

HISTORICAL RESOURCES OF THE FORTYMILE RIVER, ALASKA

by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The Fortymile River, located in east-central Alaska and western Yukon Territory, Canada, possesses such outstanding scenic, cultural, recreational, and water quality values that the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska proposed that it be included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Location of the proposed wild and scenic river area is shown on page 2. Increasing numbers of recreationists come to the river each year for wilderness experiences gained through canoeing, hiking, and nature study. Study and enjoyment of the area's historical resources is also a significant recreational activity as there are numerous abandoned cabins and belongings of those involved in the Fortymile gold rush and extensive placer mining era of the late 1880's to the 1940's.

Since development of road access to this remote area in 1952, structures and artifacts have been disturbed and sometimes vandalized by short-term visitors. So-called souvenir collectors have removed many items ranging from gold pans to yellowed personal letters. The problem concerns Bureau of Land Management officials responsible for most of the sites as it does permanent residents who, in the spirit of the "sourdough" pioneers, periodically visited the sites but always left everything as it was found.

PROPOSED FORTY MILE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

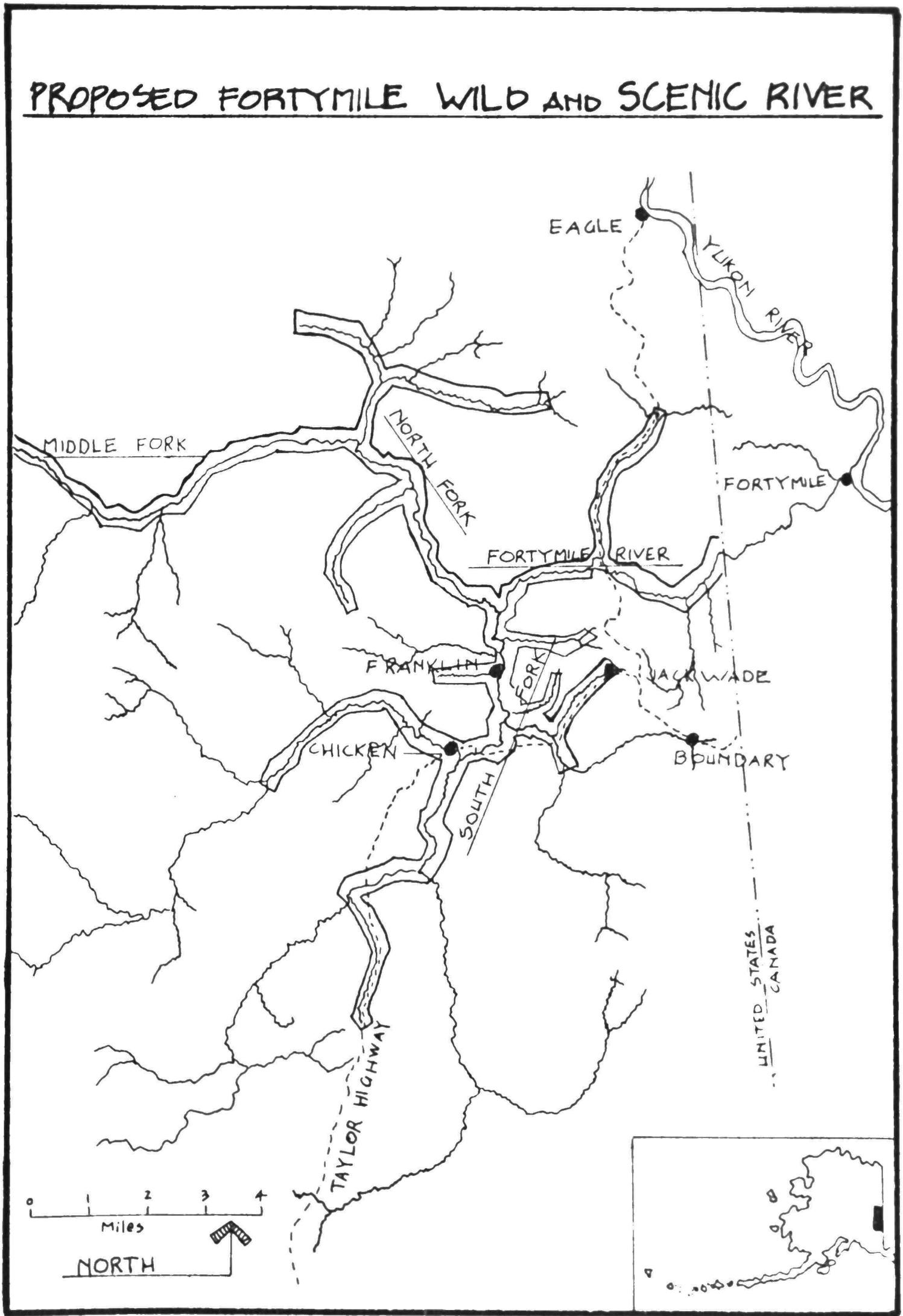


Figure 1. Proposed Fortymile Wild and Scenic River.

A historical resources management plan is now needed as well as an implementation program for protection, interpretation, and utilization of structures and artifacts in the area. This study presents such a plan for a given portion of the Fortymile River area.

Objectives

The objectives of this study were to (1) inventory the historical resources along a selected stretch of the Fortymile River, (2) evaluate the resources in order to establish preservation and utilization priorities, and (3) recommend action for the future management of the proposed scenic river area which would preserve unique historical resources. The study area shown on page 4 included the forty mile stretch of river between the bridges at Milepost 75 and Milepost 112 of the Taylor Highway. This is the most heavily visited area due to convenient road access and has an urgent need for a management plan.

Justification

The language of the federal laws which apply to the administration of these federally owned lands describes the need for preserving historical resources. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (80 Stat. 915, 16 U.S.C. 470) states that "the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people." This is consistent with the declaration in the National Historic Sites Act of 1935 (49 Stat. 666,

STUDY AREA

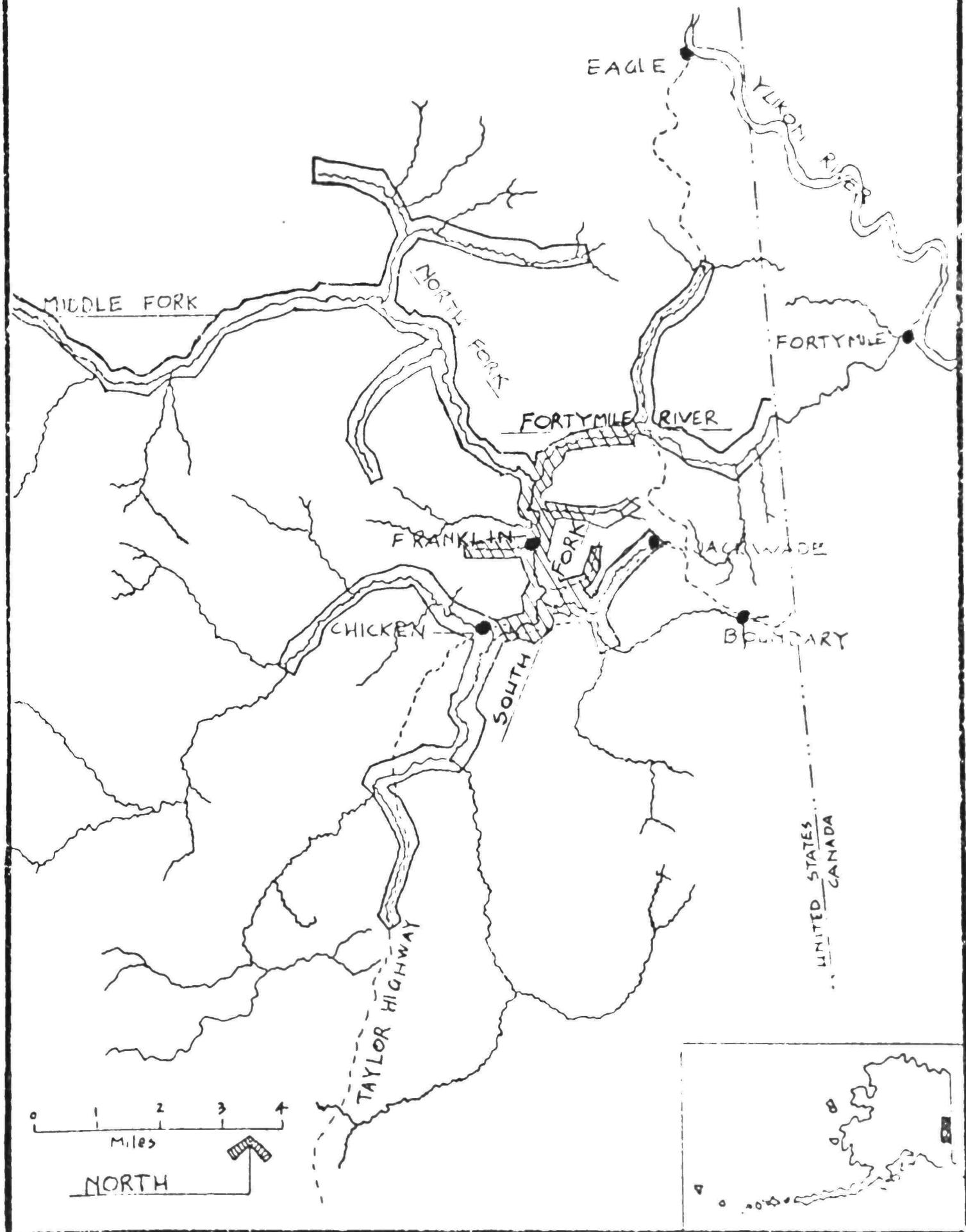


Figure 2. Study Area.

16 U.S.C. 461) that "it is a national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States."

Since the Fortymile River basin is located within federally owned lands, although the river itself is owned by the State of Alaska, the structures and artifacts of the area are protected by the Antiquities Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 433) which provides penalties for the unauthorized removal or alteration of historic or prehistoric objects.

