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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NPS Form 10-900OMB No. 1024-0018
(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Coal Creek Historic Mining District

other names/site number Coal Creek Mining Camp; Gold Placers, Inc.; AHRS Site #CHR-089

2. Location

street & number ______ not for publication ____

city or town Near Circle in Yukon-Charley Rivers N.P. vicinity X

state Alaska code AK county ______ code ______

zip code ______

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ____ nationally ✓ statewide ____ locally. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[signature] 4.10.95
Signature of certifying official Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith E Bittner — March 2, 1995

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

_✓_	entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	Antoinette J. Lee	5/4/95
_____	determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.		
_____	determined not eligible for the National Register		
_____	removed from the National Register		
_____	other (explain): _____		

for Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

_____ private
_____ public-local
_____ public-State
_X_ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

_____ building(s)
_X_ district
_____ site
_____ structure
_____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
26	5	buildings
3		sites
12	2	structures
		objects
41	7	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Yukon Lifeways Thematic Group Nomination

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
Industry/Processing/Extraction	extractive facility
Domestic	institutional housing
Commerce/Trade	restaurant

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
Landscape	park
Recreation and Culture	outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
NO STYLE

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	N/A
roof	Corrugated Metal(bldgs); Asphalt(dredge)
walls	Wood/beaverboard; Metal (camp)
	Metal/Steel (dredge)
other	Stone (tailings)

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Coal Creek Mining Camp District is located on the Yukon River, 69 miles northwest of Eagle and 40 miles southeast of Circle. The District covers the final eight miles of Coal Creek and the valley it flows through in a northeasterly arc, ending at Slaven's Cabin on the Yukon River. The creek is bounded by mountains to the east and west less than two miles away that reach 1200 to 1400 feet above its bed. Tributaries to Coal Creek which serve as landmarks within the district are Cheese Creek, Snare Creek, and Beaton Pup. They join Coal Creek about 6 miles, 4 1/4 miles, and 3 miles, respectively, from the mouth of Coal Creek. See Map #1.

The district is comprised of buildings, structures, a dredge, water system, tailings piles, and other mine engineering sites and objects that together represent Alaskan dredge mining operations of the 1930's. The majority of buildings and structures were built between 1934 and 1940. The mining camp has been moved twice from it original site. The design, materials, and construction of the buildings all reflect the utilitarian and remote nature of the camp. Except for Slaven's Roadhouse, workmanship is strictly functional: competent but uninspired. Nothing detracts from the feeling of a remote placer mining operation of the 20th century. The district is comprised of 26 contributing buildings, 3 sites, and 12 structures. The non-contributing items include 5 buildings and 2 structures.

In 1941, the camp was apparently moved from its original location near the mouth of Cheese Creek to a hillside location near Snare Creek, and in 1952 to the present location at Beaton Pup. The original camp site was dredged over in 1941. The creek has since changed channels and today flows through a portion of the first site.

Slaven's Roadhouse, located at the mouth of Coal Creek, was constructed between 1928 and 1930. It is a 37 x 21-foot, two-story building. The front section is constructed of log and the back section is milled lumber. It served as a home and roadhouse into the mid-1930s and is used today as a temporary ranger station and shelter for travelers on the Yukon River. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 27, 1987 as part of the Yukon Lifeways Thematic Group Nomination.

The dredge, which is the most substantial resource in the district, is a medium-sized floating plant with 4-cubic-feet buckets that ran from diesel power. It moved throughout the district and is now 1 1/4 miles from the mouth of Coal Creek, four miles downstream from the location of operations in 1936-1941. Original parts (some buckets, for example) were interchanged over the years with a similar plant on Woodchopper Creek, roughly five miles west.

The mining camp on Beaton Pup consists of 21 contributing buildings, and 5 non-contributing buildings, scattered along both sides of Beaton Pup and the Coal Creek-Woodchopper Road. The contributing buildings were clearly contemporary with the dredge operation, although some of the construction dates are unknown; the non-contributing buildings were all built after 1964. The contributing buildings are primarily of frame construction with beaverboard, shiplap, or corrugated metal siding. As mentioned above, they are not in their original location. As was common in such dredge operations, the camp buildings were built on skids so they could be easily moved as the dredge worked the grounds around and then underneath the camp. Non-contributing buildings include plywood bunkhouses and the caretaker's house.

The site of the second camp, near Snare Creek, is much overgrown today. Stacks of pipe, a collapsed outhouse, and other equipment are visible at the site; a deteriorating log cabin and

outbuildings are nearby. The date of construction of these buildings is unknown, although it is possible they were constructed by Frank Slaven, who indicated that he had constructed cabins upstream.

All that remains today of the original camp at Cheese Creek are four contributing buildings, two of which are small sheds, and the ruins of the original machine shop which burned down in 1950. Much of the machine shop equipment--drill press, grinders, machine tool for example--remains on site. One of the buildings was converted in 1937 from a tractor garage into a warehouse. It is in fair condition today, still stocked with nuts, bolts, and pipe fittings. The blacksmith shop, apparently designed as a second garage, was built in 1941. It also remains in fair condition.

A "ditch" (actually a sophisticated system of reservoirs, gates, valves, piping, etc.) was constructed in 1935 to provide water for stripping and thawing operations and is visible along the hillside above the left bank of Coal Creek. It is much overgrown today--the piping has been either removed or piled in scrap yards and the penstocks are in deteriorated condition. The ditch runs along the left bank of Coal Creek for about 1 1/4 miles from near the southern end of the district to a point opposite the mouth of Cheese Creek.

The road from the Yukon River runs along the west side of the valley from the dredge site, past Slaven's Roadhouse and up the valley to the camp at Beaton Pup. The road continues south along the tailings piles beyond the camp, crossing the ridge into Woodchopper Creek drainage. It is approximately 21 miles long and varies from 8 to 12 feet in width with a gravel surface.

The gold dredge tailings are a striking and important feature of the landscape of Coal Creek valley, and are a significant contributing feature of the historic district. Today these fan-shaped tailings piles cover some 413 acres, running seven miles up Coal Creek.

Historic objects and artifacts, which are scattered across the landscape, are also important contributing resources. These range from drills, water system components and fuel barrels to small tools, assay office equipment, and spare parts found at the mining camp. The dredge remains aground in its self-made pond. Inside, it retains all of its machinery except for the starter and a few easily transportable parts. It appears able to start up almost any time; some argue that it could.

The complex as a whole retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, material and feeling. The visitor who walks from the river past Slaven's Roadhouse, the dredge, and the tailings piles to the campsites steps back into another time. This experience represents an important segment of life on the Yukon River. Slaven's Roadhouse continues to serve much the same function as it did historically. The mess hall and cabins at the present camp are habitable and historic objects and artifacts in operational condition are abundant. Almost everything needed to run a 1930s gold dredging operation is in place. The few non-historic buildings at Beaton Pup do not detract from the integrity of the site, since they were designed meet the same functional criteria as the other buildings. In sum, it is a nearly intact industrial site from the 1930s-1940s and an important piece of Alaska's economic and social history.

MINING CAMP AT BEATON PUP (Coal Creek Camp)
(Map #6)

Most of the 21 contributing buildings are mounted on skids, have wood frames, plank floors; and either board siding or beaverboard walls (referred to as "Celotex" originally, although that is now the name of a different, modern material). The mess hall and assay office both have had extensions added since they were last moved. The extensions are not skid-mounted. The mess hall had to be moved in two sections. The laundry/bathhouse, machine shop and storage building #10 differ from the other buildings as they are sheathed with corrugated metal.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Buildings: Coal Creek Camp (Numbers refer to those on Map #6)

1. Bunkhouse. 12'x18', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard, light yellow trim around windows and door, built on skids. Corrugated metal gable roof. Solid, two-panel wood door, painted light yellow, set in wood jamb in middle of front (NW) wall, 2'x3' wood overhang above door. One 3-over-3 hopper-type window in middle of side and rear walls. One room interior, plank floor, deep blue painted celotex wall covering, light yellow trim on windows and doors. Oil stove heat. Good condition.

2. Bunkhouse, 1936. 12'x20', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard, light yellow trim around windows and door, built on skids. Corrugated metal gable roof, stove pipe extends from center of roof. Solid, two-panel door, painted white, set in wood jamb in middle of front (NW) wall. Upper panel replaced with piece of unpainted plywood. 2'x3' wood overhang above door. Set of antlers attached above over hang. Two 3-over-3 hopper-type windows placed on either side of front door. 3-over-3 hopper-type windows placed toward the rear of each side wall. Exterior windows and door trim painted light yellow. 55 gallon oil drum on stand attached to side wall. One room interior, plank floor. Light yellow painted celotex wall covering and trim. Oil stove heat. Good condition.

3. Bunkhouse. 12'x18', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard, light yellow trim around windows and doors, built on skids. Corrugated metal gable roof, stove pipe extends from center of ridge line. Solid, five-panel wood door set in wood jamb in middle of front (NW) wall. 3-over-3 hopper-type window mounted in middle of each side wall and the rear wall. Exterior windows and door, light yellow trim. One room interior plank floor, light yellow painted celotex wall covering and trim. Oil stove heat. Good condition.

4. Bunkhouse. 12'x18', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard, white trim, built on skids. Corrugated metal roof, stove pipe extends from north corner. Two solid, two-panel wood doors, set in wood jambs, one in north side of front (SW) wall and one in south side of rear (NE) wall. 3-over-3 hopper-type windows located in center of SE and NW walls and one in south side of front (SW) wall. Power line pole, with insulators, mounted to exterior gable on front (SW) wall. One room interior, plank floor. Light green painted celotex wall covering, natural wood color trim around windows and doors. Built-in closet in west corner of room. Good condition.

5. Outhouse. Two-holer, framed, horizontal wood plank siding, door on north end of northeast wall, southeast wall screened over. Good condition.

6. Bunkhouse. 16'x20', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with wood siding, painted light green, Light green trim around window, doors, and corners, built on skids. Corrugated metal gable roof, stove pipe extends from center of roof. Solid wood door set in wood jamb with screen door, in middle of front (NW) wall. 2-over-2 hopper-type windows mounted toward the front (NW) end of each side wall and one in middle of rear (SE) wall. Exterior light mounted over door. One room interior, plank floor, light yellow painted celotex wall covering, light yellow trim around windows and doors. Good condition.

7. Recreation Hall, 1940. 15'10"x23'10", rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard. Corrugated metal gable roof. 1x4 vertical board door set in wood jamb in middle of front (NW) wall. 2'x3' corrugated metal overhang over door. 3-over-3 hopper-type windows flank door, two more located toward the south end of the southwest wall, one centered in the southeast wall, and two located toward the east end

of the northeast wall. One room interior, plank floor, wood ceiling, yellow painted wood walls and trim around windows and doors. Good condition.

