

Bedrock Geology of the Middlesex Fells Reservation and Adjoining Parks and Preserves in Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham, and Winchester in

Middlesex County, Massachusetts (see also <http://sites.tufts.edu/fellsgeology>)

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Base Map Information

Geology mapped and compiled in GIS format since 2012 with continuing updates. Field data recorded in UTM coordinates (zone 19T) using 1927 North American Datum. Base map is a hill-shaded relief map from 2015 MassGIS LIDAR raster data with 1-meter resolution produced with ESRI's Multi-Directional Hillshade Raster Function in ArcMap. ARCMap 10.4.1 GIS GPS coordinates were used to check greater than 1500-scale. Transportation infrastructure outside the Middlesex Fells is from the MassGIS MASSDOT shape file with roads and trails (1983 NAD; last updated 2013). Trails and roads in the Middlesex Fells are from the MassGIS DCR Roads and Trails shape file (1983 NAD; last updated 2014). Small corrections were made to roads and trails to better correspond to the hillshade base where there was a clear mismatch. Water bodies and wetlands were traced as geologic units using the LIDAR generated hill shaded base map as a guide and 1927 NAD UTM zone 19T GPS coordinates recorded in the field. In some areas where the topography is more complex, geology maps were mapped as open water because the LIDAR data were obtained when reservoirs had very low levels. Mapping was done while water levels were high. The area contains the 1956, 1971, and 2015 editions of the 7.5-minute Boston North, MA Quadrangle (1:24,000), 1985 Boston North, MA 7.5 x 15-minute Quadrangle (1:25,000 metric), and the 2009 Boston, MA 15-minute Quadrangle. The western edge of the map area includes a small portion of the 1956, 1971, and 2015 editions of the Lexington, MA 7.5-minute Quadrangle (1:24,000).

DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS

*Nomenclature for color of rock units is according to the Geological Society of America's Manual Rock Color Chart as revised in 2009 and the *Manuell Soil Color Chart, 1975 edition. Color is given only for fine-grained rocks or for individual mineral rocks. Rock terminology follows the IUGS classification of igneous rocks (Le Bas and Streckeisen, 1991). A separate document at <http://sites.tufts.edu/fellsgeology> gives a picture catalog of volcanic rock features and textures in the Middlesex Fells, both in thin sections and hand samples, as well as definitions to show how the volcanic rocks were interpreted. The word "hornfels" is used in this document as a term for hard, brittle, generally fine-grained rock that breaks irregularly or with conchoidal fractures and is produced by contact metamorphism, loosely following the *Definition of Water (2010). Here, hornfels include fine-grained rocks produced by the contact metamorphism of mudstone or argillite and fine-grained basalt, which are often difficult to discern in the field. New formal rock names are used on this map to allow a subdivision of previously named units and to reinterpret correlations. This description is intended for poster display with the map. More detailed descriptions with hand sample and thin section images are given at the web address mentioned above.***

Quaternary and Artificial Deposits and Water Bodies

	Artificial fill - Land formed as a result of artificial filling or construction by humans. Only shown where it prevents interpretation of the bedrock geology.
	Water bodies – ponds, lakes, and rivers. Water bodies were traced as geologic units using the LIDAR generated hill shaded base map as a guide and 1927 NAD UTM zone 19T GPS coordinates recorded in the field. In some areas where the topography is more complex, geology maps were mapped as open water because the LIDAR data were obtained when reservoirs had very low levels. Mapping was done while water levels were higher.
	Swamps and other wetlands – areas covered by wetlands including permanent swamps and large vernal pools.
	Quaternary deposits – glacial, stream, mass movement, and other surficial deposits, where they are thick enough to prevent interpretation of the bedrock geology. Includes areas covered by till and end moraines near South Reservoir, at Wrights Pond and south of Ravine Road.

