

FROM: GORDON SKELLENGER/Stewart Crossing, Yukon Y1A 4N1

21 December 1990

Mr. David A. Downing  
Mining Development Officer  
Energy and Mines Branch  
P.O. Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



Dear Mr. Downing:

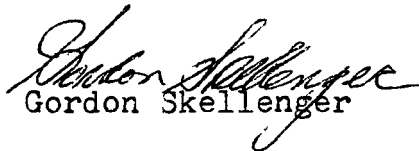
Enclosed is my report covering the 1990 season.

I trust the manner in which I have prepared it will be acceptable. I have no binder of file folders. I have not been well and have been unable to get to town.

Please let me hear from you.

Thank you for all you've done for me.

Sincerely yours,

  
Gordon Skellenger

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TITLE PAGE - (cover) -

YMIP90075

EXPLORATION PROGRAM, of Gordon Skellenger

No claims or leases involved. The principal objective of this exploration program was the investigation of new ground, surface and near-surface search for placer and mineral.

This report and the execution of the program by Gordon Skellenger; no other participants.

Exploration commenced: July 11, 1990

Exploration terminated (for the purposes of this report: August 18, 1990.

FROM: GORDON SKELLENGER/Stewart Crossing, Yukon Y1A 4N1

21 December 1990

REPORT of prospecting activities summer 1990, Agreement  
YMIP90075.

I spent more than 90 days in the field. I will describe only 30-days of that activity in this report. My main interest is visible gold, that is real pay dirt. I am a pick and shovel prospector because I travel alone and during the times when I have to leave a trail or a stream I am taking everything on my back and I will not need to describe to you the agony of going across country in this part of the Yukon.

I found no visible gold or mineral. I brought back no samples for assay or analysis.

I did not achieve my goal. I spent considerable time in prospecting ground that I felt and discovered held only a second rate promise, and there are exceedingly good signs in Map areas 115P06 and 115P07, ground I will prospect in the summer of 1991.

My activity in the bush was a horror this summer. Hordes of bees swarmed, bees attacked me, bees stung me. Mosquitoes and flies plagued me so that at times I thought about laying down to die. And to cap the misery I developed a gruesome allergy to insect spray. I lost my boat. A grizzly fled with my backpack, shredded it beyond use, then prowled me for three days. My ATV collapsed with a broken axle.

Following is my log of 30 days activity: (It is now July. An endless stream of bad luck pursued me. I left early this summer, 9 May 1990. Driving the ATV I follow the outlines of an old skid-road (from the early 1920's) and arrive at base camp. The wind has blown three trees into my cache, destroying much, and trees have fallen on my boat; things left cached from the previous summer. Weather turns sour, endless rains. ATV breaks down. I've done no prospecting. My plan was to follow the remains of an old trail and go into the Willow Hills to two particular spots indicated as very, very good possibilities for placer gold by government geochemical surveys. I walk out to Stewart Crossing and it is not until later in the summer I get the ATV out and by then I abandon all hope of prospecting the drainage, slopes and heights of Willow Hills. I turn instead to two other sites, the upper reaches of Airstrip Creek and later on I work up a good stretch of Parallel Creek which is accessible from the Dawson Highway).

July 11, 1990 - Dave Moses, Jack McDiarmid and other oldtimers tell me they have seen (or been told there was) gold in the upper reaches of Parallel Creek. I try it. The creek is dry now, but will freshen itself when some good rains come in the next days.

The stratum can be characterized by fresh, light grey overburden, mainly stream deposits and till. The till has a silty to clay like body with scattered stones, commonly as long as 6 inches and rarely striated boulders. The gravels both above and below the till are fresh. Throughout the exposed gravels the stones are well rounded and their surfaces are coarsely ground. The gravels vary in coarseness and are mingled with sand and silt. They show the typical sorting and bedding of rapid stream deposits. They are undoubtedly the debris and outwash deposits of a major glacial advance.

Using my Goldspear I work slowly back and forth, back and forth from a single point broadening out into a V along the little stream bed and out into a gradually lifting bench of several feet. I probe one foot, two feet, three feet deep.

I find nothing.

