

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 an 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 _____

other names/site number Allen Gulch Mill (preferred)

2. Location

street & number Approx. one mile s.e. of the intersection of not for publication
Waldo Road and Waldo Lookout Road

city or town Cave Junction USDI BLM Medford District vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Josephine code 033 zip code 97523

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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
 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.)

John C. Stover 8/14/01
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
Preservation Officer, Bureau of Land Management
State of Federal agency and bureau _____

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

James Hamrick 12/12/00
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO Date _____
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

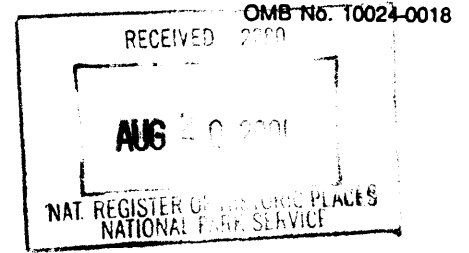
I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper
Entered in the National Register

Date of Action

10/4/01



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Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

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State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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- determined not eligible for the National Register.
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- other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley Oregon

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTUVE

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

NO STYLE

foundation Concrete; Wood, walls, roof, other

Narrative Description

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

Please See Continuation Sheet

Allen Gulch Mill

Josephine Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

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.)

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

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

1936-1942

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

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
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

USDI BLM Medford District

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.831

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 Zone Easting Northing
2 Zone Easting Northing

3 Zone Easting Northing
4 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Katherine C. Atwood with Ward Tonsfeldt
organization (for) USDI Bureau of Land Management date August 17. 2000
street & number 365 Holly Street Medford District telephone (541) 482-8714
city or town Ashland state OR zip code 97520

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 SHPO or FPO.)

Please See Continuation Pages
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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 7 **Page:** 1

Summary Description

The Allen Gulch Mill, associated with placer mining and gravel milling in the Waldo Mining District during the Depression years, operated from approximately 1937 to 1940. Components of this mill, constructed to separate gold from gravels, include the mills, water conduit, ore cart tracks and ramp, and tailings. The site, operating during the last years of industrial placer mining in the Upper Illinois Valley, is contained on less than one acre and constitutes the sole example of its type in the Upper Illinois Valley. The Allen Gulch Mill displays distinct characteristics of its type in a system that enables the observer to understand the processes involved in extracting gold from the gravels. The Allen Gulch Mill retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship and feeling, and accurately conveys the historic associations for which it is significant.

Location and Setting

The Allen Gulch Mill is located on the lower slopes of a ridge below the High Gravel Mine. The mill site, 7.831 acres in size, is situated in the northwest quarter of Section 34, Township 40 South, Range 8 West, W.M. (Josephine County Assessor's Map 40-8-34, Tax Lot 700), approximately eight miles south of Cave Junction, Oregon. The site is accessible from Bureau of Land Management Road 40-8-15 approximately 0.65 miles west of that road's intersection with Rockydale Road. The mill site lies at an elevation ranging from 1,710 to 1,750 feet above sea level and has a northeasterly aspect. The mill is located near the contact between greenstone and Tertiary Conglomerate and directly above old placer mining debris in the channel of Allen Gulch (Shenon 1933:Plate 11; Budy 1999 35HS11-499).

The Allen Gulch Mill is located in a mixed conifer/oak woodland vegetation zone, with an on-site-plant community of Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, cedar, tanoak, poison oak, riparian shrubs and forbs. The site is thickly covered with young Douglas fir, tanoak and poison oak and is hidden from view along the road. Water for the mill was conveyed through a conduit from the vicinity of the High Gravel Mine, probably from a takeout on either the Logan/Esterly Upper Ditch or the Osgood Ditch. Both of these ditches take water from the East Fork Illinois River (Budy 1999:35HS-499).

