

YUKON TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT
EXPLORATION INCENTIVES PROGRAM
PROJECT ED90-1/91049

PLACER EXPLORATION ON
MARTEN CREEK

April 1 - July 31, 1991

PLACER CLAIMS:
P21203 - P21211

TRANSVERSE MERCATOR PROJECTION CO-ORDINATES
141°47' longitude - 64°21' latitude
PLACER CLAIM SHEET 116C-7

prepared by
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MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

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Background

Marten Creek is a tributary on the left limit of the Fortymile River. It empties into the Fortymile approximately 15 miles above the confluence of the Fortymile and Yukon Rivers. Marten Creek is located approximately 40 air miles northwest of Dawson City. Maps 1 and 2 give the property location.

There is a road to the property, approximately 70 road miles from Dawson City. Road access to the property is good, varying from gravel highway on the Top of the World highway, secondary road on the Clinton Creek road, and good bush mining road right to the property.

Marten Creek is classed as a Type 5 stream under the Yukon Fisheries Protection Authorization. This means that it is unclassified at the present time due to the general lack of fisheries data. It was our intent to perform comprehensive enough work to determine whether it was worth pursuing reclassification of the stream for mining purposes. It would likely be classified as a type 4 stream as water flow is minimal during dry periods in the summer and the valley is narrow.

The channel varies from 8 to 15 feet wide. The valley varies from approximately 50 to 200 feet in width. The grade is moderately steep. The water level fluctuates greatly with rain fall. Vegetation consists mainly of scrubby spruce trees and moss. There are some stands of larger spruce, with willow and alder along the creek channel.

Marten Creek was known as Log Cabin Creek at one time because of the number of miner's cabins there. There is much evidence of old workings all along the creek. These are mostly old shafts with tailings along side them, although there are some open cuts. Old mining recorder's records in the archives in Whitehorse show that the whole creek was held in claims in the early part of the century. Evidence of earlier claim activity was lost when the mining recorder's office at Fortymile Village burned down. Marten Creek has a reputation among oldtimers as having coarse gold. There was some drilling done in the creek valley in 1964 by a prospector from Whitehorse, but results were reportedly inconclusive and we have not seen the drill logs.

