

# Geochronology and lithogeochemistry of granitoid rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick, Canada implications for Sn-W-Mo exploration

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Volume 52, 2016

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/ageo52art05>

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Publisher(s)

Atlantic Geoscience Society

ISSN

0843-5561 (print)

1718-7885 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this article

Wilson, R. A. & Kamo, S. L. (2016). Geochronology and lithogeochemistry of granitoid rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick, Canada: implications for Sn-W-Mo exploration. *Atlantic Geology*, 52, 125–167.

Article abstract

The central part of the Central plutonic belt in New Brunswick is underlain by numerous plutons of calc-alkaline, foliated and unfoliated granite that intrude Cambrian to Early Ordovician metasedimentary rocks. U-Pb (zircon) dating demonstrates that granites range in age from Middle Ordovician to Late Devonian, although most are late Silurian to Early Devonian. An age of  $467 \pm 7$  Ma has been obtained on the foliated McKiel Lake Granite, whereas unfoliated intrusions yield ages of  $423.2 \pm 3.2$  Ma (Bogan Brook Granodiorite),  $420.7 \pm 1.8$  Ma (Nashwaak Granite),  $419.0 \pm 0.5$  Ma (Redstone Mountain Granite),  $416.1 \pm 0.5$  Ma (Beadle Mountain Granite),  $415.8 \pm 0.3$  Ma (Juniper Barren Granite),  $409.7 \pm 0.5$  Ma (Lost Lake Granite), and  $380.6 \pm 0.3$  Ma (Burnthill Granite). All plutons exhibit mixed arc-like and within-plate geochemical signatures, although the Redstone Mountain and Burnthill granites are dominantly within-plate type. Trace element data reveal a close overall geochemical similarity between Ordovician and Silurian – Devonian plutons, indicating that all were generated by partial melting of similar crustal sources and/or share a similar petrogenesis. Late Silurian to Early Devonian plutons mainly comprise biotite and/or muscovite-bearing, peraluminous granite and are considered prospective for granophile-element mineralization. All plutons contain Sn well in excess of the granite global average abundance, and several contain average tin values comparable to productive stanniferous granites elsewhere. The Burnthill, Lost Lake, Beadle Mountain and Nashwaak granites are geochemically most evolved and enriched in Sn and W. The Burnthill Granite in particular has experienced late-stage hydrothermal processes that have resulted in local enrichments of these elements.

# Geochronology and lithochemistry of granitoid rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick, Canada: implications for Sn-W-Mo exploration

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*Date received: 06 November 2015* † *Date accepted: 03 February 2016*

## ABSTRACT

The central part of the Central plutonic belt in New Brunswick is underlain by numerous plutons of calc-alkaline, foliated and unfoliated granite that intrude Cambrian to Early Ordovician metasedimentary rocks. U-Pb (zircon) dating demonstrates that granites range in age from Middle Ordovician to Late Devonian, although most are late Silurian to Early Devonian. An age of  $467 \pm 7$  Ma has been obtained on the foliated McKiel Lake Granite, whereas unfoliated intrusions yield ages of  $423.2 \pm 3.2$  Ma (Bogan Brook Granodiorite),  $420.7 + 1.8/-2.0$  Ma (Nashwaak Granite),  $419.0 \pm 0.5$  Ma (Redstone Mountain Granite),  $416.1 \pm 0.5$  Ma (Beadle Mountain Granite),  $415.8 \pm 0.3$  Ma (Juniper Barren Granite),  $409.7 \pm 0.5$  Ma (Lost Lake Granite), and  $380.6 \pm 0.3$  Ma (Burnthill Granite). All plutons exhibit mixed arc-like and within-plate geochemical signatures, although the Redstone Mountain and Burnthill granites are dominantly within-plate type. Trace element data reveal a close overall geochemical similarity between Ordovician and Silurian – Devonian plutons, indicating that all were generated by partial melting of similar crustal sources and/or share a similar petrogenesis. Late Silurian to Early Devonian plutons mainly comprise biotite and/or muscovite-bearing, peraluminous granite and are considered prospective for granophile-element mineralization. All plutons contain Sn well in excess of the granite global average abundance, and several contain average tin values comparable to productive stanniferous granites elsewhere. The Burnthill, Lost Lake, Beadle Mountain and Nashwaak granites are geochemically most evolved and enriched in Sn and W. The Burnthill Granite in particular has experienced late-stage hydrothermal processes that have resulted in local enrichments of these elements.

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## RÉSUMÉ

La portion centrale de la ceinture plutonique centrale du Nouveau-Brunswick comporte de nombreux plutons de granites calco-alcalins, foliés et non foliés, qui font intrusion dans des roches métasédimentaires datant du Cambrien à l'Ordovicien précoce. Une datation UPb sur zircon révèle que les granites datent de l'Ordovicien moyen au Dévonien tardif, mais du Silurien tardif au Dévonien précoce pour la plupart. Le granite folié du lac McKiel est âgé de  $467 \pm 7$  Ma, alors que les intrusions non foliées remontent à  $423,2 \pm 3,2$  Ma (granodiorite du ruisseau Bogan), à  $420,7 + 1,8/-2,0$  Ma (granite de Nashwaak), à  $419,0 \pm 0,5$  Ma (granite du mont Redstone), à  $416,1 \pm 0,5$  Ma (granite du mont Beadle), à  $415,8 \pm 0,3$  Ma (granite de Juniper Barren), à  $409,7 \pm 0,5$  Ma (granite du lac Lost) et à  $380,6 \pm 0,3$  Ma (granite de Burnthill). Tous les plutons présentent des signatures géochimiques en

forme d'arc et intraplaques mixtes, bien que les granites du mont Redstone et de Burnthill soient surtout de type intraplaque. Les données sur les éléments traces des plutons de l'Ordovicien et du Silurien-Dévonien présentent une similitude géochimique globale étroite, ce qui indique qu'ils proviennent tous de la fusion partielle de sources crustales similaires et/ou partagent une pétrogenèse similaire. Les plutons du Silurien tardif au Dévonien précoce sont surtout des granites hyperalumineux à biotite et/ou muscovite et abritent potentiellement des minéralisations d'éléments granophiles. Tous les plutons contiennent des teneurs en Sn très supérieures à l'abondance moyenne générale des granites et plusieurs affichent des valeurs moyennes d'étain comparables à celles des granites stannifères productifs observés ailleurs. Les granites de Burnthill, du lac Lost, du mont Beadle et de Nashwaak sont les plus évolués sur le plan géochimique et les plus riches en Sn et en W. Le granite de Burnthill en particulier a connu des processus hydrothermaux de phase tardive qui ont abouti à des enrichissements locaux de ces éléments.

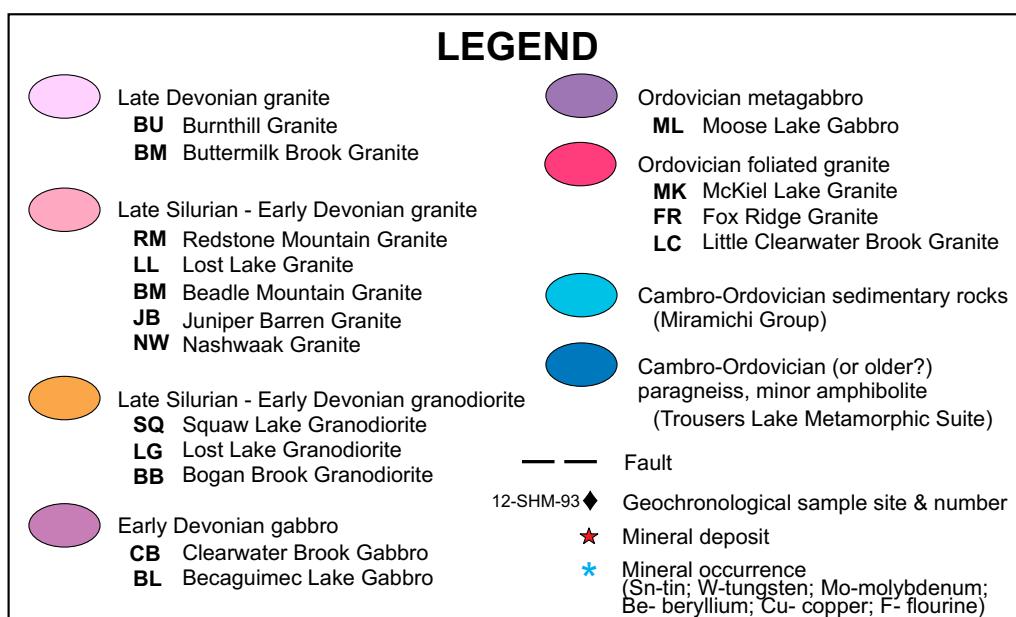
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## INTRODUCTION

The Central plutonic belt comprises mainly granitoid rocks that underlie a large area of central New Brunswick. They intruded Cambrian-Ordovician rocks of the Miramichi Group and Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite in a ~250 km-long belt trending north-northeast that extends from the Maine border in southwestern New Brunswick to Chaleur Bay in the northeast (Fig. 1). Ranging in age from Early Ordovician to Late Devonian, these intrusive rocks are predominantly granites, and include several plutonic complexes of batholithic proportions, along with numerous smaller plutons (Fig. 1). The genetic association of some of these plutons with economic or potentially economic concentrations of elements such as Sn, W, Mo, Cu, Sb, In, Be, and Au, has been known for many years (Ruitenber and Fyffe 1982, and references therein).

A comprehensive study of granites from the Appalachian orogen in New Brunswick and the Gaspé Peninsula of Québec, including geological, petrographic, geochemical, isotopic and geochronological work, was carried out by

the Geological Survey of Canada in the 1980s (Whalen 1993; Whalen *et al.* 1994, 1996, 1998). Almost all granitoid intrusive rocks in New Brunswick were sampled at that time, although difficulties involving access and exposure meant that some plutons, including most of the granites discussed herein, were only examined at a "reconnaissance" level. Geochronological work carried out during this and previous studies included K-Ar and Rb-Sr dating of the Redstone Mountain, Lost Lake, McKiel Lake, Bogan Brook and Nashwaak intrusions (Fyffe and Cormier 1979; Poole 1980; Bevier and Whalen 1990; Whalen and Theriault 1990), and  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  dating of the Burnthill Granite (Taylor *et al.* 1987). More recently, attention was focused on New Brunswick granites and associated intrusion-related mineralization during the 2010–2015 federal-provincial Targeted Geoscience Initiative-4 (TGI-4) project (Rogers 2011), the purpose of which was to identify and evaluate "fertile" intrusions and vectors to additional W, Mo, Sn and other deposits. In the central part of the Central plutonic belt (Fig. 1), TGI-4 field work conducted by the New Brunswick Geological Surveys Branch centred on supplementing the



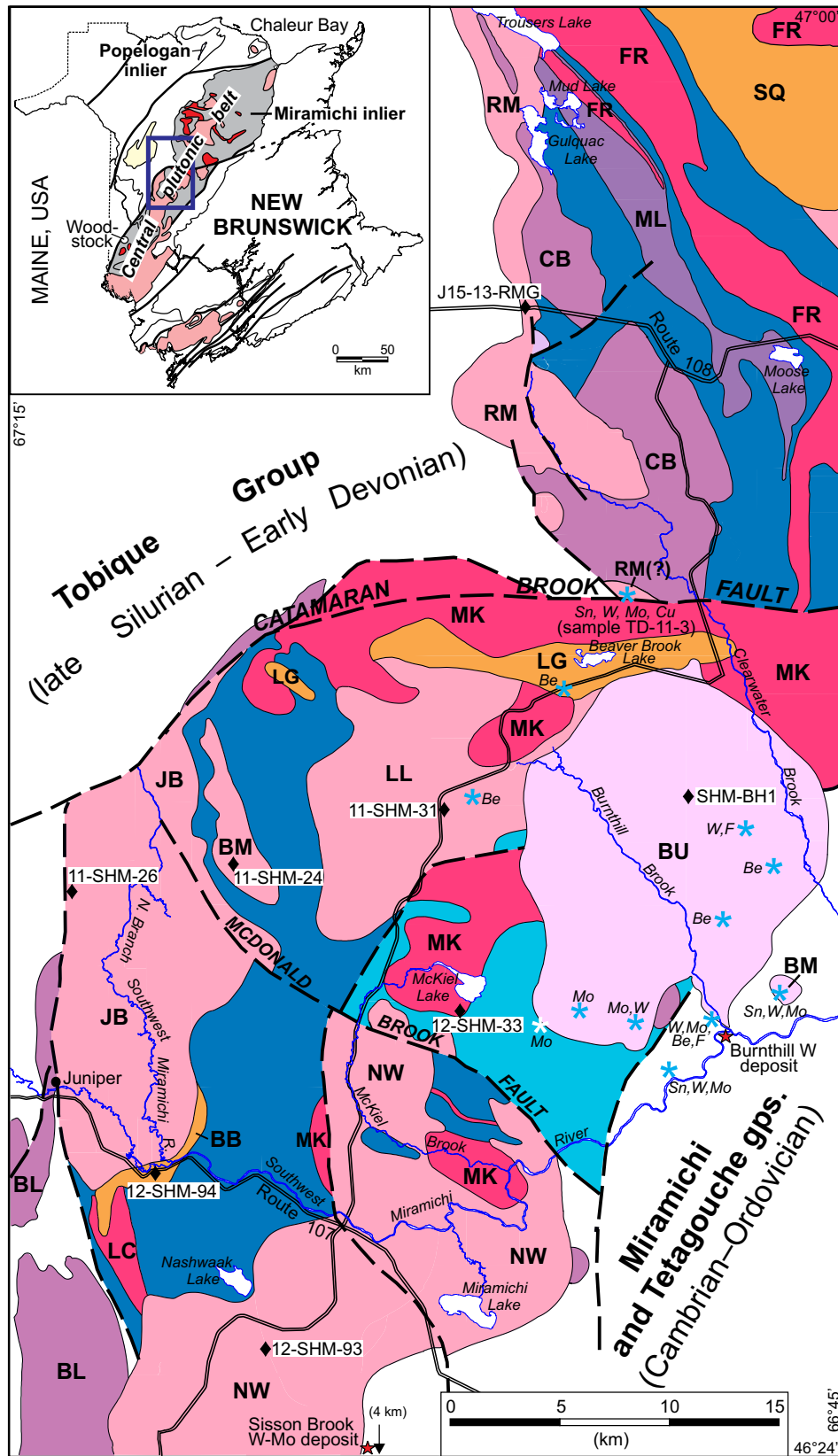


Figure 1. Geology of the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick, modified after Smith and Fyffe (2006a). Legend is on the facing page. Inset: Ordovician granites are in red and Devonian granites in pink.

Whalen (1993) database with the acquisition of additional lithochemical and geochronological analyses, and on producing improved geological maps for an area characterized by very poor bedrock exposure. This paper presents the results of new lithochemical analyses from ten plutons, and crystallization ages determined by Chemical Abrasion–Isotope Dilution–Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometry (CA-ID-TIMS) for eight of those plutons. These data form the basis of inferences regarding the potential for economic concentrations of granite-related mineralization in some of these intrusive rocks.

## OVERVIEW OF REGIONAL GEOLOGY

The Central plutonic belt is situated almost entirely within the Miramichi inlier (Fig. 1), which comprises Cambrian to Ordovician stratified rocks of the Miramichi, Woodstock, and Meductic groups, the Bathurst Supergroup, and the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite. The Miramichi Group and correlative rocks of the Woodstock Group were deposited as a clastic apron on the passive margin of Ganderia following the late Neoproterozoic opening of the Iapetus Ocean and rifting of the Ganderian continental block from Amazonia (van Staal *et al.* 2009, 2012). The Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite (Fyffe *et al.* 1988) underlies a 15–20 km-wide belt in the core of the Miramichi inlier; paragneiss that dominates this unit is generally interpreted as part of the Miramichi Group that was subjected to amphibolite-facies conditions, and juxtaposed against lower-grade Miramichi rocks along thrust or reverse fault(s) (Fyffe *et al.* 1988; McClenaghan *et al.* 2014). The Trousers Lake suite also includes minor amphibolite (metabasalt and metagabbro) and felsic orthogneiss that have been correlated with volcanic rocks of the Bathurst Supergroup (Fyffe *et al.* 1988; Winchester *et al.* 1992). The Bathurst Supergroup comprises volcanic and sedimentary rocks that were deposited during extension and rifting of the Early to Middle Ordovician, ensialic Popelogan arc, leading to opening of the Tetagouche backarc basin (van Staal *et al.* 2003, 2016). Early Ordovician, pre-rifting volcanic rocks of the Popelogan arc are exposed in the southwestern part of the Miramichi inlier near Woodstock, where they are assigned to the Meductic Group (Fyffe 2001), whereas Middle Ordovician, post-rifting arc volcanic rocks are exposed in the Popelogan inlier in northern New Brunswick and assigned to the Balmoral Group (Wilson 2003) (Fig. 1 inset). All of these units were accreted to the Laurentian margin during the Salinic (Silurian) and Acadian (Devonian) orogenic cycles (van Staal and de Roo 1995; van Staal *et al.* 2003, 2009).

The oldest plutonic rocks in the Central plutonic belt are foliated granites that generally yield Floian to Darriwilian (Early to Middle Ordovician) U-Pb (zircon) ages (Whalen 1993; Whalen *et al.* 1998; McNicoll *et al.* 2003). For most

of these intrusions, within-plate-like chemical signatures (Whalen 1993) strongly imply that they are plutonic equivalents of the backarc volcanic rocks of the Bathurst Supergroup. However, foliated granites with Early Ordovician ages predate backarc volcanism, suggesting correlation with arc volcanic rocks of the Meductic Group, although, except for the Gibson and Benton plutons in the Woodstock area (Whalen *et al.* 1998), these granites lack typical arc-like geochemical signatures. In the central part of the Central plutonic belt, the Fox Ridge Granite (Fig. 1; not sampled in this study) and felsic orthogneiss from the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite have yielded U-Pb (zircon) ages of 451 ±15/-1 Ma and 434 ±29/-6 Ma, respectively (Fyffe *et al.* 1988); the older limits of these error ranges place both units in the Darriwilian, like most other Ordovician granites in the Miramichi inlier. In the study area, most foliated felsic intrusions are assigned to the McKiel Lake Granite, which, in addition to exposures in the type area at McKiel Lake, includes a large body on the south side of the Catamaran Brook Fault that was probably originally (prior to Silurian–Devonian plutonism) contiguous with foliated granite in the upper part of Burnthill Brook (Fig. 1), and a smaller pluton on the lower part of McKiel Brook (Fig. 1) that Poole (1980) informally referred to as the “Sugar granite”.

Most plutonic rocks in the study area are unfoliated granites. Based on previously acquired Rb-Sr and K-Ar ages (Fyffe and Cormier 1979; Poole 1980; Bevier and Whalen 1990; Whalen and Theriault 1990; see below), and U-Pb zircon and monazite ages from similar plutonic suites farther north (Bevier and Whalen 1990), these granites have been assumed to range in age from late Silurian to Early Devonian. Included in this group are the Lost Lake, Beadle Mountain, Juniper Barren, Nashwaak, and Redstone Mountain granites. Associated and generally smaller bodies of granodiorite (Lost Lake and Bogan Brook granodiorites) display a similar range of K-Ar and Rb-Sr ages but commonly have a weak foliation (Poole 1980; St. Peter 1981; Lutes 1981; Crouse 1981a). The Burnthill Granite clearly intruded the Lost Lake Granite, and supported by the results of previous <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar dating (Taylor *et al.* 1987; see below), has historically been regarded as the youngest plutonic rock unit in the area.

## DESCRIPTION OF PLUTONS

It is not the purpose of this contribution to present detailed lithological and petrographic descriptions of the plutonic rocks of central New Brunswick. This regional information can be obtained from previously published work by Whalen (1993), MacLellan *et al.* (1990), and several New Brunswick Geological Surveys reports from the late 1970s and early 1980s. For the interested reader, sources of lithological information for each of the ten plutons discussed herein have been tabulated (Table 1); brief lithological descriptions

**Table 1.** Sources of lithological descriptions of granitoid rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt.

	Crouse (1978)	Poole (1980)	Crouse (1981a)	Crouse (1981b)	St. Peter (1981)	Lutes (1981)	Irrinki (1981)	St. Peter (1982)	Fyffe and Pronk (1985)	MacLellan <i>et al.</i> (1990)	Whalen (1993)
Burnthill Granite			X				X			X	X
Lost Lake Granite		X	X		X						X
Lost Lake Granodiorite			X		X						X
Beadle Mountain Granite					X						X
Juniper Barren Granite					X			X			X
Redstone Mountain Granite	X		X						X		X
Nashwaak Granite			X	X	X	X					X
Bogan Brook Granodiorite					X	X					X
Little Clearwater Brook Granite					X	X		X			X
McKiel Lake Granite*		X	X		X						X

\* Note: Whalen (1993) included the McKiel Lake Granite in his discussion of the Fox Ridge Granite.

are provided below. Many of these plutons, regardless of age, share characteristics such as the occurrence of pegmatite pods that locally contain tourmaline or beryl, garnetiferous aplitic dykes, and inclusions or enclaves of paragneiss ranging in size from small xenoliths to large roof pendants.

The *Burnthill Granite* is a texturally and mineralogically heterogeneous intrusion of coarse- to very coarse-grained biotite granite comprising a dominant phase of pink to red, medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular to seriate, alkali feldspar-phyric granite (Fig. 2a), and subsidiary phases of medium-grained equigranular granite, equigranular to quartz-feldspar-phyric microgranite, melanocratic biotite granite, and minor aplite and pegmatite (MacLellan *et al.* 1990). The Burnthill Granite intrudes Cambrian and Ordovician sedimentary and volcanic rocks of the Miramichi and Tetagouche groups, foliated granite (McKiel Lake Granite) and unfoliated granitoid rocks (Lost Lake Granite and Lost Lake Granodiorite). Tungsten mineralization at the Burnthill deposit (MacLellan *et al.* 1990) is genetically related to a buried cupola near the southeastern margin of the granite (Fig. 1).

The *Lost Lake Granite* comprises light grey to light pink, medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular, biotite ± muscovite granite (Fig. 2b) and minor muscovite granite and pegmatite that commonly contain garnet, tourmaline, or beryl. It intrudes the foliated McKiel Lake Granite and high-grade metamorphic rocks (mainly paragneiss) of the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite, and is intruded by the Burnthill Granite.

The *Lost Lake Granodiorite* lies along the northern

margin of the Lost Lake Granite (Fig. 1) and is interpreted as a cogenetic phase of the latter. It consists of grey to pink, fine- to medium-grained, equigranular biotite granite to granodiorite (Fig. 2c), and subordinate muscovite-biotite granite and muscovite pegmatite. It intrudes the McKiel Lake Granite and is intruded by the Burnthill Granite.

The *Beadle Mountain Granite* comprises light pink, medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular, muscovite, muscovite-biotite (Fig. 2d), and lesser biotite-muscovite granite, locally containing pods of muscovite-tourmaline pegmatite. The Beadle Mountain Granite has been interpreted to intrude the Juniper Barren Granite (St. Peter 1981), presumably as a younger, more evolved phase of that pluton, but for the most part it intrudes the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite near the eastern margin of the Juniper Barren Granite (Fig. 1).

The *Juniper Barren Granite* is composed of light grey to light pink, medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular to subporphyritic biotite granite (Fig. 3a), and minor biotite- and muscovite-bearing granite, garnetiferous aplite, and pegmatite. It intrudes the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite on the east and is in fault contact with Lower Devonian volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the Tobique Group on the north and west (Fig. 1).