The study area is also subject to Executive Order 11593 of May 13, 1971 which not only requires "protection and enhancement of the cultural environment of federal lands but also requires federal agencies to "institute proceedings to assure that Federal plans and programs contribute to the preservation and enhancement of non-federally owned sites, structures and objects of historical, architectural or archaeological significance." This directive is particularly pertinent to the Fortymile area because there are numerous mining claims, mineral patents, and homesites within the largely federally owned lands. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (83 Stat. 852, 42 U.S.C. 421) also applies to historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural resources even if they are not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to the broad policies of the federal government applicable to the study area, there are unique aspects of the Fortymile country which indicate the need for the proposed management

plan. The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation anticipates future recreational uses "to accelerate sharply with primary emphasis upon family canoeing, hiking, nature study, sightseeing, and study or enjoyment of the area's special geologic or historic significance" (Alaska Planning Group, 1973, p. 79). Increased tourism, according to a 1976 study of the area by the Department of Park Administration and Landscape Architecture at Texas Tech University, "will surely generate more pressure on the fragile land resources as well as the cultural and historical resources" (Glick and Mertes, 1976, p. 177). Damage to the resource base could be minimized by a sound management program.

The value of Fortymile's historical resources and the need for protective action is mentioned in a recent trip report by a representative of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, West Coast Office. In the report on his June 26-30, 1976 trip to the Fortymile area, John L. Frisbee, III writes:

The Fortymile area is an extremely interesting and valuable resource related to the history of mining on the Alaskan frontier. Despite losses, the opportunity for preservation is far greater than in the historic mining camps in the "Lower 48" states, where vandalism has been far more extensive. However, it is important to act rapidly before further attrition eliminates this opportunity (Frisbee, 1976, p. 7).

Frisbee's report also provided suggestions to facilitate the preservation of cabins. "Some qualitative analysis," he writes, "should be made of resources identified as a means of establishing preservation priorities." This study included such an analysis.

CHAPTER II

OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA

Wilderness Environment

Fortymile River is a tributary of the Yukon, the last major American River to be discovered by white men (Mathews, 1968). Several factors contribute to the preservation of the region's essential wilderness character including the sub-arctic climate, land forms, vegetation, and wildlife. Knowledge of these natural features is essential for understanding the lifestyles of the Yukon and Fortymile pioneers, and recognizing the qualities which led to the Fortymile Wild and Scenic River proposal.

Climate

Interior Alaska is a land of extremes. The sub-arctic climate has but two seasons according to popular descriptions: summer and the rest of the year. From October through April, the reign of winter is absolute. Most rivers are frozen solid, and the Yukon, the fifth largest river in North America, flows under five or six feet of ice at only one-sixth of its summer rate (Mathews, 1968). Darkness seems perpetual in the dead of winter, as the sun appears for as few as four hours daily. Without the stabilizing effects of large bodies of water, temperatures can drop lower than those in true arctic climates reaching -75° F. (Joint Commission, 1973).

The arrival of summer in May is announced by the thundering sounds of breaking ice. After months of silence, the event seems as sudden as it is spectacular. First, the smaller streams and rivers thaw sending currents of water out over the river ice or swelling the flow from underneath. As the flow increases, the river ice is lifted and begins to move. Motion causes the frozen masses to splinter and shatter, releasing ice floes which tumble down the valleys shoving away everything in their path. As the ice slabs rush downstream knocking each other to bits, they often lodge together forming temporary dams and impoundments. Pressure builds until the dam collapses and the new torrent hurtles ice and uprooted trees over the river's banks.

After the Fortymile and other tributaries break up, the Yukon itself is released from the hold of winter. Ice floes weighing many tons are borne by the current at seven to nine miles an hour, and the sound of them crashing into each other is audible for fifteen miles (Mathews, 1968). Accounts of those watching the mountains of ice alternately building and falling are all filled with a sense of awe and gratitude for the return of life and light to a land where such things were all but forgotten.

The short summers are warm and bright. In June the sun is visible for up to twenty-two hours a day, and it is not too unusual for the thermometer to register 100⁰ F. Rivers like the Fortymile which flooded their valleys in early summer soon fall to lower levels. Annual precipitation averages fifteen inches, and

summer rainfall is sufficient to maintain a steady but low flow in the rivers.

Geology

The effects of winter are evident even in the summer. Permafrost, permanently frozen ground, is a geological factor found throughout the region. Permafrost layers, which can be a thousand feet thick, are sandwiched between lower, warmer strata and an upper layer which thaws in the summer. The limit of seasonal thawing is seldom more than eight feet, and along the Fortymile it is sometimes less than two feet. There are some favored locations such as south-facing slopes, hilltops, and rocky ridges which may be free of permafrost, but permafrost creates many difficulties for most construction and mining activities (Joint Commission, 1973).

The rugged hills of the Fortymile area are largely composed of schist, granitic, and rhyolitic rocks. In the valley are metamorphic rocks of the Devonian period, and rhyolite, sandstone, shale, and conglomerate rocks of Tertiary age (Williams, 1958).

For the purposes of this study, the most important facet of the geological history of the area is that there were gold-bearing igneous rocks which had been eroded by flowing water. As the parent quartz material disintegrated, the liberated gold was moved by water and gravity until it became trapped in crevices of creek and river beds. Since the density of gold is more than nineteen times that of water and six or seven times that of the surrounding detritus, it can not be carried far from its source and sinks to a resting place as

soon as possible in a deposit called a placer. The discovery of placer deposits has set off most of the world's gold rushes. The reason that placer deposits suddenly attract more people than the ultimately more profitable hardrock mines is that, as Richard Mathews writes:

'placer gold is the small man's gold, the poor man's gold. While hard-rock mining requires capital, complex machinery, and hundreds of men, placer mining required but one man with a few simple tools and a strong back (Mathews, 1968, p. 99).

By imitating natural processes which created the deposit, gold can be recovered by the use of a device as simple as a metal pan. Quite a lot of panning occurred along the Fortymile.

Vegetation and Wildlife

The riverine environment is adjacent to or near spruce-hardwood forest, muskeg-bog, and three tundra ecosystems. Tundra types are moist, wet, and alpine.

Moist tundra usually forms a complete groundcover which is highly productive in summer. It is the most common vegetative community in the area and is composed of cottongrass tussocks (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) interspersed with sedges and dwarf shrubs. Associated species include arctagrostis (*Arctagrostis latifolia*), blue-joint (*Calamagrostis canadensis*), mountain avens (*Dryas octopetala*), bistort (*Polygonum bistorta*), willows (*Salix* sp.), dwarf birch (*Betula nana*), Labrador tea (*Ledum palustre*), Lapland rosebay (*Rhododendron lapponicum*), dwarf blueberry (*Vacciniaceae uliginosa*), and mountain cranberry (*Vacciniaceae vitis-idaea*) (Anderson, 1959).

Wet tundra occurs in areas of little topographical relief where there is standing water. Due to permafrost conditions, there are numerous shallow lakes in the Fortymile area during summer. The dominant plant in wet tundra is cottongrass (*Eriophorum gracile*) in mat rather than tussock form (*Eriophorum vaginatum*). Associated plants are lichens (*Cladonia* sp.), mosses (*Sphagnum* sp.), willows (*Salix* sp.), dwarf birch (*Betula nana*), and cranberry (*Vacciniaceae vitis-idea*). Common aquatic plants include northern bur-weed (*Sparganiaceae hyperboreum*), pond weed (*Potamogeton filiformis*), and mare's tail (*Haloragidaceae vulgaris*) (Anderson, 1959).

Alpine tundra is found on rocky ridges and mountain tops above treeline, approximately 3,000 feet above sea level. This ecosystem is characterized by rocks and rubble interspersed with low plants. Besides lichens (*Cladonia* sp.), grasses (*Elymus* sp.), and sedges (*Eriophorum* sp.), associated species include resin birch (*Betula glandulosa*), mountain heather (*Cassiope lycopodiodes*), crowberry (*Empetraceae nigrum*), and alpine azalea (*Ledum procumbens*) (Anderson, 1959).

Well-drained areas below timberline feature spruce-hardwood forests or plants in successional stages leading to forest. The forests contain both evergreen and deciduous trees. White spruce (*Picea glauca*) is the dominant species. Associated trees include aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*), black cottonwood (*Populus tricocarpa*), black spruce (*Picea mariana*), and stunted tamarack (*Larix laricina*) (Anderson, 1959). The understory

is usually of willows (*Salix* sp.) and alders (*Alnus* sp.) where there is sufficient light and thick mats of moss (*Sphagnum* sp.).

The various ecosystems support a great variety of wildlife. The riverine environment supports thirty-three fish species including grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*), sheefish (*Stenodus leucichthys*), trout (*Salmo* sp.), burbot (*Lota lota*), pike (*Esox lucium*), and salmon (*Onchorynchus* sp.) (Joint Commission, 1973). Grayling is the dominant sports catch of the Fortymile River.

A number of mammals occur in the area, and several are valuable as fur-bearing and game animals. These include beaver (*Castor canadensis*), mink (*Mustela vison*), weasel (*Mustela frenata*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), wolf (*Canis lupis*), wolverine (*Gulo gulo*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), red fox (*Vulpes fulva*), otter (*Lutra lutra*), red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*), snowshoe hare (*Lepus americanus*), and lynx (*Lynx canadensis*). Larger mammals include moose (*Alces alces*), caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*), and grizzly bear (*Ursus horribilis*) (Joint commission, 1973).

Large caribou herds roam throughout Alaska and western Canada where certain mosses occur. Wildlife specialists have identified a number of distincts herds. The Fortymile herd is said to be the most unpredictable herd in Alaska. This herd reportedly numbered over 500,000 in the early 1920's, less than 50,000 in the early 1950's, and now numbers about 15,000. Caribou hunting is an important activity in the area. Estimated caribou harvest was 2,500 in 1971, and 1,200 in 1972 (Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1973).

The area also favors varied bird life in the summer including two rare and endangered species: bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucorhynchus alascanus*) and peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrine*). A partial list of area waterfowl includes lesser scaup (*Aythya affinis*), canvas-back (*Aythya valisineria*), widgeon (*Mareca americana*), pintail (*Anas acuta*), mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), teal (*Anas crecca*), white-winged scoter (*Melanitta deglandi dixonii*), bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*), american goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula americana*), and shovelers (*Spatula clypeata*). Other frequently observed birds include golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos canadensis*), hawks (*Buteo* sp.), raven (*Corvus corax principalis*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica gutturalis*), cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), grouse (*Pedioecetes phasianellus*), ptarmigan (*Lagopus mutus*), sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*), snowy owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*), horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), and gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) (Joint Commission, 1973).