Intrusive Igneous Rock Units Occurring as Dikes or Unnamed Units

	Dolerite and basalt dikes (Ediacaran through Mesozoic?) – Grayish black to dark gray (N 2-3) and greenish-black to greenish-gray (SG 2-6/1) aphanitic to fine-grained phenaritic mafic dikes weathering to a rusty brown to gray color. Unit includes lamprophyric dikes. Some dikes have vesicles or amygdalues with epidote, calcite, quartz, and prehnite mineralization. Dikes that could not be fully traced have terminations marked with (?). Rare dikes known to terminate with blunt ends are marked with (e). Chemistry, field relationships, and ages of the dikes are discussed by Ross (1981, 1984, 1994, 1992, 2001, 2002). Dolerite dikes are often gray to black. Mapped only where dikes exceed a width of 1.0 m. Thinner dikes that are not as traceable are shown with a separate line symbol. Radiometric ages for dolerite dikes: 573 ± 5 Ma (⁴⁰ Ar/ ³⁹ Ar, whole rock), 353 ± 4 Ma (⁴⁰ Ar/ ³⁹ Ar, whole rock), 290 ± 15 Ma (K/Ar whole rock), 226 ± 3 Ma (⁴⁰ Ar/ ³⁹ Ar, whole rock) from Ross (2001) and Zartman et al. (1970).
	Porphyritic dolerite and basalt dikes (Ediacaran through Mesozoic?) – Grayish-black to dark gray (N 2-3) and greenish-black (SG 2/1), aphanitic to fine-grained phenaritic, porphyritic dolerite and basalt dikes with plagioclase phenocrysts. Plagioclase phenocrysts are as long as 10 cm and can occur as single tabular crystals or cumuloaphyric clusters. Includes occasional lamprophyric dikes with altered mafic phenocrysts. The ground mass appears darker and less altered than in plain dolerite dikes (d), but they are likely related to the dolerite dikes and have similar ages. Weathering to rusty brown or gray color, often with a yellowish-brown patina. Mapped only where dikes exceed a width of 1.0 m. Thinner dikes with densely packed coarse phenoic phenocrysts. Mapped only where dikes exceed a width of 1.0 m. Thinner dikes that are not as traceable are shown with a separate line symbol. Likely the same ages as dolerite dikes (d).
	Gabbro dikes (Ediacaran through Paleozoic?) – Dark greenish gray (SG 4/1) medium to coarse-grained phenaritic equigranular gabbro dikes. Composition like dolerite dikes (d) but coarser. Crossed by dikes trending NW-SW that pre-date the Medford Dike (Pn). Usually heavily altered with plagioclase replaced by sericite and pyroxene (augite) altered to amphibole (actinolite) and chlorite. A whole rock ⁴⁰ Ar/ ³⁹ Ar age determination by Ross (2001) is 403 ± 3 Ma.
	Highly altered gabbro, dolerite and basalt dikes (Ediacaran through early Paleozoic?) – Green (SG 4-2/4-6) heavily veined dikes of altered gabbro, dolerite and basalt. Included in this unit are highly altered (oxidized), dark reddish gray (SR 2/2 to 4/2-1), hematitic redd dolerite dikes. All dolerite dikes are altered to some degree, but this unit identifies extreme cases. Alteration includes almost complete replacement of feldspar by very fine sericite and epidote and replacement of pyroxene by amphibole (actinolite) and chlorite. Older than dolerite dikes (d) in the same area because they are crosscut by the less altered dikes, they may show the same deformation (fractures and foliation) as intruded rock units, and they may have a highly irregular trace.
	Gray Porphyritic andesite to dacite dikes (Ediacaran?) – Greenish gray (SGY 5/1) to light to medium gray (N 5-7/0) weathering and dark to medium gray (N 2-3/0) porphyritic, aphanitic to medium-grained andesite to dacite dikes with plagioclase phenocrysts and hornblende. Dikes can have abundant quartzite, argillite, and volcanic xenoliths from local quartzite and volcanic units. Possibly more than one age. Dikes on the east side of Spot Pond near the Stone Zoon are thought to be associated with the Stoneham Tonalite (Zst) that likely underlies the northern end of the pond. Mapped only where dikes exceed a width of 1.0 m. Thinner porphyritic gray andesite to dacite dikes that are not as traceable are shown with a separate line symbol.
	Pink porphyritic dacite to rhyolite dikes (Ediacaran?) – Reddish gray (SR 3/2 to 25YR 4/2) weathering and pinkish to tannish gray and light gray (7.5YR 7/2 to 5Y 7/1) non-weathered, porphyritic dacite and rhyolite dikes that are generally heavily fractured. Phenocrysts are plagioclase that are sometimes cumuloaphyic. Possibly more than one age but they occur west of rd. 93 where a large variety crosses the Spot Pond Granodiorite (Zsp) and the Newburyport Quartz Diorite (Zqd). Dolerite and rhyolite dikes are also present in the Stoneham Hill area. Mostly north-south trending. Reddish gray rhyolite dikes also occur in the Winchester Granite. Mapped with this unit are elongate lenticular rhyolite dikes in the Nanepeshemet Formation that may be associated with the Winchester Granite (Zwg). Mapped only where dikes exceed a width of 1.0 m. Thinner dikes are shown with a separate symbol.
	Dacite to rhyolite dikes with quartz and feldspar xenocrysts (Ediacaran to early Paleozoic?) – White (10YR 8/1) weathering light gray (10YR 7/1) to rhyolite to dacite dikes with medium (up to 1.5 cm) rounded and embayed feldspar and quartz xenocrysts. Based on grain size the xenocrysts appear to be derived from coarse granitic units. Color can vary from dark to light gray or tan (N 2-3/0 and 7.5YR 7/2 to 5Y 8/1) within one dike due to differences in grain size and mineralogical composition. Many units contain abundant quartzite nodules and sparse siliceous nodules with protruding xenocrysts. Only found on Whip Hill, in the MWRA excavation south of Ravine Road, and on the east shore of the peninsula in the Fells Reservoir extending to east of the Fellowship East. On Whip Hill, contains cubic fluorite phenocrysts capped by dark red hematite.
	Diorite (Ediacaran?) – A previously unrecognized greenish-gray (SG 4/1) diorite. About 40-50% zoned cumulated plagioclase with the remainder of the rock hornblende that is partly altered to chlorite and opaque mineral grains. Plagioclase is partly altered to sericite. Ilmenite and sparse titanite occur as accessory minerals. Has a single occurrence in the Fells as a small lenticular outcrop (70 x 15 m) intruding the Westboro Formation (Zwv) and cut by its south side by an east-west trending fault west of South Reservoir. Fractures and abundant veins in the diorite suggest that it is banded but the fault. It remains uncertain as to whether the north side contact is also a fault. Except for rare isolated grains, quartz and alkali feldspar are absent, making it difficult to associate with most Ediacaran intrusive bodies in the Fells. This unit is likely an isolated outcrop of the Rams Head Porphyry (Zhp), but with a higher than typical mafic content.

