

ASSESSMENT REPORT

105M-14-11

WERNECKE

49

PREPARED BY

DIAND TECHNICAL SERVICES

FEBRUARY, 1994

105M-14-11

WERNECKE

LOCATION

Latitude: 63° 57'23"N

Longitude: 135° 16'31"W

The mine site is located approximately 5.5km north of the community of Keno Hill. A road extends from the community of Keno Hill to the old abandoned mining community of Wernecke.

The site is approximately 1250m above sea level.

Site maps showing the location of the site are attached as Appendix A to this report.

WORK HISTORY

A work history could not be located for this site, however it is known this was a mining community started in the 1920's and served as a community and mine site. This area has been signed and appears preserved as a historical site.

CLAIMS STATUS

The status of mineral claims including claim names and numbers, claim expiry dates, and current owners in the vicinity of the Past Wernecke site are noted as of 1994/02/28 as follows;

<u>LEASE NAME/NUMBER</u>	<u>EXPIRY DATE</u>	<u>LESSEE</u>
Lotus (Lot104)	2008/11/25	United Keno Hill Mines Ltd.

Note: Other leases may extend over this site.

It is not known what major commodities were identified at this site.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

The Wernecke mine and townsite is located on the west slope of Keno Hill and can be reached from the community of Keno Hill once the snow has melted off the road. Signage along the road notes the history of the area and the site. It is evident that this site is considered to be of historical value.

Site photographs showing existing site conditions at the time of inspection on 1993/07/24 are attached as Appendix B of this report.

The site is below treeline with black spruce to 6m, willows, fireweed, grasses, vetches, and other alpine vegetation growing on a mossy cover. The surface material is a granular till overlying bedrock. No surface water features were present and the site is over 1km from the nearest tributary feeding into the Gambler Lakes. Snowmelt and rainwater is concentrated in very small rivulets draining from the area.

It is obvious that the main mining activity took place a long time ago from the condition of the buildings found at the site. It appears that the mining was an open pit operation with possibly some underground development. More recent trenching activity in the area appears to have been completed since the original development. Terrain and building conditions are reported separately to distinguish conditions at the site.

Terrain Conditions

According to the vegetation cover it appears that the trenching activity actually occurred over a number of separate time periods. This is evident as parts of the site are starting to be covered with newer vegetation. The surface exploration and trenching covers an area at least 800x600m with an open pit situated in the centre of the site. The open pit in the centre of the site is approximately 10-15m deep. **Within 100m north of the open pit an unmarked hole was observed. The depth of this hole could not safely be measured and is not known.**

The waste piles surrounding the site appear to have been flattened and pushed downslope. Most of the lower part of the site is void of much vegetation.

Buildings

The buildings at this site are all old, decaying, and many are collapsed. The least deteriorated building was a wood frame one and one half storey house that appears to have been occupied in recent years by geological exploration crews or campers. The building measures 15x16m and contains a few wood bedframes and tables.

Adjacent to this house several small outbuildings were found, namely;

- 3x4m wood frame used for a sauna,
- 4x5m wood frame shed containing a large amount of stove pipe,
- an outhouse,
- 6x10m wood frame building used as a residence. This building is in very poor condition and is beginning to collapse,
- 11x24m collapsed log and wood frame structure with an arch roof.

Foundations for other buildings were still evident , however no structures were completely standing. Some other material was found on-site, most notably the remains of a boiler with metal exhaust stack. A variety of pieces of metal junk were found inside the remains of the arch building. Little else was found on-site.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Because this site appears to be a historical site, it is recommended that any recommendations for site clean-up be approved by the custodians of the site.

The biggest concern at this site is the extremely unsafe unmarked open hole located in the center of this site. Because this hole is unmarked it would be very easy to drive or walk into this hole and sustain serious injury or result in loss of life. It is recommended that this hole be fenced off and posted to warn anyone of the potential danger. This is considered a **VERY HIGH** priority. The sides of any open pits should also be clearly marked and posted to warn anyone of the potential hazard.

If the buildings or remains are considered to be of historical significance then they should be left to serve that purpose. It should be understood that these buildings will continue to deteriorate and become unsafe (or may already be unsafe) and a safety hazard. If at some time in the future protecting these structures no longer is considered essential then the site could be cleaned up by removing any remaining structures and collecting all metal and other material and removing it from the site. However, this would be considered a **LOW** priority.