The *Redstone Mountain Granite* comprises at least two phases, including pink to red, medium-grained, equigranular to subporphyritic biotite-amphibole granite containing sparse quartz phenocrysts and white plagioclase phenocrysts set in a fine-grained granophyric groundmass

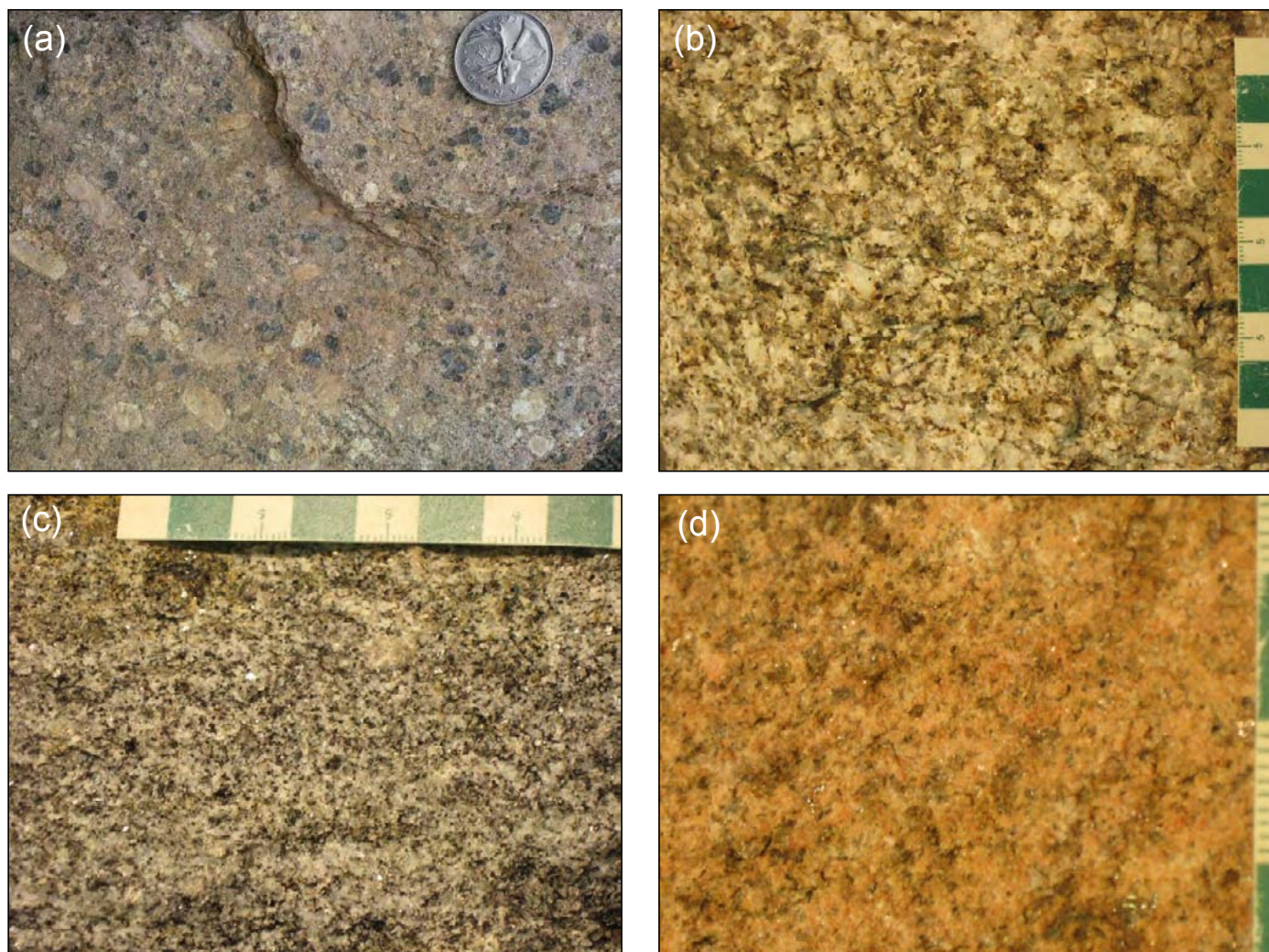
(Fig. 3b), and buff to maroon, probably subvolcanic quartz-feldspar porphyry. Associated with the granite are a local aplitic phase, porphyritic felsic dykes, and dykes and plugs of fine- to medium-grained, pyroxene-amphibole diabase and gabbro. The Redstone Mountain Granite intrudes the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite and the Clearwater Brook Gabbro on the east, and late Silurian to Early Devonian volcanic rocks of the Tobique Group (Costigan Mountain Formation) on the west (Fig. 1).

The *Nashwaak Granite* consists of light grey to light pink, medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular to seriate, biotite and biotite-muscovite granite (Fig. 3c) that locally contains xenoliths of paragneiss, and minor garnetiferous, muscovite-bearing granite. It intrudes the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite, Miramichi Group and McKiel Lake

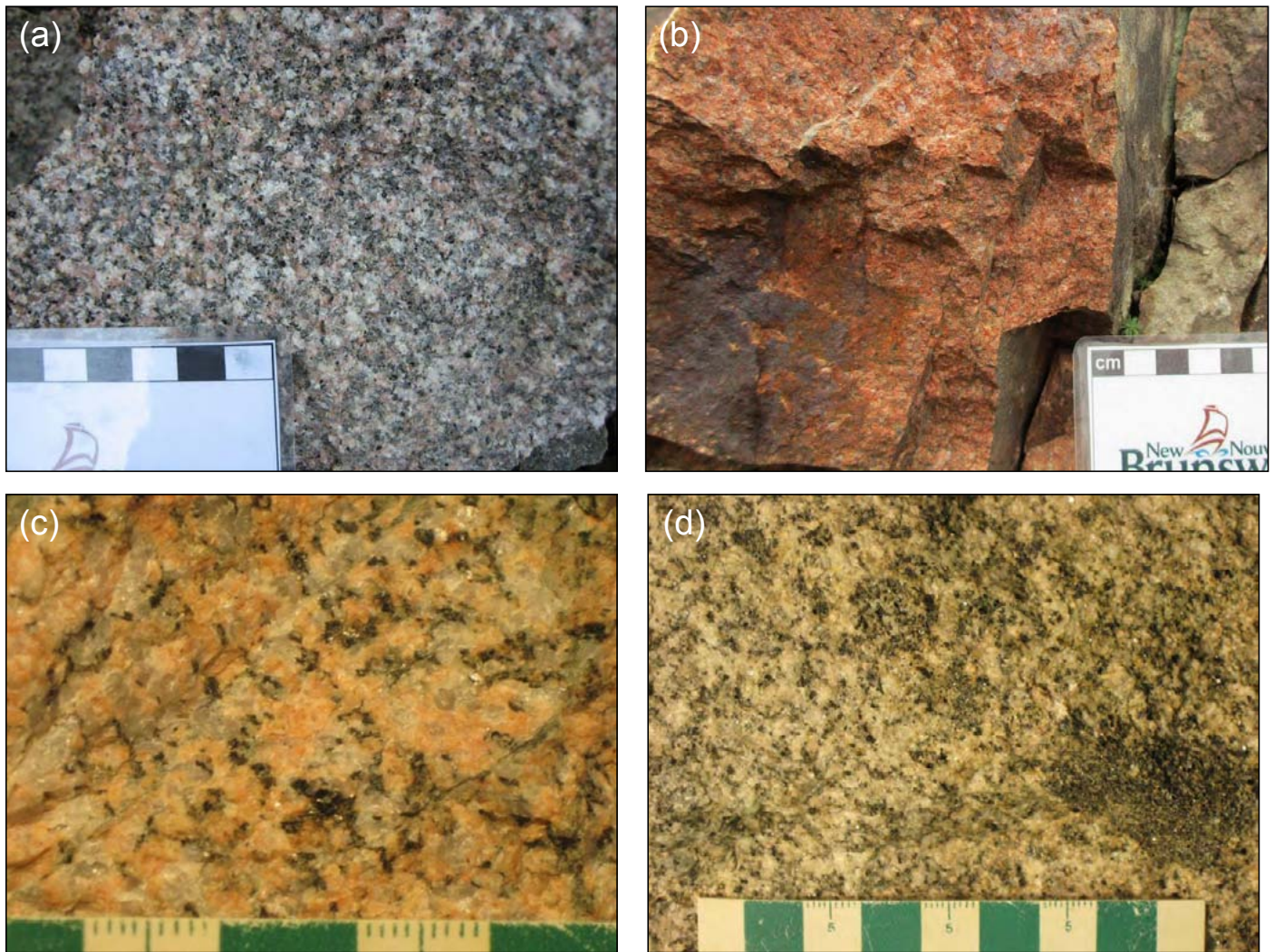
Granite on the north, the Miramichi and Tetagouche groups and Howard Peak Granodiorite on the southeast, and the Becaguimec Lake Gabbro on the southwest (Fig. 1). The Sisson W-Mo deposit is located near the eastern margin of the Nashwaak Granite just south of the study area (Fig. 1).

The *Bogan Brook Granodiorite* is a medium to dark grey, fine- to medium-grained, equigranular biotite or hornblende-biotite granodiorite displaying a weak fabric and containing numerous xenoliths and enclaves of paragneiss or migmatized paragneiss (Fig. 3d) from the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite. It intrudes the latter unit and the Little Clearwater Brook Granite on the southeast, and is intruded by the Juniper Barren Granite on the northwest (Fig. 1).

The *Little Clearwater Brook Granite* consists of pink, medium-grained, foliated, porphyritic granite



**Figure 2.** Photographs of plutonic rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. (a) Burnthill Granite; (b) Lost Lake Granite; (c) Lost Lake Granodiorite; (d) Beadle Mountain Granite. Photographs (b), (c), and (d) by S.H. McClenaghan.



**Figure 3.** Photographs of plutonic rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. (a) Juniper Barren Granite; (b) Redstone Mountain Granite; (c) Nashwaak Granite; (d) Bogan Brook Granodiorite (note partly assimilated xenolith of paragneiss in the lower right). Photographs (c) and (d) by S.H. McClenaghan.

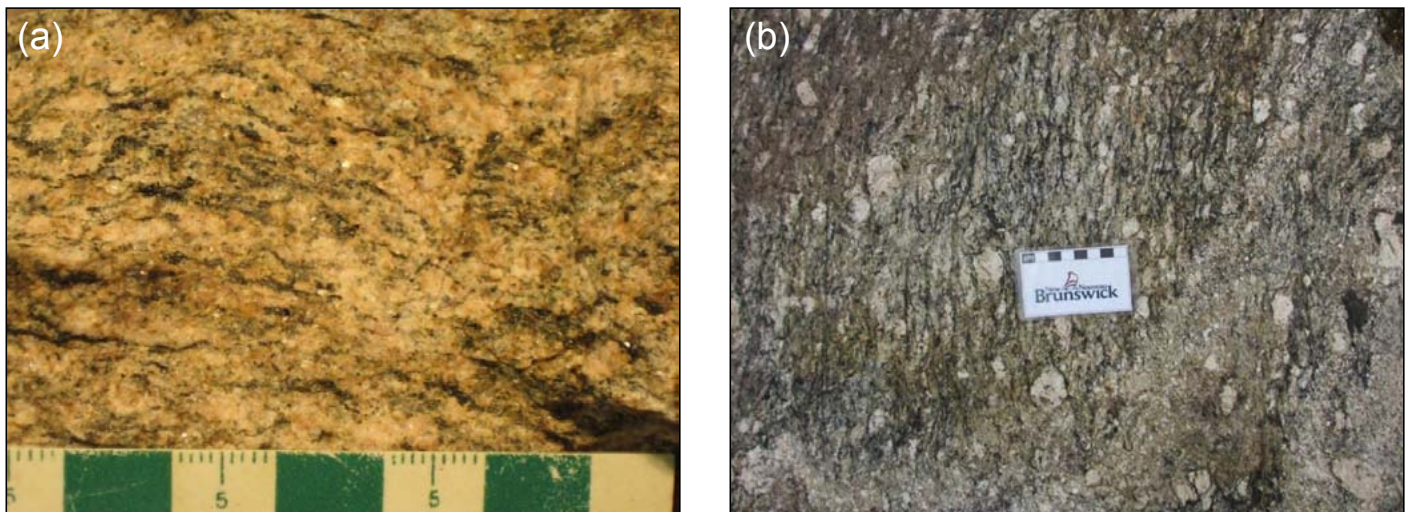
containing alkali feldspar augen and local enclaves of Cambrian–Ordovician paragneiss (Fig. 4a). It intrudes the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite and is intruded by the Bogan Brook Granodiorite (Fig. 1).

The *McKiel Lake Granite* comprises grey to pink, medium- to coarse-grained, strongly foliated, equigranular to megacrystic (feldspar-augen) biotite granite (Fig. 4b), minor fine- to medium-grained, equigranular, biotite-muscovite granite and granite metaporphry, and pods and veins/dykes of pegmatite. It intrudes the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite and Miramichi Group and is intruded by the Nashwaak, Burnthill, and Lost Lake plutons (Fig. 1).

## GEOCHRONOLOGY

Granite samples from eight plutons were analysed at the Jack Satterly Geochronology Laboratory, University of Toronto. Analytical methods are given in Appendix A; geochronological data are presented in Table 2 and plotted on concordia diagrams in Figures 5a–h. Geologically young zircon grains generally have less accumulated radiogenic Pb than older grains, so in three cases multi-grain analyses were performed rather than single zircon grain analyses to ensure sufficient signal to noise ratios; however, this increases the likelihood of analyzing older, pre-emplacment (inherited) zircon. Due to the greater abundance of  $^{238}\text{U}$  in geologically





**Figure 4.** Photographs of plutonic rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. (a) Little Clearwater Brook Granite; (b) McKiel Lake Granite. Photograph (a) is by S.H. McClenaghan.

young zircon, and the greater uncertainty in the accuracy of the  $^{235}\text{U}$  decay constant (Schoene *et al.* 2006; Mattinson 2010), the average  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age is considered the most reliable age interpretation in most of these samples. In this study, the best age estimates for the granites are based on the weighted average  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  dates, with the exception of the last three reported samples. In the latter cases (12-SHM-93, -94, -33), it is interpreted that Pb loss has resulted in discordance in some analyses, in which case both the oldest single  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  date and the weighted average  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age are given as minimum and maximum age estimates, respectively.

**11-SHM-BH1: Burnthill Granite.** Long, prismatic, euhedral crystals generally devoid of inclusions and cracks were analyzed. Two single grains and one fraction of two prismatic euhedral fragments (Z1–Z3) gave overlapping, concordant data with a weighted mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $380.6 \pm 0.3$  Ma (MSWD = 1.3; Fig. 5a), which is interpreted as the best estimate for the time of granite emplacement and crystallization.

**11-SHM-31: Lost Lake Granite.** Three of four single zircon grains (Z2–Z4) selected from an abundant population of clear, gem quality grains gave equivalent  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ages with a weighted mean of  $409.7 \pm 0.5$  Ma (MSWD = 0.9; Fig. 5b). This age is interpreted as the time of granite emplacement and crystallization. A fourth grain (Z1) is slightly older at  $413.8 \pm 0.9$  Ma and is interpreted as xenocrystic, or it may contain an inherited core component, and was therefore excluded from the mean.

**11-SHM-24: Beadle Mountain Granite.** Elongate to equant, euhedral zircon crystals were selected for chemical abrasion. Two single grains (Z2 and Z3) gave concordant and overlapping data that have a weighted mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $416.1 \pm 0.5$  Ma (MSWD = 1.3; Fig. 5c). Five small crystals (Z1) gave concordant data with an older  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of

$433.0 \pm 0.7$  Ma, which was likely a mixture of magmatic grains and one or more inherited grains, and is therefore not considered geologically meaningful. The  $416.1 \pm 0.5$  Ma age is considered the best age estimate for granite crystallization.

**11-SHM-26: Juniper Barren Granite.** Abundant, euhedral, elongate to equant zircon grains are largely unaltered, and a group of the clearest grains was selected for chemical abrasion. Three single zircon grains (Z1–Z3) gave concordant, overlapping data that have a weighted mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $415.8 \pm 0.3$  Ma (MSWD = 1.7; Fig. 5d). This is interpreted as the best estimate for the time of emplacement and crystallization of the granite, and is within error of the  $416.1 \pm 0.5$  Ma age for the Beadle Mountain Granite.

**J15-13-RMG: Redstone Mountain Granite.** Zircon crystals from this granite are typically fresh, euhedral stubby prisms. Three analyses (one single grain and two analyses of two grains each) gave concordant, overlapping data with a weighted mean  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $419.0 \pm 0.5$  Ma (MSWD = 1.6; Fig. 5e), and this age is interpreted to best estimate the time of granite crystallization. One grain (Z1), larger and older than the other dated grains, is interpreted as a xenocryst and has a  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age of  $423.3 \pm 0.6$  Ma.

**12-SHM-93: Nashwaak Granite.** Three elongate, euhedral zircon crystals selected for chemical abrasion gave overlapping data (Z1–Z3) that are 0.9% to 2.7% discordant and have consistent  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages. A line through all of the data indicates intercept ages of  $423 \pm 16$  Ma and  $134 \pm 640$  Ma (MSWD = 0.21) when unconstrained, but is imprecise due to the lack of spread in the data. If time-averaged Pb loss at 200 Ma is assumed, an upper intercept age of  $425.1 \pm 3.5$  Ma (MSWD = 0.15) is given. The youngest possible age interpretation is given by the oldest  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  age for Z1 at  $417.2 \pm 0.7$  Ma, but if any Pb loss

**Table 2.** U-Pb CA-ID-TIMS zircon data for granite samples from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick.

Sample/ Analysis no.	Weight (µg)	U (ppm)	Th/ U	PbC (pg)	Isotopic ratios					Apparent age (Ma)						
					<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>235</sup> U	2 σ	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>238</sup> U	2 σ	ρ	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>238</sup> U	2 σ	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>235</sup> U	2 σ	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	2 σ
<b>A 11-SHM-BH1, Burnthill Granite (Lat. 46-40-18.0N; Long. 66-50-12.0W)</b>																
Z1	3.1	247	0.50	0.6	5136	0.4545	0.0016	0.06084	0.00007	0.607	380.75	0.44	380.5	1.1	379	7
Z2*	3.8	250	0.53	0.6	6476	0.4540	0.0015	0.06081	0.00011	0.702	380.56	0.65	380.1	1.0	377	5
Z3	5.5	141	0.46	0.7	4268	0.4542	0.0017	0.06075	0.00010	0.614	380.16	0.59	380.2	1.2	381	7
<b>B 11-SHM-031, Lost Lake Granite (Lat. 46-40-08.2N; Long. 66-59-40.0W)</b>																
Z1	2.8	172	0.49	0.5	3906	0.5004	0.0021	0.06630	0.00015	0.661	413.80	0.90	412.0	1.4	402	7
Z2	1.5	176	0.43	2.9	399	0.4896	0.0209	0.06572	0.00040	0.532	410.32	2.42	404.6	14.2	372	89
Z3	3.0	129	0.35	1.8	901	0.4883	0.0071	0.06568	0.00012	0.604	410.06	0.74	403.7	4.8	368	30
Z4	1.6	123	0.39	1.0	807	0.4812	0.0073	0.06558	0.00011	0.667	409.44	0.65	398.9	5.0	338	32
<b>C 11-SHM-024, Beadle Mountain Granite (Lat. 46-38-34.2N; Long. 67-07-10.9W)</b>																
Z1**	2.6	319	0.32	0.2	15996	0.5325	0.0014	0.06948	0.00012	0.805	433.00	0.74	433.5	0.9	436	4
Z2	3.1	218	0.48	0.5	6302	0.5077	0.0018	0.06673	0.00013	0.686	416.45	0.76	416.9	1.2	419	6
Z3	2.6	187	0.42	0.3	7748	0.5068	0.0015	0.06663	0.00012	0.763	415.84	0.72	416.3	1.0	419	4
<b>D 11-SHM-026, Juniper Barren Granite (Lat. 46-37-56.4N; Long. 67-12-53.1W)</b>																
Z1	2.2	228	0.41	0.5	4535	0.5059	0.0017	0.06668	0.00008	0.629	416.11	0.51	415.7	1.2	413	6
Z2	1.5	201	0.44	0.2	5856	0.5079	0.0027	0.06664	0.00008	0.469	415.90	0.50	417.0	1.8	423	11
Z3	2.1	144	0.46	0.4	3537	0.5061	0.0020	0.06657	0.00008	0.603	415.48	0.49	415.8	1.4	418	8
<b>E J15-13-RMG, Redstone Mountain Granite (Lat. 46-52-31.2N, Long. 66-56-46.6W)</b>																
Z1	13.0	75	0.51	1.6	2536	0.5165	0.0026	0.06787	0.00010	0.564	423.31	0.63	422.8	1.7	420	10
Z2	4.0	230	0.59	0.8	4810	0.5120	0.0017	0.06723	0.00012	0.674	419.46	0.70	419.8	1.1	422	6
Z3*	5.0	131	0.50	0.6	4988	0.5121	0.0023	0.06712	0.00023	0.814	418.79	1.36	419.8	1.6	426	6
Z4*	1.0	503	0.68	0.4	5883	0.5113	0.0020	0.06707	0.00015	0.675	418.46	0.88	419.3	1.3	424	6
<b>F 12-SHM-93, Nashwaak Granite (Lat. 46-26-41.0N, Long. 67-06-04.3W)</b>																
Z1	3.7	171	0.34	0.5	5432	0.5090	0.0017	0.06685	0.00012	0.707	417.16	0.73	417.8	1.1	421	5
Z2	2.8	215	0.39	0.2	11189	0.5079	0.0035	0.06671	0.00044	0.981	416.30	2.68	417.0	2.4	421	3
Z3	0.8	681	0.36	0.2	15285	0.5049	0.0010	0.06635	0.00007	0.828	414.10	0.39	415.0	0.7	420	3
<b>G 12-SHM-94, Bogan Brook Granodiorite (Lat. 46-30-59.9N, Long. 67-09-49.9W)</b>																
Z1	3.0	205	0.28	0.3	8151	0.5530	0.0044	0.07132	0.00048	0.854	444.11	2.89	447.0	2.9	462	9
Z2	2.8	174	0.44	0.3	7786	0.5092	0.0024	0.06679	0.00011	0.539	416.80	0.68	417.9	1.6	424	9
Z3	5.4	177	0.53	0.4	9333	0.5060	0.0056	0.06637	0.00072	0.986	414.25	4.36	415.8	3.8	424	4
Z4	3.2	247	0.65	0.4	9199	0.5052	0.0019	0.06635	0.00019	0.747	414.12	1.12	415.2	1.3	421	6
<b>H 12-SHM-33, McKiel Lake Granite (Lat. 46-34-55.9N, Long. 66-58-54.3W)</b>																
Z1	1.4	170	0.39	0.3	3715	0.6197	0.0036	0.07542	0.00013	0.545	468.71	0.81	489.7	2.2	589	11
Z2	1.3	158	0.49	0.6	1776	0.5764	0.0049	0.07414	0.00014	0.528	461.05	0.82	462.1	3.1	468	17
Z3	1.2	260	0.42	1.0	1429	0.5692	0.0047	0.07296	0.00014	0.523	453.98	0.84	457.5	3.1	475	17
Z4	1.3	318	na	0.7	2599	0.5659	0.0028	0.07293	0.00007	0.620	453.77	0.42	455.4	1.8	463	10

**Notes:** Chemically abraded single zircon crystals were analyzed (Mattinson 2005) except for 2 analyses that had 2 grains each (\*) and one analysis with 5 grains (\*\*).

A mixed <sup>205</sup>Pb-<sup>233-235</sup>U spike (ET535) was used in all but 11-SHM-24 which used the ROM <sup>205</sup>Pb-<sup>235</sup>U spike.

Th/U calculated from radiogenic <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>206</sup>Pb ratio and <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>206</sup>Pb age assuming concordance.