Named Rock Units

	Medford Dike (late Pennsylvanian) – Brownish to olive black (5YR 9/2), medium to coarse-grained gabbroite. The Medford Diabase or Medford Dike of Wilson (1901) and LaForge (1932). Mostly composed of plagioclase, altered andesine (actinolite), biotite, and accessory magnetite and possibly ilmenite. Margins have olivine. Contains many small mafic lenses with coarse-grained plagioclase and quartz. Has a large quartzite and sparse interstitial calcite. Deeply weathered along fractures to depths in excess of 10 m in quarry walls and reduced to just west and cores and coredones that show spherulid weathering in surface exposures. The dike extends northwards through Rd. 93 where it pinches out just west of Wrights Pond with a smaller branch at the dike further north along the east side of Rt. 93 and on the east side of Lawrence Memorial Hospital. The unit crosses all known adjacent dolerite dikes except a north-south trending dike reported by LaForge (1932) in Medford (see detailed explanation document for more on this at: http://sites.tufts.edu/fellsgeology). Chemistry and field relationships to other dikes are discussed by Ross (1990, 1992, 2020). The unit has a K-Ar (biotite) age of 190 Ma (Ross, 1981, 1990, 2001) and a likely more accurate ⁴⁰ Ar/ ³⁹ Ar biotite age of 304.4 ± 0.6 Ma (Ross, 2020).
	Stoneham Tonalite (Ediacaran) – Greenish gray (5B-Gb 5.6/1) tonalite. Has appearance of the fine to medium-grained quartz diorite because quartz may be fine-grained and inconspicuous, and the rock can have a high mafic content. Usually porphyritic in chll zones, but not away from these zones, and has tabular euhedral plagioclase throughout with varying alteration of interiors to sericite and epidote. Plagioclase is sometimes enclosed in fresher more alkaline rims forming zonation. Typically, at least 15% quartz, which are smaller than plagioclase and interstitial, and less than 10% feldspar that may be altered to plagioclase without potassium staining. Mafic mineral content of 15-50% that includes biotite and hornblende, which are mostly to partly altered to chlorite, epidote, and opaque oxides. Abundant inclusions of quartzite and argillite from the Westboro Formation (Zwv) and metabasalt from the Nanepeshemet Formation (Zpnm), and to the north, basalt and argillite from the Straw Point Volcanic Complex (Zspv). A chill zone contact with the rhyolite facies of the Straw Point Volcanic Complex (Zspri) occurs on the western side of small peninsulas at the north end of Spot Pond. The Wanaganquoit Porphyry (Zwp) may be an extension of the tonalite into the Nanepeshemet Formation (Zpnm). Interpreted by Kaye (1980) and LaForge (1932) but not by the Newburyport Quartz Diorite of Emerson (1917). Bell (1948) classified this unit as the “Newburyport Quartz Diorite” phase of the Dedham Granodiorite. Recently this unit was also lumped with the Dedham Granodiorite (mostly Spot Pond Granodiorite of this map) as a dioritic phase (Smith and Hon, 1984; Hepburn and others, 1993) but it is textually distinct from the Spot Pond, does not contact it or the Rams Head Porphyry (Zhp) to the south, and it intrudes the Straw Point Volcanic Complex (Zsp) indicating that it is separated from the Spot Pond in time by at least 14 Myr.
	Wanapanquoit Hill Porphyry (Ediacaran?) – Pinkish tan to gray aphanitic porphyry at the south end of Wanapanquoit Hill along the east shore of Middle Reservoir in Winchester. Phenocrysts of well-formed tabular plagioclase in a much finer matrix of quartz, altered mafic minerals, and very minor alkali feldspar. Red matrix color due to hematitic staining. The unit is no more than 100 m across and occurs entirely within the Nanepeshemet Formation (Zpnm). The relationship of this unit to surrounding plutonic bodies remains uncertain, however, it is like the porphyritic chill zone of the Stoneham Tonalite (Zst) and it may be a branch of this unit.
	Whip Hill Formation (Ediacaran) – Dark gray (7.5YR 3/0), well cemented, laminated or thinly bedded to massive (when in mass flow units) sandy mudstone, which weathers to a rusty yellowish brown (10YR 5/6), enclosing fine to medium-grained quartz sandstone oololiths. Has flat, laminated and graded bedding with crosscutting in mudstone and ripple crossbeds and preserving that dip very steeply to the north or northwest (see Bailey, 1984 and Bailey and others, 1980) in sandy units. The unit is no more than 100 m thick and is present in most places are dark gray rusty weathering mudstone drape layers (olistostromes) ranging from 10 cm to at least 20 m in thickness with mudstone breccia that have cemented quartz and rounded quartz sandstone beds. Unconformably rests on the Wamost Hill Felsite at southern end of Whip Hill and along the west side of the swamp east of the DCR Yard.

