

Description of Map Units

Geologic Symbol	Unit Name	Description	Age Group
Ca	Alluvium	Reddish brown, poorly sorted mixture of rounded pebbles to boulder-sized clasts with sand, silt, and clay, as interbeds and interstitial matrix. Locally, layers of moderately well sorted, rounded cobbles or sandstone pebbles are present. Thickness estimated at 10 feet to more than 15 feet especially along the Monocacy River.	Quaternary
Co	Collevium	Coarse cobbles, boulders, and blocks of quartzite that were transported by gravity and debris flow, and modified by freeze-thaw processes, concentrated in hillside depressions and hollows on Sugarloaf Mountain; thickness ranges from a thin veneer to greater than 10 feet. Includes subangular to subrounded pebbles and cobbles of quartzite and vein quartz derived from rocks of the Blue Ridge-South Mountain anticlinorium in fan-like aprons covering the strata along the western margin of the Culpeper basin. Thickness ranges from a thin veneer to 3 feet.	Quaternary
Cr	Weathering residuum	Mixture of moderate reddish brown soil and pebbles to blocks of grayish pink to white angular, locally euhedral, quartz. Thickness ranges from a thin veneer to 10 feet.	Quaternary
Ct	Terrace deposits	Reddish brown to brown, sandy and clayey mixture of rounded pebbles to cobbles of sandstone, vein quartz and quartzite. Present along elevated terraces above the current floodplains of the Potomac River and Catoctin Creek. Several separate levels of terrace deposits can be observed along the Potomac River, but are not separately mapped here. Thickness ranges from a thin veneer to more than 10 feet.	Quaternary
L	Leesburg Formation	Light gray to light reddish gray, very thickly bedded to massive cobble to boulder conglomerate. Clasts are dominantly subangular to subrounded limestone and dolomite of Cambrian and Ordovician age, but locally Triassic age siltstone and sandstone are prevalent. Thickness ranges from 100 to 3000 feet (Lee, 1979).	Triassic
Ts	Balls Bluff Silstone	Brownish red to reddish brown, argillaceous, massive siltstone with thin fine-grained sandstone interbeds. Thickness is estimated at 200 to 4500 feet (Lee, 1979).	Triassic
M	Massassas Formation	Paulesville Member Reddish brown to reddish gray, locally greenish gray, medium-grained sandstone and reddish, variegated claystone. Sandstone beds (10-15 ft) exhibit sharp convex-down bases, shale pebbles, large conglomerates, and fining-up character. Claystone intervals are thoroughly not mottled and contain light gray calcite carbonate nodules. The thickness of this member is estimated at 500 to 3000 feet (Lee, 1979).	Middle Proterozoic
Tr	Tomstown Formation	Medium light gray to medium gray, sugary dolomite with thin (< 0.1 cm) layers of mica. The formation is poorly exposed in the Point of Rocks Quadrangle and cannot be differentiated into members as it is on the western Blue Ridge (Brezinski, 1992). Thickness is estimated at 150 to 300 feet.	Middle Proterozoic
Ca	Antietam Formation	Interbedded, light olive gray to olive gray, medium- to coarse-grained, medium-bedded, locally ferruginous, micaceous, silty sandstone and very fine grained, silty sandstone to sandy siltstone. Thickness is estimated at 200 to 300 feet. Interbedded Antietam phyllite (Cap) - Light gray to medium light gray, highly foliated, micaceous, siliceous phyllite. Individual foliation planes have a lustrous sheen and papery parting. Thickness estimated at 200 feet.	Cambrian
Ch	Harpers Formation	Brownish gray to dark greenish gray, silty phyllitic shale to highly sheared phyllitic siltstone with intervals of brownish gray, medium-grained, silty sandstone. Thickness is estimated at greater than 900 to 1000 feet.	Cambrian
W	Weyerton Formation	Buzzard Knob Member The Buzzard Knob Member is light gray to medium gray, medium-bedded quartzite with dark gray, argillaceous layers up to 4 cm thick, separating the quartzite beds. Crossbedding within individual quartzite strata is pervasive. Although truncated along the eastern side of its outcrop belt the Buzzard Knob Member has an estimated thickness of 50 to 150 feet.	Cambrian
CZ	Loudoun Formation	Medium to dark gray, medium-bedded conglomerate, and black, tuffaceous phyllite. Lithology is very variable, ranging from a crossbedded quartz-pebble conglomerate to a highly elevated polymictic conglomerate with a matrix of flattened phyllite pebbles. The localized distribution of this formation may be the result of the original deposition or omission by faulting; however, owing to the colluvial apron of the Weyerton this relationship remains obscure. The Loudoun Formation ranges in thickness from 30 to 200 feet in the Point of Rocks Quadrangle.	Cambrian
Zm	Catoctin Formation	Metabasil Medium to dark greenish gray, chloritic, locally amygdaloidal, epidote-rich metabasalt. Some areas are composed of highly sheared chloritic schist. Epidote occurs as light green veins and nodules. Thickness estimated at greater than 1000 feet by Faith (1977).	Late Proterozoic
Zp	Phyllite	Light to medium gray phyllite containing highly elongated light gray flecks and blocks. Thickness of this unit appears to be less than 100 feet.	Late Proterozoic
Zb	Basaltic dike	Dark greenish gray, locally phyllitic, chloritic, basalt. Commonly has strongly developed cleavage. These basalt are present in the basement gneiss complex and appear to represent dikes that once contacted the main Catoctin outcrop belt.	Late Proterozoic
Zr	Swift Run Formation	Medium gray-brown, silty, sandstone with intervals of very light gray, foliated, micaceous marble. Marble locally quarried for agricultural purposes. Thickness estimated at 0 to 200 feet.	Late Proterozoic
Yg	Basement gneiss complex	Leucocratic gneiss Medium light gray to medium gray, coarse-grained, locally porphyritic, feldspar, quartz, granitic gneiss. Potassium feldspar augen, up to 3 cm in diameter, are commonly present.	Middle Proterozoic
Yp	Biotite gneiss	Medium gray to medium greenish gray, biotite, feldspar, granitic gneiss. Typically more fine grained, and more strongly foliated than the leucocratic granitic gneiss. Biotite rarely makes up more than 20 percent of the rock.	Middle Proterozoic
Yh	Hornblende gneiss	Medium greenish gray, medium- to coarse-grained, foliated, hornblende, plagioclase gneiss. Hornblende blades up to 0.5 cm long commonly make up 10 to 20 percent of the rock that commonly has a salt-and-pepper appearance on fresh surfaces.	Middle Proterozoic
Yhb	Hornblende biotite gneiss	Medium to light greenish gray, medium- to coarse-grained, hornblende, biotite gneiss. Hornblende blades make up approximately 10 percent of the rock, and biotite locally makes up more than 10 percent. The gneiss has a salt-and-pepper appearance on fresh surfaces.	Middle Proterozoic