July 12, 1990 - I retrace part of the previous days probing, as I will do as a regular pattern, increasing the range and depth of my sweeps. I go about a kilometre each day.

July 13, 1990 - I see a black bear, a splendid beast, in prime condition. A Yukon hunter would give his what-all for such a trophy. It was going to the high country.

I followed slowly with my Goldspear, probing the ground, probing the ground waiting for the sensors to set off the alarm signalling gold.

I work another kilometre and have no results to show, no gold.

July 14, 1990 - I find some standing pools of sweet water and pan some of the gravels. Some nice stones but no gold.

July 15, 1990 - I bring up some buckets and shovel and pan the gravels from a section where a great long ago the stream flowed at a higher level. I dig one hole about six feet deep, but these gravels give me not even a color.

July 16, 1990 - I dig another hole and pan the gravels.

July 17, 1990 - I dig another hold. No gold today.

July 23, 1990 - After a respite at Stewart Crossing I continue my probes. I work another kilometre. Good walking in the streambed. I leave no stone unturned. This is better than a

gold pan and shovel.

July 24, 1990 - Probing again, ranging 100 yards or so on either side of the creek. Find nothing.

July 25, 1990 - More probing. Nothing to spur me on, not a sign, not a signal, except that secret possibility so I continue on and cover another kilometre.

July 26, 1990 - The country starts to rise and a little branch barely traceable cuts off to my right. I should have quit, yesterday perhaps, but maybe on that bench a few kilometres higher where two large branches fork there might be gold deposited there and if so carried off into some region buried under tons of fill. I must find a trace, a trace and that trace will be like a beacon star to the Goldspear.

July 27, 1990 - The Goldspear finds nothing on this little branch that has its start in a small hillock. Nothing.

July 28, 1990 - I put together a makeshift rocker box of spruce limbs and willow and fine screen and sift the gravels as we would, down around Randsburg in the Death Valley of California. But no luck.

July 29, 1990 - Run about a half-yard through the little rocker. No gold.

July 30, 1990 - I resume my probes of the mainstream of Parallel Creek. One kilometre, ranging off to either side.

July 31, 1990 - I take my rock tools and climb off into some higher country and look for outcropping, signs of contusion or upheaval.

Grey, large, blocky fracturing quartzite interbedded with schist; and limestone. Many of the rocks are brown and contain rounded sand grains 1/8 to 1/4 inch. Occurrence of light grey to white coarsely crystalline limestone.

August 1, 1990 - I range across the terrain, digging, breaking rocks and examining. Probe with the Goldspear.

August 2, 1990 - Twelve hours today. Thick moss and blow-down. Make no discovery.

August 3, 1990 - Another long day. I have a good picture of the changes, momentous and monumental, that have been made in this land, this valley; glacial marches, rains and winds.

August 4, 1990 - Prospect the streambed. One-two kilometres.

August 5, 1990 - Prospect the streambed. The stones are always interesting. I dig down a few feet. Layers of coarse

gravel, layer of rusted oxidized sand and gravel, layer of sand, layer of extremely fine gravel loosely compacted, layer of fist size stones intersticed with smaller sizes. No yield, here, or at, or above the separation of two flows of the stream. I'm off to Airstrip Creek. I'd like to get over to the other side.

August 8, 1990 - About four kilometres from where a trail crosses Airstrip Creek I begin upstream retracing some of the ground I covered previously, working now with the Goldspear.

Characteristics of the stratum are well rounded stones, gravels varying in coarseness, mingled with sand and silt. There are small granitic stocks occur<sup>ing</sup> in the lower reaches of the stream.

H.S. Bostock was in this region in 1946-1949 and described ground within and west of Airstrip Creek as a coarse porphyritic syenite consisting of large tubular albite phenocrysts, the groundmass containing hornblende, biotite, 2 feldspars and a little quartz. Accessory minerals of titanite, allanite and an unusual abundance of tourmaline.

To me it bears all the characteristics of ~~the~~ some of the good gold-bearing streams such as Clear Creek and Duncan Creek.

August 9, 1990 - The stream is dry, with an occasional pool of sweet water. I am traveling light. Work one kilometre of the streambed and opposite banks 100 yards or so.

