# THE AKWATIA DIAMOND FIELD, GHANA, WEST AFRICA: SOURCE ROCKS

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The Akwatia diamond field is located within the Birimian (Early Proterozoic) volcanosedimentary rocks and has produced more than 100 million carats of diamonds. These
diamonds were assumed to be alluvial owing to the lack of any diamond indicator
minerals typically associated with kimberlites or lamproites. However, diamonds show
no evidence of transport and are associated with metamorphosed syn-eruptive
volcaniclastic mega-turbidites with a composition resembling komatiite. Akwatia is
anomalous in that it is associated with arc sediments and does not occur within an
Archean craton.

Diamond-bearing rocks form elongate bodies that outcrop over an 18-km2 area and are intercalated with an actinolite-tremolite schist and/or volcaniclastic rocks that include turbidites, phyllites and greywackes. Small-scale mine workings in diamond-bearing rock extend to depths greater than 20 m. High diamond-grades in soils correlate with the komatilitic rock and diamond grades in these rocks are 0.93 carats per cubic yard (.71 carats per cubic meter). Clasts in the diamondiferous units are concordant with the schistocity of the nearly vertically dipping host rock, and are apparently common throughout the diamondiferous area. Field evidence suggests that these komatilitic rocks were coeval with the metasediments, indicating an age of 2185-2155 Ma for the diamond deposit. Major and trace element analysis of these rocks indicate they are petrogenetically

similar to the diamond-bearing volcaniclastic komatiites in French Guiana, and the incompatible-element rich, porphyritic komatiites and komatiitic volcaniclastic rocks described at Steep Rock and Lumby Lake Canada, Murchison Terrane Australia, and Karasjok Norway; which are named Karasjok-type komatiites.

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I release this document to the New Mexico	Institute of Mining and Technology.
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#### INTRODUCTION

#### **Diamond Source Rocks**

The principle source of commercial grade diamonds of is thought to be ultramafic kimberlites or lamproites (Janse and Sheahan, 1995). Diamondiferous kimberlites of commercial grade are mostly restricted to areas underlain Archean cratons (Janse and Sheahan, 1995). However, the Argyle mine diamond-lamproites of north central Australia occur in an area underlain by a Proterozoic craton (Janse and Sheahan, 1995). Both kimberlites and lamproites are accompanied by pyrope garnet, chrome diopside, chrome spinel and picroilmenite (magnesian ilmenite) indicator minerals though they are smaller and less numerous in lamproites (Ross et al., 1989).

A different type of diamond source rock is described in French Guiana. Captevilla, Arndt et al. (1999) describe a diamond deposit in the Inini greenstone belt at Dachine, French Guiana hosted in rare volcaniclastic komatiite. During the early Proterozoic, Ghana and French Guiana were part of the same land mass and were in close proximity (Caen-Vachette, 1988; Gruau et al., 1985; Nomade et al., ; Onstott and Hargraves, 1981). Comparative studies of paleomagnetism, geochronology, lithology and large-scale structural features in the Guyana shield show the Eburnean orogeny of West Africa correlates with the trans-Amazonian orogeny in south America (Caen-Vachette, 1988; Gruau et al., 1985; Onstott and Hargraves, 1981).

#### **Previous Work**

Diamonds were first discovered at Akwatia, Ghana in 1919 (fig. 1). Production at Akwatia from 1925 and 1992 was over 101 million carats (Janse and Sheahan, 1995; Nixon and Griffin, 1995) at an average grade about 2 cts/cu.yd (2.6 cts/cu.m). For the past few years production is about 1 million carats/year comprised of 80% gems and 20% industrial stones. These diamonds are principally produced from alluvium, colluvium, and residual soils over a concession area of about 104 sq.km.

Akwatia is not considered a primary diamond deposit. This is because there is little evidence for an underlying Archon (Abouchami et al., 1990; Boher et al., 1992; Taylor et al., 1992); diamond indicator minerals are wholly absent; and kimberlite is not positively identified (Junner, 1943; Kaminsky, 1996; Kesse, 1985). There are no known primary diamond deposits in Ghana. Thus the source of Akwatia diamonds is considered enigmatic.

It is suspected (Junner, 1943) that the source of the diamonds is the local metamorphosed ultramafic rocks because a strong correlation exists between the strike and diamond distribution. He speculated that the Akwatia diamonds were sourced in a distant kimberlite or metamorphic genesis, or possibly there was an extraterrestrial source. Others proposed that the diamond source was ancient stream deposits that capped the hilltops at Akwatia (Kesse, 1985), and hilltop diamond-bearing soils are still referred to today by Akwatia mine geologists as terrace deposits. But there is no supporting evidence for Akwatia diamond transport during in the Precambrian or Tertiary.

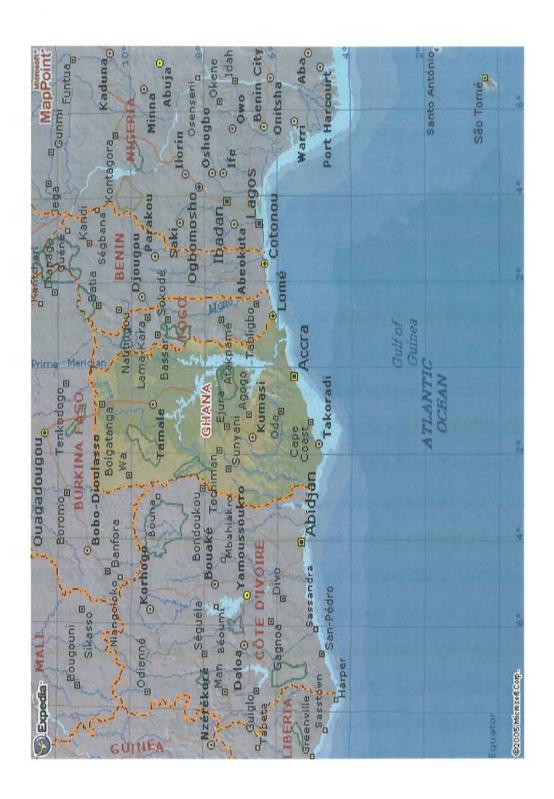


Figure 1.Location of Ghana, West Africa.

Two studies; one a report to Carlin resources (Kaminsky, 1996) obtained from Ghana Consolidate Diamonds (GCD) and a M.S. thesis by Ward (1997) both concluded Akwatia diamonds show no signs of sedimentary transport. Further, distribution of various diamond morphologies suggests a proximal source for the alluvial deposits (Kaminsky, 1996). (Kesse, 1985) also notes the extreme paucity of broken diamond crystals. There is no supporting geological evidence for alluvium capping Akwatia hills and trenching and drilling confirms that diamonds occur deep in the saprolitic bed rock (Gammon, 2003). McKitick (1996) partially mapped Akwatia bedrock and reports that diamonds are definitely hosted in bedrock, which he assumed was the actinolite schist. The protolith of this rock he identified as Kimberlite on the basis of elevated concentrations of REE (rare earth elements).

The British owned company, Consolidated African Selection Trust (CAST,) operated the Akwatia diamond mine until 1972. In the years 1969-1972, Ghana ranked fourth in the world for total diamond production with 2-4 million carats per annum (Kesse, 1985). In October 1972 the mine was nationalized and became Ghana Consolidated Diamonds (GCD). Production has steadily declined since 1974 due to exhaustion of shallow valley reserves and poor management (Kesse, 1985).

In the 1950's CAST geologist J.H.E. Haggard embarked upon a program to discover the source of the Akwatia diamonds (Gammon, 2003). Systematic sampling was undertaken in areas of exceptional alluvial grades. After negative results in these areas attention was turned to Beduwara hill, an area with extensive small-scale bedrock mining. Consolidated African Selection Trust geologists described the bedrock at Beduwara hill as "interbedded, brecciated basic schists (actinolite-tremolite schist), phyllites and

tuffaceous greywackes. (Junner, 1943) assigns these "basic schists" to the upper Birimian and the phyllites and tuffaceous greywackes to the lower Birimian. It was assumed by (Junner, 1943) and Haggart (Gammon, 2003) that if there is a primary source for the diamonds it is these "basic schists" as these rocks are apparently derived from an ultramafic protolith. Extensive trenching of the rocks on Beduwara hill revealed diamonds in the schist and the tuffaceous greywacke. Making matters more confusing, Haggard noted that it was impossible to distinguish the basic schists from the tuffaceous greywackes and it is likely that hybrids exist. Compounding the confusion, further sampling at various depths revealed diamonds penetrate into the weathered bedrock by bioturbation. It was determined that the tuffaceous greywacke was the source of diamonds on Beduwara hill carrying an average grade of .93 carats per cubic yard. Drilling at Beduwara hill to 223ft. reveals clasts of phyllite within the basic schists and no evidences the actinolite schist or its protolith intruded the sediments. This combined with the idea that the actinolite schists were distinctly younger than the sediments gave rise to a (outdated) hypothesis that the schists were derived from the sediments by "metamorphic differentiation". CAST geologists also concluded that since the "host" rock was lower Birimian, and there were no older rocks in Ghana and that the primary source could never be found (Gammon, 2003).

In 1993 Scott McKittrick investigated the Akwatia diamond field. The area was mapped; samples of the actinolite schist (samples 93-16, 93-19, 93-20, 93-33 and Ha-2) were collected in the field. Borehole cores of the metasediments on Beduwarra Hill drilled by CAST (referred to above) were obtained from GCD (samples with the BH prefix). These bore holes were drilled in the immediate vicinity of diamond-bearing rock

sampled for this study though the author cannot confirm the presence of diamonds in these core samples. Twenty-three samples were analyzed for major and trace elements using a Rigaku XRF spectrometer and INAA gamma ray detectors at New Mexico Tech; these results are used in this research. Thin sections of representative samples were prepared for petrographic analysis.

McKitrick's analysis show that most of the "metasediments" in the area are part of, or contained within, a coarse grained clastic turbidite. Meta-sandstones consist of framework quartz 30-50%, feldspar 30-50% with An value ~30 content for plagioclase and lithic fragments 0-20%. Sorting of local meta-sandstones and conglomerates is very poor. Clasts are sub-angular to sub-rounded and sub-parralel to bedding. Beds are 1-2m and interbedded with 10 -50 cm argillaceous beds, which may contain rip-up clasts but no ripple marks. Meta-greywacks classify as feldspathic quartz wacks, generally matrix supported with clay and mica comprising 30-60% of rock volume. McKitrick (1993) concluded the metasediments contained a significant volcanic component and were derived from and island arc provenance (based on bulk composition and REE element ratios). The actinolite schists show variable degrees of contact metamorphism revealed by crystalloblastic laths of radiating, nematoblastic, tremolite-actinolite in a matrix of fine white mica, chlorite and quartz with accessory rutile, iron oxides and carbonaceous material as well as clasts of country rock (phyllite). McKitrick observed a minimally weathered outcrop revealing a concordant, undulating contact between a clast-rich brecciated rock and turbiditic metasediments showing no evidence of heating or intrusion. Observing changes in "Younging" directions over a 30 to 60 m distance with no change in strike McKitrick concluded the local strata is isoclinally folded. The enriched REE signature of the actinolite schist led McKitrick to hypothesize the actinolite schist is a metamorphosed kimberlite and thus is the source of the diamonds. Other researchers (Gammon, 2003; Junner, 1943; McKitrick, 1996) note a significant volcanic component in the clastic sediments in the Akwatia area.

The purpose of this work is to study the occurrence and distribution of diamond source rock at Akwatia. The aerial extent of Akwatia diamond source rock was not known, nor was details of source rock chemistry and whether the source rock was conformable to or intruded into Birimian formations. Assays of Akwatia material pitting and shallow drilling that penetrated bedrock are compiled to determine the aerial extent of diamond source rock. Geophysical mapping was attempted, but not completed because of logistic and access problems. Diamond source rock at seven sites, exposed by small-scale mine workings are mapped and samples are analyzed for major and trace elements.

#### **GEOLOGY**

## **Regional Geology**

Archean rocks are not found in Ghana, which lies on the West Africa Craton, however they do crop out in Liberia and Sierra Leone (Wright et al., 1985). Ghana basement rocks are the Early Proterozoic Birimian Group of volcaniclastic breccias and metavolcanics (figure 2) that are intruded by foliated and non-foliated granites, and overlain by the Tarkwain Group of alluvial sediments. North-South trending basalts and gabbros intrude all early Proterozoic rocks. The Pan-African fold belt occupies the southeastern portion of Ghana and is separated from the West African Shield by a major Northeasterly trending thrust fault system. The fold belt consists primarily of gneissic rocks of the Dahomeyan Series but includes a sequence of quartzites, schists and serpentinites of the Togo series (Wright et al., 1985). A substantial portion of the West African craton including the Birimian domain is covered by flat-lying undeformed sediments of Neoproterozoic- Paleozoic age. In Ghana these are the Voltain clastic sediments that cover much of the central and eastern regions. Along the southern coast minor amounts of Cretaceous rocks lie on the Proterozoic formations.

Kitson (1918) first used the term Birimian to described rocks of the Birimian river valley. In 1928 Kitson published a geologic map of the Gold Coast and eastern Togo land establishing the Birimian as a stratigraphic unit. (Junner, 1943) describes Birimian

stratigraphy as a Lower Birimian comprising mostly volcaniclastic metasediments that are slates, phyllites, greywacks, and turbidites with lesser tuffs and lavas and their schistose and gneissic derivatives, and an Upper Birimian, which are greenstones, comprised of metamorphosed basic and intermediate lavas and pyroclastic rocks, hypabyssal igneous rocks and intercalated bands of phyllite and greywacke. (Feybesse and Milesi, 1994), describe, for Ivory Coast, an older volcanosedimentary and sedimentary supergroup (B1 lower Birimian) and a younger volcanic supergroup (B2 upper Birimian). Based on new mapping, (Leube et al., 1990) argue that the Ghana lower and upper Birimian were deposited contemporaneously as lateral facies equivalents.

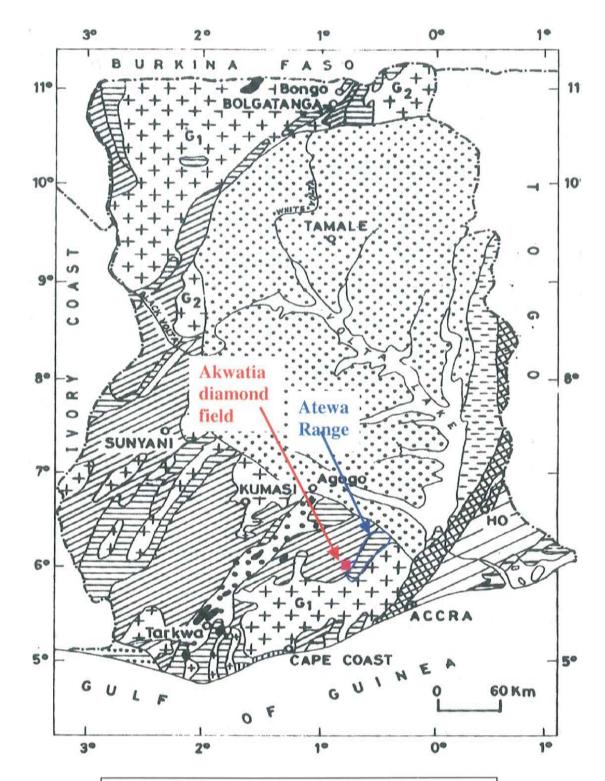


Figure 2. Geologic map of Ghana (Modified after Kesse 1985), legend, on the next page.

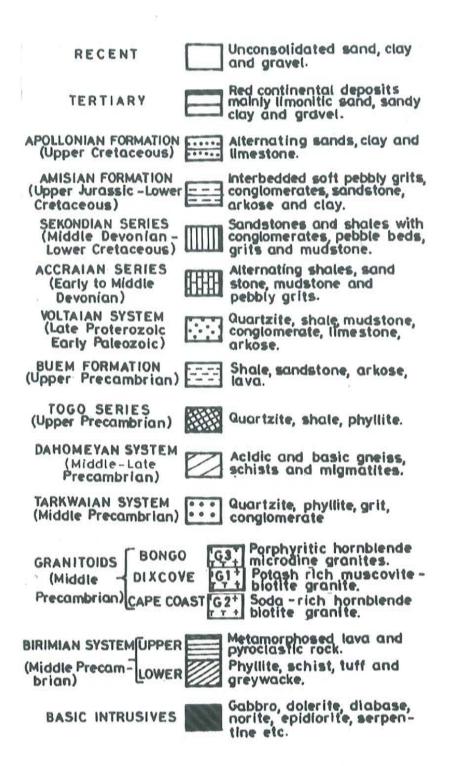


Figure 2a. Legend for Figure 2, modified after (Kesse, 1985)

Birimian sediments and volcanics were deformed, metamorphosed and intruded by granitiods during the Eburnean orogeny ~2.1Ga. Four deformational phases are recognized, the D1- D4 (Feybesse and Milesi, 1994). The D4 event is very weak in most of Ghana. The "Cape Coast" or "basin" granitiods are, foliated and occur mostly in "Dixcove" or "belt" granitiods are non-foliated and spatially Birimian volcanics; associated with Birimian sediments. Birimian rocks and Eburnean intrusives have been shown by geochronological studies in Burkina Faso, Mali, Ghana, Côte d' Ivoire eastern Mauritania and Senegal to have been formed over a maximum period of 2.25-2.05 Ga. (Abouchami et al., 1990; Boher et al., 1992; Davis et al., 1994a; Hirdes et al., 1992; Hirdes et al., 1996; Taylor et al., 1992). "Dixcove" or "belt" granitiods are ~60 to 90 Ma. older than "Cape Coast" or "basin" granitiods (Davis et al., 1994a; Hirdes et al., 1992). Using precise U-Pb dating (+/- 2 Ma.) these authors obtain dates of 2172 Ma and 2179 Ma respectively for the Ashanti and Sefwi belt granitiods. The Kumasi and Sunyani basin granitiods in contrast have respective U-Pb (+/- 1Ma.) age of 2116 Ma. and 2088 Ma. The authors conclude that basin granitiods were intruded towards the end of deformation (late-kinematic) and belt granitiods were coeval with the belt volcanics. Single-zircongrain dating of a Kumasi-Basin volcaniclastic wacke sample (Davis et al., 1994a) demonstrates that Birimian sediments were derived from volcanic belt terrains where rocks with crystallization ages of ~ 2185-2155 Ma dominated. Eisenlohr and Hirdes (1992) and (Oberthur et al., 1998) show that the Birimian and Tarkwaian rocks as well as the Dixcove granitiods within the volcanic belts were all deformed in a single progressive deformational event involving northwest-southeast crustal shortening and regional, lower greenschist facies metamorphism. Geological events in the Paleoproterozoic of Ghana are summarized in the table 1 and are based on a model of progressive accretion of volcanic arcs and ocean plateaus onto an Archean continental mass in the southeast.

Table 1. Geological events in the Paleoproterozoic of Ghana.

Age (Sm-Nd model)	Event
2590 Ma	Minimum age of continental crustal contribution to Winneba granitoid (areally restricted to small portion of SE Ghana).
2245 ± 4 Ma	Age of oldest detrital zircon in Tarkwaian sediment (source unknown)
2190-2155 Ma.	Formation of bulk of belt volcanics, volcaniclastics and associated synvolcanic belt plutons, and contemporaneous sedimentation in adjacent sedimentary basins.
2135 Ma	Latest igneous activity in volcanic belts, final stage of sedimentation in adjacent sedimentary basins.
2135—2132 Ma	Uplift and erosion.
2132—2116 Ma	Formation of Tarkwaian depositories and deposition of Tarkwaian. Sediments.
2100—2090 Ma	Peak of deformation (NW—SE crustal shortening) and regional metamorphism.
2116—2088 Ma	Emplacement of syn- to late-tectonic basin plutons.
2086—2073 Ma	Hydrothermal alteration in basin granitoids (possibly related to gold mineralization).

From (Davis et al., 1994a).

There is no firm evidence that crustal rocks of Archean age underlie Birimian rocks. Isotopic evidence for the involvement of Archean or very early Proterozoic crust in Birimian volcanic and intrusives is negligible (Abouchami et al., 1990; Boher et al., 1992; Taylor et al., 1992). Two exceptions to this are located proximal to the Birimian/Archean boundary, which are the Winneba granitiod in the southeast of Ghana (Taylor et al., 1992) and granitiod plutons in south Guinea with Nd modal ages of ~2.7-2.4 Ga. (Boher et al., 1992).

#### Akwatia Diamond Field

There are four diamondiferous areas in Ghana. Akwatia is by far the largest and the only deposit being commercially exploited on an industrial basis. The Birim diamondiferous area is ~ 40 square miles (64 km.) although the total area currently being exploited is somewhat smaller (32 km). Mining operations in the past were on residual, colluvial and alluvial deposits on small first order streams. Production today by the government owned Ghana Consolidated Diamonds (GCD) is predominately on Birim River alluvium downstream from the main Akwatia diamond field.

The Akwatia diamond field is about 80 km northwest of Accra. The area is covered by dense tropical rainforest, much of it secondary due to intensive strip mining. Elevation varies between 120-250 meters above sea level. Well-defined gravel terraces occur at several levels above the Birim River valley. The lower terrace corresponds with the annual maximum flood level of the Birim River. Terraces are covered with coarse, well-rounded, closely packed quartz gravel. A hard cap of laterized clayey quartz gravel covers the area. Intense tropical weathering extends to depths > 20m. Bedrock exposure is limited to drainage channels, strip mined areas and steep interfluvial slopes.

## **Local Geology**

The Akwatia diamond field lies within the Birimian supergroup. (Junner, 1943) noted the composition of Birimian rocks in the diamond field is intermediate between the upper Birimian greenstones of the Atewa range to the east and typical lower Birimian to the west (see figure 2). Interbedded tuffaceous greywacks, phyllites and schists after impure argillaceous rocks predominate. Tuffs, basic and ultrabasic rocks are common but

subordinate. (Junner, 1943) mapped a large elongate unit of predominantly basic, ultrabasic and pyroclastic rocks (figure 3). The majority of these rocks are represented by an actinolite-tremolite schist.

Birimiam rocks are intruded by granite, basalt and cut by veining. The Cape Coast granite batholith intrudes Birimian rocks in the southern part of the diamond field. The batholith is dated by the U-Pb method at 2090(+/- 1) Ma. (Davis et al., 1994a), which partially constrains the age of the diamond field rocks. The batholith has a contact metamorphic aureole that overprints the D1-D3 events. Proximal to the batholith, basic igneous rocks are converted to hornblende schists, gneisses and amphibolites, and pelitic rocks are converted to biotite gneisses and schists. Garnet and kyanite occur in the metapelites near the granite contact; staurolite is common to 1.5 km from the contact. Rare basalt dikes cross-cut both strike and dip of the Birimian strata, show well-defined chill margins and are only slightly metamorphosed (Junner, 1943). Concordant and discordant quartz veins are abundant in the Birimian rocks, and are related to local silica, chlorite, carbonate, sericite, tourmaline and pyrite alteration.