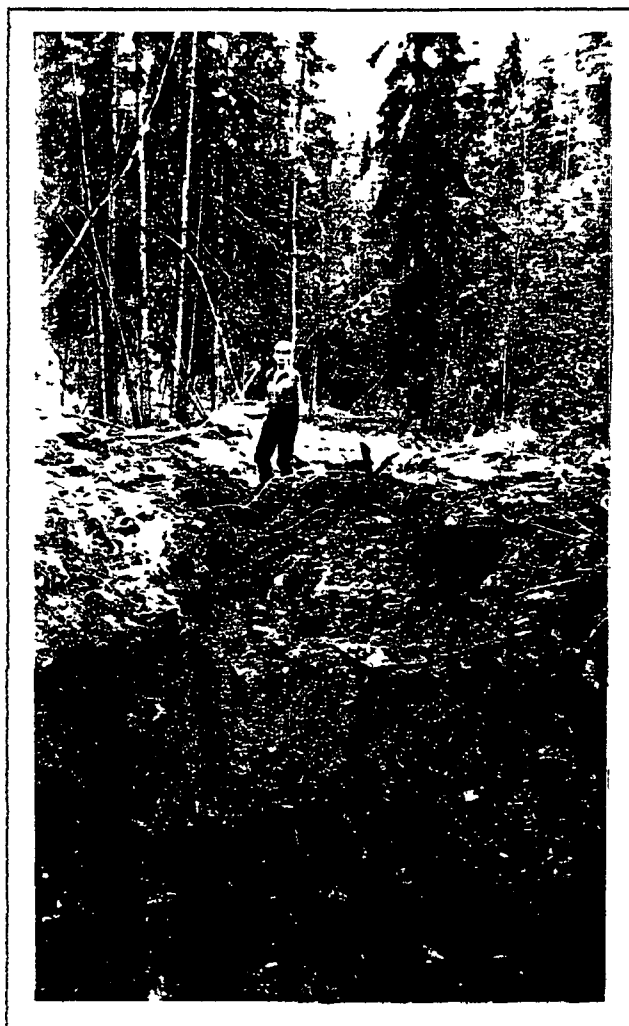
Equipment Used

- UH10 Hitachi excavator, equipped with a long stick and 1 1/2 yard digging bucket
- D6C Cat dozer with ripper and angle blade
- Goldhound 4 lead spiral gold concentrating wheel
- 1 inch portable cleanup pump
- long tom approximately 3 feet by 16 inches, with expanded metal riffles and Nomad matting
- Various gold pans, screens, and magnets
- Scale accurate to 1/10 of a grain

Work Performed

Because the historical evidence indicates coarse gold, we decided that excavation of pits to bedrock would be the best method of sampling. First we took numerous samples up the creek to determine gold presence. The top gravels are loosely sorted and angular so we expected that they would be relatively barren. Results of this panning are shown in Table 1.

Heavy equipment and fuel and supplies were brought into the site in early May to start the project. Because the ground is frozen with a layer of perma-frost muck, we wanted to perform the work before summer thawing made access more difficult. A rough trail was established to the creek. We used the D6C dozer to do this work. Because this is a Type 5 stream, caution was exercised in establishing access so that the creek was not disturbed. The UH10 Hitachi excavator was used to dig the pits. A



Sampling Pits in Marten Creek

total of 9 pits were dug. Much of the excavation was done in frozen ground. See Map 3 for the location of the pits.

Samples were taken at approximately one foot intervals while the excavations were proceeding. The results of these samples are shown in Table 2. Larger scale samples were taken at bedrock depth. These samples consisted of eight 20 litre pails of gravel, weighing 100 lbs. each.

Upon completion of the excavations the equipment was moved out of the property and the site was cleaned up in order to minimize environmental impact.

Sample Evaluation Procedure

A gold pan was used to evaluate surface gravel in the preliminary phase of the property assessment. As well the gold pan was used to monitor the ground tenor as excavations proceeded. The bottom approximately three feet of gravel and two feet of bedrock were sampled in larger volumes. Because the history of this area is of coarse gold, we felt that larger scale samples would be more effective at evaluating the ground. These pails of gravel were taken back to our camp. Here they were screened to approximately 1/2 inch mesh and run through a long tom. Concentrate from the long tom was screened through a 10 mesh screen and the oversized material was panned to find nuggets. The minus 10 mesh concentrate was processed through the spiral gold clean up wheel. Four 100 lb. pails were considered to constitute one sample so that there would be sufficient gold per sample to allow us to weigh it. There were two of these 400 lb. samples per pit. Gold recovered from these samples was weighed using a scale which was accurate to 1/10 of a grain. This allowed us to calculate grade in ounces per yard. The results of these samples are delineated in Table 3.

Summary of Results

The ground has a shallow layer of muck ranging from one to two feet. Under this is approximately 8 feet of raw, angular gravel. Below this angular gravel is a layer of more rounded, washed looking gravel which is 4 to 8 feet in thickness. There are some small boulders in the gravel of up to one foot in diameter. Bedrock is a schist which is quite hard. The gravel in the frozen state is extremely hard to dig.

The top layers are generally very low grade. Lower gravel and bedrock appear promising. The pay seems to be spotty, with some areas having high values. It is difficult to accurately project values from the relatively small sample sizes, given the coarse nature of the gold. Our objective at this stage was to confirm gold presence and make a preliminary judgement as to the viability of mining the ground. We did confirm the presence of placer gold in the creek.