10. Storage Building. 16'3"x24', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with corrugated metal. Corrugated metal gable roof. Solid wood door set in wood jamb in middle of front wall. Exterior door trim, unpainted. One window in rear wall. Good condition.

11. Bunkhouse, 1936. 12'x20', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard, white trim around door and windows, built on skids. Corrugated metal gable roof, stove pipe extending from roof toward the back (NW). Solid, two panel door set in wood jamb right side of front (SE) wall. 3-over-3 hopper-type windows placed one each in middle of both side walls and rear (NW) wall. One 3-over-3 hopper-type window left of door. One room interior, plank floor, wood ceiling and walls natural wood color, trim is natural wood color celotex wall covering. Good condition.

12. Office. 14'x20', rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing sheathed with horizontal wood siding, painted light green, white trim around windows and door, built on skids. Corrugated metal gable roof. Solid wood, four panel door, painted white, set in wood jamb in middle of front (SE) wall. Screen door, painted white. Exterior light attached above door. Two 2-over-2 double hung windows placed on either side of the door. Two 2-over-2 non-opening windows placed side by side toward front of north wall. One 2-over-2 double hung window on north side of rear wall. One 2-over-2 double hung window toward rear of southwest wall. Three room interior, plank floor, painted brown. Board sheathing painted white covers walls and ceiling. Three rooms. Office in front room (14'x10') has built in counter with drawer, approx. 5' long, under north windows. Map rack attached to wall left of windows. South wall has built in shelves (4) hung halfway up wall to ceiling. Shelves, counter, map rack, door and window trim painted yellow. Stove pipe hole in ceiling. Wall across center of building has two doors, each leading to small rooms large enough (7'x10') for one bunk and personal items. Room to the south has unpainted wood walls, room to north has white painted board sheathing. Good condition.

13. Assay Office. 12'x12' with 12'x12' rear extension, rectangular, one story. 12'x12' office 2x4 framing, sheathed with light green beaverboard. Corrugated metal gable roof, stove pipe extends north side of gable. Solid, two panel wood door on south side of front (southeast) wall. One 3-over-3 window on north side of front (east) wall and one centered in northeast wall, one each centered in both side walls. Plank floor. 12'X12' corrugated metal extension on rear, corrugated metal shed roof. 3-over-3 window in northeast wall and southwest wall. Good condition.

14. Generator Shed. Frame and unpainted plank walls, no door in place. Corrugated metal shed roof. Currently unused. Good condition.

17. Outhouse. One-hole, frame and plank construction, shed roof. Top half of front (east) wall is screen. Good condition.

18. Outhouse. One-hole, frame and plank construction, shed roof. Top half of front (east) wall is screen. Good condition.

19. Mess hall, 1936. (See Floor Plan sketch, Map 10, as visual aid) 38'5"x42'7", basically rectangular with pantry addition to northwest, kitchen extension to southeast, enclosed porch off south corner of southeast wall and bunkroom addition off west corner of northwest wall. Corrugated metal gable roof on main part of building and kitchen extension. Stove pipe extends from east corner of roof in main part of building. Cupola, 4'x4', covers ridge toward southwest end of main gable roof. 2x4 framing sheathed with horizontal wood siding painted light green, white trim around windows and doors on main building; kitchen extension sheathed with light green beaverboard. Solid wood door with screen door in center of northeast wall. 3-over-3 hopper-type windows

placed in east side of northeast (front) wall one in center of southeast wall kitchen extension. One single-pane hopper-type window in northwest side of northeast (front) wall. 2-over-2 non-opening windows toward northeast end of southeast and northwest walls of main part of building; one located on northwest wall between pantry and bunkroom additions and one centered in southwest (back) wall. 4'x3' stoop in front of door northeast wall. Six room interior. Northeast room (dining area), approximately 20'x30', linoleum flooring, light green painted plywood covering on open beam ceiling, northeast, southeast and northwest walls. Rear (southwest) wall, partial wall of wood planks painted white, separates dining area from kitchen. Center opening 10' wide with 6' foot counter and shelving divider. White painted wood trim around door and windows. Kitchen, behind (southwest) of mess hall area, plywood and celotex wall covering painted light green with white painted wood trim around windows and doors. Southwest wall behind large commercial cast iron stove is covered with corrugated metal. Kitchen extension (southwest) approx. 5'x 7', linoleum floor light green celotex walls. Doorway on northwest end of southwest kitchen wall leads to 5' wide room directly behind kitchen; linoleum floor and light green celotex walls and ceiling. South corner leads to enclosed porch extension (linoleum floor and celotex wall covering).

Bunkroom Addition. Corrugated metal roof, stove pipe extends from southwest roof section. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard and black fiberboard. Five panel door in west side of northwest wall, 3-over-3 hopper-type windows in center of northeast and southwest walls and northeast side of northwest wall. Bunkroom addition separated from back room by two-paneled solid natural wood door. First bunkroom, approximately 12'x10', linoleum flooring, celotex walls, plywood ceiling. Second bunkroom, approximately 10'x10', accessed through plywood door off northwest wall of first bunkroom; plywood walls, floor and ceiling, natural wood finish. Exterior door on northwest wall.

Pantry Addition. Corrugated metal shed style roof. 2x4 framing sheathed with horizontal wood siding painted light green, white trim around windows and door. Horizontal tongue and groove solid wood door in center of northeast wall, 3-over-3 hopper-type window in center of northwest wall. Approximately 10'x10', separated from kitchen by horizontal, tongue and grove solid wood door. 1"x3" wood plank floor, water damaged celotex ceiling and walls. Walls lined with shelving, screen door on interior of door on northeast wall.

Enclosed Porch. Corrugated metal shed style roof. 2x4 framing sheathed with light green beaverboard, white trim around windows and doors. Five panel door in center of southeast wall. 2-over-2 non-opening window in southwest wall. Linoleum floor and celotex wall covering.

Entire building in good condition.

20. Laundry/Bathhouse, 1937. 14'x20' rectangular, one story. 2x4 framing corrugated metal walls. Corrugated metal gable roof. Stove pipe extends from center of west section of roof and stove pipe hole in south section of roof. Front (east wall) door (boarded up) in center flanked by two windows. North window is 2-over-2, south window boarded up. One 2-over-3 paned window in center of north wall, one 2-over-2 window in center of west wall. Some trim exists around door and windows, unpainted wood. Three room interior, north room used as laundry area and vanity area (sinks, counter and mirrors), linoleum floor covering, white painted plywood walls. Two shower rooms (one shower each) on south end of building, linoleum floor covering, white painted plywood walls. Good condition.

22. Storage shed. 2x4 framing sheathed with unpainted beaverboard. Gable roof sheathed with planks covered with corrugated metal. Good condition.

23. Storage building. 2x4 framing, horizontal wood siding, corrugated metal gable roof. Good condition.

24. Storage building. 2x4 framing sheathed with beaverboard, painted white. Corrugated metal gable roof. Plywood door. Good condition.

25. Machine shop. 49'x22', corrugated metal quonset, earth floor, one end open, other plywood with door. Good condition.

26. Generator building. 16'9"x12'9", pole framing, three sides open, one wall solid wood planks. Corrugated metal gable roof. Good condition.

Slaven's Roadhouse, (Map #2), 1928-30. 37'x21', two story. Wood frame, sheathed with milled lumber on rear, front (north) is log construction, corrugated metal gable roof. 4'x4' entry attached to rear (south) wall, and 2'x3' shed roof enclosure toward south end of west wall. Four windows each on east, south and west walls, placed evenly spaced on both first and second stories. North wall door on east end of wall, one window centered in second story. Interior, two rooms first floor. Plank floor log walls in front room, milled lumber sheathing on walls of rear room. Stairway in southeast corner of front room. Second floor, two rooms, plank floor, log walls in front room, milled lumber sheathing on walls of rear room.

Cheese Creek Buildings (Map #8)

1. Garage/warehouse. 30'4"x15', rectangular, one story. Corrugated metal gable roof. 2x4 framing sheathed with corrugated metal. Large, solid wood, double doors in center of north end, same in south end wall but these doors have small windows. Two 2-over-2 windows placed side by side toward north end of west wall, one also toward south end of west wall. Window opening in center of east wall. Solid wood door toward south end of west wall. Framing for an addition off east wall, shed style roof. One room interior, two distinct areas. North end, dirt floor, no interior wall covering, shelving on west and south walls. South section, raised wood plank floor, walls covered with wood and tar paper. Shelving and bins line exterior walls, built-in floor to ceiling shelving unit runs length of section in middle of room. Tools, equipment, nuts, bolts etc. fill bins and shelves.

2. Storage/blacksmith shop. 14'x12', rectangular, one story. Corrugated metal gable roof. 2x4 framing sheathed with corrugated metal, unfinished wood trim around windows and doors. Stove pipe extends from south end of west side of roof. Large, wood double doors on north end. Two windows placed side by side in center of east wall-one 2-over-2 window in place, second window missing. Boarded up window opening in center of south wall. One room interior, dirt floor, no wall covering. Work bench and shelving on east wall, tipped over stove in middle of room.

3. Shed. Approximately 8'x8'. Wood framing, corrugated metal and plank siding. Shed style roof, most sheathing missing.

4. Collapsed shed. Very small, about the size of an outhouse, no measurement taken.

Sites

1. Old Machine Shop near Cheese Creek (#5, Map #8). Remains of three walls or foundations. Site littered with miscellaneous equipment, machinery, barrels, metal, etc.

2. Snare Creek Camp (Map #5). Heavily overgrown, stacks of pipe, collapsed outhouse and abandoned mining equipment.

3. Pipe Yard (Map #5). Area on top of tailings contains numerous piles of hydraulic pipe sections, elbows and valves; hydraulic hose; and steam points.

Structures

1. Historic Road (Map #3). Gold Placers, Inc. and the Alaska Road Commission built the road in 1936 extended to Woodchopper Creek in 1938-before it was a trail. Full length is 22 miles from the Yukon River up Coal Creek and over to Woodchopper. Approximately 7 miles is in the historic district.

2. Tailings (Map #3). Cover 413 acres. Crescent shaped piles approx. fifty feet across. Dredge path can be traced using the piles. Most run parallel to Coal Creek but some are at right angles to the Creek. Some of the tailings have been bulldozed for roads and airstrip, some used for fill when constructing dams and ditches. Natural revegetation is occurring.

3. Dredge, 1935. (Map #4) Steel construction with some wood framing in walls and roof, 4 cubic foot buckets. Hull is 80'3" long by 41'10" wide. Overall length 162' and 44' high. Attached by cables to two tractors, one International Harvester, the other a Caterpillar. Tractors moved the dredge throughout the district.

4. Ditch, (Map #1). Overgrown but quite obvious from the air due to the tall growth of trees and from the ground because of the bare earth above the ditch and slide areas where overflow occurred. Ditch begins approximately eight miles up Coal Creek from the Yukon River. About two miles in length, somewhat paralleling Coal Creek on the west side of creek. Crosses historic road and ends at penstock ruins above historic road.