August 10, 1990 - Another kilometre of probing. I dig and pan the gravels whenever I find a good pool.

August 11, 1990 - Fourteen hours today. Plodding along very steady. Weary, weary, but I keep myself keyed. No results to report.

August 12, 1990 - Another long, long day. I probe one foot, two feet and listen for the bells.

August 13, 1990 - No sign of gold today. Worked a good long day. In the afternoon I wandered around through the brush and trees using the Goldspear. This country is inaccessible. Not enough of an opening for a helicopter. I look for old streambeds.

August 14, 1990 - Make one kilometre. No gold.

August 15, 1990 - Another kilometre. Probing, groundsearching with side forays. Nothing.

August 16, 1990 - Another kilometre and a very long day with no showings.

August 17, 1990 - The country getting into a steeper pitch. Bigger stones, baseball, basketball size, some large boulders, of drum size, fine sands. A long day. Climb along some of the side hills. I find nothing.

August 18, 1990 - Continue on another kilometre or so; a slow day. Three bear. No gold.

I return to Stewart Crossing.

I went again to Airstrip Creek in September and October. I spent another 43 days in the field. I explored almost the entire reach of Airstrip Creek, yet there were three-reaches up in the source I did not investigate.

I am forlorn to report I found no visible gold or mineral of value during the season.

I offer no conclusions because the search must be continued. The area should be awash with gold but like all gold it needs to be found and it will take the kind of painstaking and painful search of the ground foot by foot. A dozen or more geological, geochemical reports give proof of the region bearing all the signs and potential for discovery, and I propose to continue next year.

Moreover, I believe my quests in the map area are little by little narrowing it down to the Willow Hills and drainage easterly toward Lake Creek.

Who knows, maybe next season it will happen. It is extremely rough country. Extremely rough and one must go it a foot at a time as I have had to do.

If I have any recommendation it is that I be allowed the privilege of being sponsored by the prospecting programs for another year. I think I have been laying the groundwork for a nice discovery.

  
Gordon Skellenger

END OF REPORT



# SHEET 115P-7

LATITUDE 63°15' To 63°30'  
LONGITUDE 136°30' To 137°00'

CANADA  
DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL RESOURCES  
NORTHERN ADMINISTRATION BRANCH

SCALE 1/2 MILE TO 1 INCH

FT. 1500 0 1500 3000 4500 6000 7500 9000 10500 FT.