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley

Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 7 Page: 2

Site Description

At the Allen Gulch Mill, the gold-bearing gravel was removed from a shaft on the hillside by mechanical means and then transported to the mill where the gravels were washed and the gold separated from the slurry. On the hillside above the mill, just below the High Gravel Mine, remnants of mine cart tracks indicate that gravel was brought to the mill by this means. The gravel was first fed into a rotary screening drum that separated the larger material from the fines. The gold-bearing fines were then fed onto some variety of a device known collectively as gold-saving tables. At this point, the gold was separated from the silt and black sand and removed. The gold-saving tables used washing, vibration, emulsification, and amalgamation to separate out the fine gold (Budy 1999:35HS11-499).

The **gravel mill, (A)**, which lacks its original shed roof covering, includes concrete foundation walls that are three to six feet in height, two concrete beds for a large machine at the topmost level, and gold saving tables below. Sited on the hillside, the mill structure, square in shape, contains three main levels and measures approximately thirty by thirty feet. The mill's three platforms each measure approximately four feet in height. The topmost platform contains the concrete foundation that supported the rotary screen or trommel that separated the larger material from the fines. These foundation piers measure approximately four feet high and one foot thick and are carefully shaped and smoothed. Below the trommel are wooden platforms that held the gold-saving tables. The concrete front retaining wall of the mill is six feet in height. Supported by a frame substructure of two by six foot floor joists, the mill's platforms are sheathed with two by eight-inch wood flooring material. Deteriorated pieces of a variety of pieces of dimensional lumber are located on the site. Underneath the front or downslope edge of the mill, a manufacturer or shipper's name is written: "James B. Ferguson, Oro Grande, California" on one of the wood joists. Although no equipment was found with the structure, the lower platform may have supported cyanide tubs for treating gold that would not amalgamate with mercury.

Water for the mill was conducted via a wooden pipe that was wrapped with metal straps, of which about one-hundred feet remains (water conduit (B)). On the hillside above the mine, several hundred feet of ore tracks lie on the slope above and north of the mill and directly below the High Gravel Mine. These ore cart tracks (C) indicate that

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 7 Page: 3

gravel was brought to the mill by this means. A ramp (D) several hundred feet in length, may have supported ore tracks leading from the High Gravel Mine to the mill. Tailings (E), residue from processing the gravels, are located north of the mill site. The relatively small size of these tailings suggests that the mill saw use during a limited period of time (Budy 1999: 35HS-499).

Integrity

The only visible impacts to the Allen Gulch Mill site are weather, erosion, and new vegetative cover. Despite disintegration of the mill's vertical members, the existing concrete foundation, beds for machinery, and equipment platforms retain sufficient integrity to convey the mill's function. The resource retains integrity of location, setting, design, and feeling and conveys the associations with placer gravel milling that occurred here. The site retains integrity of association and enables the observer's to understand the technology employed in a process that significantly affected development in the Upper Illinois Valley during the Depression era.

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 8 Page: 1

Significance

The Allen Gulch Mill, named for its location (and lacking any other known name), was constructed and used for processing gravels between 1936 and 1942, is locally significant for its association with mining technology in the Upper Illinois Valley, Waldo vicinity. Submitted as part of a multiple property submission, "Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley, Oregon," the Allen Gulch Mill represents its associated historic context, "Gold Placer Mining and Development of the Waldo Vicinity, 1851-1942." The Allen Gulch Mill meets the registration requirements set forth in the registration documents. The Allen Gulch Mill was developed in the historic period and represents mining technologies of the industrial hydraulic era during the Depression years. The ditch retains its integrity of location, setting, design and feeling and evokes direct historic associations with mining in the Upper Illinois Valley. The Allen Gulch Mill to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an important, tangible representative of historic mining activities in the Waldo vicinity.