Recommendations

This ground looks like it would be viable to mine. Some of the pits indicated good pay values. More thorough work is needed to determine if the areas where good pay was found are extensive enough to support mining, and to determine grade figures. It is likely that the pay is concentrated in a narrow streak, rather than being widely dispersed throughout the gravel.

The reclassification of this creek should be pursued. A type 4 classification is necessary in order to mine the creek, as in most places the valley is too narrow to construct a diversion channel.

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 1

RESULTS OF 7 LB. GRAB SAMPLES

SAMPLE #	# COLOURS	SAMPLE #	# COLOURS
1	0	23	0
2	0	24	1
3	0	25	0
4	0	26	0
5	1	27	0
6	0	28	0
7	0	29	0
8	0	30	0
9	0	31	0
10	0	32	1
11	1	33	0
12	0	34	0
13	0	35	1
14	0	36	0
15	0	37	0
16	0	38	0
17	0	39	0
18	0	40	0
19	0	41	0
20	1	42	0
21	0	43	0
22	0		

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 2

RESULTS OF 7 LB. SAMPLES TAKEN AT 1 FT. INTERVALS FROM EXCAVATIONS

EXCAV #	SAMPLE #	COMMENTS	# COLOURS
	1.1		0
PIT	1.2		0
# 1	1.3		0
	1.4		0
	1.5		0
	1.6		0
	1.7		1
	1.8	large, thick flakes	2
	1.9		0
	1.10		0
	1.11		0
	1.12		0
	1.13		0
	1.14	chunk	1
	1.15	large colour	1
	1.16		0
	1.17		0
	1.18	raw looking gold	1
	2.1		0
PIT	2.2		0
# 2	2.3		0
	2.4		0
	2.5	garnets	1
	2.6		0
	2.7		0
	2.8	small colours	2
	2.9		0
	2.10		0
	2.11	chunky piece	1
	2.12		0

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 2, continued

RESULTS OF 7 LB. SAMPLES TAKEN AT 1 FT. INTERVALS FROM EXCAVATIONS

EXCAV #	SAMPLE #	COMMENTS	# COLOURS
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	2.13		0
	2.14	1 large raw flake	2
	2.15	orange coloured gold	1
	2.16		0
	2.17	chunky piece	1
	2.18		0
	3.1		0
PIT	3.2		0
# 3	3.3	small colour	1
	3.4		0
	3.5		0
	3.6		0
	4.1		0
PIT	4.2		0
# 4	4.3		0
	4.4		0
	4.5		0
	4.6		0
	5.1		0
PIT	5.2		1
# 5	5.3	good size colours	2
	5.4		0
	5.5		0
	5.6	good sized pieces	3
	5.7		0
	5.8		0
	5.9	1 large colour	4
	5.10		1

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 2, continued

RESULTS OF 7 LB. SAMPLES TAKEN AT 1 FT. INTERVALS FROM EXCAVATIONS

EXCAV #	SAMPLE #	COMMENTS	# COLOURS
	5.11	2 large chunks	7
	5.12	flakes	3
	5.13	large colours	17
	5.14		4
	5.15	large colours	8
	5.16	2 chunks	12
	6.1		0
PIT	6.2		0
# 6	6.3		0
	6.4		0
	6.5		0
	6.6		1
	6.7		0
	6.8		0
	6.9		0
	6.10		0
	6.11	chunky pieces	2
	6.12		0
	6.13		1
	6.14		0
	6.15		0
	6.16	large flakes	3
	6.17		0
	7.1		0
PIT	7.2		0
# 7	7.3		0
	7.4		0
	7.5		1
	7.6		0