ISSUED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER

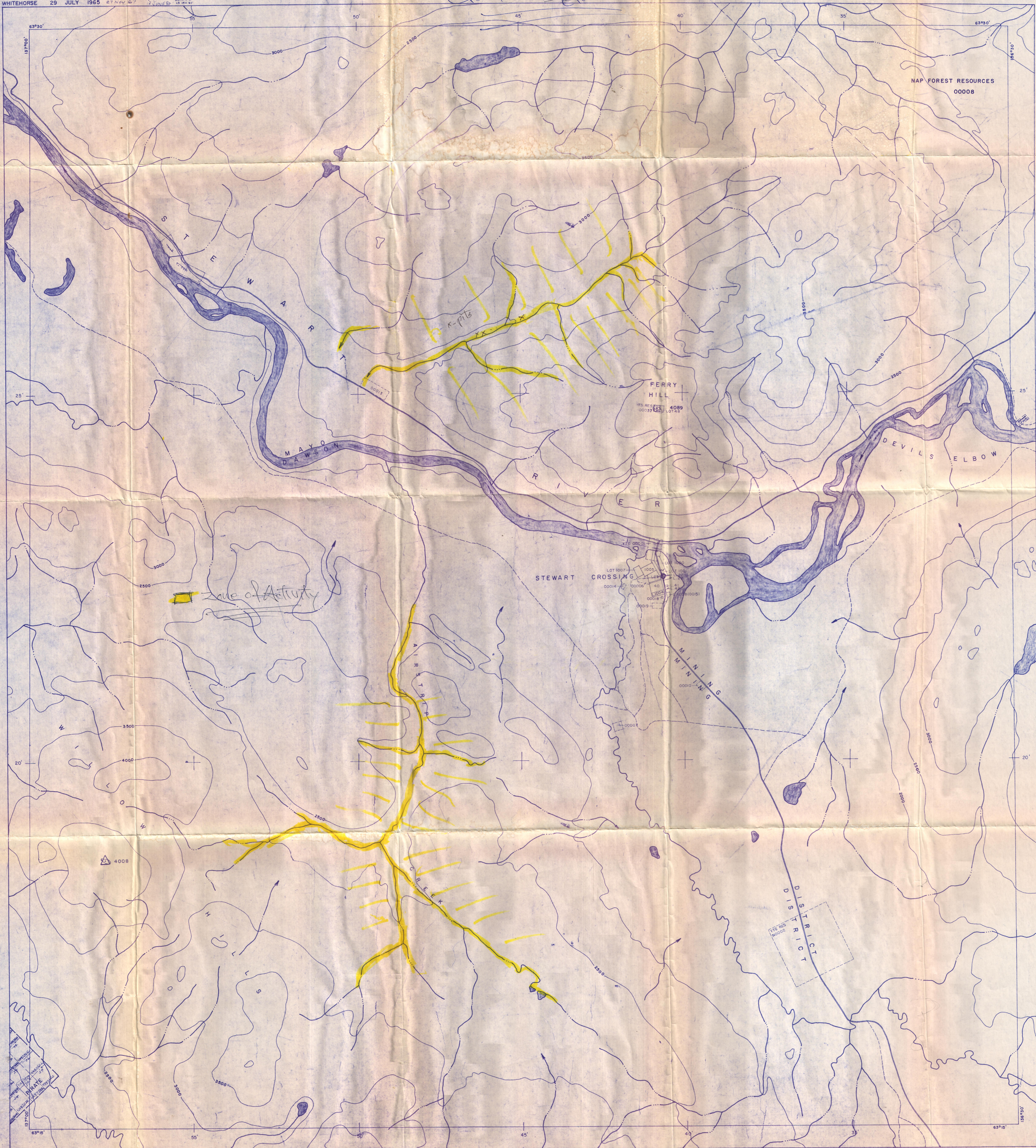
*Stewart*  
*Cooped Creek*  
*Stewart*

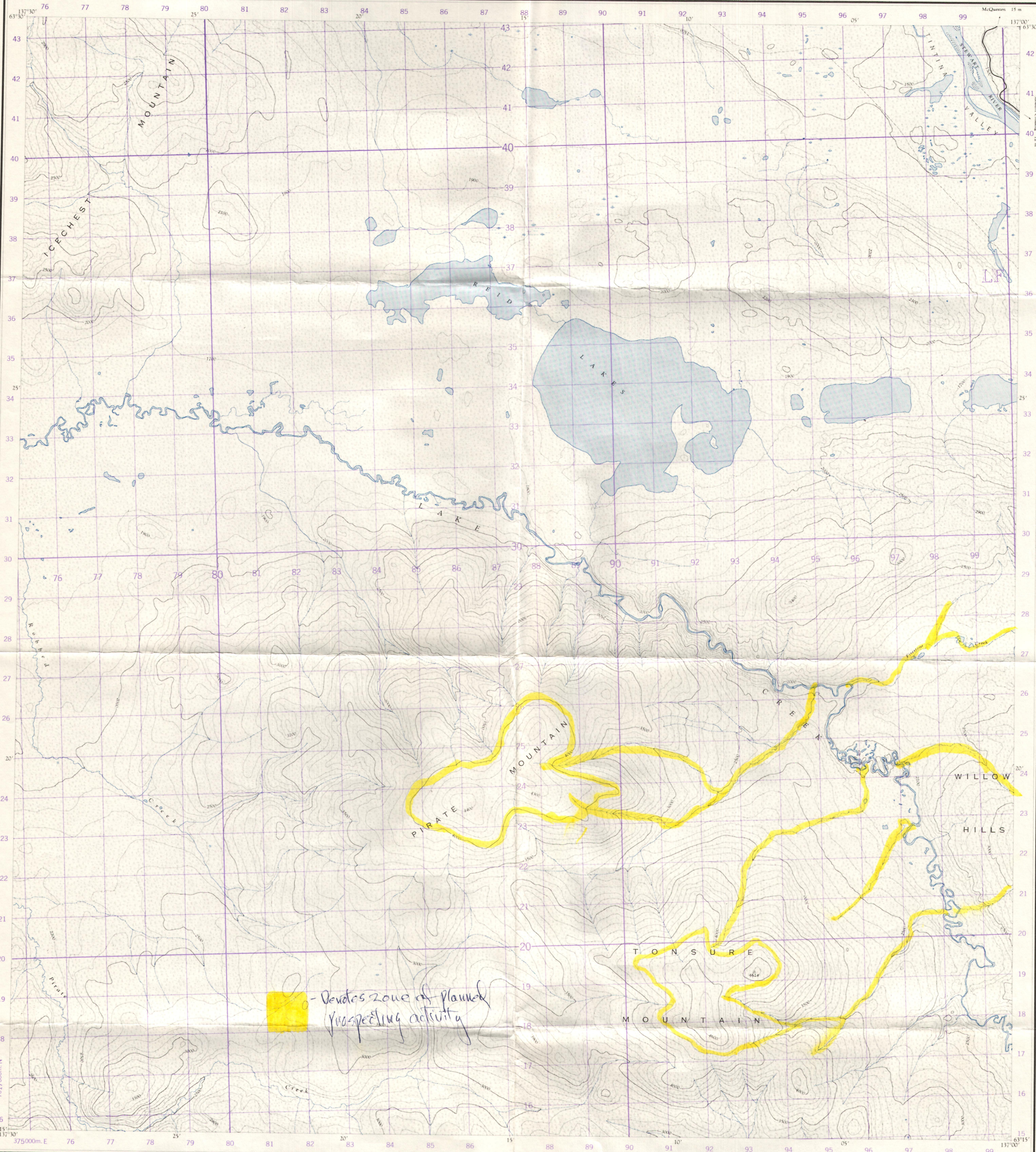
115P-11	115P-10	115P-9
115P-6	115P-7	115P-8
115P-3	115P-2	115P-1