History

Although the builders of the Allen Gulch Mill have not been ascertained, it is clear that the mill, that offered miners a way to work gravel without much water and without discharging sediment into the Allen Gulch watershed, would have required a significant amount of capital to build and equip. It is likely that the nearby High Gravel Mine, and possibly the Plataurica Mining Company provided the gravels processed in the mill. The Plataurica Mining Company worked several claims in Allen Gulch during the 1930s. Shenon wrote:

According to J. L. Eggers, superintendent of operations, the gold appears throughout the Tertiary conglomerate but is more abundant near bedrock. Here, as elsewhere, a large percentage of the gold is covered with black material... Much of it is collected in a black-sand concentrate along with chromite, magnetite, hematite, platinum, and other heavy minerals.... (Shenon 1933: 185 cited in Budy 1999: 35HS11-497).

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley

Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 8 Page: 2

An article in the Grants Pass newspaper mentions a mill in connection with the Plataurica mining operations:

Two giants are operated in the pits and work will be started with a crew of 12 or 14 men as soon as weather conditions permit. There has not been sufficient water so far this year. The new mill is now set up and ready to go. (*Grants Pass Daily Courier* January 27, 1937 5:4.

The ore tracks on the hillside above the mill just below the High Gravel Mine suggest that ore was transported to the mill from the mine during its ownership by either the Hydroplass Mining Company in the mid 1930s, or the Plataurica Mining Company after 1940. The Plataurica had several claims under operation in the bottom of Allen Gulch in the 1930s that could also have provided the gravels for milling.

Details about the mill's construction remain elusive. There is no reference to this mill in the major historic mining documents (Shenon 1933c; DOGAMI 1952; Brooks and Ramp 1968), nor do Street and Street (1973) mention it. It seems likely that the mill was constructed after Shenon published his 1933 work detailing the mines and mining history of the Waldo vicinity. Local historian, Kirk Van Stone, reported to Elizabeth Budy that his uncle said there was a trommel in Allen Gulch in the 1930s (Kirk Van Stone, personal communication, 1999; Budy 1999:35HS11-499).

Although the source of the inscription concerning Oro Grande California is unknown, research indicates the possibility that equipment for the mill may have come from operations in that area. Oro Grande, still a well-known gold mining town in 1910, became the site of the Golden State Cement Plant about 1910. This plant, operated through the Great Depression, was reorganized under a new name following World War II (Marenczuk: 1962). Materials or equipment for the Allen Gulch Mill may have been shipped north by rail from Oro Grande.

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 9 Page: 1

Bibliography

Brooks, Howard and Len Ramp

1968 *Gold and Silver in Oregon*. State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, Bulletin 61 U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Budy, Elizabeth E.

1999 *Allen Gulch Mill* Cultural Site Record 35HS11-499 (for USDI- BLM Medford District)

(DOGAMI) Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

1942 *Oregon Metal Mines Handbook, Bulletin 14-C Southwestern Oregon*, Volume 2, Section 1 [Josephine County], Portland, Oregon.

Marenczuk, Wesley

1962 *The Story of Oro Grande*, Mss., San Bernardino Public Library (Victorville Branch).

Shenon, Philip J.

1933c *Geology and Ore Deposits of the Takilma-Waldo District, Oregon, Including the Blue Creek District*. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 846-B Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 10 **Page:** 1

A map showing locations of the twenty resources included in this Multiple Property Submission is contained with the cover document. A photocopied section of a USGS map indicating the location of the Allen Gulch Mill accompanies the nomination document.

Boundary Description

The Allen Gulch Mill is located in the northwest quarter of Section 34, Township 40 South, Range 8 West, W.M. (Josephine County Assessors Plat 40-8-34, Tax Lot 700), in Josephine County Oregon. The property is identified on USGS map O'Brien quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, included with this nomination. The site is further described as follows:

Beginning at the eastern end of the Allen Gulch/High Gravel Mine Road at its intersection with the Allen Gulch Road in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34, T. 40 S. Range 8 W. W.M., continue West along the Allen Gulch/High Gravel Mine Road past its intersection with the Logan/Esterly Upper Ditch to the 1800' contour line in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34, T. 40 S. R. 8W. (W.M.) (the eastern boundary of the High Gravel Mine site.) The portion of the Allen Gulch/High Gravel Mine Road thus described constitutes the center line of the linear Allen Gulch Mill site. The northerly and southerly boundaries of this linear site are lines of convenience that lie parallel to the road and extend 300 meters on each side of the Allen Gulch/High Gravel Mine Road. The resulting Allen Gulch Mill site is 600 meters wide, following the contours of the Allen Gulch/High Gravel Mine Road. The site of the Allen Gulch Mill encompasses 7.831 acres.