The trenching in the area has been completed and left in good condition. No large piles have been left and the site has been flattened and levelled. Complete remediation would require revegetating the worked areas, however this is not considered practical at this site because of its remoteness, dry climate, and poor soil conditions for growing.

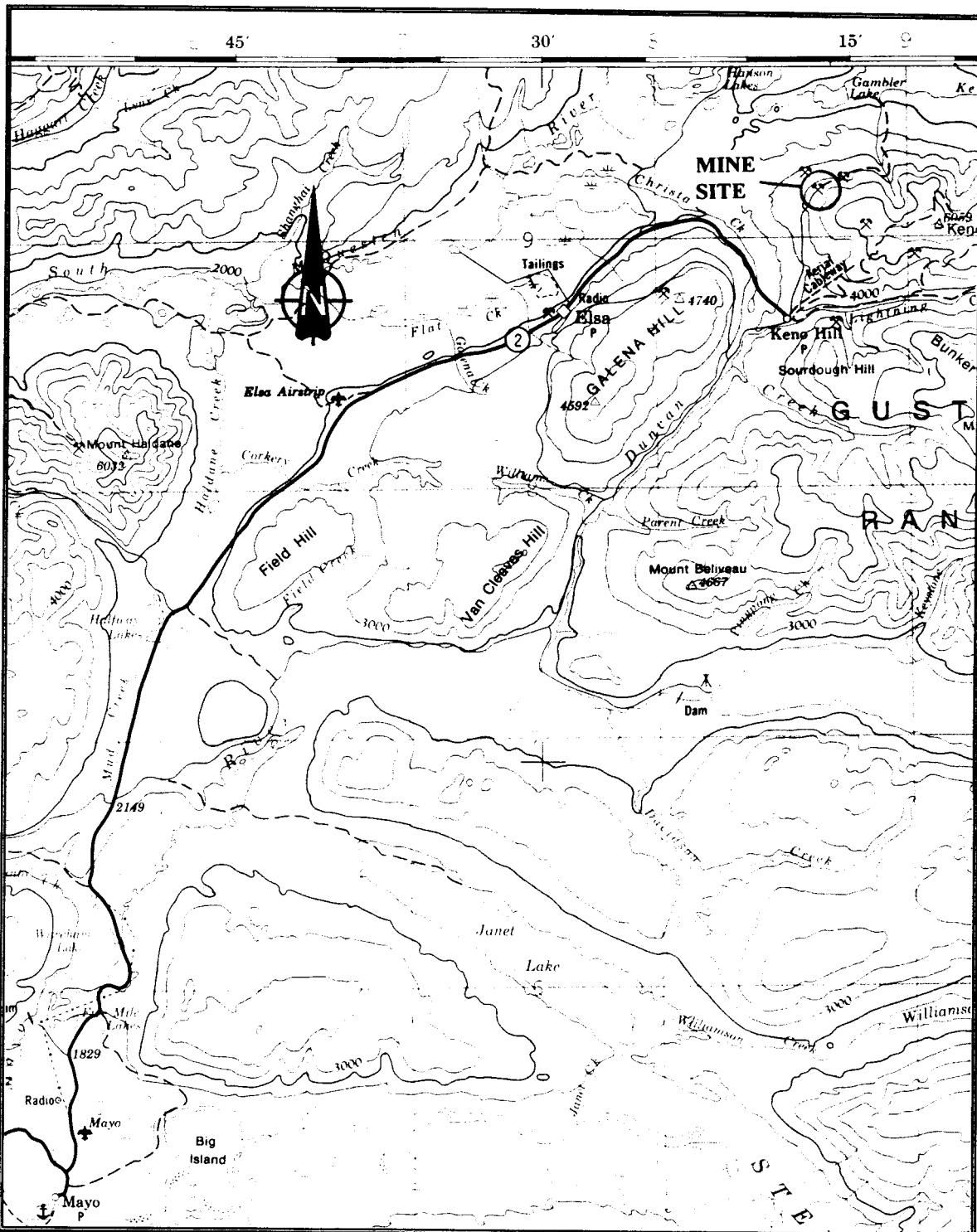
SUMMARY

The major concern at this site is the open hole that has been left unmarked and unprotected. This is considered a **VERY HIGH** priority to warn the public against this safety hazard and to secure the site by fencing off the area around this hole. The site should also be posted to warn of any other potentially hazardous situations such as getting too close to the headwall of the open pit or entering unsafe buildings.