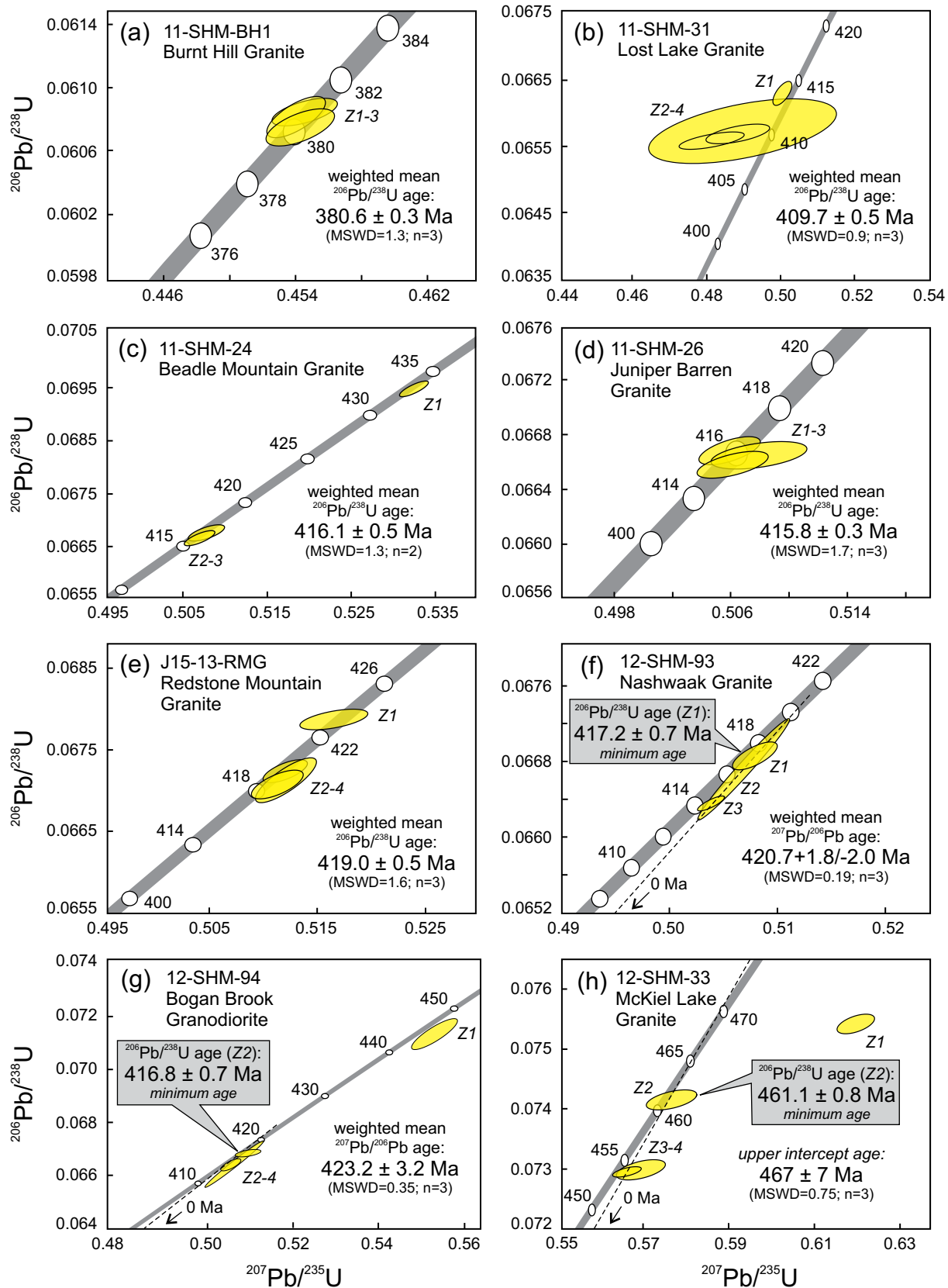
PbC is total common Pb assuming isotopic composition of laboratory blank.

<sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb measured and corrected for fractionation and common Pb in the spike.

Pb/U ratios corrected for fractionation, common Pb in the spike, and blank; no correction for initial common Pb from geological sources was made.

Correction for <sup>230</sup>Th disequilibrium in <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>238</sup>U and <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>206</sup>Pb assuming Th/U of 4.2 in the magma.

ρ = correlation coefficients of X-Y errors on the concordia plot.



**Figure 5.** U-Pb concordia diagrams showing data for single, chemically abraded zircon grains from granites of the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick. See Figure 1 for locations.

has occurred this age would be too young. A line calculation anchored at 0 Ma (which is the same as taking the mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age) gives an upper intercept age of  $420.7 \pm 1.8/-2.0$  Ma (MSWD = 0.19; Fig. 5f), which takes into account all of the data and incorporates the possibility of recent minor Pb loss, and is interpreted to represent a minimum age that approximates the time of granite emplacement.

**12-SHM-94: Bogan Brook Granodiorite.** Three single stubby to elongate euhedral prismatic zircon crystals (Z2–Z4) give overlapping discordant data (1.7–2.7%) that have an upper intercept age of  $423.2 \pm 3.2$  Ma when constrained through 0 Ma (i.e., the mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age) (Fig. 5g). The slight discordance of the data leaves the age interpretation open to the possibility of early Pb loss. A line anchored at 200 Ma, for example, increases the upper intercept age to  $430 \pm 6$  Ma (MSWD = 0.29), which is within error of the mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age. The  $423.2 \pm 3.2$  Ma age is interpreted as a close estimate for the time of granite emplacement, but should be considered a minimum age estimate. A fourth grain (Z1) is older and discordant ( $462 \pm 9$  Ma, 3.9% discordant) and apparently inherited from an older crustal source.

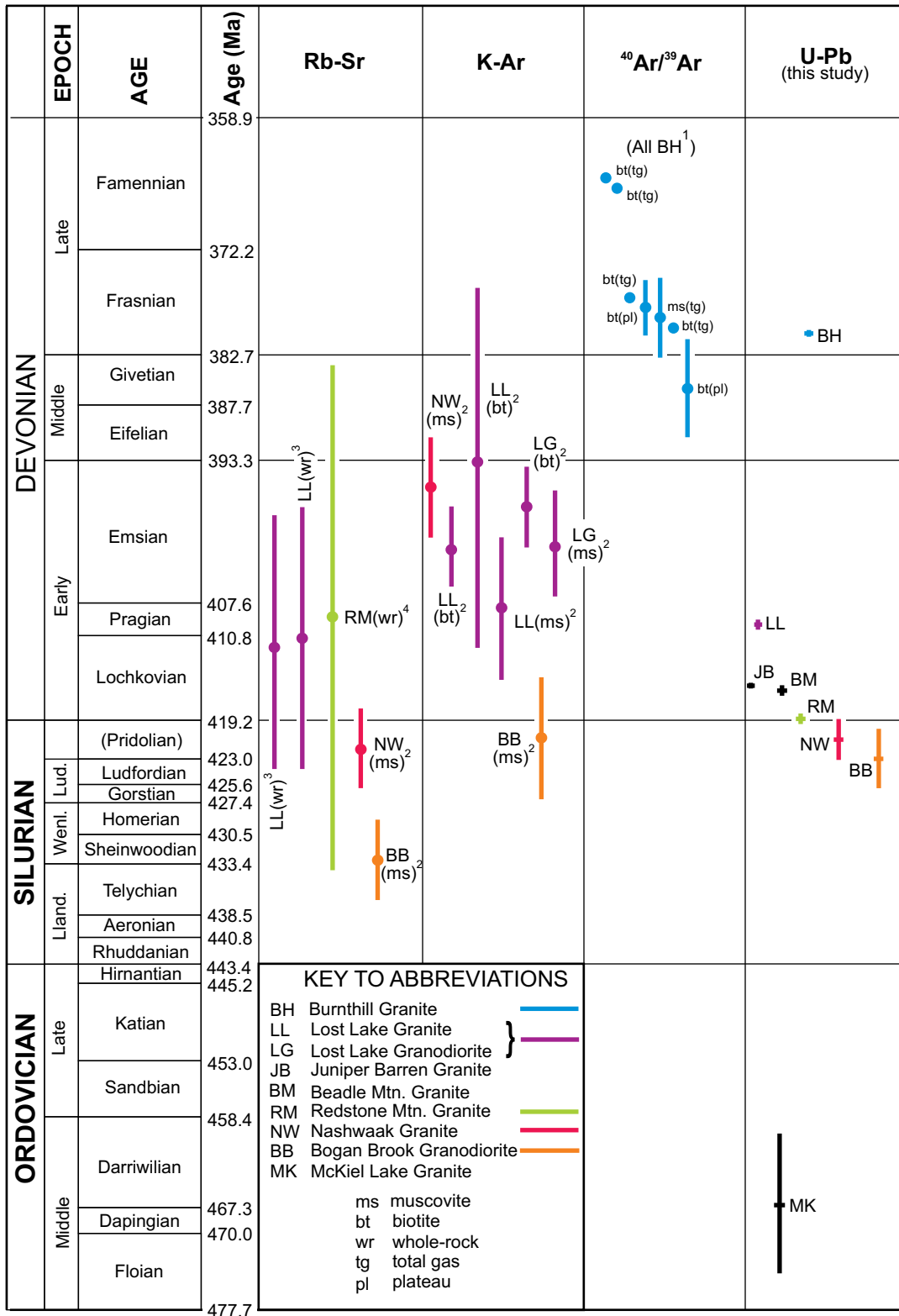
**12-SHM-33: McKiel Lake Granite.** U-Pb data for three single, euhedral, stubby to elongate, prismatic zircon crystals, can be interpreted to indicate a maximum age of  $467 \pm 7$  Ma (Fig. 5h), based on a Pb loss line anchored at 0 Ma and using concordant datum Z2, which has a  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $468 \pm 17$  Ma (1.4% discordant), and two younger, overlapping and discordant data (Z3–Z4) that plot just to the right of the curve. The  $467 \pm 7$  Ma age is considered the best approximation for the time of granite crystallization, implying emplacement in the Middle Ordovician, although an Early Ordovician age cannot be ruled out.

### Discussion of geochronological data

U-Pb (zircon) age determinations confirm that granites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt were emplaced at three widely spaced time intervals, namely Early to Middle Ordovician ( $467 \pm 7$  Ma) for foliated granite, late Silurian to Early Devonian (423 to 409 Ma) for most of the unfoliated granites, and Late Devonian (380 Ma) for the post-orogenic Burnthill Granite. The McKiel Lake Granite is similar in age to other Ordovician granites in the Miramichi inlier/Central plutonic belt (McNicoll *et al.* 2003). Aside from the Bogan Brook Granodiorite, the Nashwaak Granite is the oldest Silurian–Devonian pluton yet dated in the belt; however, if no Pb loss has occurred, the age may be similar to that of the Juniper Barren Granite a few km to the northwest (Fig. 1). Furthermore, the granite has been shown to consist of more than one phase (Lutes 1981), so it is possible that undated parts of the granites may be younger. The ages of the Juniper Barren and Beadle Mountain granites overlap within error, and are very close to the ages of large batholiths north of the study area, namely the North Pole

Stream Granite ( $417 \pm 1$  Ma) and Mount Elizabeth Granite ( $417 \pm 2$  Ma) (Bevier and Whalen 1990). In view of their close proximity and several geochemical indicators (see below), it seems clear that the Beadle Mountain Granite is a more evolved phase of the Juniper Barren Granite. St. Peter (1981) reported veins of muscovite granite cutting the Juniper Barren Granite; hence, despite the interpreted crystallization age suggesting that it is slightly older, the Beadle Mountain Granite is probably slightly younger. The Redstone Mountain Granite is intermediate in age between the Nashwaak and Juniper Barren/Beadle Mountain intrusions, but is geochemically distinct and interpreted to be tectonomagmatically unrelated to the other Silurian–Devonian granites, as discussed below. The Lost Lake Granite is the youngest of the Early Devonian plutonic family, and a hiatus of almost 30 myr separates it from the highly evolved and metal-specialized Burnthill Granite.

Newly acquired U-Pb (zircon) data have been compiled in chart form along with previously published Rb-Sr, K-Ar or  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  mineral or whole-rock ages to facilitate easy comparisons (Fig. 6). It is immediately clear from the chart that several of the U-Pb (zircon) crystallization ages are very close to the mineral ages. For example, five  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  (biotite and muscovite) plateau and total gas ages reported for the Burnthill Granite range from 377 to 386 Ma (Taylor *et al.* 1987), including three ages (380 Ma–biotite total gas,  $378 \pm 3$  Ma–biotite plateau; and  $379 \pm 4$  Ma–muscovite total gas) that closely match the U-Pb emplacement age of  $380.6 \pm 0.3$  Ma, as well as the inferred crystallization age of 381 Ma proposed by MacLellan *et al.* (1990). Similarly, Rb-Sr whole-rock isochron ages of  $412 \pm 12$  Ma and  $411 \pm 13$  Ma (Poole 1980), and K-Ar (muscovite) and K-Ar (biotite) ages of  $408 \pm 7$  Ma and  $402 \pm 4$  Ma, respectively (Whalen and Theriault 1990) compare well with the  $409.7 \pm 0.5$  Ma crystallization age of the Lost Lake Granite. Slightly younger K-Ar muscovite and biotite ages of  $402 \pm 5$  Ma and  $398 \pm 4$  Ma, respectively, were reported for the Lost Lake Granodiorite. The  $420.7 \pm 1.8/-2.0$  Ma TIMS age of the Nashwaak Granite overlaps the Rb-Sr (muscovite) age of  $422 \pm 4$  Ma reported by Whalen and Theriault (1990), although their K-Ar (muscovite) age of  $396 \pm 5$  Ma from the same location is difficult to explain. The Bogan Brook Granodiorite has yielded a K-Ar (muscovite) age of  $421 \pm 6$  Ma (Bevier and Whalen 1990), overlapping the TIMS age of  $423.2 \pm 3.2$  Ma. The reported Rb-Sr (muscovite) age of  $433 \pm 4$  Ma (Bevier and Whalen 1990) was interpreted as being closer to the age of emplacement, and the younger K-Ar (muscovite) age to reflect a long cooling history, but the older age clearly requires a different explanation, probably involving lack of closure of the system with respect to Rb and Sr. (It should be noted that Whalen and Theriault (1990) and Bevier and Whalen (1990) incorrectly identify the sampled pluton as Juniper Barren Granite, which is adjacent to the Bogan Brook Granodiorite). Finally, Poole (1980) reported



**Figure 6.** Compilation of radioisotopic data for granitoid rocks from the study area, comparing U-Pb (zircon) crystallization ages with previously acquired Rb-Sr, K-Ar and <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar mineral ages. See text for discussion. Numerical superscripts refer to sources of data: 1 - Taylor *et al.* (1987); 2 - Whalen and Theriault (1990); 3 - Poole (1980); 4- Fyffe and Cormier (1979).

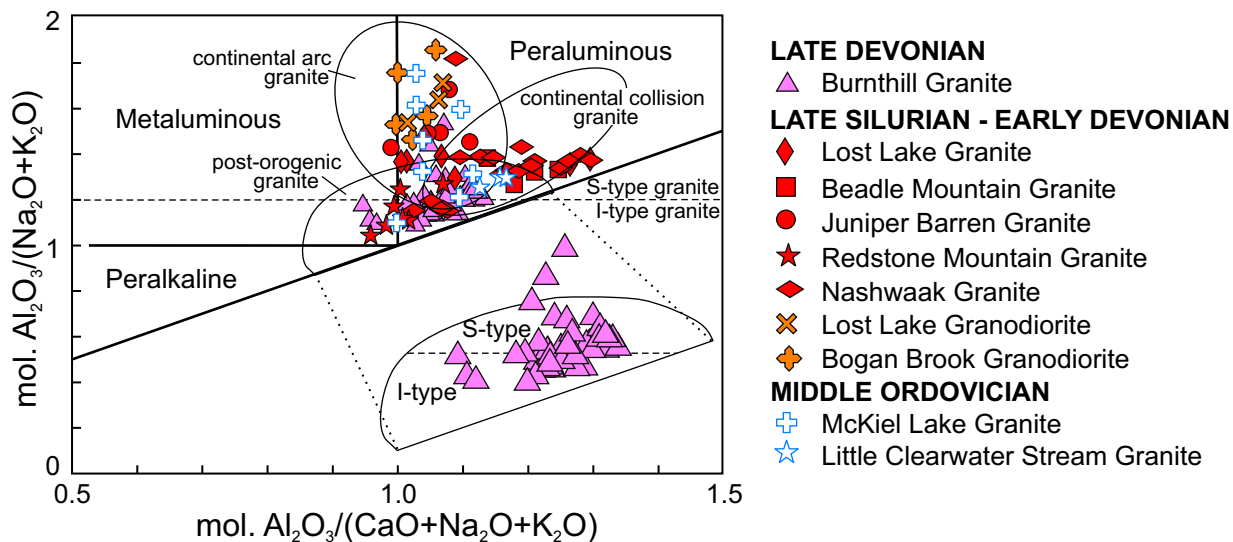
a Rb-Sr whole-rock isochron of  $498 \pm 19$  Ma for five of eight whole rock samples, and an errorchron of  $484 \pm 33$  Ma for eight samples of his “Sugar granite”. Again, mineral ages exceeding the  $467 \pm 7$  Ma crystallization age of the granite may be explained by mobility of Rb and/or Sr in a non-closed system, although evidence presented below argues for minimal post-emplacement alteration in all granites. In contrast, mineral ages that closely match emplacement ages can be attributed to the absence of post-cooling thermal perturbation. The range of  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  ages for the Burnthill Granite (Taylor *et al.* 1987) suggests that different parts or phases of the pluton cooled at different rates.

## LITHOGEOCHEMISTRY

A total of 68 samples from ten plutons were analyzed in this study. Analytical methods are summarized in Appendix A, and the complete dataset is presented in Appendix B. Average compositions for individual plutons are given in Table 3; these averages were determined by supplementing newly acquired analyses (i.e., the data in Appendix B) with data compiled from Whalen (1993; 23 samples from 8 plutons) and MacLellan *et al.* (1990; 33 samples from the Burnthill pluton) (see Appendix A for comments on their analytical methods). Similarly, the geochemical variation and discrimination diagrams (Figs. 7–22) incorporate data from those two sources. Newly acquired analyses of granites from the study area reveal geochemical characteristics very

similar to those reported by Whalen (1993); furthermore, in most cases, felsic plutonic rocks of all ages display overall geochemical similarity. Post-emplacement alteration and alkali mobility has been relatively minor based on the  $(\text{K}_2\text{O} + \text{Na}_2\text{O})$  vs.  $\text{K}_2\text{O}/(\text{K}_2\text{O} + \text{Na}_2\text{O})$  diagram of Hughes (1973) (not shown), as almost 90% of samples plot within the “igneous spectrum” and most of the others are only marginally altered using this criterion. Nevertheless, these slightly altered samples were not included in the geochemical plots discussed herein. Average Mg#s ( $= 100 \times \text{mol. MgO}/(\text{mol. MgO} + \text{FeO}^{\text{t}})$ ) for Silurian–Devonian granite plutons range from 18.1 to 34.3 (Table 3); the most evolved granites according to this measure are the Redstone Mountain (Mg# = 18.1), Beadle Mountain (23.0) and Burnthill (24.8) plutons.

Most samples from all plutons are peraluminous according to the aluminum saturation index (ASI) of Shand (1943) (modified by Frost *et al.* 2001; Fig. 7), although there is some overlap into the metaluminous field. Most plutons are classified as S-type using  $\text{ASI} = 1.1$  as the boundary between I- and S-type granites (Chappell and White 1992; Fig. 7). However, the Burnthill Granite shows significant overlap onto the I-type field (Fig. 7) and was interpreted as such (as were Ganderian granites as a whole) by Whalen (1993). Samples from most plutons fall in the fields of both ferroan and magnesian granites on the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{t}} (= \text{FeO}^{\text{t}}/(\text{FeO}^{\text{t}} + \text{MgO}))$  vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  diagram of Frost *et al.* (2001; Fig. 8). Exceptions are the Redstone Mountain Granite, which plots entirely within the ferroan field (Fig. 8b), and the closely related Juniper Barren and Beadle Mountain plutons (Fig. 8c)—the



**Figure 7.** Al/(Na + K) vs. Al/(Ca + Na + K) aluminum saturation index (ASI) diagram of Shand (1943) for granites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, defining the range of peraluminous, metaluminous and peralkaline plutonic rocks. Fields for continental arc, continental collision, and post-orogenic granites are from Maniar and Piccoli (1989). The horizontal dashed line at  $\text{ASI} = 1.1$  corresponds to the boundary between I-type (below) and S-type (above) granites (Chappell and White 1992). The post-orogenic field has been expanded slightly to show the distribution of only Burnthill Granite samples.

**Table 3.** Average major and trace element compositions of granitoid rock units from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick. Mg# = 100 x mol. MgO/(mol. MgO+FeO<sup>b</sup>). n = number of samples.

Unit	Burnthill	Beadle Mountain	Juniper Barren	Lost Lake Granite	Nashwaak	Redstone Mountain	Lost Lake Granodiorite	Bogan Brook	Little Clear-water	McKiel Lake
n	47	6	6	9	20	11	4	6	4	11
SiO <sub>2</sub>	76.02	74.48	69.41	72.56	74.06	74.43	66.65	67.40	75.93	71.77
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.16	0.24	0.61	0.28	0.21	0.23	0.62	0.73	0.28	0.44
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	12.76	13.55	14.60	14.40	13.76	12.74	16.03	15.00	12.65	13.68
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>t</sup>	1.42	1.92	3.73	2.00	1.71	2.19	4.01	4.56	1.79	2.99
MnO	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.03	0.05
MgO	0.25	0.35	0.99	0.48	0.35	0.27	1.35	1.39	0.45	0.65
CaO	0.71	0.69	1.98	1.32	0.85	0.85	3.63	2.73	0.50	1.74
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.50	3.09	3.18	3.53	3.39	4.00	3.77	3.25	2.55	3.32
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.57	4.75	4.19	4.21	4.39	3.81	2.62	3.33	4.14	3.90
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.04	0.16	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.04	0.18	0.16	0.09	0.14
Mg#	<b>24.8</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>28.2</b>
As	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.3	1.2	13.3	2.8	0.6	11.9	0.3
Au	1.4	1.0	1.5	2.4	1.0	1.4	0.4	1.8	1.0	2.5
Ba	134	232	473	359	267	567	320	483	284	439
Be	8	3	4	5	5	4	5	4	3	3
Bi	5.4	2.4	0.6	1.3	0.9	3.5	0.2	1.8	0.4	0.2
Co	1.7	2.3	7.0	3.2	2.1	2.3	8.7	10.2	2.5	4.9
Cr	18	18	30	14	13	12	11	29	18	21
Cs	8.0	7.2	6.6	6.4	8.1	2.2	5.5	8.3	6.3	4.7
Cu	9	7	9	6	5	13	9	17	5	7
F*	812			534	561	555	490	678		681
Ga	20	18	20	20	18	19	20	19	16	18
Hf	4.2	3.3	5.5	3.5	2.9	7.2	5.5	5.8	4.3	5.8
Mo	1.4	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.7
Nb	25.5	13.1	13.0	14.2	12.0	20.7	12.5	13.6	12.7	13.1
Ni	3	4	8	4	4	4	6	10	4	6
Pb	30	26	23	21	23	9	14	18	16	20
Rb	391	250	183	225	212	158	124	144	174	156
Sb	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	2.9	0.2
Sc	5.2	5.0	8.9	5.1	5.1	5.8	9.3	13.3	5.3	7.9
Sn	12.4	8.3	5.4	9.6	10.7	5.6	4.5	2.9	3.9	4.8
Sr	55	52	149	89	59	100	249	181	46	117
Ta	6.60	2.20	1.55	2.31	2.16	1.81	1.51	1.27	1.48	1.21
Th	36.20	15.25	16.93	13.33	14.71	25.43	10.47	14.21	18.53	15.55
U	16.31	5.30	4.35	4.29	4.17	7.35	5.12	4.57	4.11	3.14
V	11	19	59	22	17	11	61	78	22	35
W	9.0	2.3	1.1	3.7	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.5
Y	60.3	34.2	34.7	19.1	25.3	53.4	17.7	28.9	37.2	32.7
Zn	37	40	57	46	34	17	59	53	20	44
Zr	131	116	213	117	94	233	204	205	151	205
La	25.77	20.70	34.54	27.75	20.42	56.52	35.29	39.08	30.53	35.80
Ce	66.71	42.48	71.27	52.09	44.51	110.70	66.77	72.37	63.13	71.47
Pr	8.20	5.19	8.39	4.02	4.48	12.24	7.83	6.54	7.21	6.25

Table 3. Continued.