5. Penstock head, (Map #7). Heavy wood construction, flume system. Ditch water flowed into the penstock where it was regulated for mining purposes.

6. Water system-dams and hydraulic piping throughout valley, some sections still intact while others have been pulled apart and/or moved.

7. Sluice box, (Map #6). 20' long, 5' wide. Base constructed of log and wood beams. Box constructed of wood plank and plywood, piece of channel steel with riffles used for actual sluicing.

Cheese Creek Structures (Map #8)

1. Drill Press. 7' high, powered with drive shaft and belts.

2. Machine tool. 4'x3' base, 4' tall, cast iron. Possibly used to bend hydraulic pipe, make replacement parts for the dredge, and make other pieces of equipment.

3. Locomotive Boiler. 15' long, 4' diameter, riveted steel construction. Most everything intact, valves, pipes, fire box.

4. Boiler. 6' long, 3' diameter, riveted steel construction. Pipes, valves, fire box intact.

5. Compressor. Ingersoll-Rand, 6' long 4' high. Radiator and fan missing from one end but otherwise most of the equipment still intact.

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Buildings (Numbers refer to those on Map #6)

8. Bunkhouse, 1970s. Framed plywood sheathing with batten strips, light green paint. Flat roof, stove pipes extend from each end of roof. Two solid wood doors placed at each end of northwest wall. Single pane awning window placed one each in the center of northeast

and southeast walls. Two single paned awning windows placed at each end of southeast wall. Two room interior, plywood walls, floor and ceiling natural wood color. Each room has door to exterior, rooms adjoined by hollow-core door.

9. Bunkhouse 1970s. Framed, plywood sheathing with batten strips, light green paint. Flat roof, stove pipes extend from each end of roof. Single solid wood door in center of northwest wall. Two single pane awning windows flank door, three more located equally spaced along southeast wall. Three room interior; one bunk room on northeast end and one on southwest end, common area in between bunk rooms. Plywood walls, floor, and ceiling natural wood. Natural color wood trim around doors and windows.

15. Log cabin, 1970s or 1980s. Corrugated metal roof, chinked walls. Sheet of plywood used as door in 4' wide jamb in northwest wall, four panel door in center of southeast wall. One window opening in southwest wall. One room interior, plank floor, log walls. Currently used as generator shed.

16. Greenhouse. Bottom half of walls plywood. Top half of walls and roof are corrugated plastic.

21. Caretakers House, 1970s. Wood frame sheathed with unpainted plywood, shed roof sheathed with corrugated metal. Seven awning windows, one door.

Structures

1. Road, (Maps #5 & #7). Currently used. Runs along Coal Creek on tailings piles.

2. Airstrip, (Map #5). Currently used. Built on tailings piles near the camp.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

__X__ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

__X__ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_____ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

_____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

_____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

__X__ B removed from its original location.

_____ C a birthplace or a grave.

_____ D a cemetery.

_____ E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.

_____ F a commemorative property.

__X__ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Industry
Engineering

Period of Significance 1933-1964

Significant Dates 1933 1964
1935
1957

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Patty, Ernest N.

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder Ernest N. Patty (Camp)
Charles Janin/Walter W. Johnson(dredge)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Gold mining has been an important and persistent theme in the history of the upper Yukon region in Alaska. A significant 20th century mining complex, the Coal Creek Mining District is eligible for the National Register under criterion A as representative of mid-century gold dredge mining on the upper Yukon and under criterion B for the association with Ernest N. Patty, dean and president of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, who made enormous contributions to education in Alaska. One of several mining districts in the area, the Coal Creek District contains many important cultural and historic resources.[1] Virtually all of the components of the historic gold dredging operation including the dredge, mobile camp buildings, tailings piles, ditch and penstock and innumerable other artifacts exist today in good condition.[2] Criteria consideration B applies to the mobile camp at Beaton Pup, its third location since 1933. Camp buildings associated with gold dredging are frequently built on skids so the camp can easily be moved to allow the dredge to work the ground beneath the camp. From the consolidation of claims by Gold Placers Inc. in 1933, the introduction of machinery in 1935, and the growth of the operation under the managerial skill of Ernest Patty; to the final dredging effort between 1960 and 1964, the Coal Creek Mining District reflects the full spectrum of Alaskan placer gold mining. Under criteria consideration G the period of significance, 1933-1964, includes a span of time less than fifty years old to allow for a full accounting of the mining history of Coal Creek and Patty's long-standing involvement and impact. Donated to the National Park Service in 1986, the district is a unique feature of the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.

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[1] Melody Webb Grauman, Yukon Frontiers: Historic Resource Study of the Proposed Yukon-Charley National River (Fairbanks: Anthropology and Historic Preservation Cooperative Park Studies Unit, University of Alaska, 1977) lists five other mine sites, of which only Woodchopper Creek Mining District, adjacent to Coal Creek and also operated by McRae and Patty, has a dredge.

[2] As of June 1988, the only dredge in Alaska on the National Register is Goldstream Dredge No. 8 at Fairbanks, listed 2-28-84. Its location near Fairbanks has made it vulnerable to change from its original condition. Within the Yukon Charley Preserve, the only district similar to Coal Creek is Woodchopper Creek, a few miles downstream from Coal Creek and accessible only from there. An unconfirmed report states that the dredge is stripped.

Historical Context

The discovery of gold in western Canada at the end of the 19th Century and the subsequent Klondike gold rush proved to be crucial events in Alaskan history. The development of Alaska by the United States was the final stage of the nation's frontier experience, and, as usual, fur trappers and prospectors led the way. Gold prospecting and mining began in the mid-1880s in Southeast and Interior Alaska. In Southeast, lode mining, the extraction of gold imbedded in rock--eventually replaced placer mining, gold washed from gravels, as the predominant form of mining. In Interior Alaska and later in Western Alaska, placer mines first operated as small undertakings by several men before giving way to large-scale hydraulic or dredging operations.

In Interior Alaska, the first development began along tributaries to the upper Yukon River near the Alaska-Canada border. The discovery of gold in the Fortymile District, 85 miles southeast of Coal Creek, occurred in 1886. Although the Fortymile District developed immediately, it is not until 1901 that claims can be documented on Coal Creek. D. J. Noonan filed the first claim on November 11, 1901.[3]

By 1907 familiar "Coal Creek names" begin to appear on claim Location Notices: Frank Slaven, miner and proprietor of Slaven's Roadhouse at the mouth of Coal Creek; W. P. Beaton and James Pendergast, for whom Beaton Pup and Pendergast Pup (Coal Creek tributaries) were named; and Harold Malstrom and Albert Forrest whose names are still associated with claims on Coal Creek. What followed was a pattern common to many Alaskan mining operations: individual, hand-operated drift mining yielded profits only after huge amounts of material had been sifted and a great deal of time and energy expended. At Coal Creek, often as much as 70 to 80 cubic yards of gravel had to be processed to obtain a single troy ounce of gold. Slaven and the few others who worked their claims in Coal Creek valley found enough gold to tie them to the land for the next thirty years, augmenting their earnings with income from trapping, woodcutting and other odd jobs. By the 1930s, Frank Slaven had turned his hand to innkeeping. He built a two-story cabin on the south bank of the Yukon River near the mouth of Coal Creek. The cabin served as home, roadhouse, and regional post office.

The gold in Coal Creek was so dispersed that the gravel in which it was found was worth only pennies a yard. The gravel itself lay frozen beneath a layer of frozen mud, silt, decayed organic matter, and ice as much as twenty-eight feet deep. The dredging technology necessary to make gold mining in Coal Creek valley profitable had existed since before the turn of the century and was already in widespread use in interior Alaska. But gold dredging, by which the massive amounts of gravel could be processed, required an investment of capital far beyond that available to Frank Slaven and the other miners who worked on Coal Creek. Nor did they possess the means to acquire the enormous amount of food and supplies for a crew of as many as forty men, much less transport more than 400 tons of equipment to a place so isolated that it could be reached only by dog team in the winter or boat in the summer. Gold mining languished through the 1920s; industrial development in the 48 states was more attractive to investors and the federal government had fixed the price of gold.

The first dredge arrived in the Klondike in 1899, but the early dredges proved to be no more than costly experiments and failures. Unforeseen costs and mechanical problems, coupled with that of frozen gravel, were largely to blame. Later dredges operated at a profit on Deadwood and Mammoth Creeks (tributaries of Birch Creek, relatively near Circle), at Walker Fork, Mosquito, and Jack Wade Creeks (tributaries of Fortymile River), and in the Yukon Territory around Dawson.[4] No equipment larger than the steam-powered dragline at Fourth of July Creek

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[3] State of Alaska [Territory of Alaska] (Circle Recording District, Fairbanks Recorders Office) "Location Notices", Book 1, 325. D.J. Noonan recorded Gertrude Bench Claim on Coal Creek, 11-11-01.

[4] Grauman, 193, 207.

operated in the Yukon-Charley area until the mid-1930s. Small-scale drift mines operated on Ben, Mineral, and Bonanza Creeks, and coal was mined on Washington Creek and Nation River.

Instead of damaging the subsistence livelihoods in the Alaskan interior, the 1929 Stock Market crash and the Great Depression, set the stage for its further development. The lowered demands for labor and heavy machinery made large-scale mining with heavy equipment economically feasible, and with the increase in the price of gold from $20.67 to $35.00 per ounce, capital was finally attracted to Alaskan gold mining. In 1933, Major General A.D. McRae, a Canadian financier and lifetime Member of Parliament, who made a fortune in the timber industry of western Canada, became interested in investing in an Alaskan gold mine. McRae needed guidance from someone who knew mining generally and Alaska mining specifically. He recruited Ernest Patty, a mining engineer and University of Alaska dean and instructor, to help him locate an area that could be profitably mined using heavy equipment. Patty came to Alaska in 1922 as one of the pioneering professors who helped establish the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines in Fairbanks, (which later became the University of Alaska). By 1933, the School of Mines, and the college in general was on a firm footing and expanding yearly, thanks to the efforts of Patty and others.