References

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Faith, J.L., 1977. Geologic map of the Catoctin Furnace and Blue Ridge Summit quadrangles, Maryland. Maryland Geological Survey Geologic Map, scale 1:24,000.

Lee, K.Y., 1979. Triassic-Jurassic geology of the northern part of the Culpeper Basin, Virginia and Maryland. U.S. Geological Survey Open File Report 79-157, 8 p.

Supplemental Information

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Acknowledgement: This map was funded in part by the Maryland State Highway Administration.

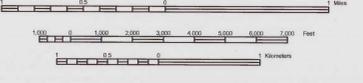
Field mapping of karst features was conducted in 2000 and 2001 and updated in 2002 by David K. Brezinski. Geologic field mapping was conducted in 2000 and 2001. This karst map was compiled in digital form by Lisa Dams and Heather Quinn of the Maryland Geological Survey and Catherine Lockard of Towson University, Center for Geographic Information Sciences.

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Version: PTOURKST2004.1
Released June 2004

Karst Features of Part of the Point of Rocks Quadrangle, Frederick County, Maryland

By
David K. Brezinski
2004
Scale 1:24,000



Contour Interval 20 Feet
Dotted Lines Represent 10 Foot Contours
National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929
(To convert elevations to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, subtract 1 foot)
(To convert from feet to meters, multiply by 0.3048)

Adjoining 7.5' Quadrangle Names
Point of Rocks Quadrangle, shaded

1	2	3	1. Keedysville
2	3	4	2. Middletown
3	4	5	3. Frederick
4	5	6	4. Harpers Ferry
5	6	7	5. Backscystown
6	7	8	6. Pooresville
7	8		7. Waterford
8			8. Pooresville

Explanation of Map Symbols

Geologic Symbols

Contacts	Faults
Geologic contact, approximately located	U Upthrown side
dotted when concealed	D Downthrown side
Karst Features	— Fault, concealed
Active Sinkhole	
Depression	
Spring	

Base Map Symbols

Transportation	Topography
Primary route, class 1 (divided, lanes separated)	Topographic index contour (100-ft interval)
Primary route, class 1 (undivided)	Topographic intermediate contour (20-ft interval)
Secondary route, class 2	Topographic supplemental contour (10-ft interval)
Light duty road or street, class 3	Hydrography
Unimproved road or street, class 4	Stream
Trail	Ditch or canal
Railroad, railroad siding or spur	Marsh, wetland, swamp, or bog
Power transmission line	Water body (eg. lakes, ponds, rivers)
Substation	Culture
	State boundary
	Boundary, incorporated city, village, or town
	Cemetery
	Church
	School
	Hospital

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C. Ronald Franks
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Emery T. Cleaves
Director

Copies of this map are available in hard copy (paper) and digital form from:
MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
2300 Saint Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21218
Ph: 410-554-5500
Fax: 410-554-5502
http://www.mgs.md.gov/