No description of life in interior Alaska would be complete without mentioning various winged insects of the family Culicidae known as mosquitoes. Low areas with standing water account for a large percentage of the acreage providing ideal breeding grounds for the pests. They are a constant nuisance in the summer.

History

Russian fur traders were the first white men to explore Alaska, but they probably did not explore the Yukon for more than 800 of its

2,000 miles. It was the Anglo-Americans rather than the Russians who first extensively traversed the interior. Stuart Tompkins writes:

This part of Alaska was pre-eminently the land of the gold seeker, of the dog train, and of the river steamboat. Yet in the past century man has made slight impressions on the wilderness (Tompkins, 1945, p. 9).

The area is so vast that it was 1848 before the lower Yukon River, called the Kwikpak, and the upper Yukon were believed to be the same river. Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka's exploratory expedition of 1883 proved the rivers to be one and the same (Wharton, 1972).

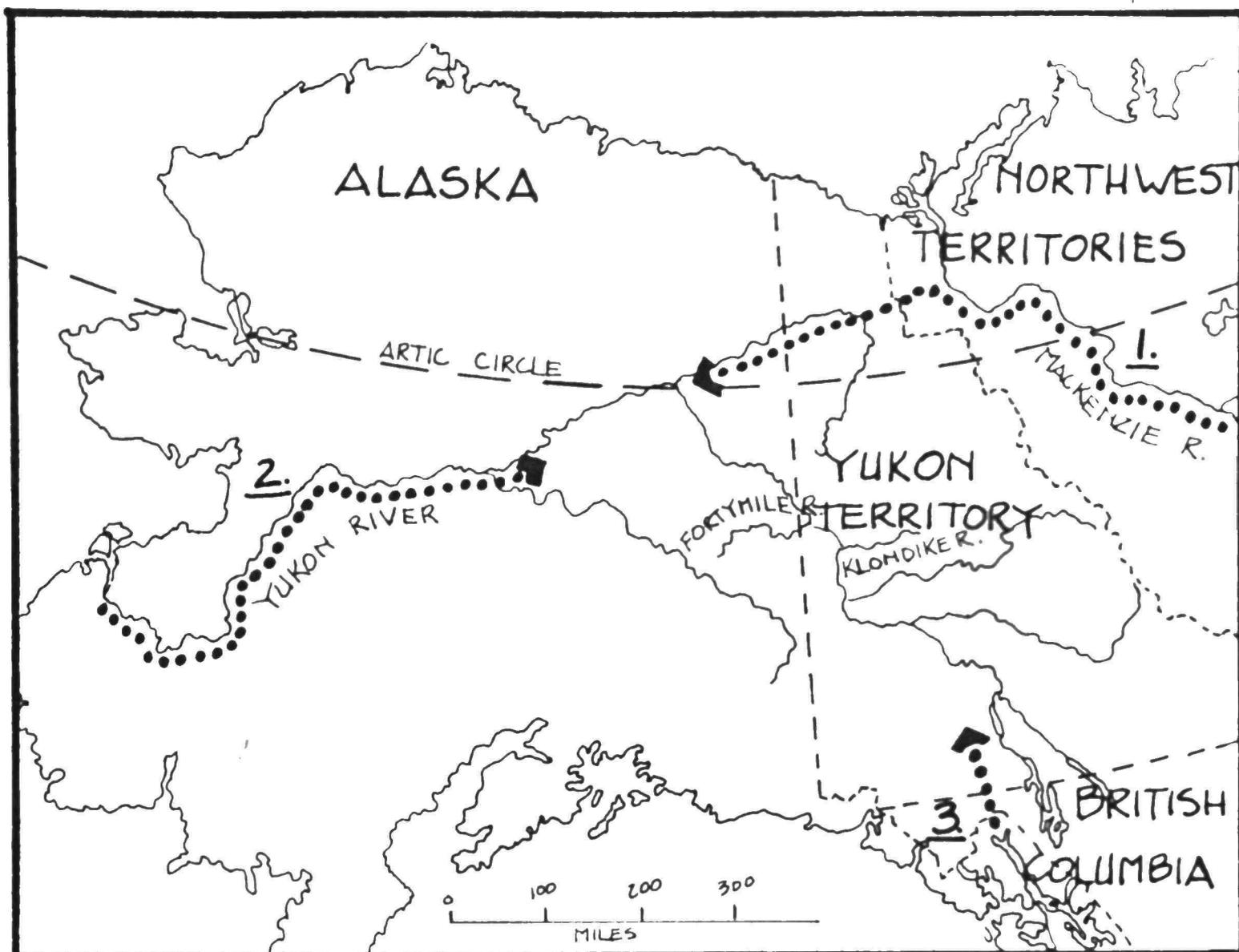
Prospectors following gold strikes northward from the 1849 rush in California reached the uncharted lands of the upper Yukon years before any official explorations. Among the first of these veteran gold seekers were Leroy Napoleon (Jack) McQuesten and Captain Al Mayo who reached the Yukon in 1873 after exploring British Columbia for two years. They followed the route of Arthur Harper whom they had met at the confluence of the Liard and Ft. Nelson Rivers some 2,000 miles southeast of their destination, the mid-point of the Yukon.

In 1874, McQuesten and Mayo went into service for the Alaska Commercial Company and built the first trading post on the upper Yukon. The post, called Fort Reliance, was five miles below the confluence of the Yukon River and River Thron-diuck, or Klondike, as it was known to the stampedeers (Berton, 1973). The prospectors and miners who filtered into the upper Yukon were dependent on Fort

Reliance for supplies and for direction. The Fortymile and Seventy-mile Rivers were named for their respective distances downriver from Fort Reliance. Similarly, the Sixtymile River is sixty miles upriver from Fort Reliance.

Harper joined the McQuesten-Mayo enterprise in 1875 although his primary interest was gold. He prospected the Fortymile, Tanana, Sixtymile, Stewart, and Klondike Rivers with a remarkable lack of success. After twenty-five years of wandering over thousands of miles of wilderness sinking prospect holes as countless as they were worthless, he would hear of the great Klondike strike from Arizona where he was slowly dying of tuberculosis (Berton, 1972). His role in the upper Yukon stampede is, nevertheless, legendary. Harper, McQuesten, and Mayo became the "grand old men" of the early days on the upper Yukon (Tompkins, 1945).

The number of seasonal prospectors entering the area increased significantly with the opening of a shorter land route to the upper Yukon, as shown on the following page. The headwaters of the Yukon are only fifteen miles from the Pacific Ocean, but the two are separated by the sheer peaks of the Coast Mountains. The only trail through the mountain barrier was controlled since prehistoric times by the Chilkoot Indians. The Chilkoots had for centuries traded their fish oil and berries for the furs of the Stick Indians of the interior. When white fur traders appeared on the coast, the Chilkoots guarded the route even more zealously in order to preserve their lucrative position. In 1880, Captain Beardslee of the U.S.



ROUTES TO THE UPPER YUKON

- 1. BERING SEA AND YUKON RIVER
- 2. MCKENZIE RIVER
- 3. CHILKOOT PASS

Figure 3. Routes to the Upper Yukon.

Reserve Cutter Service persuaded the Indians to let a group of prospectors cross the mountains. He had brought twenty armed men and a Gatling gun loaded with blanks. Demonstration of the weapon was sufficient to convince the Indians to agree (Mathews, 1968).

With the opening of the Chilkoot Pass, prospectors could reach the upper Yukon valley by early summer and have sufficient time for prospecting before returning at summer's end. Although there were many hardships involved in scaling the mountains, prospectors often chose this route over the long water voyage to the Bering Sea and up the Yukon River.

The Alaska Commercial Company established other trading posts to supply the shifting centers of prospecting and mining activity. McQuesten and Harper were involved in all of them including Fort Yukon, Tanana, and Fort Selkirk. They opened a store at the mouth of the Stewart River in 1886 where there were some promising strikes. Not everyone, however, was excited by the prospects on the Stewart. Howard Franklin and Harry Madison were not at all pleased by the gold dust of the Stewart, and, at the suggestion of Harper, took a new grubstake and headed for the Fortymile (Brooks, 1953). Approximately seventy miles up the Fortymile, they found what they were looking for. It was not like the gold dust of the Stewart River; it was coarse gold that rattled and clanked in the pan. It was the first such strike in interior Alaska or the upper Yukon area. When the two returned to the camp on the Stewart River in October, their story prompted most of the miners to desert their diggings and stake new claims on the Fortymile.

Harper knew that news of the discovery would bring hundreds of prospectors from "outside" at the beginning of Spring. He also knew there were hardly enough provisions to accommodate the horde and that there would be starvation on the Yukon if he did not get word to McQuesten to considerably increase the shipment he was bringing from San Francisco. This situation led to one of the most dramatic occurrences of the gold rush and to the founding of the town of Fortymile.

The only way to send the message to McQuesten was via Chilkoot Pass, a six hundred mile trip which very few had attempted in winter. A steamboat man named Williams and an Indian companion volunteered to make the journey. They left the Fortymile camp in January and reached the Chilkoot Mountains by March. By then, their dog teams had died from exposure or starvation, and all that remained of their provisions was a small quantity of dry flour. A severe arctic storm halted their progress for three days at the summit of Chilkoot where they crouched in a snow cave and consumed the last of their food. When the storm let up, the Indian carried the badly frostbitten Williams down the pass. At Sheep Camp, he borrowed a sled from some prospectors who were wintering there and dragged the unconscious Williams to Healey's store in Dyea. Williams lived for two days, but was not able to tell why he had made the trip. However, the Indian's explanation was more than adequate. He simply grabbed a handful of beans from a sack on the store counter, scattered them on the floor and said, "Gold. All same like this" (Berton, 1972, p. 15).

In the Spring of 1887, several hundred prospectors scrambled over the Chilkoot, headed for the new gold field. McQuesten, who had heard of the strike in San Francisco, steamed up the Yukon on the Alaska Commercial Company's fully loaded ship, New Racket. He and Harper opened a trading post at the mouth of the river and founded the town of Fortymile, the first real town on the upper Yukon (Wharton, 1972). The community was the center of life on the Yukon from 1887 until the Klondike rush in 1898.