McRae hired Patty for one month to look over possible mining properties. After failed probes in several lode mining districts, Patty and McRae began considering placer mining as an alternative. Coal Creek, a tributary of the Yukon River, seemed to meet the placer mining criteria and an extensive sampling program began. McRae was pleased with the results. After consultation with Ira Joralemon, a consulting geologist, McRae made an attractive offer to Patty to manage the mine. After a great deal of consternation, Patty, eager to take on a challenge, accepted McRae's offer and resigned his position with the School of Mines. Patty and McRae formed Gold Placers, Incorporated, and began purchasing the claims still owned by Frank Slaven, W. P. Beaton, James Pendergast and others in the valley with the intention of introducing large scale mining there. Charles Janin, the foremost dredge designer of the day, designed a medium-sized 4-cubic-foot bucket dredge. According to Patty, the "steel dredge with a pontoon hull [was] a relatively new departure at the time."[5] The Walter W. Johnson Co. of Oakland, California constructed the dredge; shipped the parts by steamship to Skagway, Alaska, by rail to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory and by barge down the Yukon River, finally reconstructing it on location at Coal Creek. The dredge cost $105,929.04, including some $27,000 for shipping and reconstruction.[6]

During 1934, a small army of men and machinery arrived at Coal Creek to begin preparations for mining the next year. The camp buildings--mess hall, four-man bunkhouses, office, and gold room for cleaning the gold--originally located at the mouth of Cheese Creek, were built on skids so they could be moved as the dredge worked its way through the area. The entire camp was moved to a hillside location downstream during the winter of 1941 and to its present location on Beaton Pup during the winter of 1952. By this time, the camp included a food warehouse that connected to the mess hall (1936), a 12' x 20' combination post office and radio station (1936), two 12' x 20' bunkhouses (1936), a 4 man bunkhouse (1939), a bathhouse and laundry building (1937), a recreation hall (1940) and the dredge master's house (1936), which was located on a bluff across the creek--two corrugated metal buildings, a garage and machine shop, were constructed just downstream from the mouth of Cheese Creek. The Alaska Road Commission surveyed the right-of-way and furnished men and equipment for construction of most of the 6 1/2-mile road that ran along the west side of the valley from the Yukon River to the dredge site. Work also began on a ditch along the hillside above the camp to bring water to the mining area for stripping and thawing. Preparation of the area included the use of bulldozers to strip away trees, brush, and tundra; thawing and removal of the frozen "muck"

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[5] Ernest Patty, North Country Challenge (New York: David McKay Co., Inc., 1969), 98.

[6] Ibid., 96-7.

beneath the overburden; and thawing the gold bearing gravel. All this preparation was necessary prior to dredge mining in the sub-Arctic.

The dredge parts arrived at Coal Creek in October 1934, and were hauled upstream to a site 200 feet below the machine shop and garage that winter. Construction of the dredge began on April 8, 1935 and, with the exception of some equipment that had not yet arrived, was completed on June 18. It was fired up for a trial run on July 1 and full operation began on July 18. The wisdom of the decision to undertake dredge mining in Coal Creek valley was confirmed at the first clean-up, two weeks after operations began. The gold found in the sluices assayed out at $27,000. The dredge ran around the clock, save for short stops for repairs and clean-ups, until October 5. The 195,500 yards of gravel processed during that first year yielded a total of 3,484 ounces of gold and 382 ounces of silver valued at $122,092.29. The company announced a net operating profit of $37,824.52.[7] When operations closed for the winter at the end of the 1940 season, the company had extracted 37,830 ounces of gold and 3,667 ounces of silver valued at $1,183,585.70.[8]

The success of the operation at Coal Creek led McRae and Patty to purchase claims on Woodchopper Creek, just over the ridge from Coal Creek. By 1937 the sister company, Alluvial Golds, Inc., erected a duplicate dredge and carried on a similar operation in that drainage. The pattern of activity at Coal Creek continued. Although a handful of year-round residents and camp caretakers remained over the winter, the summer was a time of intense, if not frantic activity. The crew--primarily young, single men, with some more experienced hands from Fairbanks and Eagle City among them--worked long hours for eight dollars a day and then often prospected on their own along some of the small tributaries of the creek. A few Natives from Eagle Village, located up the Yukon, were hired on. Some mine personnel brought their families. Mrs. Patty held an informal school for the children of Native workers, since the Native school at Eagle had been closed for years.[9]

The dredge worked its way up and down the stream for the remainder of the decade, beginning each season in May or June and shutting down in October. Each season the dredge left acres of the familiar fan shaped tailings piles in its wake. When work stopped for the 1940 season, on October 13, the dredge was less than 1,000 yards downstream from the site of first operation.

Work continued through the 1941 and 1942 seasons. The United States involvement in WWII had wide reaching impacts on the mining industry when, in 1942, the War Production Board ordered the cessation of all gold mining operations to release men and material for war purposes. The Gold Placers, Inc. did not resume operations until 1945 and then only on a limited basis. At the end of the 1945 season, Gold Placers reported the recovery of $123,130.49 of gold.

Encouraging as this might seem, success was, in a real sense, illusory. The next year, the company recovered gold worth $136,825.00. The margin of profit, however was only $2,804.90, and that was reached only with the help of write-offs and depreciation. Without write-offs and depreciation, Gold Placers, Inc. actually would have lost $15,187.58.[10]

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[7] Stanton Patty Collection, Ernest and Kathryn Patty Division (Alaska Polar Regions Department, Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska), Box 8, Operating Report, Gold Placers, Inc., 1936, 1-2. (Copy on File at National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Alaska Regional Office.)

[8] Ibid., Operating Report, 1940. Woodchopper Creek was operated as a separate corporation, Alluvial Golds, Inc.; these figures do not show profits earned by the latter.

[9] Ibid., Operating Reports for 1936-1940; Patty, 109, 115.

[10] Ibid., Operating Report, Gold Placers Inc., 1946.

Although the company would experience some success from time to time in the following years, the history of gold mining in Coal Creek valley after World War II is generally a story of decline. Higher costs for supplies, labor problems, and a weakening pay streak increasingly narrowed the margin of profit, all of which were exacerbated by the discontinuation of freighting service by White Pass and Yukon Route Company steamboats in 1954. Gold Placers, Inc. did not operate the Coal Creek dredge in 1952. The next year Ernest Patty was asked to assume the presidency of the University of Alaska, which had also been in a state of decline for some years. After much discussion and debate, Patty accepted the challenge to inject new life into the college he helped develop thirty years prior. Dale Patty, Ernest's son, took over management of the dredging operations and with his father's guidance continued mining Coal and Woodchopper Creeks. By 1957 the dredging on Coal Creek was suspended with hopes of resuming operations when the price of gold improved. In the meantime, stripping and thawing kept crews busy.

Returning to the college was quite an eye-opening experience for Ernest Patty. He found that in the eighteen years since his departure, the school had neither grown nor changed, even though it was now the University of Alaska. Patty found the buildings, both dormitories and classroom facilities, to be dusty fire traps; boilers which supplied power and heat needed to be replaced; and the campus was dark and dreary due to the lack of outdoor lighting. The faculty and staff consisted of a group of very dedicated and highly trained individuals with whom Patty found cohesive support for his ideas of improvement and expansion. Patty began a campaign to garner the support and backing of the Alaskan people and legislators. He spoke to civic groups, service organizations and chambers of commerce; Mrs. Patty did the same with women's groups. Successfully lobbying the Territorial Legislature, Patty acquired enough appropriations the first year to improve faculty salaries, add a few new faculty members, buy a new boiler and build one new building.[11]

In the years to come, the University continued to grow and expand under Ernest Patty's leadership. Part of this expansion process included the establishment of community colleges in some of Alaska's larger communities. These colleges provided adult education and allowed students to complete the first two years of certain programs at the local level before moving to the Fairbanks campus to finish their training. The community college concept made university training available to many students who might not otherwise be reached.

Several programs were established within the university for both training and research purposes. The Office of Naval Operations had for some time operated the Arctic Research Laboratory at Point Barrow, Alaska where scientists studied all aspects of the arctic, including plants, animals, weather, and ocean currents. Patty worked out an agreement with the Navy that allowed the university to take over management of the facility. Managing the Arctic Research Laboratory enabled the university to expand into the study of the Arctic environment which comprises much of the state of Alaska. Similarly, the development of the Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of Alaska realized another aspect of Patty's vision of the university serving the entire territory. Alaska, with its vast shoreline, logically should have a center from which oceanographic research could be conducted; the university filled that niche.

In addition to the Arctic and oceanic fields of study located within the University of Alaska, archeological and paleontological studies were ongoing from the early days of the college. Dr. Otto Geist was recruited by Dr. Charles Bunnell, the first college president, to conduct excavations on St. Lawrence Island with the hopes of establishing a museum on campus. The Kukulik Mound Excavation, begun by Geist, is one of the most important archeological projects in Alaska. By the 1930s, Geist's attention was directed toward interior Alaska. Most of interior Alaska was unglaciated during the Ice Age and has vast archeological treasures buried beneath its soils. Fossils, bones, and teeth from Pleistocene mammals who roamed the central region were uncovered during mining operations. Dr. Geist was called upon to inspect and collect the specimens. Patty realized the importance of Geist's work and continued to seek

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[11] Patty, North Country Challenge, 208.

financial support from the American Museum of Natural History in New York and support of the mining community for Geist's work.

As the university grew and expanded under Patty's leadership, it became apparent that the existing facilities at the university could not accommodate the growth. When Patty became president there were less than three hundred full time students on campus. Within a few years the student population had grown to nine hundred with projections for more than two thousand students within ten years.[12] The necessity of a long term planning program was crucial to the university's development. Ernest Patty obtained a grant from the Ford Foundation for the study. The team of planners included educators, architects and landscape architects who worked with the faculty and staff to develop an extensive plan for the university. The end result of Patty's forethought and insight in developing the long-term plan was the present campus of the University of Alaska.

In 1960 Ernest Patty retired from UAF after breathing new life into an institution many said was doomed to failure. Due to Mrs. Patty's poor health returning to Coal Creek was out of the question and the Patty's retired to the Seattle area. Mrs. Patty's health continued to be of concern and in July 1961 a heart attack took her life.

Also in 1960, Dale Patty resigned as manager of Gold Placers, Inc. to spend more time with his family and find employment with a better future. The Patty's, not ready to totally abandoned the Coal Creek claims, decided to lease the property, thereby maintaining some control.

Ted C. Mathews, a Fairbanks mining engineer, leased the Coal Creek property and equipment in 1961. Mathews continued stripping and dredging according to Gold Placers, Inc.'s overall mining plan. He made reports to Ernest Patty who in turn reported to the Board of Directors. Ultimately the Mathews operation was unsuccessful and in 1964 he too suspended operations. The Mathews venture coming to a close virtually marked the end of Ernest Patty's active involvement in mining on Coal Creek.

From 1965 until 1972 numerous options were explored by Patty regarding the fate of the mining on Coal Creek. Ernest Wolff, a mining engineer connected with the University of Alaska, with partners, Dan Cobin and W. Sothen, contracted to purchase the equipment and the claims in the early 1970s. From 1972-1976 Coal Creek was once again the site of furious mining activity. The scene was drastically different this time around. Gold Placers, Inc. was gone, as was the Patty management, and the dredge, used only briefly, was not central to the mining operation. Although no longer directly involved with the Coal Creek claims and Alaska in general, Patty remained active as a mining and education consultant from his Seattle retirement until his death in January 1976.