## NOTICE

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26 JULY 1974  
29 JULY 1965



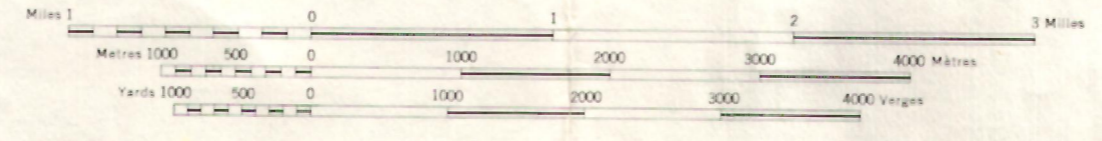


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**REID LAKES  
YUKON TERRITORY**

SCALE 1:50,000 ÉCHELLE



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET  
Elevations in Feet above Mean Sea Level  
North American Datum 1927  
Transverse Mercator Projection

ÉLOIDISTANCE DES COURBES: 100 PIEDS  
Élévations en pieds au-dessus du niveau moyen de la mer  
Réseau géodésique nord-américain unifié (1927)  
Projection transverse de Mercator

MAGNETIC DECLINATION 32° 57' EAST  
AT CENTRE OF MAP 1960  
Annual change (decreasing) 3.5'

DÉCLINAISON MAGNÉTIQUE AU CENTRE  
DE LA FEUILLE EN 1960: 32° 57' EST  
Variation annuelle (décroissante) 3,5'

The nomenclature on this map has not been submitted to the Canadian Board on Geographical Names and may be subject to revision. Information on names is invited by the Surveys and Mapping Branch.