Stampeders erected log structures all along the Fortymile drainage system as well as in the town. Though no two structures were alike, they all had the same basic characteristics. The typical cabin was rectangular, usually about twelve feet by fifteen feet. The sill logs were often set on the permafrost layer rather than on the surface layer which became soft and unstable in the spring. As the spruce logs were laid, a strip of the thick, spongy moss which is so plentiful in the area was placed in between providing excellent insulation. Earth piled against the lower portion of walls also helped retain heat in the cabin. The corners were usually joined in the simple saddle and notch fashion.

Nothing about these cabins was elaborate. They had to be sound enough to shelter the miners during the harsh winters, but unnecessary improvements were unheard of. No one expected to stay in the same place for very long, for the prospectors were filled with wanderlust and were always ready to chase after the "mother lode" which might be uncovered any day. But the cabin had to be tight. In Diary of a

Ninety-Eighter, Basil Austin describes roof construction as follows:

The ridge and roof timbers were carefully selected, as the roof was to be heavy and overhung in front to provide shelter over the doorway. The roof was composed of almost everything available. First we laid pole rafters almost touching each other, on these we had a thick layer of moss; then a layer of earth to hold the moss in place, and finally we thatched it with weeds of a strawlike nature (Austin, 1968, p. 73).

Lumber for doors, window frames, shelves, furniture, and floor boards, if any, usually had to be whipsawed from logs unless one was fortunate enough to build near one of the few sawmills. One of the most debated issues of the time concerned which person had the hardest job in the whipsawing operation—the man who stood on top of the log and had to pull the weight of the saw through the log, or the one who stood in the pit and ate sawdust everytime he pulled the saw down.

Windows were fashioned from untanned deerskin, cotton flour bags, or empty jars and bottles chinked with moss. Although the cabin dwellers could not see out, the windows let in sufficient sunlight for reading. However, there was usually very little to read. (Austin, 1968). The undisputed favorite was Shakespeare, but the stir-crazy miners often re-read old newspapers, cookbooks, or labels on cans and packages (Wharton, 1972). The art of story-telling was developed to the extent that an elite group called the Liar's Club held quasi-official meetings on Liar's Island near Fortymile.

"Cabin fever" was a serious problem. Several men were actually driven mad by the forced confinement to a small, fetid cabin thousands

of miles from civilization. Gambling and drinking were routine, but there were few violent conflicts.

When disagreements arose, justice was swiftly and summarily dispatched by the miners' meeting. Mathews describes the system as follows:

The court of law was the miners' meeting, and anybody with a grievance could call one by simply posting up a few notices. All miners who possibly could were obliged to attend. They convened, usually at McQuesten's, and at each meeting they elected a chairman to preside and a secretary to keep the minutes. The defendant and plaintiff were heard, and when their testimony was done, one of the miners would rise and suggest a verdict and possibly a punishment. If the others concurred, they stood and shouted their approval. If not, other suggestions were heard. When they reached a consensus the trial ended. In this way divorces were granted, hangings decreed, banishments ordered, quarrels settled, and a reasonable degree of law and order maintained. The meetings also decided on such important aspects of mining law as claim sizes, recording procedures and water rights, and they ruled on disputed claims (Mathews, 1968, p. 116).

Thus, order if not "law" was kept in Fortymile without the benefit of official authority. Indeed, Fortymilers did not know or care whether they were in Alaska or Canada for many years. But after William Ogilvie's survey determined that the town was some twenty miles east of the international boundary and after some complaints over capricious decisions by the miners' meetings, a detachment of twenty North West Mounted Police established a post across the river from Fortymile in 1895. The Canadian government opened customs and mining records offices shortly thereafter (Colby, 1942).

By the time the Mounties arrived, Fortymile was an active community consisting of about ninety log cabins and a number of businesses including the following:

six saloons, two blacksmiths shops, two stores..., several restaurants and hotels, a dressmakers' shop and a watchmakers' shop, the lending library..., and a few stills (Mathews, 1968, p. 121).

Fortymile was the real beginning of the Yukon stampede, and most of the famous people of the Klondike rush were associated with the town. It was there that the term "sourdough" was first applied to experienced men of the North to distinguish them from the cheechackos or tenderfeet. Concerning the citizenry of Fortymile, Wharton writes:

Inspector Constantine, Mr. Law and Order of the Yukon Territory, was stationed at Forty Mile before Dawson was imagined. Sir John Dawson, after whom the city was named, was in Forty Mile. The Canadian surveyor, William Ogilvie, who surveyed the Alaskan-Canadian boundary and later became Governor of the Yukon Territory, spent time in Forty Mile. Bishop Bompas, whose diocese extended from Lake Bennett to Circle City, was head of the mission at Forty Mile. Pat Galvin, an ex-sheriff from Montana, one of the dynamic figures of the Yukon, got his start with a tinsmith shop in Forty Mile, where he made the famous Yukon stove favored by all sourdoughs (Wharton, 1972, p. 103).

Another practical development at Fortymile was the development of temperature indicators. The dangers of staying outdoors too long during periods of extremely low temperatures were well known, therefore some type of measurement was needed. McQuesten's "thermometer" consisted of three small bottles placed outside the store. One

bottle contained Mercury (a substance used for removing impurities from gold). A second bottle contained kerosene and a third held Davis Pain Killer. Mercury froze at -40° F. indicating that one should stay close to shelter. Frozen kerosene meant that the temperature was approximately -55° F. and that only the very hearty should venture outdoors. Davis Pain Killer contained a large amount of alcohol which all sourdoughs knew froze at -72° F. When the pain killer froze, the miners stayed as close as possible to the red-hot tin of the Yukon stove (Rhodes, 1969).

It was at Fortymile that the ubiquitous Harper and McQuesten grubstaked two prospectors whose strikes started the rush to Circle City in 1893. The strike was bigger than that of Fortymile, and within a year was producing four hundred thousand dollars a year (Berton, 1972).

It was also at Fortymile, in August of 1896, that George Washington Carmack recorded his claim on Rabbit Creek, a tributary of the Klondike, later re-named Bonanza Creek. News of Carmack's discovery touched off the Klondike gold rush and signaled the end of Fortymile. Within hours after Carmack dropped a sample of his gold on the bar of Bill McPhee's saloon, Fortymile was empty.

After the initial pandemonium subsided, the Fortymile River area continued to support a substantial number of miners. According to a United States Geological Survey Bulletin of 1905, gold production totaled \$225,000 for the 264 miners at Wade Creek, Walker Fork, Franklin Gulch, and other Fortymile tributaries (Prindle, 1905).

Settlements with a connecting overland trail were established in the Fortymile drainage area (refer to Figure 1). Some of the communities consisted of little more than a roadhouse and one or two cabins. None of them had a population of more than a few hundred. Upriver from Fortymile were Moose Creek and Steele Creek. Up the South Fork, one found the Franklin Community and the Napoleon mining camp. Up Walker Fork was Jack Wade Community, and up Mosquito Fork was Chicken on Chicken Creek.

The overland trail went from Chicken to Franklin to Steele Creek to Eagle on the Yukon, a permanent community which inherited the trade from the defunct town of Fortymile.

Eagle became the commercial center for the Fortymile and other American mining districts for several reasons. It was the first American town on the Yukon west of the international boundary. In 1899 it became the military headquarters of the District of North Alaska with the establishment of Fort Egbert. Fort Egbert was a base of construction of the Eagle (Fort Egbert) to Valdez (Fort Liscum) segment of the Washington, D.C.-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS). It was also a base of the Goodpaster line segment, the final link in the Trans-Alaska Telegraph System (Quirk, 1974). Various segments of WAMCATS operated from 1900 to 1910 before wireless telegraphy replaced the entire land and marine cable system which covered a total distance of 3,728 miles (Quirk, 1974).

The telegraph route crosses the North Fork of the Fortymile River, and there were at least five maintenance stations in the

Fortymile drainage area. Line, insulators, tripod poles, and other evidence of the line are still present in the area as well as the ruins of the North Fork Telegraph Station. The telegraph right-of-way is still visible from the air and from the ground in some areas. One feasibility study showed that a recreational trail along the WAMCATS line merits inclusion in the National Trails System as a National Historical Trail (Greenfield, 1975).

The most active communities in the area were Chicken, Franklin, and Jack Wade. Wade Creek was very productive and at one time there were several hundred miners living and working side by side on the stream. The mining camp was short-lived, however, and almost all of the cabins were displaced by a dredging operation. The shell of the dredge still sits on Wade Creek.

Chicken is the only community continually occupied since the 1890's. There are two theories on how the name was chosen. One version is that some miners intended to call it Ptarmigan because of the large number of the birds in the area. When no one could offer a correct spelling of ptarmigan, they simply decided to name it Chicken. The other theory is that the nuggets of Chicken Creek were all the size of chicken feed (Austin, 1968).

Mining still continues on Chicken Creek, and a dredging operation discontinued in 1965 could be re-activated if the price of gold reaches a suitable level. The Chicken Post Office is still open, and the weekly "mail day" is a major social occasion. There are only about fifteen people living at the immediate townsite, but

people from miles around receive mail at Chicken. Some of the buildings there date to the early days including a roadhouse, store, and a horse barn. Potential for historical interpretation is high (Glick and Mertes, 1976).

Franklin Community developed near the spot where Howard Franklin and Harry Madison discovered gold in 1886. It was an important mining site from 1886 to 1948. All types of mining techniques from old hand methods to dredge operations were successfully pursued in the vicinity, and signs of extensive mining activity in the form of tailings and machine parts are abundant for a half-mile up Franklin Creek and for several hundred yards downriver. According to a 1905 United States Geological Survey Bulletin, the early days at Franklin were full of interest because "the gold was easy to mine and more easily spent in the little flat at the mouth of the creek, which was then crowded with miners, and passed quickly through many hands" (Prindle, 1905).

Franklin had a post office from 1902 to 1945, a school from 1927 to 1933, and a roadhouse from c.1900 to 1945. The five structures and the artifacts remaining at Franklin are among the most significant links to the mining and social history of the Fortymile area.

Artifacts of the area are in many ways typical of the gold fields found throughout the American West. Tools used in traditional hand mining methods include the gold pan, rocker box, and the sluice box. There are also hydraulic nozzles and hoses used to wash overburden away.