Unit	Burnthill	Beadle Mountain	Juniper Barren	Lost Lake Granite	Nashwaak	Redstone Mountain	Lost Lake Granodiorite	Bogan Brook	Little Clear-water	McKiel Lake
n	47	6	6	9	20	11	4	6	4	11
Nd	27.99	19.69	31.92	21.36	17.89	46.06	27.70	30.18	26.55	29.19
Sm	6.98	4.62	6.66	4.24	3.96	9.60	5.00	5.74	5.39	5.75
Eu	0.34	0.56	1.18	0.73	0.51	1.18	1.17	1.35	0.63	1.11
Gd	6.54	4.80	6.13	3.49	3.83	8.76	4.58	4.24	5.31	5.01
Tb	1.48	0.87	0.99	0.63	0.70	1.57	0.60	0.90	0.91	0.93
Dy	9.11	5.38	5.79	2.94	3.97	9.43	3.68	3.71	5.70	5.13
Ho	1.60	1.03	1.13	0.51	0.77	1.92	0.70	0.70	1.16	1.00
Er	4.98	3.11	3.19	1.45	2.27	5.59	1.86	2.05	3.39	2.98
Tm	0.86	0.52	0.49	0.22	0.36	0.88	0.27	0.31	0.53	0.48
Yb	6.61	3.52	3.13	1.63	2.40	5.83	1.51	2.74	3.57	3.10
Lu	1.01	0.50	0.45	0.24	0.35	0.90	0.23	0.41	0.53	0.44

\* Reported by MacLellan *et al.* (1990) and Whalen (1993); average is based on fewer analyses than for other elements. Whalen (1993) also reports Li analyses. Major oxides are in wt%, and trace elements in ppm, except for Au (ppb).

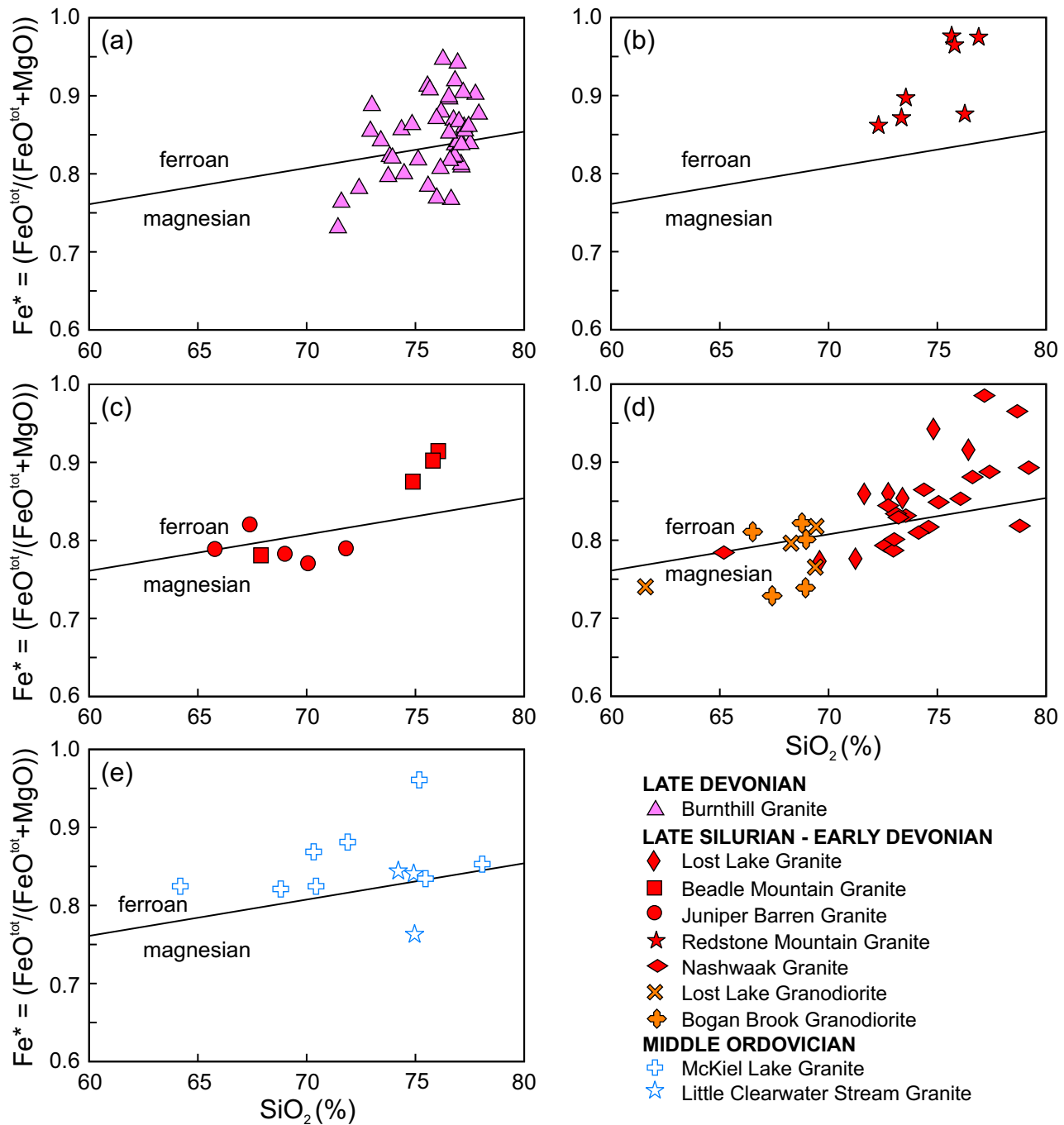
dominantly muscovite-bearing Beadle Mountain Granite falls mainly in the ferroan field, whereas the dominantly biotite-bearing Juniper Barren Granite falls mainly in the magnesian field. The modified alkali-lime index (MALI =  $(\text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O} - \text{CaO})$ ) of Frost *et al.* (2001) demonstrates that most samples from all plutons are calc-alkalic, with minor overlap onto the adjacent alkali-calcic and calcic fields (Fig. 9). The normative mineralogy-based Q-ANOR diagram of Streckeisen and LeMaitre (1979) shows that intrusive rock types in the granitic plutons include monzogranite, syenogranite, alkali-feldspar granite, and rare granodiorite (Fig. 10). On this diagram, empirically-derived compositional trends (Whalen and Frost 2013; Hildebrand and Whalen 2014) again illustrate a dominant calc-alkalic character.

Trace-element variation diagrams highlight some of the similarities and differences among the various plutonic rock units. On a Sr vs. Rb plot (considered to represent primary abundances of these elements because of the aforementioned low degree of alkali-element mobility), the Burnthill Granite is notably enriched in Rb, whereas the Redstone Mountain Granite has generally lower concentrations compared to all other plutons, which cluster in the central part of the diagram (Fig. 11a). On a U vs. Th diagram, the Burnthill Granite forms a distinct population characterized by much higher abundances of both elements (Fig. 11b). The Redstone Mountain Granite, and the combined Juniper Barren and Beadle Mountain plutons, each form well-defined clusters, whereas the Nashwaak and Lost Lake plutons show a wide range of Th values. On an Y vs.  $\text{TiO}_2$  diagram, samples of Burnthill Granite define a dense cluster having a negative slope (Fig. 12a), resembling the distribution of Redstone Mountain samples (Fig. 12b). In contrast, other Silurian–

Devonian granites (Fig. 12b), as well as the Ordovician granites (Fig. 12c), plot on a trend having a flat to slightly positive slope, reflecting a wide range of  $\text{TiO}_2$  over a comparatively restricted range of Y abundance. A  $\text{TiO}_2$  vs. Zr plot shows that most of the data from all plutons define a concave-upward curve having a moderate to steep positive slope (Figs. 13a–c), whereas the Redstone Mountain samples form a separate trend characterized by a slightly positive to flat slope (Fig. 13b). Rare-earth element (REE) profiles also illustrate the distinctiveness of the Burnthill and Redstone Mountain granites; the former (Fig. 14a) has a significantly flatter slope ( $\text{La}/\text{Yb} = 3.9$ ) and more prominent negative Eu anomaly ( $\text{Sm}/\text{Eu} = 20.5$ ) compared to all other plutons (Figs. 14b–d), in which  $\text{La}/\text{Yb}$  ranges from 5.9 to 23.4 and  $\text{Sm}/\text{Eu}$  from 4.3 to 8.6. The Redstone Mountain profile (Fig. 14b) has the same slope as other Silurian–Devonian granites, but it contains much higher absolute REE abundances (average  $\Sigma\text{REE} = 271$  ppm) compared to the other units (average  $\Sigma\text{REE} = 106$  to 175 ppm; Table 3). Aside from the Redstone Mountain pluton, profiles for Silurian–Devonian granites (Fig. 14b) and Ordovician granites (Fig. 14d) are essentially identical (see also Whalen 1993). The Lost Lake Granite and Lost Lake Granodiorite display the steepest slopes ( $\text{La}/\text{Yb} = 17.0$  and 23.4, respectively) because of their slight depletion in heavy REE. The granodiorites (Fig. 14c) lack a significant Eu anomaly and have the lowest  $\text{Sm}/\text{Eu}$  (4.3).

In the genetic/petrologic classification of Appalachian granites devised by Whalen (1993) and Currie (1995), all plutons in the study area, except for the Burnthill and Redstone Mountain granites, are grouped together as either deformed (“type 5a”: Ordovician) or massive (“type 7a”: Silurian–Devonian), chemically and isotopically

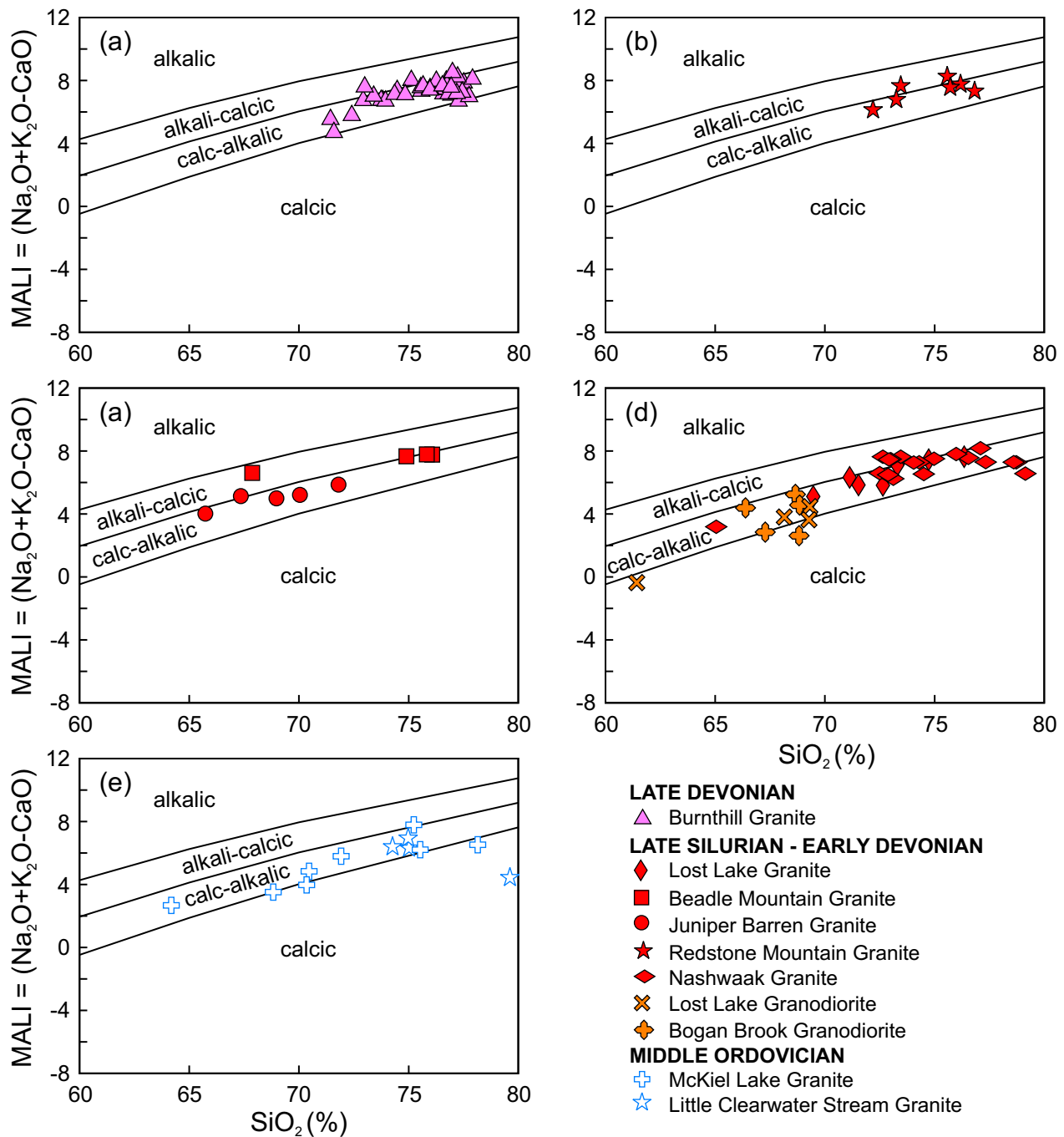




**Figure 8.**  $FeO^*/(FeO^* + MgO)$  vs.  $SiO_2$  diagram for plutonic rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, separating rocks into ferroan and magnesian suites based on the relative degree of iron enrichment during differentiation (Frost *et al.* 2001). The field boundary closely coincides with the tholeiitic–calc-alkaline boundary of Miyashiro (1974) for this  $SiO_2$  interval. (a) Burnthill Granite; (b) Redstone Mountain Granite; (c) Juniper Barren and Beadle Mountain granites; (d) Nashwaak and Lost Lake granites, and Bogan Brook and Lost Lake granodiorites; (e) McKiel Lake and Little Clearwater Brook (Ordovician) granites.

indistinguishable peraluminous granites. The Redstone Mountain Granite was considered a “type 8”, composite pluton that forms a bimodal association with spatially and

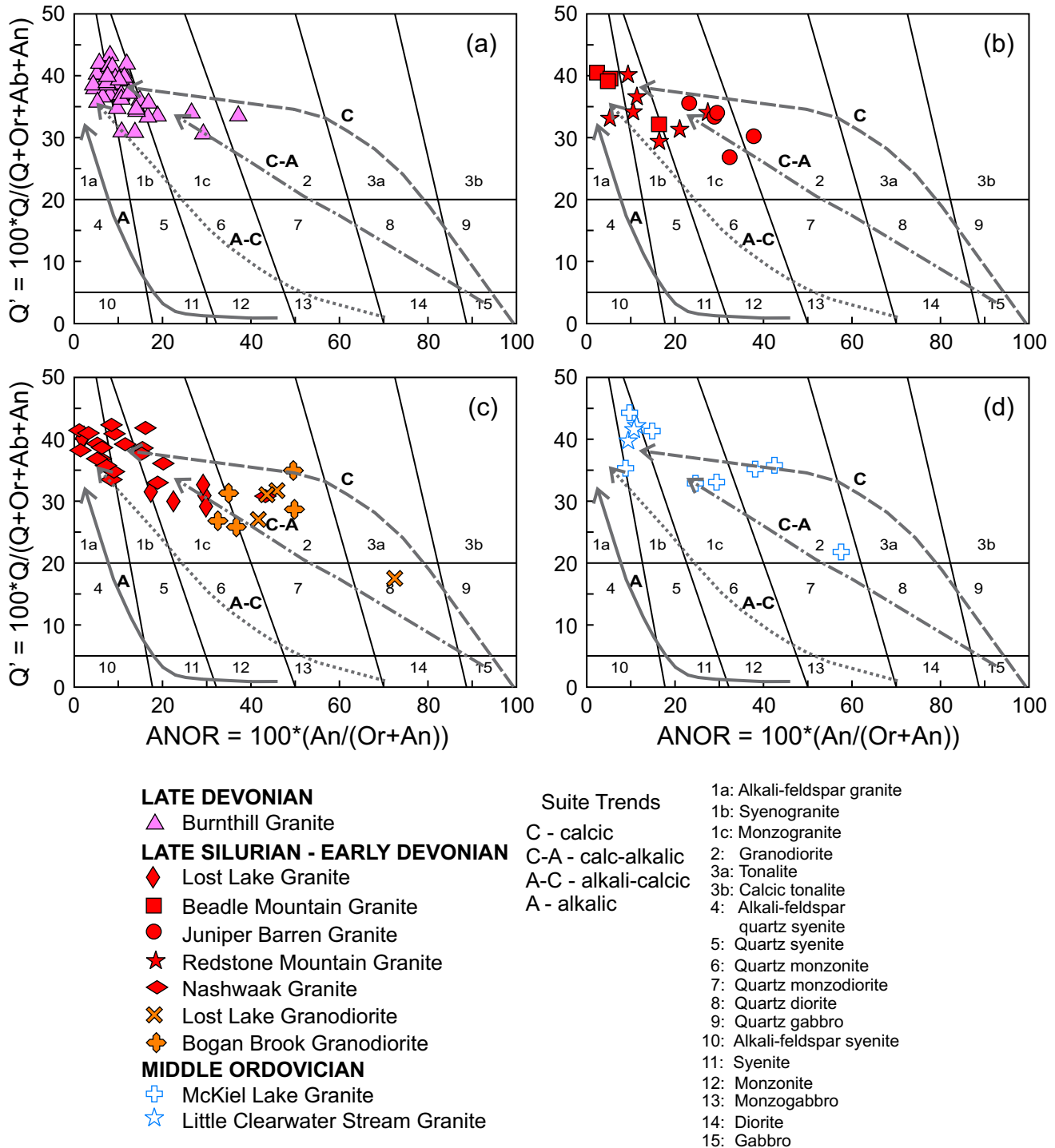
(presumably) genetically related mafic intrusive rocks, in this case the Clearwater Brook Gabbro (Fig. 1) and scattered mafic plugs and dykes. This bimodal association is consistent



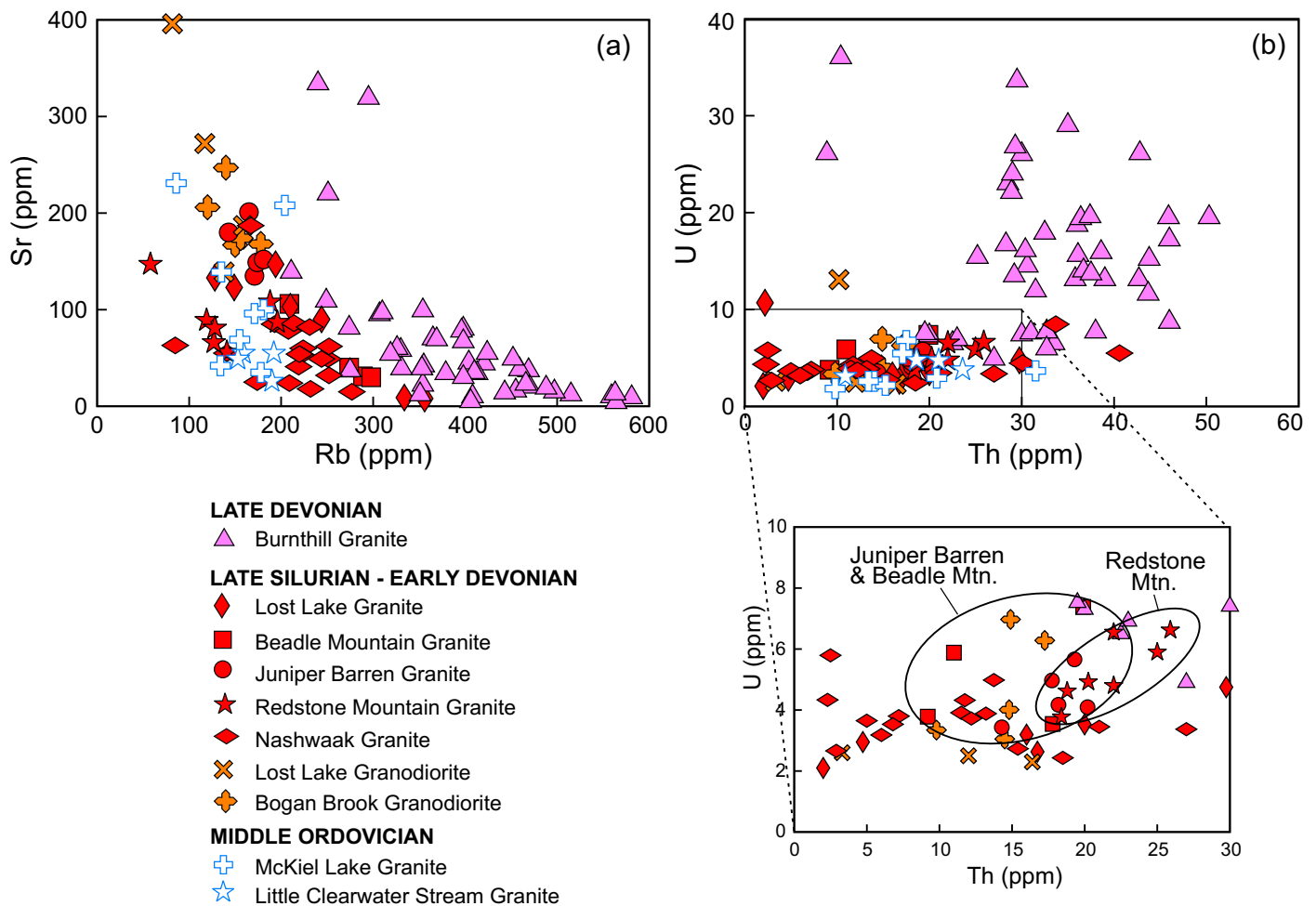
**Figure 9.** Modified alkali-like index ( $\text{MALI} = \text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O} - \text{CaO}$ ) vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  for plutonic rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, with fields defined by Frost *et al.* (2001). (a) Burnthill Granite; (b) Redstone Mountain Granite; (c) Juniper Barren and Beadle Mountain granites; (d) Nashwaak and Lost Lake granites, and Bogan Brook and Lost Lake granodiorites; (e) McKiel Lake and Little Clearwater Brook (Ordovician) granites.

with the close spatial and genetic association with (and geochemical similarity to) bimodal volcanic rocks of the Costigan Mountain Formation (Tobique Group; Walker and Clark 2012). The Burnthill Granite was included in “type 9b” plutons, namely evolved, high-silica granites lacking mafic

phases and exhibiting large degrees of crystal fractionation (Whalen 1993). It is clear that the new analytical data obtained on these plutons and the classification diagrams discussed in this section support the interpretations and conclusions of Whalen (1993) and Currie (1995).



**Figure 10.** Q-ANOR normative mineralogy-based classification diagram of Streckeisen and LeMaitre (1979) for plutonic rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, with compositional trends for calcic, calc-alkalic, alkali-calcic, and alkalic suites defined by Whalen and Frost (2013) and Hildebrand and Whalen (2014). (a) Burnthill Granite; (b) Redstone Mountain, Juniper Barren, and Beadle Mountain granites; (c) Nashwaak and Lost Lake granites, and Bogan Brook and Lost Lake granodiorites; (d) McKiel Lake and Little Clearwater Brook (Ordovician) granites.



