THE **GEOLOGY** OF

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# THE WESTERN TEHACHAPI **MOUNTAINS,**

# CALIFORNIA

**by**

# John Sharry

# B.A., Carleton College **(1973)**

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# SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EARTH **AND** PLANETARY **SCIENCE** IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

at the

### **MASSACHUSETTS** INSTITUTE OF **TECNOLOGY**

Decemeber **1981** *[3e* Feb. i9 *?J*  $\sim$   $\sim$ @ Massachusetts Institute of Technology **1981**

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#### CALIFORNIA

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### Submitted to the Department of Earth and Planetary Science on December **17, 1981** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Geology

#### ABSTRACT

The north and south branches of the Garlock Fault Zone are the major structural elements in the Tehachapi Mountains. Field and petrologic data indicate that the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is the northern continuation of the Vincent Thrust System which places upper-plate pre-Cambrian gneiss and Mesozoic plutonic rocks over the Pelona Schist. Although the current trace of the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is vertical , its earlier thrust history is preserved **by: 1)** foliation in the upper-plate diorite gneiss and the Pelona Schist parallel to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, 2) the presence of mylonite along portions of the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, **3)** retrograde metamorphism of the diorite gneiss near the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, 4) an increase in metamorphic grade in the Pelona Schist as the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is approached. The deep seated ductile style of deformation along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone contrasts with the shallow, brittle style of deformation in evidence along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and the Garlock Fault Zone beyond exposures of the Pelona Schist.

The rocks north of the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone (upperplate of the thrust) consist of granulite facies metamorphic rocks **(8 kb,** <sup>740</sup>**\*C)** that have yielded an **11** point Rb-Sr whole rock age **Of 86.1 ± 13.2** ma with an initial ratio of **0.70513 ± .00008. 86.1** ma is interpretted as the age of the end of metamorphism brought about **by** the underthrusting of cold Pelona Schist which rapidly cooled the granulite facies terrane. Uplift of the granulite facies terrane was relatively rapid since the granulite facies rocks are unconformably overlain **by** lower to middle Eocene **(50 - 55** ma) marine sediments.

The granulite facies rocks may be correlative with charnokitic rocks present in the Santa Lucia Range of the Salinian block and thus limit displacement on the San Andreas Fault to **300** km.

Trends of the foliation present in the granulite terrane and the trends of metasedimentary roof pendants north of the Garlock Fault Zone show the effects of **15** km of left-lateral drag along the Garlock Fault Zone. Structures in the overlying Tertiary sediments, including the

Eocene Tejon Formation cut across, at high angle, the drag related structures in the granulite terrane. This indicates that there was a minimum of **15** km of left-lateral displacement on the Garlock Fault Zone prior to **50** ma.

The south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is a major crustal boundary. Rocks south of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone were metamorphosed at **10** km whereas, those to the north were metamorphosed at **27-32** km. The same difference in levels of exposure are observed on either side of the Pastoria Thrust which is considered to be an older branch of the Garlock Fault Zone along which large amounts of left-lateral strike-slip movement have taken place. Only recently has the Pastoria Thrust been modified into a thrust fault.

Within the Tehachapi Mountains the Pelona Schist crops out between the north and south branches of the Garlock Fault Zone. The Pelona Schist is believed to have originated as part of the Mesozoic accretionary wedge off of the west coast of North America (Franciscan Formation). In southwestern California, the acrretionary wedge was overriden **by** the North American continent at approximately **88** ma in response to changes in plate motions. Isostatic uplift of the underthrust Pelona Schist caused rapid uplift and exposure of the Pelona Schist and rocks from deep crustal levels **by** the Eocene in the north and **by** the Oligocene in the south. In areas where the Pelona Schist was exposed the entire crustal section had been eroded through. -This left a thinned and weakened zone in the crust which may have controlled the location of the San Andreas Fault.

Thesis Supervisor: Dr. B. Clark Burchfiel Title: Professor of Geology





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#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**I** would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to those who have helped make this thesis possible.

First, I must thank **D.** B. **C.** Burchfiel, my thesis advisor, for suggesting the Pelona Schist as a possible thesis topic and for his continuing advice and encouragement through the various stages of the thesis. In addition I must also thank the staff, faculty, and students at M.I.T. without whose help and encouragement this project would not have been possible. In particular, I wish to express my gratitude to professors Stan Hart and Frank Spear for their time and invaluable aid. This thesis has benefitted emensely from numerous conversations and endless discussions on various aspects of the thesis with fellow graduate students. Unfortunately there are too many to thank individually and a collective thank you will have to do, thank you.

I want to thank Fred Zelt, my field assistant, for his help during that first, and often frustating, field season.

I would like to thank Mr. Duncan V. Patty and the Tejon Ranch Company for permission to work on ranch property. Without their cooperation this project would not have gotten off of the ground.

**I** wish to express my appreciation to all the people at White Oak for their freindship and interest in my work. Special thnaks are due Howard Gish and John and Lois Cowelly for their warm hospitality during my months in the field.

Funding for this project came from **NSF** grant EAR **77-13637** to B. **C.** Burchfiel and from the Student Research Fund at MIT.

## **GEOLOGY** OF THE WESTERN TEHACHAPI **MOUNTAINS,** CALIFORNIA

#### I) INTRODUCTION

The Tehachapi Mountains form the physiographic break between the western Mojave Desert and the San Joaquin Valley (fiq. **1).** The study area spans the width of the mountains, and extends from Pastoria Creek in the west to the head of Oak Creek Canyon in the east. The Tehachapi Mountains are part of the southern, westward curving tail of the Mesozoic Sierra Nevada Batholith and thus contain similar plutonic and associated metasedimentary rocks. The Garlock Fault Zone with a minimum of 48 to 64 kin of left-lateral displacement (Smith **1962,** Davis and Burchfiel **1973),** trends **ENE** through the middle of the mountains. Within the study area it divides into two branches between which is exposed the Pelona Schist (Weise **1950).**

The Pelona Schist is the most intriguing rock exposed in the Tehachapi Mountains. Its age is unknown and it is composed primarily of metagreywacke, metabasalt, and metachert. The association of these major and other minor lithologies suggests the Pelona Schist accumulated in an oceanic environment and may have formed as part of a subduction zone complex. However, no volcanic arc clearly related to such a subduction zone has been found. In fact, in the Tehachapi Mountains, the Pelona Schist is exposed in the middle of a Mesozoic magmatic arc rather than oceanward of the arc. Elsewhere in southern California the Pelona Schist and its correlative rocks, the Rand and Orocopia Schists, are exposed beneath several low-angle thrust faults which contain Precambrian gneiss and Mesozoic plutonic rocks in their upper plates. The thrust faults may form part of a major thrust system called the Vincent Thrust System **by**

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Crowell **(1981).** Petrologic and structural data collected for this study indicate that the north branch of the Garlock Fault is a continuation of this thrust system, supporting a suggestion made **by** Crowell (pers. comm.).

While there is general agreement that the accumulation of the Pelona Schist took place in a deep marine basin possibly floored **by** oceanic crust there is no consensus on the location of the basin and the direction of subduction and subsequent emplacement of the Pelona Schist beneath Precambrian and Mesozoic terranes. Yeates **(1968)** was the first to suggest correlation with the Franciscan Formation and **by** implication eastward directed subduction. Burchfiel and Davis **(1981)** and Crowell **(1981)** have recently argued in favor of this hypothesis. Haxel and Dillon **(1978)** favored deposition of the Pelona protolith in a basin back arc to the Sierra Nevada volcanic arc and subsequent closure of the basin **by** westward directed subduction. Ehlig **(1981)** also supported westward subduction, but envisioned depostion of the Pelona protolith along the North American coast and its subduction beneath a continental microplate lying further west.

On the basis of Rb-Sr isotope data (Kistler and Petermnan **1978)** and petrologic data (Ross **1980),** the rocks on either side of the Garlock Fault Zone have been regarded as belonging to two different tectonic provinences. Specifically those to the north having an oceanic affinity and those to the south having a continental affinity. Current mapping and isotope work show that this division of rock units is not correct near the western exposed terminus of the fault zone. Instead it appears that the Pastoria Thrust is an older branch of the Garlock Fault Zone on which most of the 48 to 64 km of displacement of the Garlock Fault took place. It is also the boundary

between the two isotopic and petrologic provinces and has been modified only recently into a thrust fault, parallel to the Quaternary Pleito Thrust Fault.

#### Access

More than **95%** of the land in the study area is owned **by** the Tejon Ranch Company. Several smaller ranches are present at Twin Lakes near the eastern border of the study area. The main base of operations for the field work during this study was in Bakersfield, approximately **60** km north of the study area. Primary access to the area is provided **by** Interstate Highway **5** and California Highway **138.** Within the study area dirt roads and fire breaks of greatly varying quality permit access to within **8** km of most points. While much of the area can be reached **by** 2 wheel drive vehicles, a 4-wheel drive vehicle is a definite asset as road conditions are **highly** variable on a seasonal basis as well as from year to year.

# Physiography and Climate

Relief within the Tehachapi Mountains is variable. Slopes rise from the Mojave Desert at a rate of 400 feet per mile. Those rising from the San Joaquin Valley are steeper, **700** feet per mile. The relief of some of the canyon walls, especially those leading to the San Joaguin, is steep, 450 feet per **1000** feet. The lowest elevation is **1250** feet at the mouth of Pastoria Creek and highest at the Bison survey marker, **7877** feet.

The Tehachapi Mountains are part of the high desert terrane of southern California and therefore the climate in the summer is more moderate than most of the Mojave Desert region. During the summer months there is virtually no precipitation and all but the largest creeks are dry. The daily high temperature at **5000** feet ranges between **85** and **95** degrees fahrenheit. South facing slopes are well covered **by** foxtail grasses while north facing slopes are covered **by** dense forests of pine, oak, and cedar as well as impenetrable areas of manzanita and live oak.

Outcrop is poor and the rocks are extremely weathered. The best exposures are at the head of Tylerhorse Canyon and road cuts along the Power Line Road, the **El** Paso Creek Logging Road, and the Aqueduct Access Road. Ranch hands state that many outcrops are better exposed on the San Joaquin side because of a sandstorm in January **1978.**

#### Methods and Scope

The primary objective of this study was to map the geology of the area with particular emphasis on the structural relations between the different tectonic units, in particular, the Pelona Schist, the Garlock Fault, and the plutonic and metamorphic rocks on either side of the fault. Mapping was done on nine **U. S.** Geological Survey topographic maps (fig. 2) at a scale of 1:24000. Most of the topography on the maps was prepared during the 1950's and 1960's. Two small areas (Plate III) were mapped on maps redrawn from photoenlargements of the of the **USGS** base maps at a scale of 1:8040. Air photos **(1977)** are available for all of the study area at a scale of **1:80,000** and at **1:30,000** (1974) for the western portions of the area. Because of the poor exposure and large scale, no mapping was done on the photos. They were however, very useful for finding new unmapped trails. **A** total of **8** 1/2 months was spent mapping the study area during June and July **of 1978** and **1980,** and from April to August **1979.**





Figure 2. Topographic map index for the study area.

#### Previous Work

The earliest geologic studies of the pre-Tertiay rocks of the western Tehachapi Mountains are quite recent. Most of these reports are brief (Weise **1950,** Crowell **1952,** Dibblee and Warne **1970)** with the main emphasis on identification of major rock units. The most complete work is that of Weise who mapped the 15-minute Neenach Quadrangle. Recently Ross **(1980)** summarized the major units in the southern Sierra Nevada. None of these workers were able to reach definitive conclusions dealing with the origin of the Pelona Schist or correlation of metasedimentary rocks in roof pendants with sedimentary terranes elsewhere in the Sierra Nevada or Mojave Desert.

Ehlig **(1958)** did the first modern detailed work on the Pelona Schist. He showed that in the San Gabriel Mountains the metamorphic history of the Pelona Schist is intimately related to the Vincent Thrust which cuts a 200 ma pluton. Therefore, the metamorphic age of the schist could not possibly be Precambrian as previously believed but was more likely to be Mesozoic. In addition he recognized distal turbidite fan facies in the least metamorphosed portions of the Pelona Schist. Dillon **(1975)** and Haxell (1978) extended Ehlig's Vincent Thrust to southeastern-most California. Yeates **(1968)** was the first to suggest correlation of the Pelona Schist with the Franciscan Formation and the presence of a major low-angle detachment zone beneath southern California.

#### II) ROCK **UNITS**

#### Introduction

The two branches of the Garlock Fault Zone separate the three major tectonic terranes of the western Tehachapi Mountains. The area between the two branches of the Garlock Fault Zone is underlain **by** the Pelona Schist. South of the fault zone is an acidic plutonic (granitic terrane) terrane with with roof pendants consisting dominantly of carbonate rocks, whereas north of the fault zone is a terrane characterized mafic and quartzo-feldspathic gneiss (granulite terrane). The two plutonic terranes originated about 48 to 64 km apart and have been juxtaposed **by** left lateral movement along the Garlock Fault (Smith **1962,** Davis and Burchfiel **1973).** The Pelona Schist originated separately from these terranes, but data presented in this report will demonstrate that its emplacement can be related to the granulite facies rocks on the north side of the fault zone.

#### **PELONA** SCHIST

The Pelona Schist was first named **by** Hersey **(1902)** for rocks exposed on Pelona Ridge in the San Gabriel Mountains. Hulin **(1925)** correlated the Rand Schist, **60** kmi east of the study area and just south 'of the Garlock Fault with the Pelona Schist. Currently 14 bodies of schist (fig. **3,** Table I **)** variously called Pelona, Rand, and Orocopia Schist scattered throughout southern California are considered to be correlative (Ehlig **1968,** Haxel and Dillon **1978).** The name Pelona Schist will be used when referring to them collectively. The schist at Sierra de Salinas, near Monterey Bay, may or may not be related to the Pelona Schist as it has been intruded **by** Mesozoic



# Figure **3.** Pelona Schist localities.

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plutons (Ross **1976).** The scarcity any intrusive bodies in the Pelona Schist older than Miocene is one of the characteristics of the Pelona.

Three lithologies comprise most of the Pelona Schist within the study area (Weise **1950)** and elsewhere (Ehlig **1958,** Haxel **1977,** Dillon **1975). A** grey albite-quartz-mica schist is the most common rock type comprising about **75%** of the schist. Amphibole-albite-chlorite greenschist constitutes about 20% of the schist and a fine-grained quartzite makes up the remaining **5%.** Talc-actinolite schist and serpentinite are minor components. Siliceous marble has been found at other localities but is not present in the study area (Weise **1950,** this report). In all areas the Pelona Schist is in fault contact (Ehlig **1958,** Haxel **1977,** Dillon **1975)** or unconformably overlain **by** surrounding rocks. In most locations the Pelona Schist is in the lower plate of the Vincent, Chocolate Mountain or Orocopia Thrusts (here collectively called the Vincent Thrust System) which places Precambrian gneiss or Mesozoic plutonic rocks over the Pelona Schist. The age of the protolith of the Pelona Schist is unknown. K-Ar and Rb-Sr studies (Conrad and Davis **1977,** Ehlig and others **1975)** indicate that metamorphism occurred between 40 and **60** ma in the San Gabriel Mountains.

Within the study area the Pelona Schist crops out on a well-rounded ridge between the north and south branches of the Garlock Fault Zone. The best outcrops are along road cuts and in areas east of Lopez flats. An extremely good exposure is present at the head of Tylerhorse Canyon, but the rocks there have been greatly altered. Where contacts bewteen units of the Pelona Schist are observed they are sharp but there is no evidence to indicate which contacts are sedimentary and which are tectonic.

#### Greyschist

**A** charcoal-grey to grey-brown albite-quartz-mica schist is the most abundant component of the Pelona Schist in the study area. Most of the mineral assemblages (Table II) are a modification of the following two assemblages:

alb+qtz+mus+chl+epi+sph+amp

alb+qtz+mus+chl+epi+bio+gar+amp

(See Table II for abbreviations). Biotite, rutile, and calcite may also be present in the first assemblage. Sphene may be present in the second. The later assemblage is only found in close proximity to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. Localities of the garnet bearing assemblage are identified **by** the syjnbol on Plates I and II. The grey color of the schist is due to finely disseminated graphite in both the matrix and albite porphyroblasts. Albite and quartz are the most abundant minerals and comprise from **25** to **60%** of the rock. Total micas average 20 to **25%** and epidote **5** to **10%. All** other mineral phases are present in minor amounts. Kyanite, indicative of possible high pressures, is present in one sample.

Most albite occurs as untwinned rounded to slightly ovoid (aspect ratio less than 2:1) porphyroblasts. Elongation is parallel to the foliation. The overwhelming majority have poikiloblastic cores with clear rims. Quartz and very fine-grained opaque material, presumed to be graphite, dominate the inclusions which also include muscovite, sphene, epidote and amphibole. There is sufficient graphite to color the porphyroblasts grey to black, a feature considered diagnostic of the Pelona Schist (Haxel and Dillon **1978).** The graphite inclusions record evidence of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ 



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a variety of tectonic conditions including: **1)** an early foliation, 2) crenulation of that foliation, and **3)** rotation of the porphyroblast (fig. 4).

The highest grade grey schist is characterized **by** large euhedral micas and garnet. Twinning is developed in some of the albite grains.

The composition of the plagioclase in most of the grey schist has not been analytically determined, but probably contains no more than **0** to **3** mole per cent anorthite, the range found in analyzed plagioclases from interlayered greenschist. In the garnet bearing assemblages the anorthite content is quite variable, ranging between **15** and 34 mole per cent.

**All** quartz present shows signs of strain. The largest grains are 4 mm long and elongate while the smallest are submicroscopic in size. Grains in pressure shadows of the albite porphyroblasts tend to be elongate or polygonal with curved grain boundaries and moderate undulose extinction, whereas those in the matrix are well sutured and **highly** undulatory indicating late or post metamorphic deformation.

Micas comprise up to 25% of the grey schist. Muscovite and chlorite predominate over biotite at all but the highest metamorphic grades. At the lowest grades chlorite is more abundant than muscovite. The micas are short, less than .2 mm long, and thin. Several mica grains are required to outline the albite porphyroblasts and thus only a weak foliation is developed. At higher grades muscovite becomes the primary mica and its grain size increases. Biotite-rich schists are generally lepidioblastic.

Epidote and sphene are almost universally present. Epidote displays a wide variety of textures. It is present as small irregular 0.2 mm size blebs, **1** to 2 mm long anhedral to subhedral poikiloblasts, and **5** m



Figure 4. Photomicrograph of a rotated albite porpyroblast in Pelona Schist greyschist. Graphite inclusions preserve evidence of an older foliation that has been deformed and indicates that the porpyroblast has been rotated.

euhedral prisms. Sphene occurs primarily as anhedral grains. Euhedral diamond shaped crystals are extremely rare.

#### Greenschist

**A** green colored calcic aiphibole-albite-chlorite-epidote greenschist comprises about 20% of the Pelona Schist. Although heterogeneous in terms of bulk mineral abundances and textures, all samples contain one of the following mineral assemblages:

Ca-amphibole+plagioclase+epidote+chlorite

Ca-amphibole+plagioclase+epidote+garnet

Additional phases present in some of the samples are muscovite, biotite, calcite, and rutile (Table III). Sphene is present in all samples. Stilpnomelane is present in only one sample. Compositional (fig. **5)** and textural variation of the amphibole is great (see below). Scattered porphyroblasts of plagioclase and epidote set in a matrix of acicular amphibole and chlorite are most common. However, granoblastic plagioclase with only a few percent of amphibole is not uncommon. Metamorphic grade ranges from greenschist to upper epidote amphibolite facies. Microprobe analyses and a discussion **of** the metamorphic conditions are presented in Chapter III (Metamorphism).

Plagioclase occurs as **0.5** to **3.0** mm rounded to ovoid, untwinned inclusion-filled porphryoblasts. Actinolite and sphene are the most abundant inclusions, but muscovite, epidote, and quartz inclusions are also present. Graphite, which colored the porphyroblasts grey in the greyschist, is generally absent. Inclusion-free rims common in the greyschist are rare. The actinolite inclusions are both randomly oriented and aligned, sometimes parallel to the main foliation, but more rarely to an older

#### Plagioclase<sup>\*</sup>(plag) METABASITES Stilnomelane<br>Sphene  $*$ *Q04* **0** Amphibole<sup>1</sup> o a) **4J-** Epidote Calcite *<sup>N</sup>***> 4J 0** a) **a)** Z - -) **0** -H- **9** *r-* H- **0 U1)** -H **0** 5-1 **-i C)** 4- H- **()** -H C) **UaE) 0** *-H* 1:4 **4J** <sup>4</sup> <sup>~</sup>H **4J** 04 \* <sup>c</sup>  $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}$ **0 9-13b 0-1 A + +** + + +  $\ddotmark$ 9-20a 2 ZA **+ +** + + **9-20b 0-3** H **+ +** + +  $\ddag$ 9-48 **15-19** T +  $\ddot{}$ + + 9-52a **3-20** T **+** +  $\bm{+}$ +  $\ddot{}$ 9-54 T **+**  $+$  $\ddot{}$ + **9-56** T **+**  $+$  $\ddot{}$ + **9-75 0-1** B **+ +** + + +  $\ddot{}$  $\ddag$ 9-89a **5-11** T **+**  $+$  $\ddot{}$  $\cdot$  +  $\cdot$ **9-98 2-19** ZH **+** +  $\ddot{}$ 4 9-104 1-2- **A + +** ++ + +  $\ddot{}$ **9-112 0-1 A + +** +  $\ddot{}$  $\ddot{}$ + + + **9-126 0-1 A + +** + +  $\ddot{}$  $+$  $\ddag$  $+$ **9-127 0-0 A**<br>**9-131 0-0 A** + + + + **9-131 0-0 A + +**  $+$   $+$ + **9-135 0-1 A +** + + + + **9-137 1-5 A + +**  $+$ + + **9-151 1-6** H **+**  $+$ + + 9-152a **0-5** ZH **+ +** +  $\ddot{+}$ + **9-155** 0-4 **A + +** + + + +  $\ddot{}$ **9-157 1-3** ZA **+ +** + + +  $+$ 9-160a 1-2 H **+ +** + + 9-164 1-2 H<br>9-322 1-3 ZA + +  $\ddot{}$ **9-322 1-3** ZA **+ +** + +  $\ddotmark$ + 80-139a 14-21 T **+ +** + +  $+$ + + +

 $\star$ mole **%** anorthite content from microprobe analysis

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A-actinolite, B-barroisite, H-hornblende, T-tschermakitic-pargasite, ZA-zoned actinolite ZH-zoned hornblende



Figure **5.** Al(IV) vs. Al(VI)+Fe **3++Ti** Pelona Schist metabasites. Boxes with tie lines show maximum and minimum permissible site occupancies.

foliation. Several samples preserve both foliations. Plagioclase compostition ranges between **0** and **3** mole percent anorthite in the low-grade schist and **10 -** 20% in the high-grade schist.

Fine accicular to thin prismatic calcium-amphibole comprises between **10** and **80%** of any single sample. The amphiboles are generally euhedral and define a foliation in association with any chlorite present. Anphiboles are present in the matrix and as inclusions in plagioclase and epidote porphyroblasts. Their range in color from pale green to green-green-brown corresponds to their range in composition from actinolite to paryasitic-tschennakite (Table VIII, fig. **5).** Zoned amphiboles with actinolite cores and hornblende rims are common (fig. **9).** The high-grade pargasitic-tschermakites are only found in two localities, both adjacent to the North Branch of the Garlock Fault Zone.

Only one specimen, **9-75,** contained subcalcic barroisitic amphibole in addition to chlorite, epidote, quartz, and calcite. The presence of barroisite indicates relatively high pressures of metamorphism (see chapter **III).**

Epidote is present as subrounded irregular to tabular porphyroblasts with amphibole and quartz inclusions. Epidote ranges in.size from 0.2 to **3.0** mm and is usually iron-rich except in some of the high grade rocks where it is iron-poor.

Chlorite may comprise up to 40% of the greenschist at the lowest metamorphic grades. It appears as a pale green groundmass in which the acicular actinolites are set. In some cases chlorite may form individual grains 0.2 mm long. Occassionally chlorite formed as the alteration product of actinolite that has been sheared and broken.

Quartz is present in quantities up to **5%** in much of the greenschist. The longest dimension rarely excedes **0.5** mm. Most quartz is present in the pressure shadows of porphyroblasts and in very thin veins. It is weakly to moderately undulose.

Sphene is present throughout the greenschist as tiny blebs and aggregates.

Muscovite is fairly widespread as short stubby prisms in quartz-rich areas and as inclusions in plagioclase. Biotite is much less widespread and is only present in quartz-rich veinlets. Stilpnomelane was present in one sample only.

Garnets are present as rounded to irregular fractured porphyroblasts up to **5** mm in diameter. Inclusions of quartz and calcite form trails that indicate some of the garnets have been rotated. The garnets are almandines, **53-68** mole percent, with a significant grossular component, **19-28** mole percent.

#### Quartzite

Quartzite is the only resistant lithology in the Pelona Schist and forms elongate knobs that stand out from the less resistant green and grey schists. Most outcrops are of massive, very pure quartzite with very narrow dark bands of muscovite and iron oxides defining a planar foliation. In a few instances these bands trace out isoclinally folded isoclinal folds. These are the only small scale folds preserved in the Pelona Schist of the Tehachapi Mountians and attest to its **highly** deformed nature.

Quartz comprises **80** to **95%** of the quartzite. Grain size is submicroscopic to 0.4 mm. The grains are equant to elongate, strongly

undulose and well-sutured. Small euhedral blades of muscovite and biotite define a foliation. Muscovite is usually the most abundant mica. Minor amounts of chlorite have replaced an older generation of biotite that has been broken **by** a small scale crenulation. Occasionally the mica foliation cross cuts the foliation defined **by** elongated quartz grains. Small colorless to pink garnets are present in some of the quartzites.