There were some differences, however, in mining in the sub-arctic climate. John Hunt describes one technique as follows:

Miners thawed the frozen tundra and kept on digging to remove the over-burden and reach bedrock and the layer of gold. The men cut wood on the mountainside and dragged it to the claims. They kept the fire burning until the ground was thawed to a depth of a few inches. The ashes and dirt were then shoveled away and the fire rekindled. In this manner the shaft was sunk about a foot a day. When bedrock was reached, the gold-bearing gravel, sand, and dirt were piled up to await the coming of spring when the creek would thaw and water could be run through the sluice box to wash the gravel from the gold (Hunt, 1969, pp. 47-8).

Merely sinking a shaft to the bedrock did not guarantee that there would be gold. It was impossible to determine what course a given stream had followed at the time the gold was deposited. When the miner reached bedrock, he melted and dug in various directions until he hit a pay streak or proved the ground to be worthless. Tunneling through the frozen ground by building a fire next to the wall in the desired direction is known as "drifting." There was no need for supporting timbers in the permanently frozen ground. Numerous drift shafts can still be found along the Fortymile and its branch systems.

Boilers were introduced in the area by 1900 to speed up the thawing process. Hoses radiating from an oil fired boiler had perforated pipes attached to the ends which were driven into the ground in a circle. Steam and hot water from the boiler thawed a shaft about fifteen feet in diameter more quickly than did a surface fire. Parts to this type of apparatus are among the area's artifacts.

Contemporary History

The outbreak of World War II coincided with the depletion of most gold placers in the Fortymile area. The war effort placed such demands on fuel, machinery, and manpower that most mining operations ceased. With the larger operations closed, and most of the "easy" gold having been removed long ago, there was little to keep people from moving elsewhere.

Left behind were rustic structures similar to those of numerous gold rushes in the American West. Unlike the mining camps in the lower forty-eight states, the Fortymile cabins were not overrun by people moving west toward new civilization. The interior Alaska area is too inaccessible and its subarctic climate too uninviting. With soil and permafrost conditions prohibiting agricultural developments and substantial timber harvests, there was no wave of settlement to replace the miners. Miners' cabins and the bulk of their possessions, hardly worth the effort to carry out, remained unmolested for many years.

Road access to the area was provided in 1952 by the completion of the Taylor Highway, an unsurfaced road covering a distance of 162 miles from the Alaska Highway to Eagle, Alaska. A spur from the Taylor Highway leads to historic Dawson in Yukon Territory. With increased access, visitors and souvenir collectors began to disturb the historical resources of the area.

New interest in the area resulted from the Fortymile Wild and Scenic River proposal. Pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement

Act of 1971 (85 Stat. 688, 40 U.S.C. 168), The Department of Interior inventoried the State of Alaska for lands suitable for inclusion in the National Park, Forest, Wildlife Refuge, and Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The study recommended legislative action to include 375 miles of the Fortymile River drainage system and 320,000 acres of adjacent land in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System under administration of the Bureau of Land Management. The proposal recommends designation of 161 miles of Wild River, 205 miles of Scenic River, and 9 miles of Recreational River (Alaska Planning Group, 1973, p. 1).

Accessible portions of the proposed Wild and Scenic River area receive heavy recreational use estimated at 36,325 visitor days per year (Alaska Planning Group, 1973, p. 76). The Bureau of Land Management estimates that floatboating accounts for 2,840 visitor days annually. That number is expected to increase to 6,760 by 1980, 16,000 by 1985, and 18,750 by 1990 (BLM, 1977).

Accelerated visitation could cause serious damage to the historical features. According to the Alaska Planning Group, "such damage is now occurring and is considered to be of major consequence" (Alaska Planning Group, 1973, p. 92). Hopefully, it is not too late to arrest damage to the remaining structures and artifacts.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

During the process of inventory, evaluation, and recommendation, two assumptions were followed: (1) recreation demand and development will increase on the Fortymile River, and (2) the Fortymile River will be designated a Wild and Scenic River under BLM management. The second assumption required the study to be consistent with "Guidelines for Evaluating Wild, Scenic and Recreational River Areas Proposed for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Under Section 2, Public Law 90-542."

The inventory consisted of (1) location of historical sites on United States Geological Survey maps, (2) description of each site, (3) architectural description of each structure including an assessment of structural conditions, and (4) review of the historical significance of each site. Information for the inventory was derived from written and photographic records made during field trips to the area and from available primary and secondary sources such as oral interviews, journals, historical newspapers, magazines, and related studies.

An inventory form was employed for systematic documentation of each site. Items in the form include a location number and known or descriptive name of the site, map reference, ownership status, site description, general structural condition, historical data, archi-

tectural data, list of artifacts present, references, and management related observations such as accessibility, safety hazards, and desirable treatment of the site. A sample of this form appears in Appendix A.

Sites were numbered in ascending order downstream from the bridge at Mile Post 75 of the Taylor Highway. Side drainages were investigated on foot for a distance of up to two miles for cabins and artifacts. These sites were designated by letters of the alphabet in order to preserve the series of inventory numbers along the main stream.

Procedure for on-site investigation included notation of apparent structural conditions, listing of types of building materials used for wall, floors, roofs, doors, and windows. Methods of corner notching, chinking, and insulating were noted as well as types of door latches and other imaginative elements of construction. Measurements of walls, doors, and windows were made during the inspection. Lists of artifacts present inside structures and in immediate areas were compiled. Contemporary belongings of present-day inhabitants were not included.

Photographic documentation consisted of black and white prints. When possible, photographs of the front, rear, and sides of each structure were made as well as detail shots of notching, hardware, and unique construction elements. Dense vegetation often obscured one or more views of a structure. Photographs of artifacts were limited to those of special interest.

Historical data was obtained from interviews with area residents, library and archival research, and review of the files marked "Cultural Values" at the headquarters for the Bureau of Land Management's Fortymile Resource Area, Tok, Alaska.

Three judgmental factors were applied in identifying the historical resources which should be maintained and those which should be allowed to deteriorate naturally: (1) Does the historical significance of the site warrant major preservation and interpretive developments? (2) Is the physical condition of the resource such that restoration and interpretation are practical? (3) Does the location of the resource have a particular relationship to existing or potential recreational activities?

Following the evaluation of data, specific recommendations were made for the treatment of historical structures in the study area. A management plan was developed including recommendations for canoe landings, primitive campgrounds, interpretive facilities, emergency shelters, and management facilities such as storage and personnel housing. Recommendations are graphically represented in a conceptual plan for the study area.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In considering future anticipated use by recreationists of Fortymile River between the road access points at Mile Post 75 and Mile Post 112 of the Taylor Highway, it is evident that structures and other historical resources offer a high potential in the interpretation and management of the area.

Typical river-oriented recreational use, which occurs during the period from May through August, includes fishing, floating, and camping adjacent to the river. Floaters launch their crafts at the bridge at Mile Post 75 of the Taylor Highway and float downstream to the bridge at Mile Post 112. This trip can be conducted over a two day period although many floaters prefer to take three or more days in order to investigate natural or historical features of the area.

Structures which exist today along this route are above the normal flood plain and offer the advantage of a relatively safe overnight campsite as opposed to primitive campsites nearer the river which are subject to flooding by sudden rises in the river which often occur during times of rain. Structures could also serve as housing for management personnel or interpretive materials with appropriate repairs where necessary.

Identification of resources suitable for visitor and management related uses has been accomplished by this study. The following results and recommendations are presented to assist in achieving management objectives of the Bureau of Land Management.

Overriding considerations for any action in the study area should be the management objectives of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Particular considerations for the proposed scenic river should be objectives 2, 4, and 5 as summarized in "Guidelines for Evaluating Wild, Scenic, and Recreational River Areas for Inclusion in the National Wild, and Scenic Rivers System Under Section 2, Public Law 90-542":

2. No unharmonious improvements and few habitations permitted.
4. Some new facilities allowed, such as unobtrusive marinas.
5. Unobtrusive fences, gauging stations and other management facilities may be permitted if no significant adverse effect on natural character of area (U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1970, p. 12).

These objectives should be followed to avoid defeating a stated purpose of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System:

each component shall be administered in such manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system (82 Stat. 906, 16 U.S.C. 421).

Since historical resources are a major consideration in the Forty-mile Wild and Scenic River Proposal, no developments should detract from historical values.

Structural improvements should conform in character if not in actual construction techniques to buildings of the gold rush and mining era. Replacement materials should resemble the original as closely as possible. It is recommended that the cabin recently constructed in the study area (site 2) be dismantled because it is poorly constructed and represents an intrusion into public lands. The salvaged materials should be used to repair other cabins.

While extensive restoration projects require detailed architectural studies, basic stabilization of worthy structures could precede such studies under the direction of a restoration architect. Maintaining roofs of cabins to be considered for renovation could retard deterioration and reduce the extent of repairs required at a later date.

New developments, including interpretive displays should be kept to a minimum. Signs, dioramas, brochure dispensers or any obviously contemporary structure detracts from the historical aura of the setting, and such facilities should be installed only in key locations or where visitor safety is a factor. Such an approach would allow visitors to "discover" numerous sites and also provide basic historical information in centralized locations.

An obvious problem with the "discovery" concept is that visitors often assume that abandoned items are free for the taking. While installation of messages stressing federal guardianship of all artifacts on national interest lands could contribute to more responsible conduct by visitors, the increasing rate of loss of

artifacts indicates that the method is hardly effective. To insure that representative items of various facets of life in the gold rush and mining era are not all lost, selected examples of Forty-mile River area artifacts should be removed to museums.

Field research yielded an inventory of thirty-three historical sites in the study area ranging from ruins to sound structures. Completed inventory forms for each site appear in Appendix A and are referred to by site number in this chapter. Site location maps are in Appendix B.

