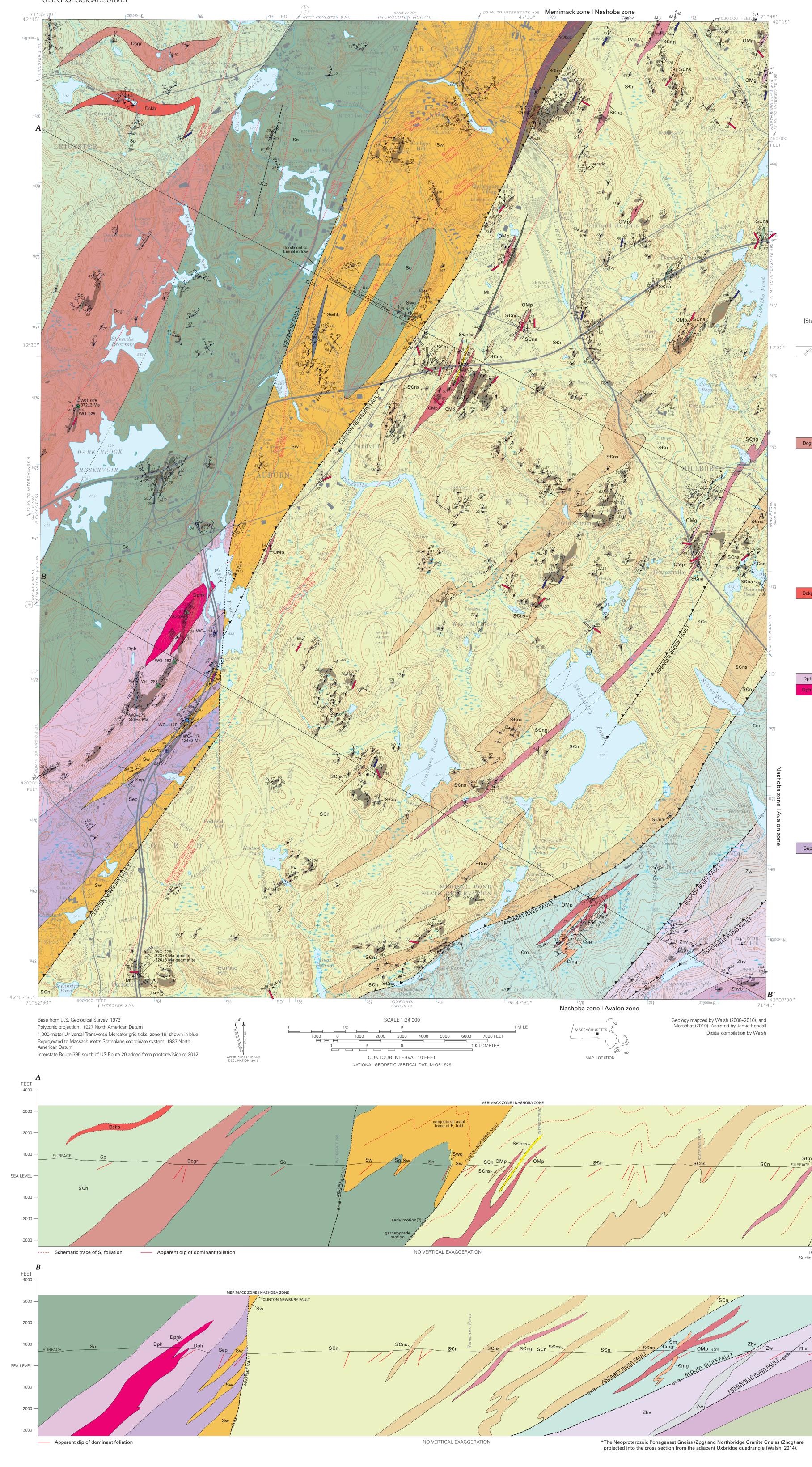
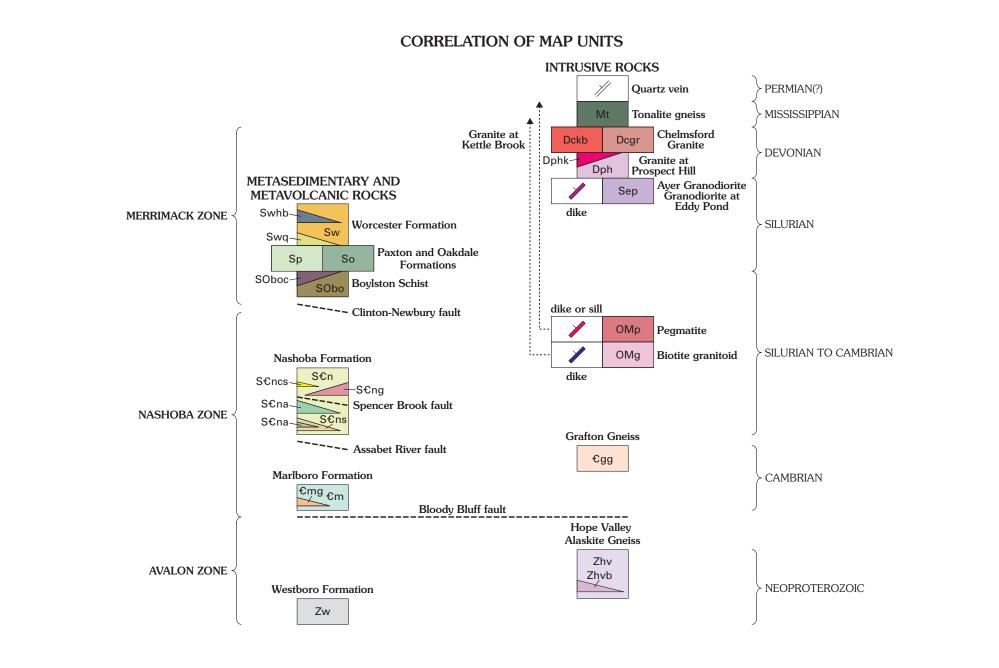
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY







DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS [Station locations referenced on the map are included in the accompanying GIS database.]

INTRUSIVE ROCKS Quartz vein (Permian?)—Quartz veins locally contain variable amounts of chlorite, ankerite, graphite, muscovite, magnetite, epidote, hematite, biotite, calcite, tourmaline, dolomite, sulfides, plagioclase, and alkali feldspar. Milky to smoky quartz veins are generally tabular and locally irregularly shaped, show sharp boundaries with the host rock, and locally contain blocky to elongate quartz crystals with euhedral terminations in vugs as much as several centimeters (cm) across along the median line. Strike and dip symbols show the location and orientation of 43 veins. Measured veins are as much as 0.3 meters (m) thick, dip steeply, and show variable strikes

ROCKS OF THE MERRIMACK ZONE Intrusive Rocks

Chelmsford Granite (Late Devonian)—Light-gray to white, rusty tan- to white-weathering, medium- to coarse-grained, foliated biotite-muscovitequartz-plagioclase-microcline monzogranite and granitic pegmatite. Contains trace amounts of chlorite, opaques, apatite, garnet, titanite, epidote/clinozoisite, saussurite, and zircon. Occurs as outcrop- and map-scale dikes that range from several centimeters thick to kilometer-scale intrusions. Contacts with the adjacent Paxton and Oakdale formations are not exposed, but xenoliths of the Paxton Formation granofels were observed on the southern ridge of Deadhorse Hill. Good exposures occur in Auburn at cuts along the Penn Central Deadhorse Hill. Previously mapped as "mqm" ("muscovite-biotite quartz monzonite") by Barosh and others (1977) or as "Sagr" ("granite to tonalite") of the Ayer Granite on the State map (Zen and others, 1983). Barosh (unpub. data, 1996) correlates the rock with the Eastford Gneiss of Pease (1972), and Barosh (2009) uses the informal name Eastford granite for this unit. Walsh and others (2013b) report a Late Devonian SHRIMP uranium-lead (U-Pb) zircon age of 375±3 Ma (mega-annum) from the Chelmsford Granite in northeastern Massachusetts, and Wintsch and others (2007) report a SHRIMP U-Pb zircon age of 379±4 Ma from the Eastford Gneiss in northeastern Connecticut. Walsh and others (2013a) report a preliminary SHRIMP U-Pb zircon age of 372±3 Ma from sample number WO–025 collected north of Dark Brook Reservoir Granite at Kettle Brook (Devonian)—White to very light gray, tan- to

tourmaline-quartz-plagioclase-microcline monzogranite and granitic pegmatite. Contains conspicuous black tourmaline crystals up to 2 cm long and small (≤3 millimeters (mm)) garnet porphyroblasts. Contains minor to trace amounts of muscovite and biotite, plus trace amounts of chlorite and apatite. Well exposed in Kettle Brook north of Stump Hill in Worcester where it contains xenoliths of the Paxton Formation. Also occurs as a foliation-parallel sill within the Paxton Formation at a cut on the Penn Central Railroad near the junction of Grand View Avenue in Worcester; there it is shown by a purple strike and dip symbol. Previously included within "Sagr" of the Ayer Granite on the State map by Zen and others (1983) Granite at Prospect Hill (Devonian)—Light-gray, gray to locally tan and rusty weathering, medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular, moderately