#### Other Lithologies

The only conglomerate ever found in the Pelona Schist is present in the Tehachapi Mountains where there are two localities. Identification of the rocks at Liebre Twins as conglomerates is equivocal, but those on top of the high hill to the east are unequivocally, moderately coarse-grained, subarkosic, matrix supported conglomerates. Subangular clasts of quartz up to **3** cm long and smaller quartzo-feldspathic rock fragments are set in a fine-grained matrix of epidote, amphibole, plagioclase, muscovite and quartz. The rock as a whole has been thoroughly recrystalized and it is impossible to tell if the rock fragments were derived from metamorphic or plutonic rocks. The large quartz clasts are composed of **highly** strained and sutured quartz subgrains. At Liebre Twins ovoid clasts of strained quartzite and poikiloblastic plagioclase are set in a graphite rich matrix of greyschist. No clearly identifiable clasts of rock fragments are present. This rock contains pieces of a once continuous bed that have been separated and their edges rounded. It is unclear whether this was the result of a sedimentary process (the formation of rip-up clasts) or a tectonic process.

Talc-actinolite schist and serpentinite are present at only a few localities. The serpentinite is surrounded **by** a covered interval and its relations to the other rock types is unknown. Where best exposed the talc-actinolite schist is a lens shaped body in the middle of greyschist. Low-grade marble has been found elsewhere in the Pelona Schist (Ehlig **1968,** Dillon and Haxel **1978)** but is not present at the surface in the study area, probably because of poor exposure. The California Deptpartment of Water Resources **(1971)** however reports marble in the California Aqueduct Tunnel Number **3** at the west end of the study area.

## Protoliths and Environment of Deposition

Greywacke, basalt, and chert are generally agreed upon as the protoliths for the greyschist, greenschist, and quartzite respectively (Ehlig **1958,** Dillon **1975,** Haxel **1977). A** greywacke parentage is supported **by** a number of features-present in the greyschist. In particular, the repetitive lithological layering of quartzo-feldspathic and mica schists, and the subtle compositional variation within the layers is often refered to as graded bedding. The graded bedding is strictly a compositional phenomena and does not refer to grain size (Haxel **1977).** Within a single quartzo-feldspathic layer, the amount of graphite and mica varies systematically from top to bottom and is interpreted as reflecting an original depositional increase in organic and pelitic content in the upward direction within a single graded greywacke bed. Haxel **(1977)** interprets centimeter sized, discoid bodies of dark, graphitic mica schist occuring within quartzo-feldspathic schist as redeposited rip-up clasts. Previous workers envision deposition of the greywacke **by** turbidity currents in a proximal facies environment because the sand to shale ratio  $\mathbf{f}^*$  greater than **10:1.**

The greenschist mineral assemblages are similar to those found in metamorphosed mafic rocks, and most likely are the metamorphosed equivalent of basalt, although derivation from calcareous sediments cannot be ruled out. The greenschist most commonly occurs in lens shaped bodies within larger masses of greyschist. The foliations in the grey and green schists are parallel to each other and their contact. Because of concordant contacts and lack of feeder dikes, Ehlig **(1968)** believes that most of the greenschist was deposited as tuffs. However, Haxel and Dillon **(1978)** report that Ehlig has found relict pillow structures at one locality in the greenschists of Sierra Pelona. Dillon **(1975)** and Haxel **(1977)** believe the greenschists were originally submarine erruptions of basalt onto the greywackes that resulted in local topographic highs. Isolated masses of greenschist are interpreted as possible olistoliths.

Serpentine and talc-actinolite schist are derived from ultramafic rocks and offer the the strongest direct arguments for an ensimatic origin of the Pelona Schist (Dillon **1975).** Contacts with the surrounding rocks are altered and difficult to interpret. The origin of the serpentinite has been variously attributed to hot or cold protrusion of serpentinite or emplacement of an olistolith (Haxel **1977).**

In close spatial association with the greenschists are manganiferous and ferruginous quartzites and lesser amounts of siliceous marbles. The quartzite has been interpreted as a meta-chert as opposed to meta-quartzarenite because of its high manganese content and its association with basalt and greywacke. Because of the close association of the greenschist and quartzite, Dillon and Haxel infer deposition on local basaltic highs above the level of clastic (greywacke) deposition.

Fossils and primary sedimentary structures used to determine sedimentary environment have been destroyed **by** metamorphism. Therefore interpretations have been made on the basis of lithological association. The association of greywacke, basalt, ultramafics, chert, and siliceous marble has argued strongly for deposition in a deep oceanic basin possibly floored **by** basaltic oceanic crust.

Data from the Pelona Schist in the Tehachapi Mountains generally support the protoliths presented above, but suggest a slightly different interpretation of depositional environment. The prominent lithological layering found elsewhere in the greyschist is absent in the Tehachapi Mountains, but this does not invalidate interpretation of the greyschist as a metagreywacke. The high calcic content of the greyschist supports derivation from a greywacke rather than a pelite. More important is the conglomerate found in the Pelona Schist of the Tehachapi Mountains. This the only conglomerate ever found in the Pelona Schist and may indicate the presence of a distributory channel within a turbidite fan complex.

The close spatial association between metabasite and metachert present at other localities is absent in the Tehachapi Mountains. Quartzite is just as often found associated with metabasite as with metagreywacke. No marble was found in the Tehachapi Mountains. Whatever environmental model is proposed, it must permit close spatial association between chert and metabasite as well as explain the distribution of chert in metagreywacke.

Ehlig, Dillon, and Haxel consider all relationships between units to be sedimentary. The present study in the Tehachapi Mountains strongly suggests that many of the contacts are tectonic. In many instances, lithological sequences and small structures are abruptly terminated. The pod-like shape of some of the metabasites (see fig. **6)** are more readily



Figure **6.** View east along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, **3.2** km east of White Oak. The north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is located at the break in slope in the upper- left. corner. Rocks north of the fault zone are older alluvium. The Pelona Schist is south of the fault zone. Light bands in the Pelona Schist are discontinuous pods of greenschist.

explained as the result of shearing and juxtapostion of fragments of oceanic crust upon which the greywackes were deposited rather than preserving the original shape of an isolated flow. If the metabasites are extrusive on top of the greywacke pile as Haxel and Dillon believe, why are no feeder dikes reported? The absence of feeder dikes led Ehlig to propose that the metabsites are tuff deposits. I believe that these isolated blocks of metabasite interpreted as olistoliths **by** Dillon and Haxel are more likely tectonic blocks within a melange. Chert can be incorperated within the greywacke in the same way.

Thus I agree with previous workers as to the nature of the Pelona protoliths, but interpret the environment of depostion differently.

Accumulation of the Pelona Schist took place in an oceanic environment underlain **by** basaltic oceanic crust. The metabasites are pieces of oceanic crust originally far removed from the turbidite fan rather than extrusions onto the turbidite fan complex. The cherts were deposited on this oceanic crust and not on local highs above the level of clastic sedimentation. The greywackes are part of a turbidite fan complex the facies of which are unknown, although the conglomerate indicates local proximity to a distributory channel. Subduction later juxtaposed the oceanic crust with its pelagic cover with turbidites and tectonically mixed them creating a mel ange.

The Pelona schist is remarkably similar in terms of protoliths and their proportions and internal structure to the Franciscan Complex (Bailey, Irwin, and Jones, 1964). Dillon and Haxel note the similarity but argue on paleogeographic grounds that the Pelona Schist and Franciscan Complex are noL correlative. I agree with Yeates **(1968),** Burchfiel and Davis **(1981),** and Crowell **(1981)** that they are correlative (see chapter VI).

# ROCKS **SOUTH** OF THE GARLOCK FAULT **ZONE**

The south slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains are composed of granitic plutonic rocks and metasedimentary roof pendants described as having continental affinity (Ross **1980).** Two plutonic bodies have been mapped, the Tejon Lookout Granite and the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. The Lebec Quartz Monzonite is probably related to these rocks, but now lies north of the Garlock Fault (see chapter VI). The metasedimentary rocks are primarily coarse-grained marbles with minor amounts of hornfels.

### Gato-Montes Granodiorite

Extending east from the head of Beartrap Canyon and south of the Garlock Fault is a massive, fairly homogeneous, medium-grained granodiorite informally called the granodiorite of Gato-Montes. Exposure is poor and its relationship with some of the surrounding rocks is uncertain. It clearly intruded into a sedimentary sequence. Thin slivers of coarse-grained marble are preserved near and along its contact with the south branch of the Garlock Fault. Small, rare patches of hornfels are present on the lower slopes. The largest hornfels outcrop is just northwest of the White Oak Landing Field. The contact between the Gato-Montes Granodiorite and Tejon Lookout Granite is obscured **by** soil and alluvium. There are no clearcut features which would indicate which pluton is jounger. Marbles and hornfels are very abundant above the Tejon Lookout Granite but are scarce in comparison above the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. One could argue that the Tejon Granite intruded first and "protected" the metasediments there from assimilation **by** the granodiorite. Ross **(1980)** believed the Tejon Lookout Granite was intrusive into the Gato-Montes

Granodiorite. The granodiorite has yielded an Rb-Sr age of **131.6 + 3.6** Ma with an initial Sr ratio of **0.70789 + .00006** (see chapter V).

In outcrop, the granodiorite is granular, white to grey with a sprinkling of dark minerals. The most noticeable difference among different exposures is the variation in abundance of the dark minerals (Table IV). Modal compositions determined **by** point counting stained slabs are listed in Table IV and plotted in figure **7.** The majority of points fall well within the granodiorite field of the IUGS classification of Strekeisen **(1973).**

Texturally the rock is hypidiomorphic granular. Plagioclase is the most abundant mineral with grains up to **5** mm long. They range from extremely fresh to **highly** sericitized. Potassium feldspar occurs as both orthoclase and microcline, usually as irregular pore fillings. Quartz is characterized **by** rounded grains that are weakly undulose except in the microcline bearing samples where it tends to be strongly undulose with sutured grain boundaries. Mafic minerals comprise up to **10%** of the granodiorite. Deep red-brown biotite is most abundant. It is generally anhedral with ragged edges occassionally altered to chlorite. **A** green amphibole is present in about a third of the specimens studied. It occurs as fresh euhedral grains and spongy masses altered to chlorite and biotite. Calcite and muscovite are present as alteration products of plagioclase. Accessary phases include sphene, zircon, and apatite. In some localities euhedral, amber-colored sphene crystals are extremely conspicuous, comprising **3** or 4% of the rock.

Compositionally the Gato-Montes Granodiorite is not a unique rock in the Sierra Nevada. Ross **(1980)** correlates it, after restoration of displacement of the Garlock Fault Zone with the Lebec Quartz Monzonite



Accuracy is estimated to be **+ 6%** (Van der Plas and Tobi **1965)**

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Figure **7.** Modal compositions, Gato-Montes Granodiorite. Dotted lines outline compositions of the granodiorite of Lebec (Ross **1972).** Classification after Streckeisen **(1973).** GR **-** Granite, **GD -** Granodiorite.

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present in the western part of the study area. He tempers this correlation **by** saying that it is "certainly very similar, if not identical with the granodiorite of Claraville". Later, in Chapter VI I will correlate the Gato-Montes Granodiorite with the Lebec body, but will suggest they are both on the same side of an older strand of the Garlock Fault Zone which probably has the largest displacement in the fault zone.

## Tejon Lookout Granite

Extending west from the Gato-Montes Granodiorite to the Garlock Fault and forming the southwestern slopes of the Tehachpai Mountains is the pink potassium-feldspar-bearing Tejon Lookout Granite. Named **by** Crowell **(1952),** good exposures of the **highly** fractured and deeply weathered granite are rare. Numerous buff to orange-colored scarps are present where loose granite grus has been washed away. As mentioned previously its relation to the Gato-Montes Granodiorite is uncertain. Two large pendants of marble and pelitic hornfels are present within and above the granite.

Fresh samples of granite are salmon colored but weather rapidly to bleached white. Grey, clear quartz is uniformly distributed throughout the body comprising **30%** of the granite. Microcline is always the most abundant feldspar comprising **35-50%** of the rock and plagioclase makes **up** about **15-30%** of the rock. Microcline shows some alteration in all samples. Plagioclase is extensively altered. Biotite is the only mafic mineral present. Zircon and apatite are present as minor constituents.

#### Metasedimentary Rocks

Metasedimentay rocks are present in roof pendants above the plutonic rocks south of the Garlock Fault Zone. Dikes emanating from the plutons have pierced the relatively planar base of the pendants and are present at the highest structural levels. Coarse-grained marbles dominate the metasedimentary rocks and calc-silicate rocks and quartz-mica hornfels are of secondary importance. The bulk of the metasedimentary rocks are concentrated in two pendants above the Tejon Lookout Granite. Thin, lenticular bodies of marble are conspicuous along the south branch of the Garlock Fault, especially east of Lopez Flats. Outcrops of hornfels are present as small pendants throughout the southern slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains.

The marbles are white to blue-grey calcite with subordinate amounts of dolomite. Grain size is typically 1 to 2 cm but rhombs up to **5** cm are not uncommon. Locally, tiny flakes of graphite are visible in the marble. Finer, disseminated graphite may be responsible for the blue-grey color. Metamorphism has eliminated virtually all traces of bedding and may account for the total absence of fossil remnants. Marble breccias in which subrounded, coarse-grained marble fragments are set in a finer-grained matrix are probably the result of interaction between the carbonates and fluids eminating from the granite. Although rare, all occurrences of wollastonite are in the immediate vicinity of the breccias. This spatial association indicates derivation of the wollastonite from limestone and siliceous fluids as opposed to silty carbonates.

Scattered patches of finely laminated, green calc-silicate rocks are present within the two major roof pendants. The calcium bearing phases;

epidote, diopside, and amphibole, comprise most of the minerals in the calc-silicate rocks. Plagioclase may occur as extremely fine-grained, granulated material. Thin veinlets of polygonal strain-free quartz cut some of the calc-silicate rocks.

Quartzite and muscovite-biotite bearing schist with hornfelsic texture constitute **5** to **10%** of the metasedimentary rocks. The quartzites are very pure, containing only minor amounts muscovite, opaques and rare tourmaline. Quartz is polygonal to blocky and strain free. Equigranular biotite, muscovite and quartz are common to most of the schists. Average grain size varies from **0.05** to **0.6** mm. Biotite and muscovite are present in varying proportions, from biotite-rich to equal amounts of biotite and muscovite. Schists immediately west of the White Oak Lodge Landing Field and in Tylerhorse Canyon contain the assemblage: cordierite-biotite-muscovitesillimanite. Cordierite is poikiloblastic with numerous biotite, quartz, and sillimanite inclusions. Sillimanite occurs primarily as fibrolite but thin blades are common. Tiny zircon grains with associated pleochroic halos are extremely abundant in the biotite. Plagioclase, myrmekite, and perthitic potassium feldspar are minor components of the schist. Small microscopic folds are present in some of the specimens.

Haase and Rutherford **(1975)** have experimentally studied the partitioning of Fe and **Mg** between coexisting biotite and cordierite in the assemblage cordierite-biotite-sillimanite-quartz-sanadine (muscovite) and applied their results to rocks from the Bean Canyon area **10** km east of the study area. Ross **(1980)** has correlated the metasedimentary rocks of the study area with those of the Bean Canyon pendant. Haase and Rutherford estimated that the pressure of metamorphism for samples from the Bean

Canyon pendant was **2.5 kb.** This is consistent with contact metamorphism of the metasediments at shallow crustal levels.

The original age of the metasedimentary rocks is not accurately known as no fossils have been recovered from the metasediments. They must be older than the Gato-Montes Granodiorite which intrudes them, but their maximum age is unconstrained.

# Other Lithologies

**A** buff colored porphyritic felsite dike is present along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone near the eastern boarder of the study area. Euhedral quartz and plagioclase phenocrysts are set in a fine-grained groundmass. Many of the plagioclase grains are zoned and show signs of extensive sericitization. Minute, altered flakes of biotite are also present. Contact with the Gato-Montes Granodiorite is sharp and without any chilled margins. The dike did not intrude the Pelona Schist and it is unclear if the dike has been cut **by** the Garlock Fault Zone. The felsite is probably correlative with several similar felsite dikes mapped **by** Dibblee **(1963)** in the adjacent Rosamond and Willowsprings Quadrangle. Dibblee believed that the felsite dikes were satellite offshoots of Miocene(?) quartz lattite plugs at Middle Buttes and Soledad Mountain on the Antelope Valley floor.

Just north of the White Oak Lodge Landing Field near the southeastern edge of the study area, hornblende diorite is exposed as several small circular and northeast trending elongate bodies within the Gato--Montes Granodiorite. Contact relations are generally ambiguous, but in one of the small canyons the Gato-Montes Granodiorite has a chilled margin at its contact with the hornblende diorite. Small stringers of granodiorite

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intrude the hornblende diorite. Thus, the hornblende diorite is older than the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. Approximately 2 miles to the east, between Gamble and Tylerhorse Canyons two tabular bodies of hornblende diorite, 450 meters wide and 2.4 km long, are parallel to the adjacent vertically layered medasedimentary rocks of the Bean Canyon Formation (Dibblee **1963).** The hornblende diorite does not intrude the marbles but does intrude the biotite schist.

Equigranular black hornblende and and grey plagioclase comprise most of the hornblende diorite. Hornblende forms short, (up to 4 mm long) stubby, subhedral prisms intergrown with subhedral zoned plagioclase. The cores of the plagioclase exhibit extensive alteration. In one sample the plagioclase occurs as an irregular pore filling enclosing subhedral olivine grains with reaction rims and rounded clinopyroxene grains. Biotite is present in some of the specimens.

Two lenticular bodies of mylonite crop out immediately south of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone near its eastern terminus (see Plate IIIa). Contact relations are clearly exposed at Tylerhorse Canyon. The Pelona Schist has been thrust south over the mylonite and adjoining marble along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone which dips **50\*** to the north. The lower contact between the mylonite and the Gato-Montes Granodiorite is parallel to the Pelona Schist **-** mylonite contact.

Ovoid plagioclase grains and clusters of plagioclase grains are set in a matrix of quartz and hornblende within the mylonite. Quartz varies from **highly** strained to completely sheared and granulated. Rounded to elongate hornblende with ragged edges forms a foliation with the quartz that wraps around the plagioclase grains. The hornblende grains appear to be pretectonic and have been rotated and sheared into their present

orientation. **Highly** fractured, rounded to euhedral garnets with abundant quartz inclusions appear to be syntectonic. Rare epidote and chlorite have replaced some of the hornblende. Cross cutting fractures have been filled with calcite. Minor muscovite is present, particularly in areas where plagioclase has been sericitized.

The mylonite is texturally and compositionally unlike any other rocks south of the south branch of the Garlock Fault. It is however, very similar, if not identical to the mylonites north of and along the north branch of the Garlock Fault. The mylonites along the southern branch of the Garlock Fault Zone may be remnants of the previously more extensive mylonites along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone discussed later in this chapter.

Older alluvium, derived principally from rocks north of the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, is present at several localities east of the White Oak Ranch. In at least one location, the older alluvium can be traced more or less continuously from north of the Garlock Fault Zone to south of the fault zone. This unit is present on both sides of the fault zone and is described in the next section after the rocks that constitute its clasts have been descibed.

## UNITS NORTH OF THE GARLOCK **FAULT ZONE**

Rocks north of the Garlock Fault Zone belong to either a granulite facies metamorphic terrane or to the Lebec Quartz Monzonite and its associated metasedimentary roof pendants. The rocks comprising the granulite metamorphic terrane have previously been regarded as a combination of metamorphic and plutonic bodies (Weise **1950,** Dibblee and Louke **1970,** Dibblee and Warne **1970,** and Ross **1980).** Units of the granulite terrane extend westward across the north flanks of the San Emigdio Range, and perhaps northward across Tejon Canyon to the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs (Ross **1980).** Five mapable units have been recognized in the granulite terrane; mylonite, White Oak Diorite Gneiss, Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite, Bison Granulite, and quartzo-feldspathic gneiss. These rocks are in fault contact with the Pelona Schist and the Lebec Quartz Monzonite to the south (Weise **1950,** Crowell **1958)** and are unconformably overlain **by** lower to middle Eocene shallow marine sediments to the north (Nilsen and Clark **1975).** Isotopic data indicate that the age of the Bison Granulite is **86.1** ma (see chapter V). The age of the other units is unknown. The Lebec Quartz Monzonite is located in the southwestern corner of the study area sandwiched between the Garlock Fault Zone and the Pastoria Thrust. It may be correlative with the Gato-Montes Granodiorite on the south side of the Garlock Fault Zone (Ross **1980,** this work).

#### Mylonite

Patches of mylonite are exposed discontinuously along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone from the Aqueduct Access Road to Cottonwood Creek. The mylonite lies between the Pelona Schist and the structurally higher White Oak Diorite Gneiss. It is best exposed along the north branch of Pastoria Creek east of the Aqueduct Access Road and where the Logging Road crosses the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. The mylonite probably grades into the White Oak Diorite Gneiss, but the complete transition is not observed. Mylonitic rock is exposed in sections **8** and **17** just south of the head of Cottonwood Creek between the White Oak Diorite Gneiss and the Bison Granulite. Even though these mylonites were traceable for **1** km their contact with other units was not exposed. Smaller exposures of mylonitc rock occur at this contact elsewhere.

The mylonitic rocks along the north branch of the Garlock Fault are grey to dark green or black with up to **30%** white plagioclase augen ranging in size from just barely visible to **3** mm long. Occassional porphyroclasts reach 2 cm. Rare compositional banding is best developed along the north branch of Pastoria Creek.

Microscopic examination reveals that both mylonite and blastomylonite (Higgins **1971)** are present. The dark martrix of the mylonite is composed quartz and hornblende that have been crushed and have flowed around the plagioclase porphyroclasts. The longest hornblende grains are **0.5** mm, but the majority rarely excede 0.2mm. The edges of many of the hornblende grains, especially the larger ones, are ragged, but some are smooth and appear to have recrystalized. In the blastomylonites quartz is polygonal and only weakly undulose. However, quartz in the mylonites is characterized **by** elongate, **highly** strained, and sutured grains. Grain size ranges from submicroscopic to 0.4 mm. The plagioclase porphyroclasts have aspect ratios in the range 2 **- 5:1** and display multiple sets of deformation twins. In the blastomylonites newly recrystalized material includes chlorite, epidote, and euhedral muscovite. Euhedral garnets with unstrained quartz inclusions are present in some of the samples.

The mylonite between the White Oak Diorite Gneiss and the Bison Granulite contains more porphyroclasts, approximately 40% of the rock, and is less recrystalized than the mylonite along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. Hornblende and plagioclase porphyroclasts are clearly visible in handspecimen. Brown hornblende has been retrograded to to pale green actinolite. The matrix is composed of elongate, **highly** strained quartz ranging in size from submicroscopic to **1.6** mm, ragged muscovite and amphibole, subhedral epidote, and chlorite.

Along the Aqueduct Access Road, in close spatial association with the mylonite is a white to pink, sugary, iron-stained breccia. The breccia is essentially monomineralic. Angular fragments of crushed, extremely strained quartz are set in a matrix of finely granulated quartz. Traces of poorly crystalized amphibole or mica, probably in the process of being destroyed, are the only other minerals present. The breccia reflects a brittle style of deformation taking place at high crustal levels in comparison to the ductile deformation present in the mylonite. The source material for the breccia is unknown. It could be either the White Oak Diorite Gneiss or the Bison Granulite. However, breccia is also found along Geghus Ridge near Pelona Schist quartzite which could also be the source.

## White Oak Diorite Gneiss

The medium- to coarse-grained White Oak Diorite Gneiss is exposed on the lower slopes of the hills north of the Garlock Fault Zone. It is traceable across the entire length of the study area and may extend past the western boundary for a considerable distance. It is present for only a short distance east of the study area. Weise **(1950)** included the White Oak Diorite Gneiss in his diorite unit, but made special mention of the shearing present in it along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. Equal proportions of white plagioclase and parallel elongated grains of green and black amphibole which impart a crude foliation to the rock are the major components of the diorite gneiss. Quartz rarely excedes **5%** and biotite is not present. Occassional, lenticular pods of fine-grained granoblastic diorite are present in the diorite gneiss.

The gneiss is distinguished from the structurally underlying mylonite **by** its less sheared nature and the lack of augen structures. Poor

exposure, and late modifications to north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone conceal its probable gradation into the mylonite. The extreme weathered condition of the rocks along the Aqueduct Access Road makes it difficult to distinguish between the mylonite and diorite gneiss there. The presence of biotite and the increase in quartz content mark the contact between the White Oak Diorite Gneiss and the Bison Granulite. The contact ranges from gradational to abrupt and in rare instances is marked **by** mylonite. The massive granoblastic Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite may be the unfoliated equivalent of the White Oake Diorite Gneiss. In the vicinity of the junction of the middle and north branches of Pastoria Creek well foliated diorite gneiss and garnet granulite are present in close but isolated outcrops. In some of these, the garnet granulite exhibits faint, relict compositional banding. 'The rocks overlying the two units are the same, however those above the garnet granulite are extremely weathered and friable, whereas those above the diorite gneiss are fresh and solid.

The sheared nature of the White Oak Diorite Gneiss is apparent in most thin sections. Anhedral plagioclase grains are equidimensional to elongate with rounded corners. Quartz, when present, is usually granulated and most often occurs as small, **<** 0.2 mm, grains around the larger **3 -** 4 irn plagioclase grains. Ubiquitous zoning characterizes the hornblende. Dark-green, green-brown, and brown hornblende cores are surrounded **by** paler green hornblende rims. The original hornblende grains were stubby, **3 -** 4 mm long, euhedral and randomly oriented. Subsequent shearing has resulted in shredding and retrograde alteration along the edges. In some instances, entire grains have been broken down and replaced **by** poikiloblastic masses of smaller, subparallel grains. Extensive exsolution of rutile parallel to the amphibole cleavage directions has taken place in the hornblende cores.