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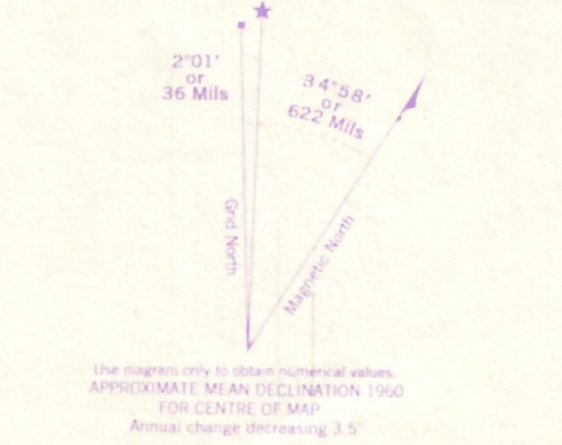
GRID ZONE DESIGNATION	
8V	115P/6

TO GRID 4 REFERENCE TO NEAREST ONE METRE	
EASTING	FOOTING
88	3
89	3
90	3
91	3
92	3
93	3
94	3
95	3
96	3
97	3
98	3
99	3
00	3

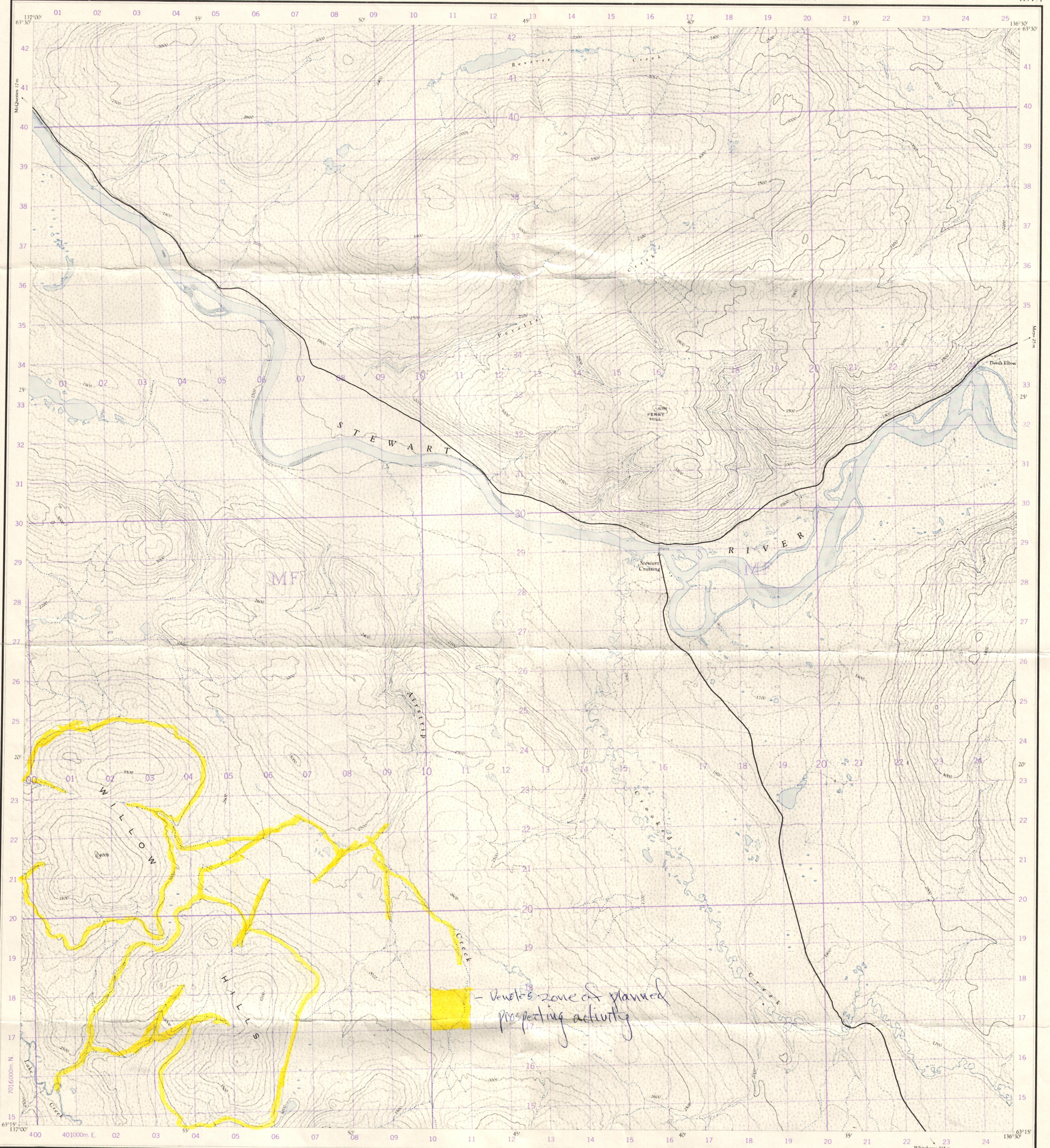
ONE THOUSAND METRE  
UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR GRID  
ZONE 8