to weakly foliated quartz-plagioclase-microcline monzogranite with a few

vhite-weathering, medium- to coarse-grained, foliated garnet-

percent muscovite and biotite in approximately equal proportion. The rock is generally less foliated and more massive towards the northwest, farther from the Clinton-Newbury fault. Contains trace amounts of chlorite, opaques, apatite, and zircon. Exposed on the southern and eastern slopes of Prospect Hill in Auburn and Oxford. It is well exposed along the power line in the vicinity of the Oxford–Auburn town line. The rock is similar to, but less micaceous than, the Chelmsford Granite. Contacts with the adjacent Oakdale Formation to the northwest and the Granodiorite at Eddy Pond to the southeast are not exposed. On the northeastern slopes of Prospect Hill, the unit contains a gray, inequigranular biotite-quartz-plagioclase-microcline monzogranite (mapped as Dphk) with distinctive microcline megacrysts up to 3 cm long. The feldspar crystals are locally euhedral, but in most places are deformed into augen generally 1 to 2 cm long. Dphk contains about 13 percent biotite and trace amounts of muscovite and chlorite. The contact between Dph and Dphk is not exposed, though nearby outcrops are within a few meters. Previously mapped as "Sagr" of the "Ayer Granite" on the State map by Zen and others (1983), informally as the Late Proterozoic Oxford quartz monzonite facies of the "Ayer Granite" by Barosh (unpub. data, 1996), or as "mqm" ("muscovite-biotite quartz monzonite") by Barosh and others (1977). Walsh and others (2013a) report a preliminary SHRIMP U-Pb zircon age of 386±3 Ma from sample number WO–279 collected on the south side of Prospect Hill Ayer Granodiorite (Silurian) (name revised by Walsh and others, 2013b)—Light- to medium-gray, generally equigranular, fine- to medium-grained, well-foliated to mylonitic, biotite-K-feldspar-quartzplagioclase granodiorite to monzogranite. Plagioclase is altered to saussurite, K-feldspar is altered to sericite, and biotite is altered to chlorite. Contains minor to trace amounts of fabric-forming muscovite. Contains trace amounts of chlorite, hornblende, epidote/clinozoisite allanite, opaques, titanite, tourmaline, garnet, zircon, calcite and apatite. Kinematic analysis of mylonitic fabric (see mylonitic pattern on map and station 1034 in GIS database) north of Chimney Pond shows down-dip normal motion at garnet grade, above chlorite stability. Mylonitic foliation is defined mostly by syn-tectonic muscovite-biotite and quartz

oblique foliation, and C'-type shear bands. Locally contains distinctive dark-gray biotite schist (Sw xenoliths) and biotite tonalite to quartz diorite enclaves that occur as 1 to 30 cm long patches and lenses that are flattened in the plane of the foliation and elongated into down-dip rods parallel to the lineation. Contains small (≤ 1 cm) feldspar megacrysts at exposures on Interstate 395 (I-395) northbound, north of Chimney Pond. Well exposed on I-395 between Exits 5 and 6, near Eddy Pond and Chimney Pond. Exposures in the median of I-395, approximately 400 m south of Cedar Street in Auburn, show that the granodiorite intruded the Worcester Formation (Sw) in a zone of abundant foliationparallel dikes or sills, each of which is 10 to 20 cm thick; the location is shown on the map by a purple strike and dip symbol. Gore (1976) reports that the Clinton facies of the Ayer also intrudes the Worcester Formation. Previously mapped as "ape" ("early porphyritic quartz monzonite of the Ayer") by Barosh and others (1977) or as "Sacgr" ("Clinton facies") of the "Ayer Granite" on the State map by Zen and others (1983). The mapped rock is largely equigranular, however, it does not contain the large feldspar megacrysts that characterize the Clinton facies. Barosh (unpub. data, 1996) described the rock as the "Eddy

Quartz Diorite Facies" for exposures near Eddy Pond. The unit is similar

SENS __ SEALEVEL

1000 feet = 305 meters

Surficial deposits not shown

Digital compilation by Walsh

ribbons. Asymmetric fabrics include mica fish, feldspar porphyroclasts,

to the biotite granodiorite of the Devens-Long Pond facies of the Ayer Granodiorite in the Nashua South quadrangle (Walsh and others, 2013b). Walsh and others (2013a) report a preliminary SHRIMP U-Pb zircon age of 424±3 Ma from sample number WO-117 collected on