Chlorite may be present as an alteration product of biotite and hornblende. Poorly developed biotite is generally restricted to the areas of retrograded hornblende and is most likely a retrograde mineral. Epidote is common in specimens which contain thin shear zones.

The rock as a whole displays a wide range of textures. Most common is broken and partially altered hornblende and rounded to elongate plagioclase with indistinct grain boundaries and is probably the result of general crushing and mild shearing. In some cases this is accompanied **by** discrete, mylonitic shear zones. In other samples, although altered, grains are subpolygonal, very similar to the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite and may preserve the original prograde texture of the White Oak Diorite Gneiss.

### Tunis Creek Garnet Granglite

The main body of the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite crops out on the lower, northern slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains between Tunis Creek and Winters Canyon. Smaller exposures occur higher on the slopes to the southwest. This is the same unit mapped as gabbro **by** Weise **(1950)** and is part of the "dark amphibolite gneiss" terrane of Ross **(1980).** Large, **6** cm diameter garnet porphyroblasts, relict compositional banding and ortho-pyroxene demonstrate that this is a granulite grade metamorphic rock and not a gabbroic intusive. As previously mentioned it may be the unsheared equivalent of the White Oak Diorite Gneiss.

The garnet granulite is typically dark grey to black, fine- to medium-grained and composed of roughly equal proportions of translucent to opague white plagioclase and black hornblende. Plagioclase from near the mouth of Tunis Creek may take on a brownish color. Large, up to **6** cm, euhedral garnets surrounded **by** hornblende free halos are locally

conspicuous. Most of the garnet granulite is massive and unfoliated. Relict compositional banding is rare. Highly contorted, migmatitic garnet granulite is present in one isolated outcrop only. Orthopyroxene (hypersthene) is present, but is visible only in thin section.

Contacts of the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite with the adjoining Bison Granulite and quartzo-feldspathic gneiss are poorly exposed. The intersection between the contact and topography suggests a high angle contact. Foliation in the surrounding rock is usually subparallel to the contact and dips at a high-angle toward the garnet granulite. At the 2300-foot level in Tunis Creek a dike of unfoliated garnet granulite intrudes and cuts the foliation in the Bison Granulite. The edges of the dike do not show chilled margin textures and indicates that both bodies were hot when the dike was intruded. **A** dike whose structural relation to the garnet granulite is unknown, but is compositionally very similar to it, intrudes, with well developed chilled margins, the Bison Granulite along the Winters Ridge road. In the upper portions of Tunis Creek, small lensoid pods of garent granulite are incorporated in the Bison Granulite indicating that the Bison Granulite may intrude the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite. In some border areas multiple dikes of fine- and medium-grained, unfoliated garnet granulite cross cut each other. Any question as to which unit intruded the other is largely irrelevant because they are part of a granulite facies metamorphic terrane. The rocks were undoubtedly soft and ductile during intrusion and incorporation of parts of one unit within another is not totally unexpected.

Petrographically, hornblende forms anhedral to subhedral, generally elongate porphyroblasts up to **3** mm long. Occassionally it is poikiloblastic about the plagioclase. In a few instances the hornblende appears flattened and aligned forming a very weak foliation. Needles of exsolved rutile and ilmenite are common in the cores of the hornblende grains. Labradorite plagioclase is subpolygonal or forms randomly oriented anhedral laths. The laths are usually larger, up to 6mm, than the subpolygonal grains, up to **1** mm, and may contain rare inclusions of hornblende. The plagioclase is well-twinned and exhibits an irregular, normal zoning pattern. Opaques are scattered throughout the rock, comprising as much as **5%** of the rock.

The mineral assemblage, hbl+plag+opq, is most common (see Table V). The assemblage, hbl+cum+opx+plag+opq, indicative of granulite facies metamorphism is common. The orthopyroxene is anhedral, moderately to strongly pleochroic, and seldom constitutes more than **5%** of the garnet granulite. Orthopyroxene is never in direct contact with hornblende. It is always separated from the hornblende **by** an area of cummingtonite, often exhibiting well formed exsolution lamellae. Orthopyroxene totally surrounded **by** plagioclase has no cummingtonite rim. The cummingtonite is gradational into green hornblende and is probably the result of a reaction between orthopyroxene and hornblende that yields cummingtonite and calcic plagioclase. Garnets are euhedral and the larger ones contain numerous inclusions of plagioclase. Apatite and zircon are minor accessory phases. Specimens from near the contact with the Bison Granulite appear crushed and have a poorly developed flaser gneiss texture and may contain quartz, biotite, muscovite, and epidote of a retrograde nature.

 $\sim$   $\omega$ 





#### Bison Granulite

**A** medium-grained, unfoliated to foliated rock composed of quartz, plagioclase, biotite and hornblende comprises most of the high areas of the western Tehachapi Mountains north of the Garlock Fault Zone. It is named for the Bison survey marker in the northeast corner of the study area where mineral assemblages indicative of granulite facies metamorphism are present. The presence of biotite and quartz, **> 5%,** distinguish it from the structurally underlying White Oak Diorite Gneiss and Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite. It has a very homogeneous appearance and looks like an igneous or slighlty foliated igneous rock. Gneissic banding in which mineralogical segregation has taken place is not present. The Bison Granulite is part of the diorite unit of Weise **(1950),** the hornblende biotite quartz diorite of Dibblee and Louke **(1970)** and the "dark amphibolitic gneiss" and transitional unit of Ross **(1980).**

As mentioned above the Bison Granulite is easily distinguished from underlying units **by** the presence of quartz and biotite. The contact with garnet granulite is sharp, but a zone of mixing may exist along portions of upper Tunis Creek. On the slopes south of the Bison survey marker contact with the diorite gneiss is both sharp and gradational. It is unclear if this is the result of initial differences in bulk rock chemistry or of tectonic juxtaposition. **A** 30-foot wide mylonite zone between the White Oake Diorite Gneiss and the Bison Granulite at the head of Cottonwod Creek suggests that there has been at least local movement along the contact. East of **El** Paso Creek, the homogeneous Bison Granulite is easily distinguished from overlying and included masses of quartzo-feldspathic gneiss and calcsilicate rocks. However, west of **El** Paso Creek, the quartz



and biotite content of the granulite increases and it is difficult to distinguish it from more homogeneous appearing quartzo-feldspathic gneiss. Within the granulite there are areas of unequivocal metasedimentary rocks; quartzite, marble, and gneiss, but contact relations fail to demonstrate whether the metasedimentary rocks are xenoliths in the granulite or complexly infolded.

The basic mineral assemblage present is:

## qtz+andesine plag+hbl+bio

(see Table VI for a complete list). Coexisting ortho- and clinopyroxene indicate that the Bison Granulite was subject to granulite facies metamorphism. Minor, post metamorphic deformation is suggested **by** textural evidence.

Green to green-brown hornblende is the primary mafic phase, comprising 20 to **35%** of the rock. Most hornblende grains are anhedral, equant porphyroblasts 2 to 4 mm in diameter. Some are poikiloblastic about about quartz, plagioclase, biotite and pyroxene. Hornblende in the Bison Granulite along the Aqueduct Access Road is extremely poikiloblastic. This may account for the very weak and friable nature of the the granulite there. Although most of the hornblende formed during prograde metamorphism, some samples record a period of deformation and retrograde metamorphism. Much of the hornblende in the retrograded rocks has been converted in whole or in part to actinolite, chlorite, and biotite.

Biotite occurs in clusters of grains around hornblende. Biotite has formed from retrograded hornblende, is in equilibrium with the hornblende, and has been replaced **by** hornblende. Grains are brown to red-brown,

subhedral, and range from **0.5** to 4.0 mm in length. Several grains may form parallel clusters, but no through going foliation has developed.

Textures indicate that the ortho- and clinopyroxene are in equilibrium with hornblende and biotite. Anhedral grains and clusters of pyroxene grains, 0.4 to **5.0** mm, are present as inclusions in hornblende and are present in the quartz and plagioclase matrix. Orthopyroxene (hypersthene) is more abundant than clinopyroxene (low-alumina augite). Two-pyroxene geothermometry was applied to samples from the Bison Granulite in an effort to determine metamorphic temperatures, but yielded temperatures that are probably too high, **850 - 900\*C.** The results are presented in the next chapter. Thin, feathery rims of retrograde amphibole have grown around the pyroxene in those samples which show signs of late deformation. No pyroxene was found in the Bison Granulite west of **El** Paso Creek.

Quartz and andesine plagioclase comprise up to **60%** of the rock. Rounded and embayed grains impart an igneous looking texture to the rock. Quartz rarely excedes 20% and is only weakly to moderately undulose. In those specimens containing retrograde amphibole, quartz is elongate, strongly undulose and some of the quartz grains have been sutured. This is accompanied **by** mild sericization in the plagioclase.

Muscovite is present as minute, subhedral grains, about **0.1** mm long in areas where biotite grains have been fractured and altered, or in the vicinity of sericitized plagioclase. Retrograde chlorite and biotite are also present.

### Quartzo-feldspathic Gneiss

**All** metamorphosed rocks of unequivocal and probable metasedimentary origin are included in this unit. Quartz- and biotite-rich gneiss and augen gneiss predominate. Subordinate lithologies include; calcsilicate rocks, marble, pure quartzite, and fine-grained amphibolite (Table VII). These **highly** metamorphosed sedimentary rocks are present across the entire study area north of the Garlock Fault Zone. They are most abundant and best exposed along the Aqueduct Access Road and lower Pastoria Creek. Areas of gneiss have previously been mapped **by** Weise **(1950)** and Dibblee and Warne **(1970).** The gneiss has been metamorphosed to a much higher degree than the rocks of the Kernville Series present near the town of Tehachapi, northeast of the study area (Dibble and Warne **1970).** The gneiss may extend to the west, correlative with the migmatites mapped **by** Nilsen and Dibblee **(1973).**

Most of the easily weathered gneiss is composed of light-colored, coarse-grained quartz and feldspar layers bounded **by** dark-colored layers containing biotite. Augen gneiss is restricted to two areas; **1)** scattered patches below the road along Winters Ridge and 2) a northwest trending strip from the Edmonston Pumping Plant to the Pastoria Creek Siphon. In rare instances the gneiss takes on the appearance of a **highly** contorted migmatite gneiss. Minor amounts of white to grey marble, grey quartzite, pink and green calcsilicate rocks, and compositionally layered, equigrannular pyroxene-bearing rocks are scattered throughout the gneiss.

Although the majority of the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss appears to be at the highest structural levels, it is in contact with all units of the granulite terrane. The gneiss is readily distinguished from the Tunis

### QUARTZO-FELDSPATHIC GNEISS



Creek Garnet Granulite and the White Oak Diorite Gneiss which lack biotite and quartz. However it can be confused with some of the Bison Granulite. The following characterisitics of the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss can be used to differentiate it from the Bison Granulite **; 1)** biotite is more abundant than hornblende, 2) quartz content is usually greater than 20%, **3)** the mafic minerals form more continuous layers, 4) contains interbeds of unequivocal sedimentary rocks, **5)** less calcic plagioclase composition, and **6)** highly strained quartz.

The contact between the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss and adjacent units is nowhere well exposed. Locally the gneiss appears to be intruded **by** the garnet granulite or injected **by** the Bison Granulite, but in most cases the impression is that the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss is either structurally above the Bison Granulite or is engulfed **by** the Bison Granulite or White Oak Diorite Gneiss. In most cases the foliation of the two units is subparallel and it is unclear if the contact is intrusive or due to complex folding or lithological differences within the original metamorphic sequence. Regardless of the nature of the contacts, they were formed at deep crustal levels as indicated **by** rock textures and metamorphic grade.

Modal compostions vary widely in the gneiss. Quartz ranges from **15** to **65%,** but averages about **30** to **35%.** Grains are elongate, 0.02 to 2.0 mm, moderately to **highly** strained with sutured grain boundaries. In the augen gneiss, finely ground quartz outlines the feldspar augen. Plagioclase of high-oligoclase to low-andesine composition comprises 40% of the gneiss. Most grains are equant and rounded, **1** to **5** mm in diameter. Ovoid grains up to 2 cm long are common in the augen gneiss as is myrmekite. Potassium feldspar is rare except in the augen gneiss where microcline forms some of the large augen.

Red-brown to green-brown biotite comprises 20 to **35%** of the gneiss. They are seldom longer than 2 mm, but the anhedral grains are aligned and impart a strong foliation to the gneiss. Much of the biotite appears to have formed at the expense of sheared hornblende. Anhedral hornblende is subordinate to the biotite. In the calcsilicate rocks however, hornblende is the primary mafic phase and biotite is absent.

Garnets are subhedral to euhedral poikiloblasts **0.5** to **7.0** mm in diameter. The majority of inclusions are quartz, but biotite and plagioclase are also present. The larger garnets have been fractured, but relatively little alteration has taken place. Muscovite is rare and appears to be a retrograde mineral restricted to areas of late shearing. Epidote and chlorite are present as alteration products of hornblende and biotite respectively. Opague minerals are present in almost all specimens. Minor apatite, zircon, rutile, and sphene occur as accessory phases.

Anhedral, **0.5** to **1.0** mm ortho- and clinopyroxene are major components, **10 - 30%,** of some of the fine-grained quartzo-feldspathic rock. These granulite facies rocks also contain biotite, 25%; quartz, **35%;** and plagioclase, 20%; with only minor amounts of hornblende. High grade calcsilicate rocks are also present and are composed primarily of pyroxene, epidote, hornblende, and plagioclase with a few percent quartz.

Thin lenses of more resistant white to grey, medium-grained marble are present within the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss. Often times the marble is associated with a relatively pure, grey quartzite. The contact between the marble and quartzo-feldspathic gneiss is parallel to the foliation and suggests that the foliation is parallel to the original bedding.

### Protoliths of the Granulite Terrane

Only the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss contains lithologies of unambiguous sedimentary origin. The Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite and Bison Granulite have a mafic composition, but the data does not unequivocally say whether they were originally plutonic or volcanic. Dikes of fine- to coarse-grained garnet granulite cross-cut each other and indicate that, at least locally, a melt was present. Relict compositional banding and migmatitic garnet granulite suggest that the dikes may have originated from partial melting of the garnet granulite rather than as basaltic magma. Small lenticular pods of fine-grained granoblastic diorite in the White Oak Diorite Gneiss may be the residuum of partial melting. Without chemical analyses it is impossible to speculate on the amount of partial melting that may have taken place.

The lack of potassium feldspar in the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss is consistent with derivation from andesitic volcanogenic sediments derived from the Sierra Nevada arc terrane. If the metasedimentary rocks originally had a pelitic composition, one would expect to find either muscovite or alumino-silicate minerals and potassium feldspar. These minerals are not present, except for minor retrograde muscovite. It is possible that they could have been drawn out in a partial melt, but vestigial traces of the minerals and vein quartz should still be present. There were periods of minimal volcanogenic influx since pure quarzite and marble are also present. Boudinaged and lens shaped bodies of amphibolite (fig. **8)** are well exposed along the Aqueduct Access Road 1/2 mile north of Pastoria Creek and are probably intercalated basaltic volcanics.



Figure **8** . Quartzo-feldspathic gneiss along the Aqueduct Access Road. Note intercalation of light quartzo-feldspathic material and dark amphibolitic rock. The amphibolite appears to have been boudinaged. This sequence is interpretted as volcanogenic sediments intercalated with basaltic or andesitic volcanics.

### Older Alluvium

Two and one half miles east of White Oak, poorly indurated conglomeratic older alluvium is exposed across the width of the Garlock Fault Zone. The older Alluvium is in reverse fault contact with the Pelona Schist along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and it rests unconformably on the Pelona Schist and on weathered Gato-Montes Granodiorite south of the Garlock Fault Zone. Matrix and grain-supported, subangular, **10** to 20 cm diameter clasts of White Oak Diorite Gneiss and Bison Granulite are set in a coarse, sandy matrix. Rare cobbles of pink calcsilicate rocks are also present. Individual beds range up to 2 meters thick, are poorly graded, but are separated from each other **by** 2 to **3** cm thick layers of coarse sand. Several periods of faulting have been recorded in the older alluvium along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and at least one period of faulting along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone.

# Lebec Quartz Monzonite

**A** white to light-grey granitic rock crops out in the wedge shaped area bounded **by** the Garlock Fault Zone, the Pastoria Thrust, and the western border of the study area. It extends to the south and west of the study area where it is truncated **by** the San Andreas Fault Zone. The Lebec Quartz Monzonite was named for exposures near the town of Lebec (Crowell **1952).** Ross **(1970)** has studied the quartz monzonite in the area to the west of it type locality.

Within the study area, the Lebec Quartz Monzonite is poorly exposed and highly weathered. Compositionally and petrographically it is identical to the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. The principal components are plagioclase,

biotite, quartz, and potassium feldspar. Modal analyses (fig. **7)** of the Lebec Quartz Monzonite (Ross **1970)** overlap to a large degree those of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite (this study). Although granodiorite is common in the Sierra Nevada, it seems quite likely that the Lebec Quartz Monzonite and Gato Montes Granodiorite are correlative. Ross **(1980)** believed that they were correlative across the Garlock Fault Zone once left-lateral displacement on it has been removed, whereas I believe that the Lebec Quartz Monzonite is a continuation of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite on the same side of an older strand of the Garlock Fault (see chapter VI).

Isolated outcrops of marble and brecciated marble are present within the area underlain **by** the Lebec Quartz Monzonite. Although the marblequartz monzonite contact is not exposed, there is no reason not to believe that the marble outcrops are remnants of the sedimentary pile into which the Lebec Quartz Monzonite was intruded.

#### III) METAMORPHISM

The main focus of this section will be the conditions of metamorphism of the Pelona Schist and the regional metamorphic terrane (granulite terrane) north of the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. These two terranes were metamorphosed under vastly different conditions; the Pelona Schist under conditions intermediate between medium and high pressure metamorphism and the granulite terrane under conditions of granulite facies metamorphism, before the Pelona Schist was juxtaposed beneath the granulite terrane.

From lithologic considerations it is inferred that the Pelona Schist represents a subduction zone complex (Ehlig, **1968;** Haxel and Dillon, **1978).** However, no blueschist facies metamorphism typical of subduction complexes such as the Sanbagawa belt in Japan (Banno 1964) or the Franciscan Formation of California (Ernst, **1965),** has been observed in the Pelona Schist. This raises the question of whether the Pelona Schist originated in some other tectonic environment or why its metamorphic history is atypical for a subduction zone.

Determination of the overall grade of metamorphism is not sufficient to deal with all the problems concerned with the Pelona Schist. The spatial distribution of metamorphic grade is important because an inverted metamorphic zonation has been described **by** Ehlig **(1958)** and Jacobson **(1980)** in the San Gabriel Mountains, Graham and England **(1976)** at Sierra Pelona, Haxel **(1977)** in the Picacho-Peter Kane Mountains, and Dillon **(1975)** in the Chocolate Mountains. In all cases metamorphic grade in the Pelona Schist increases upward, toward the Vincent Thrust System. Upper plate Precambrian gneiss and Mesozoic plutonic rocks have been retrograded to the same metamorphic grade as the underlying Pelona Schist. The inverted metamorphic zonation is similar to that seen beneath some ophiolite sheets (Dewey and Bird **1971,** Jamiesom **1980)** and at the Main Central Thrust in the Himalyas (Le Forte **1975,** Bird **1978).** In the Tehachapi Mountains the highest grade Pelona Schist is found along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. Rocks belonging to the the metamorphic terrane north of the fault zone have been retrograded from granulite facies to epidote amphibolite facies as a result of emplacement of the Pelona Schist beneath the granulite terrane along a northern continuation of the Vincent Thrust System. No metamorphic effects were found in rocks along the south branch of the Garlock Fault.

### Pelona Schist

Two principal methods can be used to determine metamorphic grade. The classical method is to determine the coexisting phase assemblages and to compare them with experimentally and empirically determined pressure-temperature stability regions. This method is particularly effective in metapelites where a series of discontinuous reactions takes place. Except at the very highest and lowest grades, the reactions in metabasites and many metagreywackes are continuous; that is, the phases are the same but their composition changes in a continuous manner as pressure and temperature varies. The change in anorthite content in plagioclase and the change from actinolite to hornblende are obvious examples. In most cases the equilibria are too complicated to assign a specific temperature and pressure to a particular composition. The second method makes use of some of the continuous equilibria that have been calibrated well enough that if certain assumptions are made it is possible to use them as

geothermometers and geobarometers to obtain a specific temperature and pressure. In the metabasites, study of the compositon of amphiboles is most productive, but imprecise. However, some of the garnet-bearing metagreywackes contain the appropriate phase assemblages for geobarometry and geothermometry studies.

### Metamorphism of Metabasites

In Pelona Schist metabasite the most noticable mineralogical changes in response to progressive metamorphism involve amphibole, plagioclase, and epidote. The transition from actinolite to hornblende in the presence of albite (rarely oligioclase) and epidote is generally accepted as the boundary between the greenschist facies and epidote-amphibolite facies (Miyashiro, **1973).** Graham (1974) however found hornblende coexisting with actinolite in the greenschist facies of the metabasites of the Dalradian schists in Scotland. The appearance of intermediate to calcic plagioclase with the disappearance of epidote marks the beginning of the amphibolite facies.

Table III summarizes the phase assemblages found in the metabasites and Table VIII presents representative microprobe analyses of the amphiboles. Analyses were performed on MIT's **MAC 5** automated microprobe. On line matrix corrections were performed after the procedures of Bence and Albee **(1968)** using theorectical correction factors (Albee and Ray **1970).** Accuracy is estimated to be **+ 3** relative weight percent for major elements and **+ 5** relative weight percent for the minor elements. Before discussing the significance of the analyses, the problems involved in determining the mole proportions of the amphibole components must be addresed. With the microprobe it is impossible to distinguish between ferric and ferrous iron.



**PELONA SCHIST**

AMPHIBOLE **ANALYSES**TABLE **Vii**

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AMPHIBOLE **ANALYSES TABLE** Vill cont. **PELONA SCHIST**

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PELONA SCHIST

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TABLE VIII cont. AMPHIBOLE ANALYSES

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PELONA SCHIST

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TABLE VIII cont.

AMPHIBOLE ANALYSES

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PELONA SCHIST

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TABLE VIII cont.

AMPHIBOLE ANALYSES

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PELONA SCHIST

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TABLE VIII cont.

AMPHIBOLE ANALYSES

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PELONA SCHIST

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TABLE VIII cont. AMPHIBOLE ANALYSES

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TABLE Vi1 cant. AMPHIBOLE **ANALYSES PELONA SCHIST**

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Therefore certain assumptions must be made regarding the partitioning of iron between the +2 and **+3** states.

The method used in this study is a modification **by** Spear (pers. comm.) of the method used **by** Stout **(1972).** The recalculated amphibole analyses (Table VIII) are the average of the maximum and minimum  $Fe^{3+}$  that is consistent with assumed amphibole stoichiometry and charge balance. For a recalculation to be valid the following assumptions must hold:

- **1)** 2 OH molecules per formula unit
- 2) Vacancies in the A-site only
- **3)** Anhydrous charge balance **=** 46 **(23** oxygen)

The true distribution of iron between the ferric and ferrous states must lie between the two end points, all ferric iron or all ferrous iron. Recalculations using the endpoints are the simplest and yield respectively the minimum and maximum number of cations per formula unit. The range may be narrowed, since these recalculations may violate stoichiometry, leaving sites vacant or over populated.

Three additional recalculations, placing restrictions on stoichiometry are presented **by** Stout. EFM **= 13** assumes no Fe, Mn, or **Mg** in the M4 site, only Ca and Na, and normalizes the sum of the tetrahedral, M1, M2, and M3 sites to **13.** The result is maximum ferric iron consistent with stoichiometry. However the M4 site is not always full. Minimum ferric iron content consistent with stoichiometry is the consequence of placing all Na in the A-site and normalizing the cations in the tetrahedral and M-sites to **15.** Often times however the amount of Fe3+ is negative. The final recalculation provides maximum oxidation. **All** cations excluding K are normalized to **15.** Vacancies in the M-1, M-2, and M-4 sites may result. The actual values of  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  in a sample must lie between the

recalculations yielding maximum and minimum ferric iron consistent with the three assumptions. The average of the maximum and minimum values is presented in Table VIII. The amount of uncertainty due to using the average can be seen in figure **5** where limiting values have been plotted for points at either end of the distribution.

Figure **5** shows the variation in the alumina content of metabasites in the Pelona Schist. The range in compositions from actinolite to pargasitic-tschermakite in the presence of epidote and plagioclase (up to 20 mole **%** anorthite, Table III) is indicative of metamorphic conditions from greenschist to epidote-amphiboilite facies (Miyashiro, **1973).** The peristerite solvus may account for the wide range in plagioclase compositions in the higher grade rocks. Some of the amphiboles are zoned having actinolite cores and hornblende rims (Fig. **9).** Transition from actinolite to hornblende in zoned amphiboles is optically sharp in some samples and gradational in others. Microprobe analysis always showed an abrupt transition. There is no consensus on the significance of coexisting hornblende and actinolite. Miyashiro **(1958)** and Cooper and Lovering **(1970)** interpret it as an equilibrium assemblage with a miscibility gap, whereas Graham (1974) and Grapes and Graham **(1978)** believe it represents disequilibrium and that in most cases a miscibility gap does not exist between actinolite and hornblende.

The highest grade rocks, those containing pargasitic-tschermakite, occur in two localities only; **1)** the west end of the ridge containing Liebre Twins where it crosses the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and 2) where the Powerline Road crosses Cottonwood Creek, also adjoining the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. The pargasitic-tschermakite bearing rocks are a very distinctive unit compared to other Pelona Schist 76



Figure **9.** Core-rim compositions, metabasite amphiboles. . rim, **-** core

metabasites. They are hard, massive and resist weathering and may contain garnet. Amphibole grains are larger and better formed than those found elsewhere. Aside from the occurrance of the two pargasitic-tschermakite localities adjacent to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone there is no evidence for metamorphic zonation in the metabasites.