Structural relationships in the diamond field are obscured by vegetation metamorphism and laterization. The strike of the Birimian rocks in the diamond field is predominantly NE-SW with some local variation especially near the granite contact where strikes tend to conform to the contact. Dips are between 90-70 degrees; dips less than 60 degrees are rare. The metasediments in the area are chiefly coarse-grained clastic turbidites including wackes with subordinate conglomerates and interbedded argillites (McKitrick, 1996). Distinct marker beds are absent making correlation between beds difficult or impossible. Normally graded bedding is common. Local changes in

"Younging" direction noted by (Junner, 1943), (McKitrick 1996) and CAST geologists (Gammon, 2003) confirm the presents of isoclinal folding. Clear evidence for faulting is absent but is suspected (Junner, 1943).

No classical diamond indicator minerals are reported in the Akwatia diamond field. Mineralogical analysis of washing and concentrate samples from the Akwatia diamond field by (Kaminsky, 1996) show the heavy fraction consists of non-magnesian ilmenite, staurolite and rutile. All samples contain sizable amounts of magnetite, hematite, limonite and aggregates of iron hydroxides, hematite and sericite. Almandine garnet, amphibole, tourmaline, kyanite, zircon, apatite, sphene and blue spinel are present in moderate amounts.

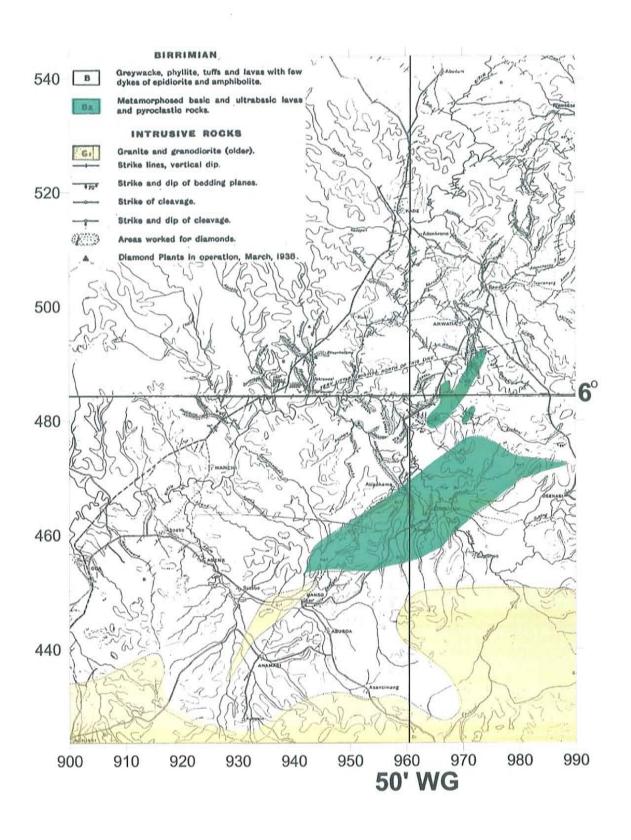


Figure 3. Geologic map of the Akwatia area. One map unit equals 1000 feet; crossed black lines are 6 degrees longitude 50 minutes latitude west of Greenwich. Modified after Junner (1943).

#### **Diamonds**

Akwatia diamonds tend to be small, but of high quality. The average size of the diamonds is .5-4mm in diameter (75-83 %) and the average weight is ~ 8.84 mg. There are few diamonds smaller than .5 mm, and apparently no micro diamonds. The weights of individual crystals varies from .5 mg to 157.8 mg. Dodecahedroids (also called rounded dodecahedron or tetrahexahedriods) are the predominate morphology making up approximately 45% of diamonds followed by octahedrons at ~18%, cubes are rare (Gammon, 2003). The majority of Akwatia diamonds are colorless. Less numerous colored stones are smoky brown and gray. Green stones are occasionally found; yellow and red stones are rare. Diamond inclusions are exclusively of peridotitic affinity (Kaminsky, 1996; Meyer and Boyd, 1972; Ward, 1998).

#### **METHODS**

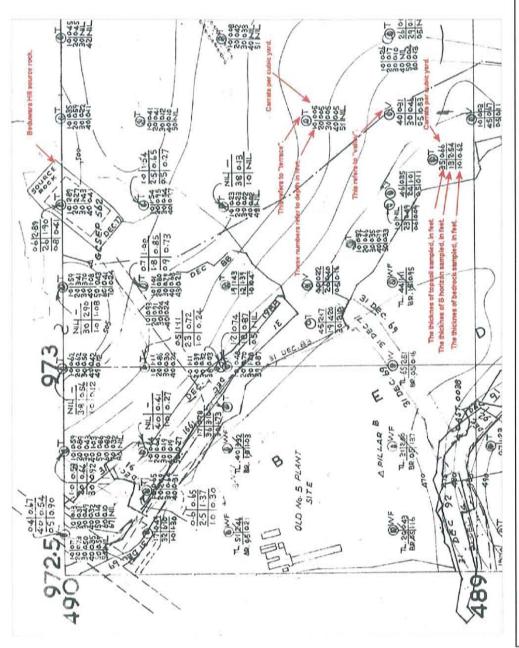
Seven locations where small-scale miners exploit the diamondiferous bedrock were visited; at site the miners were interviewed, samples were taken, the site photographed and the orientation, width, contact rocks, strike of the diamond horizon and GPS coordinates recorded. Approximately 100 samples were transported to NM Tech. Twelve rock samples (G1-12) were analyzed for major and minor elements by ALS Chemex by means of ICP-MS and ICP-AES instruments. Sample Dm-2 was similarly analyzed by Activation laboratories. Heterogeneous lithologies (breccias) were channel sampled to obtain average compositions. Samples weighing ~ 1kg. were pulverized and then homogenized in a plastic container by turning and shaking to avoid gravitational settling of heavy minerals. Sixty grams of the resulting material (per sample) was submitted for analysis. One duplicate set was submitted (samples G-11 and G-12) for quality assurance. Photos of rock samples were taken with a digital camera attached to a binocular microscope at New Mexico Tech.

Diamond grade maps were prepared by compiling analyses on maps (figure 4) obtained from the GCD. These were digitized using a digitizing tablet and Microsoft Excel. The data is in the form of exploration pits (short number columns) and drill sites (long number columns) spaced about 200 ft (61m) apart, diamond grades are in cts/yd<sup>3</sup>. Pit sizes are about 1 by 2 yards in plan view; the A1, the B1 soil horizon, coluvium or alluvium soils, and saprolitic bedrock, and in some cases B2 soil horizon were assayed.

Where hard bedrock was encountered maps indicate bedrock, and no assay was done. A second form of sampling uses twenty-two inch (56 cm) diameter drill holes that are assayed every foot. Data from 13,000 exploration sites includes: if they are pit or drill sites; if the material is "terrace" (residual soils) then the label is "T"; if the material is "valley" (colluvial and first-order-stream alluvial material) then the label is "V", or waste (mine tailings) then the label is "W" or "WF"; and the thickness assayed. Compiled pit assays are named A, B1, B2, and bedrock. Drill hole analyses were compiled using the first 1-foot interval A, the second foot B1, the third foot interval B2, and the bottom most assay "bedrock".

These data are used to generate "surfer" (surface mapping software) maps. Over 13,000 assay points were digitized with over 30,000 sample grades.

Several inconclusive magnetometer surveys were conducted using a Geometrics proton precession magnetometer. Details and results are in Appendix B.



columns are pit sites and long columns are drill sites. One map unit equals 1000 feet. Map datum is Ghana National Figure 4. Part of a prospecting map from GCD showing Beduwara Hill source rock and details of sampling. Short Approximately 10,000 of these analyses are compiled to generate diamond distribution maps.

#### RESULTS

## Field and Laboratory Observations

Akwatia lithologies are complex intercalated mix of volcano-sedimentary facies from fine-grained pelitic schists to mega-turbidites and ultramafic schists. As mentioned above CAST geologists are unable to definitively differentiate these lithologies. For the purposes of diamond exploration and this study Akwatia rocks may be divided into four lithological units on the basis of texture or in the case of the actinolite schist geochemistry. See appendix A for detailed sample and field site descriptions.

The most common is phyllite-designated b1 on Junner's map (figure 3). Properly this rock is fine-grained pelitic schist, but Junner's rock name will be used here. When fresh this rock is hard, brittle, dark silver-grey and rings when struck with a hammer. It contains euhedral pyrite crystals mostly cubic and quartz veins both concordant and discordant with the poor slaty cleavage. The phyllite weathers to a light gray and becomes more silvery in appearance, produces a dull thud when struck with a hammer, breaks or parts along the slaty cleavage and the pyrite oxidizes leaving behind casts. There is no evidence the phyllite contains diamonds. Interlayered with the phyllites are sub-aqueous-volcano-sedimentary lithologies (commonly tubiditic).

Less common is actinolite, tremolite, chlorite talc schist that may contain varying amounts of rutile, biotite, muscovite iron oxides and carbonaceous matter. When fresh the actinolite schist is greenish-gray has well developed schistosity, is extremely fine grained, is soft like talc but compact, dense, impermeable and produces a dull thud when struck with a hammer (even when unweathered). When weathered it becomes powdery and mostly uniform gray but may be stained with iron oxides giving it a yellowish or brownish color. The small-scale miners never exploit this rock for diamonds and the presence of diamonds is exceptional.

The third lithology is breccia, which is the diamond-bearing rock (figures 5-8). This rock has a brecciated texture, is very poorly sorted and commonly contains sharp, angular clasts (up to at least 18 cm) of the other metasedimentary lithologies and the actinolite schist and is always matrix supported. It is only known as weathered where it is has colors of red, yellow, white, and brown a (see Appendix 4 and 5 for detailed descriptions of each sample and field site). In outcrop the rock consists of ferruginised clays, variable amounts of re-crystallized granoblastic quartz, carbonaceous material and minor rutile. It is highly porous, permeable, and friable and is highly weathered to at least 30m. Clasts are mostly fragments of country rock, in many bedding is seen. The clasts are preferentially aligned and are concordant with the overall nearly vertical bedding and schistosity of the surrounding rock. The rock exhibits poor though distinct schistosity. The fourth rock type is the finer grained metasediments including high Mg samples analyzed by (McKitrick, 1996), finer grained turbidites, and sediments of uncertain origin.

Deep, trenches with minimal slumping at Beduwara Hill expose diamond bearing rock and allow observation of rock texture and clast orientation, severe weathering, slumping and disturbances by small-scale mining activities at many of the locations visited obscures these features. Clasts size varies from location to location (> 16cm to 1cm) a brecciatd texture is observed at all locations visited.

The exposed diamond bearing body at Beduwara Hill is 1600 meters long 500 meters wide and has been trenched to 15 meters. The strike of the body is NE-SW, the dip of the bedding and schistosity is 80-90 degrees. The exposed area of the diamond bearing body at sample location Dm-2 is 400 meters long 20 meters wide and has been trenched to 10 meters; the strike and dip of bedding and schistosity are the same as Beduwara Hill. The other sample locations are areas of approximately half a square kilometer, where diamond bearing rock is exposed by discontinuous pitting and trenching through the laterite cap, estimates of the size of diamond bearing bodies at these locations is speculative at best. The strike and dip of these diamond-bearing rocks is NE-SW with vertical dips (see Appendix 5 for more details).

The breccia units exist as long, narrow dike-like structures within the actinolite schist or phyllite. These dike-like structures are most certainly bedding upturned by isoclinal folding. The breccia unit is usually in contact with the actinolite schist less commonly with the phyllite. The trend of these dike-like structures is always concordant with the overall schistosity and strike of the local rocks. The contact between schist and the volcaniclastic breccia unit commonly is composed of a thin shaly or pelitic layer of material that appears to be weathered phyllite suggesting an unconformity (figures 10 and 11). Laterite and saprolite are well developed throughout the area. The laterite forms a tough cap above both units. The diamond grades a relatively high in the laterite and the small-scale miners do occasionally crush the laterite to obtain the diamonds. All units are cross cut by mesothermal quartz veins both concordantly and discordantly.

Small-scale miners exploit the volcaniclastic unit for diamonds. Figures 11 and 12 show the upper part of an approximately 30 meter deep trench dug into the diamondiferous rock. There were about a hundred small-scale miners working this trench when the photo was taken. The material is removed with hand tools, placed into grain sacks and carried to the nearest water where it is classified using a homemade screen with about 1 cm holes, and then washed to remove clay in a 55gal. drums. The material is then placed in a screen box (standard windows screen) and is jigged to concentrate the heavies while the lighter material is thrown off. The diamonds are then hand picked from this final material, which is composed mostly of quartz and laterite concretions. The small-scale miners report that twenty standard grain sacks will yield 0-7 carats.



Figure 5. Beduwara Hill brecciated diamond bearing rock showing preferential, concordant alignment of clasts. The rock now consist mostly of clays and quartz, location of samples G-3 and G-12 (see sample location map figure 17).

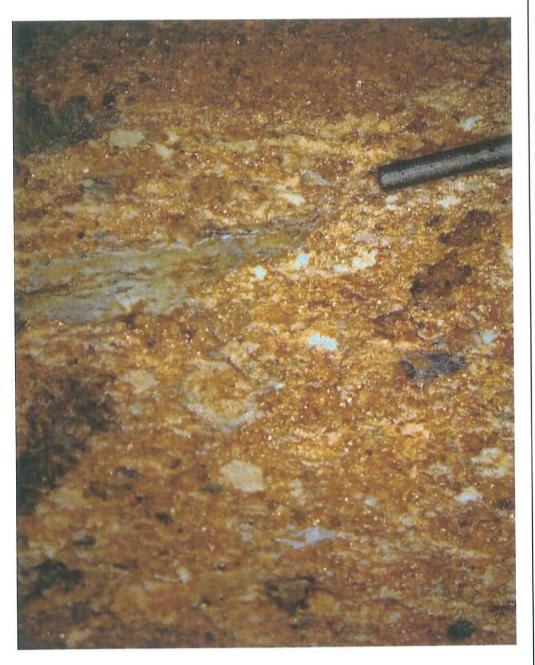


Figure 6. Binocular microscope picture of sample G-12 showing preferential orientation of clasts (.7mm pencil lead for scale).

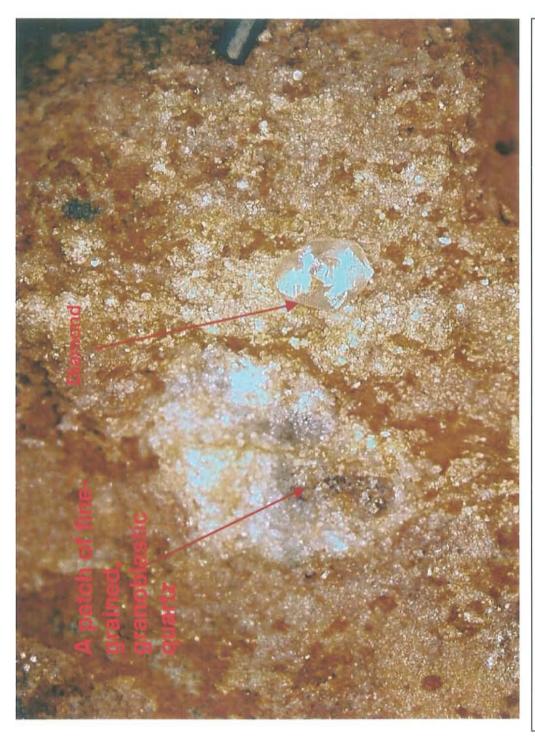


Figure 7. Binocular microscope picture of sample from same location as DM-2 (see sample location map figure 17) showing diamond in matrix (.7mm pencil lead for scale).

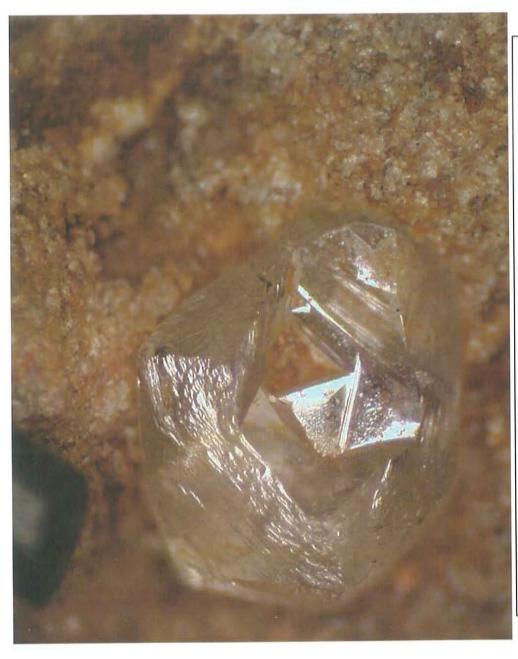


Figure 8. Binocular microscope picture of sample from same location as DM-2 showing diamond in matrix (.7mm pencil lead for scale).

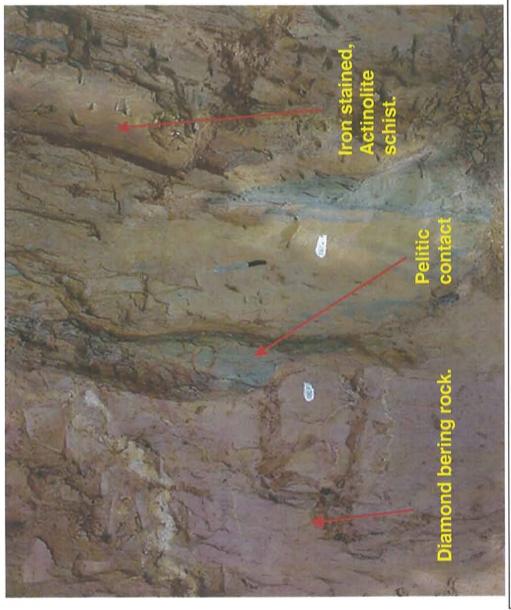
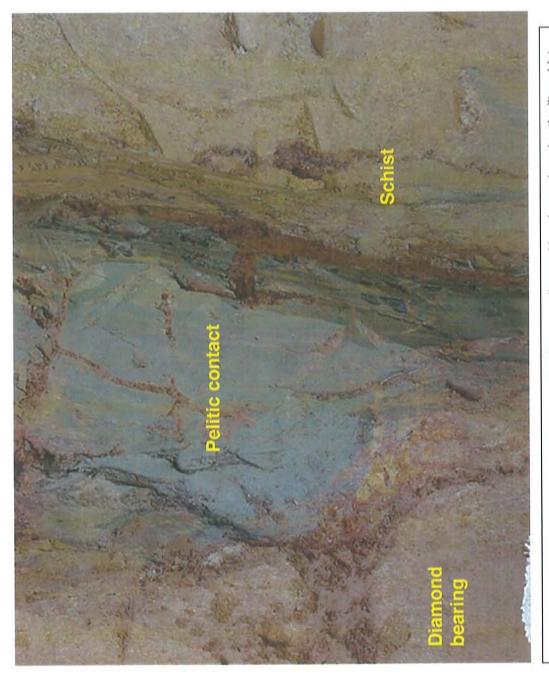


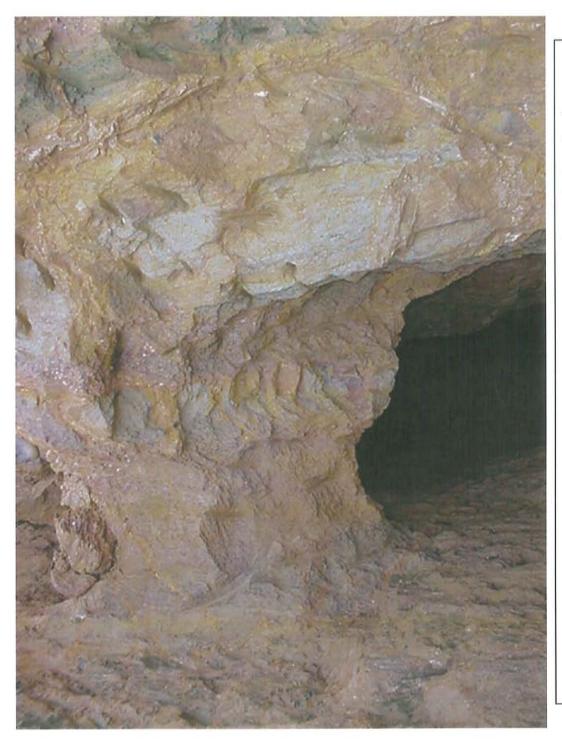
Figure 9. Pelitic contact between diamond bearing clastic rock and actinolite schist (marker pen for scale) at location of samples G-5 and G-6 (see sample location map figure 17).



Close up of undulating pelitic contact between diamond bearing rock and actinolite schist. Figure 10.



Figure 11. Large diamond bearing dike-like body, location of sample G-2. On sample location map (figure 17)



Large diamond bearing dike-like body (close up of above contact), note the brecciated texture. Figure 12.

### **Diamond Distribution**

Detailed diamond distribution maps obtained from GCD are digitized. The data are used to generate "Surfer" maps. Statistical reports are provided in the appendix for each grid used to make the maps. All grids use the Natural Neighbor gridding method. All maps are in Ghana national datum and latitude/longitude west of Greenwich.

Image maps are generated of topsoil, the B1horizen and bedrock or lowest level diamond grades in carats per cubic yard (figures 13, 14 and 15). Figure16 is an image map produced by calculating the first derivative of number strings in the natural neighbor grid in a NW-SE direction. In other words this map shows how fast diamond grades are changing along lines perpendicular to the dominant strike of the underlying lithology.

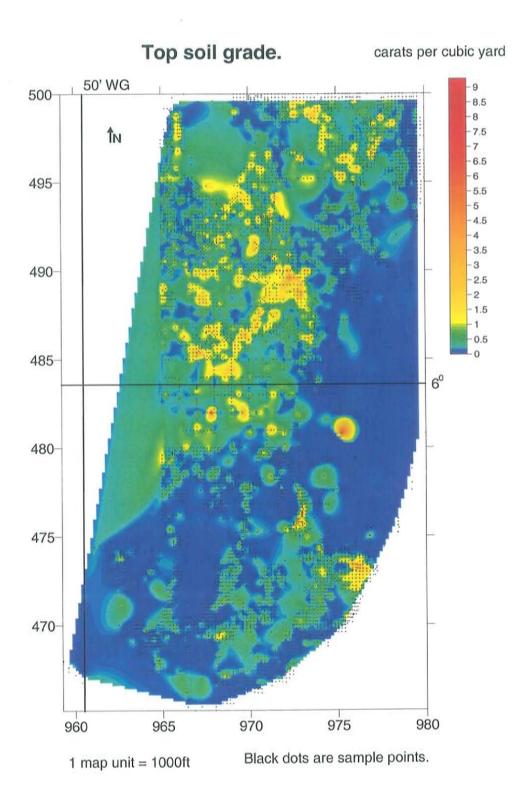


Figure 13. Image map of topsoil grade in carats per cubic yard (natural neighbor gridding method see appendix for statistics). The crossed lines are latitude/longitude 6 degrees and 50 minutes west of Greenwich.