Volcanic units in the Northern Fells –*Two volcanic units of similar age but different compositions: Straw Point Volcanic Complex and the Wamost Hill Felsite. These units are mapped separately until more definitive ages are determined for rhyolite flows at the north end of Spot Pond.*

	Straw Point Volcanic Complex (Ediacaran) – Three distinct facies of bimodal volcanic flows (basalt and rhyolite), silicic pyroclastic rocks, and dark bluish and greenish gray argillite associated with basalt at the northeast corner of Middle Reservoir and the northern corner of Spot Pond. Mapped by Emerson (1917) and LaForge (1932) as the upper bimodal volcanic part of the Marlboro Formation. Bell and Alvord (1976) defined these units and dark units beneath them (mapped here as the Nanepeshemet Formation) lying on the quartzite-rich Westboro Formation as the Middlesex Fells Volcanic Complex. Mapping in the Fells by Kaye (1980) identified large areas of chlorite and epidote-rich metabasalt hornfels and dark argillite as “quartz vitrophyre” that he included with the Middlesex Fells Volcanics following the stratigraphy of Bell and Alvord (1976). The Nanepeshemet Formation (Zpnm) is interesting here to have pervasive contact metamorphism, hydrothermal alteration, and an unconformable relationship with the overlying Straw Point Volcanic Complex at the north end of Middle Reservoir. The Straw Point is not in contact with the Nanepeshemet Fm. in exposures at the northwest corner of Spot Pond due to faults and intrusion of the Stoneham Tonalite but contact of the Straw Point and Nanepeshemet may occur beneath Spot Pond.
	Basalt/argillite facies – Dark greenish gray (5B-G 3-4/1) to dark reddish gray (10R 3/1) altered aphanitic to very fine granitic and occasionally amygdaloidal basalt interlayered with laminated to thin bedded dark bluish to greenish gray (5B-G 5-6/3-4/1) argillite to fine sandstone, that has minor amounts of andesitic or pyroclastic rock, both basaltic and silicic. Occurs as the top unit in the Straw Point Volcanic Complex at Straw Point. Basalt and argillite are mapped as a single facies because they are interlayered, and it has not been possible because of alteration to determine the fine grain sizes consistently in the field. Bedding is generally horizontal to often contorted. Basalt and sedimentary units are both heavily altered with abundant chlorite, and quartz, calcite, epidote, and iron oxide mineral precipitates in amygdalues and veins. At least one argillaceous unit at the base of a basalt flow is partly calcareous and displays alveolar weathering that mimics vesicles. This unit represents the top of the Straw Point Volcanic Complex at Straw Point but exposures north and east of the Fells may have multiple basalt/felsite cycles.
	Pyroclastic/volcaniclastic facies – Light gray to gray (10YR 5-7/1) crystal tuff and volcaniclastic sandstone to conglomerate with abundant lithic fragments and abundant broken plagioclase crystals. Deeply embayed quartz xenocrysts found in the Wamost Hill and Pine Hill Felsites have not been found. Some areas are non-welded. Also contains lithic volcanic clasts and basalt and quartzite lithic fragments. Unit overlies the rhyolite facies in its beneath and interbedded with the basalt/argillite facies (Zspb) at Straw Point. It is dominantly silicic pyroclastic and volcaniclastic rock. Not recognized by Kaye (1980).
	Rhyolite flow facies – Lower part of Straw Point Volcanic Complex that is light gray (10YR 7/1) to gray (10YR 6/1) banded recrystallized lithic with scattered lithic fragments and very dark grayish brown to reddish brown (10YR 3/2 to 5YR 4/4) banded lithic beds interpreted to be flows with sparse euhedral cumuloaphyic plagioclase crystal clusters. Units on the east side of Straw Point display flat flow banding that dips gently and parallel to overlying basaltic units and indicates the unit's orientation. At Straw Point and on north shore of Spot Pond the unit displays a microporphyritic texture to desiccation and possibly recrystallization by contact metamorphism adjacent to the Stoneham Tonalite (Zst), which gives hand samples and weathered surfaces a faint spotted appearance. A Middlesex Reservoir there is a U-Pb zircon age of 594.7 ± 0.3 Ma (ID-TIMS, F. MacDonald, pers. com.).

