

# Chapter 8

## Economic Geology

Several prospecting and mining licences have been issued in the past, although the major mineralised zone occurs just to the south of the district in the now abandoned Ma On Shan mine (Strange & Woods, 1991). Devonian quartz sandstones exposed in the western parts of the district have been extensively mineralised by metasomatism associated with granite emplacement. Magnetite-bearing ore is found in quartz veins on the flanks of Ngau Ngak Shan (4280 3060).

A thick skarn deposit occurs beneath the Ma On Shan reclamation (see Chapter 6), marking the boundary between Carboniferous marble and medium-grained granite. Up to 30 m of magnetite ore has been encountered in some boreholes within the contact zone. Minor iron sulphide mineralisation (pyrite) is also present on joint surfaces within the marble, and traces of malachite in some marble cores indicate minor copper mineralisation.