Metasedimentary Rocks

Worcester Formation (Silurian) Phyllite and schist—Dark-gray to silvery gray, locally rusty weathering, carbonaceous quartz-muscovite phyllite or schist. Bedding that is locally graded is difficult to discern, but is characterized by light-gray, locally tan weathering, cm-scale sandy laminations and metasiltstone or metasandstone beds as much as 5 cm thick. Limited topping data from graded beds suggest that the Worcester Formation is stratigraphically above the Oakdale Formation. The unit varies northwest to southeast from chlorite grade in the northwest to staurolite grade in the southeast. The contact with the Boylston Schist is not exposed. The contact with the Oakdale Formation is exposed at one place in the outflow channel of the Blackstone River flood control tunnel; there it is sharp and marked by a quartzite (Swq). In the chlorite zone, the metapelite is a chloritemuscovite-quartz phyllite with trace amounts of tourmaline, graphite, ilmenite, sulfides, plagioclase, epidote/clinozoisite, and apatite. In the biotite zone, the metapelite is a biotite-chlorite-quartz-muscovite phyllite with trace amounts of tourmaline, graphite, ilmenite, sulfides, plagioclase, epidote/clinozoisite, and apatite. In the garnet zone, the metapelite is a garnet-chlorite-biotite-quartz-muscovite phyllite to schist with trace amounts of tourmaline, graphite, ilmenite, sulfides, plagioclase, epidote/clinozoisite, and apatite. In the staurolite zone, the metapelite is a plagioclase-staurolite-garnet-biotite-quartz-muscovite schist with trace amounts of chlorite, tourmaline, graphite, ilmenite, ematite, sulfides, epidote/clinozoisite, zircon, and apatite. The unit contains calc-silicate rock mapped as Swhb Calc-silicate granofels-Gray to light-gray, zoisite-clinozoisite/epidoteiopside-plagioclase-hornblende/tremolite-quartz granofels with distinctive light- to dark-green amphibole porphyroblasts. Exposed in Auburn along the west side of Pakachoag Street near the intersection of Burnap Street and Bancroft Street. Contacts with the surrounding schist are not exposed. Mapped as a hornblende quartz diorite gneiss by Grew

Swq Quartzite—Light-gray to white, tan-weathering, massive vitreous quartzite interlayered with gray plagioclase-staurolite-garnet-biotite-quartzmuscovite schist. This unit is approximately 8 m thick. Contact with the underlying Oakdale Formation is sharp where exposed in the outflow channel of the Blackstone River flood control tunnel. May be correlative with the Tower Hill Quartzite (Grew, 1970; Goldsmith and others, 1982; Markwort, 2007) So Oakdale Formation (Silurian)—Interbedded gray, very light gray, purplish-gray, and purplish-green, locally rusty weathering, biotiteplagioclase-quartz granofels and lesser (≤25 percent) gray to dark-gray and purplish-gray plagioclase-chlorite-biotite-muscovite-quartz schist to phyllite. Rocks are locally calcareous, carbonaceous, or sulfidic. Granofels contains minor amounts of muscovite, chlorite, and carbonate

and trace amounts of actinolite/tremolite, epidote/clinozoisite, apatite, opaques (including sulfides and graphite), ilmenite, titanite, tourmaline, and zircon. Locally contains light-gray to purplish-gray or very pale green calc-silicate rock consisting of epidote/clinozoisite-actinolite/tremolitebiotite-plagioclase-quartz granofels containing mostly (>90 percent) plagioclase and quartz. Actinolite/tremolite crystals occur as tiny (>0.3 mm) grains generally aligned in the plane of the dominant foliation. Calc-silicate rock contains trace amounts of sphene, carbonates, zircon opaques including sulfides, and apatite. Pelitic rocks contain abundant quartz veins with ankerite, dolomite, calcite, chlorite, lesser sulfides, tourmaline, and plagioclase. The contact with the Worcester Formation is exposed at one place in the outflow channel of the Blackstone River flood control tunnel (see description of units Sw and Swq above). In general the unit is poorly exposed, but roadcuts in Auburn at the following three locations provide excellent exposure: (1) the junction of I-290, I-395, and U.S. Route 20, (2) the I-90 exit 10 interchange, and (3) Water Street between I-290 and Route 12