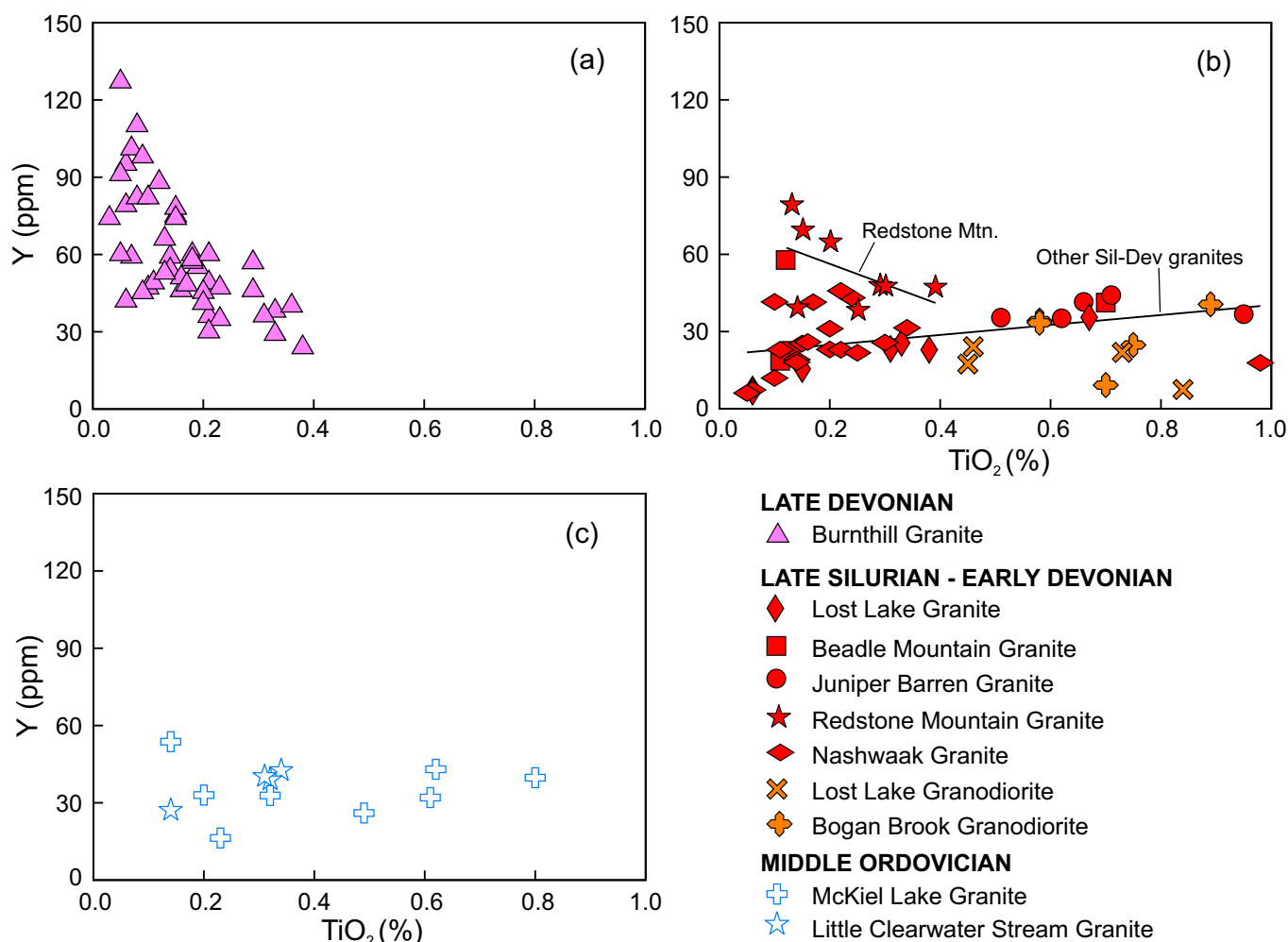
**Figure 11.** (a) Sr vs. Rb, and (b) U vs. Th variation diagrams for granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt.

#### TECTONIC CONTEXT: SOURCE AND SETTING

Most plutons display some degree of overlap between the volcanic arc and within-plate fields on the Rb vs. Nb + Y tectonic discrimination diagram (Pearce *et al.* 1984; Pearce 1996; Fig. 15). However, the Burnthill Granite (Fig. 15a) and especially the Redstone Mountain Granite (Fig. 15b) more closely resemble within-plate granites, whereas the Lost Lake, Nashwaak, and Bogan Brook plutons (Fig. 15d) dominantly resemble volcanic arc granites. Ordovician granites fall within or very close to the volcanic arc field (Fig. 15e), which is somewhat at odds with Whalen (1993) and Whalen *et al.* (1998), who reported that Ordovician granites in the Gander zone are within-plate types except for intrusions near Woodstock that are genetically related to arc volcanic rocks of the Meductic Group. Aside from the Burnthill pluton, most data points fall within the domain of post-collisional granites delineated by Pearce (1996). Similar overlap of data points between syn- and

post-collision and volcanic arc fields is noted on the Hf-Rb-Ta ternary diagram of Harris *et al.* (1986) (Fig. 16), and on the major element-based Shand index with fields defined by Maniar and Piccoli (1989) (Fig. 7). However, on both of these diagrams, the Burnthill Granite plots almost exclusively within the syn- or post-collisional fields.

The peraluminous nature of most granite plutons points to a significant supracrustal component in the source; this is supported by the close spatial relationship with the Miramichi Group and Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite, and the common presence of xenoliths or roof pendants of partially assimilated paragneiss in many plutons. Furthermore, REE profiles of these sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks are very similar to those of most granites (Fig. 14), implying a genetic link. A very similar setting exists in the Gander zone of northeastern Newfoundland, where Silurian-Devonian granites are hosted by correlative sedimentary rocks of the Gander Group and paragneiss and migmatite of the Hare Bay Gneiss (Schofield and D'Lemos 2000). In



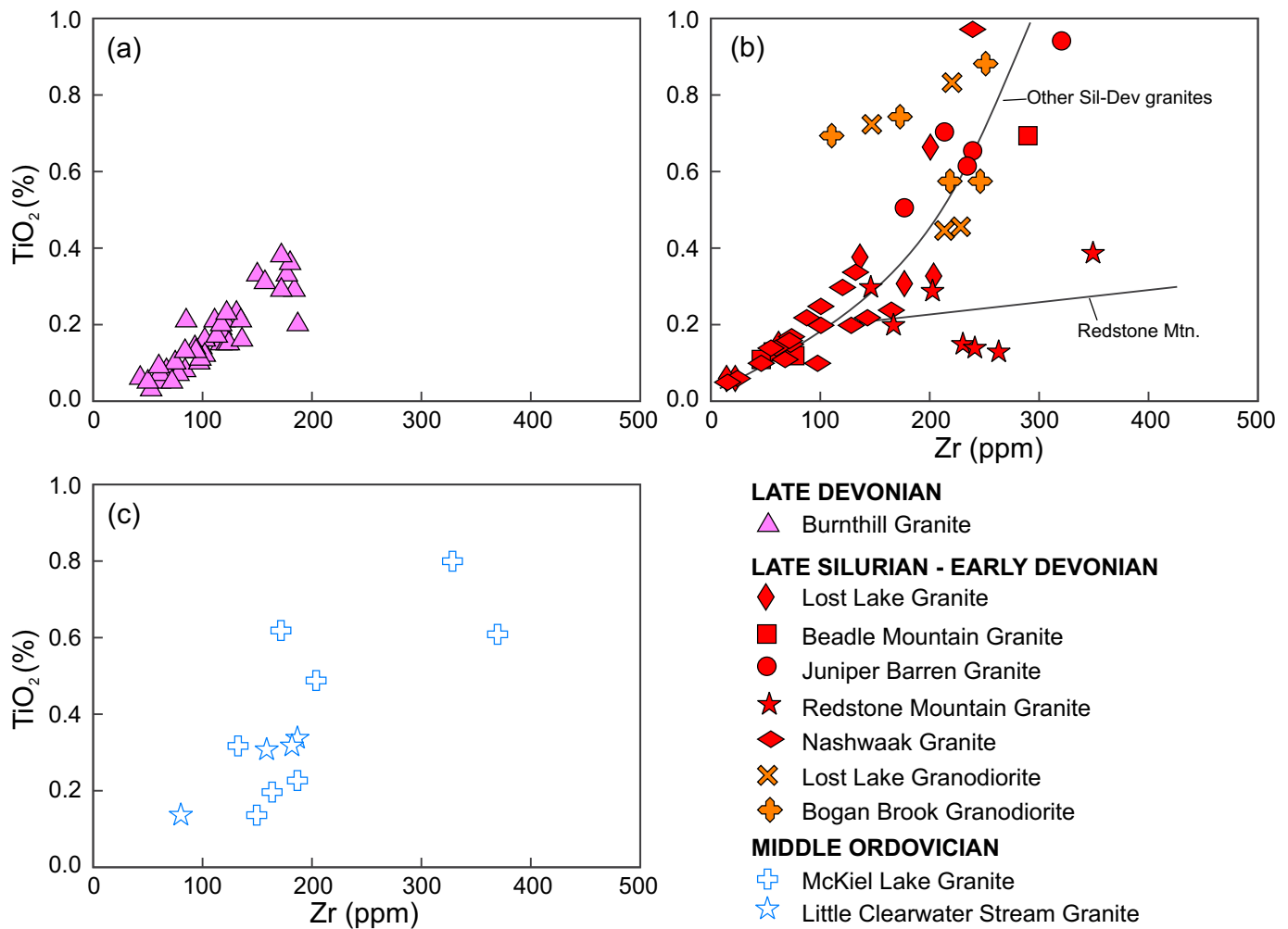
**Figure 12.** Y vs.  $\text{TiO}_2$  variation diagrams for (a) Late Devonian granite, (b) Late Silurian–Early Devonian granites and granodiorites, and (c) Ordovician granites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. In (b), note the discordant trend defined by Redstone Mountain samples compared to other Silurian–Devonian granites.

spite of this, Sr, Nd, and O isotope studies in both New Brunswick and Newfoundland (Kerr *et al.* 1995; Whalen *et al.* 1996; Schofield and D’Lemos 2000) agree that no single source or binary mixing product could unequivocally produce the isotopic signatures of the Silurian–Devonian Ganderian granites, and invoke contributions from mantle, infracrustal and supracrustal sources. As pointed out by Pearce (1996), post-collisional granites in particular are difficult to classify because of the range of potential sources, and that, for example, interaction between mantle sources and the crust tend to move compositions into the volcanic arc field on a Rb vs. (Nb + Y) diagram (Fig. 15).

Similar Nd isotope compositions and Mesoproterozoic  $T_{\text{DM}}$  model ages in granites and host (meta)sedimentary rocks in Newfoundland (Kerr *et al.* 1995; Schofield and D’Lemos 2000) suggest that both are ultimately sourced,

at least in part, from a common Ganderian basement. Similarly, Whalen *et al.* (1996) argued that Silurian–Devonian granites in New Brunswick were likely derived by bulk assimilation of Mesoproterozoic Ganderian basement and Gander zone supracrustal rocks by an enriched asthenospheric melt. The influence of this mantle source is locally seen in gabbros with  $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(\text{T})$  of +1.2 to +2.3 (Whalen *et al.* 1996); in the study area, the Clearwater Brook and Becaguimec Lake gabbros (Fig. 1) are interpreted to be the same age as those sampled by Whalen *et al.* (1996).

Whalen *et al.* (1996) and Schofield and D’Lemos (2000) attributed the heat source that generated Silurian–Devonian granites to the introduction of asthenospheric mantle following either lithospheric delamination of collision-thickened subcontinental lithosphere (e.g., Nelson 1992), or breakoff of the subducting Tetagouche backarc oceanic

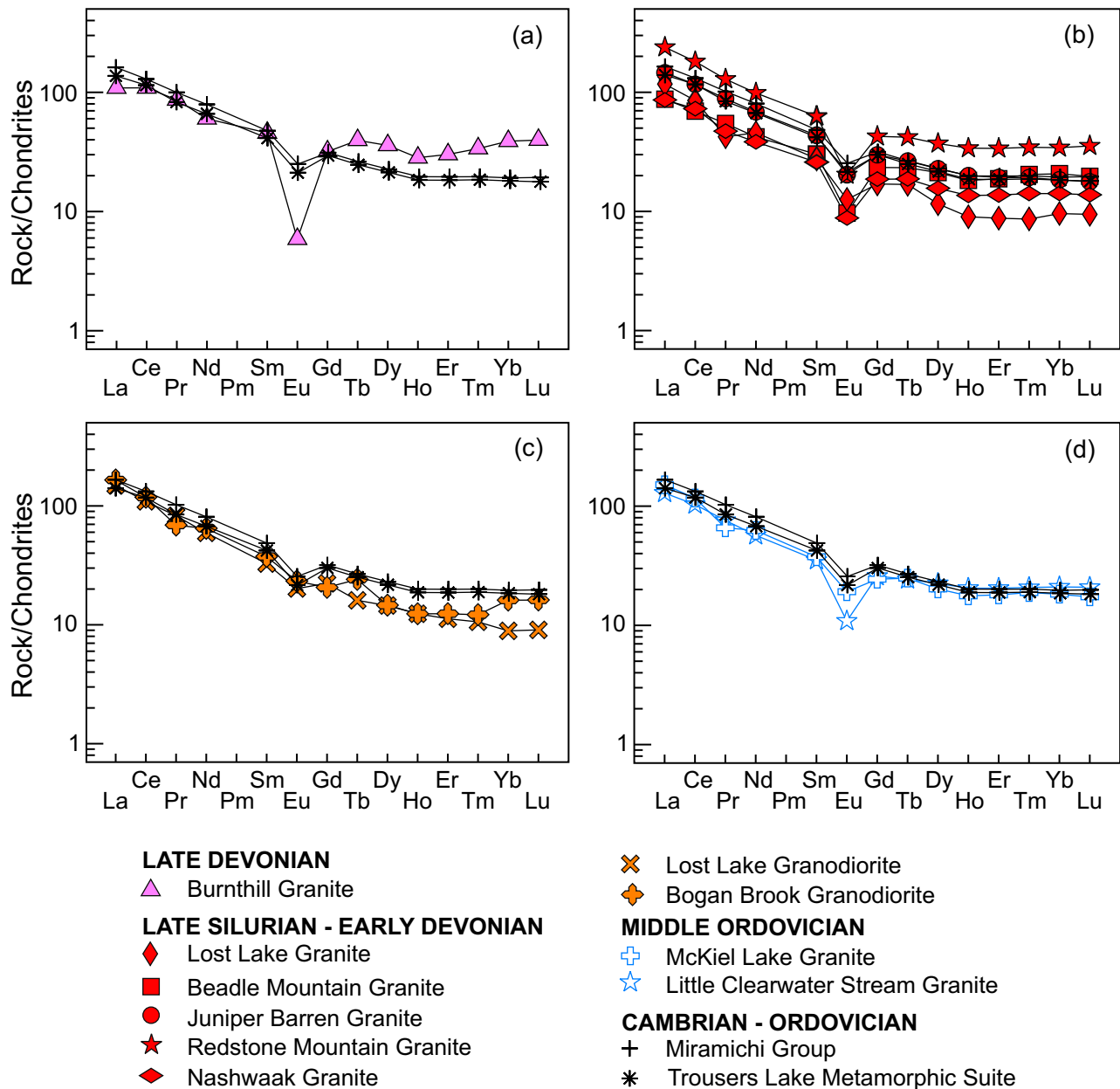


**Figure 13.**  $\text{TiO}_2$  vs. Zr variation diagrams for (a) Late Devonian granite, (b) late Silurian–Early Devonian granites and granodiorites, and (c) Ordovician granites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. In (b), the Redstone Mountain Granite again defines a distinct trend that is discordant with all other granites.

lithosphere (e.g., Davies and von Blanckenburg 1995). Since both of these scenarios are typically followed by rapid isostatic uplift and gravitational instability, late Silurian exhumation of the Brunswick Subduction Complex and subsequent  $D_3$  extensional collapse in the Miramichi Highlands (van Staal and de Roo 1995; van Staal *et al.* 2003, 2009) could be explained by ca. mid-Silurian breakoff of the Tetagouche slab. However, the Nd isotope geochemistry and  $T_{DM}$  model ages of Ganderian granitoid plutons in both New Brunswick and Newfoundland (Kerr *et al.* 1995; Whalen *et al.* 1996; Schofield and D’Lemos 2000) do not support the introduction of juvenile asthenospheric material during the late Silurian. This is consistent with Nd isotope data from late Silurian–Early Devonian basalts in northern New Brunswick, where the range in  $\epsilon_{Nd}(T)$  values and depleted mantle ages also argue against the involvement

of juvenile asthenospheric mantle in the genesis of the volcanic rocks (Dostal *et al.* in press). Furthermore, the chemistry of granites from the Central plutonic belt does not match that of slab breakoff-related granitoid suites documented by Hildebrand and Whalen (2014) (Fig. 17).

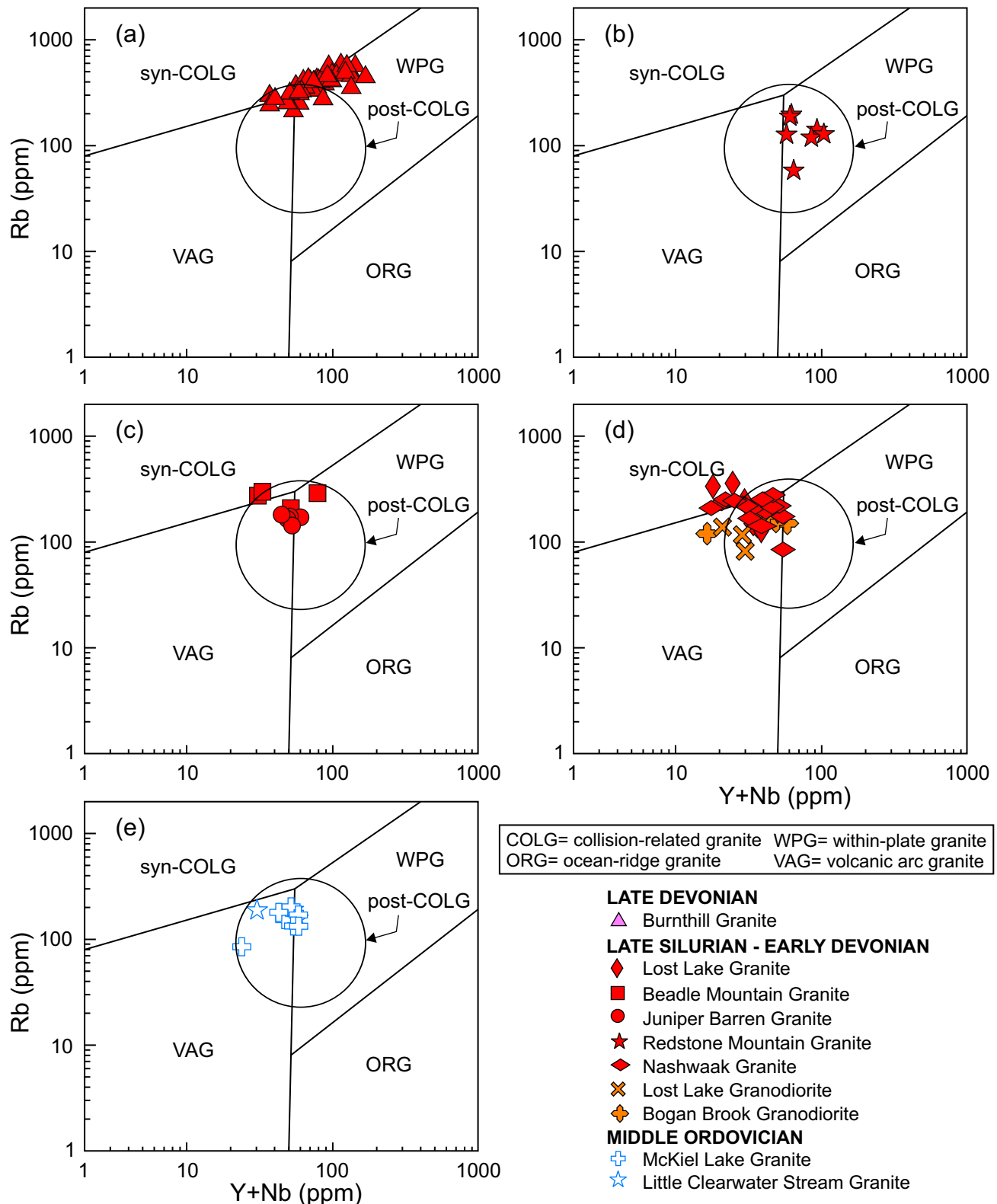
An alternative model put forward by van Staal *et al.* (2009) invokes westerly, flat-slab subduction of Avalonia beneath composite Laurentia (first proposed by Murphy *et al.* 1999), analogous to the Laramide orogeny in the western USA, to explain overlapping arc, within-plate, and collisional geochemical signatures, late Silurian–Early Devonian regional uplift, and northwestward (present coordinates) migration of Acadian deformation (cf., Bradley *et al.* 2000). In New Brunswick, Silurian–Devonian magmatism and Acadian deformation are broadly contemporaneous, ranging from ca. 421 to 407 Ma, based on the ages of



**Figure 14.** Averaged chondrite-normalized rare-earth-element (REE) profiles of granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt: (a) Burnthill Granite; (b) late Silurian–Early Devonian granites; (c) late Silurian–Early Devonian granodiorites; and (d) Middle Ordovician granites. In each case, the granite pattern compares well with REE profiles for sedimentary rocks from the Miramichi Group and paragneiss from the Trousers Lake Metamorphic Suite (R. Wilson, unpublished data). Normalizing factors are from Sun and McDonough (1989).

plutonic and volcanic rocks (Whalen 1993; Wilson *et al.* 2005; Wilson and Kamo 2008, 2012; this study) and eastward extrapolation of successive Devonian positions of the Acadian deformation front (Bradley *et al.* 2000). Hence, as pointed out by van Staal *et al.* (2009), Acadian magmatism is more closely associated with crustal shortening than with regional extension or lithospheric delamination. The

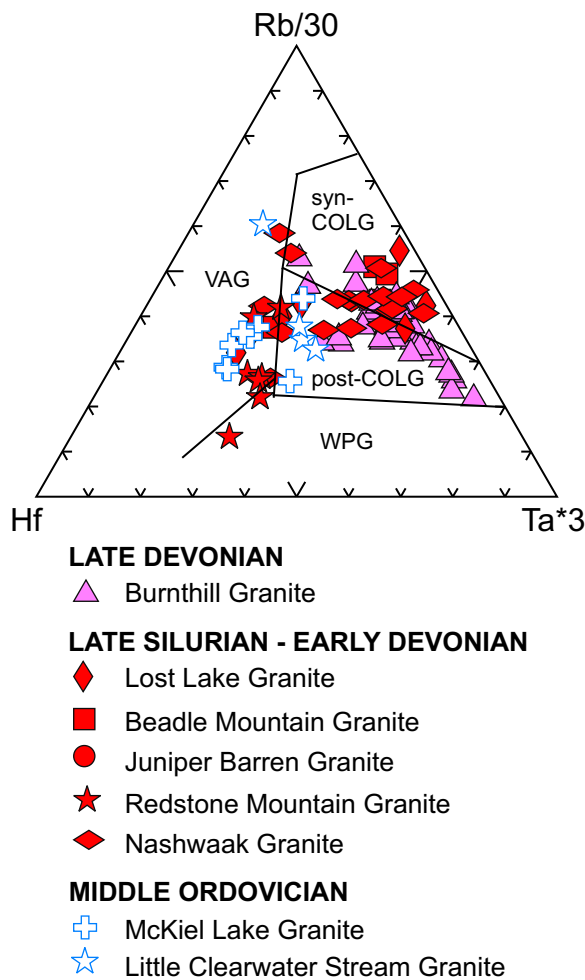
van Staal *et al.* (2009) model proposes that asthenospheric “pockets” inherited from Salinic backarc extension and slab break-off became trapped above the Acadian (Avalonian) flat slab; dehydration of the Acadian slab and fluid fluxing of the mantle pockets then generated partial melts having mixed arc and within-plate signatures, and may account for the mantle-derived component of Ganderian granitoid



**Figure 15.** Rb vs. Y+Nb tectonic discrimination diagram (Pearce *et al.* 1984), including the post-collision granite field of Pearce (1996), applied to granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. (a) Burnthill Granite; (b) Redstone Mountain Granite; (c) Beadle Mountain and Juniper Barren granites; (d) Nashwaak and Lost Lake granites, and Bogan Brook and Lost Lake granodiorites; (e) McKiel Lake and Little Clearwater Brook (Ordovician) granites.