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 2, continued

RESULTS OF 7 LB. SAMPLES TAKEN AT 1 FT. INTERVALS FROM EXCAVATIONS

EXCAV #	SAMPLE #	COMMENTS	# COLOURS
	7.7		0
	7.8		0
	7.9		1
	7.10	large flake	2
	7.11		1
	7.12		0
	7.13		0
	7.14		1
	7.15	chunky piece	1
	7.16		0
	8.1		0
PIT	8.2		0
# 8	8.3		0
	8.4		0
	8.5		0
	8.6		0
	8.7		1
	8.8		0
	8.9		0
	8.10		1
	8.11		0
	8.12		0
	8.13		0
	8.14		1
	8.15	garnets	2
	8.16		0
	9.1		0
PIT	9.2		0
# 9	9.3		0

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 2, continued

RESULTS OF 7 LB. SAMPLES TAKEN AT 1 FT. INTERVALS FROM EXCAVATIONS

EXCAV #	SAMPLE #	COMMENTS	# COLOURS
	9.4		0
	9.5		0
	9.6		2
	9.7		0
	9.8		1
	9.10		1
	9.11		0
	9.12		0
	9.13		2
	9.14		0
	9.15		0
	9.16	large flake	1
	9.17	chunk	1
	9.18		0

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT
TABLE 3
RESULTS OF 400 LB. SAMPLES FROM EXCAVATIONS

EXCAV #	SAMPLE #	COMMENTS	WEIGHT GOLD IN GRAINS	GRADE YDS/OZ	AV GRADE YDS/OZ
PIT	1.1		.9	76	
# 1	1.2		.6	114	95
PIT	2.1		.5	137	
# 2	2.2		.3	229	183
PIT	3.1		trace	—	
# 3	3.2		trace	—	—
PIT	4.1		1	69	
# 4	4.2		.2	343	206
PIT	5.1		16.9	4	
# 5	5.2		6.7	10	7
PIT	6.1		2.1	31	
# 6	6.2		4.3	16	47
PIT	7.1		.9	76	
# 7	7.2		1.6	43	60
PIT	8.1		trace	—	
# 8	8.2		.4	171	343
PIT	9.1		trace	—	
# 9	9.2		.8	86	171