As the site appears to be noted as a historical site, the proper authorities should be consulted when planning to conduct work at this location.

APPENDIX A

SITE LOCATION MAPS



SITE NAME: **WERNECKE**

SITE NUMBER: **105M-14-11**

MAP NUMBER: **105M**

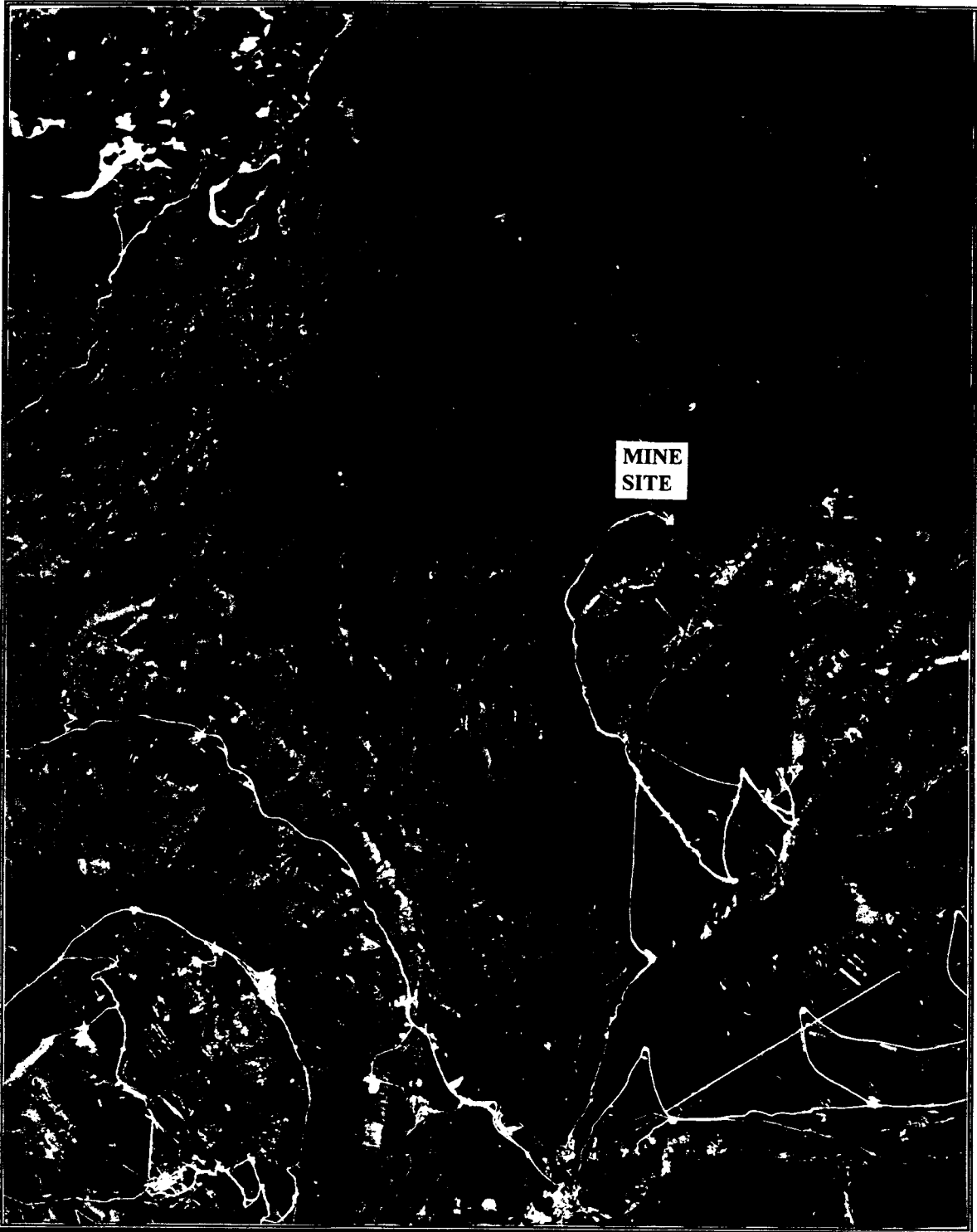
MAP NAME: **MAYO**

MAP SCALE: **1:250000**

SITE LOCATION:

