts are mainly 1-2 mm long and consist of plagioclase (labradorite) and subordinate clinopyroxene (augite) and relict olivine; primary groundmass minerals are labradorite and augite, less abundant magnetite and ilmenite, and rare sphene; the alteration products include chlorite and related ferruginous serpentine minerals, quartz, clay minerals, epidote, sphene, hematite, leucocane, calcite, and rare devitrified glass, clinzoisite, sericite, and uranite hornblende; the amygdalae are as much as 1 cm long and consist chiefly of chlorite and related ferruginous serpentine minerals that are locally associated with calcite, and less abundant quartz, pumpellyite, prehnite, and epidote; a few of the flows contain sparsely distributed flecks of sulfides or native copper. See MacKevett (1970a, b, c).

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GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE MCCARTHY C-6 QUADRANGLE, ALASKA

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1972