Average grade from all pits.....33 yds per ounce

MARTEN CREEK EXPLORATION PROJECT

TABLE 4

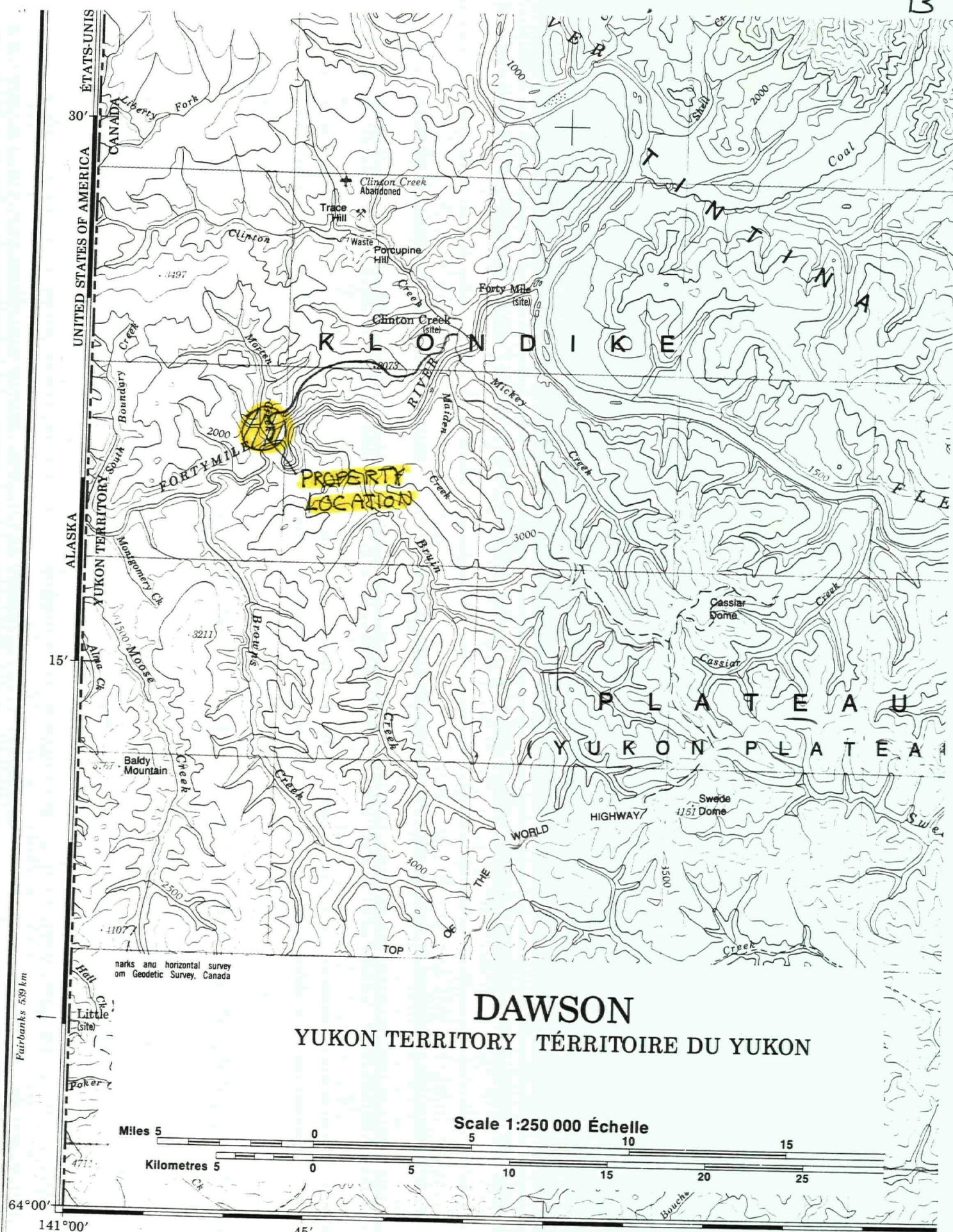
DIMENSIONS OF PITS

&

VOLUMES OF EXCAVATIONS IN LOOSE CUBIC YARDS

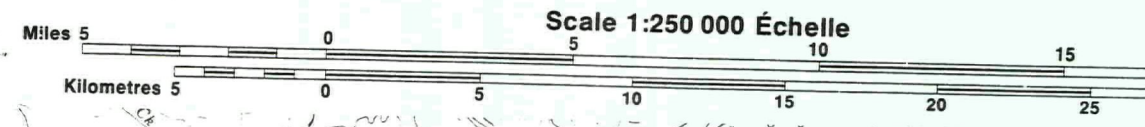
PIT NUMBER	DEPTH FEET	DIAMETER FEET	VOLUME CUBIC YARDS	BEDROCK REACHED
1	18	20	272	yes
2	18	20	272	yes
3	6	20	91	no
4	6	20	91	no
5	18	20	272	yes
6	17	20	257	yes
7	16	20	242	yes
8	16	20	242	yes
9	18	20	272	yes