# Pressure of Metamorphism

Conclusive data to support high-pressure metamorphism in the Pelona Schist metabasites such as aragonite, lawsonite, jadeite, and glaucophane (Ernst **1971,** Miyashiro **1973)** is absent. Indirect methods of determining pressure in metabasites have been proposed. They involve comparison of correlations of amphibole chemistry with terranes of known metamorphic conditions. In using this method it must be kept in mind that bulk rock composition controls amphibole chemistry (Leake, **1965;** Graham, 1974) to a great extent. Therefore, it must be assumed that the bulk chemistry of the rocks compared is the same. The crossed tie lines between the high an low grade assemablages on the epidote projection of Harte and Graham (1974) (figure **10)** indicates that this condition holds. Brown **(1977)** contoured a plot of Na(M4) vs. Al(IV) for pressure. Uthers (Leake, **1965;** Graham, 1974; Jacobson, **1980;** Laird and Albee, **1981)** have used the ratio of tetrahedral to octahedral alumina as an indicator of pressure.

Barroisitc amphibole is present **(9-75,** Table VIII) present at one locility in the Pelona Schist. Barroisites are blue amphiboles that lie compositionally between actinolite, pargasite, and glaucophane and are common in high pressure metamorphic terranes (Miyashiro **1973).** The primary exchange reactions taking place are:



Figure **10.** Epidote projection (harte and Graham **1977)** Pelona Schist greenschist. Crossed tie lines between high grade (GAR-HBL) and low grade **(CHL-ACT)** samples indicates probable overlap of bulk compositions.

 $Na(M4)$ , $Al(VI) = Ca$ , $Mg$  glaucophane exchange

Al(IV),Al(VI) **=** Mg,Si tschermak exchange

(Na(A),K),Al(IV) **=** ,Si edenite exchange

The phase relationships between the Na-amphiboles (glaucophane) and Ca-amphibole (barroisite, actinolite, and hornblende) from blueschist facies rocks of the Ouegoa District in New Caledonia was investigated **by** Black **(1973).** She concluded that an asymmetric solvus exists between Na- and Ca-amphiboles. The solvus is steep slope on the glaucophane side and a gentle slope on the actinolite-barroisite-hornblende side. There was a complete range in compositions on the Ca-amphibole side of the solvus. Actinolite was in equilibrium with glaucophane in the glaucophane schist zone of the blueschist facies, whereas barroisite was in equilibrium with with glaucophane in the epidote zone of the blueschist facies. The change with increasing temperature from actinolite to barroisite as Ca-amphibole coexisting with glaucophane was also observed in the Bessi-Ino area of Japan (Banno 1964), where in the epidote-amphibolite zone, barroisite coexists with blue-green hornblende instead of glaucophane. Thus it appears that barroisite is stable under conditions intermediate between medium and high pressure metamorphism, that is at temperatures higher than those typically associated with high pressure metamorphism.

**A** different approach is to compare the progressive sequences of phases in the Pelona Schist metabasites with sequences from the Franciscan, Sanbagawa, and Dalradian metamorphic terranes. Figure **11** shows the comparison and figure 12 the metamorphic pressure-temperature trajectories for the different terranes. The metamorphic pressure in the Pelona Schist is greater than that recorded **by** the Dalradian because barroisite is

80

Figure~ **11.** Comparison of metabasite mineral assemblages from different metamorphic terranes.

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$ 





Figure 12. Pressure - Temperature trajectories of high pressure metamorphic terranes. Franciscan and Sanbagawa from Turner 1980. Dalradian modified from Harte 1974.

preserved in the Pelona Schist and not in the Dalradian. Except for the barroisite, the two assemblages are very similar. Pressures in the Franciscan are undoubtedly higher than the Pelona as barroisite, lawsonite, glaucophane-crossite, and omphacite are present. The occurrence of these high pressure phases is rare in the Sanbagawa terrane. Crossite, is present but not conspicuous. Omphacite is found only in the upper epidote-amphibolite facies. Epidote is present in the Sanbagawa terrane whereas it is generally absent in the Franciscan. The Sanbagawa contains both actinolite and barroisite. Barroisite is common in the Sanbagawa, but rare in the Pelona Schist. This evidence suggests higher pressures of metamorphism in the Sanbagawa than in the Pelona Schist. Thus metamorphic conditions in the Pelona Schist are between that of the Sanbagawa and Dalradian. Prograde pressure-temperature paths for these terranes (fig. 12) should bracket that of the Pelona Schist. The probable pressure-temperature range for Pelona Schist metamorphism is shown **by** the stippled pattern in figure 12.

Brown **(1977)** quantified the crossite content in calcic amphibole as a pressure indicator. Crossite is an amphibole with a composition intermediate between glaucophane, magnesioriebeckite and their ferrous iron equivalents. An amphibole with limited crossite substitution is a barroisite. Calibration is based on data from different terranes.

Crossite and calcic amphibole are related **by** the reaction:

crossite+epidote+water=Ca-amphibole+albite+chlorite+iron oxide

In the greenschist facies this is a continuous reaction with only one amphibole present. The Na(M4) content of the amphibole is buffered **by** the



Figure **13.** amphiboles. Na(M4) vs. Al(IV) site occupancy for greenschsit Pressure contours from Brown **1977.**

reaction and should be fixed at a given temperature and pressure. Thus it should be possible to correlate Na(M4) of the amphibole phase with temperature and pressure providing the reaction assemblage is present. Figure **13** shows such a corelation for the Pelona Schist. Na(M4) is plotted against Al(IV) and contoured for pressure according to Brown **(1977).** Al(IV) can be considered as a crude approximation of temperature. The highest pressure, **5-6 kb,** comes from the barroisitic amphibole and is only slightly lower than that estimated in figure **13.**

**A** third indicator of relative pressure is the correlation of various parameters of amphibole chemistry and comparison with other terranes whose metamorphic conditions are known. The most widely used comparison is Al(IV) vs. Al(VI) (Leake **1965,** Graham 1974, Jacobson **1980,** Laird and Albee 1981). High pressure is thought to favor the denser octahedral packing of aluminum. Figure 14 is a plot of Al(IV) vs. Al(VI) **+** Fe3+ **+** Ti for Pelona Schist metabasites. Also outlined are regions in which samples from several metamorphic terranes lie (Laird and Albee **1981).** Rocks from the Abukuma region belong to the low pressure andalusite-sillimanite facies series of Miyashiro **(1968).** The Haast River terrane is representative of the medium pressure, kyanite-sillimanite facies series (Cooper and Lovering **1970)** and the Sanbagawa and Franciscan are of the high pressure facies. The Dalradian metabasites are thought to lie between the Haast River and Sanabagawa and Franciscan (Graham 1974).

Most of the analyses from the Pelona Schist lie within the Haast River and Dalradian fields. As expected the barroisitic amphibole lies within the Sanbagawa and Franciscan field. This is consistent with the other pressure indicators which indicate that most of the Pelona Schist belongs to the medium pressure facies series.



Figure 14. Comparison of amphibole compositions of Pelona Schist greenschists with other metamorphic terranes. Data from other terranes from Laird and Albee **1981.**

# Metamorphism of the Greyschist

The Pelona greyschist generally lacks phase assemblages indicative of metamorphic grade. Throughout most of the greyschist the phases present are alb+qtz+mus+chl+epi, typical of the lower greenschist facies. However, at scattered localities adjacent to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone from Pastoria to Cottonwood Creeks, garnet- and biotitebearing assemblages are present. At one locality kyanite is also present. The anorthite content of the plagioclase in the high grade schists ranges from **15** to 34 mole percent. Thus the metamorphic grade in the greyschist adjacent to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is higher than elsewhere, probably upper epidote-amphibolite facies. This is in agreement with data from the metabasites. The presence of kyanite indicates that metamorphism of the metagreywackes is not of the low pressure type. Beyond these limitations, the phase assemblages place few constraints on the conditions of metamorphism. However appropriate phases are present in the garnet-bearing assemblages for geothermometry and geobarometry.

## Geobarometry **-** Geothermometry

The theory behind geothermometry and geobaronetry comes from thermodynamics of solutions. Assume we have the components **A** and **C** of phase a and components B and **D** of phase **a** and they are related **by** the following reaction:

$$
A^{\alpha} + B^{\beta} = C_{\alpha} + D^{\beta} \tag{1}
$$

where  $A^{\alpha}$  is component A in phase  $\alpha$ . The chemical potential  $\mu_A$  of component **A** in phase a is equal to:

$$
\mu_{A}^{\alpha} = \mu_{A}^{\circ}^{\alpha} + RT1n a_{A}^{\alpha}
$$
 (2)

where  $\mu^{\circ}$  is the chemical potential when phase  $\alpha$  is pure and a is the

activity of component **A** in phase a. For the reaction in equation **1,** the change in the Gibbs free energy **AG** is:

$$
\Delta G = \mu_C^{\alpha} + \mu_D^{\beta} - \mu_A^{\alpha} - \mu_B^{\beta}
$$
 (3)

At equilibrium **AG** is zero. Imposing the condition of equilibrium and substituting eq. 2 into eq. **3** yields:

$$
0 = \mu_C^{\circ \alpha} + \mu_D^{\circ \beta} - \mu_A^{\circ \alpha} - \mu_B^{\circ \beta} + RT1n \frac{a_C^{\alpha} a_D^{\beta}}{a_A^{\alpha} a_B^{\beta}}
$$
 (4)

or:

$$
0 = \Delta \mu^{\circ} + RT1nK \tag{5}
$$

where K is the equilibrium constant.  $\Delta \mu^{\circ}$  is equal to  $\Delta H$  -T $\Delta S$  +  $(P-1)\Delta V$ where **AH** is the change in enthalpy, **AS** is the change in entropy, and AV the change in molar volume for the reaction at the temperature and pressure of interest. The activity of a phase can be thought of as being composed of an ideal component equal to the mole fraction  $X^{\alpha}_{\bullet}$ , and a nonideal component **A**

 $\gamma_A^{\alpha}$ , such that  $a_A^{\alpha} = \chi_{\alpha}^{\alpha} \gamma_{A}^{\alpha}$ . The equilibrium constant can be viewed in the

same manner, K = K<sub>D</sub>K<sub>Y</sub>.

**If ACp,** the heat capacity at constant pressure and the pressure-temperature dependance of AV are assumed to be negligible then **AH,** AS, and AV can be replaced by  $\Delta H^{\circ}$ ,  $\Delta S^{\circ}$ , and  $\Delta V^{\circ}$  where the superscript  $^{\circ}$ refers to the values at **1** bar pressure and **298\* C.** Equation **5** can be rewritten as:

$$
0 = \Delta H^{\circ} - T\Delta S^{\circ} + (P-1)\Delta V^{\circ} + RTlnK
$$
 (6)

Equation **6** is valid as long as equilibrium exists and the assumtions, **ACp=O** and  $\Delta V^{\circ}$ =constant are obeyed. Thus if we know  $\Delta H^{\circ}$ ,  $\Delta S^{\circ}$ ,  $\Delta V^{\circ}$ , and K for two

equilibrium reactions in a rock, we can take equation **6** for each reaction and solve the equations simultaneously for T and P. The greater the angle of intersection in P-T space of the equilibrium lines, the more accurate the result. Thus it is desireable to have a reaction with a large **AH\*** and a small  $\Delta V^{\circ}$ , a geothermometer, and one with a small  $\Delta H^{\circ}$  and a large  $\Delta V^{\circ}$ , a geobarometer.

The phases present in some of the high-grade metagreywackes are appropriate for the application of several geothermometer-geobarometers; garnet-biotite, plagioclase-biotite-garnet-muscovite and plagioclase-garnet-aluminosilicate-quartz. Garnet-biotite is an excellent geothermometer because of its small AV\*. As a result equation **6** for garnet-biotite was solved simultaneously with either of the similar equations for the later two assemblages, primarily geobarometers because of large  $\Delta V^{\circ}$ , to yield an estimate of temperature and pressure.

The garnet-biotite geothermometer is based on the exchange equilibria:

 $Femg_{-1}(gar)=Femg_{-1}(bio)$ 

The geothermometer was empirically calibrated **by** Thompson **(1976)** using temperatures based on phase equilibria studies. Goldman and Albee **(1977)** correlated K(Mg-Fe,gar-bio) against oxygen isotope fractionation in coexisting quartz and iron-oxides. An experimental calibration was performed using synthetic biotites and almandine rich garnets in the Fe-Mg binary system **by** Ferry and Spear **(1978).** The Ferry and Spear calibration is in reasonable agreement with Thompson's, particularly at lower temperatures, 400 **- 6000 C,** and is about **50\*** higher than Goldman and

Albee. The Ferry and Spear calibration:

$$
0 = 12,454 - 4.662T(^{\circ}K) + .057P(bars) + 3RT1nK_D
$$
 (7)

is used in the calibrations reported here. For the garnet-biotite geothermometer an ideal ionic solution model was used. Mole fraction and equilibrium constant formulations are tabulated in Table **9.**

The plagioclase-aluminiosilicate-quartz-garnet geobarometer is based on the equilibria:

$$
Ca3A12Si3012(gar) + 2A12Si05 + Si02 =
$$
  
3CaAl<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>0<sub>8</sub>(plaq) (8)

The reaction was first calibrated **by** Ghent **(1976)** using available thermochemical data. In the absence of experimentally derived activity coefficients Ghent and others **(1979)** proposed use of an empirically derived activity coefficient. They assumed that the equilibrium constant, K, for reaction **8,** was parallel to Holdaway's **(1971)** kyanite-sillimanite boundary. K<sub>D</sub> was calculated for samples which straddled the kyanite-sillimanite isograd. These points lay off of the kyanite-sillimanite boundary. Therefore the factor  $K_{\gamma}$  was calculated to bring the calculated  $K_{D}$  and the kyanite-sillimanite P-T curve into coincidence. K<sub>y</sub> so derived equals 2.5.

**0 =** 14972 **-** 36.5943T(\*K) **+** 1.5778[P(bars) **-1] +** RTlnKD **+** RTln2.5 **(9)**

The net transfer equation for the plagioclase-biotitegarnet-muscovite geobarometer is:

$$
Mg3Al2Si3O12(gar) + Ca3Al2Si3O12(gar) + KAl3Si3O10(OH)2(mus)
$$
  
= 3CaAl2Si2O8(plag) + KMg3AlSi3O10(OH)2(bio)

Formulations

$$
x_{an}^{p1ag} = \frac{x_{Ca}}{x_{Ca} + x_{Na} + x_{K}}
$$
\n
$$
x_{K}^{musc} = \frac{x_{K}}{x_{Ca} + x_{Na} + x_{K}}
$$
\n
$$
x_{A1}^{musc} = \frac{x_{A1}^{musc} - (8 - x_{S1}^{musc})}{[x_{A1}^{musc} - (8 - x_{S1}^{musc})] + x_{I1}^{musc} + x_{Mg}^{musc} + x_{Fe}^{musc}}
$$
\n
$$
x_{A1}^{gar} = \frac{x_{Mg}}{(x_{Mg} + x_{Ca} + x_{Mn} + x_{Fe})}
$$
\n
$$
x_{Fe}^{gar} = \frac{x_{Fe}}{(x_{Mg} + x_{Ca} + x_{Mn} + x_{Fe})}
$$
\n
$$
\left(\frac{Mg}{Fe}\right)_{gar} = \frac{x_{Mg}}{x_{Fe}}
$$
\n
$$
\left(\frac{Mg}{Fe}\right)_{bi} = \frac{x_{Mg}}{x_{Fe}}
$$
\n
$$
x_{Ai}^{bi} = \frac{x_{Ai}^{bi} - (8 - x_{Si}^{bi} - x_{Fe})}{[x_{Ai}^{bi} - (8 - x_{Si}^{bi} - x_{He}) + x_{Hg}^{bi} + x_{Fe}^{bi}}
$$

$$
xP_0^{\text{bio}} = \frac{xP_0^{\text{bio}}}{[xA_1^{\text{bio}} - (8-xS_1^{\text{bio}})] + xP_1^{\text{bio}} + xMg} + xP_0^{\text{bio}}
$$

$$
x_{Mg}^{bio} = \frac{x_{Mg}^{bio}}{[x_{A1}^{bio} - (8-x_{S1}^{bio})] + x_{H1}^{bio} + x_{Mg}^{bio} + x_{Fe}^{bio}}
$$

$$
x_{\text{musc}}^{\text{musc}} = x_K^{\text{musc}} (x_{\text{AIV}}^{\text{musc}})^2
$$

 $\mathcal{A}^{\pm}$ 

$$
lnK_{D1} = ln \left[ \frac{(x_{an}^{plag})^2 (x_{mg}^{bio})^3}{(x_{musc}^{musc}) (x_{mg}^{gar})^3 (x_{ca}^{gar})^3} \right]
$$
  

$$
logKD_2 = log \left[ \frac{(x_{ca}^{gar})^3}{(x_{an}^{plag})^3} \right]
$$

$$
lnK_{D3} = ln \left[ \frac{(Mg/Fe)_{gar}}{(Mg/Fe)_{bio}} \right]
$$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{max}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  , where  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

Because a calibration based on thermochemical data yielded geologically unacceptable pressures, Ghent and Stout **(1981)** proposed an empirical method of calibration. Given values for  $T$ ,  $P$ , and  $K_D$  a linear least squares regression of -RTlnK<sub>D</sub>-PAV (y-value) versus T(°K) (x-value) produces values **of AH\*** (y-intercept) and **AS\*** (slope). The calibration below, used in this study was performed **by** Hodges (pers. comm.) using data from the Waterville-Vassalboro area, Maine (Ferry **1980).**

 $0 = 3469 - 32.696T(^{\circ}K) + 1.738[P(bars)-1] + RTlnK_D$  (10)

Four samples from the Pelona Schist were analyzed for geothermometry-geobarometry. **All** were located immediately adjacent to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. Three are metagreywackes and one is a quartz-rich metabasite. **All** four samples have the appropriate phases for the plagioclase-biotite-garnet-muscovite geobarometer. One sample **(78-69)** also contains kyanite permitting use of the plagioclasealuminosilicate-quartz-garnet geobarometer. Samples were chosen on the basis that requisite assemblages were present and that the effects of retrogression were minimal.

Garnets in the rocks are typically equant, subhedral to euhedral fractured porphyroblasts. Chlorite is absent from samples **78-69** and **9-92b,** and minimal in **80-139.** Sample 9-324 shows the greatest degree of alteration. Garnets are rounded to irregular in shape and **highly** fractured. Chlorite fills most of the fractures in the garnets, and some of the biotite shows signs of alteration to chlorite.

The analyses reported in Tables X-XIII are the average of 2 to 4 replicate analyses on each mineral grain. **All** points in a particular mineral were in the immediate vicinity of each other. Analyses were

TABLE X Plagioclase Analyses **-** Pelona Schist



# cations per **8** oxygen



 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  .

 $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}}$ 



 $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ 

 $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\text{max}}$ 

ł

 $\overline{t}$ 



l,

TABLE **8** Biotite Analyses **-** Pelona Schist

 $\bar{z}$ 



 $\bar{z}$ 

 $\hat{S}_{\rm{max}}$ 

 $\sim 10^7$ 

97





# cations per 12 oxygen



 $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}})$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}})$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{L}})$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  . The  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\sim$   $\sim$ 

performed as close to the rims of the grains as feasible (usually **3 - 5** microns) in order to minimize the effects of zoning. In the case of garnet and biotite, the location of the analysis point was further restricted to the point of mutual contact. Complete sets of analyses were made at several sites, **3** if possible, in each sample so that a sample average could be taken. The data in Tables X-XIII were used in equations **7, 9,** and **10** to calculated the temperatures and pressures of metamorphism tabulated in Table XIV.

The average sample pressures range from **7.3** to **8.7 kb** (24 **- 32** km) and average temperatures btween **526** and **6310 C.** The variation in values may represent experimental scatter around a single value or differences in metamorphic conditions. Ferry and Spear **(1978)** estimate that the best resolution for the garnet-biotite calibration is  $\pm$  50° C. Propagation of a **50\* C** error in temperature through equations **9** and **10** yields errors of **+ 1.0 kb** and **+ 0.8 kb** respectively in the calculated pressures. Ferry and Spear believe that the assumption of ideal solid solution is valid up to *-* 0.2 (Ca+Mn)/(Ca+Mn+Mg+Fe) in garnet and up to **- 0.15** (AlV+Ti)/(AlVI+Ti+Fe+Mg) in biotite. **All** biotites in the samples cluster at the high end of the range, **0.13 - 0.18.** Garnets in three of the four samples excede the maximum value ranging from 0.24 to **0.28.** Despite the high Ca+Mn content of these three samples they form an internally consistent group all within experimental error of each other. The Ca+Mn mole fraction in garnet from sample **78-69** is **0.10 -** 0.12, well within the limits of Ferry and Spear. This sample has a distinctively higher temperature than the other three. The high Ca+Mn content of the garnets will tend to lower the calculated temperature. The high temperature in **78-69** may be the result of the compositional difference and non-ideal solid

# Pelona Schist



 $\sim 100$ 

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}}$ 

solution. However, interpretation as a true higher temperature is supported **by** the higher anorthite contents in **78-69** compared to the other samples.

The temperatures and pressures calculated for the high grade greyschist are consistent with the probable metamorphic conditions deduced from the phase assemblages in the metabasites (fig. **15).** Discussion of a possible pressure-temperature path and model for inverted metamorphic zonation will be presented after discussion of the metamorphism of the granulite metamorphic terrane.

### Granulite Terrane

The same approaches used in determining the conditions of metamorphism of the Pelona Schist, mineral paragenesis and geothermometry-geobarometry can be applied to the granulite terrane.

The critical mineral assemblages contain orthopyroxene which is considered diagnostic of granulite facies metamorphism (Winkler **1979,** Turner **1981).** Assemblages lacking orthopyroxene may be present, but are not considered diagnostic of the granulite facies. Ortho- and clinopyroxene bearing assemblages are present in the Bison Granulite (Table VI) and in the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss (Table VII). Orthopyroxene bearing assemblages without clinopyroxene are present in the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite (Table V). Microprobe analyses (Table XV) reveal that the orthopyroxene is hypersthene and that the clinopyroxene is low-alumina augite.

Granulite facies metamorphism inicates relatively high temperatures and that Pfluid << Ptotal. This is a consequence of the dehydration



Figure **15.** Comparison of Pelona Schist geobarometrygeothermometry with mineral assemblage data. Points are individual values. Open circles are sample averages.

reactions that produce the orthopyroxene bearing assemblages:

$$
hb1 + qtz = opx + cpx + plag + H_20 \qquad (11)
$$

 $hb1 + bio + qtz = opx + K$  feld +  $plaq + H_2 0$  (12)

 $hbl + alm + qtz = opx + plag + H<sub>2</sub>0$  (13)

bio **+** qtz **=** opx **+** alm **+** K feld **+** H20 (14)

The absence of K feldspar in most of the granulite facies rocks suggests that the predominant reaction was **11,** although it is possible that K feldspar and other minerals were removed **by** partial melting. **All** the reactions listed above are continuous and occur over a range in temperature and pressure. Therefore it is difficult to assign specific values to the temperature and pressure of metamorphism. The fact that Pfluid  $\leq$  Ptotal adds another variable to the equilibrium equation. At a given  $P_{total}$ increasing temperature or reducing  $P_{fluid}$  can result in the same mineralogical changes.

Muscovite and K feldspar are totally absent from the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite and the Bison Granulite. K feldspar, usually microcline, is most common in the augen gneiss component of the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss and rare in the other components. Muscovite is present only as a retrograde mineral in the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss. Two explanations are possible for the distribution of these minerals. The simplest is that the bulk composition of the rock is such that muscovite and K feldspar do not form. The other explanation is that partial melting took place and that these mineral were removed in the melt. If muscovite was originally present it would have undergone a breakdown reaction before the onset cf partial melting. The most likely reaction products are sillimanite and K feldspar. Sillimanite was not observed and K feldspar is rare. If partial melting had taken place, it would have to have been **highly** efficient and

have removed all the sillimanite and all the K feldspar except that in the augen gneiss. Quartz pegmatite veins indicative of partial melting are rare. Therefore it appears that the absence of prograde muscovite or aluminosilicate and the scarcity of K feldspar results from an inappropriate bulk composition of the rock. Such a composition is to be expected if the granulite terrane is derived from basaltic volcanics and andesitic, volcanogenic sediments.

Plagioclase compositions show a systematic variation with structural level. The anorthite content of plagioclase from the lowest structural level, the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite, is highest, whereas the anorthite content from the highest structural level, the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss, is lowest. This is the trend in plagioclase composition expected as a result of an increase in temperature with depth. Although there are differences in bulk composition, most of the change in anorthite content is probably due to temperature.

### Geothermometry - Geobarometry

Two geothermometers can be applied to the rocks of the granulite terrane: **1)** the two pyroxene geothermometer (Wood and Banno **1973,** Wells **1977),** and 2) the garnet-biotite geothermometer (Ferry and Spear **1978).** The two pyroxene geothermometer was applied to samples from the Bison Granulite and the garnet-biotite geothermometer to samples from the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss.