LATITUDE: **63° 57'23"**

LONGITUDE: **135° 16'31"**



MINE
SITE

SITE NAME: WERNECKE

SITE NUMBER: 105M-14-11

AIRPHOTO NUMBER: A19980-10 YEAR: 1968

AIRPHOTO SCALE: 1:56000

SITE LOCATION: LATITUDE: 63° 57'23"

LONGITUDE: 135° 16'31"

APPENDIX B

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



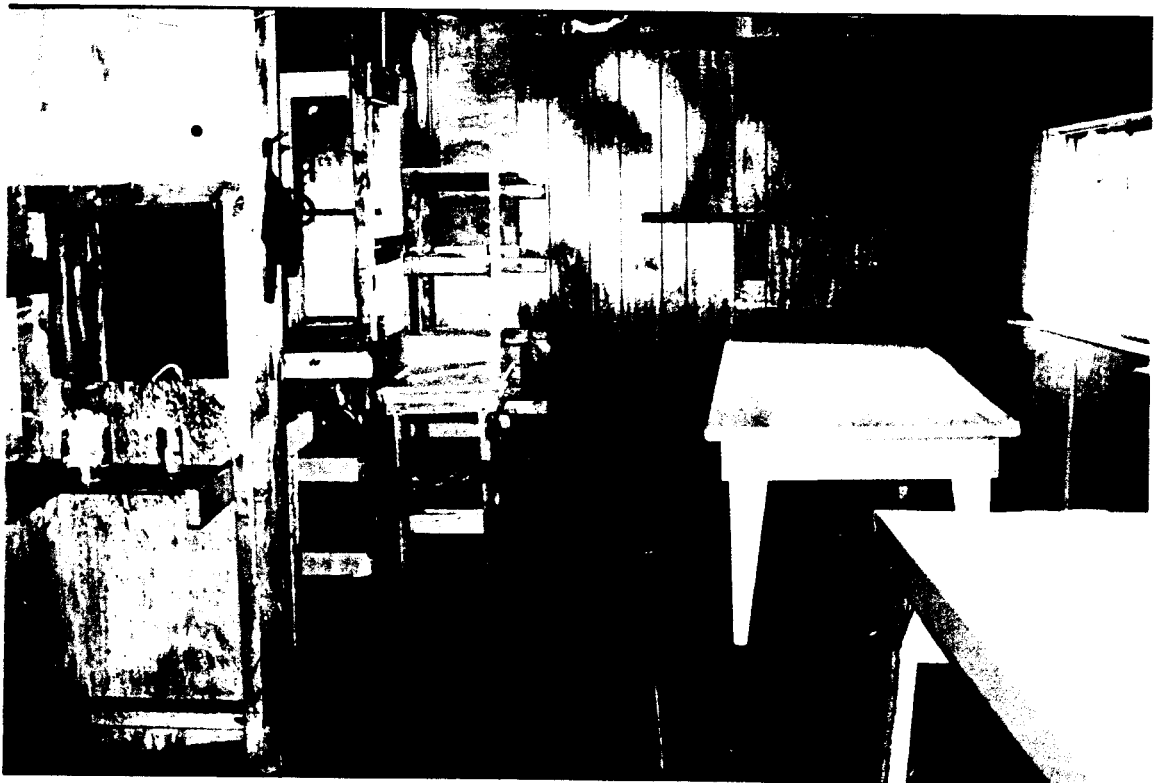
OVERALL VIEW OF WERNECKE TOWN SITE AND MINE SITE