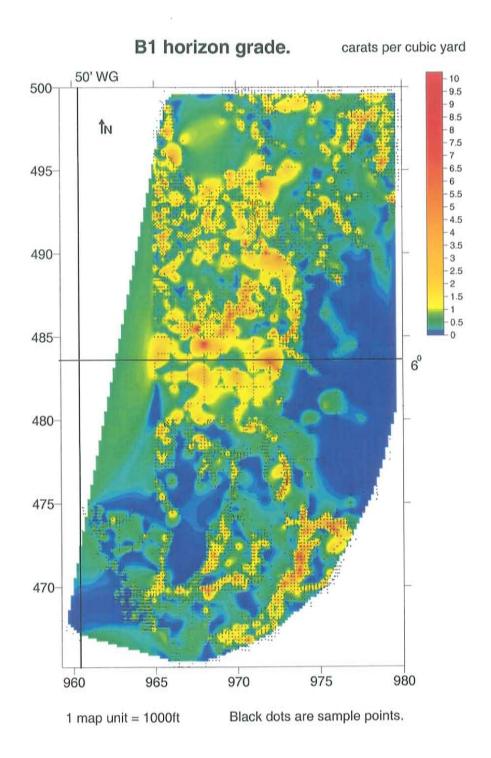


Figure 14. Image map of B1 grade in carats per cubic yard (natural neighbor gridding method see appendix for statistics). The crossed lines are latitude/longitude- 6 degrees and 50 minutes west of Greenwich.

# Bedrock or bottom level grade. carats per cubic yard

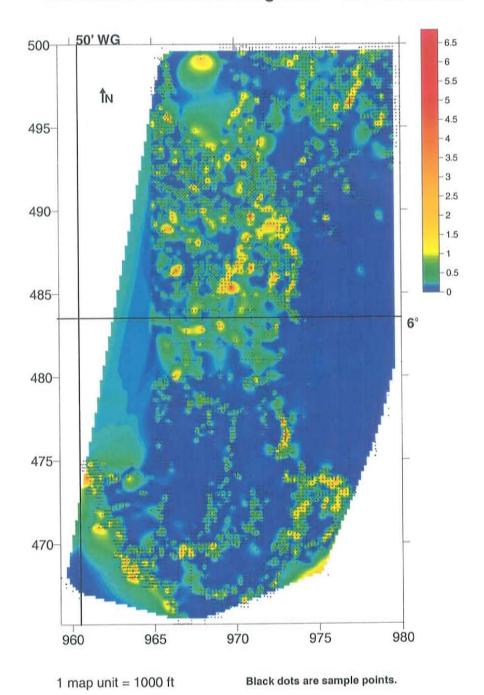


Figure 15. Image map of bedrock grade in carats per cubic yard (natural neighbor gridding method see appendix for statistics). The crossed lines are latitude/longitude- 6 degrees and 50 minutes west of Greenwich.

# **NW-SE Directional derivative (first derivative)**

# Bedrock or bottom level grade.

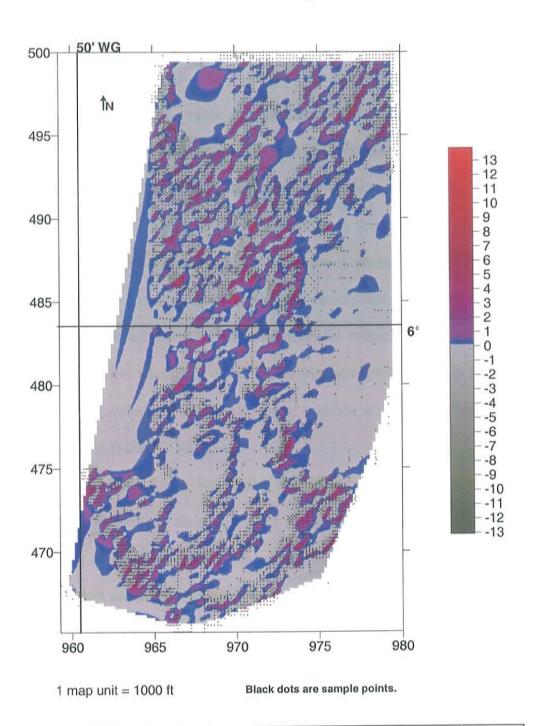


Figure 16. Image map of directional derivative in carats per cubic yard (natural neighbor gridding method see appendix B for statistics). The crossed lines are latitude/longitude- 6 degrees and 50 minutes west of Greenwich.

#### Geochemistry

All Akwatia rocks are part of the Birimian supergroup (Junner, 1943; Kesse, 1985) which consist mostly of volcanic rocks or sediments derived from volcanic rocks. The diamond bearing rocks of Akwatia are likely volcaniclastic, although weathering has destroyed direct evidence of this. The presence of diamonds lacking signs of sedimentary transport is further evidence of volcanic origin. The extreme weathering of the diamond-bearing rocks makes it difficult to quantify the original major, mobile-element composition of the protolith. However since the major constituents of these rocks are now clays the original rare earth element (REE) signature may be retained. Clays are shown to faithfully retain the REE signature of the provenance (Cullers et al., 1987). Further the most important factor contributing to the REE content of clastic sediments is provenance (Fleet, 1984; McLennan et al., 1989). Additionally recent studies of geochemical behavior under tropical weathering of the Brama-Mazaruni greenstone belt in the Guiana Shield show that generally the REE patterns of bedrock are preserved in the saprolith horizon (Voicu and Bardoux, 2002).

Severe alteration due to weathering of diamond bearing rocks require that the mobility of constituents both major and minor be enumerated. This will be addressed at the end of this section. For initial discussion, begin bulk chemistry is treated as though the rock is unaltered and a volcanic protolith or provenance is assumed.

Samples G-2, G-3, G-4, G-9 and G-12 were gathered from locations known to be producing diamonds (figure 17). At each of these locations samples were gathered from the deepest part of the trenches to obtain the least weathered samples. Sample Dm-2 is from the same trench as the sample with a diamond *in situ*. There is no question that

samples G-2, 3, 4, 9, 12 and Dm-2 host diamonds, see appendix A. Samples G5 and G10 (G11 is a duplicate) are the actinolite-tremolite schist. Samples obtained and analyzed by (McKitrick, 1996): 93-17, 93-19, 93-20, 93-33 and Ha-2 are actinolite schist, samples BH-170, BH-197, Bh-226, BH- 243 are fine-grained, high-Mg, metasediments (see figure 17 for locations).

### Major Element Oxides

Mobile oxides (Mg, Na and Ca) show the most variation between the rock suites while Ti shows the least. Aluminum oxide concentrations in diamond bearing rocks vary from 13.1-to 20.6 weight percent (wt.%), between 8.05 to 14.35 wt. % in the actinolite schist and 8.85 wt. % to 15.8 wt. % in the fine-grained, high-Mg metasediments. Titanium oxide concentrations in diamond bearing rocks vary from 1.05 to .66-wt. %, between 0.45 to 0.58 wt. % in the actinolite schist and 0.40 wt. % to 0.50 wt. % in the fine-grained, high-Mg metasediments. Total iron oxide (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) concentrations in diamond bearing rocks vary from 20.3 to 6.61 wt. %, between 11.63 to 7.63 wt. % in the actinolite schist and 7.01 wt. % to 8.05 wt. % in the fine-grained, high-Mg metasediments. Magnesium oxide concentrations in diamond bearing rocks vary from 0.04-to 6.68-wt. %, between 16 to 20.64 wt. % in the actinolite schist and 10.81 wt. % to 21.2 wt. % in the fine-grained, high-Mg metasediments.

In figure 18 Akwatia rocks are plotted on a cation discrimination diagram (Jensen, 1976) which can be used successfully (for protolith identification) with metamorphosed volcanic rocks as the elements are selected for their variability within subalkaline rocks-varying in inverse proportion to each other and for their stability under low grades of metamorphism (Rollinson, 1993). The less weathered, high-Mg samples (which include

the actinolite schist and high Mg, fine-grain metasediments from Beduwara Hill) plot in the komatiite field and severely weathered diamond-bearing rocks plot across the tholeitic and calc-alkalic fields. Extreme weathering of the <u>diamond bearing</u> rock has likely modified the true position of the protolith on this plot, as will be discussed later.

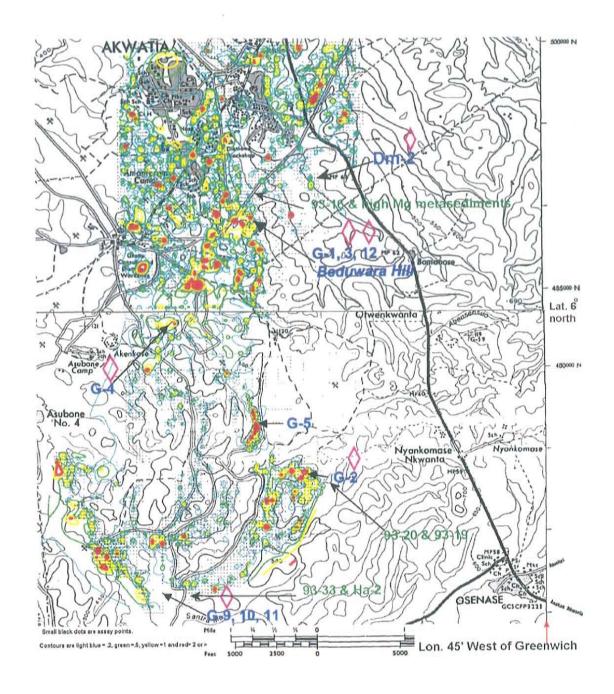


Figure. 17. Composite map. Contours are bedrock grades in carats per cubic yard. Light blue=.2, green=.5, yellow=1 and red=2 or >. Dark blue numbers are locations of trenches in diamondiferous rock and sample locations, pink diamonds are diamondiferous samples. Green numbers are samples from (McKitrick, 1996). Right horizontal axis is 45 minutes West of Greenwich; the middle Latitude is 6 degrees north.

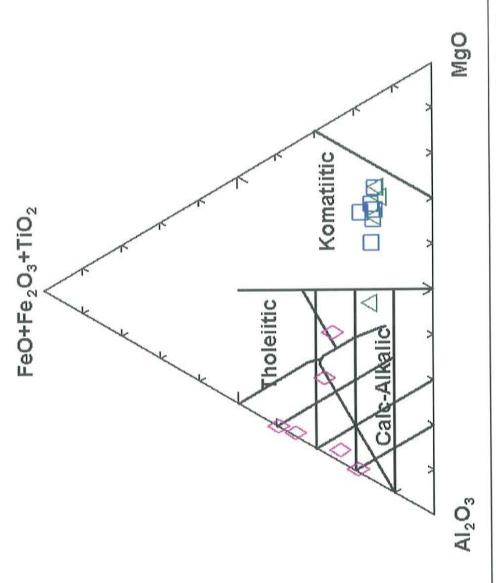


Figure 18. Discrimination diagram for volcanic rocks, open blue squares are actinolite schist, open pink diamonds are diamondiferous rocks, open green triangles are high Mg medisediments (McKitrick, 1996). The form of the diagram is from (Jensen, 1976).

#### Minor Elements and Rare Earth Elements

Diamond bearing rocks and the high, Mg metasediments have comparable REE concentrations. Zirconium is elevated in the diamond bearing rock and REE are elevated in the actinolite schist. Zirconium content varies from 91.6 ppm to 165.5 ppm in diamond bearing rocks, 60.27 ppm to 82.28 ppm in the actinolite schist and 79.28 ppm to 57.33 ppm in the high- Mg medisediments. Thorium content varies from 3 ppm to 5 ppm in diamond bearing rocks, 2 ppm to 6 ppm in the actinolite schist and 2.5 ppm to 5.4 ppm in the high- Mg medisediments. Niobium content varies from 4 ppm to 8 ppm in diamond bearing rocks, 2.2 ppm to 5.3 ppm in the actinolite schist and 2.8 ppm to 4.4 ppm in the high- Mg medisediments. Hafnium content varies from 3 ppm to 5 ppm in diamond bearing rocks, 2 ppm to 3 ppm in the actinolite schist and 1 ppm to 2 ppm in the high- Mg medisediments.

Rare earth elements in the diamond bearing rocks and the high-Mg medisediments are only moderately variable with cerium having the most variability. Concentrations of rare earth elements in the actinolite schist are elevated relative to the other lithologies and vary considerably. Minimum and maximum REE concentrations are summarized in Table 2. (Tantalum data is near or below the detection limit).

Chondrite normalized REE diagrams are generated for diamond-bearing rocks and the actinolite schist (figures 19 A-F) to investigate the genesis of the samples and possibly unravel the petrologic processes involved at Akwatia. There are significant differences between diamond-bearing rocks and the actinolite schist REE analyses when plotted normalized to chondrite. The actinolite schist is <u>highly</u> enriched in REE especially in light rare earth elements (LREE) and plot with a negative slope. The diamond-bearing

rock analyses have lower concentrations of the REE and do not show the same degree of enrichment in LREE common to the schist analyses. The diamond bearing rocks exhibit a positive cerium anomaly while several of the actinolite schist samples exhibit a negative cerium anomaly. A slight negative europium anomaly is evident in all actinolite schist samples, while less evident and more variable in diamond bearing samples G-3, G-4 and Dm-2. The high Mg medisediments closely resemble the diamond bearing rocks without the cerium or europium anomaly.

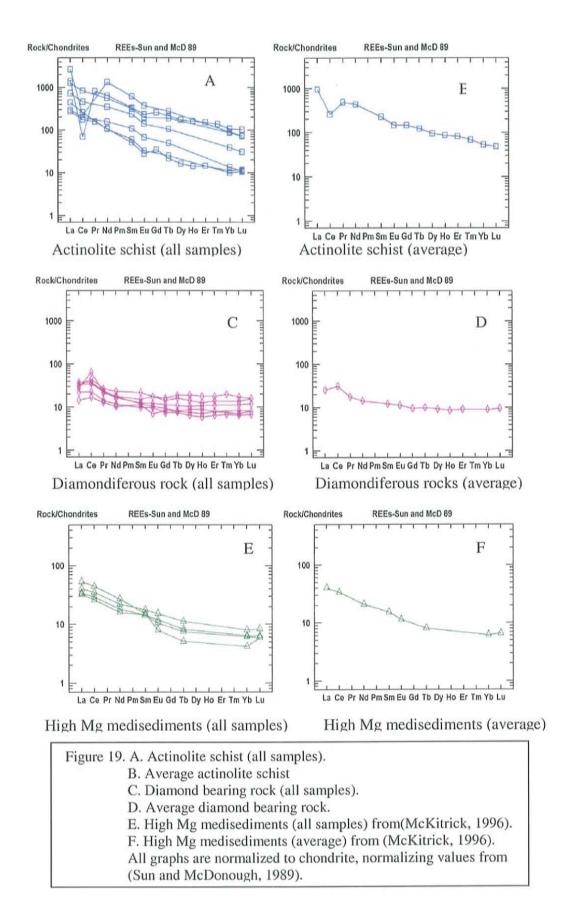
Primitive mantle normalized, multi-element diagrams are plotted to depict and compare rock chemistry (Figure 20 A-C). Mobile element data scatter widely in both the actinolite schist and the diamondiferous rocks. Much of the immobile element data for the actinolite schist also scatter. Prominent negative Rb, K, Sr Th, Nb, Pb, P, Zr and Ti anomalies are evident in the actinolite schist. Positive Cs, Th, Pb and Zr anomalies and a negative Sr anomaly are evident in the diamond bearing rock. Immobile element data for the diamondiferous rocks are more coherent than mobile elements across the suite. When average compositions of the actinolite schist and the diamondiferous rocks are plotted together concentrations of the elements Ba, Th, Nb, Pb, P, Zr and Ti agree between the two.

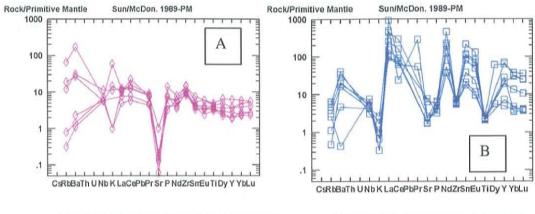
Data from Akwatia rock samples are plotted on a Th-Zr-Nb discrimination diagram (Wood, 1980; Wood et al., 1979) to reveal possible tectonic setting of protoliths. All Akwatia rocks fall in a relatively tight group in the arc basalt field. (Figure 21).

Table 2. Rare earth elements

Sample				E	lemer	nt								
sample	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Lu	Υ	Dy	Но	Er	Yb
g-2	7.4	26.7	2.5	10.6	3.3	1.0	2.9	0.6	0.4	17.0	3.6	0.7	2.3	2.3
g-3	8.8	22.7	2.2	8.1	2.3	1.0	3.3	0.7	0.4	27.9	4.8	1.0	2.9	2.9
g-4	3.4	10.3	1.2	4.8	1.7	0.4	1.7	0.3	0.2	12.4	2.2	0.5	1.3	1.2
g-9	6.6	39.4	2.0	8.0	1.8	0.6	1.9	0.3	0.2	8.6	1.9	0.4	1.3	1.4
g-12	7.8	21.5	2.1	7.6	1.9	0.7	2.3	0.4	0.3	16.6	2.6	0.6	1.8	1.9
DM2	5.2	13.9	1.3	5.4	1.5	0.6	1.5	0.3	0.2	9.0	1.6	0.3	1.1	1.1
Minimum		10.3	1.2	4.8	1.5	0.4	1.5	0.3	0.2	8.6	1.6	0.3	1.1	1.1
Maximum			2.2	8.1	2.3	1.0	3.3	0.7	0.4	27.9	4.8	1.0	2.9	2.9
93-33	626.5	138.1	nd	614.5	92.9	21.5	nd	10.3	1.9	319.5	nd	nd	nd	15.4
93-20	296.6	514.0	nd	262.0	47.8	11.4	nd	7.1	1.8	96.5	nd	nd	nd	14.6
93-19	105.6	158.0	nd	49.3	9.2	1.9	nd	0.9	0.3	126.2	2 nd	nd	nd	1.7
93-16	70.8	121.4	nd	73.3	16.6	3.9	nd	1.9	0.3	32.8	nd	nd	nd	2.3
ha-2	173.3	281.4	nd	163.0	35.8	8.1	nd	4.0	8.0	86.5	nd	nd	nd	6.6
g-5	64.9	108.0	14.8	50.4	7.7	1.6	7.1	8.0	0.3	22.3	4.1	8.0	2.4	1.9
g-10	332.0	42.7	77.7	299.0	51.6	13.6	53.1	8.0	2.6	286.0	44.3	9.1	24.8	18.1
Minimum	64.9	42.7	14.8	49.3	7.7	1.6	7.1	0.8	0.3	22.3	4.1	8.0	2.4	1.7
Maximum		514.0	77.7	614.5	92.9	21.5	53.1	10.3	2.6	319.5	5 44.3	9.1	24.8	18.1
BH-170	9.6	21.5	nd	10.3	2.7	0.9	nd	0.4	0.2	12.9	nd	nd	nd	1.4
BH-197	8.1	17.9	nd	8.5	2.2	0.7	nd	0.3	0.2	9.7	nd	nd	nd	1.1
BH-226	7.7	16.0	nd	7.5	2.2	0.6	nd	0.3	0.2	9.7	nd	nd	nd	1.0
BH-243	12.7	27.2	nd	12.6	2.3	0.5	nd	0.2	0.2	3.5	nd	nd	nd	0.7
Minimum		16.0	nd	7.5	2.2	0.5	nd	0.2	0.2	3.5	nd	nd	nd	0.7
maximun		27.2	nd	12.6	2.7	0.9	nd	0.4	0.2	12.9	nd	nd	nd	1.4

See appendix A for comprehensive analysis.





Diamondiferous rock (all samples)

Actinolite schist (all samples)

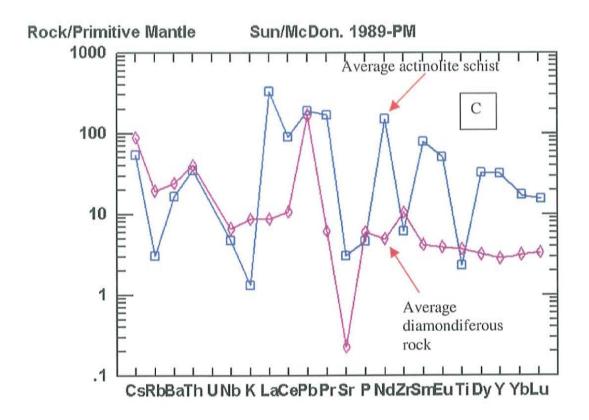


Figure 20. Primitive mantle normalized multi-element diagrams.

- Diamond bearing rocks all samples (open pink diamonds).
- B. Actinolite schist all samples (open blue squares).
- C. Average actinolite schist and average diamond bearing samples. Normalizing values and form from (Sun and McDonough, 1989).

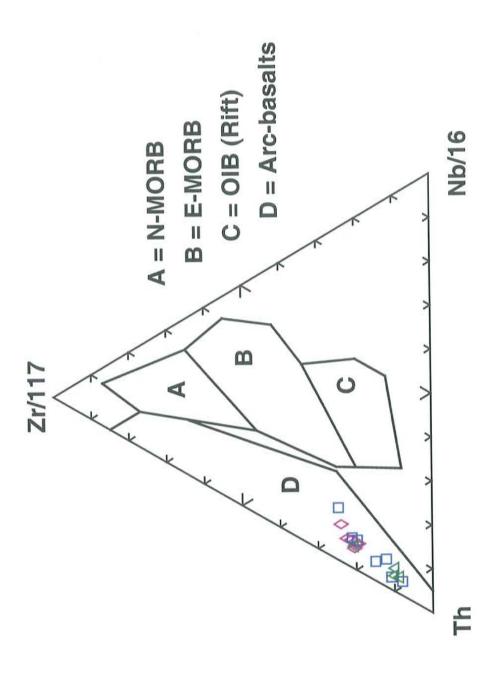


Figure 21. Tectonic discrimination diagram for basalts, open blue squares are actinolite schist, open pink diamonds are diamondiferous rocks, open green triangles are high Mg medisediments from (McKitrick, 1996), the form of the diagram is from (Wood, 1980; Wood et al., 1979).

#### Weathering and Alteration

Deep tropical weathering and moderate metasomatism are persistent throughout the diamond field area, complicating protolith identification. Recent geochemical studies (Voicu and Bardoux, 2002) in the Barama-Mazaruni greenstone belt at Omai gold mine located in the Guiana Shield, Guyana, South America illuminate the geochemical behavior of major and minor components during intense tropical weathering. Their study uses the chemical index of alteration (CIA) to evaluate the degree of weathering of each sample. The CIA is calculated using the equation:  $CIA = [Al_2O_3/(Al_2O_3 + CaO + Na_2O + K_2O)] * 100$  where oxides are in molecular proportions (Fedo et al., 1995; Nesbitt and Young, 1982). The CIA evaluates the degree of mineralogical weathering, which is the ratio of the transformation of a primary mineral into its equivalent alteration mineral. A sample with a CIA = 100 indicates complete transformation of a primary mineral into its equivalent weathered product and by extension, complete weathering of the parent rock. The CIA has the advantage of being an indicator of the degree of weathering independent of the depth of sampling.