	Wamost Hill Felsite (Ediacaran) – East-west striking silicic volcanic units that include dark gray (7.5YR 4/0) welded vitric tuff with oriented feldspar crystals; very dark gray (7.5R 3/0) flow banded rhyolite lava with cumuloaphyic feldspar crystals, pinkish gray (7.5YR 6/2) to gray (7.5YR 6/0) mildly to non-welded crystal to lithic tuff and breccia with broken plagioclase and quartz crystals, abundant volcanic lithic fragments, and coarse granitic debris. Displays macro-spherulitic texture (relics lithophysae?) and relic perlitic texture in Whip Hill Park at the top of a flow unit. The basal contact is unconformable. The Nanepeshemet Formation (Zpnm) foliation (toward) and displays none of the Westboro's deformation or metamorphism. Although often in fault contact above with the Whip Hill Formation an oroclinal unconformity is exposed west of Whip Hill and in Whip Hill Park with an abrupt change from volcanic to quartzite-rich sedimentary units above that cuts across the general east-west trend of the volcanic units south of Whip Hill. Mapped as quartzite on Wamost Hill by LaForge (1932) and Kaye (1980). Kaye overestends the quartzite along Pond Street in Stoneham to Greenwood Park. East of the Fells the unit has a large outcrop area, where LaForge and Kaye map the unit as part of the Lynn Volcanic Complex of Clapp (1921). The Wamost Hill is mapped separately from the Straw Point Volcanic Complex because it has different lithologies and no basaltic component, but these two units are close in age. The Wamost Hill is tentatively thought to be a Pine Hill Felsite equivalent but this has yet to be confirmed. The Wamost Hill appears to be correlative to the Lynn Volcanic Complex further east but its exact member in the Lynn (Smith and Hon, 1984; Smith, 1985) is not known. This unit has a U-Pb zircon age of 595.8 ± 0.22 Ma (ID-TIMS; F. MacDonald, pers. com.).
	Zwh

Pine Hill Felsite (Ediacaran) –*Volcanic rock units unconformably overlying the Spot Pond Granodiorite (Zsp) in the Pine Hill and Wrights Pond areas and the Black Rock Tuff in the Bojium Rock area. Present mapping of these units does not match the volcanic units mapped by Kaye (1980) who correlated this unit to the Lynn Volcanic Complex of Clapp (1921) and LaForge (1932) and lumped it with what is here interpreted as a separate, older, more massive, and quartz deficient Black Rock Tuff (Zbr). Previous maps also lumped this unit with finer parts of the subvolcanic Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Zwg). In the Pine Hill area the unit is split into two members: lower lithic tuff and volcaniclastic remnant of the Middle Hill Member (Zpnm) and upper lithic crystal tuff of the Wrights Tower Tuff Member (Zwt). In the Bojium Rock area the unit is divided into four facies because units are intensely faulted and not traceable as members.*

