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Photograph of the Month

Flanking folds and boudins in the Prince Charles Mountains



This photograph shows deformed boudin structures in Precambrian basement rocks from Wilson Bluff, 74°18'S, 66°47'E, in the Southern Prince Charles Mountains of East Antarctica. An impressive flanking-fold structure can be seen between the torn mafic boudins; it appears to have originated from ductile flow of the overlying host grey gneiss into a low-pressure sink during the boudinage. Subsequent layer-parallel shortening is indicated by the numerous folded boudin shapes that are displayed by the leucocratic pegmatite material. Both the fold hingelines and the boudin long axes, i.e. neck lines, are shallow W-plunging. The cliff is west facing, viewed to the southeast, so that the structures are

seen approximately in their true profiles. Note person on bottom right for scale. The ages of the structures are unknown.

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