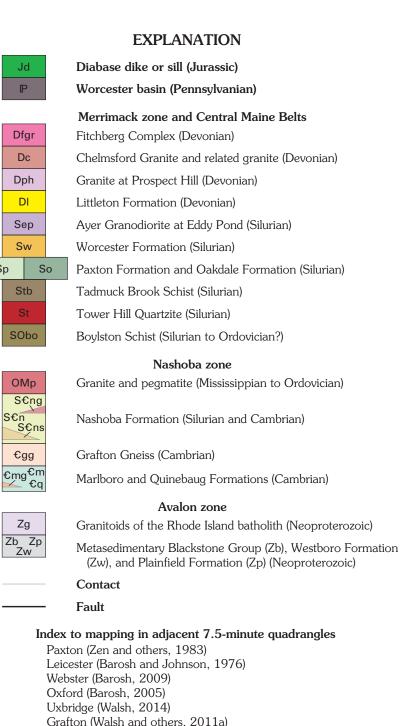
Paxton Formation (Silurian)—Gray, locally rusty weathering, slabby, biotite-quartz-plagioclase granofels with trace amounts of epidote/ clinozoisite, actinolite, tourmaline, opaques (including sulfides and graphite), apatite, sphene, and zircon. Locally a calc-silicate granofels, consisting largely of biotite, quartz, and plagioclase with a few percent actinolite and epidote/clinozoisite, and trace amounts of apatite, sphene, and zoisite. The Paxton Formation contains dikes and sills of granite and pegmatite estimated to be about 10 to 20 percent of the unit (Barosh and Moore, 1988). The unit is lithologically similar to the Oakdale Formation, but lacks appreciable metapelite. The presence of granitoid rocks and the lack of carbonate indicate that it experienced a somewhat higher grade of metamorphism. This belt of rocks is considered the Paxton Group by Barosh and others (1977) or the Dudley Formation in the lower part of the Paxton Group by Barosh and Moore (1988) and Pease (1989). Here we use the name "Paxton Formation" for continuity with the statewide map (Zen and others, 1983; Robinson and Goldsmith, 1991). Robinson and Goldsmith (1991) noted a similarity between the Paxton Formation and the lower-grade Oakdale Formation. Grew (1970) mapped the Oakdale and the Paxton together as the Oakdale Formation, and showed higher grade rocks in the western part of the Worcester North quadrangle that we could not confirm in the Worcester South quadrangle

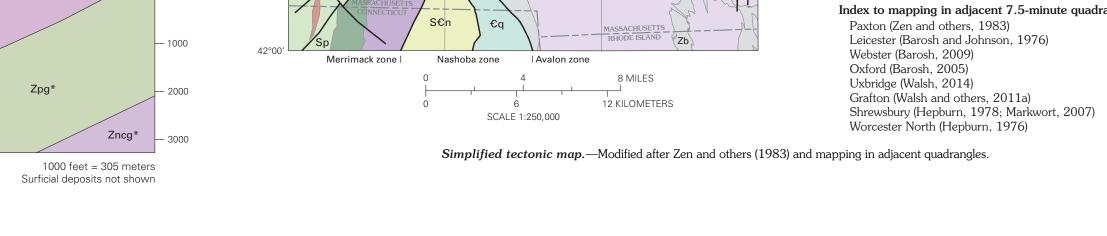
assemblage (±actinolite-biotite-guartz-plagioclase). The contact between the Paxton and Oakdale formations is either not exposed or is occupied by the Chelmsford Granite. The Paxton Formation is not well exposed, but representative outcrops occur in Kettle Brook between the elevations of 550–570 feet and in Lynde Brook between the elevations of 730–760 Boylston Schist—(Silurian to Ordovician?) Schist and granofels—Gray, medium-grained, rusty weathering, stauroliteiotite-garnet-chlorite-plagioclase-quartz-muscovite schist and granofels with undifferentiated boudins and layers of gray to light-gray, equigranular muscovite-biotite-chlorite-guartz-plagioclase granodioritic to tonalitic granofels to gneiss. The unit is interpreted as a metasedimentary rock consisting of interlayered metapelite (schist) and metapsammite

because rocks with the appropriate bulk composition were not found. All

thin sections from the two formations yielded essentially the same

(granofels) with intrusive layers, sills, and boudins of metamorphosed igneous rock. Igneous rock layers and boudins range in thickness from about 10 cm to 2 m. Metasedimentary rocks contain trace amounts of opaques (includes sulfides), epidote/clinozoisite, and zircon. Metaigneous rock contains trace amounts of opaques, epidote/clinozoisite, alkali feldspar, muscovite, and zircon. Retrograded staurolite, identified only in thin sections of schist, occurs as granular aggregates in sericite clots. Schist contains conspicuous garnet porphyroblasts, as much as 5 mm across. Biotite and garnet are retrograded to chlorite. Plagioclase occurs