	Zwt	Wrights Tower Tuff Member (“Lower Member” of Zarrow, 1976) – Dark bluish gray (5B 4/1) to gray (N4/1) welded crystal tuff with varying sizes and abundances of crystals and lithic fragments. Unit well exposed at Wright's Tower on Pine Hill and on the southern end of Middle Hill where it is intruded by the Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Zwg). At Wrights Tower the unit contains irregular and pinched masses of vitric tuff. Crystals are both euhedral and broken and are primarily plagioclase but also include rare rounded and embayed quartz crystals, which appear to be xenocrysts from the Spot Pond Granodiorite and include rounded quartz pyramids, and minor alkali feldspar. Lithic fragments include a wide variety of silicic volcanic rocks and quartzite that sometimes has heavily stained, stretched, and recrystallized quartz grains indicating a likely Westboro Formation (Zwv) source. Thin sections display layering and crystal fabrics that are deformed around lithic fragments but are difficult to recognize in the field.
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	Middle Hill Member – Dark bluish gray (5BG 3-4/1) to gray (N4/1) fine-grained volcaniclastic sandly fine sandstone (Zpnm1) to greenish gray (5CYG 4-5/1 matrix) polyclitic conglomerate (diamicite) with a variety of lithic grains (Fig. Zpnm2-3) including pebbles to boulders of the Spot Pond Granodiorite (Zsp). Large Spot Pond Granodiorite (Zsp) clasts in Middle Hill first recognized by Robert Reuss of Tufts University (samples and unpublished field notes, 1982-1985). On Pine and Middle Hill units includes deformed and pinched masses of light gray weathering, gray (N 5-6) vitric tuff that are sometimes banded and enclosed in a rusty weathering volcaniclastic sandstone to conglomerate containing abundant rounded and broken plagioclase and quartz grains, and some alkali feldspar, and granitic sand to cobble size and interbedded with argillite. West of Bellevue Pond the base of the unit contains brecciated granophyre clasts from the subvolcanic Lawrence Woods Granophyre, while in other places the granophyre appears to intrude this unit suggesting the granophyre and volcanics are coeval. This unit is thought to be equivalent to the breccia/volcaniclastic conglomerate facies in the Bojium Rock area.
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Facies in the Bojium Rock area		Zdp	Banded and flattened pumice-bearing welded crystal tuff facies – Dusky blue to grayish purple (SPB 4/2 to 5P 2-4/2) welded, lithic, and crystal tuff with well preserved volcanic structures including banding, flattened pumice fragments, and (auto-?) brecciated reddish to purple crystal and banded tuff. Surface is light gray to pale grayish blue (5Y 6-8/2). On the northeast shore of Wrights Pond part of the unit is reddish black (SR 2/1) welded and banded vitric tuff with minor crystals and lithic fragments.
		Zht	Vitric tuff facies – Light bluish to pinkish gray (5B 7/1 to 10YR 8/1) fine vitric tuff with occasional faint layering, and a chert-like appearance in outcrop. This unit grades between almost pure fine ash tuff and fine ash tuff to sparse fine crystals and lithic fragments. A unit of this type has not been found in the Pine Hill area.
		Zbr	Granite to boulder volcanic breccia and volcaniclastic conglomerate facies – Medium light to dark gray (N3-6) to greenish gray (5CYG 5/1, matrix) volcanic breccia to breccialastic clast-supported, round pebble conglomerate similar to the Middle Hill Member of the Pine Hill area but with blackish green hornfels and argillite. Lithologies are interbedded but argillite is more abundant and medium to dark reddish gray (2.5YR 4-5/2) when non-weathered. It has euhedral plagioclase phenocrysts and rounded and embayed quartz crystals. Unit is distinct from tuff of the Black Rock Tuff in that it has: 1) large almost completely euhedral plagioclase phenocrysts and cumuloaphyic plagioclase clusters that appear to be fresher and larger than in the Black Rock, where crystals are mostly broken and never cumuloaphyic; 2) areas of flow layering along its contact with a same color characteristics and plagioclase crystals as in the dominant more massive porphyry at the core of the unit; and 3) abundant rounded and embayed quartz crystals that do not occur in the Black Rock. Along the unit's contact is occasional pinkish gray to light gray (7.5YR 7/0-8/2) weathering and gray to faintly greenish gray (7.5YR 5/0 to 5BG 6/1) volcaniclastic sandstone or lithic tuff that has red to pink and gray rounded volcanic lithic fragments. Based on its physical geometry and composition this unit is tentatively interpreted to be a large chert-like dune formed by the porphyry and associated with the Pine Hill Felsite. Similarities with the Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Zwg) suggest that it is a near surface offshoot of the granophyre but no isopach connection has been found.