Chemical index of alteration values are calculated for the diamond bearing rocks and the actinolite schist using the equation:  $CIA = [Al_2O_3/(Al_2O_3 + CaO + Na_2O + K_2O)] * 100$  where oxides are in molecular proportions (Fedo et al., 1995; Nesbitt and Young, 1982) results are summarized in table 3.

sample	CIA (% weathered)
g-5	79.34
g-10	59.42
93-33	48.13
93-20	45.30
93-19	56.71
93-16	96.03
ha-2	46.14
g-2	99.84
g-3	98.19
g-4	99.32
g-9	96.49
g-12	89.69

Isocons and are generated to qualify the effect of weathering on the diamond bearing rocks and the actinolite schist (figures 22-26). "Isocon" plots are generated by graphically comparing the constituents of the least weathered sample against the rest of the samples in a given suit of rocks, in effect "normalizing" the suite of rocks to its least weathered member. Concentrations are relative and have been manipulated mathematically in the same way across the suite to make them fit within the space of the graph. Relative concentrations for major elements are in wt. % of oxides and trace elements are in ppm The CIA is used to determine relative weathering. The least weathered sample (the sample with the lowest CIA) G-12 is selected for comparison to the rest of the diamondiferous suite. Sample G-12 is plotted on the x-axis for the

diamondiferous suite. Sample Ha-2 and 93-20 are the least weathered of the actinolite schist suite. Sample Ha-2 is selected over 93-20, as 93-20 is an outlier with respect to Mg concentration. Sample Ha-2 is plotted on the x-axis for the actinolite schist suite. The 45-degree line is the line of constant mass and the blue line is the line of constant aluminum. The line of constant mass defines where constituents will fall on the graph when there has been no change in concentration between samples. When a constituent falls below the line of constant mass it has been depleted relative to the least weathered sample (in this case the x axis) and if it falls above the line it has been enriched. The line of constant aluminum passes through the origin and Al, and assumes total aluminum has remained the same regardless of the loss or gain of other constituents (Grant, 1986). Table 4 is a summery of relative losses or gains for each constituent in each sample.

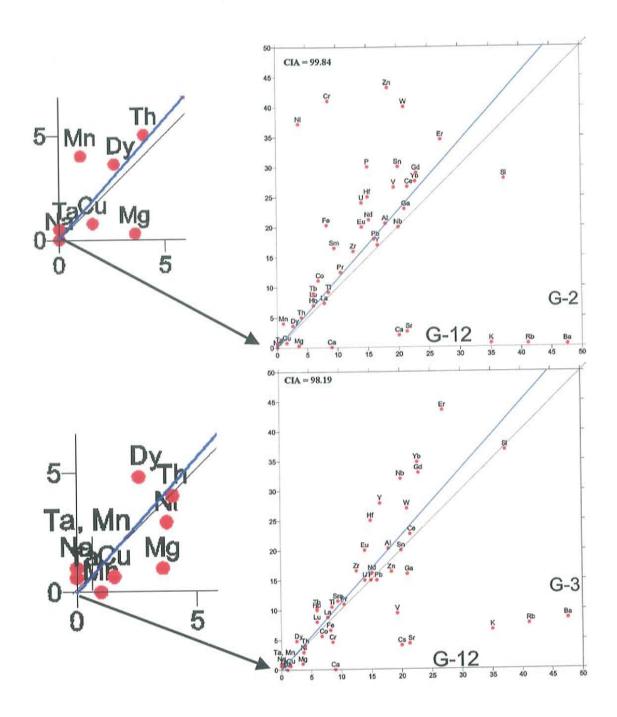


Figure 22. Isocons for diamondiferous rocks (samples G-2 and G-3). The diagonal line is line of constant mass, the blue line is the line of constant aluminum and CIA is chemical index of alteration (see text).

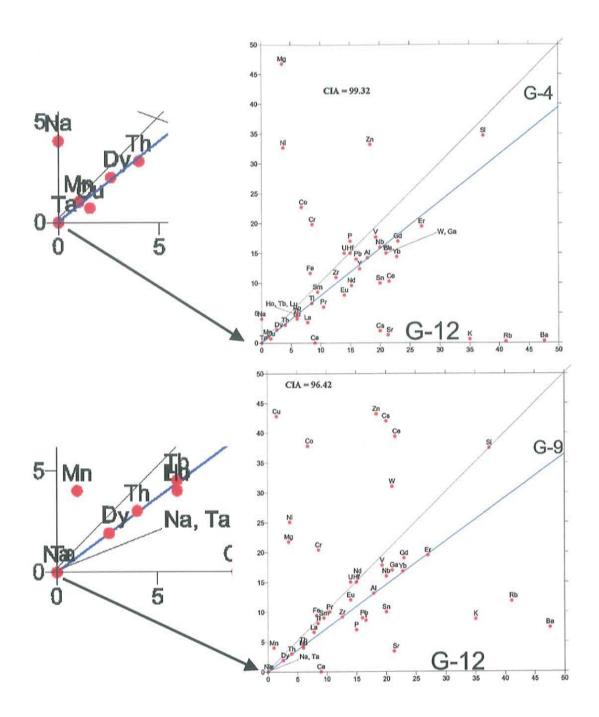


Figure 23. Isocons for diamondiferous rocks (samples G-4 and G-9). The diagonal line is line of constant mass, the blue line is the line of constant aluminum and CIA is chemical index of alteration (see text).

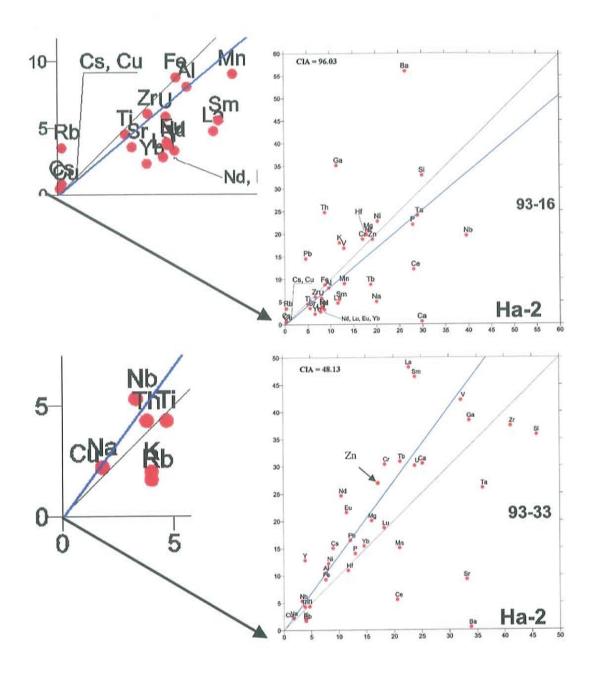


Figure 24. Isocons for actinolite schist (samples 93-16 and 93-33). The diagonal line is the line of constant mass, the blue line is the line of constant aluminum and CIA is chemical index of alteration (see text).

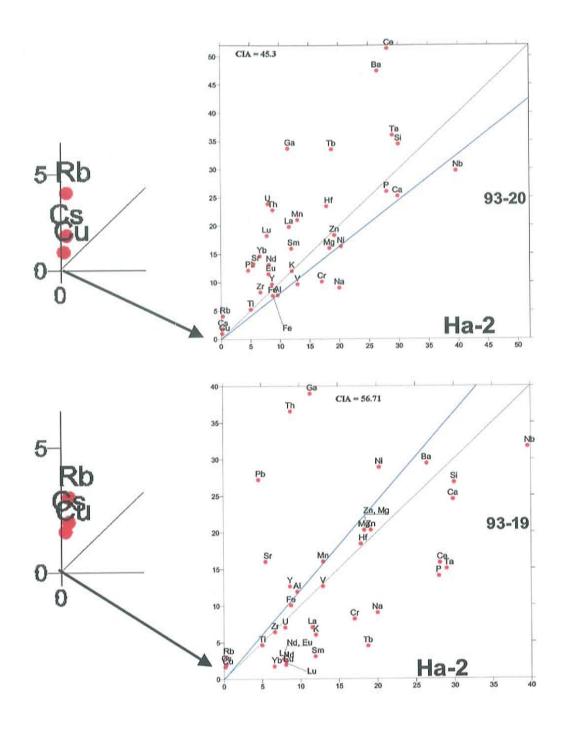


Figure 25. Isocons for actinolite schist (samples 93-19 and 93-20). The diagonal line is the line of constant mass, the blue line is the line of constant aluminum and CIA is chemical index of alteration (see text).

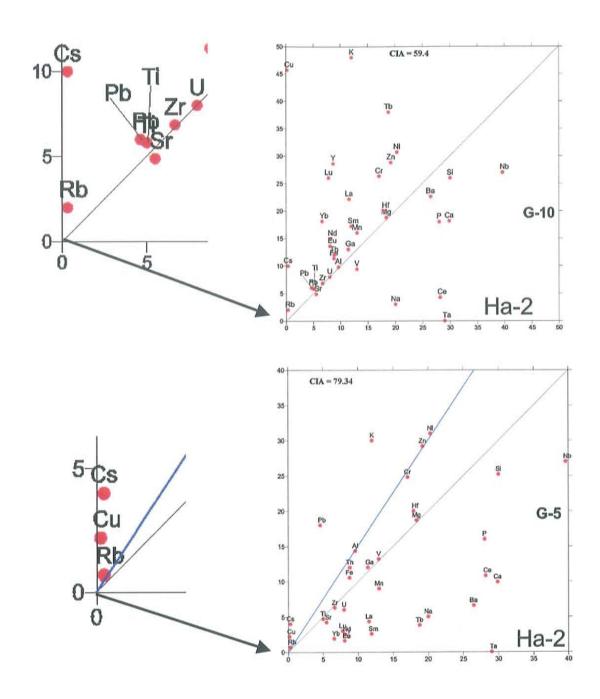


Figure 26. Isocons for actinolite schist (samples G-5 and G-10). The diagonal line is the line of constant mass and the blue line is the line of constant aluminum. CIA is chemical index of alteration (see text).

Table 4. Summery of relative losses (-) or gains (+) as compared to x (red). Numbers are the same as used in isocons (normalized).

#	g-2	g-3	g-4	g-9	g-12 (x)	g-5	g-10	93-33	93-20	93-19	93-16	ha-2 (x)
Si	-9.4	-0.5	-2.6	0.1	37.3	-4.8	-4.0	-3.2	4.4	-3.2	2.9	30.0
Al	5.4	4.8	-7.3	-9.6	35.8	4.8	0.2	0.9	-1.9	2.3	-1.6	9.6
Fe	12.1	-1.6	3.4	1.2	8.3	1.8	2.6	0.5	-1.1	1.3	0.0	8.8
Ca	-9.0	-9.0	-9.0	-9.0	9.0	-20.0	-11.7	0.6	-4.7	-5.4	-29.3	29.9
Mg	-3.3	-2.6	43.2	18.2	3.6	0.3	0.4	1.7	-2.4	1.9	2.3	18.4
Na	0.0	1.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	-15.0	-17.0	-9.0	-11.0	-11.0	-15.0	20.0
K	-34.4	-28.4	-34.4	-26.2	35.0	18.0	36.0	-6.0	0.0	-6.0	6.0	12.0
Ti	2.5	7.0	-6.7	-1.4	29.8	-0.3	0.8	-0.2	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	5.0
Mn	3.0	-1.0	0.0	3.0	1.0	-4.0	3.0	2.0	8.0	3.0	-4.0	13.0
Р	15.0	0.0	2.0	-8.0	15.0	-12.0	-10.0	0.0	-2.0	-14.0	-6.0	28.0
U	10.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	14.0	-2.0	0.0	22.1	15.8	-1.0	-2.2	8.0
V	11.0	-14.9	-2.4	-2.3	29.0	0.2	-3.6	-0.3	-3.3	-0.3	3.8	13.0
W	19.0	6.0	-6.0	10.0	21.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Υ	0.4	11.3	-4.2	-8.0	16.6	-6.4	20.0	23.3	1.0	4.0	-5.4	8.7
Yb	4.8	12.0	-8.4	-6.0	22.8	-4.7	11.5	8.8	8.0	-4.9	-4.3	6.6
Zn	24.8	-2.0	14.8	24.8	18.4	10.0	9.6	7.1	-0.9	1.1	-0.5	19.2
Zr	3.4	4.0	-1.7	-3.4	12.6	-0.4	0.2	0.8	1.6	-0.3	-0.6	6.7
La	-0.4	1.0	-4.4	-1.2	7.8	-7.2	10.6	30.2	8.2	-4.5	-6.8	11.6
Lu	2.0	2.0	-2.0	-2.0	6.0	-4.8	18.2	10.9	10.4	-5.1	-5.0	7.8
Nb	0.0	18.0	-6.0	-6.0	30.0	-12.6	-12.6	8.1	-9.9	-7.9	-20.1	39.6
Nd	6.0	1.0	-5.6	0.8	15.2	-5.6	6.8	22.6	5.0	-5.7	-4.5	8.2
Ni	33.4	-0.9	28.9	21.3	3.8	10.7	10.4	4.0	-4.0	8.6	2.4	20.3
Pb	2.0	-1.0	-2.0	-7.0	16.0	13.4	1.4	11.8	7.5	22.6	9.9	4.6
Pr	2.0	0.5	-4.5	-0.5	10.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Rb	-40.6	-33.5	-40.9	-29.3	41.1	0.4	1.7	1.4	3.7	2.7	3.2	0.3
Sm	7.0	2.0	-1.0	-0.5	9.5	-9.4	5.3	19.0	4.0	-8.9	-6.4	11.9
Sn	10.0	0.0	-10.0	-10.0	20.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Sr	-18.7	-17.0	-20.0	-17.9	21.3	-1.3	-0.6	-1.8	7.8	10.5	-2.0	5.5
Ta	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	-29.0	-29.0	-3.0	7.0	-14.0	-5.0	29.0
Tb	3.0	4.5	-1.5	-1.5	6.0	-15.0	19.2	30.1	14.7	-14.3	-10.0	18.8
Th	1.0	0.0	-1.0	-1.0	4.0	3.2	3.2	17.0	13.9	27.7	15.9	8.8
Ba	-47.2	-39.1	-47.3	-40.2	47.6	-19.9	-3.9	-25.9	20.9	2.9	29.5	26.5
Ce	6.2	1.4	-13.4	21.5	25.8	-17.3	-23.9	-14.3	23.3	-12.3	-16.0	28.1
Co	4.3	-1.2	15.9	31.0	6.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cr	32.4	-4.0	11.2	11.8	8.6	7.7	9.2	-0.4	-7.0	-8.9	1.7	17.1
Cs	-18.0	-16.0	-18.0		20.0	3.7	9.7	2.7	1.5	1.7	0.5	0.3
Cu	-0.8	-0.9	-0.9	41.2	1.6	2.0	45.5	0.4	8.0	1.5	0.3	0.2
Dy	1.0	2.2	-0.4	-0.7	2.6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Er	8.3	18.2	-8.3	-8.3	29.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Eu	6.0	6.0	-6.0	-2.0	14.0	-6.5	5.5	13.5	3.4	-6.2	-4.2	8.1
Ga	4.0	-10.0	-12.0	-8.0	42.0	0.6	1.6	27.0	22.2	27.6	23.7	11.4
Gd	9.0	15.0	-9.0	-6.0	34.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Hf	19.0	19.0	0.0	0.0	28.5	2.1	2.1	3.9	5.5	0.5	1.9	17.9
Но	1.0	4.0	-1.0	-2.0	6.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
		5543179		777		1009113	120011994	9,502,00				

X= least weathered sample based on chemical index of alteration (CIA)

#### Diamond-Bearing Rocks

#### Siderophile Elements

In general, siderophile elements tend to accumulate in the more weathered samples consistent with the residual nature of these elements. Isocons for Samples G-2 and G-3 have similar distributions of elements and both have an Al line above the constant mass line. Sample G-2 has a higher CIA than G-3. Iron and Ni show moderate enrichment in sample G-2, Co and P show slight enrichment in sample G-2, while Fe, Ni, Co and P remain essentially unchanged in sample G-3. Samples G-4 and G-9 both have an Al line below the constant mass line and sample G-4 has a higher CIA than G-9. Iron is slightly enriched in sample G-4 and unchanged in sample G-9. Cobalt is moderately enriched in sample G-4 and slightly more enriched in sample G-9. Nickle is moderately enriched in sample G-4 and slightly depleted in sample G-9. Nickle is moderately enriched in sample G-4 and slightly less enriched in sample G-9.

### Chalcophile Elements

Copper and Zn are moderately variable while Pb and Ga show minor variability. Lead has remained virtually unchanged in all four samples though it is slightly enriched in the more weathered samples (G-2 and G-4). Copper is unchanged in samples G-2, 3 and 4, though strongly enriched in sample G-9. Zinc shows moderate enrichment in samples G-2, 4 and 9, with slight depletion in sample G-3. Gallium is slightly depleted in samples G-3, 4 and 9 while showing minor enrichment in sample G-2.

### Lithopile Elements (REE will be addressed separately)

Lithophile elements in this suite behave predictably; mobile elements are leached while immobile elements are not. The elements Na, Mg, Ca, Sr, K, Rb and Ba are all

strongly depleted in all four samples, though less so in the rocks with the lower CIA (G-3 and G-9) consistent with the moderate mobility of these cations (Rose et al., 1979). The concentrations of the immobile elements Ti and Zr are virtually unchanged and closely follow the aluminum line suggesting the hypothesis of constant aluminum is valid for this suite. Cesium is also strongly depleted in G-2, 3 and 4. Cesium is strongly enriched in sample G-9, this may be due to biogenic activity as it is the only sample gathered from a currently forested area, cesium is strongly adsorbed by plants (Palmer et al., 2002). Chromium shows moderate enrichment in samples G-4 and G-9, strong enrichment in sample G-2, with slight depletion in sample G-3. Vanadium is slightly depleted G-4 and G-9, moderately depleted in sample G-3 and slightly enriched in sample G-2. Uranium is slightly enriched in all samples. Manganese is slightly enriched in samples G-2 and G-9 and unchanged in G-4 and G-3. Silica is virtually unchanged in samples G-3, G-4 and G-9, while showing slight depletion in sample G-2. Tungsten is moderately enriched in samples G-2, G-3 and G-9, but shows slight depletion in sample G-4. Hafnium is slightly enriched in samples G-2 and G-3 but is unchanged in samples G-4 and G-9. Niobium, Th and Y concentrations are mostly un-changed. Though Th and Y show slight enrichment in sample G-3.

#### Rare Earth Elements

Rare earth element concentrations in diamond-bearing rocks are stable across the suite with minor exceptions; Yb and Gd are slightly enriched in sample G-3 but remain strongly coupled in all four samples, Er is also moderately enriched in sample G-3 and less so in sample G-2. Cerium shows the most variability and is likely related to the general cerium anomaly, which will be addressed at the end of this section. When the line

of constant Al diverges from the line of constant mass REE follow the Al line, reinforcing the validity of the constant Al hypothesis for this suite.

#### Immobile Elements

In general constituents of diamond bearing rocks behave as expected for rocks subject to extreme tropical weathering with mobile elements being leached, residual elements accumulating and immobile elements remaining constant. The isocons demonstrate the elements Al, Fe, Ga, Ti, Zr, Mn, Hf, Nb Th, Y and REE's are qualitatively immobile in the diamond bearing rocks.

#### Actinolite Schist

### Siderophile Elements

Siderophile elements are relatively unchanged across the suite. Iron has remained unchanged in all six samples, while P and Ni have remained essentially unchanged in samples 93-16, 93-33 and 93-20. Phosphorous has been moderately depleted in samples G-5, G-10 and 93-19 while being slightly depleted in sample 93-20.

# Chalcophile Eelements

Chalcophile elements show moderate variability across the suite. Copper has remained virtually unchanged in samples 93-16, 93-33, 93-20, 93-16 and G-5 but is strongly enriched in sample G-10. Zinc has remained essentially unchanged in samples 93-16, 93-19 and 93-20 while being slightly enriched in samples 93-33, G-5 and G-10. Gallium is slightly enriched in samples G-5, G-10 and 93-33, moderately enriched in sample 93-20 and 93-16, and strongly enriched in sample 93-19.

Lithophile Elements (REE will be addressed separately)

Calcium and Na behave predictably across the suite, being preferentially depleted in the more weathered samples while other lithophile elements show mixed behavior. Strontium is moderately enriched in samples 93-20 and 93-19, unchanged in samples G-5, G-10 and 93-16 and strongly depleted in sample 93-33. Rubidium is slightly enriched in samples 93-20, 93-19, 93-16 and sample G-10, slightly depleted in sample 93-33 and unchanged in sample g-5. Barium concentration shows no relationship to degree of weathering as it is strongly enriched in samples 93-20 and 93-16, strongly depleted in samples 93-33 and G-5 and slightly depleted in samples G-10 and 93-19. Potassium concentrations also show no connection to degree of weathering, being strongly enriched in sampleG-10, moderately enriched in sample G-5and 93-16, slightly depleted in sample 93-33, moderately depleted in sample 93-19 and unchanged in sample 93-20. Silica is slightly depleted in samples 93-33, G-10, G-5 and 93-19 and slightly enriched in sample 93-20 and 93-16. Immobile elements Ti and Zr are virtually unchanged across the suite and closely follow the line of constant mass suggesting the hypothesis of constant Al is not valid for this suite though Al is largely unchanged across the suite but is slightly enriched in sample G-5. Manganese is slightly depleted in samples 93-16, G-5, moderately depleted in sample 93-33, slightly enriched in sample 93-19 and G-10 and moderately enriched in sample 93-20. Magnesium is virtually unchanged being only slightly enriched in samples 93-16, 93-19 and 93-33. Chromium is moderately enriched in samples G-5 and G-10, slightly enriched in samples 93-16 and 93-33 and moderately depleted in samples 93-19 and 93-20. Vanadium is virtually unchanged in samples 93-19 and G-5, slightly depleted in samples 93-20 and G-10 and slightly enriched in samples 93-16 and 93-33. Hafnium is unchanged across the suite except in sample 93-20 where it is slightly enriched. Thallium is strongly enriched in sample 93-19, moderately enriched in samples 93-20 and 93-16, slightly enriched in samples G-10 and G-5 and unchanged in sample 93-33. Niobium is moderately depleted in samples G-10, G-5, 93-16, 93-19, 93-20 and virtually unchanged in sample 93-33. Yttrium is slightly enriched in samples 93-20, 93-19 and 93-33, moderately enriched in sample G-10 and slightly depleted in samples 93-16 and G-5.