The Wood and Banno **(1973)** formulation of the solution to equation **6** for the two pyroxene geothermometer remains the simplest to use. Temperatures were calculated using the Wood and Banno solution and the Wells **(1977)** revision of the Wood and Banno solution. The two pyroxene

geothermometer is based on the equilibrium:

$$
(Mg_2Si_2O_6)_{\text{opx}} = (Mg_2Si_2O_6)_{\text{cpx}}
$$

The first step in the formulation of the solution is to assume an ideal 2-site solution model of the CaMgSi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> and Mg<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> components. The constants in equation **6** are derived from a plot of inK vs 1/T using experimental data for the enstatite diopside system. Data (Davis and Boyd **1966)** for the Ca **- Mg** join suggests that the pressure dependence of equilibrium is small. Accordingly, the pressure coefficient was set to **0.** Geologic samples contain cations in addition to Ca, **Mg,** and Si which comprised the reactants used in the laboratory experiments. Therefore, a series of assumptions had to be made about the distribution of the additional cations. It-was assumed that the larger cations occupy the M2 site and that the smaller ones occupy the M1 site. The resulting site assignments were:

M2	M1
$Ca^{2+}$	$A1^{3+}$
$Na^+$	$Cr^{3+}$
$Mn^{2+}$	$Ti^{4+}$
$Fe^{3+}$	

Vacancies remaining after filling the M1 and M2 sites with these cations were filled with **Mg2+** and Fe2+ assuming random mixing on both sites. The ratio  $Mg^{2+}/(Mg^{2+}+Fe^{2+})$  for each site is set equal to the ratio for the

 $\pmb{\prime}$ 

mineral. Therefore the activity of Mg<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>0<sub>6</sub> in each phase is:

$$
{}^{a}Mg_{2}Si_{2}O_{6} = \left(\frac{Mg^{2+}}{Ca^{2+}+Mg^{2+}+Fe^{2+}+Mn^{2+}+Na^{+}}\right)_{M2}
$$

$$
\left(\frac{Mg^{2+}}{Fe^{2+}+Fe^{2+}+A1^{3+}+Ti^{4+}+Cr^{3+}+Mg^{2+}}\right)_{M1}
$$

Additional terms are added to the solution to eqaution **6** and fitted empirically to account for the presence of  $Fe^{2+}$ . The final equations are:

$$
T(^{\circ}K) = \frac{-10202}{1nK - 7.65X_{Fe}^{opX} + 3.88\left(X_{Fe}^{opX}\right)^{2} - 4.6}
$$

$$
T(^{\circ}K) = \frac{7341}{3.555 + 2.44X_{Fe}^{opX} - 1nK}
$$

Ž,

from Wood and Banno **(1973)** and Wells **(1977)** respectively. The authors believed the calculated temperatures were accurate to **\_+ 70\* C.**

The resulting calculations for the Bison Granulite are presented in Table XV. To simplify calculations, all Fe was assumed to be  $Fe^{2+}$ . This results in underestimating the temperature **by 10** to **30\* C** (Wood and Banno 1973). The average temperatures are 850° C for the Wood and Banno calibration and **925\* C** for the Wells calibration. Unfortunately the Bison Granulite contains no mineral assemblages that could serve as an independent check. These temperatures are significantly higher than those calculated for the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss using garnet-biotite geothermometry and are higher than the temperature indicated **by** pyroxene solvus data (Lindsley and others 1974).



#### Pyroxene Analyses





#### cations per **6** oxygen

Si **1.922 1.916 1.931 1.932 1.920 1.935** 1.924 1.946 **1.922** 1.941 **1.928** 1.945 **1.915 1.968** 1.914 AlIV **0.078** 0.084 **0.069 0.068 0.080 0.065 0.076** 0.054 **0.078 0.059 0.072 0.055 0.085 0.032 0.086** AlVI**0.003**0.0420.012 0.049**0.007**Ti**Mg** FeMnCaNa**wo**en **fsT(\*C)** W&B\* **W**0.002**0.007 1.135 0.7650.8510.382** 0.022**0.011** 0.0220.794 **0.000** 0.044 **0.011**0.409 **0.565** 0.394 **0.569 0.386** 0.423 **0.196 862 9050.003 0.005 1.133** 0.834**0.023**0.024**0.000 0.011**0.429 0.419 **0.193** 0.744 0.141 **0.733** 1.094 **0.3530.011 0.826** 0.044 934 **965 0.0030.853**0.024 0.028 **0.001 0.013**0.444 **0.569 0.386** 0.416 **0.170** 0.439 0.184 0.436 **0.195** 0.438 **0.172 0.508 0.562 0.517 0.056**0.004 **0.005 0.003 0.005 0.003**0.324 0.012 0.847 **0.053 837 8670.879** 0.028 **0.027 0.000 0.013**0.431**0.010**0.416**0.011**0.432 **0.005** 0.546 **0.060**0.002**0.070 0.7291.108 0.351 0.876 0.0110.028 0.820**0.021 0.044**0.000 0.383 0.552 869 9230.006 0.7331.086 0.368 0.871** 0.014 **0.0270.7840.023** 0.042 **0.003 0.388 897** 964**0.017** 0.002 0.548 **0.395** 0.485 **0.0660.009**0.004**0.032**0.002**0.003** 0.748 **0.3261.019 0.010**0.021**0.818**0.012 0.014 **0.972 0.0000.015**0.014 0.842 **0.952 1.1071.0330.0230.0230.019**0.012**0.000 0.0090.006** 0.427 0.476 **0.000882** 943

 $\sim$ 

**\*W&B**Wood and Banno **1973W**Wells **1977**

Using data from the Adirondacks, Bohlen and Essene **(1979)** compared various two pyroxene geothermometry calibrations against feldspar and oxide geothermometry and phase assemblages. None of the calibrations were found to give very satisfactory results. The temperatures from the Wood and Banno and Wells calibrations were consistently **50** to **1500 C** too high and did not show a consistent pattern of metamorphic zonation. They suggested that the poor comparison was the result of a number of factors including: the lack of experiments at metamorphic temperatures, the lack of sufficiently tight reversals prohibit accurate extrapolation to metamorphic conditions, and uncertainties about the validity of assumptions concerning ideal behavior and site occupancy of the components. As a result, they concluded that pyroxene geothermometry yields results that are **highly** approximate. The temperatures calculated for the Bison Granulite probably suffer from the same problems.

Another approach using coexisting pyroxenes is to compare data for the Bison Granulite with experimental data on synthetic Ca-Mg-Fe pyroxenes at **810\* C** and **15 kb** (Lindsley and others 1974). Two assumptions have to be made in order to use the data; **1)** the effect of pressure is negligible, and 2) the effect of minor components, **Al,** Ti, Mn, and Na do not cause appreciable errors. In the first instance, Boyd and Schairer (1964) and Davis and Boyd **(1966)** showed that the pressure effect on the CaMgSi 206 **-** Mg2Si2O6 join is minimal and data from Lindsley and others (1974) and Simons and others (1974) permits the same conclusion to be drawn for the CaFeSi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> - Fe<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> join. Minor components will have a significant effect, but this can be minimized **by** comparing samples low in these components. For the samples in Table XV, the weight per cent of the minor elements oxides is less than 4%.

**108**


 $\sim 80$ 

 $\mathcal{L}$ 

**ENSTATITE** FERROSILITE

Figure **16.** Pyroxene quadrilateral for the Bison Granulite. Points for the Bison Granulite lie outside the **8100 C** solvus (Lindsley and others 1974) indicating equilibrium at temperatures below **8100 C.**

Coexisting ortho- and clinopyroxenes from the Bison granulite are compared with the pyroxene solvus at 810° C (Lindsley and others 1974) in figure **16.** The solvus for the Bison granulite pyroxenes is broader than that at 810° C. Thus, if the assumptions are valid, the Bison Granulite equilibrated at a temperature below **810\* C** and is consistent with temperatures derived from garnet **-** biotite geothermometry. This implies that the temperatures from pyroxene geothermometry are at least **70** to 1200 **C** too high.

Coexisting garnet and biotite in the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss permit determination of a metamorphic temperature using the garnet **-** biotite geothermometer (equation **7).** Pressure can be estimated through the use of the garnet **-** biotite - plagioclase **-** muscovite geobarometer (Ghent and Stout **1981)** in the two samples which also contain muscovite and plagioclase. The muscovite is retrograde, occurring only in areas where there has been late shearing and destruction of some of the biotite. Therefore the temperatures and pressures derived from these samples must be interpretted with caution. The minerals may or may not be in complete equilibrium which is required for application of the geothermometer and geobaroimeter. The temperature recorded **by** these samples and probably the others as well, will not represent the maximum metamorphic temperature. The temperatures recorded may however be close to the maximum however, since it is believed that the region cooled rapidly (see chapter VI) minimizing the time during which reequilibration at lower temperatures may have occurred.

Analyses (Tables XVI-XIX) were conducted in a similar manner as those for the Pelona Schist. Using pressures calculated from samples CORE and **80-301** (Table XX) as a guide, **8.0 kb** was used as the pressure in equation **7**

TABLE XVI Biotite Analyses Quartzo-feldspathic Gneiss

 $\sim 10^{-1}$ 

 $\sim$ 

#### CORE CORE **80-301 80-311 9-3119-311 9-311** 80-DBa 80-DBa **80-DBb 80-DBb** 80-DCa 80-DCa **80-EGb** /B **/D /A** /B **/A** /B **/C /A** /B **/A** /B **/A** /B

weight per cent oxides



#### cations per 22 oxygen



 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 



 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

Quartzo-feldspathic Gneiss

 $\sim 10^{-1}$ 

Garnet Analyses

TABLE XVII

 $\sim 100$ 

 $\sim 100$ 

 $\Delta$ 

 $\sim 10^7$ 

 $\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{A}}$ 



# cations per **8** oxygen



 $\sim 10^{-10}$ 

 $\sim 1$ 

 $\sim 10^{-1}$ 

 $\mathcal{A}^{\text{out}}$ 



# cations per 22 oxygen



13.934 **13.960** 13.740 13.694

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}}$ 

# Quartzo-feldspathic Gneiss

Pl ag+Al Si+Qtz+Gar-Gar+Bio

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  ,  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 



Gar+Bio



when calculating the temperature of the remaining samples (Table XX). **A** difference in estimated pressure of **1.0 kb** changes the temperature **by** only 4\* **C.** The calculated temperatures cover a moderate range in values. **If** the **1136\* C** temperature for 80-DCa/A is assumed to be incorrect and is eliminated, the sample average is **7390 C** and all the sample averages are within 4 **450 C** of this, except for CORE which is **990 C** lower. As already mentioned this sample has undergone some retrograde metamorphism and this may account for the low temperatures. However, **80-301** has also undergone retrogresssion and gives a high temperature. **A** temperature of **7390 C** is consistent with the pyroxene solvus data and those expected from a granulite facies terrane.

### Inverted Metamorphic Zonation

The structural relationship between the Pelona Schist and the rocks north of the Garlock Fault Zone is best exposed along the Aqueduct Access Road (Plate IIIB). Here, at the western terminus of the north branch of the Garlock Fault, the more highly metamorphosed White Oak Diorite Gneiss has been thrust over the less metamorphosed Pelona Schist. Unfortunately, over much of the remainder of its length, the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone has been modified **by** later events and is now vertical (see chapter IV for details). However, the highest grade Pelona Schist is exposed immediately adjacent to the north branch of the Garlock Fault even where the fault is vertical. The high grade rocks have been interpreted as evidence for an increase in metamorphic grade in the Pelona Schist toward the north branch of the Garlock Fault. **A** decrease in metamorphic grade southward, toward the north branch of the Garlock Fault is seen in the upper plate rocks of the granulite terrane. If it were not for the late

movements along the north branch of the Garlock Fault, a cross section across the fault would be similar to that across the Vincent Thrust System where inverted metamorphic zonation is clearly present in both the upper and lower plates (fig. **17).**

Inverted metamorphic zonation has been observed beneath ophiolites (Dewey and Bird **1971,** Jameison **1980)** and in the Himalayas (LeForte **1975,** Bird **1978)** and its origin has been numerically modeled, be it **by** thermal relaxation of the hot overlying plate or **by** shear heating along a thrust fault (Oxburgh and Turcotte 1974, Bird **1978,** Graham and England **1976,** Scholz **1980,** Nicolas and LePichon **1980).** The most important consequences of the thermal relaxation model (Uxburgh and Turcotte 1974) are: **1)** the duration of the inverted metamorphic zonation, negative **dT/dP,** in the rocks below the thrust is less than **1** million years and 2) the temperature at the thrust at the time of cessation of thrusting is one-half of the sum of the initial temperature at the base of the upper plate and the initial temperature at the top of the lower plate. Shear heating models can produce an inverted metamorphic gradient for appreciable periods of time, but can also raise temperatures significantly in the upper plate as well.

Graham and England have dealt specifically with the origin of the inverted metamorphic zonation in the Pelona Schist at Sierra Pelona. They estimated that the maximum temperature of the upper plate rocks was **6000 C** and concluded that the thermal relaxation model of Oxburgh and Turcotte could not produce the amphibolite facies, **500 - 550\* C,** Pelona Schist immediately below the Vincent Thrust. Therefore they proposed that shear heating must take place at the thrust in addition to thermal relaxation. Two models were considered: **1)** shear strength is independent of temperature and 2) shear strength is temperature dependent. In both



Figure **17.** Cross section through the Pelona Schist at Sierra Pelona. Not to vertical scale. **1)** upper plate gneiss and granitic rocks, 2) zone of mylonitic and cataclastic rock, **3)** lower amphibolite facies, 4) epidoteamphibolite facies **5)** upper greeschist facies, **6)** lower greenschist facies (from Graham and England **1976)**

models, an inverted thermal gradient is maintained in the lower plate as long as thrusting continues, but decays rapidly as soon as thrusting ceases. In the first model thrusting must be short lived, **<3** ma, otherwise the temperature at the base of the upper plate will increase rapidly. This is buffered in the second model **by** a decrease in heat produced as the rocks weaken with the increase in temperature. Jacobson **(1980)** on the basis of the Graham and England analysis, concluded that either thermal relaxation or shear heating could have produced the inverted metamorphic zonation in the Pelona Schist in the San Gabriel Mountains because the maximum metamorphic grade in the Pelona Schist of the San Gabriel Mountains is greenschist facies as opposed to amphibolite facies at Sierra Pelona.

**A** number of problems arise in trying to apply these models to the Tehachapi Mountains. Oxburgh and Turcotte assumed that the thermal gradient in the upper and lower plates was equal. This is almost certainly not the case in the Tehachapi Mountains. Reasonable geothermal gradients might be **30** to 40\* C/km in the granulite terrane and **10** to **150** C/km in the Pelona Schist. It is unclear what the proper value for the shear stress is. The values derived from the stess drop during earthquakes is approximately **130** bars (Scholz **1980).** Bird **(1978)** has estimated the shear stress on the Main Central Thrust in the Himalayas to be 20 **- 30** bars. These strengths require movements along the faults at a rate of tens of centimeters per year to produce the required thermal gradients. Such velocities are much greater than those produce **by** plate tectonics. On the other hand, if the shear strength were **1.3 kb,** the rate of movement becomes acceptable. High shear strengths is supported **by** shear stress values, deduced from microfabric studies on the Coyote Mountain Mylonite, of at

least **1 kb** (Christie and Ord **1980).** For simlicity all the thermal models assume instantaneous juxtaposition of the hot upper and cold lower plates. Juxtaposition takes place over a finite period of time. Burchfiel and Davis **(1981)** concluded that the Pelona Schist was under-thrust at least 200 km. At a rate of **6** cm/yr this would take **3.3** ma. During this time,, heat is certainly going to be conducted downward into the Pelona Schist from the hot upper plate. Also, the initial temperature of the Pelona Schist will not be **00 C.** If the Pelona Schist is derived from the Franciscan Formation an initial temperature of 200 to **300\* C** would be reasonable. In the Oxburgh and Turcotte model, using a pair of **15** km thick plates, the temperature at the top of the lower plate was equal to one-half the initial temperature at the base of the upper plate in **3.3** ma. In the Tehachapi Mountains the temperature of the base of the upper plate is much hotter, at least **7400 C,** than that estimated elsewhere along the Vincent Thrust, **600\* C.** Fhermal relaxation alone will raise the temperature of the Pelona Schist to **370\*.** If heat is absorbed **by** the Pelona Schist as it is subducted or if the initial temperature of the Pelona Schist is 200 to **300\* C,** it may be possible to increase the temperature in the Pelona Schist to 540\* **C,** the average of three of the geothermometry samples (Table XIV) **by** thermal relaxation, without requiring appreciable amounts of shear heating.

New models must now be constructed,to test the dynamic system. Models should also include the effects of rapid uplift of the Tehachapi Mountains. The granulite terrane was probably at a depth of **26** to **30** km when its metamorphic age, **86.1** ma, was locked in. **By** the lower to middle Eocene, **55 - <sup>50</sup>**ma, it was uplifted, stripped bare and was uncoformably overlain **by** marine sediments.

#### I\j **STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY**

Faults divide the western Tehachapi Mountains into three tectonic blocks each with its own structural style (fig **18).** The south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and the Pastoria Thrust separates the deep crustal terranes to the north from the shallow level granitic terrane to the south. The north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is the boundary between the granulite terrane and the Pelona Schist.

# Garlock Fault Zone

The most prominent structural feature in the Tehachapi Mountains is the Garlock Fault Zone which trends **ENE** through the study area. Although a single, well defined fault trace enters and exits the study area, the fault zone bifrucates into north and south branches at the head of Oak Creek Canyon in the east and rejoin at the mouth of Beartrap Canyon to the west. At its widest point the fault zone is 2 km across. The Pelona Schist crops out between the two branches. The north branch of the fault zone separates the Pelona Schist from the granulite terrane to the north, and the south branch separates the Pelona Schist from plutonic rocks to the south (Weise **1950).** Clarke **(1973)** concluded that because the fault trace between the two branches was ill defined, movement along the fault zone was distributed throughout the Pelona Schist, whereas elsewhere it was confined to a narrow zone. The style of deformation along the two branches of the fault zone is different and reflects the differences in the depth at which they were **formed.**



 $\lambda$ 

Figure **18.**

 $\bar{\zeta}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}}$ 

#### North Branch **of** the Garlock Fault Zone

The north branch of the Garlock Fault separates the granulite facies metamorphic terrane from the Pelona Schist to the south. It is best exposed along the Aqueduct Access Road and in the area east of the White Oak Ranch. Elsewhere the exposure is poor and usually the fault can be located only to within **50** to **150** meters. Over most of its length the attitude of the fault is vertical or subvertical.

However, at the Aqueduct Access Road the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is clearly a low-angle thrust fault that has placed the White Oak Diorite Gneiss on top of the Pelona Schist. **A** drill hole from the crest of Geghus Ridge down to the aqueduct tunnel passed through **18** meters of diorite gneiss before encountering Pelona Schist (Calif. Dept. Water Resources **1973).** Although the fault is poorly exposed between Pastoria Creek and the White Oak Ranch the fault trace crosses ridges without deflection suggesting intersection of a vertical fault plane with topograpghy.

East of White Oak, at the head of Tylerhorse Canyon, the north branch of the Garlock Fault zone is well exposed (Plate IIIA). Here, the fault zone may have a width as great as **270** meters. At the southern edge of the fault zone, older alluvium has been faulted against the Pelona Schist. The fault dips 46 to **660** to the north (cross sections **A** and B) with the alluvium on north side down-dropped with respect to the Pelona Schist on the south side. The northern edge of the fault zone is defined **by** a series of small terraces, presumably underlain **by** older alluvium, at the base of the mountain. The dips of these faults is unknown.

Trenching across one of the sag ponds near the White Oak Ranch uncovered evidence of two episodes of movement on the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. The most recent period of movement post-dates **890** years B.P. and has **55** to **65** cm of vertical displacement and the older event predates **3300** years B.P. and has **80** to **100** cm of vertical displacement. In both events the north side moved relatively upward along a steep, south-dipping fault (Fugro **1980).** The mylonites adjacent to the north Branch of the Garlock Fault Zone are not related to these recent movements along the fault zone that have displaced older alluvium, instead they are the result of a much older event that took place at depth in which dutile shearing was the principle mode of deformation. The mylonites have only recently been exposed at the surface **by** later faulting.

The primary sense of recent displacement on the north branch of the Garlock Fault is vertical. **A** few streams appear displaced in a left-lateral sense across the fault zone, but an equal number are displaced in a right-lateral sense or go straight across the fault zone without displacement. Leveling surveys however, indicate **1** to 2 mm/year of left lateral movement along this branch of the fault zone (Rodgers **1979).**

# South Branch of the Garlock Fault Zone

The south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone separates the Pelona Schist from plutonic rocks south of the fault zone. Two faults, the Little Oak Canyon Fault and Pinon Hill Fault, present on the southern slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains and in Antelope Valley, are subparallel to the Garlock Fault Zone and are presumably splays of the south branch of the fault zone (Weise **1950).** The south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is a well developed topographic feature in Bear Trap Canyon but is poorly defined elsewhere.

West of Liebre Twins it cuts across the mountains from an interior valley to the south slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains. From the trace of the fault across the rugged topography, it appears that the south branch is subvertical over most of its length.

The only good exposure of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is at Tylerhorse Canyon. In the west fork of the canyon, the Pelona Schist has been thrust over the Gato-Montes Granodiorite, mylonite, and marble on a fault that dips 50° to the north. The thrust fault geometry is only traceable for **600** meters and is truncated at either end **by** landslides. Upon entering the east fork of Tylerhorse Canyon the attitude of the fault steepens and cuts older alluvium which unconformably overlies both the Pelona Schist and weathered Gato-Montes Granodiorite. The north side has risen approxiamtely 20 meters with respect to the south side along a fault that dips **600** to the north. The only age constraint on faulting is that it is post Gato-Montes Granodiorite, **132** ma. Unfortunately the age of the older alluvium is unknown. The only geologic data within the study area for lateral offset along the Garlock Fault Zone is on the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone in Bear Trap Canyon, where several streams and ridges have been displaced a maximum of 200 meters in a left lateral sense. However recent leveling surveys across the south branch of the Garlock Fault indicate left-lateral movements of **6** to **8** mm/year. This contrasts with **1** to 2 mm/year of movement along the north branch of the fault zone (Rodgers **1979).**

The geologic logs from the Carley V. Porter Tunnel of the California Aqueduct (fig. **19)** provide a unique description of a cross section of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, at the mouth of Bear Trap Canyon (Calif. Dept. Water Resources **1971).** The fault zone contains complexly slivered marble, Pelona Schist, Lebec Quartz Monzonite, Tejon Lookout



Figure **19.** Geologic log of the Carley V. Porter Tunnel of the California Aqueduct at the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone (Calif. Dept. of Water Resources **1971).** The log starts at Beartrap Canyon and runs to the southeast. Note that the Tejon Lookout Granite is thrust over the Lebec Quartz Monzonite.

 $\alpha$ 

and fault gouge, and is approximately 200 meters wide. The northern-most **50** meters of breccia and fault gouge have been omitted from figure **19.** Marble is most abundant near the north end of the fault zone and is interleaved with Lebec Quartz Monzonite and fault gouge. Faults in this part of the fault zone dip to the south and the dips range from **750** to vertical. Also in this region is a narrow sliver of Tejon Lookout Granite between two larger masses of Lebec Quartz Monzonite. From this point, there is no Tejon granite for **150** meters until the main body of granite is reached. Several wide breccia and gouge zones occur near the contact between the granite and quartz monzonite. In this region the dips on the fault surfaces decreases from **70** to **90\*,** to 45 to **700.** The log clearly shows that the Tejon Lookout Granite rests on top of the Lebec Quartz Monzonite along a fault surface that dips **50\*** to the southeast. -Most of the fault zones on the remainder of the geologic log from the granite **-** quartz monzonite contact south to Antelope Valley dip to the southeast. Lineations of brecciated fragments are parallel to the dip of the fault surfaces and indicates that most of the movement along these surfaces is dip slip. Although there is no evidence in the log to indicate if displacement is normal or reverse slip, the argument will be made later that it is probably reverse slip (see chapter VI).

#### Western Garlock Fault Zone

The north and south branches of the Garlock Fault Zone appear to merge near the mouth of Bear Trap Canyon and continue westward as a single strand to the Garlock's truncation at the San Andreas Fault Zone. However, the merger is not seen, since the north branch is cut **by** the Pastoria Thrust- less than 1 km from the probable merger point. The Lebec Quartz Monzonite lies on northwest side of the fault zone and the Tejon Lookout Granite on the

southeast side. The fault and the rocks on either side of the fault zone are poorly exposed. The fault is primarily mapped on the basis of the lithological differences across it and a few poorly preserved offset ridges and streams. The lack of a well developed topographic expression for the fault suggests that the Garlock Fault has been relatively inactive in this region. This is supported **by** data from a series of trenches across the fault zone in the vicinity of Castac Lake, which show no displacement (Fugro **1980).** Material at the bottom of the trench was dated as **8050** years old **by** C-14 methods.

#### Pastoria Thrust

 $\pmb{\mathbf{i}}$ 

The Pastoria Thrust originates at the mouth of Bear Trap Canyon and continues **35** km to the West where it is cut off **by** the San Andreas Fault. The thrust was named **by** Crowell **(1952)** for exposures in the middle branch of Pastoria Creek, in which Lebec Quartz Monzonite rested on top of diorite gneiss along a surface that dipped **30\*** to the south. Unfortunately the type locality of the thrust is in the Pastoria Creek Quadrangle and therefore is not on the map of the Lebec Quadrangle which was the subject of Crowell's report. Despite concerted efforts to find the type locality of the Pastoria Thrust, it could not be located in the course of this investigation. It may however correspond to the klippe of quartzo-feldspathic gneiss that extends from the western end of Geghus Ridge across the middle branch of Pastoria Creek.

The fault surface itself is not exposed. Its presence is inferred from a linear trend, that separates rocks of different composition that originated at different levels in the crust. As mapped in this study the Pastoria Thrust is a subvertical fault that separates White Oak Diorite Gneiss on the

Thrust is a subvertical fault that separates White Oak Diorite Gneiss on the north from Lebec Quartz Monzonite on the south side of the fault. The location of the fault is best constrained at the west end of the spoils heap at the mouth of Bear Trap Canyon. It must lie somewhere in the **5** meter covered interval between weathered quartz monzonite and sheared diorite gneiss. Elsewhere the distance between exposures of rocks on either side of the fault may reach **0.5** km.