		Zbrv	Red rhyolite porphyry facies – Rhyolite porphyry, up to 100 m wide and trending north-northeast to south-southwest, that cuts across the crystal tuff facies of the Black Rock Tuff (Zbr). Traces from Bojium Rock area northward to the northeast peninsula of Little Reservoir where it terminates at a fault. It is composed of medium to dark gray (10YR 6 to 5YR 7/2) when weathered and is medium to dark reddish gray (2.5YR 4-5/2) when non-weathered. It has euhedral plagioclase phenocrysts and rounded and embayed quartz crystals. Unit is distinct from tuff of the Black Rock Tuff in that it has: 1) large almost completely euhedral plagioclase phenocrysts and cumuloaphyic plagioclase clusters that appear to be fresher and larger than in the Black Rock, where crystals are mostly broken and never cumuloaphyic; 2) areas of flow layering along its contact with a same color characteristics and plagioclase crystals as in the dominant more massive porphyry at the core of the unit; and 3) abundant rounded and embayed quartz crystals that do not occur in the Black Rock. Along the unit's contact is occasional pinkish gray to light gray (7.5YR 7/0-8/2) weathering and gray to faintly greenish gray (7.5YR 5/0 to 5BG 6/1) volcaniclastic sandstone or lithic tuff that has red to pink and gray rounded volcanic lithic fragments. Based on its physical geometry and composition this unit is tentatively interpreted to be a large chert-like dune formed by the porphyry and associated with the Pine Hill Felsite. Similarities with the Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Zwg) suggest that it is a near surface offshoot of the granophyre but no isopach connection has been found.
		Zwg	Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Ediacaran) – Porphyritic granophyre in southern Fells of Medford. Pale red to reddish pinkish purple (SR 6/2 – 5RP 6/2) and pale brown (10YR 6/3) to faintly brownish to reddish gray (5-10YR 4-6/3) granite to quartz monzonitic granophyre with phenocrysts of plagioclase and needle-like hornblende. Rock has a granophyric and micrographic alkali matrix that gives the unit its reddish pink color and heavily stains for potassium. Very fine-grained, porphyritic, and distinctly reddish orange to pink in chill zones along its northern contact with rocks of the Pine Hill Felsite at Pine Hill, Wrights Pond and East Bunker Road) and Spot Pond Granodiorite (Lawrence Woods). Rock gets progressively coarser to the south from contact with the felsite and is dominated by coarse-grained plagioclase and quartz. Southeast of South Reservoir and near the xenoliths of the Rams Head Porphyry in northeast Lawrence Woods. Unit is clearly intrusive in this section and is thought to be a subvolcanic body related to the Pine Hill Felsite. Mapped as part of the Dedham Granodiorite by LaForge (1932) and Kaye (1980) with the finer chilled margin of the unit lumped by Kaye (1980) with the Lynn Volcanics. Bell (1948) classified this unit as the “porphyritic micrographic granodiorite” and “micrographic granodiorite” phases of the Spot Pond Granodiorite and the Dedham Granodiorite (Spot Pond Granodiorite of this study) as a porphyritic marginal phase (Smith and Hon, 1984; Hepburn and others, 1993). However, the gradational chilled margin is sharp and coarsens away from the Spot Pond Granodiorite and volcanic rock formations of the southern Fells. U-Pb zircon ages (ID-TIMS) reveal two separate populations (3 crystals each). The older population (598.13 ± 0.27 Ma) and possibly the younger (596.77 ± 0.25 Ma) are inherited.
		Zhp	Rams Head Porphyry (Ediacaran) – Greenish gray to gray (SG 4-5/1) porphyritic tonalite to quartz diorite. Has the appearance in the field of diorite because: 1) quartz and alkali feldspar form fine interstitial pockets yielding inconspicuously between much larger euhedral zoned plagioclase phenocrysts, which dominate the rock; and 2) mafic mineral content is relatively high. Typically about 10-25% quartz and always <10% alkali feldspar in the non-mafic component. Mafic mineral content is usually about 15% but can be higher and is mostly hornblende with lesser biotite that are often altered to chlorite, calcite, epidote and opaque minerals. Also in the rock is primary interstitial titanite and accessory ilmenite. Southeast of South Reservoir and near Medford High School are dismembered parts of the Spot Pond Granodiorite (Zsp) that may form a rock pond. In contact with the Spot Pond Granodiorite the porphyry has well displayed chilled margins and contacts that show assimilation of granodiorite. Unit has intrusive contact with the Westboro Formation (Zwv) near Rams Head Hill in northern Lawrence Woods and on Silver Mine Hill. The Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Zwg) has a chill zone along its contact with the Spot Pond Granodiorite. Relative age with the Stoneham Tonalite (Zst) has not been determined but the Stoneham is thought to be younger because it intrudes younger volcanic units. The Rams Head crosscuts and terminates reddish colored rhyolite dikes (fp) that pass through the Spot Pond Granodiorite at Wenopquin Hill. Southeast of South Reservoir LaForge (1932) did not distinguish the porphyry from the much coarser and quartz-rich Spot Pond Granodiorite of this study. Kaye's (1980) map distinguishes the porphyry from the Dedham Granodiorite and the Spot Pond Granodiorite as the “granite granophyre” and the “granite tonalite” respectively. This unit matches the granite facies of the Spot Pond Granodiorite. Kaye includes the unit with the Stoneham Tonalite of this map in the northern Middlesex Fells and correlates it with the Newburyport Quartz Diorite of Emerson (1917) and LaForge (1932). The Stoneham and Rams Head are not physically connected at the surface and the Stoneham is not porphyritic except in its contact areas. A U-Pb zircon age for the Rams Head (6 crystals, ID-TIMS): 596.24 ± 0.16 Ma.
		Zbr	Vitre (fine-crystal) tuff facies – Light bluish to pinkish gray (5B 7/1 to 10YR 8/1) vitreous to very fine crystal tuff. Weathers to light colors (very pale orange to very light gray; 10YR 8/2 – N8) and in places has faint steeply east-dipping layers that define bedding. Can have a chert-like texture and crystals greater than 1 mm are sparse. This unit also has more fine broken quartz fragments than other facies. Unit occurs at the southeastern border of the Fells in Malden and is not exposed over a wide area.