#### Rare earth Elements

Rare earth elements show extreme variability in the actinolite schist. Lanthanum is moderately enriched in sample G-10, moderately depleted in sample G-5, slightly depleted in samples 93-16 and 93-19, slightly enriched in sample 93-20 and strongly enriched in sample 93-33. Cerium is moderately depleted in samples 93-16, 93-33, 93-19 and G-5, strongly depleted in sample G-10 and strongly enriched in sample 93-20. Neodymium is slightly depleted in samples 93-19, 93-16 and G-5 and slightly enriched in samples G-10, 93-33 and sample 93-20. Samarium is slightly enriched in samples G-10 and 93-20, moderately enriched in samples G-5 and 93-19, strongly enriched in sample 93-33 and slightly depleted in sample 93-16. Europium is slightly depleted in samples 93-16 and 93-33, moderately depleted in samples 93-19 and G-5 and slightly enriched in samples G-10 and 93-20. Terbium is moderately enriched in samples G-10 and 93-20, slightly enriched in 93-33, moderately depleted in sample 93-16 and strongly depleted in samples G-5 and 93-19. Ytterbium moderately enriched in sample G-10, slightly enriched in sample 93-20, moderately depleted in samples G-5 and 93-19, slightly depleted in samples G-5 and 93-19, slightly depleted in

sample 93-16 and unchanged in sample 93-33. Lutetium is moderately enriched in samples G-10 and 93-20, moderately depleted in samples G-5 and 93-19, slightly depleted in sample 93-16 and unchanged in sample 93-33. The enrichment and/or depletion of REE seem to bear no relationship to degree of weathering and do not follow the line of constant Al, further evidence that the hypothesis of constant Al in not valid for this suite.

#### Immobile Elements

Element variability (with the exception of Ca and Na) in the actinolite schist does not correlate with degree of weathering and is likely therefore to be a product of metasomatism. Isocons for the actinolite schist demonstrate the elements Ti, Al, Mg, Fe Zr, Hf and Y (cautiously) are qualitatively immobile in the actinolite schist. Niobium concentrations though moderately depleted in most samples are consistent.

### **DISCUSSION**

# **Cerium Anomaly**

Cerium posses two oxidation states 3+ and when conditions are very oxidizing 4+ (Krauskopf and Bird, 1995). Positive Ce anomalies in all the highly weathered diamond bearing rock and negative Ce anomalies in the less-weathered actinolite schist suggest anomalies are related to weathering. Geochemical studies at Omai, Guyana (Voicu and Bardoux, 2002) suggests however that the cerium anomaly observed there is related to permeability. Positive cerium anomalies are observed in the permeable, inter-pillow spaces in basaltic andesites while negative Ce anomalies are observed in the less permeable inner pillow parts.

This may also be the case at Akwatia as weathered diamond bearing rock is highly permeable while the actinolite schist has low permeability; furthermore the brecciated nature of the diamondiferous rock suggests that the un-weathered protolith of the diamondiferous rock was also highly permeable. Figure 27 shows a chondrite normalized REE spidergram of a sample of actinolite schist and a sample of diamondiferous rock, which were in direct contact when collected. It appears Ce was mobilized out of the actinolite schist and into the diamondiferous rock as suggested by (Voicu and Bardoux, 2002).

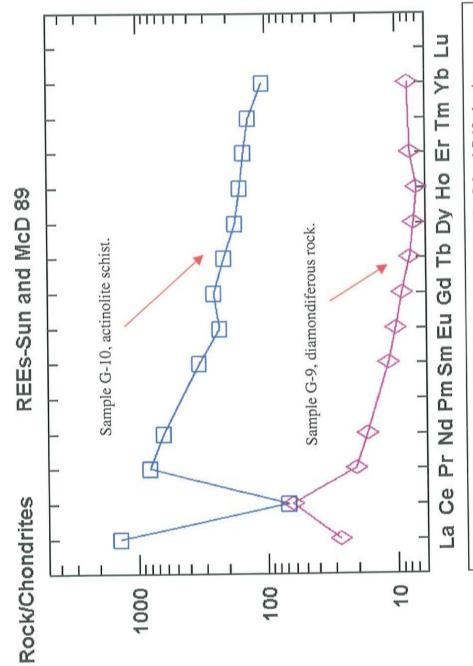


Figure 27. Chondrite normalized REE diagram of adjacent samples G-9 and G-10, showing contrasting cerium anomalies. Open blue squares are actinolite schist and open diamonds are diamondiferous rocks. Normalizing values from (Sun and McDonough, 1989).

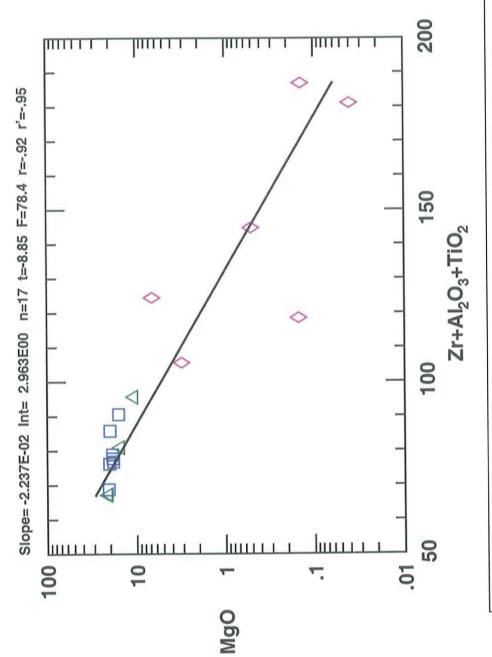
# General Conclusions Related to Weathering

In general terms the weathering of diamond bearing rocks at Akwatia is consistent with observations by Voicu and Bardoux at the Omai gold mine located in the Guiana Shield, Guyana, South America. The results of their study indicate, generally REE patterns of the bedrock are preserved in the saprolith horizon. The chemical signatures of some oxides are preserved; SiO2 is generally not affected by weathering, though local hydrothermal silicification is frequently observed in bedrock. The oxides Na<sub>2</sub>O, CaO and MgO all show extreme leaching at CIA vales over 65. Potasium oxides show leaching in mafic volcanics and sedimentary rocks. Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> concentrations are highly variable though there is a gradual accumulation towards the upper part of the saprolith where water table variations are less. Aluminum oxide shows a positive correlation with the CIA in all rock types due to its retention in secondary mineral phases. TiO2 is generally immobile in mafic volcanics, though it shows gradual enrichment in weathered felsic volcanics and sedimentary rocks. Trace elements have variable behavior patterns during weathering. Some elements (Nb, Hf, Ta and partially Y) are largely un-affected by weathering. The elements V, W, Ga and Sc show moderate to strong enrichment, while Sr and Mo are leached. Others elements (Cs, Ba, U, Th, Ni, Cu, Zn, Pb, Te) have a mixed behavior. In general rubidium is completely leached during extreme weathering (Voicu and Bardoux, 2002).

# Weathering and Protolith Identification

Returning to the komatiite/ tholeite discrimination diagram (Jensen, 1976) now modified in figure 28. Isocons demonstrate the constituents (with the exception of Mg in the diamondiferous rocks) used for this diagram are immobile. The weathered diamondiferous rocks have a very low Mg content, however when Mg is plotted against immobile, Ti, Al and Zr (figure 28), a continuous negative correlation exists between the weathered diamondiferous rocks, the schists and the un-weathered high Mg metasediments suggesting the low Mg content of the diamond bearing rocks is a result of weathering. The (modified) komatiite/ tholeite diagram (figure 29) places the actinolite schist and most of the un-weathered metasediments associated with the diamond-bearing rocks squarely in the komatiite field. The diamond-bearing rocks fall along the weathering trend expected for a severely weathered komatiite as MgO is more mobile then Ti Al or Fe oxides and Fe is more mobile than Al.

Returning to figure 21, the tectonic discrimination diagram (Wood, 1980; Wood et al., 1979) isocons demonstrate constituents for this diagram are immobile in the diamond bearing rock. Zirconium is immobile in the actinolite schist and the shape of the arc-basalt field allows a great deal of variation in the Zr/Th ratio. The fairly tight grouping of the actinolite schist with the un-weathered, high-Mg medisediments and the diamond-bearing rock suggest this diagram may also be valid for the actinolite schist, indicating arc tectonic setting for Akwatia rocks.



Akwatia rocks. Open blue squares are schist, open pink diamonds are diamondiferous rocks, and open green triangles are high Mg medisediments from (McKitrick, 1996). Figure 28. Graph showing a continuous, negative correlation between MgO, Zr and oxides of Al and Ti in

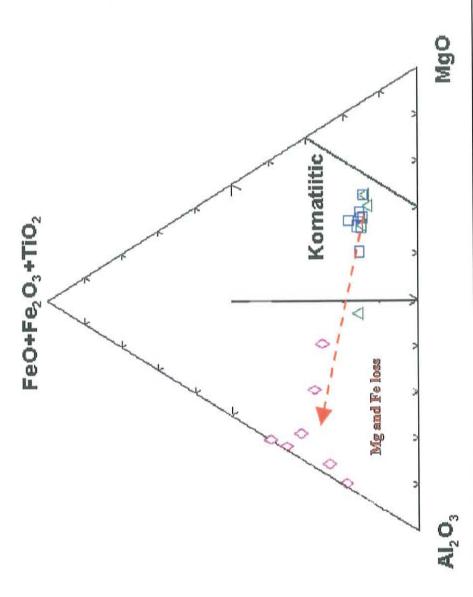


Figure 29. Komatiite discrimination diagram showing how diamond bearing rocks fall along weathering trend diamondiferous rocks, open green triangles are high Mg medisediments (McKitrick, 1996). The form of the diagram is modified from (Jensen, 1976). (Mg and Fe loss) for a komatiite. Open blue squares are actinolite schist, open pink diamonds are

### Diamonds in Bedrock

There is compelling evidence that the Akwatia alluvial-diamond source is local bedrock. Small-scale miners have won diamonds from the local bedrock for some time. Diamonds in residual soils, colluvium, and alluvium indicate a local diamond source. Variations in topsoil grades are closely mirrored in bedrock or bottom grades (Figures 13-16). Diamond grades in the soils and the B1 horizon are greater than underlying bedrock, as expected, because during tropical soil formation more than 50% of the rockforming constituents are removed. Residual diamonds are concentrated in bands or pods that commonly occur on topographical highs (fig. 17) rather than in depressions as would be expected for a strictly alluvial deposit. Grade variations in alluvial deposits are closely related to surface contours (Ross et al., 1989). (Junner, 1943) provides evidence that the paleosurface (probably Tertiary) of the Akwatia area was a broad peneplain. This surface would be more likely to disperse diamonds rather than concentrating them.

It is unlikely that the high diamond grades (.93 carats/cu.yd.= ~ 1.2 carat/ ton) in the diamond bearing breccias are a result of sedimentary concentration. Diamonds do not have an extreme density, hence are not commonly concentrated by moving water. Residual diamonds show no evidence of transport and clasts in diamond-bearing rocks can be extremely coarse (16 cm) and angular (see figure 5) indicative of volcaniclastic megaturbidites or syn-eruptive volcaniclastic deposits from shallow submarine explosive activity (McPhie et al., 1993). CAST geologists note that diamond grades are highest in the coarser beds of metasediments (Gammon, 2003). The high grade alone is enough to distinguish Akwatia as a primary diamond deposit. In comparison the average grade for the life of a mine in the Kimberley area was 1 carat per ton with mined grades as low

as.04 carats per ton at Ottos Kopje and .56 carats per ton at Bultfontien (Ross et al., 1989).

Arguments for bedrock diamonds from infiltration are weak. No traditional source rock is known to exist in Ghana. Areas of high diamond grade distal from the Birim River show no indication of alluvial cover. CAST geologists demonstrate diamonds have a certain tendency to penetrate into the bedrock but this effect according to their work terminates at 30ft., at this depth diamond grade either stabilizes (in the source rock) or falls to nil in the "penetrated" rock (Gammon, 2003). Preferential orientation of clasts and schistocity as well as original rock textures have been preserved in deep pits making it unlikely that diamonds penetrate deeply into the rock as a result of slumping or bioturbation.

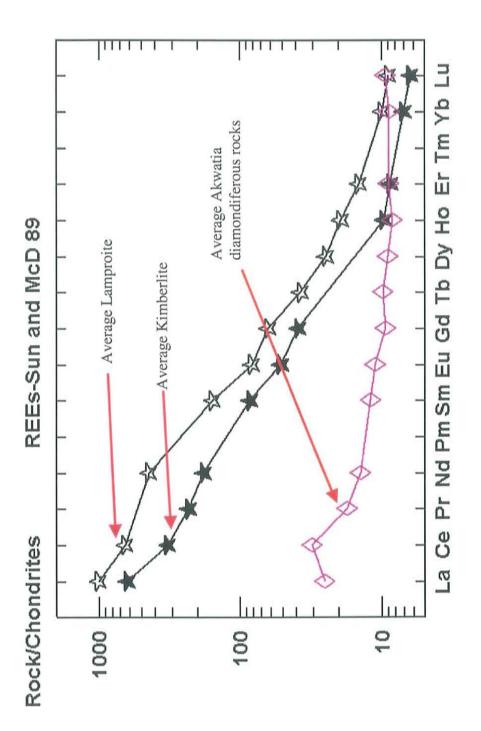
# **Diamond-Bearing Rocks**

Evidence suggests the diamond-bearing rock is a volcaniclastic breccia that is more likely to be derived from a protolith of komatiitic affinity than either kimberlite or lamproite. The actinolite-tremolite schist in known to host diamonds (Gammon, 2003; Junner, 1943), however the small scale miners never exploit the schist for diamonds. (Kaminsky, 1996) identified diamond bearing rocks and also noted a fragmental texture. I have identified five localities (other than Beduwara Hill) where the bedrock is diamondiferous (figure 17) and all these rocks display a brecciated texture.

The presence of pristine diamonds bearing peridotitic inclusions in the metasediments demonstrates the protolith must have come from a minimum depth of 150 km and thus must be ultramafic in composition. The only known diamond-bearing rocks

with diamond grades comparable to Akwatia are kimberlites, lamproites or volcaniclastic komatiites. The protolith of the actinolite schist is clearly ultramafic and the enriched REE signature resembles kimberlite or lamproite. However it contains little or no diamonds, indicator minerals are completely absent and key immobile elements Ti, P, Nb and Zr are well below the kimberlite norm. The Akwatia diamondiferous rocks differ substantially from kimberlite and lamproite, both in REE and in other immobile constituents (figures 30 and 31). A ternerary plot of immobile components (x= Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/5, y=Nb and z=Hf), (chosen because of their immobility at Akwatia, based on the isocon analysis for this work and the work of (Voicu and Bardoux, 2002) in the Guiana Shield) demonstrate that Akwatia diamondiferous rocks plot near diamondiferous volcaniclastic komatiites from Dachine rather than average kimberlite or lamproite (figure31). Diamond indicator minerals magnesian ilmenite, chrome diopside and perovskite are absent and there is little evidence for an underlying Archon. Akwatia diamondiferous rocks also differ from lamproites in that mineral inclusions in the diamonds are wholly of peridotitic affinity (Kaminsky, 1996; Nixon, 1987; Ward, 1998) this also excludes the possibility that the diamonds are of metamorphic origin. Chondrite normalized REE diagrams of the diamond-bearing rocks show good correlation with worldwide komatiites (figure 32) and a strong correlation with diamondiferous volcaniclastic komatiites from Dachine French Guyana (figure 33).

The Dachine komattites are part of a petrogenetically related group of incompatible-element rich, porphyritic komatiites and komatiitic volcaniclastic rocks, which include rocks from Steep Rock-Lumby Lake Canada, Murchison Terrane Australia and Karasjok Norway; collectively called Karasjok- type komatiites (Barley et al., 2000). Figure 33 is an Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> vs. Gd<sub>N</sub>/Yb<sub>N</sub> ratio plot comparing Akwatia rocks to other komatiites mentioned in this work, Akwatia diamondiferous rocks have chondritic or near chondritic ratios of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> and Gd<sub>N</sub>/Yb<sub>N</sub>.



diamonds) to kimberlite (filled black stars) and lamproite (open black stars). Normalizing values from (Sun and McDonough, 1989) Data for average Kimberlite and lamproite from Mitchell in (Ross et al., 1989). Figure 30. Chondrite normalized REE diagram comparing Akwatia diamondiferous rocks (open pink

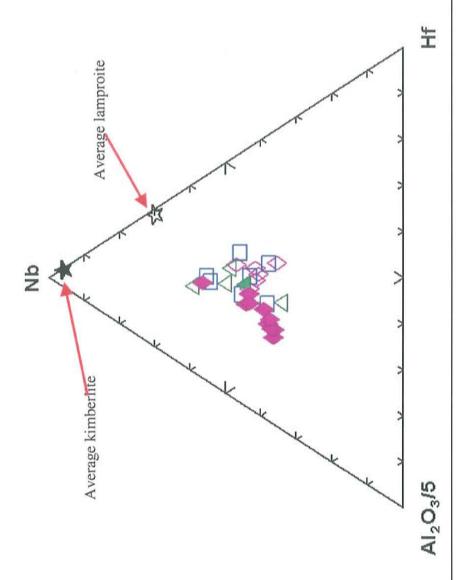
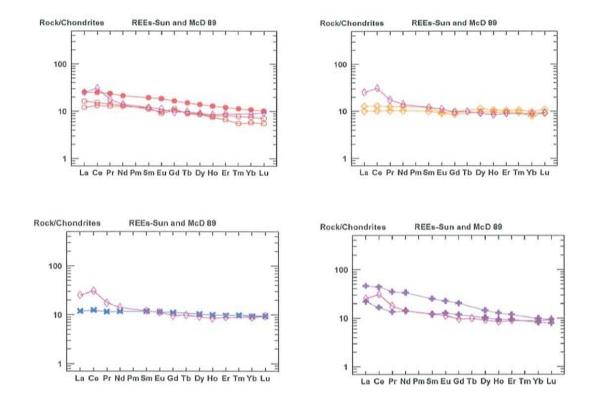
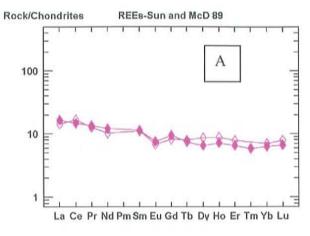


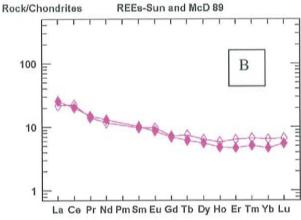
Figure 31. Ternerary plot of immobile elements showing Akwatia rocks compared to Dachine diamondiferous komatiites, diamondiferous rocks, open green triangles are high Mg medisediments (McKitrick, 1996), and filled pink diamonds are Dachine diamondiferous rocks. Data for Dachine rocks from (Capdevila, 2003). Data for average Kimberlite and average kimberlites and lamproites. Open blue squares are actinolite schist, open pink diamonds are Akwatia lamproite from Mitchell in (Ross et al., 1989).



- Fragmental Komatiitic basalt from Murchison Terrane in Western Australia data from (Barley et al. 2000).
- Fragmental Komatiite from Murchison Terrane in Western Australia data from (Barley et al. 2000).
- Fragmental Komatiites from Steep Rock And Lumby Lake Western Superior Province Canada data from (Tomlinson et al. 1998).
- Gorgona Island komatiites and komatiitic basalts data from (Kerr et al. 1996).
- Munro komatiite data from (Hollings et al.1999).
- Average Akwatia diamond bearing rocks.

Figure 32. Chondrite normalized REE plots of selected representative samples of worldwide komatiites and komatiitic basalts (mentioned in this work) compared to Akwatia diamondiferous rocks.





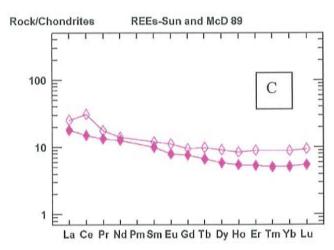
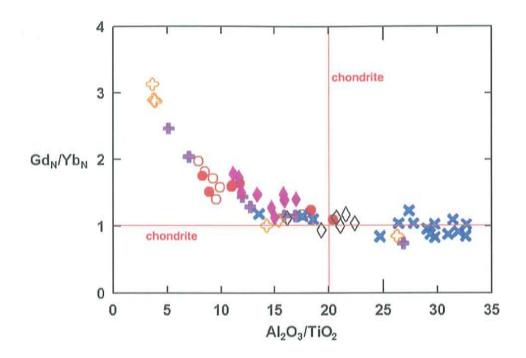


Figure 33. Diamondiferous rocks from Dachine and Akwatia.

- A. Sample 1437 (filled diamonds) from Dachine, French Guiana and sample G-4 (open diamonds) from Akwatia Ghana.
- B. Sample 2403 (filled diamonds) from Dachine, French Guiana and sample DM-2 (open diamonds) from Akwatia Ghana.
- C. Average compositions (filled diamonds) from Dachine, French Guiana and sample average compositions (open diamonds) from Akwatia Ghana. Data for Dachine samples from (Capdevila 2003)



- Fragmental Komatiitic basalt from Murchison Terrane in Western Australia data from (Barley et al. 2000).
- Fragmental Komatiite from Murchison Terrane in Western Australia data from (Barley et al. 2000).
- Fragmental Komatiites from Steep Rock And Lumby Lake Western Superior Province Canada data from (Tomlinson et al. 1998).
- Diamondiferous Komatiite from Dachine French Guiana data from (Capdevila 2003).
- Gorgona Island komatiites and komatiitic basalts data from (Kerr et al. 1996).
- Munro komatiites and komatiitic basalts data from (Hollings et al., 1999).
- Akwatia diamond bearing rocks.

Figure 34. Ratio plot  $Al_2O_3/TiO_2$  vs.  $Gd_N/Yb_N$  comparing komatiites. Red lines are chondritic ratios;  $Gd_N/Yb_N$  is normalized to primitive mantle (Sun and McDonough, 1989). The form of the diagram is from (Tomlinson et al., 1998).

# **Komatiite Generation and Tectonic Setting**

Komatiites are ultramafic lavas generated at great depth. There is still considerable debate as to the exact temperatures and tectonic setting of komatiite formation. A number of competing hypotheses exists in recent literature including plumes, hydrous plumes, plumes interacting with subduction zones and boninite-like melting all being advocated (Grove and Parman, 2004). It is possible that komatiites were generated by more than one process in the Archean and early Proterozoic, in the same way that basalts are produced in a range of tectonic settings today. Many komatiites and komatiitic basalts have geochemical characteristics similar to modern subduction-related magmas. These include variable enrichments in large ion lithophile and light rare earth elements along with depletions in high field strength elements, indicating input of trace element-enriched material into the komatiites. It is unclear whether it was added as a hydrous fluid into the komatiite source in a subduction zone (subduction model), or was introduced by the addition of granitic material as the komatiite traversed the crust (plume model) (Grove and Parman, 2004). Figure 35 depicts pressure/temperature/depth regimes required to produce komatiites in either hydrous or anhydrous. The light blue line is the diamond stability field. Clearly some komatiites produced in one or more of the regimes depicted could encounter diamonds on their way to the surface.

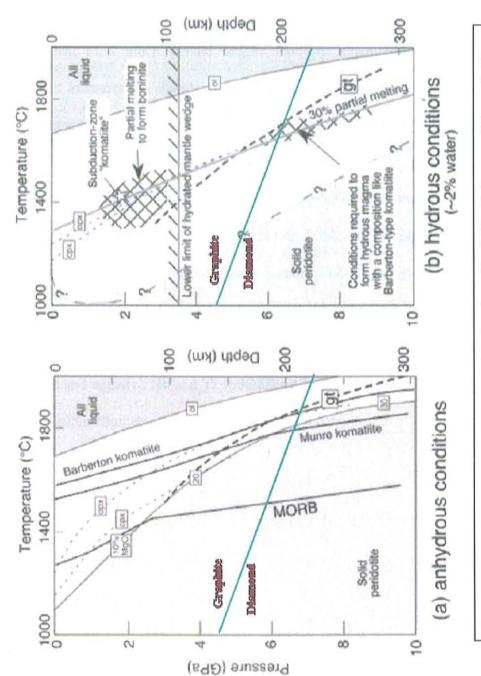


Figure 35. Pressure/temperature conditions required to form komatiites in (a) anhydrous conditions or in (b) hydrous conditions. The light blue line is the diamond/graphite stability field. Modified after (Arndt, 2003).

# **Crustal Contamination**

Both the diamond bearing rocks and the actinolite schist show enrichment in LREE, positive Th anomalies and negative Nb and Ti anomalies (figure 20), the actinolite schist to a much greater degree than the diamondiferous rocks. Crustal contamination increases the abundances of incompatible elements such as the LREE and Th with a smaller effect on Nb and Ti resulting in an enriched LREE signature and negative Nb and Ti anomalies (Jochum et al., 1991).

The bulk chemistry of the actinolite- tremolite schist is komatiitic (figure 18) but the REE signature is highly enriched resembling kimberlite or lamproite though it is virtually barren of diamonds. Furthermore isocon analysis suggests REE have been mobilized and are thus an unreliable indicator of protolith. Both mobile and immobile elements in the schists behave erratically (figure 20) and enrichment in LREE, positive Th anomalies and negative Nb and Ti anomalies all suggest crustal contamination or the addition of a subduction-derived hydrous fluid component.

### **Tectonic Setting**

Trace element analysis suggests that Akwatia rocks are derived from a subduction-island arc setting. On the discrimination diagram (Wood, 1980; Wood et al., 1979) all Akwatia rocks plot in the arc basalt field (figure 21). High field strength element bivariant plot Zr/Y vs. Nb/Y (Figure 36) strongly suggest a subduction-island arc provenance for Akwatia diamond-bearing rocks (Condie, 2005).

Other researchers agree that the Birimian Supergroup is derived from an island arc setting (Abouchami et al., 1990; Ama Salah et al., 1996; Davis et al., 1994a; Sylvester and Attoh, 1992). (Sylvester and Attoh, 1992) point to similarities in trace element chemistry between Birimian volcanic belts and Archean greenstone belts specifically La/Yb ratios < 4, La/Ta ratios < 35 and Hf/Ta ratios <10. Furthermore they show that intermediate Birimian calc-alkaline units have high Ba/La, Rb/La, Tb/Yb, Th/La, Sr/Nd and low Ta/La ratios relative to NMORB. These geochemical characteristics, they state, are indicative of modern arc dacites derived by direct melting of the subducted slab. They suggest that this data shows a broad similarity between Archean island arch magmas and the intermediate Birimian calc-alkaline rocks of Ghana.

Abouchami et al., (1990) suggest that Birimian basalts are more recent equivalents of Archean greenstone belts, that is oceanic flood basalts similar to those that form oceanic plateaus and are later accreted to continents as allochthonous terrains. The komatiites of Gorgona Island are suggested to fit best with their proposed model of intraplate volcanism for the Birimian terrains of West Africa. (Davis et al., 1994b) point to striking similarities in regional geological patterns and relative internal age relationships between the Paleoproterozoic Ebunean orogen of Ghana and the Archean Kenoran orogen of the southern superior province in Canada. They propose that these relationships support an accretionary model for crustal growth (in Ghana) by subduction-collision processes. (McKitrick, 1996) also concluded the provenance of Akwatia metasediments was an island arc setting.

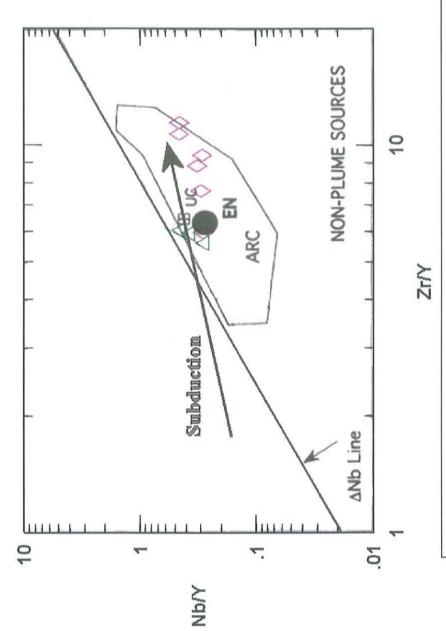


Figure 36. Showing Akwatia diamondiferous rocks (open pink diamonds) and high-Mg metasediments (green triangles) from (McKitrick, 1996) plotted on a diagram showing mantle compositional component and the field for arc-related basalts (ARC); EN, enriched component and UC, upper crust. Arrow indicates the effect of subduction. Modified after (Condie, 2005).

# **Emplacement of Akwatia Rocks**

Field evidence suggests brecciated, diamond-bearing rocks were emplaced rapidly in a sub-aqueous environment. The turbiditic nature of area rocks indicates sub-aqueous deposition and the very poorly sorted, matrix-supported (with clasts up 16cm.) nature of the diamond-bearing rock indicates rapid deposition (figure 5). (Gammon, 2003) notes CAST geologists also observe these features and that diamond bearing rocks commonly display normal graded bedding. (McKitrick, 1996) notes much of the metasediments in the area are a coarse-grained clastic turbidite.

The intercalation of the actinolite schists and the komattite breccia suggests the lithologies were deposited contemporaneously. Clasts of actinolite schists and other metasediments are observed within the breccia (figure 5). Geologists from CAST observed clasts of metasediments within the actinolite schist (Gammon, 2003). (McKitrick, 1996) observed a minimally weathered outcrop revealing a concordant, undulating contact between clast-rich breccia and turbiditic metasediments showing no evidence of heating or intrusion. Furthermore CAST geologists state that all Birimian rocks in the Akwatia area are of clastic origin. Tropical weathering and greenschist facies metamorphism have destroyed or obscured structural relationships making it impossible to establish a sequence or succession in the Akwatia area.

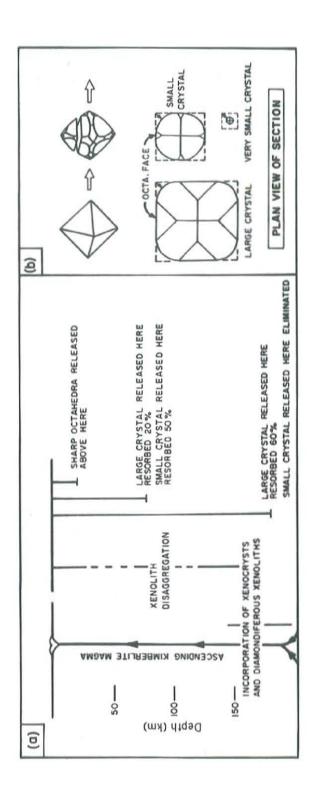
Field observations indicate the protoliths of the schists and metasediments were emplaced before metamorphism as clasts within the metasediments exhibit preferential orientation (figure 6) and are concordant with the local strike and schistosity of Birimian strata.

The actinolite schist and the fine-grained high-Mg medisediments may be the products of fine-grained, low-density turbidity current deposition or distal products of the erosion of ultramafic/ mafic and felsic sources.

# Resorption

The small size of Akwatia diamonds, apparent lack of micro-diamonds and the virtual lack of diamonds in the schist may be a result of resorption. The predominant form of Akwatia diamonds is the rounded dodecahedron (also called dodecahedriods or tetrahexahedriods) followed by the octahedron (Kaminsky, 1996). It has been firmly established that the rounded dodecahedron form is the result of resorption e.g. Robinson in (Ross et al., 1989). Further, many of the diamonds bear marks of natural oxidative dissolution in the form of etch channels or patterns, caverns and corrosion induced fabric on crystal surfaces (Kaminsky, 1996). The two factors governing resorption are the depth during magma ascent at which the diamond is liberated from an enclosing xenolith or xenocryst and the initial size of the diamond (figure 37). Resorption results in eliminating small diamonds while larger ones are reduced in size. Resorption features may also suggest transport in a highly reactive or very hot magma. The coarse brecciated nature of the diamondiferous rock suggests rapid explosive emplacement. This may result from a hydrated magma, or one charged with CO<sub>2</sub>.

In either case rapid decompression on ascent would cause the magma to be super-cooled preventing total resorption of the diamonds. The schist may represent a magma that ascended more slowly and thus most of the diamonds were completely resorbed. Furthermore slower ascent would provide more opportunity for the magma and the crust to interact, increasing contamination, and indeed the schists shows qualitative signs of greater crustal contamination than the diamondiferous rocks.



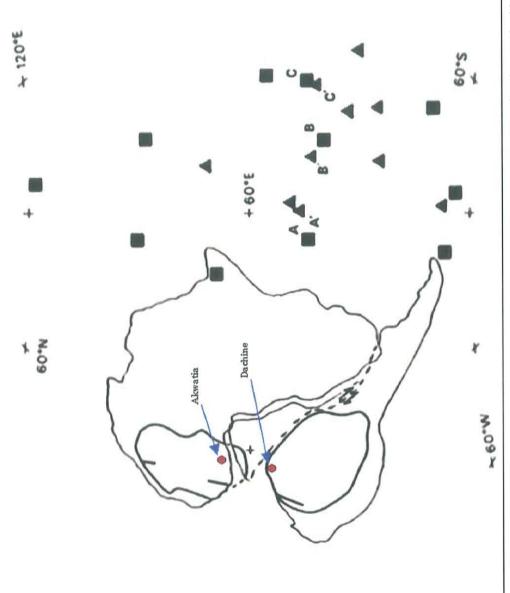
forms, from sharp octahedron to pure tetrahexahedroid, in the kimberlites considered. (a) The amount of resorption, of initially large and small octahedra, as a function of the depth (diagrammatic only, actual depths are not known) at which exposure to kimberlite magma commences during emplacement. (b) The effect of original size, viewed in cube-plane section. Degree of modification of the original crystal is determined by the distance of retreat from octahedral coigns and edges. This distance will be similar, during unit time, irrespective of the original size of the crystal (see small arrows in the three cube-plane sections). Therefore, small crystals will be changed to tetrahexahedroida (and might subsequently be eliminated) more rapidly than Figure 37. Diagrammatic representation of the factors responsible for producing the range of diamond crystal large crystals. Modified from Robinson in (Ross et al., 1989)

# **Akwatia Compared To Dachine**

Akwatia, Ghana, and Dachine, French Guiana, are located within greenstone belts of nearly identical ages and tectonic setting. Geochronological and paleomagnetic data for the West African craton and Guyana shield in S America, are concordant and suggest the existence of a single unit (Figure 38) grouping them during Archean and Lower Proterozoic times (Caen-Vachette, 1988; Gruau et al., 1985; Nomade et al., 2003; Onstott and Hargraves, 1981). Dachine is in the Inini greenstone belt, which is dominated by calc-alkaline andesite to rhyolite, and immature sedimentary rocks, all intruded by granitiods (Capdevila et al., 1999).

Diamond size and grade at Dachine are similar to Akwatia. Residual diamond grades overlying diamond-bearing rocks at Dachine French Guiana are similar to those at Akwatia. Bulk samples from this rock contain <1 to 77 diamonds per kg. the diamond population is dominated by micro-diamonds, the largest diamond found is ~ 4.6mm in diameter. Larger diamonds >1mm are abundant in the poorly sorted alluvium overlying diamondiferous rock with grades of 4 carats per cubic meter (Capdevila et al., 1999).

Diamond-bearing rocks at Dachine and Akwatia are very similar in texture and lithological association. Dachine diamondiferous volcaniclastic komatiites are associated with metagreywacks, talc-chlorite schists and contain clasts of country rock. Researchers at Dachine refer to the diamond-bearing rocks as "volcaniclastic" because, as a result of metamorphism, they are unable to tell whether the protolith is pyroclastic or sedimentary (Captevilla 2003).



data points from each shield and also aligns the basement structures between the two shields. Transcurrent fault is shown with direction of displacement indicated by small arrows. Modified after (Onstott and Hargraves, 1981). Figure 38. One proposed reconstruction for the period 2,100-1,500 Ma., which brings together the correlatable

Traditional diamond indicator minerals do not accompany diamonds at Dachine or Akwatia. Diamond indicator minerals magnesian ilmenite, chrome diopside and perovskite are absent (Capdevila et al., 1999). Remainders of lherzolitic and subcalcic harzburgitic type garnets are present at Dachine but these are only found in drill core by the caustic fusion method (Captevilla p.c.). The caustic fusion method uses caustic chemicals and extreme heat to reduce rock samples down to 0.2% of their original volume leaving only the most resistant minerals. To date, this type of analysis has not been done with Akwatia diamond-bearing rocks. Titanium poor Mn rich spinels are present in Dachine. Spinels from Akwatia have not been analyzed. Finally,

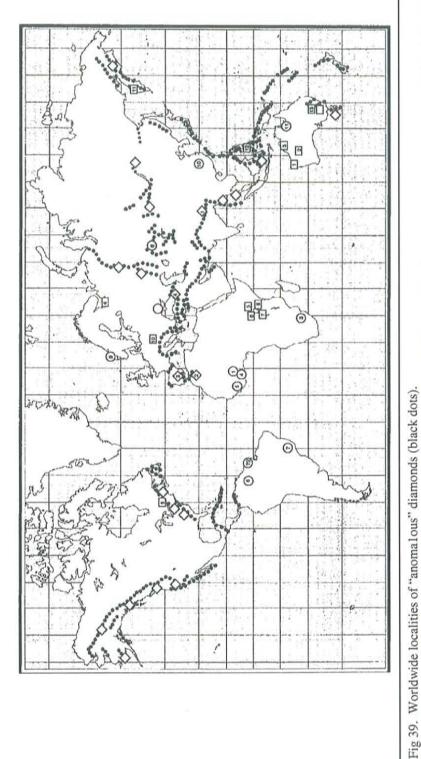
greenstone belts in Ghana and French Guiana are both significant sources of gold (Associates, 1997; Kesse, 1985).

The differences between Akwatia and Dachine are: Akwatia diamonds are wholly of peridotitic affinity. Dachine diamonds show evidence of eclogitic sources, having low carbon-isotope ratios and diamond morphologies dominated by cubo-octahedra (Capdevila et al., 1999). This may reflect differences in the lithosphere beneath Dachine and Akwatia. Perhaps the lithosphere beneath West Africa is a richer source of peridotitic diamonds than is the Guiana shield. In general Dachine diamondiferous rocks have higher chondrite-normalized Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> and Gd/Yb ratios (and fewer diamonds) than Akwatia diamondiferous rocks, though there is some overlap (figure 34). These near chondritic ratios may be the key to distinguishing potential diamond bearing komatiites from non- diamond bearing komatiites. Akwatia may represent a new and potentially significant diamond resource while Dachine may not. Results of reconnaissance by Golden Star Resources at Dachine are disappointing and further exploration has been put

on hold. In contrast Akwatia is large and economically significant diamond deposit with well over a hundred million carats of diamonds having been exported to date and a potentially vast unmined bedrock resource. Intensive trenching on Beduwara Hill by CAST Geologists delineates seventeen "bands" of source rock one of which contains in plan view has dimensions of 125,000 sq. ft. (~ 100 sq. meters) note — at the maximum they would have about 6 million carats (worth about \$ 200 million) of diamondiferous material with an average grade of .93 carats per cubic yard. This trenching was only done on Beduwara Hill. This research suggests that these source bands are common within the diamondiferous area. Figure 17 may show the location of these "bands" in the subsurface. Ghana Consolidated Diamonds preferring to mine the higher-grade alluvial areas does not mine the bedrock or delineate it as a proven resource; rather they leave this to the small-scale miners. Figure 39 is, a map of anomalous diamond occurrences. Many of these occurrences correspond to island arcs or greenstone belts and thus Akwatia type deposits may be widespread.

# A Speculative Model for the Emplacement of Akwatia Komatiites

High temperature komatiitic lavas associated with a subduction zone are generated at a depth below the diamond stability field (Figure 35). On ascent the lava incorporated diamond-bearing xenoliths, upon reaching the hydrated lithosphere water and/or CO<sub>2</sub> are picked up causing the magma to rise rapidly, bringing the diamonds to the surface in an explosive eruption. Second, the continued subduction of the lithosphere cools and hydrates the mantle establishing a mature subduction zone. Subsequent lower-temperature hydrous magmas are emplaced less explosively (and thus subject to greater crustal contamination) on top of earlier, brecciated, diamond bearing lithologies. Third, the komatilitic crust is obducted onto continents and isoclinally folded during continent collision at the end of subduction. Finally, weathering dispersed diamonds into local streams and the Birim River. The broad occurrence of diamonds in Ghana may be the result of similar processes throughout the Birimian.



Sulawesi; 13, Copeton, NSW, Australia. Diamonds, including graphitised diamonds, from peridotites or alluvial deposits from alpine/ophiolite type belts; (diamond-shaped symbols): I, Tibet; 2, Beni Bousera; 3, Ronda; 4, Armenia. Peridouite belts after Coleman (1977). Diamonds from metamorphic terrain. excluding alpine peridotites (circles): 1, Burkina Faso; 2, French Guiana; 3, Witwatersrand; 4, Tarkwain; 5. Birimian; 6, Roraima; 7, Espinhaco; 8, Kazakhstan; 9, W. Norway; 10, Dabie Shan; 11, Coanjula. Localities for carbonado and meteoritic diamonds are not shown. Modified after (Nixon Diamonds associated with non kimberlite/lamproite volcanic rocks (box symbols): 1, Wandagee, Western Australia; 2, Bulljah Pool, Western Australia; Losogoroi, Kenya and Lashaine, Tanzania: 9, Ile Bizard, Montreal; 10, Linhorka pipe, Bohemia; 11, Almazny volcano, Kamchatka; 12, Ruang volcano, 3, Maude Creek, Western Australia; 4, Onega Peninsula, Russia; 5. north east Uganda; 6. south west Uganda; 7, Ngualla, Chunya District, Tanzania; 8, and Griffin, 1995).

#### CONCLUSIONS

#### Akwatia is a primary diamond deposit.

Diamond production, high diamond grades in un-mined bedrock and continuing production of diamonds distinguish Akwatia as a one of the world's largest diamond deposits. High quality diamonds with no evidence of sedimentary transport, the immature nature of the host rock and the lack or correlation between bedrock, diamond grade and topography make alluvial classification of the Akwatia diamond deposit unappealing.

 The most likely protolith of the host rock is a syn-eruptive volcaniclastic mega-turbidite derived from a diamond-bearing Karasjok- type komatiite.

The primary host rock at Akwatia resembles neither kimberlite nor lamproite either texturally or geochemically and traditional diamond indicator minerals are wholly absent. Rare earth element patterns of weathered diamond bearing rocks strongly resemble diamondiferous komatiites from Dachine, French Guiana and other Karasjok-type komatiites. Adjacent un-weathered or less-weathered rocks contain up to 21.1 wt. % magnesium. Akwatia Ghana and Dachine French Guiana are located within greenstone belts of nearly identical ages and tectonic settings.

The host rock is widely distributed in the diamond field.

High diamond grades extend over an area of approximately 32 kilometers. Small-scale mining pits and trenches expose diamond-bearing rock throughout the 32-kilometer area.

 Akwatia may be representative of a new and potentially significant type of diamond occurrence.

Akwatia is a world-class diamond occurrence. Anomalous diamond occurrences are correlated with greenstone belts and ancient island arcs worldwide and represent a potentially vast diamond exploration target.