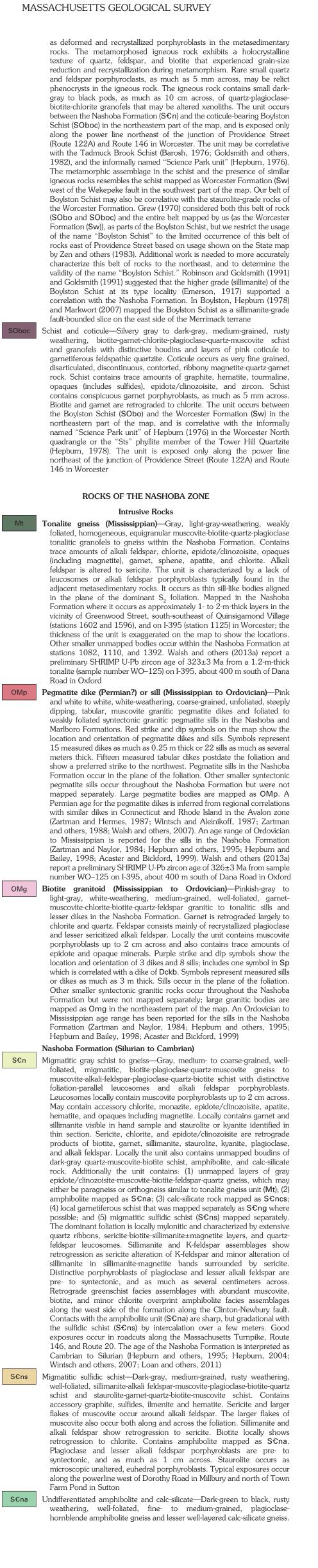




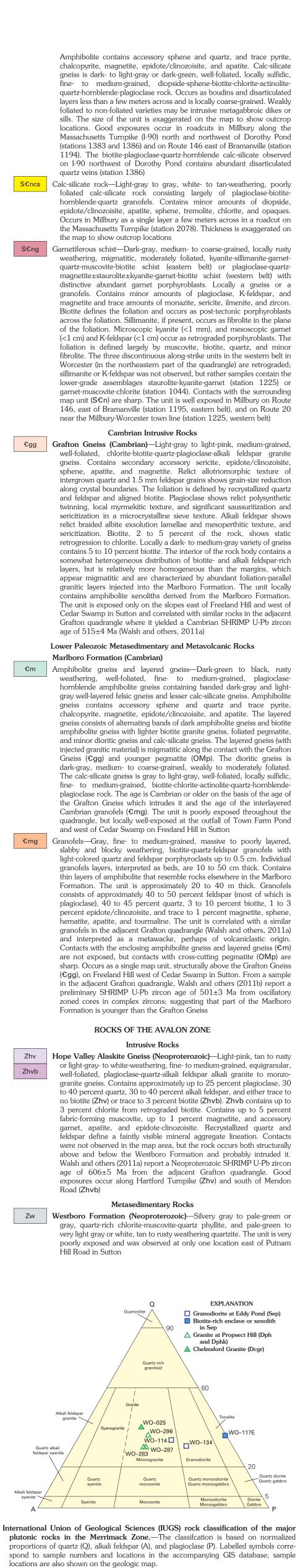
BEDROCK GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE WORCESTER SOUTH QUADRANGLE, WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

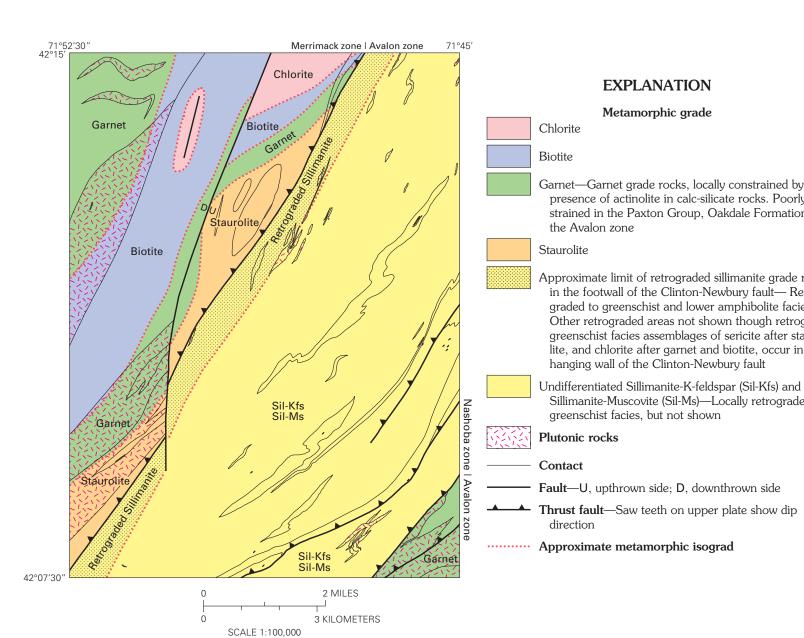
Gregory J. Walsh,¹ and Arthur J. Merschat² ¹U.S. Geological Survey, Montpelier, VT 05601. ²U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, VA 20192.

