GEOLOGICAL MAPPING IN THE NORTHERN RANGE OF TRINIDAD

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ABSTRACT

Between 1963 and 1970 the geology of the Northern Range of Trinidad was mapped from the western tip to Grande Riviere in the east. Field mapping was at a scale of 1:10,000 and then reduced to 1:25,000 for publication. At the western end the major structure is an anticline overturned to the north, but further east thrusting becomes prominent and then, in the high central eastern section, a number of noticeable east-west trending linear faults suggests that near vertical faulting is important.

On the whole, the main stratigraphic units can be recognised from west to east. However, there are major variations in the proportion of quartzites in the Maracas Formation and the Lower Cretaceous carbonates vary markedly in facies. For instance, the massive to bedded Laventille Limestone is replaced to the east by calcareous shales and phyllites with thin limestones. A unique outcrop of massive siliceous exposures at Grand Matelote invites further investigation although the similarity in appearance with the Naparima Hill Formation of southern Trinidad may be coincidental.