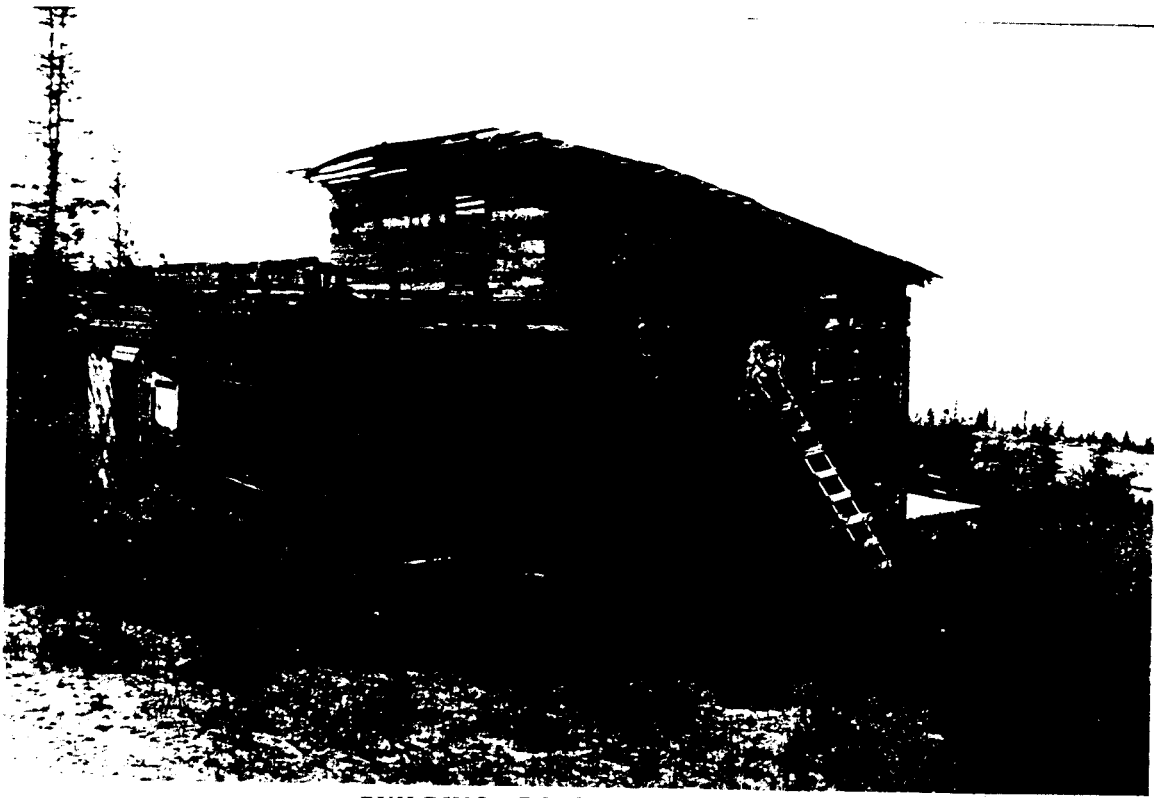
OVERALL VIEW OF LOWER PART OF MINE SITE



HOUSE



INTERIOR OF HOUSE



BUILDING ADJACENT TO HOUSE