## ECONOMIC POTENTIAL



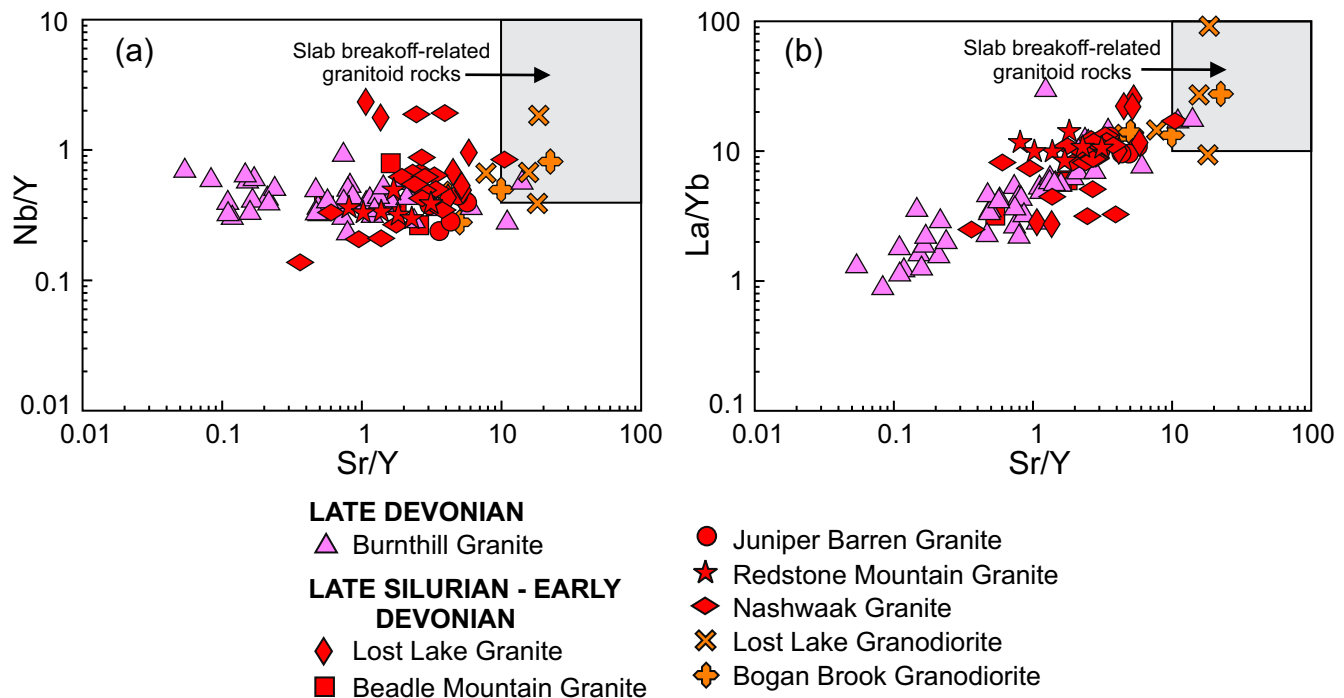
**Figure 16.** Hf-Rb-Ta tectonic discrimination diagram with fields defined by Harris *et al.* (1986) for granites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. VAG: volcanic arc granite; WPG: within-plate granite; syn-COLG, post-COLG: syn- and post-collision granites.

plutons inferred by Kerr *et al.* (1995), Whalen *et al.* (1996), and Schofield and D’Lemos (2000). However, granitoid rocks from the study area do not exhibit the high  $(La/Yb)_{CN}$  values that van Staal *et al.* (2009) reported for many Devonian plutonic rocks from Gaspé and New Brunswick (their figure 19) and cited as characteristic of Andean flat-slab subduction. Finally, the trapped asthenospheric mantle probably ponded at the base of the crust, unable to ascend because the orogen was under compression, and provided the heat source for large-scale crustal melting that generated the bulk of granitic magma in the Central plutonic belt.

Economic concentrations of Sn, W, Mo, Sb, Be, etc. are normally associated with highly evolved intrusive phases representing the late-stage, fluid- and incompatible element-enriched apical zones of large magma chambers. Strongly differentiated granites are characterized by elevated Rb at the expense of Ba and Sr (e.g., see Fig. 11a), so that Rb/Ba and Rb/Sr ratios have been used as estimators of the Sn, W, or Mo-bearing potential of granitic rocks (Tauson and Kozlov 1973; Neiva 1984; Ng *et al.* 2015). Ternary diagrams illustrating relative abundances of Ba, Rb, and Sr are therefore useful in identifying the most fractionated granites, which are normally those that carry the greatest Sn endowment (Fig. 18). As pointed out by Lehmann (1987), the “geochemical heritage” of Sn-mineralized granites can be as little as 5–10 ppm Sn; in view of this, samples containing greater than 10 ppm Sn are regarded as Sn-enriched and have been highlighted on Figure 18. Although most of these samples plot in the “strongly differentiated granite” field of El Bouseily and El Sokkary (1975) and Neiva (1984) (Fig. 18), a few Sn-enriched granites lie outside that field, and conversely, some samples containing <10 ppm Sn are included within it. Hence, the diagram is not an infallible method of identifying Sn-mineralized granite, but it does confirm the highly evolved character of several of the plutons in the study area.

Another measure of granite evolution and metal-bearing potential that has been shown to be applicable in some areas (e.g., Chatterjee and Muecke 1982) is the ratio of Th to U and how it varies with increasing magmatic differentiation. Plots of Th/U vs. Mg# and Th/U vs.  $SiO_2$  (Fig. 19) demonstrate that in many of the granites in the Central plutonic belt, Th/U is directly correlated with Mg# and inversely correlated with  $SiO_2$ ; i.e., lower Th/U is associated with increasing degrees of granite evolution. Exceptions are the Redstone Mountain Granite, which has a narrow range of Th/U (Figs. 19d, 19h) that is unaffected by variation in Mg# or  $SiO_2$ , and some samples of the Nashwaak Granite that appear to constitute a separate population (“Nashwaak group 2”; Figs. 19d, 19h). Similarly, all Silurian–Devonian granites except for the Redstone Mountain and group 2 of the Nashwaak population consistently illustrate an increase in Sn with decreasing Th/U (Fig. 20) (Th/U is employed as an index of granite evolution because the Burnnhill and Nashwaak granites show poor correlation between Sn and Mg# and between Sn and  $SiO_2$ ).

Compared to average values for Upper Continental Crust (Wedepohl 1995; Rudnick and Gao 2003), granites and granodiorites from the study area, and especially the Silurian and Devonian granites, are enriched in Be, Cs, P, Rb, Sn, Th, U and W, and depleted in Ba, Sc, Sr, V, and Zr. As shown by numerous workers, highly-evolved, Sn-specialized granites typically exhibit these enrichments and depletions, along with elevated abundances of F, Li, Nb, and Ta (Olade 1980; Chatterjee and Muecke 1982; Edén 1991; Förster *et al.* 1999).



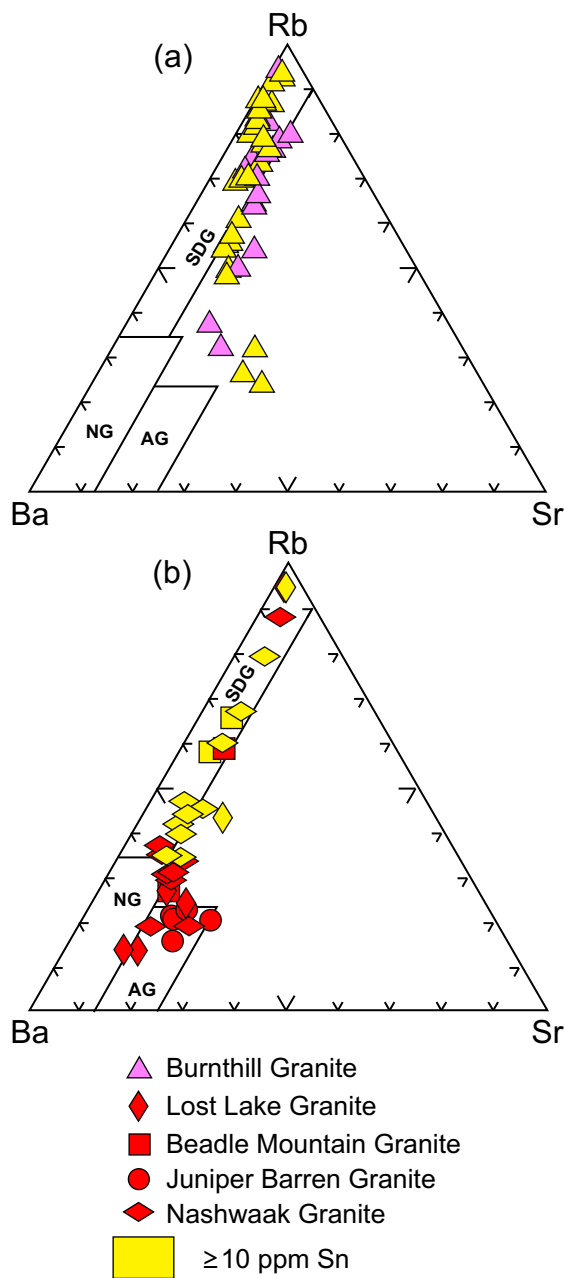
**Figure 17.** (a) Nb/Y vs. Sr/Y and (b) La/Yb vs. Sr/Y diagrams for granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. The shaded area is the field of slab-breakoff-related granitoid rocks from Hildebrand and Whalen (2014).

In most cases, some of which are illustrated in Figures 21 and 22, these trends are evident in granites from the study area. For example, the Th/U index of granite evolution is negatively correlated with Rb and Cs (Fig. 21) and positively correlated with Ba and La (Fig. 22). The Nashwaak Granite data again suggest the presence of two populations; for example, group 1 shows a decrease in Ba and La with decreasing Th/U, whereas group 2 forms an antithetic trend (Figs. 22d, 22h).

All plutons from the study area contain average Sn abundances in excess of the upper continental crustal average of 2.1–2.5 ppm (Wedepohl 1995; Rudnick and Gao 2003) (Table 4 and Fig. 20). The highest average values are present in the Burnthill, Nashwaak, Lost Lake, and Beadle Mountain granites, accompanied by maximum abundances of 31, 23, 17.5, and 13 ppm Sn, respectively. Although there is a wide range in the average Sn content of granites associated with tin deposits, the latter figures compare well with those reported for Sn-specialized granites in various “tin belts” world-wide, e.g., Malaysia (~7–40 ppm; Ishihara and Terashima 1974; Ng *et al.* 2015), Thailand (7.7–20.0 ppm; Ishihara *et al.* 1980), Bolivia (~7–29 ppm; Lehmann *et al.* 1990), Nigeria (~22 ppm; Olade 1980), and Nova Scotia (~50 ppm; Chatterjee *et al.* 1983). Furthermore, most of the New Brunswick plutons are poorly exposed, and have not been sampled systematically; highly evolved phases or cupolas containing greater enrichment in Sn (or

W or Mo) may therefore locally underlie the surficial cover.

The Burnthill Granite (and cogenetic plutons east of the area shown on Figure 1) is associated with exo- and endogranitic W, Mo, Sn, and Be mineralization (Fig. 1) and hosts the greatest average abundances of Sn, W, Be, F, Cs, Th, and U (Table 4). Almost all samples of Burnthill Granite contain Sn in excess of 5 ppm (Fig. 20a); in addition, about 30% of Burnthill samples contain greater than 5 ppm W, up to a maximum of 145 ppm. The Lost Lake Granite contains up to 17.5 ppm Sn, 24.7 ppm W, and 16 ppm Be, whereas the Beadle Mountain Granite contains up to 13 ppm Sn, 3.7 ppm W, and 4 ppm Mo (Table 4). W-Mo mineralization at the Sisson deposit is located near the contact with the Nashwaak Granite (Fyffe and Thorne 2010; McClenaghan *et al.* 2014); however, an actual genetic link with the Nashwaak Granite is doubtful, given that recent Re-Os (molybdenite) dating of Sisson mineralization has yielded an age of ca. 378 Ma (Zhang 2015), consistent with an  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age of 379 Ma on the host Howard Peak Granodiorite (Taylor *et al.* 1987). Nevertheless, the Nashwaak Granite features the second-highest average Sn abundance (10.7 ppm), ranging to a maximum of 23 ppm Sn, along with 5.3 ppm W and 10 ppm Be. Most of the samples containing elevated Sn are located in the northern part of the pluton, between McKiel Brook and McKiel Lake (Fig. 1), where the biotite – muscovite phase of the granite is predominant.



**Figure 18.** Ba-Rb-Sr ternary diagram for (a) Burnthill Granite, and (b) late Silurian–Early Devonian granites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. Fields are defined by El Bouseily and El Sokkary (1975): SDG = strongly differentiated granite; NG = normal granite; AG = “anomalous” granite (affected by metasomatic processes). Unit symbols shown in yellow contain elevated abundances of Sn; the “threshold” value is arbitrarily defined herein as 10 ppm.

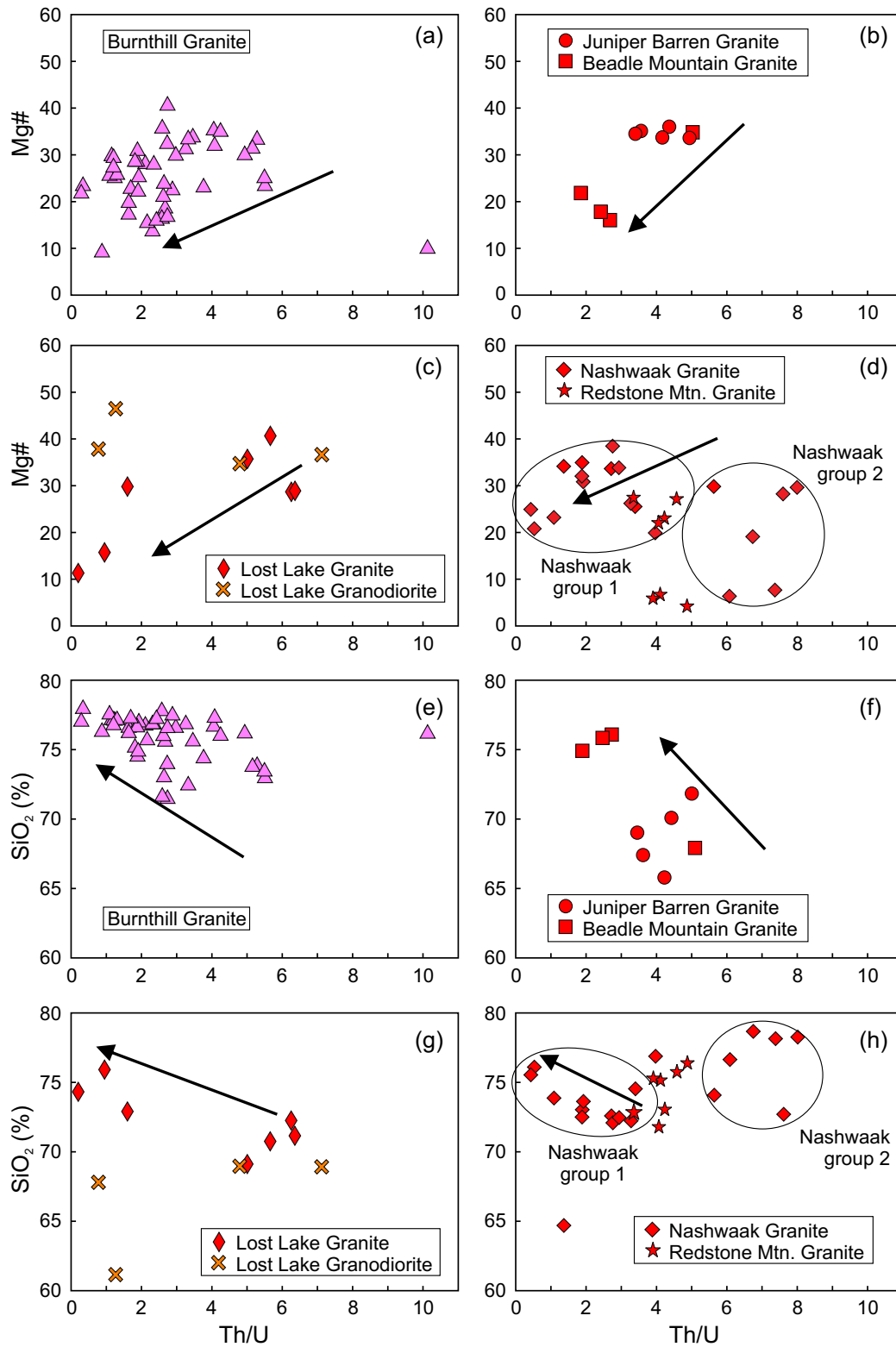
However, there is no correlation between this Sn-enriched cluster and one of the two populations suggested by the sample distributions in Figures 19d, 19h, 22d, and 22h.

An isolated sample of granite (TD-11-3; Fig. 1) featuring anomalous concentrations of several elements of economic interest is located adjacent to the Catamaran Brook Fault, where it lies within a small stock thought to be related to the Redstone Mountain Granite about 4 km to the north (Crouse 1978; Smith and Fyffe 2006b). This sample contains 131 ppm Sn, 34 ppm W, 17 ppm Mo, ~10 ppm Cs, 115 ppm Cu, ~32 ppm Bi, 35 ppm As, 50 ppm Th, and ~25 ppm U (Appendix B). However, it is not known whether this mineralization is a magmatic deposit related to a granite cupola, or sourced from mineral-bearing fluids associated with the Catamaran Brook Fault.

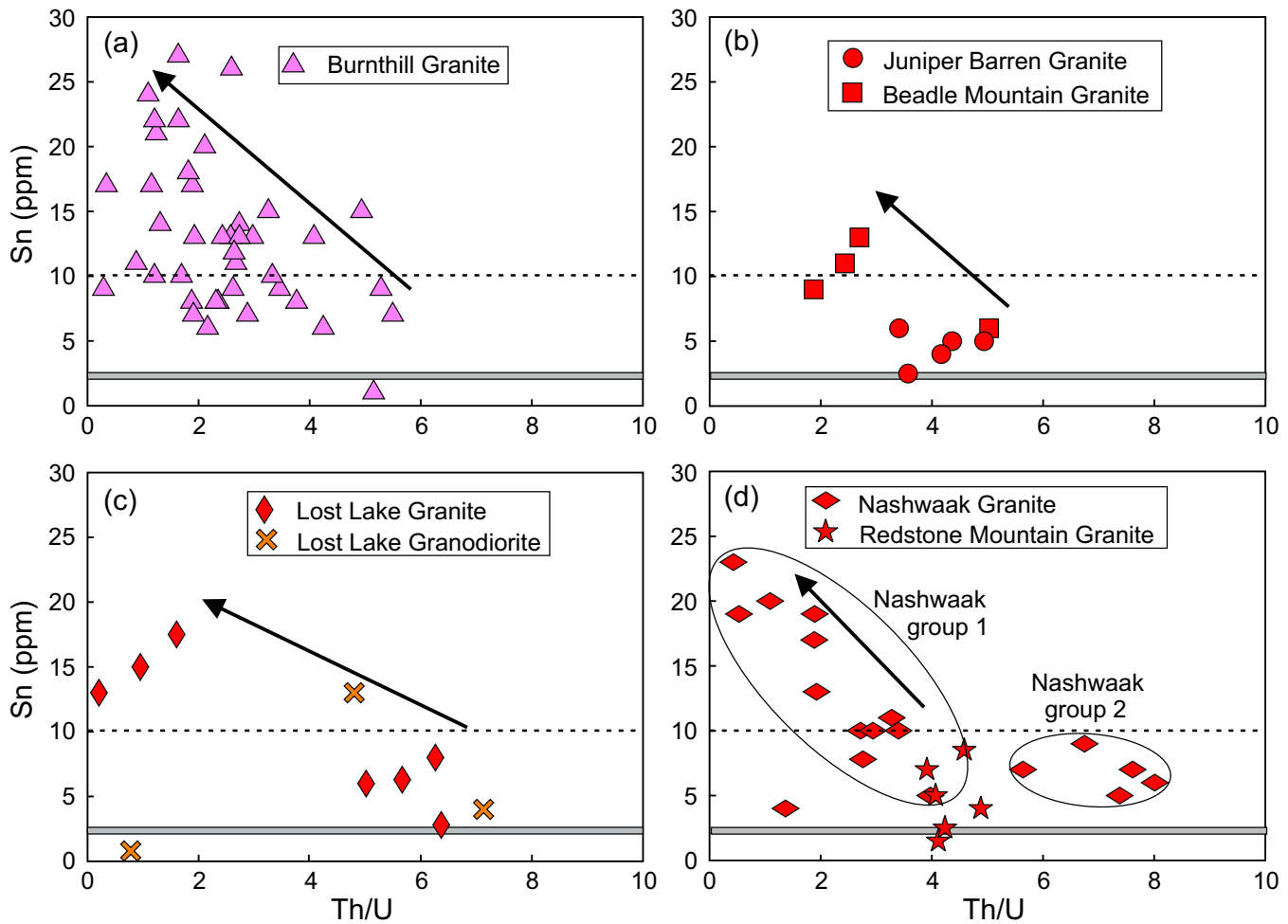
## SUMMARY

Plutonic rocks in the central part of the Central plutonic belt can be divided into three groups based on age of emplacement/crystallization: (1) late Early to Middle Ordovician (Little Clearwater Brook and McKiel Lake granites); (2) late Silurian to Early Devonian (Lost Lake, Beadle Mountain, Juniper Barren, Nashwaak and Redstone Mountain granites, and the Bogan Brook and Lost Lake granodiorites); and (3) Late Devonian (Burnthill Granite). CA-ID-TIMS U-Pb (zircon) dating yields a late Early to Middle Ordovician age of  $467 \pm 7$  Ma for the McKiel Lake Granite; late Silurian ages of  $423.2 \pm 3.2$  Ma and  $420.7 \pm 1.8$ – $2.0$  Ma for the Bogan Brook Granodiorite and Nashwaak Granite, respectively; a  $419 \pm 0.5$  Ma age that straddles the Silurian–Devonian boundary for the Redstone Mountain Granite; Early Devonian ages of  $416.1 \pm 0.5$  Ma,  $415.8 \pm 0.3$  Ma, and  $409.7 \pm 0.5$  Ma for the Beadle Mountain, Juniper Barren, and Lost Lake granites, respectively; and a Late Devonian age of  $380.6 \pm 0.3$  Ma for the Burnthill Granite.

Plutons of all ages show marked chemical similarities on major and trace element variation diagrams. All are predominantly calc-alkalic, weakly to moderately peraluminous, S-type granites, although the Burnthill Granite and Redstone Mountain Granite display mixed S- and I-type characteristics. Except for the less evolved Juniper Barren Granite, Silurian–Devonian plutons in the study area are mainly silica-rich, evolved granites with average Mg#s ranging from 18 to 28 (Table 3). They display mixed arc and within-plate affiliation, but tend to cluster in syn- to post-orogenic fields on tectonic discrimination diagrams (Figs. 7, 15, 16); Ordovician granites also display mixed continental arc and within-plate affinities, probably because they were associated with extension of the Popelogan arc and incipient (Tetagouche) back-arc rifting in a lower crustal region “contaminated” by prior subduction. The unique geochemical characteristics



**Figure 19.** (a) to (d) Mg# vs. Th/U variation diagrams; and (e) to (h) SiO<sub>2</sub> vs. Th/U variation diagrams for granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. Arrows indicate increasing degrees of granite evolution. Mg# = mol. 100 x MgO/(mol. MgO + FeO<sup>2+</sup>).



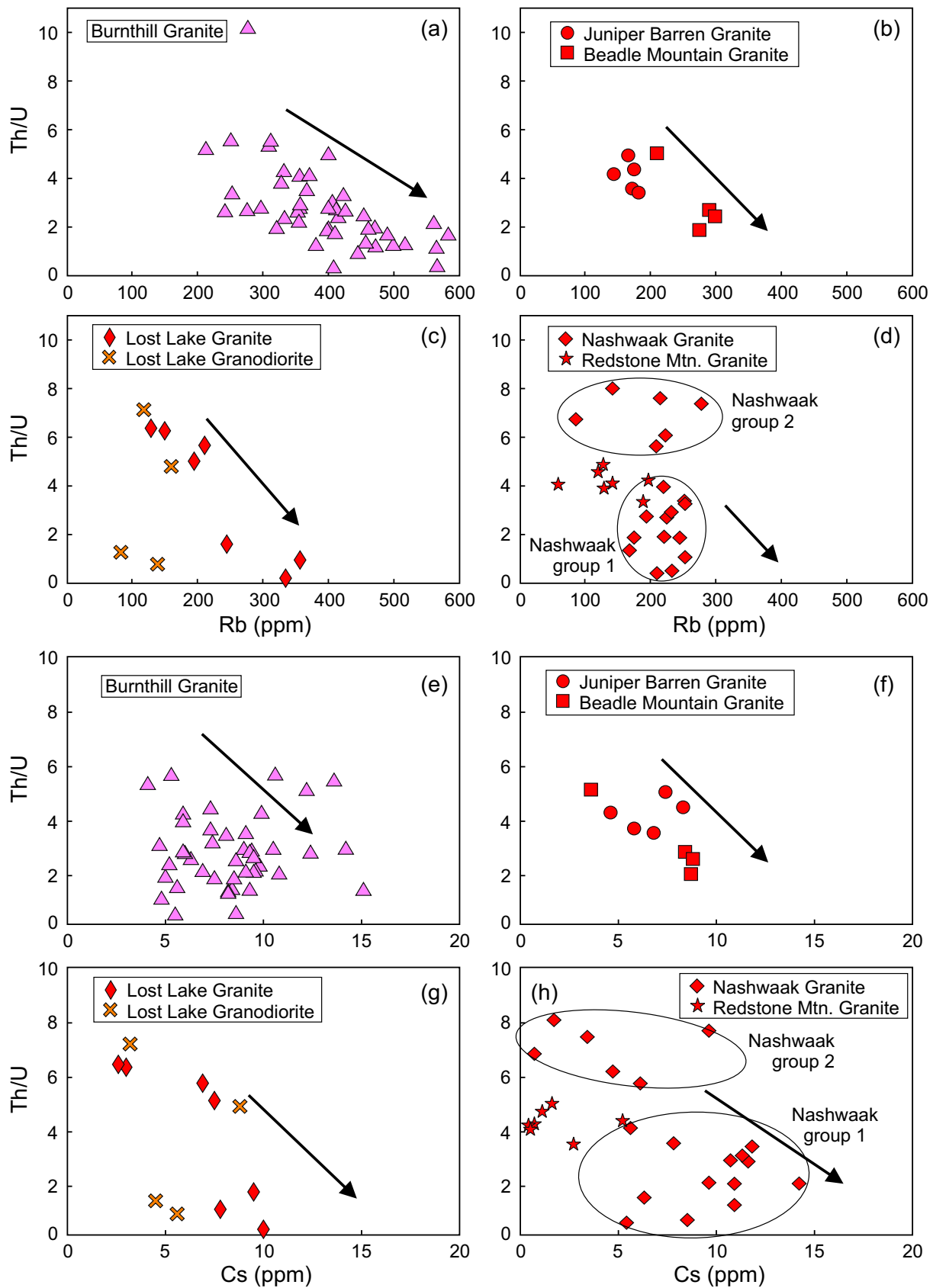
**Figure 20.** Sn vs. Th/U variation diagrams for granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. The grey bar shows the average Sn abundance for upper continental crust (Wedepohl 1995; Rudnick and Gao 2003), and the heavy dashed line is drawn at the arbitrarily defined “threshold” level of 10 ppm, as given in Figure 18. Arrows indicate increasing degrees of granite evolution.

of the Burnthill Granite have been interpreted as being related to post-melting petrogenetic processes, e.g., a high degree of crystal fractionation, rather than to the source (Whalen 1993); Sn and W deposits and occurrences are attributed to hydrothermal processes such as aqueous phase saturation and fluid separation (MacLellan and Taylor 1989). In contrast, the Redstone Mountain Granite is chemically more typical of within-plate magmatism, and forms a bimodal association with spatially-related mafic intrusive rocks. It is also interpreted as the subvolcanic source of coeval felsic volcanic rocks of the nearby Costigan Mountain Formation (Walker and Clark 2012).

Lithochemical data such as trace element ratios and REE profiles, as well as Nd, O, and Pb isotope systematics (Whalen *et al.* 1996, 1998) show that Ordovician and Silurian–Devonian granites were derived from

geochemically and isotopically similar protoliths. The voluminous magmas responsible for late Silurian–Early Devonian plutonism were probably generated as a result of crustal thickening following the ca. 430 Ma collision of Ganderia and composite Laurentia, and/or underthrusting of Ganderia’s trailing edge by the leading edge of Avalonia, which (a) generated mixed arc and within-plate-type melts above the dehydrating slab, and (b) trapped pockets of asthenospheric mantle against the base of the crust, leading to large-scale crustal melting (van Staal *et al.* 2009).

All granites in the central part of the Central plutonic belt show at least some enrichment in Sn compared to global average granite, and in several cases contain Sn in amounts comparable to tin-productive granites in other parts of the world. The greatest enrichment occurs in the most evolved felsic plutons, i.e., the Burnthill, Lost Lake, Nashwaak,



**Figure 21.** (a) to (d) Th/U vs. Rb, and (e) to (h) Th/U vs. Cs variation diagrams for granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. Arrows indicate increasing degrees of granite evolution.

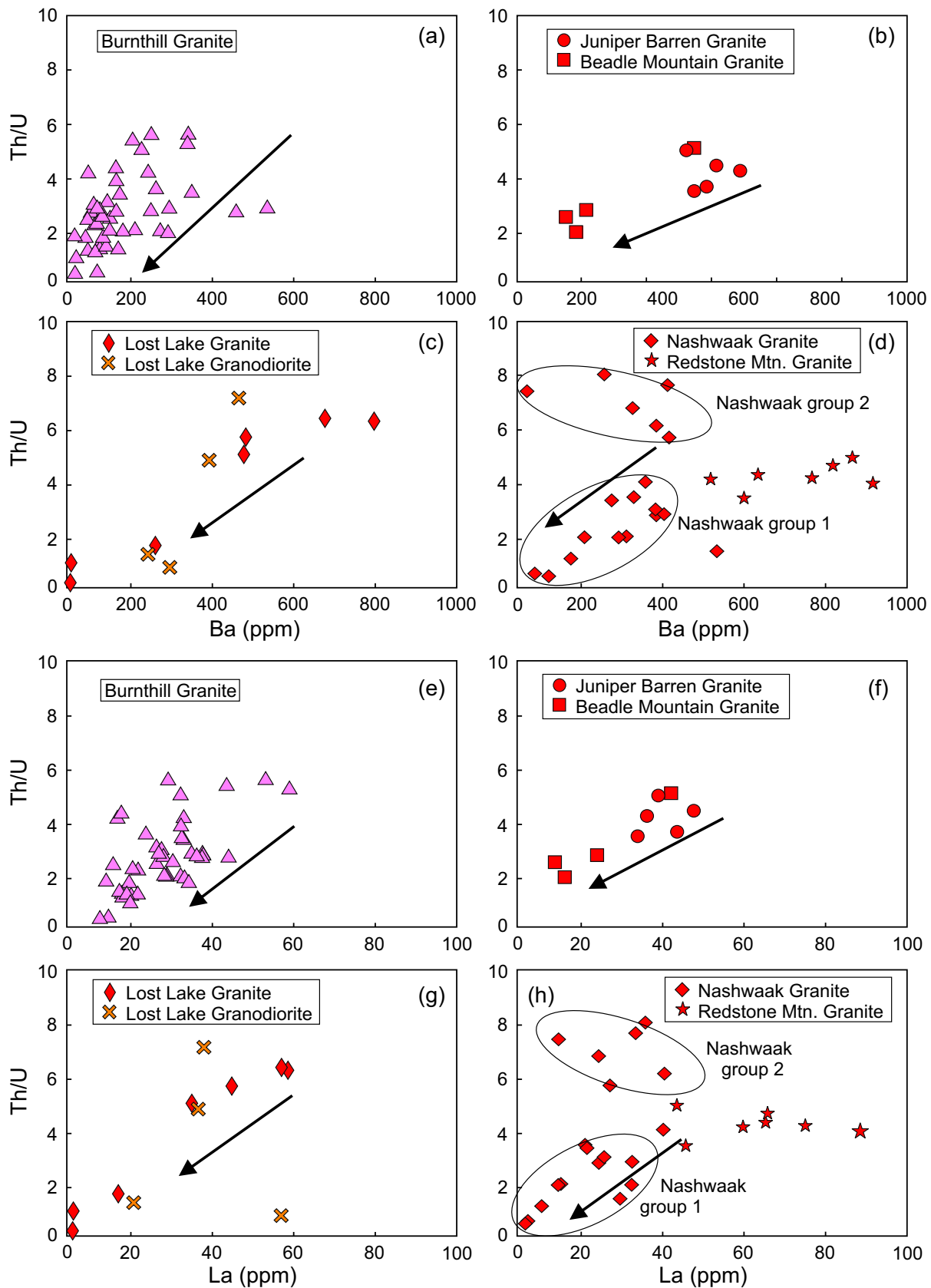


Figure 22. (a) to (d) Th/U vs. Ba, and (e) to (h) Th/U vs. La variation diagrams for granites and granodiorites from the central part of the Central plutonic belt. Arrows indicate increasing degrees of granite evolution.

**Table 4.** Mean and range of selected trace elements in granitoid rocks from the central part of the Central plutonic belt, New Brunswick. All values are given in parts per million.

Unit	Burnthill	Beadle Mountain	Juniper Barren	Lost Lake Granite	Nashwaak	Redstone Mountain	Lost Lake Granodiorite	Bogan Brook	Little Clear-water	McKiel Lake
n	47	6	6	9	20	11	4	6	4	11
Ba	134 (19–514)	232 (125–454)	473 (382–572)	359 (9–788)	267 (22–511)	567 (19–913)	320 (208–441)	483 (348–533)	284 (186–370)	439 (277–622)
Be	8 (6–12)	3 (2–6)	4 (3–5)	5 (2–16)	5 (2–10)	4 (2–5)	5 (4–7)	4 (3–7)	3 (1–4)	3 (2–6)
Cs	8.0 (2.3–15.1)	7.2 (3.6–9.2)	6.6 (4.6–8.3)	6.4 (2.6–10.0)	8.1 (0.7–14.2)	2.2 (0.2–5.2)	5.5 (3.2–8.8)	8.3 (5.9–11.3)	6.3 (3.8–12.4)	4.7 (1.1–16.0)
Cu	9 (<1–54)	7 (1–23)	9 (3–17)	6 (<1–12)	5 (<1–27)	13 (1–6)	9 (6–11)	17 (9–28)	5 (2–9)	7 (1–32)
F*	812 (70–2430)	na	na	534 (275–690)	561 (365–680)	555 (110–740)	490 (390–680)	678 (610–740)	na	681 (360–1100)
Mo	1.4 (<0.5–4.0)	1.5 (<2.0–4.0)	~0.9 (<2.0)	~0.7 (<2.0)	~0.9 (<2.0)	~1.0 (<2.0–3.0)	~0.4 (<2.0)	~1.0 (<0.5–2.0)	~1.0 (<2.0)	0.7 (<2.0)
Nb	25.5 (8.0–52.0)	13.1 (8.5–21.6)	13.0 (9.9–16.6)	14.2 (11.4–15.5)	12.0 (5.7–16.4)	20.7 (11.3–33.0)	12.5 (8.5–16.0)	13.6 (7.5–18.7)	12.7 (3.5–16.7)	13.1 (4.4–22.0)
Rb	391 (87–581)	250 (209–298)	183 (143–266)	225 (128–356)	212 (85–277)	158 (4–196)	124 (82–159)	144 (120–178)	174 (153–192)	156 (86–204)
Sn	12.4 (1.0–31.0)	8.3 (5.0–13.0)	5.4 (2.5–10.0)	9.6 (2.8–17.5)	10.7 (<0.5–23.0)	5.6 (<0.5–10.0)	4.5 (<0.5–13.0)	2.9 (<0.5–4.0)	3.9 (<1.0–6.0)	4.8 (2.0–12.0)
Sr	55 (4–334)	52 (30–106)	149 (77–201)	89 (8–147)	59 (15–187)	100 (56–256)	249 (139–396)	181 (123–247)	46 (26–55)	117 (35–231)
Th	36.2 (8.9–157.0)	15.3 (9.2–21.7)	16.9 (11.8–20.2)	13.3 (2.0–29.8)	14.7 (2.3–40.6)	25.4 (18.4–27.3)	10.5 (3.3–16.4)	14.2 (9.8–17.3)	18.5 (10.9–23.6)	15.6 (9.8–31.5)
U	16.3 (4.2–36.0)	5.3 (3.5–7.4)	4.4 (3.4–5.7)	4.3 (2.1–10.7)	4.2 (2.4–8.5)	7.4 (3.8–6.7)	5.1 (2.3–13.1)	4.6 (3.1–7.0)	4.1 (3.1–4.8)	3.1 (1.1–6.8)
W	9.0 (<0.5–145.0)	2.3 (<0.5–3.7)	1.1 (<0.5–2.8)	3.7 (<0.5–24.7)	1.4 (<0.5–5.3)	1.0 (<1.0–3.0)	0.6 (<0.5–1.0)	0.6 (<0.5–1.3)	1.1 (<0.5–1.5)	1.5 (<0.5–13.3)
Zr	131 (43–1222)	116 (46–292)	213 (83–323)	117 (14–205)	94 (15–241)	233 (134–352)	204 (148–230)	205 (111–253)	151 (80–186)	205 (120–368)
La	25.8 (8.5–110.0)	20.7 (9.7–39.5)	34.5 (20.5–45.3)	27.7 (1.6–56.8)	20.4 (2.1–37.8)	56.5 (38.8–88.1)	35.3 (17.2–55.0)	39.1 (23.4–49.2)	30.5 (12.0–39.6)	35.8 (18.5–63.0)
Ce	66.7 (24.4–370.0)	42.5 (20.2–74.1)	71.3 (43.2–84.4)	52.1 (3.2–97.5)	44.5 (3.5–73.9)	110.7 (78.6–156.0)	66.8 (36.0–92.5)	72.4 (40.4–90.0)	63.1 (25.6–82.2)	71.5 (40.6–118.0)

\* Source: MacLellan et al. (1990) and Whalen (1993); mean and range of values are based on fewer analyses than for other elements.

and Beadle Mountain granites. This specialization in Sn is accompanied by enrichments in elements such as Rb, Cs, Be, W, and P, high Rb/Sr, low Th/U, and depletions in Sr, Ba, REE, Sc, and Zr, which are considered proxies for potential economic mineralization in other granophile elements such as Mo and W. Anomalous abundances of W are present in some samples of the Burnthill, Lost Lake,

Nashwaak and even the Ordovician McKiel Lake Granite, although Ordovician plutons, except for the arc-type Gibson and Benton plutons in the Woodstock area (Fig. 1), are not known to be associated with mineralization. The Juniper Barren, Lost Lake and Nashwaak granites are, in large part, poorly exposed, and it is possible that mineralized cupolas are present but as yet undetected. The



data presented herein indicate that thorough and systematic litho-geochemical analyses can provide an effective vector to potential granophile-element mineralization.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Field mapping and sample collection in the Central plutonic belt were carried out by S.H. McClenaghan. Kathleen Thorne and Jim Walker are thanked for their reviews of early versions of the manuscript. The paper was greatly improved by comments and suggestions from journal reviewers Joe Whalen and Andy Kerr.

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*Editorial responsibility: Sandra M. Barr*

## APPENDIX A: ANALYTICAL METHODS

### Geochronology

U-Pb analyses were performed at the Jack Satterly Geochronology Laboratory in the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Toronto, by isotope dilution thermal ionization mass spectrometry (ID-TIMS) methods. Rocks were crushed and pulverized using standard methods with a jaw crusher and disk mill. A Wilfley table was used to produce a concentrate of heavy minerals. Zircon was isolated using methylene iodide and a Frantz magnetic separator. Prior to dissolution, zircon grains were chemically abraded to penetratively remove alteration zones where Pb loss has occurred (Mattinson 2005). These zones correlate with areas of high U that have suffered radiation damage prior to alteration. To thermally anneal damaged lattice sites, grains were placed in a muffle furnace at  $\sim 1000^{\circ}\text{C}$  for up to 60 h. This was followed by partial dissolution in 50% HF and  $\sim 10\ \mu\text{l}$  8N  $\text{HNO}_3$  in Teflon dissolution vessels at  $195^{\circ}\text{C}$  for  $\sim 17$  hours. The grains were washed in 8N  $\text{HNO}_3$  prior to dissolution. A mixed  $^{205}\text{Pb}$ - $^{233}$ - $^{235}\text{U}$  spike (ET535 tracer from the EARTHTIME Project) was added to the Teflon dissolution capsules during sample loading. The zircon was dissolved using  $\sim 0.10$  mL of concentrated hydrofluoric acid (HF) and  $\sim 0.02$  mL of 8N nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ ) at  $195^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Krogh 1973) for  $\sim 5$  days, then dried to a precipitate, and re-dissolved in  $\sim 0.15$  mL of 3N hydrochloric acid (HCl). U and Pb were isolated from the zircon solutions using anion exchange chromatography, then dried in dilute phosphoric acid ( $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ ), and deposited onto outgassed rhenium filaments with silica gel (Gerstenberger and Haase 1997). Pb was analyzed with a VG354 mass spectrometer in dynamic mode with a Daly pulse-counting system. U was measured using the Daly detector or in static mode using three Faraday collectors. Corrections for isobaric interferences from  $^{233}\text{UO}_{16}\text{O}_{18}$  on  $^{235}\text{UO}_2$  at mass 267 have been made. The dead time of the Daly measuring system for Pb and U was 16.5 and 14.5 ns, respectively. The mass discrimination correction for the Daly detector is constant at 0.05%/atomic mass unit. Daly characteristics were monitored using the SRM 982 Pb standard. Thermal mass fractionation for Pb

was 0.1% per atomic mass unit, and that for U was measured and corrected within each cycle. The total common Pb in each zircon analysis was attributed to laboratory Pb (corrected using an isotopic composition of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  of  $18.49 \pm 0.4\%$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  of  $15.59 \pm 0.4\%$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  of  $39.36 \pm 0.4\%$ ;  $2\sigma$  uncertainties), thus no correction for initial common Pb from geological sources was made. Routine testing indicates that laboratory blanks for Pb and U are usually contain less than 0.5 pg and 0.01 pg, respectively. Corrections to the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages for initial  $^{230}\text{Th}$  disequilibrium were made assuming a Th/U ratio in the magma of 4.2. Decay constants are those of Jaffey *et al.* (1971). All age errors quoted in the text and tables, and error ellipses in the concordia diagrams are given at  $2\sigma$ . Plotting and age calculations are from Isoplot/Ex 3.00 (Ludwig 2003).

### Litho geochemistry

Sixty-eight samples of fresh, unaltered granite and granodiorite from ten plutons were submitted for litho geochemical analysis at Activation Laboratories Ltd. in Ancaster, ON. Samples were subjected to lithium metaborate/tetraborate fusion and the resulting molten bead digested in a weak nitric acid solution. Analyses were carried out by inductively-coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (major oxides, Ba, Be, Sc, Sr, and V), and inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometry (Bi, Co, Cs, Ga, Ge, Hf, In, Mo, Nb, Rb, Sn, Ta, Tl, U, W, Y, Zr, and rare-earth elements). Silver, Cd, Cu, Ni, Pb, S, and Zn were analyzed by multi-acid digestion and inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometry, and As, Au, Cr, Sb, and Th by instrumental neutron activation analysis.

Twelve repeat analyses of an internal granite standard yielded excellent to very good repeatability for major oxides (average  $<2\%$  variation, except 5.8% for  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ ) and most reported trace elements (0–10%), except for Cu, Ge, Nb, Pb (10–20% variation) and Ag, As, Bi, Sb, and W ( $>20\%$  variation). Analytical methods, precision and accuracy for data incorporated from the other sources cited in this paper are given by Whalen (1993) and MacLellan and Taylor (1989). Although the analytical methods used to acquire the older data (mainly X-Ray Fluorescence Spectroscopy and Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis) differ from those used in this study, the high quality of the older data (based on the labs used, the precision and accuracy figures reported by Whalen (1993) and MacLellan and Taylor (1989), and the congruity of old and newly acquired data when plotted on variation/discrimination diagrams) supports the use of a combined dataset.





## APPENDIX B. Continued.

Sample #	11-SHM-2	11-SHM-30	12-SHM-18	11-SHM-11	11-SHM-12	12-SHM-69	11-SHM-38	12-SHM-6	12-SHM-7
Pluton	Beadle Mtn.	Beadle Mtn.	Beadle Mtn.	Beadle Mtn.	Juniper Barren	Juniper Barren	Juniper Barren	Juniper Barren	Juniper Barren
Age	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian	Early Devonian
SiO <sub>2</sub>	76.08	74.85	74.91	75.84	72.33	70.08	71.83	65.79	69.02
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.12	0.16	0.13	0.11	0.21	0.66	0.51	0.95	0.62
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13.40	14.09	13.89	13.93	15.77	14.32	14.24	15.11	13.88
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.35	1.50	1.49	1.28	1.68	4.08	3.21	5.61	3.61
MnO	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.06	0.10	0.07
MgO	0.13	0.26	0.21	0.14	0.41	1.16	0.82	1.44	0.96
CaO	0.43	0.66	0.53	0.39	0.71	2.12	1.66	2.76	2.17
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.24	2.84	3.14	3.09	2.98	3.19	3.18	3.19	3.03
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.86	5.49	4.95	4.98	5.47	4.02	4.23	3.46	4.01
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.10	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.20	0.17	0.14	0.24	0.17
LOI	0.83	0.80	0.85	0.99	1.04	0.80	0.98	1.33	0.93
TOTAL	100.60	100.80	100.30	101.00	100.80	100.70	100.90	99.97	98.46
Ag	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3
As	< 0.5	< 0.5	1.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Au	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ba	177	280	151	125	382	511	434	572	454
Be	6	2	3	3	5	3	3	3	3
Bi	0.2	0.6	1.3	1.7	0.7	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.6
Cd	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Co	< 1	1.0	< 1	< 1	2.0	7.0	6.0	11.0	7.0
Cr	9	17	19	20	14	41	25	49	32
Cs	8.4	4.3	8.7	8.8	6.7	8.3	7.4	4.6	6.8
Cu	2	1	1	1	6	17	6	13	3
Ga	19	18	18	19	22	19	20	20	19
Ge	2.5	1.7	2.4	2.5	1.8	1.6	2.3	2.0	1.9
Hf	2.7	2.4	1.7	1.6	2.4	5.6	4.6	7.3	5.5
In	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1
Mo	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0
Nb	21.6	10.3	8.5	14.7	11.2	9.9	14.0	16.4	9.9
Ni	3	2	3	1	4	10	8	12	8
Pb	29	38	24	24	39	19	21	21	20
Rb	289	213	274	298	266	174	165	143	181
S	0.007	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.004	0.015	0.007	0.015	0.034
Sb	< 0.2	0.4	0.3	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.6	< 0.2	< 0.2
Sc	5.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	10.0	8.0	12.0	9.0
Sn	13.0	6.0	9.0	11.0	10.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	6.0
Sr	31	60	40	30	77	149	201	180	152
Ta	3.26	1.28	2.36	2.86	1.78	1.59	1.55	1.47	1.51
Th	19.90	11.90	11.00	9.20	11.80	18.20	20.20	14.30	19.30
Tl	1.25	1.10	1.29	1.46	1.45	0.92	0.82	0.74	0.91
U	7.38	4.78	5.88	3.78	3.79	4.17	4.09	3.43	5.66
V	6	10	8	6	15	66	51	91	60
W	2.9	< 0.5	1.2	2.7	1.3	2.8	< 0.5	< 0.5	2.0
Y	57.8	23.8	22.5	18.6	15.2	41.5	35.4	36.7	35.1
Zn	33	41	45	36	63	55	42	74	54
Zr	77	77	57	46	83	241	178	323	236
La	20.50	17.40	12.20	9.68	20.50	45.30	36.20	33.30	30.90
Ce	37.20	37.70	26.90	20.20	43.20	80.50	74.60	78.10	66.80
Pr	5.48	4.29	3.18	2.35	4.96	10.80	8.17	8.58	7.69
Nd	20.80	16.70	11.90	8.86	18.70	40.70	31.00	34.30	28.70
Sm	5.45	4.14	3.29	2.44	4.42	8.21	6.19	7.20	6.09
Eu	0.46	0.54	0.37	0.26	0.73	1.20	1.04	1.63	1.12
Gd	6.49	4.45	3.08	2.79	3.85	7.15	6.18	6.78	5.58
Tb	1.25	0.80	0.63	0.53	0.52	1.15	0.98	1.10	0.94
Dy	8.27	4.34	3.78	3.10	2.65	6.91	5.58	6.30	5.66
Ho	1.65	0.72	0.68	0.56	0.44	1.32	1.07	1.24	1.09
Er	5.23	1.95	1.91	1.57	1.25	3.94	3.18	3.32	3.18
Tm	0.93	0.27	0.32	0.26	0.19	0.59	0.51	0.53	0.50
Yb	6.44	1.65	2.05	1.67	1.13	3.51	3.34	3.48	3.22
Lu	0.96	0.23	0.26	0.24	0.16	0.51	0.49	0.52	0.44



## APPENDIX B. Continued.

Sample #	RS-2	RS-5	RS-6	RS-7	RS-8	TD-11-3	11-SHM-18	11-SHM-3	11-SHM-10
Pluton	Redstone Mtn.	Redstone Mtn.	Redstone Mtn.	Redstone Mtn.	Redstone Mtn.	Redstone Mtn?	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak
Age	late Silurian - Early Devonian	late Silurian - Early Devonian	late Silurian - Early Devonian	late Silurian - Early Devonian	late Silurian - Early Devonian	late Silurian - Early Devonian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian
SiO <sub>2</sub>	76.33	78.38	74.67	71.75	75.23	72.92	74.04	64.68	74.50
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.14	0.12	0.21	0.39	0.13	0.25	0.20	0.98	0.15
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11.51	12.12	12.23	13.57	12.20	12.88	13.76	15.28	14.47
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2.16	1.87	1.70	3.40	2.14	2.95	1.80	5.91	1.43
MnO	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.02	0.10	0.05	0.09	0.04
MgO	0.05	0.11	0.28	0.49	0.07	0.26	0.39	1.56	0.25
CaO	0.51	0.52	0.59	1.09	0.65	0.07	1.13	3.09	0.51
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.42	6.38	2.79	5.15	3.64	1.43	3.14	3.13	3.21
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.41	0.10	5.40	2.07	4.57	6.13	4.42	3.02	4.71
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.01	< 0.01	0.03	0.14	< 0.01	0.02	0.14	0.29	0.16
LOI	0.50	0.63	0.80	1.16	0.61	1.77	1.68	0.90	0.90
TOTAL	99.05	100.30	98.72	99.28	99.24	98.79	100.70	98.94	100.30
Ag	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.3	< 0.3	0.4
As	7.0	26.0	17.0	15.0	13.0	35.0	2.3	< 0.5	< 0.5
Au	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ba	860	19	584	495	913	153	388	511	297
Be	2	2	3	4	3	6	2	3	6
Bi	0.4	1.0	0.8	1.5	0.6	31.8	0.2	0.3	0.3
Cd	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Co	1.9	< 0.1	< 0.1	3.8	< 0.1	2.8	2.0	11.0	1.0
Cr	10	18	21	14	16	12	18	26	9
Cs	1.6	0.2	1.4	0.4	0.5	9.8	6.1	6.3	7.8
Cu	2	2	1	3	6	115	3	16	1
Ga	17	22	15	19	21	26	18	22	20
Ge	2.3	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.3	3.8	1.9	1.8	2.5
Hf	7.3	11.1	4.5	8.2	8.9	5.2	2.9	5.3	2.3
In	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	0.2	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1
Mo	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	17.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0
Nb	19.2	33.0	11.3	18.2	26.1	29.7	11.5	15.0	15.7
Ni	4	4	4	5	3	3	5	12	2
Pb	< 5	< 5	12	< 5	< 5	19	25	11	23
Rb	127	4	186	58	128	553	208	167	251
S	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.005	0.004	0.004	0.005	0.026	0.003
Sb	0.2	< 0.1	< 0.1	0.1	< 0.1	0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.2
Sc	5.3	1.4	4.7	8.6	4.0	6.0	4.0	12.0	4.0
Sn	4.0	10.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	131.0	7.0	4.0	10.0
Sr	66	59	117	147	81	36	78	187	49
Ta	1.63	2.58	1.45	1.48	2.06	3.80	2.03	1.48	3.19
Th	18.40	24.00	27.30	18.80	25.90	50.10	15.40	5.00	13.20
Tl	0.44	< 0.05	1.00	0.28	0.59	2.95	1.10	0.82	1.09
U	3.77	6.69	6.33	4.62	6.62	24.70	2.73	3.65	3.88
V	< 5	< 5	12	13	< 5	13	18	104	12
W	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	34.0	< 0.5	0.8	4.0
Y	39.0	73.0	34.0	47.0	79.0	38.0	23.0	17.8	25.3
Zn	11	17	17	28	10	23	35	79	32
Zr	243	324	134	352	265	185	101	241	73
La	41.00	57.60	38.80	58.00	88.10	40.90	23.80	26.40	17.40
Ce	94.00	138.00	78.60	124.00	156.00	87.50	47.30	52.10	33.10
Pr	9.39	14.80	8.54	13.50	20.10	10.70	5.06	5.99	3.81
Nd	34.90	56.60	30.10	50.30	75.10	38.30	18.90	24.10	14.40
Sm	7.43	12.90	6.13	10.10	15.70	9.09	4.08	5.02	3.46
Eu	0.95	0.76	0.83	2.28	1.61	0.49	0.61	1.40	0.41
Gd	6.72	12.20	6.03	9.02	14.30	7.30	3.98	4.68	3.62
Tb	1.17	2.31	1.01	1.48	2.49	1.34	0.63	0.55	0.68
Dy	7.20	14.30	6.53	8.88	15.20	7.90	3.68	2.63	3.98
Ho	1.52	2.97	1.29	1.78	3.07	1.48	0.69	0.51	0.76
Er	4.40	8.84	3.84	5.26	8.65	4.29	2.09	1.59	2.16
Tm	0.70	1.40	0.64	0.81	1.34	0.71	0.32	0.25	0.32
Yb	4.89	8.80	4.23	5.50	8.87	4.96	1.99	1.55	2.13
Lu	0.78	1.44	0.63	0.85	1.38	0.78	0.28	0.24	0.32

## APPENDIX B. Continued.

Sample #	11-SHM-16	11-SHM-25	11-SHM-26	11-SHM-8	11-SHM-22	11-SHM-23	11-SHM-24	11-SHM-27	11-SHM-28	11-SHM-29	11-SHM-35
Pluton	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Nashwaak
Age	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian
SiO <sub>2</sub>	76.05	78.21	76.83	75.50	72.67	73.83	78.62	78.10	72.43	73.59	72.20
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.06	0.20	0.24	0.05	0.34	0.10	0.22	0.10	0.25	0.14	0.16
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14.17	12.16	12.41	14.70	13.83	13.71	11.73	11.69	14.19	14.10	14.16
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.97	0.98	1.65	0.71	2.80	1.17	1.41	1.16	2.08	1.50	1.55
MnO	0.08	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.06	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.06	0.03	0.04
MgO	0.13	0.21	0.21	0.12	0.56	0.18	0.17	0.05	0.54	0.34	0.28
CaO	0.33	0.51	0.77	0.42	1.45	0.46	0.69	0.48	1.10	0.74	0.69
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.37	3.78	3.17	3.91	3.18	3.12	4.38	3.19	3.26	3.11	3.18
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.43	3.91	4.80	4.22	4.40	4.52	2.77	4.48	4.22	4.80	5.05
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.21	0.04	0.03	0.27	0.11	0.22	0.05	< 0.01	0.16	0.28	0.18
LOI	0.89	0.42	0.30	0.85	0.56	0.88	0.39	0.31	0.74	0.82	0.66
TOTAL	100.70	100.40	100.40	100.80	99.95	98.25	100.40	99.61	99.01	99.45	98.15
Ag	0.3	0.4	0.4	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	0.3	< 0.3	0.6
As	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	4.6	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	1.8
Au	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ba	42	221	327	78	384	135	294	22	353	278	240
Be	5	3	4	4	3	4	2	3	5	10	4
Bi	3.0	< 0.1	< 0.1	0.1	1.0	2.8	< 0.1	< 0.1	2.6	1.2	2.2
Cd	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Co	< 1	< 1	2.0	< 1	3.0	< 1	< 1	< 1	3.0	1.0	2.0
Cr	< 5	< 5	13	28	20	8	17	14	16	16	18
Cs	8.5	1.7	5.6	5.4	9.6	10.9	0.7	3.4	11.3	9.6	11.8
Cu	2	27	2	4	4	< 1	3	1	3	3	3
Ga	20	16	17	19	21	18	16	17	19	18	20
Ge	3.2	2.1	1.9	3.4	2.6	3.1	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.7
Hf	1.0	3.9	5.2	0.7	3.3	1.4	4.5	3.8	2.7	1.9	2.1
In	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1
Mo	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0
Nb	13.7	8.3	8.9	11.7	15.4	10.4	9.6	5.7	7.5	11.9	14.1
Ni	2	3	3	2	5	3	3	1	5	4	4
Pb	18	8	15	18	30	33	< 5	23	25	38	28
Rb	232	141	219	209	214	252	85	277	231	220	252
S	0.002	0.006	0.004	0.004	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.004	0.005	0.008	0.003
Sb	0.4	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.5	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.5	0.4	0.6
Sc	5.0	4.0	5.0	4.0	8.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	6.0	4.0	5.0
Sn	19.0	6.0	5.0	23.0	7.0	20.0	9.0	5.0	10.0	13.0	11.0
Sr	18	55	41	24	86	32	63	15	82	54	62
Ta	3.43	0.84	2.42	2.51	1.95	2.26	1.14	0.92	2.42	2.79	2.80
Th	2.30	27.00	33.70	2.50	18.50	2.90	30.10	40.60	11.50	6.80	12.20
Tl	1.12	0.50	0.94	0.99	0.98	1.12	0.32	1.20	1.15	1.03	1.23
U	4.33	3.37	8.48	5.79	2.43	2.66	4.46	5.50	3.91	3.53	3.72
V	5	10	16	< 5	31	8	13	< 5	24	9	13
W	3.3	0.6	< 0.5	5.3	< 0.5	3.3	< 0.5	0.7	< 0.5	< 0.5	1.0
Y	7.3	31.1	43.1	6.1	31.4	11.9	45.8	41.5	21.7	19.1	25.9
Zn	20	9	13	13	51	41	6	20	47	47	38
Zr	24	129	166	15	133	46	144	98	101	60	72
La	2.74	32.90	37.50	2.05	30.40	6.25	20.90	10.60	22.30	11.20	17.90
Ce	5.35	66.60	71.70	3.46	63.90	12.80	73.90	60.80	44.20	23.00	37.90
Pr	0.59	7.31	8.65	0.48	7.13	1.44	6.25	2.56	4.95	2.56	4.07
Nd	2.15	26.60	31.50	1.79	27.30	5.59	25.10	9.71	18.30	9.69	14.30
Sm	0.73	5.46	6.19	0.65	6.06	1.28	5.70	2.33	4.13	2.43	3.40
Eu	0.09	0.43	0.63	0.13	0.69	0.26	0.44	0.13	0.64	0.51	0.46
Gd	0.84	5.19	5.61	0.88	5.89	1.47	6.37	3.13	3.81	3.06	3.52
Tb	0.20	0.81	0.99	0.17	0.91	0.30	1.10	0.65	0.66	0.55	0.67
Dy	1.24	4.77	6.12	1.01	4.89	1.87	7.11	5.01	3.71	3.16	4.01
Ho	0.23	0.93	1.21	0.18	0.90	0.33	1.47	1.16	0.69	0.55	0.75
Er	0.66	2.87	4.05	0.51	2.57	1.00	4.31	3.83	2.03	1.44	2.22
Tm	0.12	0.47	0.72	0.09	0.40	0.18	0.69	0.64	0.32	0.21	0.35
Yb	0.87	3.01	5.10	0.63	2.57	1.23	4.70	4.26	2.01	1.28	2.19
Lu	0.13	0.42	0.79	0.09	0.37	0.16	0.67	0.61	0.27	0.17	0.32

## APPENDIX B. Continued.

Sample #	11-SHM-36	11-SHM-49	12-SHM-20	11-SHM-6	11-SHM-47	11-SHM-33	11-SHM-17	11-SHM-15	12-SHM-8	12-SHM-9
Pluton	Nashwaak	Nashwaak	Bogan Brook	Bogan Brook	Bogan Brook	McKiel Lake	McKiel Lake	McKiel Lake	McKiel Lake	McKiel Lake
Age	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	late Silurian	Middle Ordovician	Middle Ordovician	Middle Ordovician	Middle Ordovician	Middle Ordovician
SiO <sub>2</sub>	72.47	73.24	68.44	66.89	68.42	75.49	68.82	70.29	71.77	70.34
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.14	0.17	0.58	0.75	0.70	0.32	0.80	0.69	0.51	0.23
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14.29	14.23	14.84	15.53	14.92	12.67	13.87	14.17	13.00	14.62
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.42	1.73	3.89	4.27	3.96	2.07	4.94	4.13	3.15	2.58
MnO	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.09	0.05	0.09	0.08	0.06	0.04
MgO	0.34	0.30	0.93	1.51	1.33	0.43	1.12	1.01	0.68	0.42
CaO	0.69	0.63	2.60	3.68	3.33	0.94	2.69	1.87	1.74	2.29
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.37	3.00	3.29	3.42	3.11	3.09	3.02	2.75	2.85	3.92
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.68	4.83	3.76	2.98	2.71	4.23	3.36	3.97	3.84	2.52
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.30	0.16	0.17	0.15	0.15	0.07	0.21	0.15	0.12	0.09
LOI	0.78	0.92	1.15	0.93	0.67	0.87	0.84	0.86	0.92	0.93
TOTAL	98.53	99.24	99.70	100.20	99.39	100.20	99.74	99.98	98.64	97.98
Ag	< 0.3	< 0.3	0.5	< 0.3	< 0.3	0.3	0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	0.4
As	< 0.5	2.8	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	1.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Au	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ba	258	248	533	460	348	415	622	517	501	453
Be	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2
Bi	2.5	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	< 0.1	< 0.1
Cd	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Co	1.0	2.0	6.0	10.0	9.0	3.0	9.0	7.0	5.0	3.0
Cr	9	20	25	31	26	20	16	34	33	< 5
Cs	10.9	11.6	8.5	5.9	9.7	2.9	5.6	6.5	1.7	1.9
Cu	4	15	9	10	27	3	16	3	4	1
Ga	19	17	20	20	18	16	19	17	19	18
Ge	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.7	2.3	1.9	1.8	2.3	1.7	1.6
Hf	1.4	2.4	5.7	4.3	2.7	3.6	7.6	5.7	4.6	4.9
In	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1
Mo	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0
Nb	7.7	12.2	9.3	12.3	7.5	10.3	14.6	13.0	10.0	7.8
Ni	4	4	7	10	9	5	11	13	9	3
Pb	37	28	25	18	13	23	14	19	20	15
Rb	244	224	178	140	120	181	135	145	144	86
S	0.003	0.005	0.013	0.017	0.028	0.005	0.011	0.010	0.009	0.013
Sb	0.7	0.7	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.5	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.3	< 0.2	0.2
Sc	4.0	5.0	10.0	11.0	17.0	6.0	13.0	12.0	7.0	3.0
Sn	17.0	10.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	7.0	3.0
Sr	49	56	168	247	206	100	139	150	122	231
Ta	2.94	1.94	1.35	1.39	0.47	1.34	1.15	1.00	1.09	0.76
Th	6.00	12.70	14.80	14.90	9.80	17.10	13.40	9.80	11.30	9.80
Tl	1.18	1.17	0.86	0.75	0.56	1.00	0.73	0.76	0.65	0.45
U	3.18	5.30	4.01	6.97	3.34	5.46	2.59	1.13	1.62	1.83
V	10	13	55	87	77	25	73	61	45	15
W	1.7	1.1	< 0.5	0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	0.8	< 0.5	< 0.5
Y	18.1	23.2	33.4	24.8	9.2	32.8	39.7	14.8	14.5	16.3
Zn	49	42	50	50	39	27	67	63	41	47
Zr	55	76	248	174	111	132	327	235	199	186
La	10.50	18.00	40.50	29.00	23.40	22.30	22.00	29.70	33.50	29.60
Ce	21.50	39.60	78.50	58.80	40.40	55.60	61.80	61.50	69.40	58.10
Pr	2.55	4.64	9.34	6.26	4.02	5.09	5.72	6.76	7.83	6.66
Nd	9.99	16.80	35.00	24.10	13.00	18.70	24.30	27.30	29.70	24.50
Sm	2.40	4.21	6.81	4.89	2.37	4.07	6.02	5.22	5.27	4.13
Eu	0.52	0.52	1.28	1.09	0.73	0.51	1.44	1.21	1.01	0.99
Gd	2.37	4.02	5.83	4.65	2.25	4.46	7.06	4.58	3.86	3.69
Tb	0.50	0.70	0.94	0.68	0.31	0.74	1.12	0.59	0.54	0.50
Dy	2.88	4.08	5.53	3.99	1.62	4.99	6.70	3.07	2.96	2.82
Ho	0.51	0.72	1.03	0.76	0.30	1.05	1.31	0.52	0.47	0.51
Er	1.38	2.08	3.03	2.27	0.84	3.16	3.78	1.33	1.32	1.44
Tm	0.20	0.30	0.47	0.34	0.12	0.54	0.58	0.19	0.20	0.22
Yb	1.21	1.92	2.89	2.19	0.85	3.57	3.63	1.23	1.15	1.50
Lu	0.16	0.29	0.40	0.37	0.15	0.49	0.55	0.18	0.14	0.25

## APPENDIX B. Continued.

Sample #	12-SHM-12	12-SHM-13	12-SHM-21	12-SHM-22	11-SHM-44	11-SHM-45
Pluton	McKiel Lake	McKiel Lake	Little Clearwater	Little Clearwater	Little Clearwater	Little Clearwater
Age	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle
	Ordovician	Ordovician	Ordovician	Ordovician	Ordovician	Ordovician
SiO <sub>2</sub>	72.95	78.10	74.98	74.94	79.56	74.23
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.25	0.14	0.34	0.32	0.14	0.31
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13.82	11.69	12.44	12.74	12.80	12.60
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2.02	1.26	2.16	2.15	0.71	2.15
MnO	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.04
MgO	0.32	0.23	0.68	0.43	0.25	0.42
CaO	1.05	0.56	0.64	0.63	0.12	0.59
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.73	3.22	3.36	3.18	0.12	3.53
K <sub>2</sub> O	6.00	4.04	3.76	4.57	4.61	3.63
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.22	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.13	0.07
LOI	0.87	0.55	0.87	0.67	2.13	0.73
TOTAL	100.20	99.85	99.36	99.75	100.60	98.29
Ag	< 0.3	0.4	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	0.3
As	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	46.7	< 0.5
Au	18	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ba	591	279	248	370	186	333
Be	3	3	3	3	1	4
Bi	< 0.1	< 0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3
Cd	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
Co	2.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	3.0
Cr	25	27	19	21	17	14
Cs	2.4	1.2	3.8	4.5	12.4	4.4
Cu	5	2	7	2	9	2
Ga	17	16	17	17	12	17
Ge	1.8	1.6	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1
Hf	3.1	5.1	4.7	5.1	2.7	4.6
In	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1
Mo	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2.0
Nb	4.4	5.2	15.6	15.1	3.5	16.7
Ni	4	2	4	4	3	4
Pb	29	26	15	16	20	12
Rb	180	134	159	192	190	153
S	0.008	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.003
Sb	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	11.0	0.4
Sc	5.0	3.0	6.0	6.0	4.0	5.0
Sn	4.0	8.0	5.0	4.0	< 1	6.0
Sr	90	42	55	55	26	49
Ta	0.75	0.88	1.71	1.79	0.47	1.94
Th	10.60	20.80	21.00	23.60	10.90	18.60
Tl	0.75	0.62	0.69	0.90	0.75	0.73
U	3.78	2.92	4.73	3.79	3.11	4.80
V	19	7	26	25	13	25
W	< 0.5	< 0.5	1.1	1.4	1.5	< 0.5
Y	53.3	53.7	42.5	38.9	27.1	40.2
Zn	32	22	19	29	15	18
Zr	120	149	186	181	80	158
La	18.50	27.50	36.60	39.60	12.00	33.90
Ce	40.60	58.20	76.50	82.20	25.60	68.20
Pr	4.93	6.77	8.66	9.27	3.02	7.90
Nd	20.20	24.40	32.50	33.70	11.10	28.90
Sm	5.56	5.26	6.61	6.57	2.56	5.81
Eu	1.13	0.40	0.79	0.74	0.37	0.64
Gd	6.01	5.40	6.33	6.16	2.96	5.77
Tb	1.23	1.06	1.05	1.04	0.55	0.98
Dy	8.18	7.21	6.43	6.45	3.89	6.03
Ho	1.63	1.54	1.26	1.31	0.82	1.23
Er	4.97	4.87	3.62	3.83	2.54	3.56
Tm	0.82	0.79	0.57	0.59	0.41	0.56
Yb	5.15	5.17	3.90	3.95	2.72	3.69
Lu	0.72	0.72	0.61	0.60	0.39	0.53