Boundary Justification

The nominated area encompasses the Allen Gulch Mill structure, ground containing the ore cart track and the immediate setting that comprise the primary locus of historic gravel milling activity that is contained on lands administered by the USDI Bureau of Land Management

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Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

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UTM References

Zone	Location	Easting	Northing
10	1	447047.43403	4655335.97937
	2	447338.87352	4655343.35758
	3	447412.65567	4655284.33186
	4	447084.32511	4655236.37347

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Continuation Sheet**

Mining Resources of the Upper Illinois Valley
Allen Gulch Mill

Section Number: 11 **Page:** 1

Property Owner Notification

Bureau of Land Management
Ron Wenker, District Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area Manager
Ann Ramage, Archaeologist
Medford Field Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford OR 97504

Oregon-Washington State Office
Bureau of Land Management
Elaine Zielinski, Director
Richard Hanes, Cultural Resource Lead
PO Box 2965
Portland OR 97208-2965

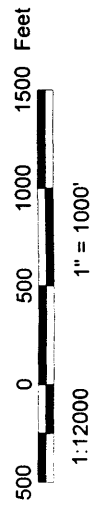
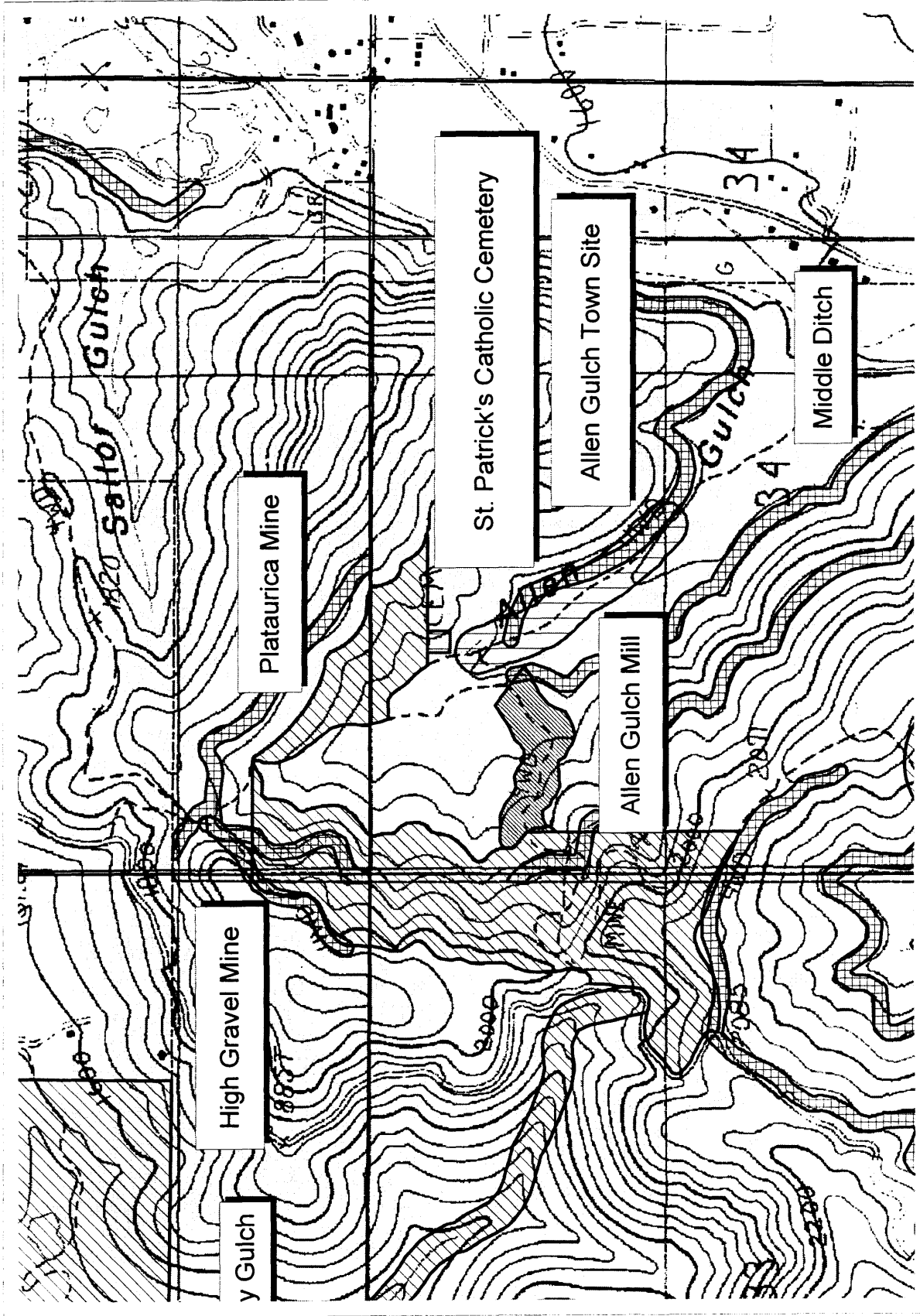
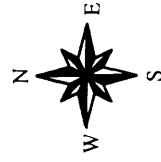
Federal Preservation Officer Certification