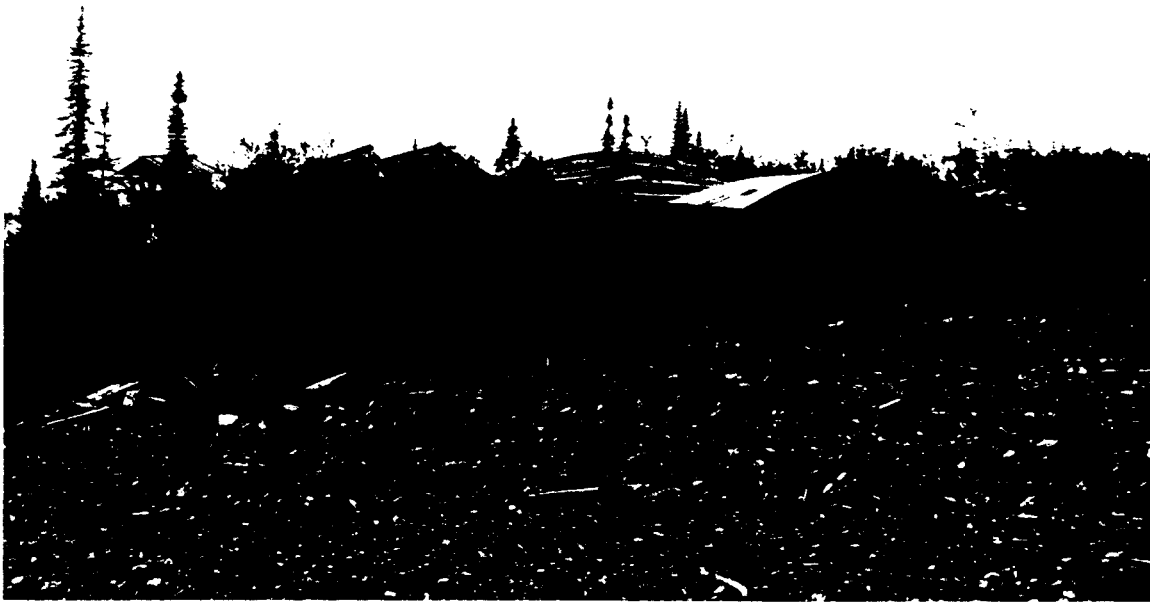
COLLAPSED WAREHOUSE



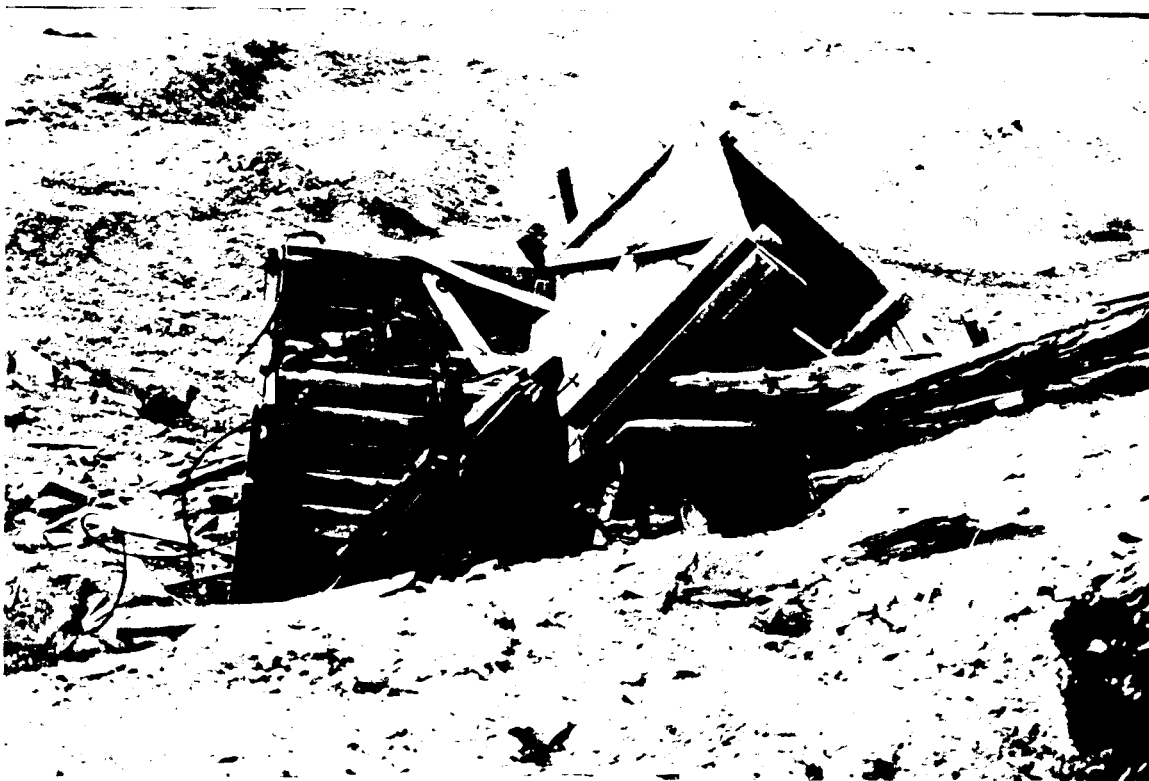
OPEN PIT



UNMARKED OPEN HOLE



COLLAPSING WAREHOUSE



WASTE ON SITE