

In the central part of the metamorphic area there is a well-defined line extending from Ben Vrackie south-west by Ben Lawers to Glen Lochay, which marks the axis of a fan-shaped arrangement of the folding of the strata. Along this line the axial planes of the folds are vertical, and on either side they are inclined towards the centre of the fan. Hence on the south-east side of this central axis there is a remarkably persistent dip of the folds towards the north-west, while on the north-west side the general inclination is towards the south-east. A fine example of the latter is to be found in the river Garry, where between Blair Atholl and Dalnaspidal the granulitic schists of the Moine series dip persistently towards the south-east for a distance of about 15 miles, and yet it is highly probable that the same bands are repeated indefinitely by means of folding. This remarkable reduplication of the strata can be clearly demonstrated in the case of the black schist, limestone, and quartzite groups, where the lithological types are clearly differentiated from each other. For a distance of 6 miles across the strike, between Ben Vrackie and Glen Tilt, these groups constantly reappear, the sill of garnetiferous hornblende-schist being indefinitely repeated with the black schist.

Reference has already been made to the system of north-east and south-west dislocations which traverse the metamorphic area. Of these, apparently the most powerful is the Loch Tay fault, which has been traced from near Blair Atholl, across Loch Tay, Loch Earn, and Loch Lubnaig, till it is truncated by the fault along the Highland border at Aberfoil. Further west, and roughly parallel with the foregoing, comes the line of disruption which extends from Loch Garry across Loch Rannoch and the valleys of the Lyon, the Lochay, and the Dochart towards the Braes of Balquhiddier. Again, from Tyndrum another dislocation has been followed north-east by Loch Lyon and the west margin of Loch Rannoch in the direction of Loch Ericht. Finally, in the north-west part of the basin there is a line of fracture running along Loch Ericht and Loch Laidon, which is roughly parallel with the Loch Tay fault. In the case of the Loch Tay, the Loch Garry, and the Loch Lyon dislocations, the downthrow has been on their western side; in other words, on that side the outcrops of the sedimentary bands and epidiorite sills have been shifted further to the south by each fault in turn.

Within the metamorphic area, as already indicated, there are various masses of igneous rock which are later than the folding and foliation of the crystalline schists, and have been referred to the newer granite intrusions of the Highlands. Of these, the most important is the large mass of diorite on the Moor of Rannoch, which stretches northwards to Loch Ericht and west towards Loch Treig, boulders of which have been carried far during the glaciation of the region. Other masses appear on both sides of Loch Ericht, in Glen Tilt, on the lofty