After Ernest Wolff came several more companies who hoped to make Coal Creek pay: AU Placers, Inc. (1976-77); Lomerson, LTD (1977-85); and Coal Creek Mining Properties (1985-86) successively tried their hands but were not profitable undertakings. In 1978 the Yukon-Charley area was designated a National Monument and became part of the National Park system in 1980. In 1986, Coal Creek Mining Properties donated their Coal Creek holdings to the National Park Service.

[12] Ibid., 243.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Coal Creek Mine Collection. Alaska Polar Regions Department, Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Frieson, Richard J. Themes and Resource Assessment, Yukon River Recreational and Historic Waterway. Parks Canada, 1978.

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Hall, Frank. Interview with Frank Willis and Larry Van Horn. National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage, Alaska, June 4, 1987.

Hunt, William R. North of 53. New York: MacMillan, 1974.

Mathews, Dale. Interview with Frank Willis and Larry Van Horn. National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage, Alaska, October 5, 1987.

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Vogler, Joe and Ernest Wolff. Interview with Frank Willis and Larry Van Horn. National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage, Alaska, September 4, 1986.

Webb, Melody. The Last Frontier. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1985.

Wells, E. Hazard. Magnificence and Misery. New York: Doubleday, 1984.

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
_____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_____ previously listed in the National Register
_____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_____ designated a National Historic Landmark
_____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
__X__ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # AK-11

Primary Location of Additional Data
__X__ State Historic Preservation Office
_____ Other State agency
__X__ Federal agency
_____ Local government
__X__ University
_____ Other
Name of repository: National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office; University of Alaska, Fairbanks

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 349.81

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	07	401900	7249040	3	07	400040	7243550
2	07	402100	7245700	4	07	396325	7240900

X See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

The boundary description follows along the historic claim boundaries as noted on Map # 9.

Beginning at the northeast corner of old Coal Creek Right Limit Hydraulic Claim 2 on the south bank of the Yukon River (1); thence running in a southeasterly direction 2.115 miles to the northeast corner of old Coal Creek Right Limit Hydraulic Association Claim 3 (2); thence southwest 1.823 miles to the southeast corner of old Coal Creek Right Limit Hydraulic Association Claim (3); thence southwest 2.843 miles to the northeast corner of old Slaven Right Limit Association Claim (4); thence in a generally westerly direction 2.064 miles to the southeast corner of old 22 Below Upper Discovery Claim (5); thence north .243 miles to the northeast corner of 22 Below Discovery Claim (6); thence in a generally easterly direction .849 miles to the northwest corner of old Slaven Discovery Association (7); thence northwest 2.991 miles to the juncture of Snare Creek and Coal Creek-Woodchopper Road (8); thence in a northeasterly direction 2.688 miles to approximately one-quarter mile west of the juncture of Pendergast Pup and Coal Creek-Woodchopper Road (9); thence 1.327 miles north (to include the Coal Creek Woodchopper Road) passing the bench mark VABM 704 to the south bank of the Yukon River low water line (10); thence east following the Yukon River low water line .5 miles and closing at the northeast corner of old Coal Creek Right Limit Hydraulic Association Claim 2 (1) (which includes the mouth of Coal Creek).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

The boundary includes all land claimed and mined by Gold Placers, Inc. from 1933 to 1964, as well as supporting buildings and road for the mining operation, and features such as tailings piles and ditch structure along Coal Creek.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Roderick Johnson and Ann Bischoff Kain, Historians

organization National Park Service date 12-8-94

street & number 2525 Gambell Street telephone (907) 257-2436

city or town Anchorage state Alaska zip code 99503

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

UTM References:

5	07	393000	7240375
6	07	393000	7241000
7	07	394300	7241000
8	07	398375	7246900
9	07	400850	7246900
10	07	401100	7249000

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 95000573 Date Listed: 5/4/95

Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Property Name

Yukon-Koyukuk AK
County State

Yukon Lifeways Thematic Group
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action: 5/8/95

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Amended Items in Nomination:

State/Federal Agency Certification: This property is considered significant at the State level.

This information was confirmed with Ann Bischoff Kain of the Alaska Regional Office, NPS.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska

(CHARLEY RIVER A-5)

SCALE 1:63360

CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 50 FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

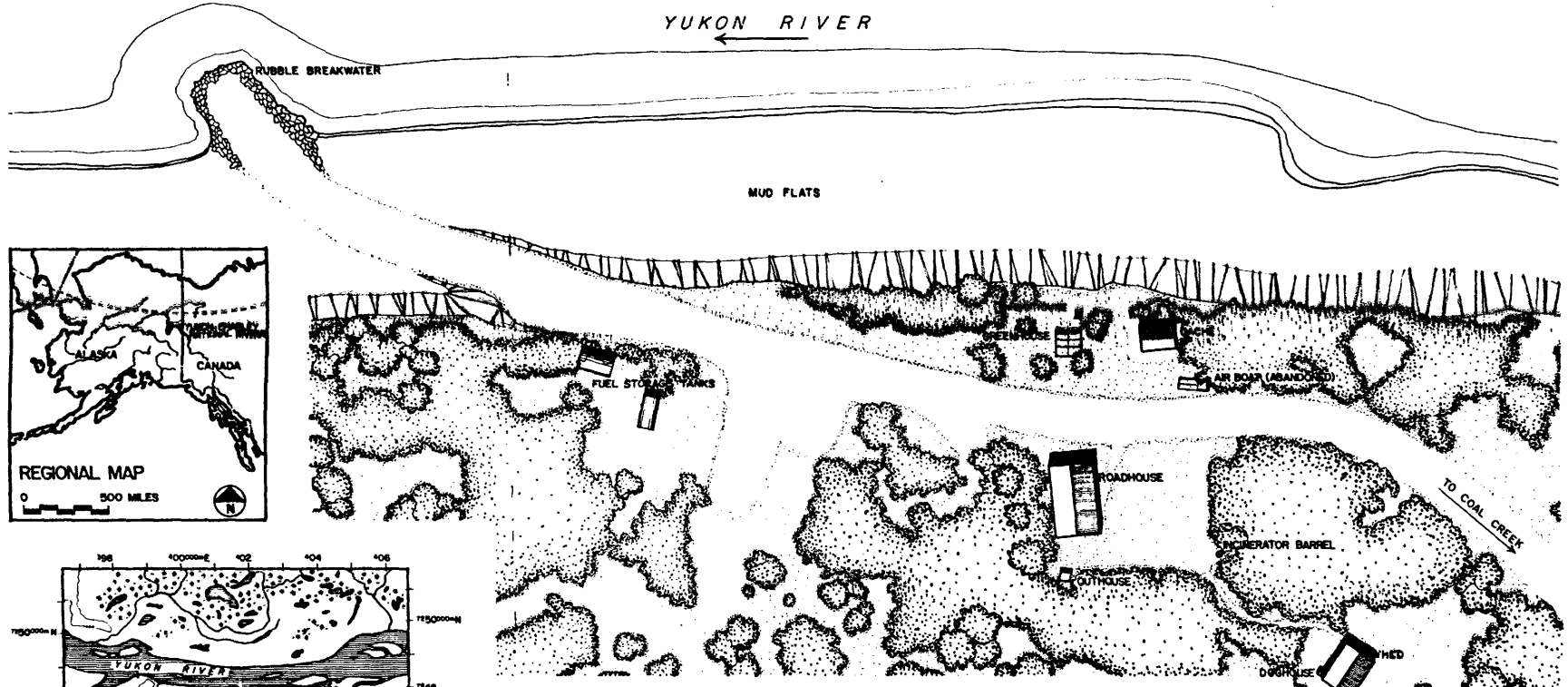
CHARLEY RIVER (B-5), ALASKA
N6515-W14300/15X30
1956
MINOR REVISIONS 1974

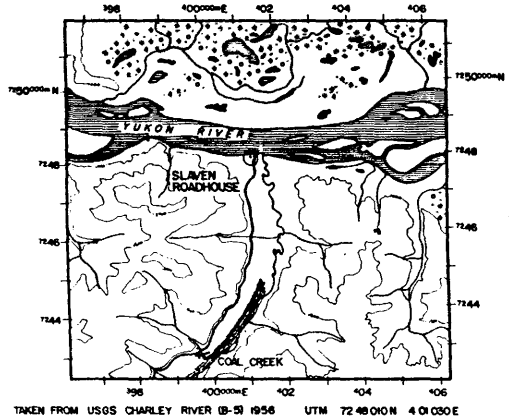
ROAD CLASS
Light-duty

MAP # 1-DISTRICT (ALL AREAS)

Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska

THE SLAVEN ROADHOUSE





TAKEN FROM USGS CHARLEY RIVER (B-5) 1956 UTM 72 48 010N 4 01 030E

LOCATION MAP
SCALE 1:63,360
0 1 2 3 MILES
0 1 2 3 4 KILOMETERS
N

THE FRANK SLAVEN ROADHOUSE WAS BUILT ABOUT 1930 TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TRAFFIC ALONG BOTH THE YUKON RIVER, AND COAL CREEK WHERE THERE WAS AN ACTIVE MINING DISTRICT IN THE 1930's. LIKE MANY MINERS IN THE AREA, FRANK SLAVEN HAD STAKED CLAIMS ON COAL CREEK AS EARLY AS 1905, AND CONTINUED WORKING THEM AND PROSPECTING FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS.