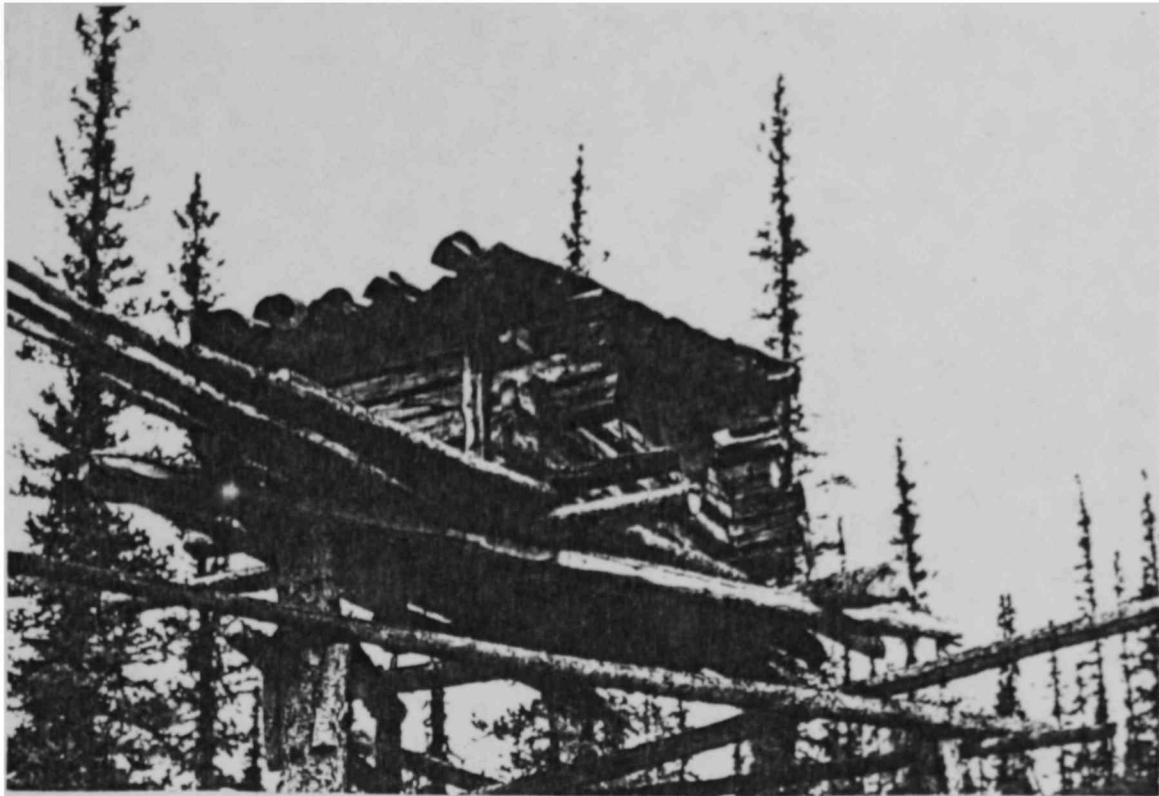
Structures are architecturally typical of the gold rush period except for the use of glass in the windows and store-bought door hinges and latches. The majority of the structures have unhewn logs with rather unsystematic notching. Eight cabins have half-hewn logs, and one structure, the Franklin schoolhouse (site 6), was built of sawn logs. Gabled roofs made of poles covered with sod characterize most structures. Two cabins were found with flat roofs. The photographs in Figure 4 depict typical cabins.

Most cabins also had an elevated food cache nearby, although most of these have collapsed. Square dog houses built of logs are not an uncommon site feature. A typical cache and dog house appear in Figure 5.

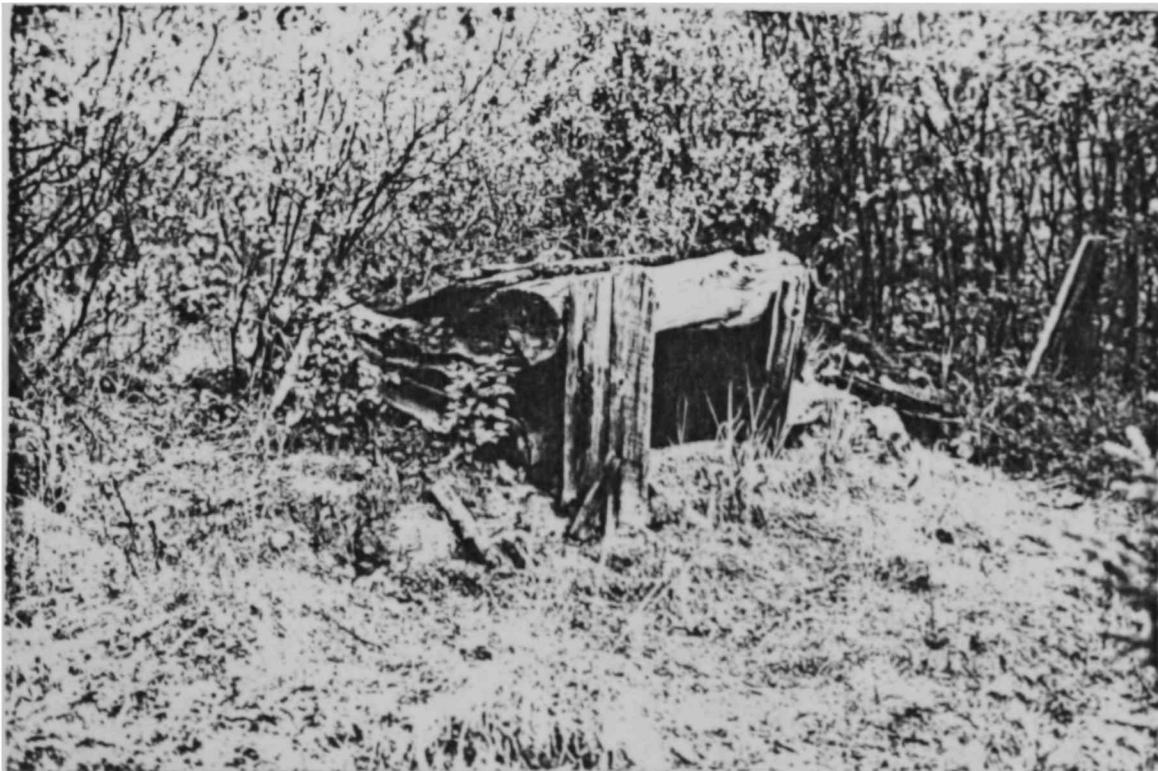
Twenty-two sites are structural ruins with collapsed or non-existent roofs. Ruins range from those one or two logs high to more recent fatalities with walls basically intact although badly deteriorated. Figure 6 shows examples of ruins in the area. None



Figure 4. Typical Fortymile River cabins.



A



B

Figure 5. "A" is an elevated food cache. "B" is a log dog house.

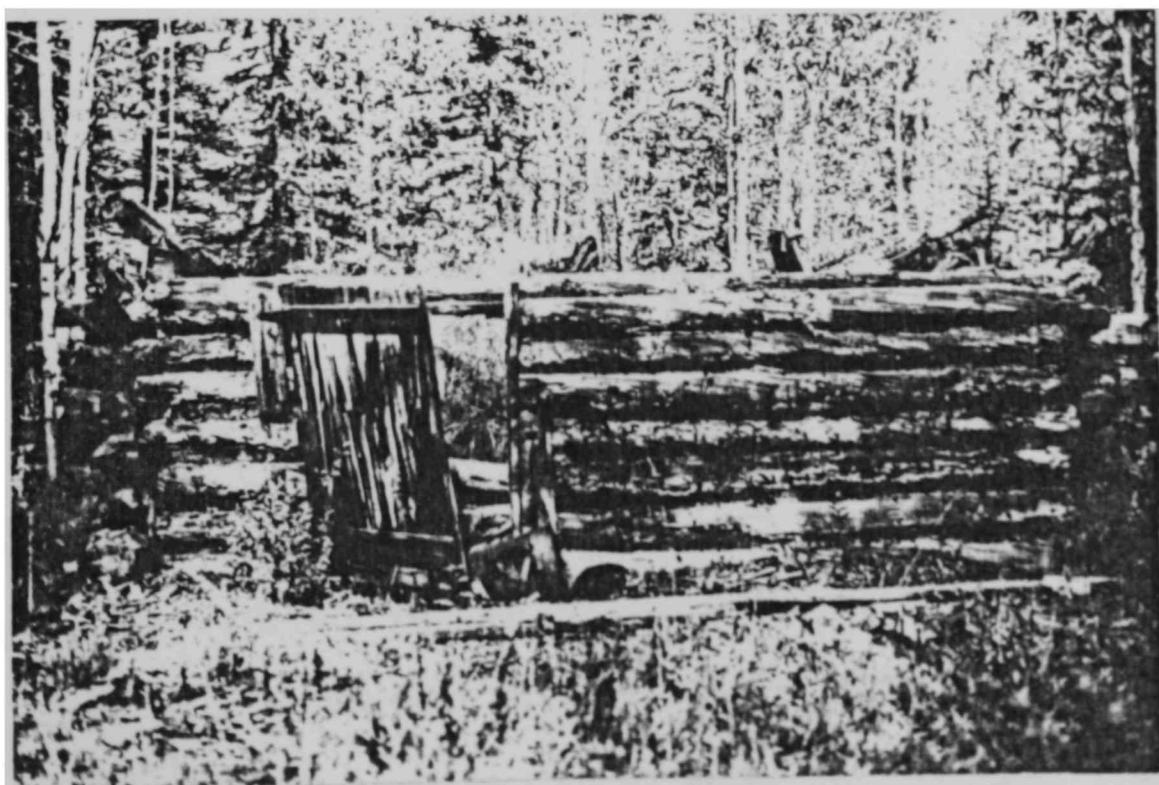
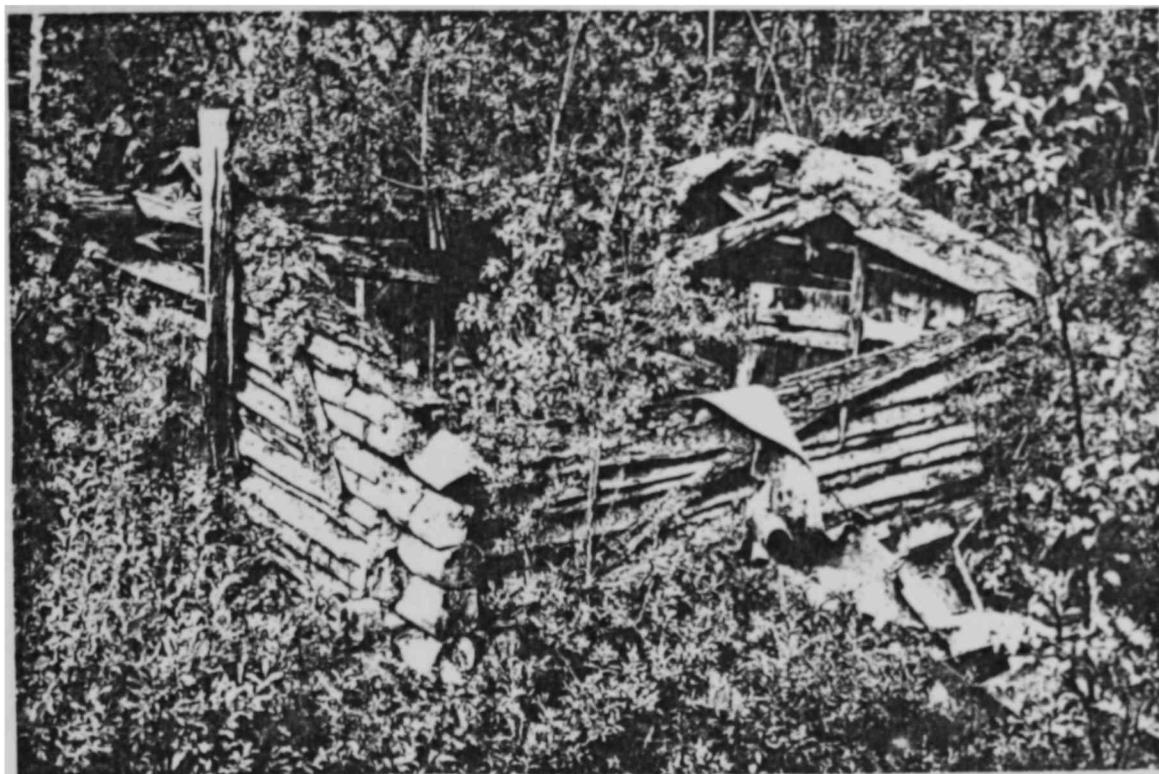