Several outcrops of marble cap a ridge **0.5** to **0.8** km north of the Pastoria Thrust. The contact between the marble and the underlying White Oak Diorite Gneiss is not exposed, but may be a recent, probably Quaternary thrust modification of the originally subvertical Pastoria Thrust. This will be discussed further in Chapter VI (Regional Tectonics).

### Low-Angle Faults

**A** klippe containing Bison Granulite and quartzo-feldspathic gneiss is present on either side of the middle branch of Pastoria Creek at the west end of Geghus Ridge. The klippe rests on top of the Pelona Schist and White Oak Diorite Gneiss. In a number of places breccia is present at the base of the klippe and suggest that the klippe moved at relatively shallow levels. The klippe may have extended at one time to the southeast over the White Oak Diorite Gneiss which contains numerous patches of breccia, but has since been eroded away. Tunnel number **3** of the California Aqueduct passed through the klippe, approxiamtely **80** meters south of its north portal. The attitude of the fault surface between the Bison Granulite and the Pelona Schist is **N11E 46N** and is consistent with that measured on a mylonite-breccia contact two canyons to the south. Undoubtedly the klippe originated somewhere in the granulite terrane, but where and when is unknown.

Just south of the intersection of the Aqueduct Access Road and the north branch of Pastoria Creek, a fault dipping 12° to the south places Pelona Schist over mylonite. Both the Pelona Schist and the mylonite are extremely weathered and have a uniform weathered brown appearance. However, a narrow, **7** cm wide weathered out zone aids in determining the location of the contact. Either the probable continuation of this fault fault and/or the north branch of the Garlock Fault was encountered in excavations for the Pastoria Creek Siphon (Calif. Dept. of Water Resources **1973).** Two faults were uncovered, one dipping to the southeast at **450,** within the Pelona Schist that merges with the Pelona Schist - diorite gneiss contact. The other fault is at the Pelona Schist diorite gneiss contact where the first fault is in the Pelona Schist but, its attitude is unknown.

Other subhorizontal faults or shear zones within the Pelona Schist are exposed in road cuts along the Aqueduct Access Road. There is no uniform direction of movement on these faults and shear zones. Displacement, where it can be determined rarely excedes **10** cm.

### Pelona Schist

The structures within the Pelona Schist are described separately from the structures in the other units because they probably originated separately from the other units and because interpretation of the mode of origin of the Pelona Schist is **highly** dependent upon the interpretation of the structures. The entire Pelona Schist is strongly foliated and small, isoclinal folds are common in the quartzite. Large macroscopic folds are rare.

## Foliation

The Pelona Schist is characterized a well developed schistosity caused **by** a preferred parallel orientation of the mica group minerals present. In the greyschist the schistosity is primarily a consequence of the alignment of muscovite and biotite and to a lesser extent chlorite. Chlorite and amphibole are the fundemental components of the foliation in the green schist. The width of foliation layers is on the scale of individual plagioclase porphyroblasts. The lithological layering that is so prominent at other Pelona Schist localities (Ehlig **1958,** Dillon **1975,** Haxel **1977)** is not present in the Tehachapi Mountains. **A** second foliation, intersecting the first at low to moderate angles, is not uncommon in the greyschist. In rare instances a third foliation is also present. The intensity of the second foliation is **highly** variable, and may be difficult to observe at the outcrop. Microscopic examination reveals that the second foliation is an incipient crenulation cleavage. In most cases the pre-existing micas are tightly folded (fig. 20a) and are starting to line up parallel to the axial plane of the folds. New mica growing in the axial plane of these folds is rare.

Graphite inclusions in the plagioclase porphyroblasts of the greyschist graphically record the multiple periods of deformation in the Pelona Schist. In figure **20b,** the inclusions form a well defined band within the plagioclase porphyroblast parallel to the older mica foliation which is in the process of being transposed. **A** similar situation occurs in figure **6,** but the crenulated graphite bands are the only evidence remaining of the older foliation. The time of growth of the porphyroblast with respect to the deformation is different in the two examples. In the first, it grew before the crenulation developed and in the second after the crenulation began, but before it was finished.

Figure 20.

Photomicrograph Pelona Schist greyschist.

- a) Micas are strongly folded and a new axial planar cleavage is starting to form.
- **b)** Two foliations are visible in the micas. Graphite inclusions in the plagioclase porphyroblast are parallel to the older  $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ foliation.

Photomicrograph Pelona Schist greenschist.

c) Amphibole and mica inclusions in the plagioclase porphyroblast are aligned at an angle to the existing foliation and may indicate the orientation of an older foliation.



 $_{\rm b})$ 

 $a)$ 





 $_{\rm C})$ 

Although crenulation cleavage is not apparent in the greenschist, evidence for the older foliations is found in the plagioclase porphyroblasts which contain parallel needles of amphibole oriented at an angle to the current foliation (fig 20c).

The primary foliation is synmetamorphic since it involved new mineral growth. However, the age of the metamorphism is poorly constrained. Some of the metamorphism of the Pelona Schist occurred during underthrusting of the Pelona Schist beneath the hot granulite terrane and is due to thermal relaxation and therefore has an age of approximately **86** ma. One can arque on the basis of regional geological considerations that this is probably close to the end of metamorphism of the Pelona Schist but, it is unclear when deformation and metamorphism started. The presence of undulose quartz in some of the greyschist however, indicates that there was some deformation after the peak of metamorphism. Figure 21 is an example. Undulose and elongate quartz is parallel to the fold in the micas. The exact age of the last event is unknown, but any recrystallization must be complete **by** the early to middle Eocene when the granulite terrane was unconformably overlain **by** marine sediments. The variaous foliations are probably the result of a continuous process of deformation although, distinct separate events cannot be ruled out.



Figure 21. Photomicrograph of Pelona Schist greyschist. Undulose quartz indicates the existence of deformation after the peak of metamorphism.

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Folds

Large scale folding in the Pelona Schist is relatively rare. An **ENE** trending antiformal structure is present immediately south of White Oak. Quartzite, which forms the core, ends abruptly in the west in a sea of grey schist. Similar abrupt truncations of apparent lithologic sequences are common in the vicinity of Liebre Twins. The only other large structure is either an antiform or a synform present near the head of Tylerhorse Canyon. The area is inaccessible and the structure is not exposed in or does not extend into the adjacent, accessible areas and therefore, its form cannot be uniquely determined. Exposures in a nearby canyon clearly show the discontinuous nature of the greenschist (fig **6).**

Small folds present in the Pelona Schist of the Tehachapi Mountains are preserved in the quartzite. The folds are typically isoclinal, with shallow to moderate plunging east-west trending axes. At one outcrop isoclinally refolded isoclinal folds are present (fig. 22). This is only the second reported instance of refolded folds in the Pelona Schist. Jacobson **(1980)** had previously described folded isoclinal folds from the San Gabriel Mountains. The different episodes of folding preserved in the quartzite atests to the complex deformational history of the Pelona Schist and strongly suggests that original sedimentary bedding has been totally obliterated **by** transposition. Folding is preserved in the quartzite only, because it is the most competent unit in the Pelona Schist. In the weaker grey and greenschist the folds have been completely sheared out.



Figure 22. Isoclinally folded, isoclinal folds in Pelona Schist quartzite.

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#### Granulite Terrane

Aside from stacking of the lithological units and the prominent foliation, very few structures were observed in the rocks north of the Garlock Fault Zone. Although there is no evidence to the contrary, there is no evidence that requires the observed stacking to represent a stratigraphic sequence. Therefore, the stacking order only refers to the structural level at which the units appear. The Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite is the basal unit and is in both gradational and sharp contact with the overlying Bison Granulite. Near the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone the White Oak Diorite Gneiss apparently takes the position of the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite. From the few exposures present in upper Pastoria and **El** Paso Creeks it appears reasonable to infer that the diorite gneiss is the sheared equivalent on the garnet granulite. The protolith of the mylonite is unknown, but assumed to be ultrasheared garnet granulite created when the Pelona Schist was thrust beneath the granulite terrane. The Bison Granulite lies between either the diorite gneiss or the garnet granulite and the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss. Its contacts with the underlying units are sharp to gradational or exhibit a zone of mixing. **A** sharp contact between the Bison Granulite and the overlying quartzo-feldspathic gneiss is rare. In almost all cases, the contact is gradational and drawn on the basis of quartz and biotite content. Zones of mixing and gradational contacts are not unexpected in light of the high degree of metamorphism experienced **by** these rocks. The stacking order at the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and north of the fault zone is summarized below:



The presence of the White Oak Diorite Gneiss beneath the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite in the area north of the Garlock Fault Zone is inferred from the gradational nature of the contact between the two units and from the projection of the foliation in the White Oak Diorite Gneiss. Existence of mylonite beneath this area is speculative and based on regional tectonic considerations (Chapter VI).

The only folds present in the granulite terrane are in the quartzofeldspathic gneiss. Most of these are small kink folds with northeast tending, subhorizontal axes. **A** few folds with variable orientations were observed along the Aqueduct Access Road. **A** few of these folds involve vein quartz, which was probably sweated out of the metasediments and indicates that folding occurred during or after the peak of metamorphism.

**All** of the rocks except for the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite are well foliated. The general trend of the foliation is **ENE,** subparallel to the Garlock Fault Zone. This trend has been considered the result of rightlateral oroclinal bending of the north-south trends observed in the Sierra Nevada (Burchfiel and Davis **1981).** However, compilation of foliation trends within the study area and those of the southern Sierra Nevada (fig **28)** clearly shows that the foliation is part of a large, left-lateral oroclinal bend in the southwestern Sierra Nevada consistent with leftlateral drag along the Garlock fault Zone (see Chapter VI for a complete discussion)..

## V) GEOCHRONOLOGY

Prior to this study, rocks from the southern Sierra Nevada and western Mojave Desert (none specifically from the study area) had been studied using K-Ar and Rb-Sr methods in order to determine the timing of igneous events and to map the distribution of initial  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratios (Everden and Kistler **1970,** Kistler and others **1973,** Kistler and Peterman **1978).** Initial ratios were usually determined from one Rb-Sr analysis and a K-Ar age or a "best estimate" age. In this study an attempt was made to obtain Rb-Sr whole rock isochrons with the following objectives: **1)** to determine the age of intrusion, metamorphism or deformation of various units in order to better constrain the timing of events in the western Tehachapi Mountains and 2) to accurately determine the initial  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratio for comparison with other data and to place constraints on the petrogenesis of the rocks.

Geochronology samples were collected from the Gato-Montes Granodiorite south of the Garlock Fault Zone and from the mylonite, White Oak Diorite Gneiss, Bison Granulite, and Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite north of the Garlock Fault Zone. Unfortunately, a sufficient number of fresh samples could not be collected from the Tejen Lookout Granite. Consequently, the problem of the relative ages of the Tejon Lookout Granite and the Gato-Montes Granodiorite could not be resolved. The Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite and the Bison Granulite were initially considered igneous (Weise **1950)** and were sampled with the intention of determining the ages of intrusion, rather than the age of metamorphism. Although it is difficult to study deformed rocks (the mylonite and the White Oak Diorite Gneiss) using the Rb-Sr system, because of homogenization

problems, it was hoped that the age of deformation could be determined and contrasted with the age of the other rocks of the granulite terrane and possibly used to constrain the age of emplacement of the Pelona Schist.

# Sample Preparation and Collection

Samples for geochronology were collected in the course of regular geologic mapping. Collection was guided **by** trying to include as wide a range of compositions as possible from each unit in order to maximize the range of Rb/Sr values. Individual samples usually averaged **3** to **6 kg** and their size was generally limited **by** the amount of fresh material available at any one locality. Samples were trimmed of as much weathered material as possible in the field. Any remaining weathered material was removed in the laboatory using a diamond saw. The samples were then rinsed in water, dried and subsequently crushed in a steel jaw crusher. The method used to obtain the finer crushes depended upon whether the steel plate mill was operational or not. If it was working, all the material was reduced to approxiately **0.5** mm in the plate mill. **A** "representative" sample, **30** to **50** grams, was removed from the crush for powdering in a steel shatter box. When the plate mill was inoperable, the crush from the jaw crusher was repeatedly passed through a sample splitter until a **30** to **50** gram split remained, which was then powdered in the shatter box. The crushed material and powders were stored in polyethylene bags.

## Analytical Procedure

**50** to **100** mg of powdered sample to which **0.5** to **1.0** grams **of 8 7Rb-**84Sr spike solution had been added was dissolved in a solution of vycor distilled HF and HClO $_A$  in covered teflon beakers. After decomposition, samples were repeatedly dried down using **6.2N** vycor distilled **HC1** in order to drive off any remaining HC10<sub>4</sub>. Samples were picked-up using 2.5N vycor **HCl** and centrifuged in teflon tubes.

Rb and Sr fractions were separated using cation exchange columns and **2.5N HCl** as the elutant. Alkalai components were converted to sulfates **by** adding 25% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> prior to drying. HClO<sub>4</sub> was added to the Sr elution to oxidize organic material that may have been present. After drying, SrCl<sub>2</sub> was converted to Sr(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> by repeated dissolution in HNO<sub>3</sub>.

Rb was picked-up in water and evaporated directly onto Ta filaments whereas, Sr was picked-up in 0.1N HNO<sub>3</sub> and evaporated onto a Ta filament using Ta<sub>2</sub>0<sub>5</sub> as a loading medium. Sr samples were conditioned in an evacuated degassing chamber for 2 hours at 1.4 amps. Rb samples were not conditioned.

Analyses were performed on a 9-inch, **600,** solid-source mass spectrometer at MIT. Rb and Sr concentrations were determined using isotope dilution techniques. Analytical precision is considered to be better than **0.5%** for concentration data and **0.007%** for Sr isotopic compositions.  $86_{Sr}/88_{Sr}$  ratios were normalized to 0.1194 and  $87_{Sr}/86_{Sr}$ ratios were normalized to Eimer and Amend  $SrCO<sub>3</sub> = 0.70800$ . Dates and initial  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratios were obtained using a York Model II regression analysis (York **1969,** Brooks and others **1972).**

# Results South of the Garlock Fault Zone Gato-Montes Granodiorite

The Gato-Montes Granodiorite was the only unit south of the Garlock Fault Zone for which a sufficient number of samples for age dating could be collected. The results of the analyses are tabulated in Table XXI and graphically presented in figure **23.** The samples define a **10** point errorchron (Brooks and others **1972)** with an age of **131.6 + 3.6** ma with an initial  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratio of 0.70789  $\pm$  6 (all errors 2<sup>3</sup>).

Only two of the points lie on the errorchron line within analytical error. The remaining **8** points lie off the line and indicate that the isotopic system has been disturbed. Microscopic examination revealed the presence of a wide range of alteration in the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. Plagioclase has undergone varying degrees of sericitization and some of the biotite has altered to chlorite. There is no systematic variation between the amount of alteration in a particular sample and its position with respect to the isochron line. **A** basic assumption in using the isochron diagram to obtain the age of the rock is that the initial  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratio was uniform throughout the body. The presence of numerous pendants of metasedimentary rocks above the Gato-Montes Granodiorite suggests the possibility of local contamination of the magma. It would take very little material with radiogenic Sr to move a point significantly off of the isochron line.

The age of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite, **131.6** ma, falls at the close of the Yosemite intrusive epoch (Everden and Kistler **1970).** The date cannot be directly compared with that for any other rocks in the northwestern corner of the Mojave Desert, since none have been dated **by**


Figure **23.**



# Gato-Montes Granodiorite



Age **= 131.6 + 3.6** ma

Initial ratio  ${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr = 0.70789 \pm 6$ 

\*Isotopic compositions normalized to 86Sr/ 88Sr **=** 0.1194 and Eimer and Amend SrC0 <sup>3</sup> , 87Sr/ 86Sr **= 0.70800**

the Rb-Sr method. **A** lithologically similar pluton, **25** km to the east, has concordant K-Ar biotite and hornblende ages of **81** ma substanially younger than the **131.6** ma isochron age. The difference could be due to differences in the closure temperature of the two isotopic systems however, the initial ratio of this body, **0.7058** (Kistler and Peterman **1978),** is significantly lower than that of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite and suggests that either the correlation is incorrect or that there is some analytical error. Since the initial ratio was determined from a single Sr analysis and the K-Ar age, it is impossible to check for experimental error. Assuming the K-Ar age is a cooling age, and use of the age of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite to recalculate the initial ratio yields a lower intial ratio, **0.7055** which differs even further from that of the Gato-Montes body.

The Lebec Quartz Monzonite is considered correlative with the Gato-Montes Granodiorite (Ross **1980,** this work). Its initial ratio **0.7078** (Kistler and others **1973)** is identical to that of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. The age of the Lebec Quartz Monzonite cannot be compared with that of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite since it has not been dated **by** any isotopic methods. An assumed age of **110** ma was used to calculate the initial ratio from a single Sr analysis. Using the age of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite to recalculate the initial ratio, lowers it only slightly to **0.7075.**

#### Results North of the Garlock Fault Zone

The Rb-Sr characteristics of 4 units north of the Garlock Fault Zone were studied. The Bison Granulite however, was the only one to approach yielding an isochron. The other units showed very little spread in Rb/Sr ratios, primarily due to a lack of Rb, and scatter in the 87Sr/86Sr ratios. **All** the units are characterized **by** relatively low initial ratios, generally 0.7045 to **0.7055,** especially in comparison with the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. Since the rocks are metamorphic, the low Rb/Sr ratios are difficult to interpret. The low values may reflect the character of the source material or they may have resulted from Rb depletion during granulite facies metamorphism.

## Bison Granulite

The Bison Granulite was the only unit north of the Garlock Fault Zone that yielded an isochron (fig. 24). **A** York Model II regression (York **1969,** Brooks and others **1972)** of the data (Table XXII) resulted in an age of **86.1 + 13.2** ma and an initial ratio of **0.70518 + 8.** Not all of the points are within experimental error of the isochron line and the line is more properly called an errorchron. The deviations should be attributable to geological causes. **A** number of processes could lead to the deviations including: **1)** weathering, 2) incomplete initial isotopic homogenization, and **3)** later metamorphic overprinting. The wide geographic distribution of the samples could result in incomplete homogenization during metamorphism. Most of the samples were collected from two areas, the ridge north and east of White Oak and from sections 4, **5, 8,** and **9** near the head of Cottonwood Creek. Treating samples from these two areas as



Figure 24

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Bison Granulite
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Age **= 86.1 ± 13.2** ma  $Initial ratio  $87sr/86sr = 0.70513 \pm 0.00008$$ 

 $\sim$ 

\* Sr isotopic compositions normalized to 8 6Sr/ <sup>88</sup> Sr **=** 0.1194 and Eimer and Amend SrC03, 8 7Sr/ 86Sr **= 0.70800**

separate collections did not produce significantly different isochrons, suggesting that isotopic inhomogeneity was not a problem in the Bison Granulite. Some of the specimens exhibit only prograde metamorphic textures and no deformation, whereas others have undergone a late period of shear. Quartz is undulose, there is retrograde amphibole around the pyroxene, and some of the hornblende has been crushed, sheared and altered to actinolite, biotite, or chlorite. However, the undeformed and deformed samples lie on the same isochron. This indicates that the end of metamorphism, the time when the rock passed through the blocking temperature for the Rb-Sr system, was temporally very close to the time of shearing, or that shearing was of insufficient magnitude to disturb the isotopic systematics. The affects of weathering appear to be minimal. There is mild sericitization of the plagioclase and some chlorite, but they are restricted to the sheared samples. There is no obvious reason for the scatter and it may be due to the combined effects of all of the processes.

The age of the Bison Granulite, **86.1** ma, is interpreted as the time of the end of granulite facies metamorphism and probably the time of shearing as well because sheared and unsheared samples lie on the same isochron. From the amount of deformation present in the sheared samples, it seems likely that the isotopic systematics would have been disturbed if deformation occurred significantly later than metamorphism. **A** close temporal relation between the end of metamorphism, recorded in the unsheared samples, and the time of shearing recorded in the deformed samples is to be expected if shearing resulted from emplacement of the Pelona Schist beneath the granulite terrane. Besides shearing resulting

from underthrusting, the Pelona Schist is relatively cold (Chapter III) and will act as a heat sink, cooling the granulite terrane rapidly. Quick cooling of the granulite is also facilitated **by** its rapid uplift rate, approximately **1** km/my.

The isochron age for the Bison Granulite is in agreement with K-Ar ages from rocks west and north of the study area believed to be correlative with the granulite terrane (Ross **1980,** this work). Within stated error limits there are concordant biotite and hornblende ages of **86** and **88** ma respectively from the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs (Ross **1980)** as well as an **81** ma biotite age (Kistler and Peterman **1978).** Biotite ages of **86** and **87** ma and a hornblende age of **77** ma were obtained from the gneissic terrane west of the study area near Grapvine Canyon (Ross **1980).** Thus it appears that metamorphism ends over a fairly large region at about **86** to **88** ma.

# Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite

The freshest looking rock north of the Garlock Fault Zone is the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite and might be expected to present the least problems in obtaining an isochron. Its mineralogy however, is unfavorable for Rb-Sr isotopic techniques. Composed primarily of hornblende and plagioclase, the garnet granulite contains very little Rb (Table XXIII). Most of the samples contain less than 2 ppm Rb. The Sr content is uniformly high, **>** 400 ppm, and, as a result, the Rb/Sr ratio is most often **< 0.005.** which is too low to produce a usable isochron (fig **25).** If a line were regressed through the data, its slope would be negative, implying a future age.



Figure **25.**



# Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite



Sr isotopic compositions normalized to and Eimer and Amend SrCO<sub>3</sub>, <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr = 8 6Sr/ 88Sr **=** 0.1194 **0.70800**

 $\sim 10^7$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

One positive result stemming from the low Rb/Sr ratio is that the initial ratio is well constrained, 0.70495. The variation in <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios is greater than that expected from random experimental error and probably reflects incomplete homogenization during metamorphism. Even though the temperature of the garnet granulite was high, the lesser amounts of water present in granulite facies rocks may hinder the amount of exchange and homogenization taking place. The freshness of the rock argues against variation due to weathering.

# White Oak Diorite Gneiss and Mylonite

The White Oak Diorite Gneiss and mylonite are strongly deformed rocks found along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. It was hoped that **by** dating these rocks, the time of deformation could be constrained. The data (Tables XXIV and XXV, figs. **26** and **27)** clearly demonstrate that Rb-Sr isotopes are inappropriate for these rocks.  $40Ar-39Ar$  would probably do better, especially for the White Oak Diorite Gneiss. It might be possible to detect both the age of metamorphism and the age of deformation in the Ar spectra.

An isochron diagram for the White Oak Diorite Gneiss shows a horizontal distribution of points except for sample 80-102a which has a much higher  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratio. This sample comes from near the White Oak Diorite Gneiss **-** Bison Granulite contact. As previously mentioned the diorite gneiss is often times gradational into the granulite. This sample of diorite gneiss may be showing some of the characteristics of the transition. It is possible that 80-102a is Bison Granulite that has lost most of its Rb during shearing and alteration. However, the loss of Rb



Figure **26.**

# White Oak Diorite Gneis



\* Sr isotopic compositions normalized to 86Sr/ <sup>8</sup> 8Sr **=** 0.1194 and Eimer and Amend SrC03, 87Sr/ 86Sr **= 0.70800**

 $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ 

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 



Figure **27.**



\* Sr isotopic compositions normalized to 86Sr/ 88Sr **=** 0.1194 and Eimer and Amend SrC03, 87Sr/ 86Sr **= 0.70800**

 $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ 

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would have to be relatively recent to allow for the growth of <sup>87</sup>Sr from the decay **of** 87Rb. Alternatively, the high 87Sr/86Sr ratio may have resulted from contamination **by** metasedimentary rocks present in this area. The essentially flat distribution of White Oak Diorite Gneiss points on the isochron diagram indicates recent rehomogenization of the Sr isotopes either as the result of normal weathering processes or more likely from alteration attributable to recent movements along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone.

Data for the mylonite is very similar to that of the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite. 87Sr/86Sr ratios are low, 0.7045 **- 0.7050,** as are the  $87Rb/86$ Sr ratios. Rb concentrations are slightly higher in the mylonite, whereas the Sr concentrations are a little lower. The Rb concentration of sample 80-163a, 40 ppm, is high in comparison to the majority of the samples  $2.5$   $-$  5.4 ppm, but its  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratio is the lowest. The high Rb content is probably due to the presence of minute flakes of muscovite that probably formed as the result of recent shearing and alteration. If the muscovite was old, the Sr isotopic ratio should be much higher as the result of the growth of radiogenic Sr. Geologically recent movement on the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is documented **by** leveling surveys along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone (Rodgers **1979),** trenching at White Oak (Fugro **1980),** and the presence of older alluvium east of White Oak (this report).

#### Initial Ratio Data

Despite the lack of age information from three of the units north of the Garlock Fault Zone, they all indicate initial ratios in the range, 0.7045 **- 0.7055,.** They differ significantly from those south of the Garlock Fault Zone, **0.7078,** and are consistent with those found in other rocks along the southern and southeastern margin of the San Joaquin Valley. Values of **0.7050** and **0.7055** have been obtained from the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs (Kistler and Peterman **1978,** and Ross **1980)** northeast of the study area. Somewhat lower values, **0.7032** and **0.7038,** were obtained from gabbroic rocks at Eagle Rest Peak west of the study area (Kistler and others **1973).** The initial ratio data in this study are in agreement with the distribution of initial  $87$ Sr/ $86$ Sr ratios in California and Nevada as presented **by** Kistler and Peterman **(1973, 1978).** They also support conclusions reached in the next chapter that the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and the Pastoria Thrust separate two fundamentally different tectonic blocks, a northern block with lower intial ratios than those of the southern block.