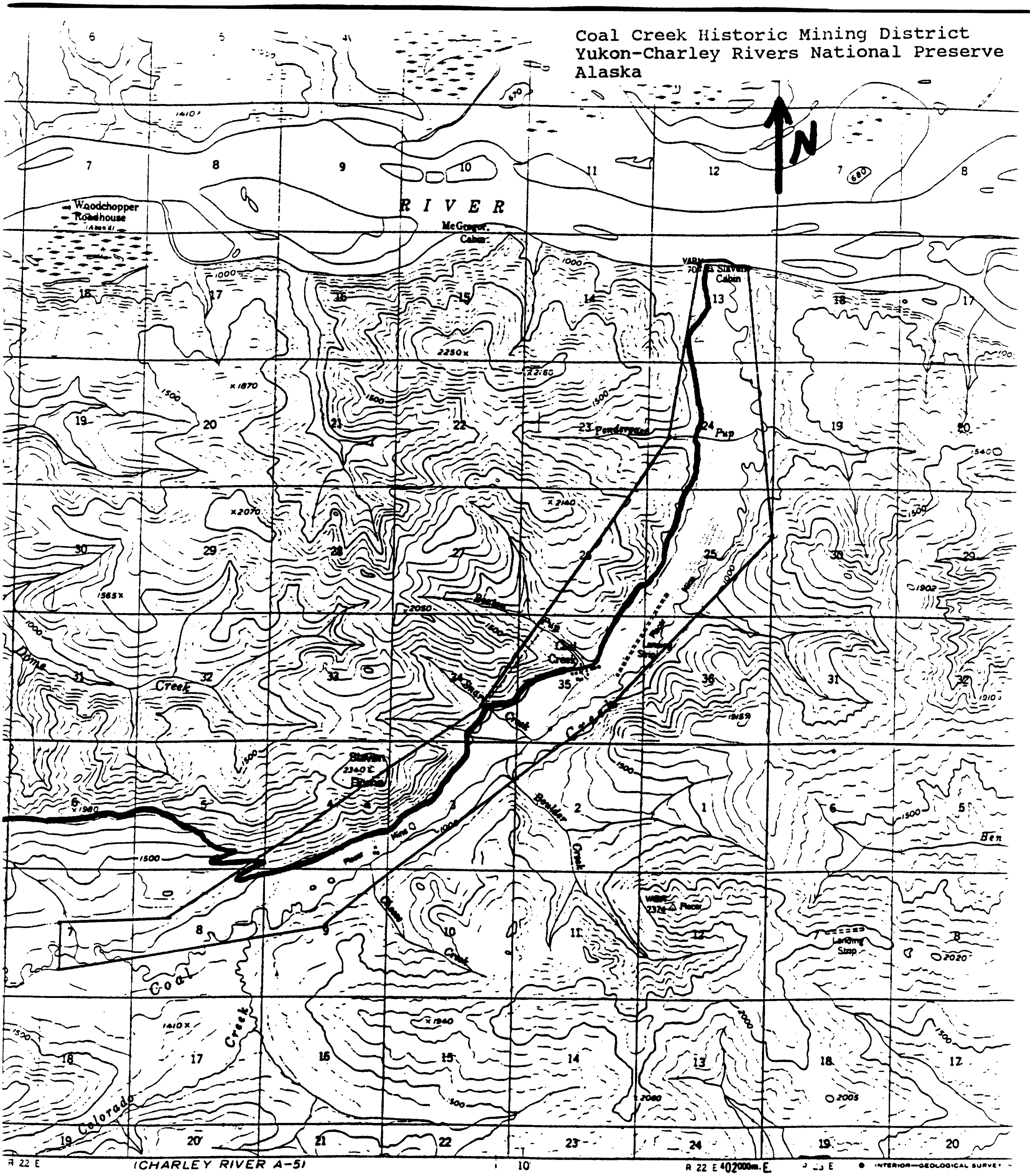
THE ORIGINAL LOG STRUCTURE WAS BUILT PRIMARILY BY SANDY JOHNSON, A FINNISH IMMIGRANT, WHO HEWED THE UNDERSIDE OF EACH LOG TO FIT SNUGLY ON TOP OF THE ONE UNDERNEATH. THE FRAME SECTION WAS ADDED SHORTLY AFTER CONSTRUCTION, PROBABLY REUSING DROP SIDING FROM FT. EGBERT. THE PURLINS EXTEND THE FULL LENGTH OF THE STRUCTURE. THE CORRUGATED METAL ROOF WAS ADDED IN 1935.

THIS BUILDING WAS DOCUMENTED AS PART OF AN HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT PREPARED BY THE ALASKA REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF REGIONAL HISTORIAN ROBERT SPUDE AND REGIONAL HISTORICAL ARCHITECT DAVID SNOW. THE BUILDING WAS MEASURED BY STEVEN PETERSON IN 1982, DAVID ANDERSON IN 1984, AND RANDALL SKEIRIK AND WILLIAM VANDEVENTER IN 1985. IT WAS DRAWN BY DAVID ANDERSON IN 1984 AND COMPLETED BY RANDALL SKEIRIK IN 1986. ALISON K. HOAGLAND WAS PROJECT HISTORIAN.

SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 30'-0"
0 10 20 30 40 50 FEET
0 5 10 15 METERS
N

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 1 OF 5 SHEETS
SURVEY NO. AK-42
ALASKA
THE FRANK SLAVEN ROADHOUSE
YUKON-CHARLEY RIVERS NATIONAL PRESERVE
YUKON-CHARLEY PROJECT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DRAWN BY: DAVID C. ANDERSON 1984, RANDALL SKEIRIK 1986

MAP # 2-AREA 1



SCALE 1:63360

0 1 2 3 4 MILES

3000 6000 9000 12000 15000 18000 21000 FEET

5 0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETRES

CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 50 FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CHARLEY RIVER (B-5), ALASKA
N6515—W14300/15X30

1956
MINOR REVISIONS 1974

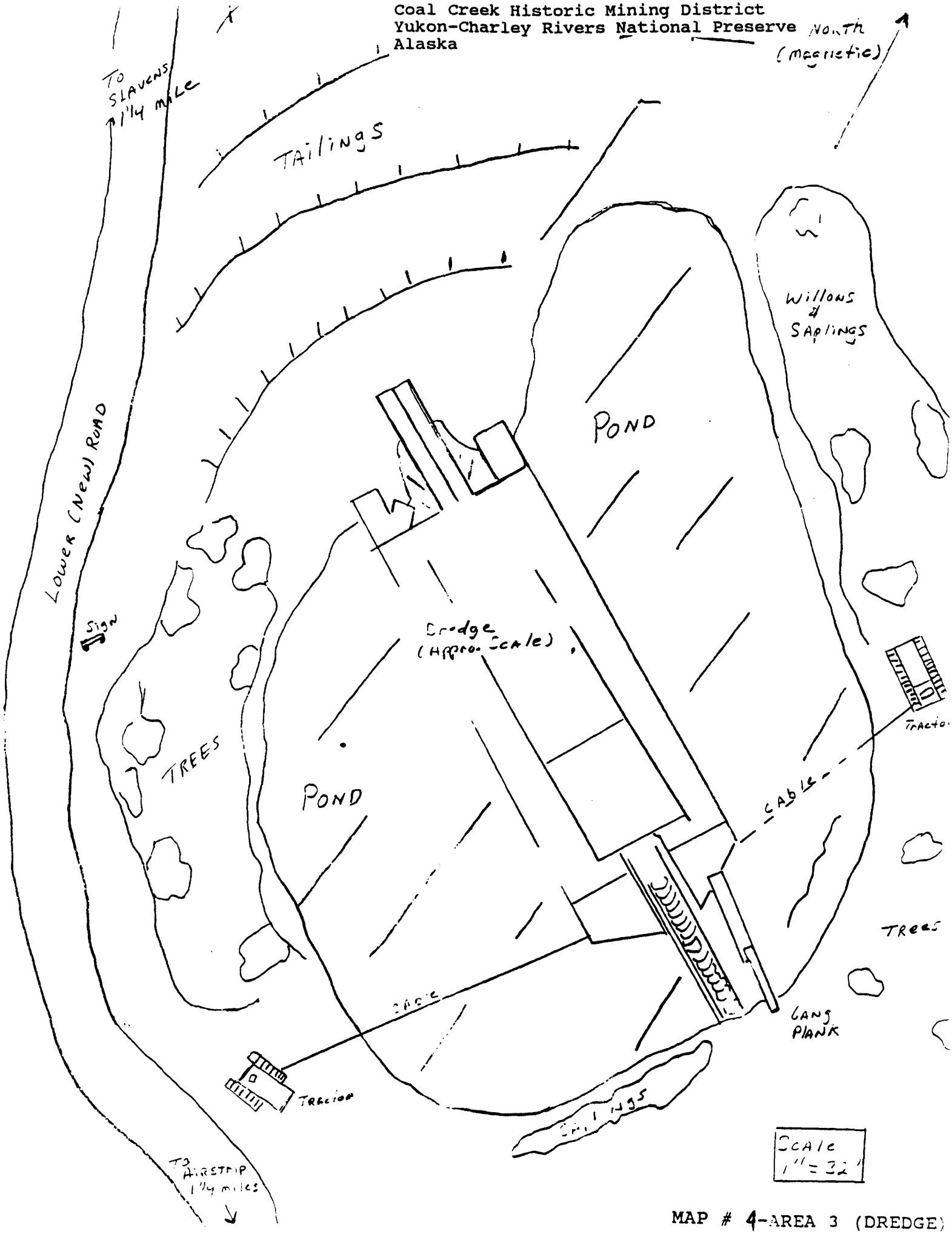
ROAD CLASSIF
Light-duty

MAP # 3-AREA 2 (HISTORIC ROAD)

AREA 4 (TAILINGS PILES)

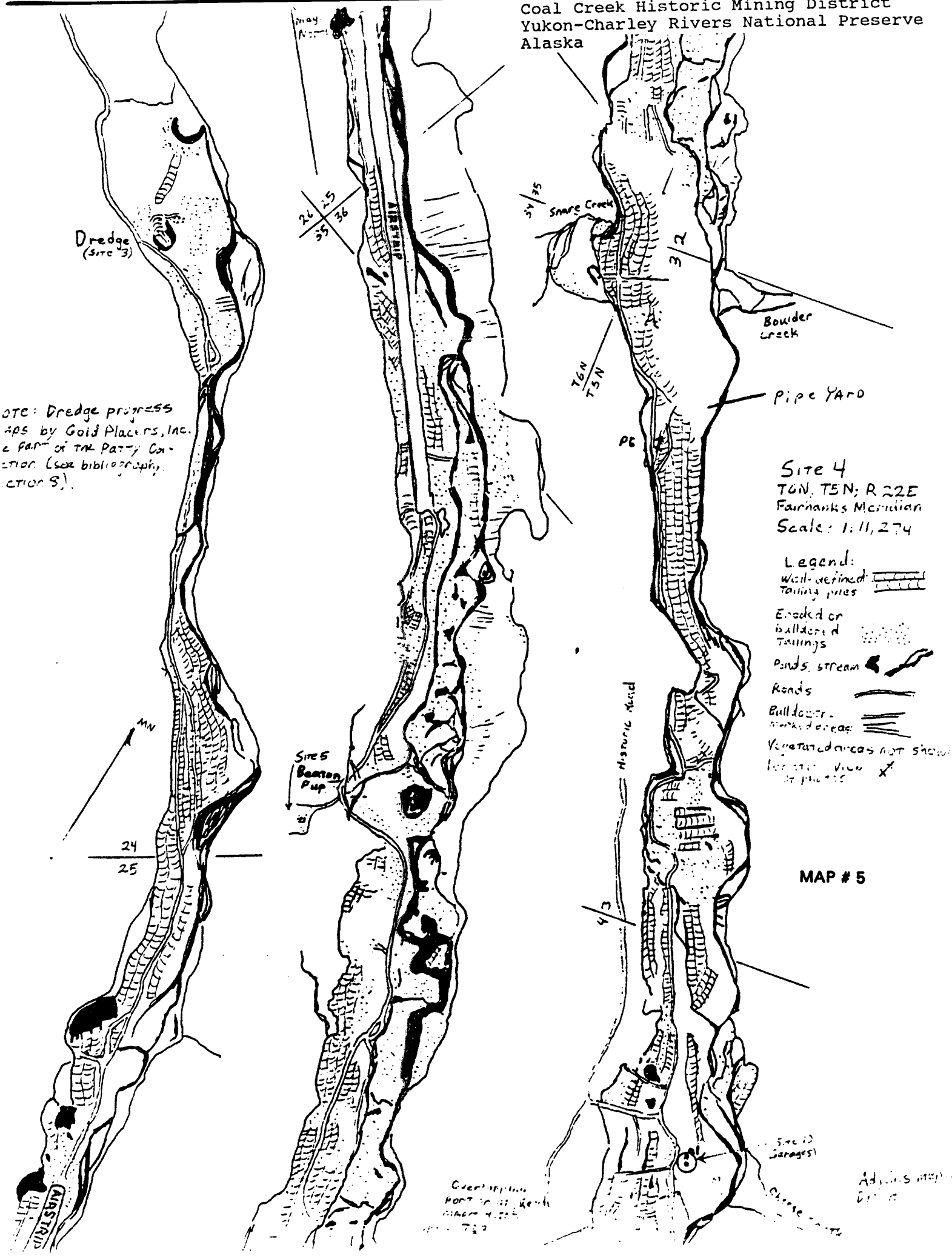
CHARLEY RIVER

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



MAP # 4-AREA 3 (DREDGE)

Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska



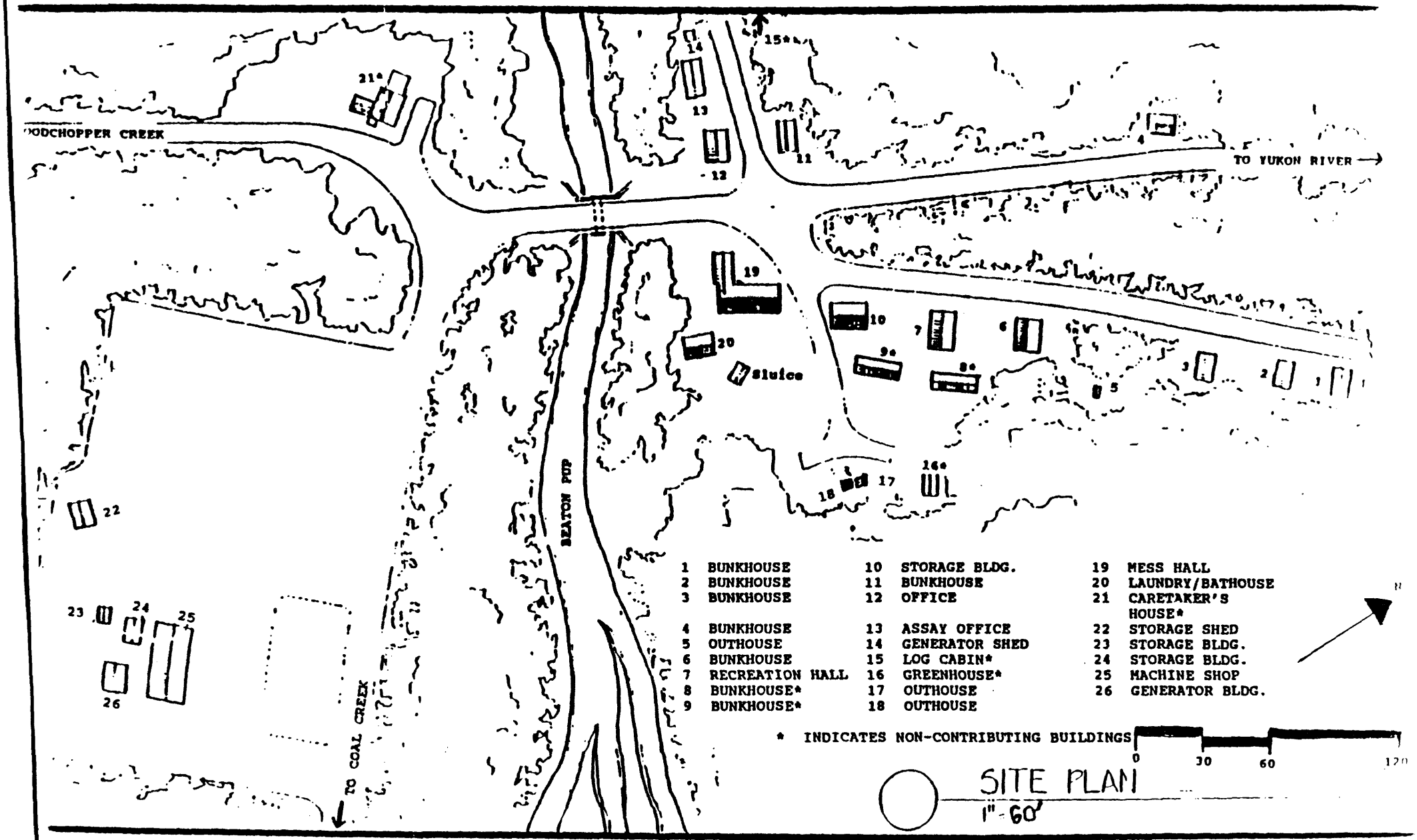
ote: Dredge progress
aps by Gold Placers, Inc.
e fair of the Party Co-
ction (see bibliography,
ction 8).

Site 4
T6N, T5N; R22E
Fairbanks Meridian
Scale: 1:11,274

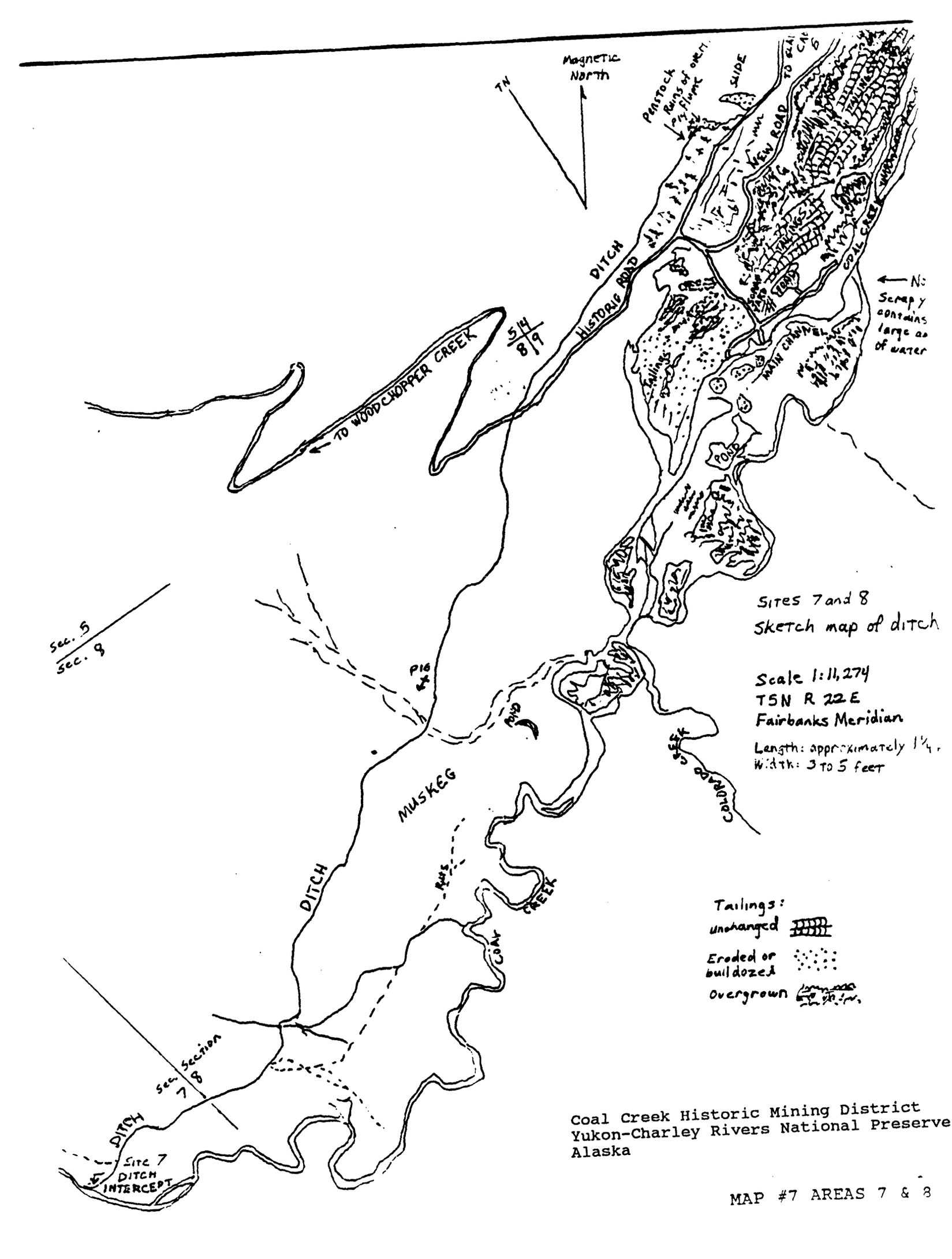
Legend:
Well-defined Tailing piles
Eroded or bulldozed Tailings
Ponds, stream
Roads
Bulldozer-marked areas
Vegetated areas not shown
Location View