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Appendix 1: Akwatia samples analyzed in this study.

analyte	method	L	imit	g-1	g-2	g-3	g-5	g-9	g-10	g-11	g-12	DM2
SiO2	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	60.30	46.60	61.30	42.00	62.40	43.30	43.10	62.20	63.49
AI2O3	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	16.65	20.60	20.30	14.35	13.10	9.79	9.79	17.90	15.10
Fe2O3	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	12.40	20.30	6.61	10.55	9.43	11.35	11.35	8.25	12.31
CaO	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.98	0.00	3.63	3.63	0.09	0.00
MgO	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.06	0.04	0.14	18.70	3.11	18.85	18.80	0.51	0.15
Na2O	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.12	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.02
K20	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.33	0.05	0.44	0.08	0.08	1.75	0.00
Cr2O3	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.27	0.28	0.03	0.33	0.14	0.36	0.36	0.06	nd
TiO2	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.68	0.92	1.05	0.47	0.81	0.58	0.61	0.85	0.73
MnO	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.09	0.04	0.16	0.17	0.01	0.07
P205	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.11	0.30	0.15	0.08	0.07	0.09	0.06	0.15	0.09
SrO	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	nd
BaO	ICP-AES	wt.%	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.14	nd
LOI	ICP-AES		0.01	8.86	10.85	9.30	10.20	7.75	10.90	10.95	7.27	6.99
Tm	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	3.5	3.6	0.0	0.2
U	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	1.1	2.4	1.5	0.6	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.4	1.5
V	ICP-MS	ppm	5	179	266	94	132	178	94	85	193	186
W	ICP-MS	ppm	1	52	40	27	3	31	6	6	21	18
Y	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	16.4	17.0	27.9	22.3	8.6	286.0	294.0	16.6	9.0
Yb	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	1.6	2.3	2.9	1.9	1.4	18.1	18.4	1.9	1.1
Zn	ICP-MS	ppm	5	36	108	41	146	108	144	143	46	45
Zr	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	91.0	159.5	165.5	62.9	91.6	68.5	69.7	126.0	102.7
La	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	34.5	7.4	8.8	64.9	6.6	332.0	354.0	7.8	5.2
Lu	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	2.6	2.7	0.3	0.2
Nb	ICP-MS	ppm	1.0	5	5	8	3	4	3	4	5	4
Nd	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	17	11	8	50	8	299	314	8	5
Ni	ICP-MS	ppm	5.0	530	743	58	1550	501	1535	1510	75	697

Pb	ICP-MS	ppm	5.0	21	18	15	18	9	6	6	16	9
Pr	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	5.3	2.5	2.2	14.8	2.0	77.7	83.2	2.1	1.3
Rb	ICP-MS	ppm	0.2	0.9	0.5	7.6	0.7	11.8	2.0	1.9	41.1	nd
Sm	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	3.2	3.3	2.3	7.7	1.8	51.6	55.4	1.9	1.5
Sn	ICP-MS	ppm	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.2
Sr	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	16.7	2.6	4.3	42.1	3.4	48.6	48.7	21.3	3.0
Ta	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Tb	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.7	8.0	0.3	8.0	8.2	0.4	0.3
Th	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	3	5	4	2	3	2	2	4	3
		to a transfer of					2272		440.0	400 5	1190.	15.0
Ba	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	47.7	9.7	212.0	32.8	185.0	113.0	123.5	0	15.9
Ce	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	16.6	26.7	22.7	108.0	39.4	42.7	45.1	21.5	13.9
Co	ICP-MS	ppm	0.5	15.1	11.1	5.6	65.2	37.8	70.3	75.5	6.8	6.0
Cr	ICP-MS	ppm	10.0	1920	2050	230	2480	1020	2630	2700	430	492
Cs	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	2.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	nd
Cu	ICP-MS	ppm	5.0	42	38	32	44	2140	914	1765	78	53
Dy	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	3.3	3.6	4.8	4.1	1.9	44.3	46.0	2.6	1.6
Er	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	1.8	2.3	2.9	2.4	1.3	24.8	25.0	1.8	1.1
Eu	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.6	0.6	13.6	14.5	0.7	0.6
Ga	ICP-MS	ppm	1.0	24	23	16	12	17	13	14	21	15
Gd	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	3.4	2.9	3.3	7.1	1.9	53.1	54.9	2.3	1.5
Hf	ICP-MS	ppm	1.0	3	5	5	2	3	2	2	3	3
Но	ICP-MS	ppm	0.1	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.4	9.1	9.4	0.6	0.3

Apendix 2: Akwatia samples analyzed by McKittrick

analyte	method	pre	93-33	93-20 9	93-19	93-16	ha-2	BH-170	BH-197	BH-226	BH-243	Bh1-168	Bh2-97
SiO2	XRF	wt.%	44.71			54.82					62.21	58.24	62.78
TiO2	XRF	wt.%	0.48	0.52	0.46	0.45	0.5		0.41	0.4	0.53	0.6	0.54
Al2O3	XRF	wt.%	10.47		11.88	8.05	9.6		9.54	8.36	15.8	16.1	16.81
Fe2O3		wt.%	9.25		10.03	8.76	8.77		7.92	8.5	8.03	6.68	6.42
MnO	XRF	wt.%	0.15	0.21	0.16	0.09	0.13		0.14	0.22	0.09	0.1	0.11
MgO	XRF	wt.%	20.01	16	20.29	20.64			20.7	21.2	10.81	5.91	6.32
CaO	XRF	wt.%	6.1	5.04	4.9	0.12	5.97		7.63	9.23	2.76	4.31	5.16
Na2O	XRF	wt.%	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.05	0.2			0	1.05	2.84	2.95
K20	XRF	wt.%	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02		0.13	0.11	2.65	2.52	2.14
P2O5	XRF	wt.%	0.14	0.13	0.07	0.11	0.14	0.23	0.2	0.24	0.29	0.24	0.2
LOI		wt.%	7.13	6.28	8.33	6.46	6.15	4 1873	5.55	12.25	5.28	7.63	7.24
				101.0								105 17	110.67
Total		2	98.56	1	100.9								110.67
La	INAA	2 ppm	626.5 138.0	296.6	105.6	70.8 121.3	173.3	9.6	8.11	7.71	12.65	14.56	14.34
Ce	INAA	3 ppm	5	514	158	5	281.4	21.5	5 17.9	9 16	27.2	31.2	30.4
Nd	INAA	8 ppm	614.5	262	49.3	73.3	163	10.3	8.5	5 7.5	12.6	14	11.8
Sm	INAA	2 ppm	92.85	47.8	9.18	16.59	35.8	2.69	2.19	9 2.18	2.31	3.08	3.09
Eu	INAA	1.5 ppm	21.53	11.44	1.91	3.88	8.07	0.88	0.69	0.61	0.46	0.85	0.86
Tb	INAA	3 ppm	10.29	7.05	0.94	1.85	3.95	0.42	2 0.3	0.28	0.19	0.36	0.41
Yb	INAA	4 ppm	15.36	14.62	1.71	2.31	6.59	1.36	3 1.08	3 1.04	0.71	1.12	1.17
Lu	INAA	4 ppm	1.87	1.82	0.27	0.28	0.78	0.2	0.10	6 0.15	0.15	0.15	0.18
Ba	INAA	5 ppm	3		147	280	132.3	676	6	1 30	1314	k	1025
Sr	XRF	1 ppm	36.92	132.5 4	160	35.4	54.9	9 30	20	B 358	261	323	412
Rb	XRF	1 ppm	1.65	4	3	3.5	0.3	57.	1	7 4	83	69.7	64
Zr	XRF	1 ppm	74.81	82.28	63.87	60.27	66.7	7 71.63	3 57.3	3 58.38	79.28	95.07	97.07
Hf	INAA	5 ppm	2.18	2.34	1.84	1.98	1.79	2.0	7 1.73	3 1.4	2.27	2.88	2.93
Nb	XRF	2 ppm	5.3		3.52	2.17	4.4	3.5	7 3.5	6 4.38	2.76	4.28	3.24
Ta	INAA	5 ppm	0.26	0.36	0.15	0.24	0.29	0.3	4 0.2	1 0.16	0.21	0.39	0.36
U	INAA	5 ppm	3.01	2.38	0.7	0.58	0.8	3 4.4	3 4.1	8 3.62	4.98	4.48	4.74
Th	INAA	5 ppm	4.3	3.79	6.09	4.12	1.4	5.3	5 4.9	8 4.33	2.47	3.38	5.72
Cr	INAA	5 ppm	1669		816	1878. 5	170	5 110	7 1978.	3 2071.2	1569.49	9 493.51	522.61
Ni	XRF	5 ppm	1216. 5		1443	1136	101	5 449.	5 926.	3 955.13	416.72	2 183.4	184.42
Cu	XRF	5 ppm		18.79				3 7.2	4 0.9	5 16.07	31.98	3 22.97	11.07
Pb	XRF	4 ppm	16.42		27.18						15.2	20.08	6.11
Zn	XRF	3 ppm	131.3			93.65				3 63.94	73.63	69.47	57.03
Ga	XRF	3 ppm				35.08						7 66.43	67.16
Sc	INAA	1 ppm	25.7	22.1									17.53
Υ	XRF	1 ppm	319.5 1	96.53	126.2	32.75		5 12.8	5 9.	7 9.72	3.49	9 4.62	11.08
V	XRF	5 ppm	126.5	96.53	126.2	168.0		6 147.	8 124.6	4 135.44	220.4	4 169	167.98
Cs	INAA	4 ppm		0.18					2 0.	9 0.65	7.96	3 2.7	3.69
3333	TANK DESIGNATION	V W (4/4/2)											

Data suspect +/-2

Appendix 3: Samples from Dachine French Guiana from Capdevila (2003)

analyte	limit %	a9802396	q9802398	a9802401	a9802403	a9802388	q9802389		q9706 267	101435	101437
SiO2	0.8	47.25	44.69	46.75	42.49	45.49	45.34	43.19	48.22	46.26	43.94
TiO2	0.09	0.32	0.36	0.31	0.41	0.36	0.48	0.46	0.62	0.55	0.55
AI2O3	0.3	5.09	4.82	5.26	6.48	5.74	7.20	6.77	7.24	6.14	6.54
Fe2O3	0.1	9.32	9.12	9.18	8.87	9.65	10.35	9.60	11.24	11.20	11.29
MnO	0.03	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.10	0.15	0.21
MgO	0.4	23.00	22.83	23.19	18.22	22.06	21.51	20.12	19.31	22.60	24.32
CaO	0.5	6.55	7.12	6.18	7.54	6.03	6.46	7.66	3.18	7.85	6.74
Na2O	0.08	0.11	0.02	0.09	0.09	0.62	0.18	0.82	1.91	0.06	0.28
K20	0.05	0.03	0.22	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.35	0.21	0.03	0.03	0.03
P205	0.2	0.28	0.27	0.29	0.27	0.24	0.32	0.32	0.22	0.19	0.17
L.O.I.		7.86	10.35	8.47	15.33	9.57	7.59	10.63	7.04	5.30	5.75
Total		99.94	99.93	99.94	99.93	99.95	99.93	99.93	99.11	100.33	99.82
CO2		2.76	5.38	3.30	10.67	4.23	0.04	5.65	2.90	0.04	0.50
LOI-CO	2	5.10	4.97	5.17	4.66	5.34	7.55	4.98	4.14	5.26	5.25
	limit ppr	n									
As		3 1.00	1.36	2.84	2.97	4.24	1.68	4.00	58.95	2.28	95.74
Ва	5	6	231	19	115	58	16	36	11	49	238
Ве	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.5	1.2
Bi	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.13	0.45
Cd	0.15	2.8	1.6	2.0	2.7	1.5	1.7	2.5	0.2	0.2	0.2
Ce	0.05	5.83	5.98	6.10	12.32	6.30	6.71	7.06	16.78	16.24	9.01
Co	0.3	74.8	72.8	69.1	59.2	72.8	73.5	68.1	79.3	64.2	88.1
Cr	5	2330	1726	2171	1569	2254	2302	2010	1753	2094	1878
Cs	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	2.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1
Cu	5	69	90	63	68	65	95	80	75	71	59
Dy	0.03	1.00	1.28	1.08	1.41	1.16	1.49	1.59	1.94	2.30	1.67
Er	0.02	0.58	0.70	0.64	0.77	0.68	0.92	0.89	1.19	1.30	1.09
Eu	0.02	0.28	0.42	0.35	0.50	0.42	0.48	0.43	0.65	0.66	0.44
Ga	0.13	6.4	6.5	6.3	7.9	7.7	8.5	8.2	2 10.4	8.2	8.6
Gd	0.07	0.99	1.21	1.12	1.41	1.21	1.45	1.43	3 2.30	2.63	1.97
Ge	0.08	1.42	0.95	0.92	0.98	1.56	1.24	1.2	1.19	1.78	1.61
Hf	0.04	0.43	0.63	0.50	0.82	0.59	0.69	0.74	1.30	0.95	0.88
Ho	0.01	0.19	0.24	0.22	0.27	0.27	0.34	0.32	2 0.41	0.45	0.41
In	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.07	0.0	0.09	0.05	0.05
La	0.05	2.46	2.32	2.59	6.10	2.63	3.40	3.14	7.45	8.73	3.92
Lu	0.01	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.14	0.13	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.20	0.17
Мо	0.15	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	2 0.4	0.2	0.5
Nb	0.05	0.83	1.26	0.88	1.36	1.06	1.25	1.2	5 3.57	1.66	1.67
Nd	0.15	3.9	4.4	4.2	6.1	4.3	4.7	4.9	9.9	11.2	5.7
Ni	8	851	932	828	609	831	921	75		853	1023
Pb	0.60	3.6	4.8	2.1	5.0	2.8	1.5	3.8		2.0	0.5
Pr	0.02	0.82	0.89	0.79	1.42	0.88	1.03	1.0		2.42	1.28
Rb	0.8	2.3	7.3	5.1	4.0	3.2	15.4	5.		0.3	0.3
Sb	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.8	8.0	0.9	8.0	0.	5 0.3	0.2	0.7

								0.00			4 100
Sm	0.06	1.08	1.14	1.18	1.56	1.05	1.36	1.40	2.22	2.51	1.75
Sn	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.7	0.3	1.0
Sr	4	156	375	125	423	241	81	425	185	41	112
Ta	0.01	0.06	0.08	0.06	0.10	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.24	0.12	0.14
Tb	0.01	0.15	0.19	0.18	0.23	0.19	0.23	0.22	0.35	0.44	0.28
Th	0.05	0.29	0.28	0.24	0.57	0.01	0.30	0.38	0.66	0.41	0.34
Tm	0.01	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.13	0.12	0.14	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.15
U	0.05	0.16	0.16	0.14	0.23	0.14	0.12	0.19	0.25	0.15	0.17
V	1.5	125	128	137	145	140	171	160	195	160	159
W	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.8	0.2	0.1	1.8	0.7	0.2	0.5
Υ	0.05	6.26	7.29	7.10	8.20	7.80	10.73	9.79	12.09	14.90	10.85
Yb	0.03	0.59	0.68	0.66	0.79	0.72	1.06	0.93	1.10	1.22	1.08
Zn	4	82	71	72	78	83	90	81	86	84	87
Zr	0.5	16.8	22.1	19.6	31.0	23.3	27.0	28.2	50.2	33.1	33.4

Appendix 4: Sample descriptions

Sample #: G-2

Diamond bearing: Yes

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 01' 17" N

000° 47' 23" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 974.5 y = 473.8

Approximate depth of sample: 10 meters

Description: Breccia with clasts up to 1 cm. Extremely weathered and ferruginised to variegated clays. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils).Brick red (2.5YR4/4), light brown (10YR6/8), white (2.5Y8/3) yellow (10YR8/6) and gray (2.5Y7/6 and 2.5Y3/1) in color. White patches may be relic feldspar phenocrysts.

Grey patches are clasts of phyllite. (See photos #'s ).

Diamond bearing confirmed by observing processing from start to finish resulting in observable diamonds.

Diamond bearing: Yes

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

06 ° 01' 17" N

000<sup>0</sup> 47' 49" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 968.9 y = 473.8

Approximate depth of sample: 3 meters

Description: Breccia with clasts up to 2 cm. Extremely weathered and ferruginised to variegated clays. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils. Yellow (2.5Y7/8) brown (10 YR3/2) white (2.5Y8/1), and gray (2.5Y7/6 and 2.5Y3/1) in color. Grey patches are clasts of phyllite.

Diamond bearing confirmed by historical investigations by CAST geologists and observing processing from start to finish resulting in observable diamonds.

Diamond bearing: Yes

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 59' 59" N

000° 48' 46" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 974.5 y = 483.2

Approximate depth of sample: 1.5 meters

Description: Breccia with clasts up to2mm. Extremely weathered and ferruginised. Looks like weathered basalt from other parts of Ghana. White phyllo silicates obvious. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils. Brownish reds (7.5YR5/6), white (7.5YR3/4), (2.5Y8/1) and silver gray (10YR8/1) in color. Silver gray is phyllo silicate.

Diamond bearing confirmed by observing processing from start to finish resulting in observable diamonds.

Diamond bearing: Yes

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 57' 23" N

000<sup>0</sup> 48' 54" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 967.1 y = 466.6

Approximate depth of sample: 6 meters.

Description: Breccia with clasts to 1cm. extremely weathered and ferruginised. Looks like weathered basalt from other parts of Ghana. White phyllo silicates visible. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils.) Brick red (2.5YR3/6), light brown (10YR5/8), brown gray (10 YR6/3) and whitish (10YR8/2) in color. Diamond bearing confirmed by (Kaminsky et al.1996).

Sample #: G-12 (same as G-3 except depth)

Diamond bearing: Yes

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

06 ° 01' 17" N

000<sup>0</sup> 47' 49" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 974.5 y = 490.5

Approximate depth of sample: 15 meters

Description: Breccia with clasts up to 2 cm. extremely weathered and ferruginised.

(Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils.) Yellow (2.5Y7/8) brown (10 YR3/2) white

(2.5Y8/1), and gray (2.5Y7/6 and 2.5Y3/1) in color. Grey patches are clasts of phyllite.

Diamond bearing confirmed by historical investigations by CAST geologists and

observing processing from start to finish resulting in observable diamonds.

Sample #: DM-2

Diamond bearing: Yes

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

06 ° 01' 32" N

000° 47' 03" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 977.9 y = 492.5

Approximate depth of sample: 8 meters

Description: Breccia with clasts up to 3cm extremely weathered and ferruginised. (Colors

from "Munsell" color chart for soils.) Browns (7.5YR7/3), (7.5YR7/4), (7.5YR4/6),

flecks of gray black (5Y5/1) 1 cm patches of granoblastic quartz (2.5Y7/1).

Diamond bearing confirmed by visible diamond in sample.

Diamond bearing: No

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 58' 53" N

000° 47' 55" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 973.23 y = 476.23

Approximate depth of sample: 2 meters

Description: Actinolite, tremolite chlorite, talc, schist moderately weathered slightly ferruginised. Some phyllo silicates visible, dense, powdery. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils.) Gray green (5GY7/1) brown (7.5YR5/6) pinkish white flecks (7.5YR8/3).

Sample #: G-10, 11 (duplicates)

Diamond bearing: No

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 57' 23" N

000<sup>0</sup> 48' 54" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 967.1 y = 466.6

Approximate depth of sample: 6 meters.

Description: Actinolite, tremolite chlorite, talc, schist moderately weathered slightly ferruginised. Hard and dense least weathered sample reported here. Some phyllo silicates visible. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils.) Gray green (5GY7/1) brown (7.5YR5/6), white flecks (5Y8/2) graphite-like flecks (5Y3/1).

Sample #: G-1

Diamond bearing: No

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

06 ° 01' 17" N

000<sup>0</sup> 47' 49" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 974.5 y = 490.5

Approximate depth of sample: 1 meter.

Description: Weathered phyllite? Extremely weathered and ferruginised. (Colors from "Munsell" color chart for soils.) Tan (10YR7/4) 1mm brick red spots(10R3/6).

Appendix 5: Field site descriptions

Field site: Beduwara Hill.

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

06 ° 01' 17" N

000° 47' 49" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 974.5 y = 490.5

Samples: G-1, G-3 and 12.

This is the site of systematic sampling by CAST geologists. A large exploration trench dug by CAST geologists dominates the area, with numerous smaller trenches dug by small-scale miners. The total exposed area is 1.5 km long by .5 km wide. The general

strike of the ore body, bedding and schistosity is 201 degrees the dip is vertical.

Trenching reaches 15 meters below present surface and at least 1-4 meters of overburden has been removed over the exposed area.

All exposed lithologies at this sight are severely weathered and ferruginised. Observable lithologies include; actinolite-tremolite-chlorite-talc schist, phyllite (fine grained pelitic schist), various fine to medium grained meta-sediments and the diamondiferous breccia. The diamondiferous breccia exhibits clasts up to 18 cm. at this location. Small-scale miners routinely walk the area and gather diamonds exposed by rain. Trenching by hand and light machinery continues. Discontinuous trenching by small-scale miners results in an anastomosing pattern of trenches reflecting the structural relationship between the diamondiferous breccia and the adjacent, barren lithologies.

Field site: Diamond in matrix.

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

06 ° 01' 32" N

000° 47' 03" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 977.9 y = 492.5

Samples: Dm-2.

This is the site of sample DM-2 containing a diamond in matrix. Small-scale miners are digging trenches the largest being 300 meters long by 10 meters wide by 10 meters deep. Exposing a diamondiferous body of unknown dimensions. The strike of the body is 210 degrees and dip of schistosity is vertical. All exposed lithologies at this sight are severely weathered and ferruginised. Observable lithologies include; actinolite-tremolite-chlorite-talc schist, phyllite (fine grained pelitic schist), quartz veins and the diamondiferous breccia. The diamondiferous material is a breccia with clasts of at least 18 cm. Poor exposure and slumping obscure the relationship between the diamondiferous material and adjacent barren material though their trenches are sub-parallel form an anastomosing pattern.

Field site: Sandy Creek.

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 59' 59" N

000° 48' 46" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 974.5 y = 483.2

Samples: G-4.

Approximately 1 square kilometer of over burden has been stripped from this area. Most of the surface is covered in hard laterite with numerous pits and trenches dug by small-scale miners. The trench in diamondiferous material sampled is adjacent and parallel to a sheared quartz vein striking 260 degrees with a dip of 85 degrees following a diamondiferous body with the same strike and dip. The depth of the trench is 3 meters below the present surface. All exposed lithologies at this sight are severely weathered and ferruginised. Observable lithologies include; actinolite-tremolite-chlorite-talc schist, phyllite (fine grained pelitic schist), quartz veins and the diamondiferous breccia The diamondiferous rock displays a brecciated texture though clasts are smaller in the sample gathered here (2mm) than at the other sites. The small-scale diamond workings here are comparatively shallow, and are sub-parallel though less so than other sites. Quartz veining is more numerous here than other sites. Little structure is visible as the pits and trenches tend to be smaller at this site.

Field site: KMD trench.

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

05 ° 57' 23" N

000<sup>0</sup> 48' 54" W

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

x = 967.1 y = 466.6

Samples: G-9, G-10 and G-11.

This is the site of an exploration trench dug by KMD (Kaminsky, 1996). The trench is approximately 6 meters deep and 2 meters wide. Observable lithologies include; actinolite-tremolite-chlorite-talc schist and the diamondiferous breccia. Diamond bearing rock is in sharp contact with the actinolite schist. The diamond bearing rock at this sight is severely weathered and ferruginised but the actinolite schist is the least weathered of the other sites visited. The site has been recently exploited for the diamond bearing material. Random trenching and pitting has disturbed the area obscuring structural relationships. The diamondiferous breccia sample from this site displays small clasts (1cm), though the more recently exposed lithologies are highly brecciated with clasts up 15 cm.

Field site: Kokotitin.

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

$$x = 974.5 y = 473.8$$

Samples: G-2.

This is the site of the deepest trench dug by small-scale miners approximately 35 meters deep by 20 meters wide. Approximately 1 square km of overburden has been striped off here much of the area is covered with hard laterite. Observable lithologies include; phyllite (fine grained pelitic schist) and the diamondiferous breccia. Diamond bearing rock is in sharp contact with the phyllite. Diamondiferous breccia displays clasts up to 18 cm. The general strike of the ore body is 210 degrees and vertical dip. Diamonds up to 1.5 carats have been reported from this location.

Field site: Slime dam road

Location: (latitude/ longitude West of Greenwich)

(Ghana National map units used in this work)

$$x = 973.23 y = 476.23$$

Samples: G-5

Approximately ½ km of overburden has been stripped from this area. Observable lithologies include; phyllite (fine grained pelitic schist) and the actinolite schist. A road cut at the site exposes a vertical contact between the actinolite schist and the diamond bearing rock. The narrow (.35 meters) "dike-like" structure strikes approximately 250 degrees with a vertical dip.