Total volume excavated.....2,011 loose cubic yards

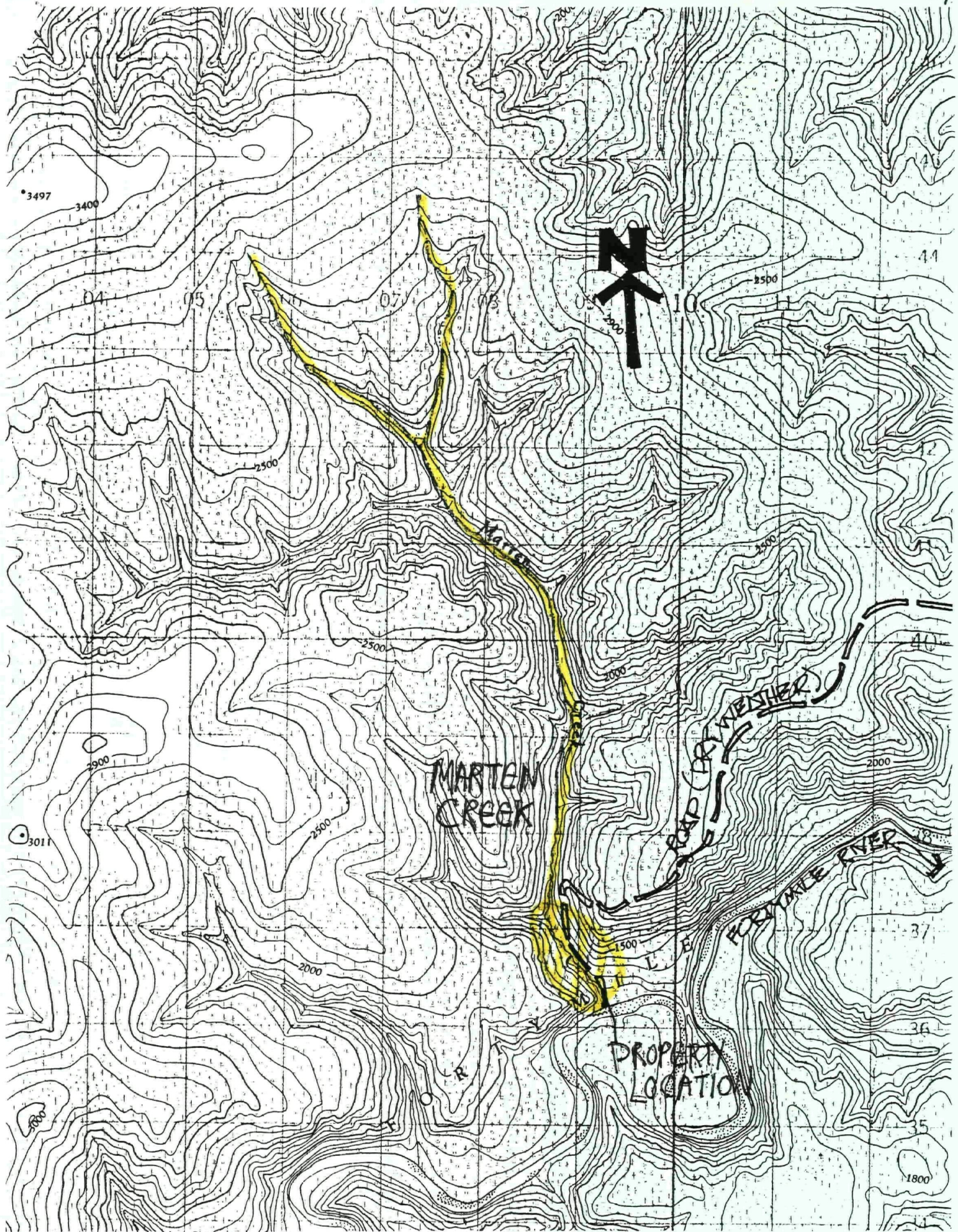


ÉTATS-UNIS
 30'
 CANADA
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 ALASKA
 15'
 64°00'

DAWSON
 YUKON TERRITORY TERRITOIRE DU YUKON



MAP 1 - Property Location 1:250,000



Map 2 - Location of Property - 1:50,000



MAP 3 - Location of Pits on Marten Creek

Supplementary Information

PEOPLE WHO WORKED ON THE PROJECT

Bill Claxton	Marten Creek, Fortymile River, Yukon
Leslie Chapman	Marten Creek, Fortymile River, Yukon
Larry Remple	Dawson City, Yukon

PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

The report was prepared by L. Chapman and W. Claxton; 40 man-hours were spent compiling data and writing the report.

CLAIMS INVESTIGATED

PLACER CLAIMS:

P21203 - P21211