		Zbrv	Lithic crystal tuff facies – A traceable N-S striking and east dipping layer within the crystal tuff facies (Zbrv) in the southeastern Fells similar to the vitric tuff facies (Zht) but with the additions more than 0.5 mm rounded and embayed lithic fragments more than 10% in number. Lithic fragments range up to 8 cm and include abundant reddish-brown and medium to dark gray crystal tuff with white plagioclase, medium to dark gray aphanitic devitrified volcanic rock, sparse amygdaloidal rocks, highly foliated very fine-grained banded felsite, lithics with flattened glass or pumice, devitrified flattened porphyritic silicic lava fragments (originally glass), and occasional quartzite and argillite. This layer has a sharp western contact and grades to the east to crystal tuff with smaller and sparser lithic fragments that occur in discontinuous patches where the rock transitions to the vitric tuff facies. This unit is upright and younger than the vitric tuff facies. This unit matches the trend of layering occasionally seen in the adjacent crystal tuff facies and internal to the unit (see next unit below). LaForge (1932) recognized this unit as a breccia with dacitic matrix in the Melrose Highlands and Oak Grove area of Malden (near Black and Melrose Rocks). While the Oak Grove deposit is the one identified here the Melrose deposit may be a younger volcanic unit further north.
		Zbrv	Zone with flattened and stretched glass (pumice?) fragments – At the top (east side) of the lithic crystal tuff facies (Zbrv), recrystallized flattened pockets interpreted to be flattened and stretched glass/pumice fragments. Pockets are up to 10 cm long, but usually 2-4 cm, weather to a dark color, and are recessed from the rock surface due to weathering. The mineralized pockets parallel the overall layering defined by the lithic tuff unit and banding measured within the Black Rock Tuff. Measurements of the strike and dip of the foliation defined by the pockets are indicated with a separate symbol.
		Zbrv	Crystal tuff facies – The dominant facies of the Black Rock Tuff. Light to dark gray (N3-6) with occasional silicly greenish or reddish tones) welded crystal tuff with varying sizes and abundances of crystals and lithic fragments. Unit well exposed at Wright's Tower on Pine Hill and on the southern end of Middle Hill where it is intruded by the Lawrence Woods Granophyre (Zwg). At Wrights Tower the unit contains irregular and pinched masses of vitric tuff. Crystals are both euhedral and broken and are primarily plagioclase but also include rare rounded and embayed quartz crystals, which appear to be xenocrysts from the Spot Pond Granodiorite and include rounded quartz pyramids, and minor alkali feldspar. Lithic fragments include a wide variety of silicic volcanic rocks and quartzite that sometimes has heavily stained, stretched, and recrystallized quartz grains indicating a likely Westboro Formation (Zwv) source. Thin sections display layering and crystal fabrics that are deformed around lithic fragments but are difficult to recognize in the field.
		Zpdp	Doleful Pond Granite (Ediacaran) – Coarse-grained white to greenish gray or light pink equigranular granite to granodiorite with tannish white and light greenish gray (SGY 8/1), euhedral to subhedral plagioclase and pale red (10R 5-6/2), perthitic alkali feldspar (microcline). Feldspars have a pistachio greenish appearance when they are altered to epidote and sericite. Mafic minerals (always <10%), which were originally biotite, are largely altered to chlorite, epidote and opaque minerals. Also in the rock is primary interstitial titanite and accessory ilmenite. Southeast of South Reservoir in the northern Fells. This unit is similar to the Spot Pond Granodiorite in mineralogy and grain size but has more conspicuous alkali feldspar. It has no physical connection with the Spot Pond and is conservatively treated as a separate unit pending age control and further mapping outside the Fells. The Doleful Pond Granite was interpreted as part of the Dedham Granodiorite by Emerson (1917) and LaForge (1932). LaForge (1932) shows this unit as an isolated circular area within Newburyport Diorite. This unit was lumped with the Stoneham Tonalite of the current map. Kaye (1980) does not distinguish this unit from the tonalite, which is surprising given its conspicuous alkali feldspar grains and coarse grain size. Kaye mapped it as part of a large body of tonalite/granodiorite mapped here as the Stoneham Tonalite (Zst) and Winchester Granite (Zwg). The age of this unit remains uncertain.
		Zsp	Spot Pond Granodiorite (Ediacaran) – Coarse-grained, mostly leucocratic, white to greenish gray or light pink equigranular granodiorite with some areas of granite. Plagioclase is cream to light greenish gray (SGY 8/1) euhedral to subhedral and generally coarse-grained when altered to epidote and sericite. Subordinate pale red (10R 5-6/2), perthitic, interstitial alkali feldspar (microcline; see Zsgk below) that is occasionally a poikilitic host to euhedral plagioclase. Feldspar cores determine overall color of rock. Quartz occurs as abundant (up to 50%), coarse strained grains with undulatory extinction. Mafic minerals (usually <10%), are chlorite, epidote and opaque minerals formed by alteration of biotite with a few scattered primary opaque grains that are titanomagnetite or ilmenite. Hornblende also occurs in the unit but is much less abundant than biotite and is usually completely altered to chlorite and epidote. Local variations occur with: 1) alkali feldspar concentration and minor