# Appendix 6: Statistical reports generated by "Surfer" for image maps.

## **Data Filter Report**

e:\maya\Desktop\awatia nov 1\all1.xlslast.xls Source Data File Name:

X Column: Α Y Column: В Z Column: C

#### **Data Counts**

Number of Active Data: 7673

Number of Original Data: 12639 Number of Excluded Data: Number of Deleted Duplicates: 4966 Number of Retained Duplicates: 2979 Number of Artificial Data: 0

#### Filter Rules

Duplicate Points to Keep: First X Duplicate Tolerance: 0 Y Duplicate Tolerance: 0

**Exclusion Filter String:** Not In Use

#### Duplicate Data

×	Y	z	ID	Status
961.381	473	0.9	71	
961.381	Retained 473 Deleted	0.9	72	
961.692	473.795 Retained	0.77	116	
961.692	473.795 Deleted	0.77	117	
962	471 Retained	0.54	151	
962	471 Deleted	0.73	153	
962.804	470 Retained	1	258	
962.804	470 Deleted	1.06	259	
963	470 Retained	0.2	284	
963	470 Deleted	0.2	285	

965	470 Retained	0.09	714
965	470 Deleted	0.14	730
965	470 Deleted	1.27	824
965	470.197 Retained	0.03	677
965	470.197 Deleted	1.25	821
965	470.197 Deleted	1.25	822
965	470.4 Retained	0.02	670
965	470.4 Deleted	0.32	782
965	470.4 Deleted	0.32	783
965	470.607 Retained	0.06	702
965	470.607 Deleted	0.06	703
965	470.607 Deleted	0.84	815
965	470.79 Retained	0.21	760
965	470.79 Deleted	0.41	798
965	475 Retained	0.03	678
965	475 Deleted	0.03	679
965	475 Deleted	0.03	680
965	475 Deleted	0.08	710
965	475.609 Retained	0	631
965	475.609 Deleted	0	632
965	475.609 Deleted	0.35	791
965	475.609 Deleted	0.35	792
965	475.609 Deleted	1.54	827
965	475.609 Deleted	1.54	828
965	476 Retained	0.04	684
965	476 Deleted	0.04	685
965	476 Deleted	0.32	784
965	476	0.32	785

	Deleted		
965	476.204	0.08	711
	Retained		
965	476.204	0.08	712
	Deleted	0.00	005
965	476.204	2.08	835
965	Deleted 476.204	2.08	836
703	Deleted	2.00	000
965	476.402	0.04	686
7arvior	Retained		407
965	476.402 Deleted	0.04	687
965	476.402	0.09	715
700	Deleted	0.07	
965	476.402	0.09	716
	Deleted		
0.45	477.400		422
965	476.498 Retained	0	633
965	476.498	0	634
,	Deleted		
965	476.498	0.01	659
arver	Deleted		"
965	476.498	0.01	660
	Deleted		
965	476.609	0.2	753
	Retained		
965	476.609	0.2	754
0.45	Deleted	0.44	801
965	476.609 Deleted	0.46	801
965	476.609	0.46	802
,	Deleted	PETAPE	
		and and	
965	477	0.01	661
965	Retained 477	0.01	662
703	Deleted	0.01	002
965	477	0.14	731
	Deleted		
965	477	0.14	732
	Deleted		
965	477.204	0	635
700	Retained		
965	477.204	0	636
ranaru:	Deleted		
965	477.204 Deleted	0.05	691
965	477.204	0.05	692
700	Deleted		
965	477.204	0.34	789
15.53	Deleted		700
965	477.204 Deleted	0.34	790
	Deleted		
965	477.406	0	637
	Retained		3/2/27
965	477.406	0	638

	Deleted		
965	Deleted 477.406	0.17	742
703	Deleted	0.17	
965	477.406	0.17	743
	Deleted		
965	477.612	0.19	749
763	Retained	0.17	10.000
965	477.612	0.19	750
	Deleted		
965	477.812	0.07	708
700	Retained		
965	477.812	0.07	709
	Deleted		
965	478	0.01	663
	Retained		2323
965	478	0.01	664
0/5	Deleted	1.7	831
965	478 Deleted	1.7	031
965	478	1.7	832
700	Deleted	1015	
965	478.197	0.01	665
905	Retained	0.01	000
965	478.197	0.01	666
1575 	Deleted		
965	478.197	0.18	745
	Deleted	0.10	744
965	478.197	0.18	746
	Deleted		
965	478.402	0	639
	Retained		
965	478.402	0	640
965	Deleted 478.402	0.95	818
703	Deleted	0.70	70.00
965	478.402	0.95	819
	Deleted		
965	478.604	0.32	786
700	Retained		
965	478.604	0.32	787
	Deleted	2.22	700
965	478.604	0.32	788
	Deleted		
965	478.803	0.03	681
	Retained	120 (2004)	
965	478.803	0.03	682
0/5	Deleted	0.15	735
965	478.803 Deleted	0.10	700
965	478.803	0.15	736
N. 100	Deleted		
045	479	0	641
965	Retained	U	541
965	479	0	642
(政治局)	Deleted		

965	479	0.05	693
	Deleted		
965	479	0.05	694
	Deleted		
965	479.199	0.02	671
1.0m	Retained		
965	479.199	0.02	672
30030	Deleted		
965	479.199	1.3	825
	Deleted		
965	479.199	1.3	826
	Deleted		
965	479.404	0.38	795
	Retained		
More			

## **Data Statistics Report**

## Data Counts

Number of Active Data:	7673
Number of Original Data:	12639
Number of Excluded Data:	0
Number of Deleted Duplicates:	4966
Number of Retained Duplicates:	2979
Number of Artificial Data:	0

## X Variable Statistics

X Range:	20.718
X Midrange:	969.641
X Minimum:	959.282
X 25%-tile:	967
X Median:	970.6
X 75%-tile:	973.809
X Maximum:	980
X Average:	970.551
X Standard Deviation:	4.39572
X Variance:	19.3224

## Y Variable Statistics

Y Range:	34.821
Y Midrange:	482.589
Y Minimum:	465.179
Y 25%-tile:	473
Y Median:	485.796
Y 75%-tile:	492.802
Y Maximum:	500
Y Average:	483.611

Y Standard Deviation:	10.5569
Y Variance:	111.449
Z Variable Statistics	
Z Range:	12.8
Z Midrange:	6.4
Z Minimum:	0
Z 25%-tile:	0.03
Z Median:	0.13
Z 75%-tile:	0.39
Z Maximum:	12.8
Z Average:	0.342238
Z Standard Deviation:	0.603841
Z Variance:	0.364624

## Inter-Variable Correlation

Z Coef. of Variation:

Z Coef. of Skewness:

	X	Υ	Z
X:	1	0.361533	-0.0347975 -0.00419199
Y: Z:		1	1

1.76439 4.91776

## Inter-Variable Covariance

	X	Υ	Z
	19.3224	16.777	-0.0923636
Y:	7710	111.449	-0.0267227
Z:			0.364624

**Gridding Report** 

Search Rules

Use All Data:

true

**Gridding Rules** 

Gridding Method: Anisotropy Ratio: Anisotropy Angle: Natural Neighbor

0

**Grid Summary** 

Grid File Name:

e:\maya\Desktop\awatia nov 1\bedrock grade for thesis.grd

Minimum X: Maximum X: 959.282 980

Minimum Y: Maximum Y: 465.179 500

Minimum Z:

Maximum Z:

6.84612

Number of Rows: Number of Columns: 200 120

Number of Filled Nodes:

Number of Blanked Nodes: Total Number of Nodes:

17919 6081 24000

# Statistical report for "Surfer" B1 horizon image map

## **Data Filter Report**

e:\maya\Desktop\awatia nov 1\all1.xlslast.xls Source Data File Name:

A

X Column: Y Column:

В C Z Column:

#### **Data Counts**

Number of Active Data: 6616

Number of Original Data: 10680 Number of Excluded Data: 4064 Number of Deleted Duplicates: 2612 Number of Retained Duplicates: Number of Artificial Data:

**Filter Rules** 

First Duplicate Points to Keep: X Duplicate Tolerance: 0 Y Duplicate Tolerance:

Not In Use **Exclusion Filter String:** 

#### **Duplicate Data**

x	Y	Z	ID	Status
962.804	470	0.05	180	
	Retained		e.761.611.61	
962.804	470	0.05	181	
	Deleted			
965	470	0.53	659	
,00	Retained			
965	470	2.26	756	
700	Deleted			
965	470	4.59	766	
700	Deleted			
965	470.197	0.96	687	
703	Retained			
965	470.197	0.96	688	
703	Deleted			
965	470.197	2.83	762	
700	Deleted	3385		
045	470.4	0.51	657	
965	Retained	0.01		
0/5	470.4	0.51	658	
965	Deleted	0.01		

965	470.607	1.68	739
965	Retained 470.607	1.68	740
	Deleted		
965	470.607	2.08	747
	Deleted		
965	475	0.12	603
	Retained	0.10	404
965	475	0.12	604
965	Deleted 475	0.12	605
703	Deleted	V	
965	475	0.18	608
	Deleted		
965	475.609	0.03	586
. 4.04.0	Retained		
965	475.609	0.03	587
222	Deleted	0.41	640
965	475.609 Deleted	0.41	040
965	475.609	0.41	641
,00	Deleted		
965	475.609	1.451	734
	Deleted	1.461	735
965	475.609 Deleted	1.451	733
	Deleted		
965	476	0.33	628
	Retained		400
965	476	0.33	629
965	Deleted 476	2.18	752
703	Deleted	2	
965	476	2.18	753
	Deleted		
965	476.204	0.54	664
	Retained		707000
965	476.204	0.54	665
015	Deleted	3.46	764
965	476.204 Deleted	5.40	,,,,
965	476.204	3.46	765
	Deleted		
965	476.402	1.18	714
,00	Retained		11 (6 10 (2 10 1)
965	476.402	1.18	715
	Deleted		
965	476.498	0.21	612
1070470	Retained	10700	***
965	476.498	0.21	613
045	Deleted 476.498	1	698
965	Deleted	<i>8</i>	
965	476.498	1	699
7.0000000	Deleted		
0/5	474 400	0.3	619
965	476.609	0.5	017

	Retained		
965	476.609	0.3	620
	Deleted		923
965	476.609	0.31	624
	Deleted	2.22	/OF
965	476.609	0.31	625
	Deleted		
965	477	0.12	606
,,,,	Retained		
965	477	0.12	607
	Deleted		71.7
965	477	0.23	614
212	Deleted	0.23	615
965	477	0.23	010
	Deleted		
965	477.204	0.4	637
N.T.T.	Retained		
965	477.204	0.4	638
	Deleted		
965	477.204	0.42	643
2020	Deleted	0.40	644
965	477.204	0.42	044
0/5	Deleted 477.204	1.11	706
965	Deleted	1.11	, , , ,
965	477.204	1.11	707
,00	Deleted		
			***
965	477.406	0.44	646
	Retained	0.44	647
965	477.406	0.44	047
	Deleted		
965	477.612	0.01	580
	Retained		
965	477.612	0.01	581
	Deleted		(0)
965	477.612	0.3	621
972	Deleted	0.3	622
965	477.612	0.3	UZZ
	Deleted		
965	477.812	0.01	582
	Retained		Televara.
965	477.812	0.01	583
	Deleted		477
965	477.812	0.73	677
272	Deleted	0.73	678
965	477.812 Deleted	0.73	0,0
	Deleted		
965	478	0.48	653
5.75	Retained		
965	478	0.48	654
	Deleted	0.55	7/0
965	478	2.59	760
	Deleted	2.59	761
965	478 Deleted	2.07	751
	palalad		
965	478.197	0.67	671
17.55 (CH ) (CH )			

965	Retained 478.197 Deleted	0.67	672
965	478.402	0.96	689
965	Retained 478.402 Deleted	0.96	690
965	478.402 Deleted	1.19	718
965	478.402 Deleted	1.19	719
965	478.604	0.05	590
965	Retained 478.604 Deleted	0.05	591
965	478.803 Retained	0.45	649
965	478.803 Deleted	0.45	650
965	478.803 Deleted	2.22	754
965	478.803 Deleted	2.22	755
965	479 Retained	1.37	731
965	479 Deleted	1.37	732
965	479.199 Retained	0.24	616
965	479.199 Deleted	0.24	617
965	479.404 Retained	0.19	609
965	479.404 Deleted	0.19	610
965	479.608 Retained	0.05	592
965	479.608 Deleted	0.05	593
965	482.2 Retained	0.05	594
965	482.2 Deleted	0.05	595
965	482.42 Retained	0.85	682
965	482.42 Deleted	0.85	683
965	482.6 Retained	1.22	720
965	482.6 Deleted	1.22	721
965	482.8	1.05	701

	Retained		
965	482.8	1.05	702
	Deleted		
965	483	0.67	673
	Retained		
965	483	0.67	674
	Deleted		
965	483.2	1.32	728
	Retained		
965	483.2	1.32	729
	Deleted		
965	483.4	2.27	757
(B)(B)(B)	Retained		
965	483.4	2.27	758
	Deleted		
965	485	1.06	703
	Retained		
More			

## Data Statistics Report

# **Data Counts**

Number of Active Data:	6616
Number of Original Data:	10680
Number of Excluded Data:	0
Number of Deleted Duplicates:	4064
Number of Retained Duplicates:	2612
Number of Artificial Data:	0

## X Variable Statistics

X Range:	20.718
X Midrange:	969.641
X Minimum:	959.282
X 25%-tile:	966.812
X Median:	970.409
X 75%-tile:	973.789
X Maximum:	980
X Average:	970.473
X Standard Deviation:	4.40543
X Variance:	19.4078

#### Y Variable Statistics

Y Range:	34.821
Y Midrange:	482.589
Y Minimum:	465.179
Y 25%-tile:	472.799

Y Median:	485
Y 75%-tile:	492.591
Y Maximum:	500
Y Average:	483.244
Y Standard Deviation:	10.5206
Y Variance:	110.684
Z Variable Statistics	
Z Range:	14.69
Z Midrange:	7.345
Z Minimum:	0
Z 25%-tile:	0.19
Z Median:	0.49
Z 75%-tile:	1.08

Z Minimum:

Z 25%-file:

D.19

Z Median:

D.49

Z 75%-file:

D.88

Z Maximum:

14.69

Z Average:

Z Standard Deviation:

1.2334

Z Standard Deviation: 1.2334 Z Variance: 1.52127

Z Coef. of Variation: 1.40029 Z Coef. of Skewness: 3.86138

## Inter-Variable Correlation

	X	Υ	Z
	1	0.375765	0.0804977
Y:	20		0.0681776
Z:			1

## Inter-Variable Covariance

	X	Υ	Z
X:	19.4078	17.4159	0.437396
Υ:	1714070	110.684	0.884683
Z:			1.52127

**Gridding Report** 

Search Rules

Use All Data:

true

**Gridding Rules** 

Gridding Method:

Anisotropy Ratio:

Anisotropy Angle:

Natural Neighbor

1

0

#### **Grid Summary**

Grid File Name: e:\maya\Desktop\awatia nov 1\b 1 horizen.grd

Minimum X: 959.282 Maximum X: 980

Minimum Y: 465.179 Maximum Y: 500

Minimum Z: 0 Maximum Z: 10.2614

Number of Rows: 200 Number of Columns: 120

Number of Filled Nodes: 17695 Number of Blanked Nodes: 6305 Total Number of Nodes: 24000

# Statistical report for "Surfer" topsoil image map

#### **Data Filter Report**

Source Data File Name: e:\maya\Desktop\awatia nov 1\all1.xislast.xis X Column: A

Y Column: B Z Column: C

#### **Data Counts**

Number of Active Data: 7187

Number of Original Data: 12251
Number of Excluded Data: 0
Number of Deleted Duplicates: 5064
Number of Retained Duplicates: 3045
Number of Artificial Data: 0

#### **Filter Rules**

Duplicate Points to Keep: First
X Duplicate Tolerance: 0
Y Duplicate Tolerance: 0

Exclusion Filter String: Not In Use

#### **Duplicate Data**

×	Y	z	ID	Status
965	470	0.1	3352	
	Retained			
965	470	0.29	6450	
	Deleted			
965	470	0.52	8532	
	Deleted			
965	470.197	0.1	3359	
,00	Retained			
965	470.197	0.22	5461	
700	Deleted			
965	470.197	0.22	5462	
	Deleted			
965	470.4	0.45	8020	
703	Retained			
965	470.4	0.45	8021	
703	Deleted			
965	470.4	0.64	9215	
700	Deleted			
965	470.607	0.16	4456	
and the second	Retained			

965	470.607	0.49	8303
12/12/12	Deleted	0.49	8304
965	470.607 Deleted	0.49	0004
			1000
965	470.79	0.32	6787
0/5	Retained 470.79	0.41	7677
965	Deleted	0.41	0.001
965	475	0.08	2898
0.45	Retained 475	0.08	2899
965	Deleted	0.00	
965	475	0.08	2900
M47000	Deleted		2001
965	475	0.08	2901
	Deleted		
965	475.609	0.03	1535
700	Retained		5000
965	475.609	0.03	1536
	Deleted	0.46	8086
965	475.609 Deleted	0.40	0000
965	475.609	0.46	8087
703	Deleted		
965	475.609	1.17	10988
PERSONAL SERVICES	Deleted	1.17	10989
965	475.609 Deleted	1.17	10,07
	Deleted		
965	476	0.12	3809
	Retained	0.10	3810
965	476	0.12	3010
965	Deleted 476	0.2	5180
700	Deleted		252-22
965	476	0.2	5181
	Deleted		
0/5	476.204	0.12	3811
965	Retained		
965	476.204	0.12	3812
	Deleted	0.44	8088
965	476.204 Deleted	0.46	0000
965	476.204	0.46	8089
703	Deleted		
	10000010000000	0.00	1543
965	476.402	0.03	1040
045	Retained 476.402	0.03	1544
965	Deleted	17.07.25	72/07/02
965	476.402	0.03	1545
	Deleted	0.03	1546
965	476.402 Deleted	0.03	1040
	Deleted		
965	476.498	0.15	4324
	Retained	0.15	4325
965	476.498 Deleted	0.15	4020
	Deleted		

965	476.498	0.2	5183
	Deleted		5104
965	476.498	0.2	5184
	Deleted		
965	476.609	0	169
,,,,	Retained		
965	476.609	0	170
	Deleted	0.05	0107
965	476.609	0.05	2107
965	Deleted 476.609	0.05	2108
905	Deleted	0.00	
965	477	0.12	3815
	Retained		2014
965	477	0.12	3816
045	Deleted 477	0.23	5656
965	Deleted	0.20	
965	477	0.23	5657
	Deleted		
			7/00
965	477.204	0.4	7600
045	Retained	0.4	7601
965	477.204 Deleted	0.4	7001
965	477.204	0.42	7820
700	Deleted		
965	477.204	0.42	7821
	Deleted		
045	477.406	0.43	7899
965	Retained	0.40	2.417
965	477.406	0.43	7900
,	Deleted		
965	477.406	0.51	8495
232	Deleted	0.51	8496
965	477.406 Deleted	0.51	0470
	Deleted		
965	477.612	0.3	6579
,,,,	Retained		
965	477.612	0.3	6580
	Deleted		
045	477.812	0.26	6078
965	Retained	0.20	
965	477.812	0.26	6079
	Deleted		
		0.05	2127
965	478	0.05	2127
045	Retained 478	0.05	2128
965	Deleted	0.00	
965	478	0.05	2129
6.767	Deleted		
965	478	0.05	2130
	Deleted		
045	478.197	0.01	873
965	Retained		
965	478.197	0.01	874

	Deleted		
965	478.197	0.79	9894
	Deleted		
965	478.197	0.79	9895
	Deleted		
965	478.402	0.07	2680
	Retained		
965	478.402	0.07	2681
	Deleted		
965	478.402	0.23	5666
550	Deleted	0.00	5447
965	478.402	0.23	5667
	Deleted		
965	478.604	0.92	10413
	Retained		
965	478.604	0.92	10414
	Deleted	1.22	10415
965	478.604	0.92	10415
	Deleted		
965	478.803	0.01	885
	Retained		
965	478.803	0.01	886
	Deleted	120112020	
965	478.803	0.48	8260
202	Deleted	0.48	8261
965	478.803	0.48	0201
	Deleted		
965	479	0.06	2438
50744	Retained		
965	479	0.06	2439
	Deleted		
965	479	0.57	8861
2.22	Deleted	0.57	8862
965	479 Deleted	0.57	0002
	Deleted		
965	479.199	1.57	11579
	Retained		
965	479.199	1.57	11580
	Deleted		
965	479.404	1.75	11698
	Retained		
965	479.404	1.75	11699
	Deleted		
965	479.608	1.19	11026
700	Retained		
965	479.608	1.19	11027
	Deleted		
045	482.42	0.31	6713
965	Retained	0.01	77 O.T.
965	482.42	0.31	6714
7.00	Deleted		
045	400.4	0.03	1591
965	482.6 Retained	0.03	1071
965	482.6	0.03	1592
700	402.0	5.55	

	Deleted		
965	482.8 Retained	0.12	3837
965	482.8 Deleted	0.12	3838
965	483 Retained	0.13	3981
965	483 Deleted	0.13	3982
965	483.2 Retained	0.07	2703
965	483.2 Deleted	0.07	2704
965	483.4 Retained	0.22	5517
More			

## **Data Statistics Report**

# **Data Counts**

Number of Active Data:	7187
Number of Original Data:	12251
Number of Excluded Data:	0
Number of Deleted Duplicates:	5064
Number of Retained Duplicates:	3045
Number of Artificial Data:	0

#### X Variable Statistics

X Range:	20.718
X Midrange:	969.641
X Minimum:	959.282
X 25%-tile:	967.789
X Median:	971
X 75%-tile:	974
X Maximum:	980
X Average:	971.007
X Standard Deviation:	4.09507
X Variance:	16.7696

## Y Variable Statistics

Y Range:	34.802
Y Midrange:	482.599
Y Minimum:	465.198
Y 25%-file:	474
Y Median:	486.808
Y 75%-tile:	493.101

Y Maximum:	500
Y Average:	484.492
Y Standard Deviation:	10.267
Y Variance:	105.412
Z Variable Statistics	
Z Range:	10.58
Z Midrange:	5.29
Z Minimum:	0
Z 25%-tile:	0.06
Z Median:	0.19
Z 75%-tile:	0.48
Z Maximum:	10.58
Z Average:	0.389608
Z Standard Deviation:	0.579401
Z Variance:	0.335705
Z Coef. of Variation:	1.48714
Z Coef. of Skewness:	4.25038

## Inter-Variable Correlation

	X	Y	z
X:	1	0.286869	0.0146437
Y:	8	1	0.147055
Z:			1

## Inter-Variable Covariance

	X	Υ	Z
X:	16.7696	12.0612	0.0347449
Υ:	1011010	105.412	0.874792
Z:			0.335705

Gridd	ing	Report	
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## Search Rules

Use All Data:

true

# **Gridding Rules**

Gridding Method: Anisotropy Ratio: Anisotropy Angle: Natural Neighbor

ò

## **Grid Summary**

Grid File Name:

e:\maya\Desktop\awatia nov 1\top soll grade.grd

Minimum X: Maximum X: 959.282 980

Minimum Y: Maximum Y: 465.198 500

Minimum Z:

0

Maximum Z:

9.30239

Number of Rows: Number of Columns: 200 120

Number of Filled Nodes: Number of Blanked Nodes: 17725 6275

Total Number of Nodes:

24000

Appendix 7: Results of magnetometer survey

The results of this survey are inconclusive for the following: Proton precession magnetometers have low resolution at the equator due to the low angle of the earth's magnetic field although all procedures were followed to minimize this effect. Anomalies are clustered around areas with possible anthropogenic interference (unknown amounts of metal, cables, old pipes lay covered or buried). The source rock/rocks have low magnetic susceptibility because they contain little or no magnetic minerals such as magnetite or pyrrhotite. The area is covered in low dense jungle so surveys had to be conducted as traverses along existing roads rather than as grids.

Total magnetic variation is less than 600 gammas. Diurnal variations during individual surveys were between 0-55 gammas. The largest anomalies were at most 4 data points indicating a shallow source most likely buried metal. Regional variations though small (~100 gammas) may reflect the underlying lithology. Negative results confirm unsuccessful attempts by CAST geologists to delineate diamond bearing rock using magnetics (Gammon, 2003).

Map units are decimal degrees.