Mr. John G. Douglas, Preservation Officer
Bureau of Land Management (240)
204-LS
18th and C Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Allen Gulch Mill

Allen Gulch Mill
 35HS11-499
 A portion of the
 O'Brien Quad
 (Sec 34
 T40S, R8W, wm)
 showing
 Historic Placer
 Mining Resources
 in the Waldo Vicinity.

- Mines**
- Allen Gulch Mill
 - Cameron Mine
 - Deep Gravel Mine
 - Extery Pit #2
 - Fry Gulch
 - High Gravel Mine
 - Old Placer Mine
 - Plataurica Mine
 - Waldo Mine
- General Symbology**
- Ditches
 - Mines
 - Town, cemetery
 - BLM boundary
 - Section Lines



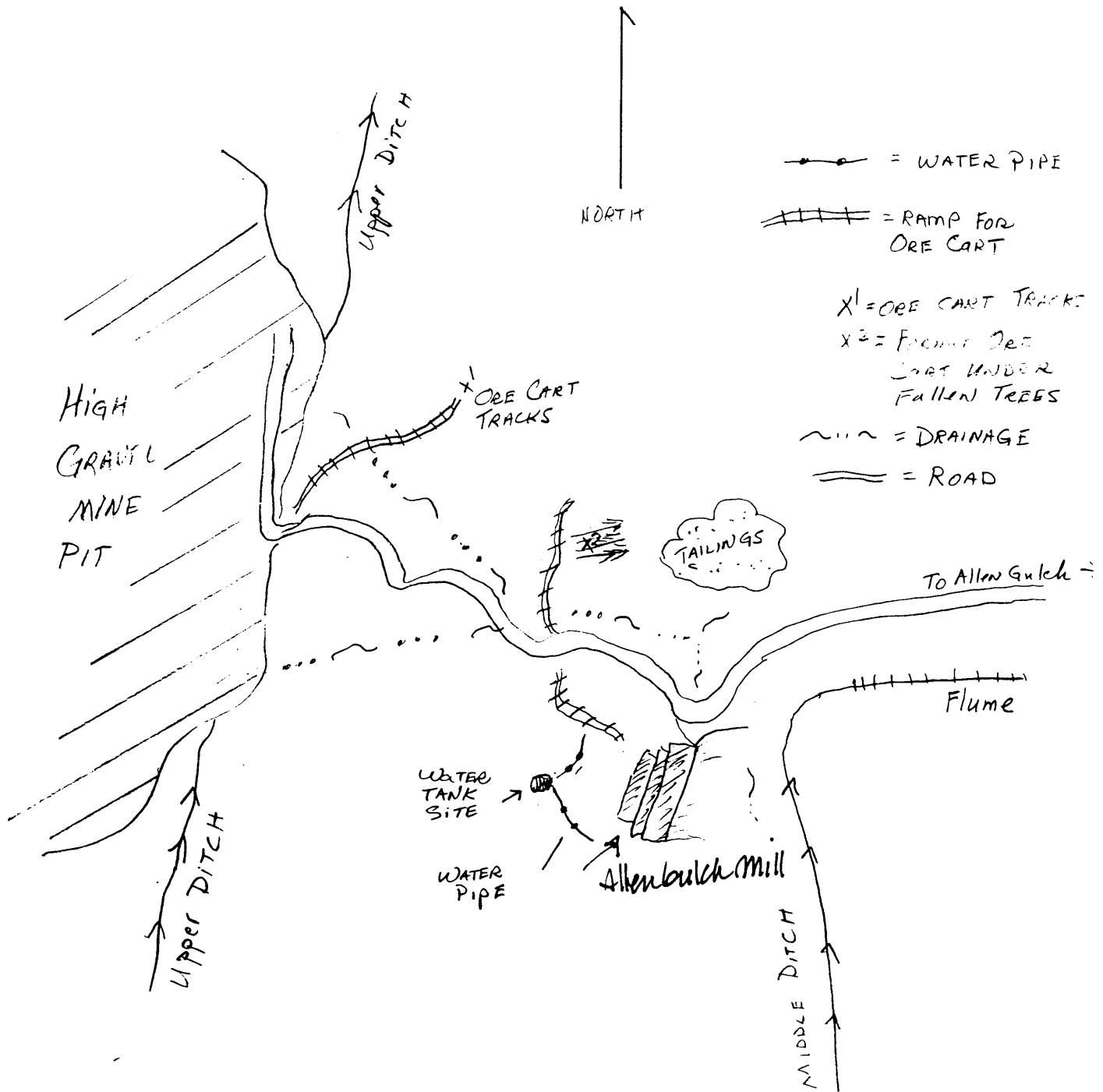
Map created August 2000 by Ralph DeJamarer
 Features based on site investigations by W Tonstfeldt, E Budy and others
 Base images: digital raster graphs (DRG) and digital orthoquads (DOQ)(1995)
 of O'Brien, Taklima and Broken Rib quads (scale 1:24000).