Prepared in cooperation with the COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

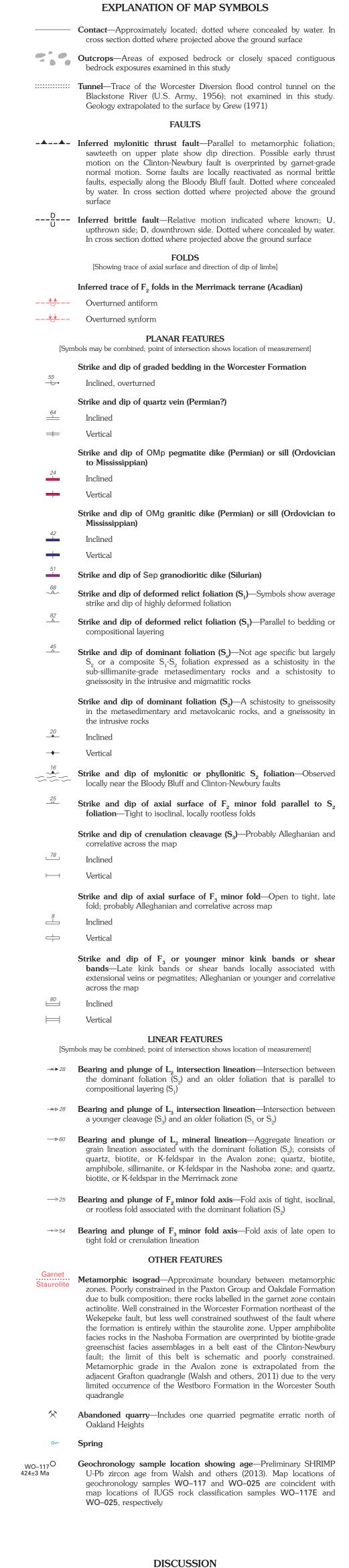


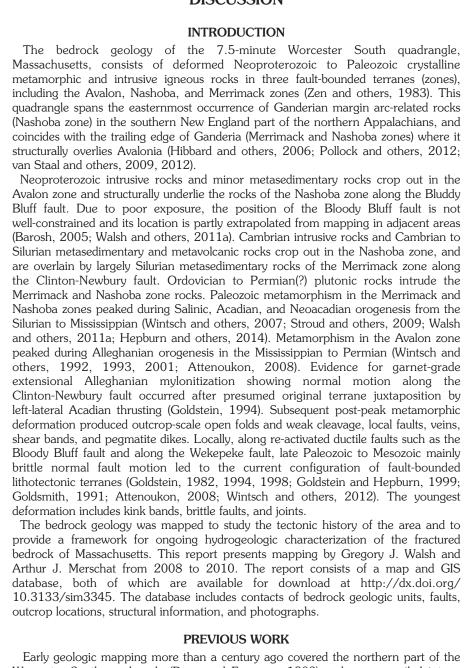
Road in Oxford











Worcester South quadrangle (Perry and Emerson, 1903) and was compiled into a regional synthesis by Emerson (1917). Prior to new mapping from 2008 to 2010 for this report, 1:24,000-scale published mapping in the Worcester South quadrangle was limited, although Grew (1970) mapped the northeastern corner of the Worcester South quadrangle and a preliminary map was completed by Barosh (1977). In addition, a provisional unpublished bedrock geologic map of the Worcester South quadrangle at 1:24,000 scale was completed by Patrick J. Barosh in 1996 and a copy was archived by the Massachusetts Geological Survey. [In the rest of the text this unpublished map is cited as Barosh (unpub. data, 1996).] Barosh published the results of some his work in the Worcester South quadrangle in fieldtrip guidebook articles (Barosh, 1976, 1982) and in small-scale compilations (Barosh, 1977; Barosh and others, 1977). Unpublished reconnaissance geologic map data of the Worcester South quadrangle by H. Roberta Dixon (1977-78) was acquired from the U.S. Geological Survey Field Records Collection Library in Denver, Colo. The state geologic map by

EXPLANATION

Metamorphic grade

Garnet—Garnet grade rocks, locally constrained by the

presence of actinolite in calc-silicate rocks. Poorly con-

strained in the Paxton Group, Oakdale Formation, and

Approximate limit of retrograded sillimanite grade rocks

in the footwall of the Clinton-Newbury fault- Retro-

graded to greenschist and lower amphibolite facies.