#### VI) **REGIONAL TECTONICS**

The structural relationships and interpretation of the rocks present in the study area cannot be limited to the Tehachapi Mountains but must be viewed on a larger scale. Three major areas that need resolution are: **1)** what is the relationship between the Pelona Schist and the rocks on either side of the Garlock Fault Zone, 2) how does the granulite metamorphic terrane relate to the plutonic rocks south of the Garlock Fault Zone, and **3)** how does the data presented in this report affect paleogeographic reconstructions of the western United States.

Perhaps a more fundamental question arising from the first two problem areas is: What is the Garlock Fault Zone? The data presented in this report strongly suggest that the Garlock Fault is more than a leftlateral intracratonal transform fault due to unequal amounts of basin and range expansion on either side of the fault zone (Davis and Burchfiel **1973).** Data presented in chapter **3** and discussed in this chapter indicates that there is major vertical as well as horizontal movement on the Garlock Fault Zone prior to the middle of the Eocene, well before the start of Basin and Range expansion in the Miocene (Stewart **1971,** Proffett **1977).**

The granulite facies metamorphic terrane in the study area is very similar to the charnokitic terrane in the Santa Lucia Mountains and probably ties the Salinian block to North America and may limit displacement on the San Andreas Fault to **300** km.

#### Garlock Fault Zone

The western Tehachapi Mountains are characterized **by** three tectonic blocks: the granulite terrane, the Pelona Schist, and the granitic terrane (fig. **18).** East of the mouth of Bear Trap Canyon, the Garlock Fault Zone is the boundary between a granulite facies metamorphic terrane to the north and a plutonic terrane to the south. Ignoring for the moment the Pelona Schist which crops out within the Garlock Fault Zone, the fault zone is a discontinuity between rocks that formed at different crustal levels. Available geobarometric data indicate that the metasedimentary rocks in the roof pendants south of the fault zone were metamorphosed at pressures no greater than **2.5 kb (10** km) whereas, the granulite terrane was metamorphosed at **8 kb (27-32** km). Thus, there is a difference of **17** to 22 km in the depth of crustal levels exposed across the Garlock Fault Zone.

Pelona Schist crops out in the fault zone and its contact with the granulite and plutonic terranes defines respectively, the north and south branches of the Garlock Fault Zone. The question arises, is the Pelona Schist associated with either of the these terranes or is it a separate entity and what differences if any, are there between the two branches of the fault zone?

The key to understanding the juxtapositions at the Garlock Fault Zone is the crustal level at which each terrane originated. Petrologic data indicates that the Pelona Schist and granulite terrane were metamorphosed at similar depths (Chapter III), whereas the granitic terrane was metamorphosed at a shallower depth. The simplest explanation of the relationships at the Garlock Fault Zone is the juxtaposition of the Pelona Schist and the granulite terrane at depth, along what is now the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, followed **by** transposition of a single crustal level of the combined terrane against the granitic terrane along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. It would be **highly** fortuitous if the first event was the juxtaposition of a deep crustal level terrane (the Pelona Schist or granulite terrane) with the shallow level granitic terrane, to be followed **by** juxtaposition of a second deep crustal level terrane (granulite terrane or Pelona Schist) at the same level as the previously emplaced deep level terrane.

# North Branch of the Garlock Fault Zone

Data presented in Chapter III showed that the Pelona Schist and the granulite terrane were metamorphosed at the same pressures, **8 kb,** which corresponds to a depth of **27** to **32** km. The question naturally arises, what is the nature of the contact between the two terranes? At the Aqueduct Access Road the granulite terrane clearly overlies the less metamorphosed Pelona Schist along a low angle thrust fault. Along most of the remainder of its length, the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is subvertical and looks more like a strike slip fault than it does a thrust fault. However, evidence strongly supports Crowell's proposal (pers. comm.) that the entire north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is a northward continuation of the Vincent Thrust System, the geometry of which has been modified slightly **by** later events.

The metamorphic gradient in the granulite terrane is inverted. The highest grade rocks are at the highest structural levels and the lowest grade rocks are at the lowest levels. The presence of an inverted

metamorphic gradient in the granulite terrane argues strongly against strike-slip movement as the primary mode of juxtaposition between the Pelona Schist and the granulite terrane. If juxtaposition of terranes of different metamorphic grade was accomplished along a strike-slip fault at the time when one was hot and the other was cold, the resulting metamorphic gradient should be lateral instead of inverted, whereas the gradient would be inverted in a thrust fault geometry. An increase in metamorphic grade of the Pelona Schist would be expected toward the zone of juxtaposition if the Pelona Schist was thrust beneath the granulite terrane. The Pelona Schist is a heat sink, causing rapid cooling and retrograde metamorphism of the lower portions of the granulite terrane. At the same time, the upper portions of the Pelona Schist undergo prograde metamorphism as the result of the conduction of heat downward from the granulite terrane. Unfortunately, evidence for a metamorphic gradient in the Pelona Schist is poorly preserved but, the highest grade Pelona Schist is always immediately adjacent to the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and suggests that metamorphic grade increases toward the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone.

Except for the angle of the fault surface, the geology at the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone compares very favorably with that present at the Vincent Thrust. Figure **17,** a diagramatic cross section across the Vincent Thrust at Sierra Pelona (Graham and England **1976),** shows the critical features. The upper plate consists of Mesozoic plutonic rock or Precambrian gneiss which, in the vicinity of the thrust has been cataclastically deformed and retrograded. The metamorphic grade of the Pelona Schist, which comprises the lower plate, increases upward toward

the thrust. At the thrust, the metamorphic grade of the rocks on opposing sides is the same. The lack of a metamorphic break at the thrust has been interpreted as implying that metamorphism and thrusting took place. simultaneously (Ehlig **1958).** Foliations in the upper and lower plates are parallel to each other and to the thrust surface.

In the Tehachapi Mountains, ductiley deformed White Oak Diorite Gneiss and mylonite are present at the lowest exposed levels of the granulite terrane juxtaposed against the Pelona Schist along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. The metamorphic grade in the diorite gneiss, epidote amphibolite facies, is clearly lower than that of the overlying granulite facies rocks. As previously mentioned, the highest grade rocks in the Pelona Schist are located at the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and suggests that metamorphic grade increases in that direction even though a continuous gradation cannot be documented. The highest grade rocks are of the epidote-amphibolite facies, the same as the immediately overlying White Oak Diorite Gneiss. The foliations in the rocks on opposite sides of the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone are subparallel to the fault zone and to each other. The expected low angle thrust geometry is present at the Aqueduct Access Road, but has been modified **by** later events in areas to the east. Scattered mylonites and garnet-bearing (high grade) Pelona Schist at the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone are interpreted as remnants of the thrust contact and indicate that high angle modification of the thrust contact has not been great. The similarity of the geology along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone with that of the Vincent Thrust strongly supports a suggestion **by** Crowell (pers. comm) that the north branch of the Garlock

Fault Zone is a northward continuation of the Vincent Thrust System.

Timing of movements along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is not directly constrained. There are no ages for the deformed rocks, mylonite and White Oak Diorite Gneiss, or the high grade Pelona Schist. However in Chapter V, **I** inferred that the age of the Bison Granulite, **86.1 + 13.2** ma, was the age of juxtaposition of the Pelona Schist and the Bison Granulite because samples from both deformed and undeformed Bison Granulite lie on the same isochron line. In addition, the Pelona Schist rapidly cools the granulite and other units of the upper plate, promoting the observed concordance of the Rb-Sr age and the K-Ar ages obtained from other, probably correlative, units in the southwestern Sierra Nevada. There has also been recent movement along the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. East of White Oak, alluvial gravels cross the fault zone (this report). Trenching east of White Oak revealed vertical movement along the fault zone both 2000 years ago and within the last **500** years (Fugro **1971).** Leveling surveys indicate current left lateral movement along the fault zone. Thus the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone has been active a long period of time, initially as part of the Vincent Thrust System and more recently in response to strike-slip movement along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone.

# South Branch of the Garlock Fault Zone

The south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone separates the Pelona Schist from plutonic rocks south of the fault zone. It marks a major crustal discontinuity in terms of level of exposure and isotopic composition. Petrologic and geobarometric data indicate that the Pelona Schist and rocks to the north were metamorphosed at a minimum pressure of **8 kb,** whereas the metasedimentary rocks in the roof pendants south of the fault zone were metamorphosed at **2.5 kb.** These pressures correspond to depths of **27 - 32** km and **10** km respectively. Thus, there is a difference of **17** to 22 km in the crustal levels exposed on opposite sides of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. Data presented in Chapter V documented the differences in the isotopic signature of the two regions.

The early to middle Eocene Tejon Formation, unconformably deposited on the granulite terrane, indicates that the discontinuity in level of exposure existed **55** ma ago and is not the result of recent movements along the Garlock Fault Zone. Nilsen and Clarke **(1975)** have proposed early vertical movement on the Garlock Fault Zone to account for conglomerates in the early Tertiary Goler and Witnet formations north of the fault zone.

Furthermore, evidence indicates that the early movement along the Garlock Fault Zone was was left-lateral in addition to vertical. The trend of the foliation present in the granulite terrane (Plates I and II) is part of a left-lateral oroclinal bend (fig. **28)** present in the southwestern Sierra Nevada. The oroclinal bend involves not only the foliation in the granulite terrane, but the trend of the metasedimentary rocks of the Kernville Series as well. The foliations in most of the rocks in the southwestern Sierra Nevada have been rotated **90\*** in a counter-clockwise direction and now trend parallel to the Garlock Fault Zone in the immediate vicinity of the fault zone. Figure **28** shows that the foliation has been rotated a minimum of **15** km. The direction of rotation is consistent with that resulting from drag due to postulated

Figure 28. The strike of the foliation in the granulite and related terranes show **15** km of left-lateral drag along the Garlock Fault Zone. Data from this **study,** ilsen and Clarke **1975,** Dibblee and Nilsen 1974.

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left-lateral movement along the Garlock Fault Zone (Smith and Ketner **1970,** Davis and Burchfiel **1973).**

The attitudes and the facies trends of the Tertiary sediments unconformably overlying the granulite terrane cut the oroclinal trend in the granulite terrane at a high angle (Nilsen and Clarke **1975,** Crowell 1964) and constrains the minimum age of the oroclinal bend. Thus, oroclinal bending had to take place before deposition of the oldest sediments, early to middle Eocene, and therefore indicates that movement on the Garlock Fault Zone is earlier than Miocene as proposed **by** Davis and Burchfiel **(1973).** Nilsen and Clarke **(1975)** suggested that early Tertiary transform movement on the Garlock Fault Zone was responsible for deposition of the early Tertiary Goler and Witnet Formations. Spencer **(1981)** suggested that the Arrastre Spring Fault at the eastern end of the Garlock Fault Zone is a Garlock related structure responsible for deposition of the Paleocene and Eocene Avawatz Formation. He proposed 2 km of northside-up and up to **10** km of right-lateral movement on this "proto" Garlock Fault. Northside-up vertical movement is the same as that observed in the Tehachapi Mountains, however right lateral movement is opposite to that proposed for the early movements on the Garlock Fault Zone in the Tehachapi Mountains on the basis of drag features.

The evidence presented here sheds new light on the early history of the Garlock Fault Zone. It clearly indicates **17** to 22 km of relative vertical uplift and at least **15** km of left-lateral displacement along the Fault Zone prior to **55** ma ago. In the study area, displacement took place along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. This early period of movement is probably responsible for the uplift of thin slivers of gneiss

exposed north of, but adjacent to the Garlock Fault Zone in the Tehachapi Quadrangle (Dibblee and Louke **1970)** east of the study area. The same difference in level of exposure present along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is present beyond the western border of the study area along the Pastoria Thrust.

# Pastoria Thrust

As mapped in this study, the Pastoria Thrust is a linear continuation of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. It originates at the mouth of Bear Trap Canyon and continues westward for 40 km until it is cut off **by** the San Andreas Fault. Previous mapping (Crowell 1964) showed the north and south branches of the Garlock Fault Zone merging at the mouth of Beartrap Canyon into a single fault zone that continued past Castaic Lake to the Garlock's truncation at the San Andreas Fault. In the interpretation presented here (Chapter IV), the north branch of the Garlock Fault Zone is truncated **by** the Pastoria Thrust (Plate IIIB) before it can join with the south branch. The south branch curves slightly to the southwest and continues to the San Andreas Fault as mapped **by** Crowell. I will argue below that the Pastoria Thrust is an older branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and probably the one on which most of the displacement of the Garlock Fault took place.

Within the study area the Pastoria Thrust separates the Lebec Quartz Monzonite from the White Oak Diorite Gneiss. The difference in crustal levels exposed on either side of the Pastoria Thrust is the same as that observed on either side of the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. The Pastoria Thrust also separates rocks of differing initial Sr isotopic compositions (Chapter V), **0.7078** for the Lebec Quartz Monzonite south of the thrust and **0.7031** and **0.7038** for the gabbro at Eagle Rest Peak north of the thrust (Kistler and Peterman **1978).** This is the same zonation observed in the study area across the Garlock Fault Zone. Limited data along Grapevine Creek (Dibblee and Nilsen 1974) suggests that the foliation in the rocks north of the Pastoria Thrust curves in a counterclockwise manner similar to that in the granulite terrane. The quartz monzonite south of the Pastoria Thrust is unfoliated. The data therefore indicates that the Pastoria Thrust is the westward continuation from the mouth of Beartrap Canyon of the same fundamental crustal discontinuity observed across the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone. As a result, the same movement that occurred along the the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone must have occurred along the Pastoria Thrust, including large amounts of vertical uplift and left-lateral displacement. In other words, the Pastoria Thrust is an older branch of the Garlock Fault Zone.

Although the Pastoria Thrust is not active today, it appears that the latest movement, as deduced from outcrop pattern outside the study area and the presence of marble above the White Oak Diorite Gneiss, is a north directed thrust fault. In this aspect, the Pastoria Thrust is similar to the nearby east-west trending Quaternary Pleito Thrust in the San Joaquin Valley. Both thrust faults probably owe their origin to the compressive forces generated at the big bend in the San Andreas Fault **10** to 20 km south of the thrusts.

The current western branch of the Garlock Fault Zone (Crowell **1952)** is considered to be a recent splay of the Garlock Fault Zone similar to the Pinon Fault and an unnamed fault (Weise **1950)** which cut across the

southern slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains and disappear beneath the alluvium in Antelope Valley. Although these faults may be the most recent splays of the Garlock Fault Zone, the amount of displacement is probably minimal in comparison to the total displacement of the fault zone.

#### Correlation of Rock Units

# Granulite Terrane

The rocks north of the Garlock Fault Zone are the first granulite facies metamorphic rocks to be documented in the Sierra Nevada. In fact, they are among the youngest granulite facies rocks described anywhere. Except for granulite facies rocks in the Santa Lucia Range of California all others are Precambriam and are parts of stable sheild areas (Heier **1973).** The full extent of the granulite terrane is unknown, but it probably includes or is closely related to the areas outlined below.

Rocks of the granulite terrane are parts of two larger terranes outined **by** Ross **(1980).** One of the terranes is characterized as having "oceanic affinity" and extends from the vincinity of White Oak, westward **75** km, where it wedges out between the San Andreas Fault and overlying Tertiary rocks. The other terrane, the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs, extends northward from White Oak and encompasses the hornblende quartz biotite diorite in the Breckenridge Mountain (Dibble and Chesterman **1953),** Tehachapi (Dibblee and Louke **1970)** and Cummings Mountain Quadrangles (Dibblee and Warne **1970)**

The correlations are made on the basis of the bulk mineralogy and rock textures. The rocks of the granulite terrane have a more mafic composition than those to the east and usually are foliated although not always strongly. In addition, the granulite terrane and its probable extentions contain a number of other common features. The tonalite of Bear Valley Springs contains small lenticular pods of fine-grained diorite oriented parallel to the foliation of the enclosing rock. The pods appear to be identical to inclusions present in the White Oak Diorite Gneiss and to a lesser extent the Bison Granulite. Rocks described as gabbro, anorthositic gabbro and gabbro diorite containing pyroxene, fibrous amphibole and plagioclase are present at Eagle Rest Peak (Ross **1970)** at the west end of the oceanic terrane and in the Breckenridge Mountain Quadrangle (Dibblee and Chesterman **1953)** and may be directly correlative with the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite. Gabbroic rock have also been ecountered in the wells drilled in the San Joaquin Valley (Ross **1980).**

Evidence for granulite facies metamorphism in the rocks considered correlative with the granulite terrane is sparse. Ross **(1970, 1980)** considered the gabbroic rocks at Eagle Rest Peak to be metamorphosed igneous rocks, but does not indicate whether the clino- and orthopyroxenes are metamorphic minerals or relict igneous minerals. Pyroxene is present in the Breckenridge Mountain Quadrangle, but Dibblee and Chesterman considered the rocks to be igneous. It may be worthwhile to restudy these rocks in light of what has been observed in the study area to see if the pyroxenes might be of metamorphic origin.

The Garlock Fault Zone and the Tertiary sediments of the San Joaquin Valley are natural boundaries to the granulite and related terranes on the south, west, and north. Gabbroic rocks encountered in the subsurface of the San Joaquin (Ross **1980)** indicate probable extention of the granulite terrane beneath the San Joaquin Valley. The eastern border is marked **by**

screens of metasediments and apparent intrussive contact with granitic plutons (Dibblee and Louke **1970).** This eastern border is essentially coincident with the quartz diorite line (Moore **1959)** and the **0.706** Sr initial ratio line (Kistler and Peterman **1978).** Insufficient mapping prevents tracing the granulite terrane north of the Breckenridge Mountain Quadrangle. An interesting problem is the relation of granulite terrane rocks in the Breckenridge Mountain Quadrangle with the andalusite bearing Pampa Schist. The presence of andalusite indicates a maximum pressure of metamorphism of 4 **kb,** whereas the granulite terrane is believed to have been metamorphosed at much greater pressure. It is possible that the granulite terrane was nearly molten north of the study area and "intruded" into higher crustal levels.

It is very tempting to try and correlate the Kernville Series metasedimentary rocks in the adjacent Tehachapi and Cummings Mountain Quadrangles with the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss of the granulite terrane. The best exposures of the Kernville Series rocks are at the Monolith Portland Cement Quarry in Monolith and in the hills above the quarry. In addition to the thick, massive marbles present in the quarry, most of the metasedimentary rocks are pure quartzites with only minor amounts **(<5%)** of biotite. The quartzites can be traced to just north of the mouth of Tejon Canyon but are not found anywhere south of the Canyon in the study area. Although quartzite is present in the quartzofeldspathic gneis, it is only a minor component and correlation does not seem appropriate. It is possible that the Tejon Canyon Fault (Hoots **1929)** may separate different parts of the granulite terrane.

My preferred model for the granulite terrane is that it is a **highly**

metamorphosed western portion of the Sierra Nevada volcanic arc. I believe the area is underlain **by** oceanic crust as proposed **by** Ross **(1980).** Whether the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite or the White Oak Diorite Gneiss is the metamorphosed equivalent of the oceanic crust or are basaltic flows of the early arc is unknown. The composition of the Bison Granulite is compatible with its derivation from andesitic volcanics. The scarcity of potassium feldspar and the lack of aluminosilicates in the quartzo-feldspathic gneiss is consistent with its derivation from sediments shed from an andesitic volcanic arc. Basaltic or andesitic volcanics may be present locally. Marbles and quartzites may have been deposited during times of local volcanic inactivity. Metamorphism resulted from burial at great depths and not neccessarily from the intrusion of magmas. The general absence of vein quartz and pegmatites suggests only minimal amounts of partial melting.

Small lensoidal pods of fine-grained diorite present in the hornblende biotite quartz diorite (tonalite of Bear Valley Springs) have been interpretted as incompletely digested metasediments (Dibblee and Chesterman **1953,** Dibblee and Louke **1970,** Dibblee and Warne **1970).** The compositional uniformity of the pods over such a large area is **highly** suspicious. Alternatively, they may be refractory residue from large scale partial melting. Ross **(1980)** considered the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs to be a truely plutonic rock, but at one time "entertained the idea that the tonalite might have been ultrametamorphosed (granitized) oceanic affinity rocks". Although, the lack of vein quartz and pegmatites argues against substantial partial melting, only detailed geochemistry can rule partial melting out.

## Correlations with the Salinian Block

The young age, **86.1** ma, of the granulite in the study area singles it out from almost all other granulite terranes. Because of the rarity of young granulites, the late Cretaceous age (Compton **1960)** of the granulite (charnokite) present in the Santa Lucia Range of the Salinian block (fig. **29)** immediately raises the question whether the two granulites are related. If the granulites are related they serve to place constraints on the limits of displacement on the San Andreas Fault.

Available evidence: major and minor mineralogy, textures, ages and thermal history, overwhelmingly suggests that the two granulites are correlative. Compton **(1960)** used the term charnokite to refer to his granulite facies metamorphic rock and it will be used here. The charnokite is similar to the Bison Granulite of the study area and contains quartz, andesiine plagioclase, hornblende, biotite and opaques. It is almost devoid of potassium feldspar and has the bulk composition of a tonalite. Individual grains of clinopyroxene were not observed in the charnokite, but may be present in exsolution lamellae present in the hypersthene grains (Compton **1960).** Lenticular aggregates of mafic grains and lenticular quartz impart a foliation to the rock. Also present is charnokite of a more gabbroic composition with only minor amounts of quartz. Veins with large, up to **6** inch diameter, garnets are present and remind one of the garnets in the Tunis Creek Garnet Granulite. Plutonic rocks in the northern Santa Lucia Range include: hornblende gabbro, hornblende biotite tonalite, and granodiorite (Wiebe **1970).** The tonalite contains numerous inclusions of mafic material similar to the inclusions in the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs.



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Figure **29.** Map showing displacement along the San Andreas Fault, between the study area and the charnokite of the Santa Lucia Range.

Wiebe **(1970)** has studied the metasediments of the Sur Series into which the charnokite and "more normal" granitic rocks intruded. He estimates metamorphic conditions in the Sur Series rocks of **650** to **7000 C** and 4 to **6 kb.** The temperatures approach those estimated for the quartzofeldspathic gneiss, **750 \*C,** but the pressures are considerably less than the estimated **8.3 kb** for the gneiss. Regardless of the differences, the temperatures and pressures indicates metamorphism at least at intermediate crustal levels and not at the shallow levels indicated for the rocks south of the Garlock Fault Zone in the study area.

Mattinson **(1978)** dated the charnokite as 104 **±** 4 ma using **U-Pb** methods on zircons. Other ages from nearby rocks are: K-Ar biotite dates ranging from **70** to **80** ma (Compton **1966),** Rb-Sr ages of **109 ± 5** ma have been obtained for the-Gablin Range (Kistler in Ross **1972)** and **117 ±** 12 ma for the Santa Lucia Range granites (Everden and Kistler **1970),** fission track ages range from **69** to 74 ma for sphene and 74 to **60** ma for apatite from the Santa Lucia Range (Naeser and Ross **1976).** Using these data and his own, Mattinson **(1978)** produced a thermal history curve for the Santa Lucia Range (fig. **30).** The critical point to observe is that rapid cooling commenced at about **85** ma, the same time as in the Tehachapi Mountains. Upper Cretaceous rocks locally overlie the Santa Lucia Range, but the earliest wide spread sedimentary rocks are Eocene (Howell and Vedder **1978)** as in the Tehachapi Mountains.

The data presented above indicates that the rock types of the Santa Lucia Range are the same as those in the Tehachapi Mountains and surrounding areas. Perhaps just as important, the rocks have undergone the same series of events at the same time. Therefore, the rocks lying on


Figure **30.** Thermal history of the northern Salinian block. (From Mattinson **1978)**

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opposite sides of the San Andreas Fault are probably correlative. Determination of the Sr intial ratio of the charnokite would serve as a usefull check of the correlation.

Various amounts of displacement ranging from **300** to **550** km (Ross **1970,** Nilsen and Clarke **1975,** Howell **1975)** have been postulated for the San Andreas Fault. **300** km apears to be more correct since the removal of that amount of right-lateral slip on the San Andreas Fault will place the charnokites of the Santa Lucia Range due west of the granulites of the Tehachapi Mountains. Correlation of the rocks in the Santa Lucia Range with those of the Tehachapi Mountains also serves to tie the Salinian block to North America.

Ross **(1978)** has argued that the Salinian block cannot be tied to North America and may-be a far traveled exotic terrane. Not having seen the rocks of the northern Santa Lucia Range I must rely on published descriptions of others who have seen the rocks. Their decriptions indicate similarity between the Santa Lucia Range and the Tehachapi Mountains. Ross claims that dark dioritic and gneissic rocks present in the Tehachapi and San Emigdio Mountains are not present in the Santa Lucia Range. At least the charnokites appear to have matches in the granulite terrane of the Tehachapi Mountains. It is possible that the distinctive gneissic banding in the White Oak Diorite Gneiss may be related to events taking place at deeper crustal levels than those exposed in the Salinian block and therefore not present in the Salinian block. Ross maintains that inclusions are rare in the Salinian block quartz diorite plutons. However, Wiebe **(1970,** page **109)** states that inclusions of fine-grained mafic material occur widely. The lack of mineralization in the Salinian

block is also cited as evidence against correlation. Most of the mineralization in the Tehachapi Mountains is south of the Garlock Fault Zone in rocks of a much shallower crustal level than those being compared. In fact, the relatively deep crustal level of exposure in the Salinian block supports correlation and suggests a reason for some of the more puzzling aspects of Salinian block geology.