Building	Station	Well	Grange
School	Cove	Post Office	Bureau de poste
Church	Eggle	Secretary	Commissaire
Lighthouse	Phare		
House with bridge	Maître avec pont		
Stream, intermittent or dry	Cours d'eau intermittent ou à sec		
Levee, intermittent, obsolete	Las intermittent, obsolètes		
Marsh or Swamp	Marais ou tourbière		
Depression contours	Courbes de dépression		



NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC SYSTEM  
SYSTÈME DE RÉFÉRENCE CARTOGRAPHIQUE NATIONAL

VEIP  
00-075

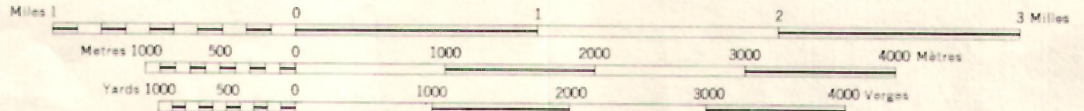


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### STEWART CROSSING YUKON TERRITORY

SCALE 1:50,000 ÉCHELLE



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET  
Elevations in Feet above Mean Sea Level  
North American Datum 1927  
Transverse Mercator Projection

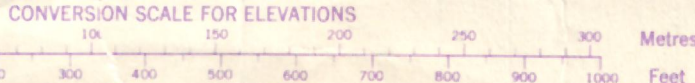
ÉCART D'HAUTEUR DES COURBES: 100 PIEDS  
Élévations en pieds au-dessus du niveau moyen de la mer  
Réseau géodésique nord-américain unifié (1927)  
Projection transversale de Mercator

MAGNETIC DECLINATION 37°50' EAST  
AT CENTRE OF MAP 1961  
Annual change (decreasing): 4'

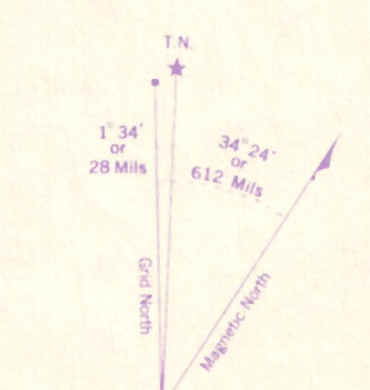
DÉCLINAISON MAGNÉTIQUE AU CENTRE  
DE LA FEUILLE EN 1961: 37°50' EST  
Variation annuelle (diminuant): 4'

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Building	Édifice	Well	Puits
School	École	Post Office	Bureau de poste
Church	Église	Genetory	Cimetière
Lighthouse	Phare		
River with bridge	Rivière avec pont		
Stream, intermittent or dry	Cours d'eau intermittent ou à sec		
Lake, intermittent, indefinite	Lac intermittent, indéfini		
Marsh or Swamp	Marais ou marécage		
Depression contour	Courbes de cote		



Use diagram only to obtain numerical values.  
APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION 1961  
FOR CENTRE OF SHEET  
Annual change decreasing 4.0'

GRID ZONE IDENTIFICATION

8V

11 MF 40

TO GIVE A REFERENCE TO NEAREST 100 METERS

EXAMPLE: CABIN

EASTING: Read number on grid line immediately to left of point  
Easting north of A is 196  
From this line westward to point: 196

NORTHING: Read number on grid line immediately below point  
Northing north of A is 302  
From this line northward to point: 302

MILITARY GRID REFERENCE: 196302

Nearest corner grid reference 100,000 metres (about 62 miles)

ONE THOUSAND METRE  
UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR  
ZONE 8

NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC SYSTEM  
SYSTÈME DE RÉFÉRENCE CARTOGRAPHIQUE NATIONAL