Other retrograded areas not shown though retrograde

greenschist facies assemblages of sericite after stauro-

lite, and chlorite after garnet and biotite, occur in the

Sillimanite-Muscovite (Sil-Ms)—Locally retrograded to

Undifferentiated Sillimanite-K-feldspar (Sil-Kfs) and

hanging wall of the Clinton-Newbury fault

greenschist facies, but not shown

Approximate metamorphic isograd

Biotite

Staurolite

Plutonic rock

direction

Contact

the Avalon zone

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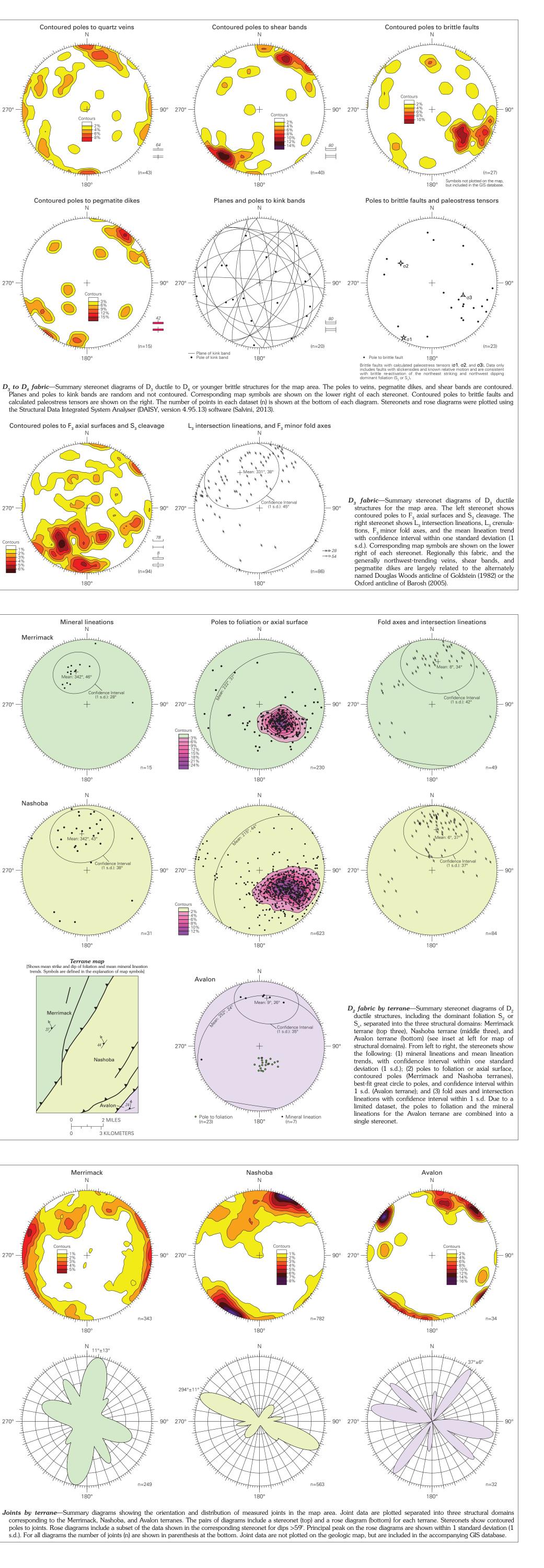
Barosh, P.J., 2009, Bedrock geologic map of the Webster quadrangle, Worcester

[Edited by R. Joesten and S.S. Quarrier.]

massachusetts.

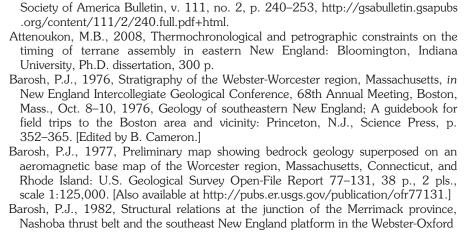
guadrangle-massachusetts.

publication/ofr77285.1



Zen and others (1983) cites these unpublished works by both Barosh and Dixon and the dissertation work of Grew (1970) as the primary sources of data for that 1983 map compilation. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS Special thanks go to J. Christopher Hepburn of Boston College and William C. Burton of the U.S. Geological Survey for their helpful suggestions and critical reviews of this publication.

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