Figure 6. Ruins of Fortymile River cabins.

of the ruins possess historical significance which warrants restoration with the exception of the Franklin Roadhouse (site 10) which is shown in Figure 7.

Franklin Roadhouse might qualify for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under two criteria:

(1) that it is associated with events that have made significant contributions to broad patterns of United States history, and, (2) that it embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction (National Park Service, 1975).

The extant structure barely meets the fifty year age requirement for inclusion in the National Register, but, as the third structure of the same function on the site, it is associated with events of a representative gold rush community which was continuously occupied from c. 1886 to 1948.

It is important to note that the roadhouse is located on a valid mineral claim although no significant mining activity has occurred there for many years. Proper negotiations with the claim holder must be conducted before any of the recommended developments can proceed.

A more likely basis for inclusion in the National Register, however, would be a historical district nomination for Franklin Community. The roadhouse was the focal point and the most significant building in the community which had a post office from 1902 to 1945 and a school from 1927 to 1933. A blacksmith shop and drift mining operation were located immediately across the river, and boiler ,



Figure 7. Franklin Roadhouse.

cables, and other remnants of the operation are scattered about. Allowances for restoration of the roadhouse would have to be made if the structure were to become an interpretive center or to serve some other purpose and still qualify for inclusion in the National Register. Whether or not the structure attains National Register status, the roadhouse should be recognized as the most historically significant structure in the study area.

Franklin schoolhouse has potential for use as a stopover cabin, ranger station, or interpretive center. Its interpretive potential would be particularly great if the roadhouse is not restored.

Another cluster of buildings worthy of collective treatment is the Long Bar mining camp (site 22). Long Bar is three miles downriver from the confluence of the North Fork and the South Fork of Fortymile River, some thirteen river miles from Franklin. This site consists of two cabins and a cache in fair condition and the ruins of a barn. The two cabins should be stabilized until they can be upgraded. The cabins are the only structurally sound buildings between the North Fork—South Fork confluence and the take-out point at Mile Post 112 of the Taylor Highway. Therefore, many recreationists floating through the study area visit the site. Some interpretive work should be done at Long Bar to enhance visitor appreciation of a site which was inhabited from 1910 to the middle 1940's and to discourage vandalism.

Three individual cabins with high use potential were found on the South Fork of Fortymile River. The first is at the mouth of

Walker Fork, approximately four river miles from the put-in point at Mile Post 75 of Taylor Highway. The second is immediately west of the mouth of Napoleon Creek, and the third is one half mile south of the confluence of North Fork and South Fork of Fortymile River.

The Walker Fork cabin (site 3) dates from 1930, but has been refurbished by competent craftsmen and occupied in recent years. Although this activity legally constitutes a trespass, it has prevented the cabin from deteriorating as badly as most abandoned cabins. The cabin is sound and features a plank floor, glass storm windows, and a new roof. While these improvements slightly detract from the historical character of the structure, they demonstrate the feasibility of restoring old structures. It is recommended that the structure be maintained for visitor use or for housing management personnel.

The Napoleon Creek cabin (site 6) is in fair condition and in a suitable location for interpretive messages about mining activities on Napoleon Creek from early gold rush days to the late 1950's. Tailings, machine parts, and seven cabin sites are located along the creek within two miles of the river. The cabin located immediately west of the mouth of Napoleon Creek, was built in the early 1940's and has been occasionally occupied in recent years. The structure is basically sound and would require fewer repairs than other cabins in the Napoleon Creek area.

The cabin one-half mile south of the confluence of North Fork and South Fork of Fortymile River (site 18) is also basically sound

and could be maintained for overnight visitor use. The site has little historical merit; however, it is representative of Fortymile area dwellings. It is located near a popular campsite for river recreationists, the open area overlooking the North Fork—South Fork confluence. In addition to possessing exceptional aesthetic qualities, the confluence is the approximate mid-point of a river trip between the two road access points of the study area. It is therefore, a logical campsite for those making a two-day river trip. There are signs of repeated use by campers in the immediate vicinity of the cabin, and it is likely that visitors seek shelter in the cabin during severe weather rather than camping in the open at the confluence. A trail from the cabin to the confluence facilitates short visits by recreationists stopped at the confluence. Due to the popularity of the site, it is recommended that the cabin be maintained for visitor use and a primitive campground established at the confluence.

There are four structures of marginal potential in the study area. One (site 5a) is located one-half mile up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River. Two structures, Eckstein's cabin and barn (site 18), are located at the mouth of Butte Creek approximately seven miles downriver from Franklin Community. The fourth structure (site 13) is located at the mouth of Buckskin Creek.

The cabin on Napoleon Creek is the dominant structure in the Napoleon Creek mining area, and would be a good location for minimal interpretive materials. A verbal description of mining developments

over a seventy year period should be installed in or near the cabin. Advanced deterioration of the cabin is evident, however, and it is recommended that the structure be stabilized before interpretive materials are installed.

Eckstein's cabin and barn are readily accessible from the river, have some historical merit, and are located a leisurely day's float from the put-in point. The barn is in better condition than the cabin and, with a few repairs, could safely shelter several people. The next potential shelter is three miles downriver, and it is the first sound structure encountered on the seven-mile float from Franklin Community. Thus, the location is an important factor in determining the disposition of the site.

The cabin near the mouth of Buckskin Creek is badly deteriorated; however, it could provide emergency shelter for visitors. Basic roof repairs should be made to stabilize the structure.

Focal points for interpretive developments should be Franklin (sites 9-12) and Long Bar (site 22). Concentration of readily accessible historical resources at Franklin attracts recreationists in the study area, and an interpretive center should provide information not only about Franklin but other sites as well. Location of interpretive materials at Long Bar is recommended because of site location and historical significance.

There are other locations, however, which warrant brief interpretive messages. Drift mining shafts near cabin sites are potentially hazardous although most are only a few feet deep and

easily seen. Warnings should be posted where shafts are deeper and not easily seen such as the Napoleon Creek area.

Another location for on-site interpretation is the Little Dipper Dredge ruin (site 15). The large dredge bucket in the river is visible except at periods of high water and directs attention to other parts of the dredge scattered along the east bank of the river. A marker describing the unique characteristics of the first dredge to operate on Fortymile River should be designed and erected.

Another management problem in the study area is the designation of primitive campgrounds. While good campsites are easily found throughout the area, congestion may occur at sites of exceptional interest. Visitors taking extra time to explore Franklin, for example, may wish to camp nearby. Since a campground could be unobtrusively located immediately southeast of the blacksmith and mining operation at Franklin (site 12), it is recommended that this be done to accommodate relatively intense visitor activity in the immediate area. The only other campground recommended would be at the confluence of North Fork and South Fork of Fortymile River, the approximate midpoint of a river trip through the study area. This location is often used for camping, and designation of campsites could direct use so that impacts would be confined to given areas.

Establishment of campgrounds and installation of interpretive materials would require employment of at least one maintenance person. As visitation increases, more personnel may be required. Housing could be provided by repairing existing structures. It is

recommended that the following structures be considered for this purpose: Walker Fork cabin (site 3), Napoleon Creek cabin (site 6), Franklin School (site 11). Use of structures for personnel housing would not necessarily conflict with interpretive uses. Management personnel could also serve as oral interpreters.

Summary

The section of Fortymile River between Mile Post 75 and Mile Post 112 of Taylor Highway is rich in historic structures depicting an architectural style developed from local building materials and the imagination of gold seekers. Thirty-three structures were located adjacent to the river. One structure, Franklin Roadhouse, should be restored and utilized as an interpretive center. Ten structures should be stabilized or upgraded to meet management objectives. One structure should be dismantled and the salvaged materials used in upgrading other structures. The remainder of the structures are ruins should be left as "discovery sites" for visitors except where interpretive materials are appropriate. Interpretive techniques would assist visitors in understanding these historical resources, warn of potentially injurious conditions, and provide a means of management.

Two campgrounds should be established to accommodate river recreationists in the area. Campgrounds should be located at areas already frequented by campers in order to confine impacts of visitors to given areas.

Locations of recommended management practices summarized herein are shown in Figures 8 and 9 which correspond to the site location maps in Appendix B.



Figure 8. Recommended action in area of historical sites 1-20.