The Salinian block's lack of early Mesozoic accretionary terranes present in the Sierra Nevada and its relatively high Sr intial ratios suggests correlation more with central and eastern portions of the Sierra Nevada than with western portions. Naturally the question becomes why are the western Sierra Nevada rocks missing from the Salinian block? Taking a cue from the deep levels of crustal exposure in the Tehachapi Mountains and probable shallower levels to the east an interesting hypothesis can be developed. Assuming progressively deeper crustal levels were uplifted and exposed to the west in the Salinian block, eventually, the missing Great Valley Sequence and western Sierran Nevada facies would be eroded away. Data from upper Cretaceous (late Campanian and Maestrichtian) sedimentary rocks overlying Cretaceous granites in the Salinian block support the existence of a highland to the west (Howell and Vedder **1978)** in the northern Salinian block. The sediments include material derived from schists, gneisses and gabbros. Paleocurrent data indicates flow from the west, north and east. The cause of this uplift is unknown, but may be due to isostatic uplift resulting from subduction of the Franciscan-Pelona Schist beneath the western edge of the Sierra Nevada arc. This idea will be developed further in the next section and provides a possible explanation for some of the differences in the geology of the Sierra Nevada and the Salinian block.

## Origin of the Pelona Schist

The tectonic setting and lithology of the Pelona Schist in the Tehachapi Mountains is very similar to the Pelona Schist present elsewhere in southern California (fig **3,** Ehlig **1968,** Haxel and Dillon **1978).** I am in agreement with these authors that the dominant protoliths for the Pelona Schist are greywacke, basalt, and chert which were deposited in a deep water basin, possibly floored **by** oceanic crust. There is general agreement that the Pelona Schist was emplaced into its current position beneath Mesozoic granite and Precambrian gneiss along a subduction zone (Haxel and Dillon **1978,** Burchfiel and Davis **1981,** Crowell **1981,** Ehlig **1981),** but there is no agreement as to the direction of subduction. Haxel and Dillon and Ehlig favored west directed subduction, whereas Burchfiel and Davis and Crowell follow the lead of Yeates **(1968)** and suggested east directed subduction. One of the goals of this project was to look for structures in the Tehachapi Mountains that would resolve this controversy. Unfortunately, appropriate features are not exposed in the study area. However, arguments concerning the direction of subduction can be made using existing geologic data.

The principal evidence for west directed subduction-is the northeast vergence of drag folds near the Vincent Thrust System in the Chocolate and Picacho-Peter Kane Mountains (Haxel and Dillon **1978)** and the northeast facing Narrows Synform in the San Gabriel Mountains (Ehlig **1968).** West directed subduction implies that the Pelona protolith was deposited in either a back arc basin for the Sierra Nevada (Haxel and Dillon **1978)** or along the coast as in the Franciscan, and was subsequently overriden from the west **by** a microplate (Ehlig **1981).** Burchfiel and Davis **(1981)** have

argued that the direction of overthrusting deduced from the Narrows Synform is eqivocal because the synform may be truncated **by** the Vincent Thrust and its relation to possible larger structures masked. Moreover the Narrows Synform folds a pre-existing cleavage, but only has incipient axial plane cleavage of its own (Jacobson **1980).** Given the high degree of deformation in the overlying mylonites, presumably formed during thrusting, it is suprising that the Narrows Synform is not more fully developed. Alternatively, the Narrows Synform may be a late feature that formed after the major period of juxtaposition and its vergence is unrelated to the direction of emplacement of the Pelona Schist. Similarly, drag structures used **by** Haxel and Dillon to infer northwest directed overthrusting may be due to late events unrelated to the thrust as the folds refold the pre-existing schistosity. Concern about the age of these overturned structures is warranted because of the lack of evidence in the central Mojave Desert that: **1)** the back arc basin ever existed (absence of rift facies) and 2) the required suture resulting from closure of the basin or collision of a microplate is present.

Arguements in favor of east directed subduction center around the lack of evidence for a back arc basin and westward subduction and the similarity between the protoliths of the Franciscan Formation and the Pelona Schist. In this model, the Pelona Schist is simply Franciscan Formation that has undergone high temperature metamorphism as a result of its subduction and juxtapostition beneath hot, mid to lower continental crust and Mesozoic plutons. Burchfiel and Davis **(1981)** and Crowell **(1981)** have suggested that decreased dip of the subduction zone may be responsible for underthrusting of the Pelona Schist at least **250** km

beneath western North America. From changes- in magmatic patterns in the Cordillera, Coney and Reynolds **(1977)** and Keith **(1978)** have inferred a shallowing of the subduction angle to as little as 10°, along the west coast of the United States at **80** ma. In the process of emplacing the Pelona Schist, parts of the lower crust were probably stripped away since the Vincent Thrust cuts Mesozoic plutons. Petrologic data indicates emplacement of the Pelona Schist at mid-crsutal levels **(20-27** km, Graham and England **1976;** 27-32, km this study). Emplacement of the Pelona Schist following reduction of the subduction dip anlge at **80** ma is consistent with radiometric metamorphic ages of the Pelona Schist and mylonites in the San Gabriel Mountains, 47 **- <sup>59</sup>**ma (Haxel and Dillon **1978).** The age of emplacement of the Pelona Schist in the study area inferred from the age of the granulite, **86.1** ma, is somewhat earlier, but is consistent with opinions expressed **by** Burchfiel and Davis **(1981)** that emplacement of the Pelona Schist is older in the north than it is in the south.

**I** support the east directed subduction model and believe it has major implications for other aspects of the geology of the western California, particularly the Salinian block, and will be which will be discussed bel ow.

In all known exposures of the Pelona Schist, the upper plate consists, in part, of gneiss and granitic gneiss (Haxel and Dillon **1978).** Unanswered however, is the question of why rocks from intermediate to deep crustal levels have been brought to the surface rapidly and why the Pelona Schist appears to be spatially related to the San Andreas and Garlock Fault Zones.

As an explanation, I propose that isostatic uplift of Pelona Schist,

which has been thrust under the continental margin, is responsible for rapid exhumation of the Pelona Schist and overlying gneiss from deep crustal levels. I also suggest that this period of shallow subduction followed **by** isostatic uplift is responsible for the absence of western Sierran terrane in the Salinian block, and may have initiated the crustal weakness that later became the San Andreas Fault.

To get the proper perspective of the geometries involved, the effects of late Cenozoic displacement in southwestern California must be removed. Figure **31** shows the configuration of the various tectonic blocks in pre-Miocene time. The pre-Miocene reconstruction places the Salinian block and the Tranverse Ranges directly opposite the regions of the Mojave Desert which contain the Pelona Schist. The net effect of removing postearly Miocene displcaemnet is to reduce the length of the outcrop belt containing the Pelona Schist.

I envision a scenario that begins shortly **(5 - <sup>10</sup>**ma) before **80** ma to allow time for the effects of the change in the subduction zone dip to affect the volcanic regime. There is no evidence to indicate whether North America is relatively fixed or inert and the subducting oceanic crust moves upward or whether North America is actively overriding inert oceanic crust. I prefer the second case because the mechanical interaction between the two plates will be stronger, resulting in subduction of the Pelona Schist and stripping away of lower continental crust. Coney **(1971, 1972)** suggested that North America was pushed over the subduction zone because of increased rates of expansion in the North Atlantic at **80** ma. The low dip of the subduction zone is generated **by** thrusting North America over the trench and accretionary wedge onto



Figure **31.** Pre-Miocene reconstruction of southern California (from Burchfiel and Davis **1981).**

essentially horizontal oceanic crust rather than requiring the dipping slab to move upward. Since the accretionary wedge was overthrust, the Franciscan underlay hot lower continental crust. It was heated from above **by** thermal relaxation of the hot exposed roots of the magmatic arc and lower continental crust, and as a result metaorphosed under high temperature-medium pressure conditions "becoming" the Pelona Schist. In the process of overriding the subduction zone it is conceivable that portions of the lower continental crust were tectonically eroded and removed. At a **10** to **15** cm per year convergence rate (Dickinson **1980),** less than 2 million years are required to underthrust the nearest Franciscan Formation 200 km (fig. **31)** from the trench to beneath the Techachapi Mountains.

The effect of the first stage of the model is that Franciscan Formation outboard of the Salinian block is removed and emplaced beneath the western Mojave Desert (fig. **32b).** The degree of overthrusting was not as great north of the western Mojave since Franciscan Formation is present along the western edge of the San Joaquin and Sacremento Valleys. This is not to impute that no Franciscan Formation was overridden (subducted) north of the western Mojave Desert. In a recent cross section of the northern Coast Ranges and Sacremento Valley, Suppe **(1979)** shows Franciscan and possible subducted oceanic crust extending under the Sacremento Valley. The removal of lower continental crust and its replacement **by** Pelona Schist and oceanic crust is supported **by** the P-wave velocity structure beneath southwestern California (figure **33)** which shows a thicker, high velocity, lower continental crust beneath the Tranverse and Peninsular Ranges in comparison to the Mojave Desert (Hadley and Kanomori

Figure **32.** Skematic model for the empalcement of the Pelona Schist.

a) Pre **88** ma. Configuration of the western margin of the United States. It is a typical island arc with accretionary wedge (FF **-** Franciscan Formation), forearc basin **(GVS -** Great Valley Sequence) and volcanic arc.

**b) 86** ma. The volcanic arc has overridden the accretionary wedge. Accretionary wedge material is thermally metamorphosed becoming the Pelona Schist **(PS).**

c) Subducted sedimentary material, Pelona Schist, isostatically rises causing uplift.

**d) 70 - 75** ma. The edge of the volcanic arc and sedimentary cover have been eroded exposing the metamorphic and plutonic core. The Pelona Schist is now at relatively shallow crustal levels.



**COMMUNICATION CONTINUES.** 

 $\ddot{\phantom{a}}$ 



Figure **33.** P-wave velocity structure of southwestern California (from Hadley and Kanomori **1977).**

**1977, 1979).** The P-wave velocities beneath the Peninsular Ranges are indicative of rocks of mafic composition whereas those beneath the Mojave are similar to granites.

Assuming more light weight sedimentary material has been emplaced under the continental edge than has been removed, isostatic forces will cause uplift of areas underlain by the Pelona Schist (fig 32c,d). The Franciscan (Pelona Schist) may not have been smeared out into a uniformly thick layer beneath North America, but may have remained relatively thick under the western, tappered edge of the arc. As a result greater amounts of uplift are occurred in that region. Uplift probably began immediately, as a result of thrusting and isostatic response. The entire Salinian and Transverse Range blocks were, as a whole, uplifted and eroded down to their metamorphic and-plutonic cores (fig **32d).** In the Salinian block, the Great Valley Sequence and the western Sierran terranes were completely removed **by** erosion and possible strike-slip movement resulting from oblique subduction (Dickinson **1980).** The core of the Salinian block was exposed **by** the latest Cretaceous when coarse conglomerates of late Campanian and Maestrichtian age were deposited in isolated basins (Howell and Vedder **1978)** on top of Cretaceous metamorphic and plutonic rocks. Isostatic equilibrium may have been attained in the Eocene when widespread marine deposition took place in the Salinian block and Tehachapi Mountains. To the south, in the Transverse Ranges, the Pelona Schist was still being emplaced as indicated **by** its 47 to **59** ma metamorphic ages. In the Picacho-Peter Kane Mountains, on the opposite side of the San Andreas Fault from the Transverse Ranges, the Pelona Schist was uplifted and exposed at the surface **by** the Oligocene **(39** ma) when it was overlain **by**

volcanics (Haxel and Dillon **1978).**

The exposures of Pelona Schist generally mark the eastern edges of great uplifted blocks, **27** to **32** km of uplift in the Tehachapi Mountains, 20 to **27** km in the San Gabriel Mountains, and **16** to 24 km in the northern Salinian block. These blocks are also outlined **by** the San Andreas and Garlock Faults. I do not believe that the association of the Pelona Schist and the San Andreas and Garlock Faults is mere coincidence. Although **highly** speculative, I believe a cause-effect relationship can be established. This model will be developed with respect to the the Salinian block, but applies with minor variations, to the Transverse Ranges and possbibly the Peninsular Ranges as well.

The metamorphic and plutonic core of the Salinian block was exposed **by** the latest Cretaceous (Howell and Vedder **1978),** whereas the earliest movements on the San Andreas Fault are middle Miocene, (Dickinson and others **1972).** Therefore, uplift and thinning of the Salinian block is a pre-San Andreas event. Thinning was accomplished **by** tectonic erosion of the bottom, when the accretionary wedge was overridden, and **by** erosion at the surface following isostatic uplift. In addition to broad upwarping, there was almost certainly large scale vertical faulting, as indicated **by** the isolated late Cretaceous basins. Data clearly indicates that the complete thickness of the continental crust had been eroded, exposing the Pelona Schist **by 39** ma in the Picacho-Peter Kane Mountains. If the Pelona Schist in the Tehachapi Mountains was not at the surface in the Eocene, it was certainly within a few kilometers of the surface. It appears that uplift was greatest along the eastern edge of the Salinian block since the Pelona Schist is exposed on that side. Thus, there existed in pre-Miocene time, a zone of thinned and fault weakened crust. This zone was probably linear and may mark the eastern edge of the overridden accretionary wedge. I propose that the location of the San Andreas Fault was controlled **by** this zone of pre-existing weakness which is underlain **by** the Pelona Schist.

The location of the Garlock Fault may have been contolled in a similar manner, following a zone of weakness due to thinned crust, resulting from large amounts of pre-fault uplift. The granulite terrane in the Tehachapi Mountains had been uplifted approxiamtely **30** km between **86** ma and the Eocene. In addition to the vertical movement, the first leftlateral movements, amounting to at least **15** km, occurred during this period.

The model proposed here for the location of the San Andreas Fault attributes the pre-existing zone of weakness to crustal thinning, resulting from emplacement of the Pelona Schist followed **by** isostatic uplift. There could have been other causes of weakness in the crsut as well. Inspection of figure **31** shows that in pre-Miocene time the Salinian block and portions of the volcanic arc to the south were displaced westward from their presumed continuations to the north in the Sierra Nevada batholith. One of the signatures of this displacement is particularly noticeable across the western Garlock Fault Zone where the **0.706** Sr initial ratio line runs east-west, coincident with the Garlock Fault Zone. To the north the **0.706** line runs north-south with lower initial ratios indicative of oceanic crust to the west and higher values indicative of continental crust to the east. In the Tehachapi Mountains, oceanic ratios are due north of continental ratios. If the isotopic

trends present in the Sierra Nevada initially continued south of the Garlock Fault, the **0.706** line has undergone right-lateral displacement which is opposite to the current left-lateral displacement on the Garlock Fault. There are two possibile causes for the bulge in the craton: **1)** the northwestern portion of the Mojave Desert region is an old promintory on the continental margin and the Sierra Nevada volcanic arc bends around it, or 2) the western portion of the Mojave Desert has been displaced from more central portions. If the terranes, currently bordering the western end of the Garlock Fault, were rotated **90\*** in a counterclockwise direction, the north-south trends of the **0.706** line would be restored (Burchfiel and Davis **1981).** Burchfiel and Davis have suggested that other, presumably linear features of the Cordillera, have undergone **90\*** of clockwise rotation (left-lateral oroclinal bending). These features include: **1)** the Permo-Triassic truncation boundary, 2) fault slivers moved south along the Permo-Triassic truncation boundary, **3)** the trace of the northern outcrops of the Pelona Schist, 4) the trace of Mesozoic accretated terranes, and **5)** the western outline of the Sierra Nevada batholith. Rotation is supported **by** paleomagnetic data which indicates **500** of clockwise rotation of the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs **(1180 30'** W, **350 15' N)** between **80** and 20 ma (Kanter and McWilliams **1980).** If the rotation theory is correct, further paleomagnetic studies should show a progressive increase in the amount of rotation in more western portions of the Sierra Nevada "tail".

An alternative test is to look at the Sr initial ratios in the northern Salinian block. The rocks there should show a northward decrease in initial ratios as in the Tehachapi Mountains if rotation has taken

place. **If** the northwestern Mojave and Salinian block were a pre-Cretaceous promintory, the initial ratios should show an east-west increase and their trend should gradually bend around the northern end of the Salinian block. Current data is equivocal since it depends upon on how faulting of Salinian block rocks north of San Francisco is restored (Johnson and Normark 1974, Ross **1978).** If there was pre-Eocene leftlateral movement on the Garlock Fault, the timing of the clockwise rotation is further limited to the period **86** to **50** ma.

Howell **(1975)** postulated that the western Mojave was a westward bulge or knee in the continental margin that has been, in part, dismembered **by** Cenozoic strike-slip movement. Sr isotopic data, from the Tehachapi Mountains (this study) and the San Emigdio Mountains (Ross **1980),** show a westward decrease, **0.7058** to **0.7038** in the initial ratio. This change toward lower values would be expected if the San Emigdio Mountains were paleogeographically oceanward of the the Tehachapi Mountains as in the preexisting promintory hypothesis. According to the oroclinal bending hypothesis, similar values would be expected in the Tehachapi and San Emigdio Mountains because they were originally on strike.

**If** the promintory in the continental margin existed in the late Cretaceous, it could explain why the Franciscan was overridden in the south and not overriddent to the north. In the late Cretaceous, convergence between the Farallon Plate and North America was oblique (figure 34) (Dickinson **1980).** As southwestern Califronia overrode the trench and the oceanic plate to the west in response to increased convergence rates and changes in direction of plate motion, a downwarp was propogated in the oceanic plate north of the promintory. The downwarp

Figure 34. Location of subduction zone in the Late Cretaceous (base from Burchfiel and Davis **1981)** Arrows show direction of plate convergence (Dickinson **1979).** As a result of oblique subduction a depression is created in the oceanic crust in front of the Franciscan Formation and forces the subduction zone to move westward preventing the overriding of the Franiciscan Formation **by** North America.



forced the trench to jump westward north of the promintory, ahead of overridding North America, thus preserving the accretionary wedge west of the San Joaquin and Sacremento Valleys. The downwarp was not created prior to **80** ma because subduction was orthogonal to the trench at that time.

This scenario does not preclude the possiblity of a pre-late Cretaceous orocline to establish the promintory, but does require that some of the features used to document oroclinal bending be due to other causes. The Pelona Schist in the northwestern Mojave was emplaced after the promintory was created and the Pelona's outcrop pattern is unrelated to bending. The reason for the observed rotation in the paleomagnetic data is removed, since the rocks passed through the Curie temperature after the oroclinal bending event. The nature of the oroclinal bending event remains enigmatic. Burchfiel and Davis offered no reasons why oroclinal bending took place, but neither are there good reasons why there should have been a promintory in southwestern California. The best method to solve the oroclinal bending problem is probably further paleomagnetic study of the San Emigdio and Tehachapi Mountains.

## Crustal Cross Section Through the Tehachapi Mountains

Figure **35** is a skematic north-south cross section of the crust through the Tehachapi Mountains. It is based on petrologic data presented in this report and the model developed for the emplacement of the Pelona Schist. The thickness of the crust **(30** km) beneath the Mojave is from seismic data (Hadley and Kanomori **1977).** The most important feature is the difference in thickness of the crust north and south of the Garlock



Figure **35.** Crustal cross section through the Tehachapi Mountains.

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Fault Zone. Metamorphic petrology clearly indicates a 20 km difference in the crustal levels exposed at the surface. This is reflected in the subsurface **by** the difference in the depth at which the Pelona Schist in encountered. The Pelona Schist is at much shallower levels beneath the San Joaquin Valley than it is beneath the Mojave Desert. Because of the dominance of strike-slip movement along the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone, it is considered to be vertical, whereas the north branch of the fault zone is shown as a dipping fault surface that becomes a subhorizontal decollement, the Vincent Thrust System.

## Correlations of the Granitic Terrane

The granitic terrane south of the Garlock Fault Zone is perhaps the simplest terrane in the study, but the least can be said about it. The Rb-Sr age of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite indicates that the granitic plutons are part of the areally extensive Early Cretaceous volcanic arc. Petrographically, the Tejon Lookout Granite and the Gato-Montes Granodiorite are similar to plutonic rocks east of the tonalite of Bear Valley Springs and north of the Garlock Fault Zone (Ross **1980).** The Rb-Sr isochron age of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite, **131.6** ma, is much older than the K-Ar biotite ages, **75** and **78** ma (Ross **1980),** of the rocks north of the Garlock Fault Zone and may better reflect the emplacement age because of its higher closure temperature. **If** the rocks south of the Garlock Fault Zone are indeed related to the rocks north of the Garlock Fault Zone then the northern rocks are considerably older than previously considered (Ross **1980,** Kistler and Peterman **1978).** Many of the late K-Ar ages in the Sierra Nevada and Mojave Desert have been interpretted as representing a

late phase of igneous activity, uplift cooling ages, or reheating due to shear along the subduction zone (Armstrong and Suppe 1974, Miller and Morton **1980).** The age of the Bison Granulite has been interpretted as reflecting the rapid cooling of the lower continental crust brought about **by** emplacement of the Pelona Schist (this study). It is possible that the temperature of the plutons with young K-Ar ages remained above the K-Ar biotite closure temperature for a long period of time after emplacement and were not cooled until the cold Pelona Schist was emplaced, cutting off their source of heat. Underthrusting of the Pelona Schist may therefore be responsible for the uniformity of **80** ma K-Ar ages in large regions of the Mojave and Sierra Nevada. To test whether or not this happened, a detailed isotopic study of the same rocks using the different isotopic systems is needed so that the thermal history of the plutons can be obtained.

On the basis of petrologic similarity, Ross **(1980)** correlated the Lebec Quartz Monzonite with the Gato-Montes Granodiorite. He proposed that the Lebec Quartz Monzonite has been transported 45 km to the west along the Garlock Fault Zone. I believe that the Lebec Quartz Monzonite and Gato-Montes Granodiorite are indeed related, but that the Lebec Quartz Monzonite has not been transported an appreciable distance. As previously stated, west of Bear Trap Canyon the Pastoria Thrust, not the western end of the Garlock Fault Zone as mapped **by** Crowell **(1952),** is the continuation of the fundalmental crustal discontinuity that characterizes the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone to the east. I believe that the majority of the movement on the Garlock Fault Zone took place on this fundamental break north of the Lebec Quartz Monzonite. However, minor amounts of

displacement may have taken place on subsidiary splays of the fault zone such as the one mapped **by** Crowell when the Pastoria Thrust branch of the Garlock Fault Zone became locked with respect to strike-slip movement because of compression at the bend in the San Andreas Fault. Thus I believe the Lebec Quartz Monzonite is an extension of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite pluton south of the Garlock Fault Zone and that it is esentially in place.

There is insufficient data to establish the paleogeographic setting of the metamorphosed sedimentary rocks present in pendants in the plutonic rocks south of the Garlock Fault Zone. The biggest stumbling block is their age. Contact metamorphism has destroyed any fossils that may have been present. The only age constraint is that the sediments were at approximately **10** km depth when they were intruded **by** the Gato-Montes Granodiorite at **131** ma.

The metasediments are probably a continuation of the sediments exposed in Bean Canyon **10** km to the east. Lithologically, they are very similar to the quartzite, schist, calcsilicate and carbonate rocks of the Late Triassic-Early Jurassic Kings sequence (Saleeby and others **1978)** in the central Sierra Nevada. The closest Kings sequence rocks to the Tehachapi Mountains are rocks of the Kernville Series exposed at Monolith. The rocks at Monolith are mainly marble and quartzite. The marble is similar to that exposed in the western Tehachapi Mountains, but the massive quartzite does not have a direct correlative. Elsewhere in the Kernville Series (Dibblee and Warne **1970,** Dibblee and Louke **1970),** andalusite- and sillmanite-bearing schist is present and may be correlative with the clastic rocks in the western Tehachapi Mountains.

Mesozoic sedimentary rocks are also present near Victorville (Miller **1977)** and the Rodman Mountains (Miller and Carr **1978),** but the exact relations are unknown. The Victorville rocks contain metavolcanics, whereas the Rodman Mountains rocks do not. In the Tehachapi Mountains no unequivocal volcanics were identified.

The pendants south of the Garlock Fault zone are not related to the quartz-feldspathic gneiss north of the Garlock Fault Zone because marble is overwhelmingly dominant lithology to the south and arkose the dominant lithology to the north.

If the sedimentary rocks of the southern Tehachapi Mountains are Paleozoic in age, they would have to be parts of terranes displaced from the north during the Permo-Triassic truncation because they contain too much clastic material-to be part of the miogeocline. If rocks of the Paleozoic miogeocline were present in Tehachapi Mountains, they would have been removed, transported to the south, during the Permo-Triassic truncation. Although the displaced terranes may have the proper lithologies their appears to run south of the Tehachapi Mountains.

Correlation of the metasedimentary rocks of the granitic terrane with those of the Kings sequence is best, but correlation with other units can not be ruled out in as much as a complete Mesozoic section has not been found at any locality.

As a summary, a brief outline of the events that led to the formation of the Tehachapi Mountains is presented below:

- **1)** Mesozoic **(?) -** accumulation of the sediments present in the roof pendants south of the Garlock Fault Zone.
- 2) Mesozoic **-** accumulation and deep burial of volcanics and volcanogenic sediments that later became the granulite terrane.
- **3)** Late Jurassic and Cretaceous **-** deposition of the Franciscan Formation (Pelona Schist protolith)
- 4) **131.6** ma **-** intrusion of the Gato-Montes Granodiorite
- **5)** approximately **88** ma **-** western North America starts to override its accretionary wedge, emplacement of the Pelona Schist begins.
- **6) 86.1** ma **-** Pelona Schist has been emplaced beneath the Tehachapi Mountains setting the age of the Bison Granulite.
- **7) 86.1** ma to Early or Middle Eocene **-** uplift and erosion of **27** to **32** km of rock north of the Garlock Fault Zone, at least **15** km of left-lateral movement on the south branch of the Garlock Fault Zone and the Pastoria Thrust.
- **8)** Quaternary **-** development of thrust type displacement on the Pastoria Thrust, continuation of left lateral movement on the Garlock Fault Zone, formation of the current western trace of the Garlock Fault Zone.

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PLATE I


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## GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE WESTERN TEHACHAPI MOUNTAINS PLATE II (WESTERN HALF)

Geology by: John Sharry



Power 305 







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NBGFZ - North Branch Garlock Fault Zone

 $\sim 10^{-1}$ 

 $\sim 100$ 

 $\sim$ 

## GEOLOGIC CROSS SECTIONS PLATE IV