Allen Gulch Mill

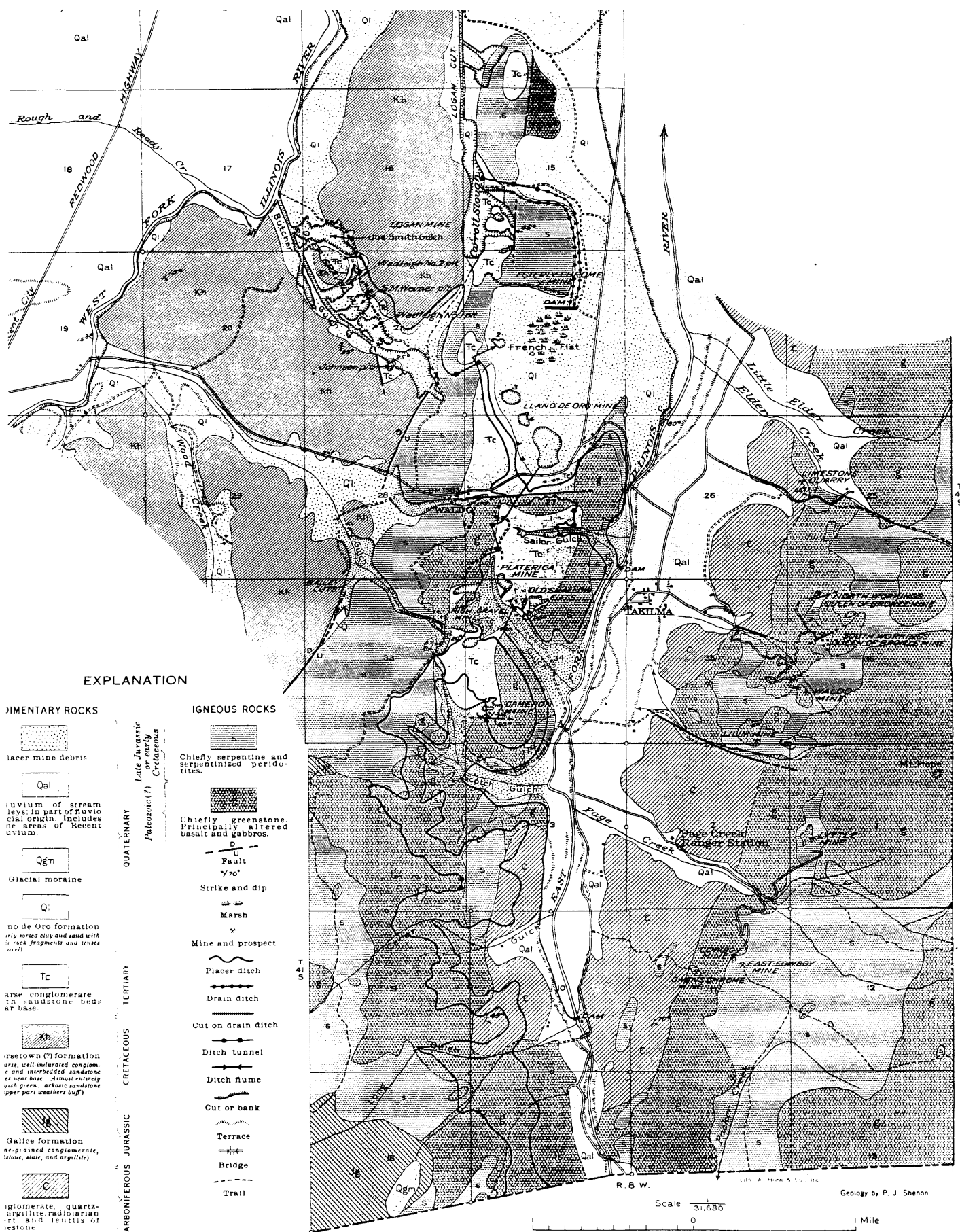
SKETCH MAP

35HS11-499

E. Budy + K. Van Stone



0 200
METERS



EXPLANATION

SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

- Placer mine debris
- Alluvium of stream leys: in part of fluvio-cial origin. Includes ne areas of Recent alluvium.
- Glacial moraine
- no de Oro formation: clay, silted clay and sand with rock fragments and lenses (see note)
- Arise conglomerate: in sandstone beds at base.
- Westown (?) formation: coarse, well-saturated conglomerate and interbedded sandstone at base. Almost entirely with green, arkose sandstone (per part weathers buff)
- Galice formation: ne-grained conglomerate, siliceous, silty, and argillaceous
- Conglomerate, quartz-arkillite, radiolarian, etc. and fossils of tertiary

IGNEOUS ROCKS

- Chiefly serpentine and serpentinized peridotites.
- Chiefly greenstone. Principally altered basalt and gabbros.

QUATERNARY
 TERTIARY
 CRETACEOUS
 JURASSIC
 CARBONIFEROUS

- Fault
- Strike and dip
- Marsh
- Mine and prospect
- Placer ditch
- Drain ditch
- Cut on drain ditch
- Ditch tunnel
- Ditch flume
- Cut or bank
- Terrace
- Bridge
- Trail

Scale 31,680

Geology by P. J. Shenon

GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE TAKILMA-WALDO DISTRICT, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON