

time and the Acadian about Middle Devonian time. In Canada the Taconic disturbances were fairly widespread, the Acadian were more so, affecting areas that were previously affected by the Taconic, as well as areas that were not, and the Appalachian orogeny, which was a major feature in parts of the United States, was of minor and local importance.

Metamorphosed Precambrian rocks of Grenville type are exposed to form the Long Range of western Newfoundland and small areas in Cape Breton and New Brunswick. On the east flank of the Appalachian geosyncline, as exposed in southeast Newfoundland, younger Precambrian volcanics and sediments are relatively unaltered and were intruded by small granite bodies 580,000,000 years ago. Although Precambrian rocks probably underlie much of the central Appalachians, they are buried beneath the thick Palæozoic sequence.

Cambrian slates, minor limestones and local areas of volcanics lie above and adjacent to Precambrian rocks. Massive sulphide deposits in schists derived from Cambrian volcanics in southern Cape Breton and southeast Quebec were formerly mined. The overlying Ordovician beds were formed at the early stage of development of the Appalachian geosyncline. From west to east, and depending on their position in the geosyncline, the thick Ordovician sections comprise limestone and/or slate in western Newfoundland and adjacent to the St. Lawrence Lowlands in southeast Quebec. Silurian strata are rather similar to Ordovician rocks but are not known to contain large mineral deposits. Unlike the Ordovician submarine volcanics, some or most of the Silurian volcanics were formed on land. This may be one factor in the marked difference in known ore content of the two volcanic assemblages.

In Devonian time, granite batholiths were emplaced in the Maritime Provinces, and smaller stocks of the same age were intruded in Gaspé and southeastern Quebec. At this time, older beds were folded and metamorphosed to varying degrees, particularly near the margins of the granites.

Following the folding and granite intrusion that formed the Appalachian Mountains, adjacent basins were rapidly filled with coarse and progressively finer-grained detritus eroded from the adjacent mountains. Some areas included marine beds, such as the petroliferous Albert shales of eastern New Brunswick which yield oil and gas. After initial infilling of basins, shallow Mississippian seas encroached on the valleys and deposited limestones. Many thousands of feet of clastic sediments were deposited after the Mississippian seas retreated. These beds of Pennsylvanian age contain the commercial coal measures of Nova Scotia. In Triassic time, outpourings of basalt, particularly preserved adjacent to and below the Bay of Fundy, terminated rock-forming processes in the Appalachians. Subsequent erosion has yielded the present, fairly subdued topography of this former mountain chain.

The Cordilleran Region.—The Cordillera of Western Canada consists of three parallel northwest-trending geological and topographical systems. The Eastern System of western Alberta, eastern British Columbia, eastern Yukon, and western Northwest Territories includes the Rocky, Richardson, Franklin and Mackenzie Mountains and foothills, and several intervening plateaux. Comprising the Western System are the Coast Mountains along the west mainland of British Columbia, the St. Elias Mountains in southwest Yukon, the Queen Charlotte Islands and Vancouver Island. The Interior System lies between the Eastern and Western Systems. It contains the plateaux, plains and subdued mountain ranges of the interior of British Columbia and Yukon Territory.

Unmetamorphosed Precambrian to Cretaceous sedimentary strata form most of the Eastern System. These sedimentary strata, which have been uplifted several thousand feet by fault movements, are well exposed in the Rocky Mountains. The Interior System is composed largely of metamorphic, sedimentary and volcanic rocks of Precambrian to Mesozoic ages, which are intruded by numerous, generally unconnected, granitic stocks and batholiths. In places, these rocks are overlain by great thicknesses of Cretaceous and Tertiary volcanic and sedimentary strata. Flat-lying Tertiary basalt flows form many