MAP # 5

Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska



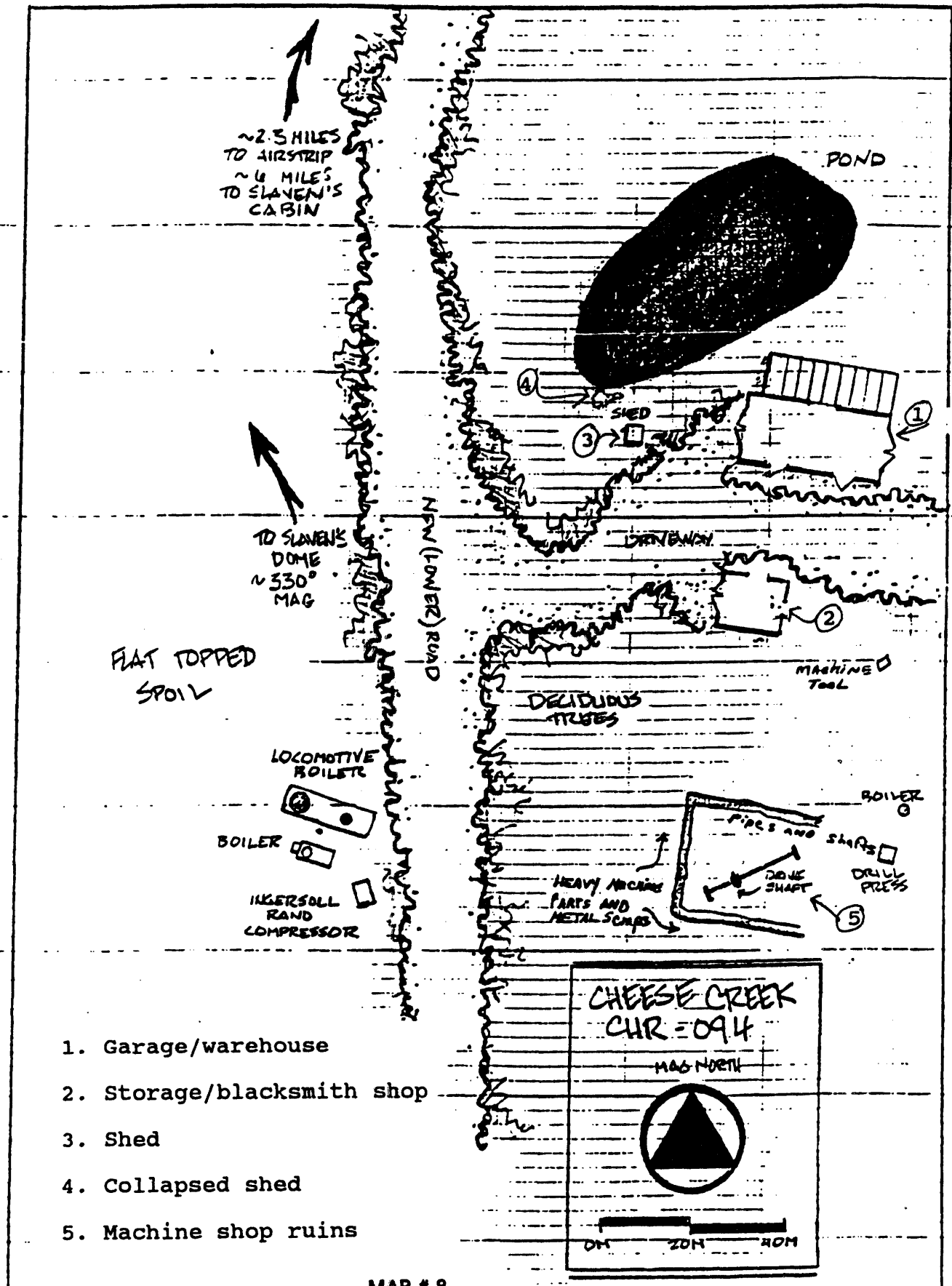
MAP # 6-AREA 5 (MINING CAMP)



Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska

MAP #7 AREAS 7 & 8

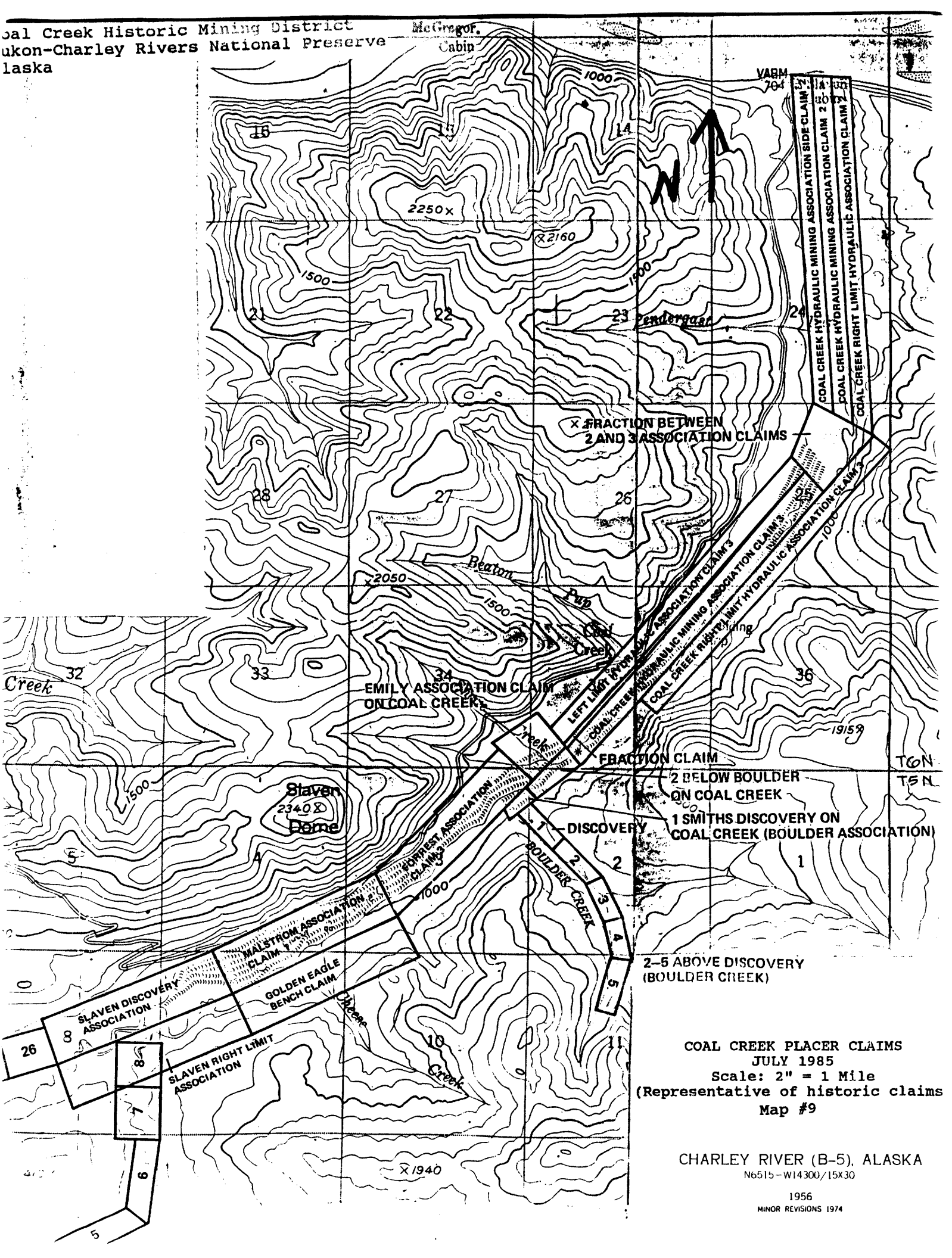
Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska



1. Garage/warehouse
2. Storage/blacksmith shop
3. Shed
4. Collapsed shed
5. Machine shop ruins

MAP # 8

NOT TO SCALE NOT GROUND TRUTHED '93



COAL CREEK PLACER CLAIMS
JULY 1985
Scale: 2" = 1 Mile
(Representative of historic claims
Map #9

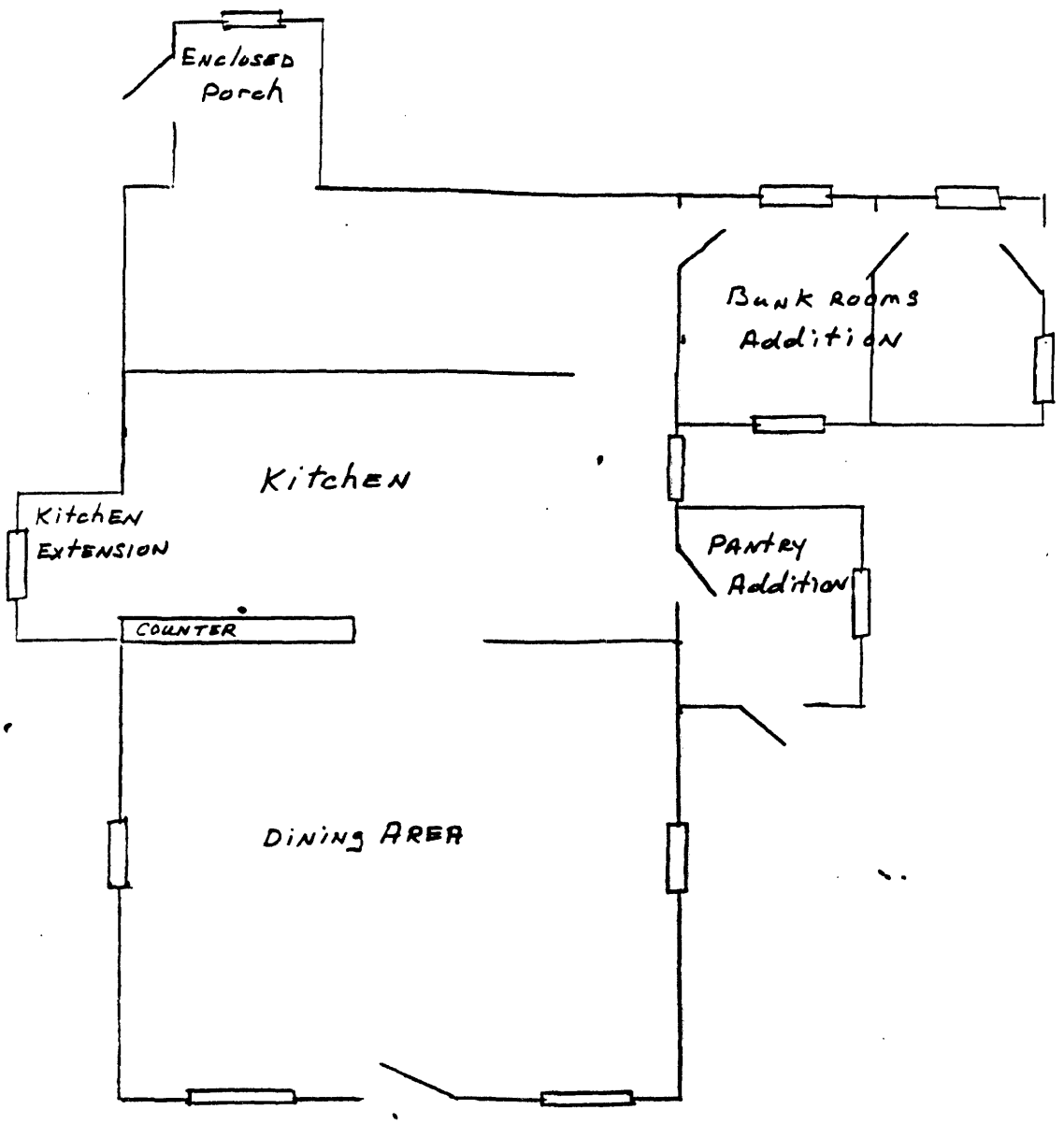
CHARLEY RIVER (B-5), ALASKA
N6515-W14300/15X30

1956
MINOR REVISIONS 1974

Coal Creek Historic Mining District
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
Alaska

Floor Plan sketch

Building 19 mess Hall



(Not to Scale)

COAL CREEK
BUILDING 19 MESS HALL
FLOOR PLAN SKETCH
Map # 10