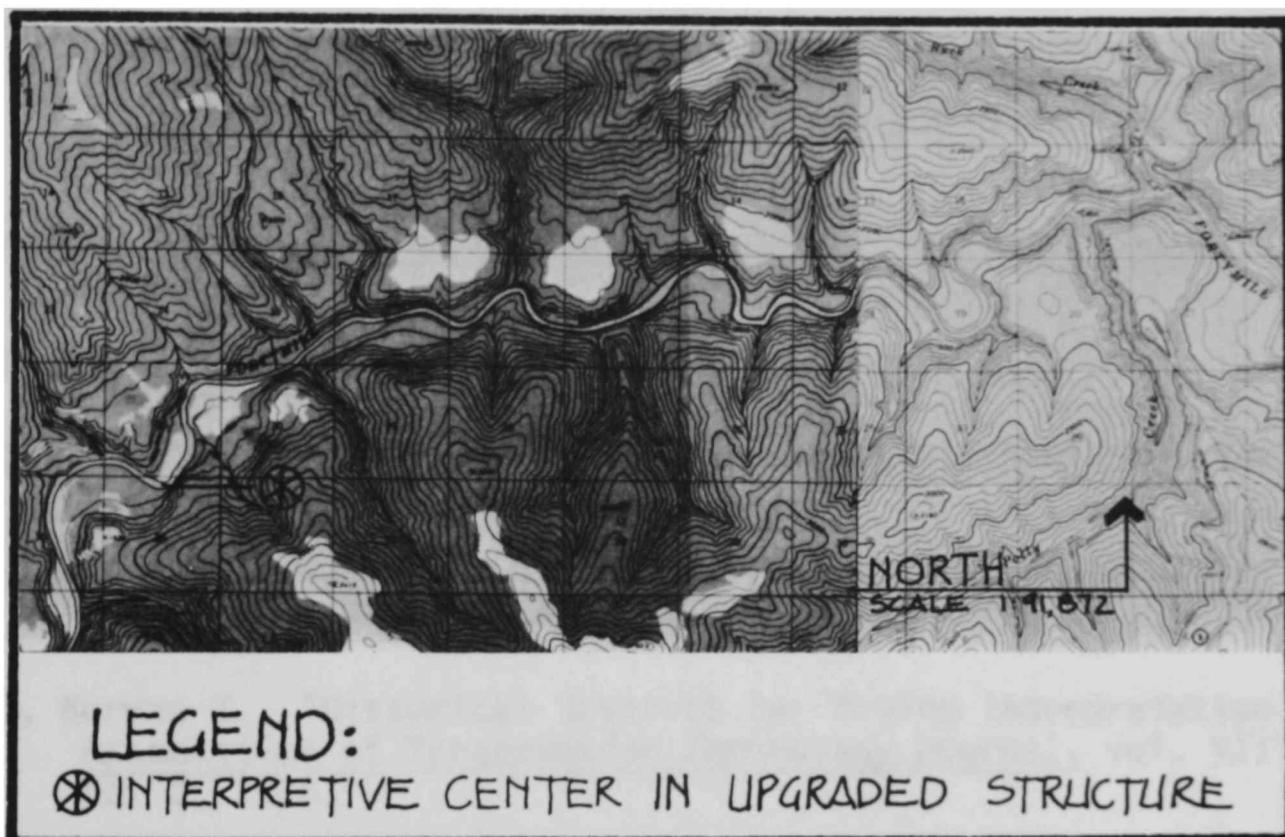


Figure 9. Recommended action in area of historical sites 21-27.

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APPENDIX A

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: Number indicates order of occurrence as one travels downstream in the study area. Names are those commonly used by area residents.

Location: General geographic location and General Land Office subdivision to $\frac{1}{4}$ section.

Map reference: United States Geological Survey 15 minute quadrangle.

Land ownership status: National Interest Lands or other designation.

Site description: General appearance of site.

Condition: Indicates present state of structure (good, fair, deteriorated, ruins),

Good - building is structurally sound and has received regular maintenance

Fair - building is structurally sound but has not received regular maintenance and shows signs of deterioration

Deteriorated - building apparently structurally sound, but damage is clearly visible such as advanced roof or floor deterioration

Ruins - building in partial or total state of collapse

History: Pertinent historical data such as date of construction, name of builder, and associated events.

Architectural data: General description of structure including dimensions and materials of construction.

Artifacts: Items found inside structure or on the surface in immediate area of structure.

Informants, references: Individuals or materials possessing information concerning the site.

Management data:

Accessibility: Relative ease with which visitors may locate and reach site.

Hazards: Conditions possibly injurious to visitors.

Recommendations: Possible disposition of structure.

"Stabilization" is preservation of structure in its present state. "Discovery site" refers to practice of not posting the whereabouts of site so that visitors may locate site by chance.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 1, Cranberry Jack's cabin

Location: 1¼ miles downriver from bridge at Mile Post 75 of Taylor Highway. SW ¼ Section 30, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins are approximately 30 feet from east bank of river in a flat, marshy area west of Moose-killing Dutchman Lake. Log dog house 4 feet square and approximately 3 feet high is 15 feet north of cabin near a fallen food cache.

Condition: Ruins

History: Cabin reportedly dates from the early 1920's before the arrival of recollections of informants. Although the site is commonly referred to as "Cranberry Jack's," the origin of the name is not known.

Architectural data: Ruins, four to five logs high of 14' x 16' one-room cabin. Logs are hewn on the inside with moss chinking and saddle and notch corners. Openings include a 2'9" x 4'8" door with two metal hinges on the south side. One small window in each side wall. Pole and sod roof has fallen in completely. Floor was soil. Cardboard nailed to interior walls for insulation.

Artifacts: Rusted-out Yukon stove, wooden bed frame with metal mesh, muffin tin, wooden table top, a few rusty cans.

Informants, references: Fred Terwilliger, Alice Bayless, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Ruins are barely visible from river in summer, but there is a well worn path from the river. River bank is not steep.

Hazards: There are a few drift mining shafts 3 to 4 feet deep in the area immediately east of cabin.

Recommendations: No action. Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 2, unidentified

Location: 3½ miles downriver from bridge at Mile Post 75 of Taylor Highway, west bank. NE ¼ Section 25, Township 27N, Range 18E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin is approximately 40 feet west of river bank. Highly visible from river.

Condition: Fair

History: Cabin apparently constructed within the last few years. Constructing and inhabiting cabins on National Interest Lands is illegal, and such structures are known as trespass cabins. No historical merit.

Architectural data: Poorly constructed unhewn log cabin, 12' x 15'. Sawed lumber used for gable of pole and sod roof. Structure is suitable for summer use only as saddle and notch corners are not tight, chinking is slight, and the roof is thin.

Artifacts: All items are contemporary including clothing, cooking utensils, and books. No historical merit.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Highly visible and readily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Cabin represents an intrusion into public lands. It should be dismantled and the salvaged materials used in rehabilitating other structures.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 3, Walker Fork cabin

Location: Southeast bank at the confluence of Fortymile River and Walker Fork. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 30, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin faces northwest approximately 50 feet from river. An outhouse is located to the southwest, and a 4' x 4' x 4' smokehouse to the northwest. There is a small lake east of the site.

Condition: Fair

History: Cabin dates from the late 1920's or early 1930's. It has been restored and inhabited recently by unauthorized persons.

Architectural data: One-room log cabin, 12' x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ '. Height from floor to peak of roof is 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ '. Some logs hewn on interior. Saddle and notch corners. Moss chinking. Recent roof is of 3" poles covered with visqueen, then sod. Window with air space between outside and inside single panes measures 2'10" x 2'. Similarly constructed window on southwest side has four panes in each unit and measures 2'5" x 5'5". Door is 2'5" x 5'5" and has a wooden latch operated by a leather strap. Floor is 1" x 6" planks on pole joists. Tool shed 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 5' recently added to northwest side built of 1" x 6" planks. Soil has been heaped against all but northwest side to a height and depth of 2' for insulation.

Artifacts: Belongings of recent inhabitants. None seem to have historical value.

Informants, references: Fortymile Resource Area Files

Management data:

Accessibility: Readily accessible from river. Trail leads from confluence of Walker Fork and Fortymile River to cabin.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: This structure has high potential for use as a stop-over cabin or management-related use. Interpretive potential is not great.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 4, unidentified ruins

Location: ½ mile downriver from the confluence of Fortymile River and Walker Fork on east bank. SW¼ Section 24, Township 27N, Range 18E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins are in a wooded area approximately 40 feet from river.

Condition: Ruins

Architectural data: Cabin ruins two to five logs high. Little is distinguishable other than structure was approximately 12' x 15' with unhewn logs and saddle and notch corners.

Artifacts: Part of a sluice box grate, top to a wooden freight box, a few rusty cans.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible and readily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5, ruins, Napoleon Creek

Location: $\frac{1}{4}$ mile up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River on north bank.
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 20, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins are on steep bank ten feet northwest of creek. Vegetation is dense, several small trees growing within walls of cabin. Cabin faces northwest. Ruins of a cache are 10 feet from southeast wall. Outhouse ruins are 30 feet from northwest corner of cabin.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information.

Architectural data: Ruins are representative of a structure known as a summer cabin which was not designed for winter use. The 16' x 14' structure has a base four logs high on which a frame for canvas walls was built. Remnants of the canvas walls are visible on the southeast wall only.

Artifacts: One one-gallon glass jug, miscellaneous bottles and small jars, Sir Walter Raleigh tobacco can.

Management data:

Accessibility: Ruins are in densely vegetated area with few trails. Walking in stream bed is also difficult.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Allow to deteriorate and be a "discover site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5a, Napoleon Creek Camp House

Location: $\frac{1}{2}$ mile up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 20, Township 27N, Range 18E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin is situated on a steep slope at the intersection of two trails made by bulldozers used in placer mining operations. Cabin faces west with south wall 20 feet from top of a steep incline overlooking a heavily mined area. There is an oil-fired boiler and remnants of a canvas shower stall near north side of cabin. Truck trailer with 1950 license plate parked behind cabin. There is a tool shed and scattered machine parts at the bottom of slope.

Condition: Deteriorated

History: This structure was the main residence for the last large mining operation on Napoleon Creek, an area which was mined from the 1890's to 1960. Mining licenses indicate that J.S. Rambaud operated in partnership with Vernon Weaver in the early 1950's and with a Mr. Hanks in the late 1950's. Thus, occupancy of this structure was from c. 1950 to 1960, when mining operations ceased. Presence of truck trailer, hardware, and bulldozer tracks illustrates that equipment and supplies were transported on the frozen river in winter as there are no roads to the vicinity.

Architectural data: One-room half-hewn log cabin, $13\frac{1}{2}'$ x $21\frac{1}{2}'$. Height from plank floor to peak of roof is 9'. Walls are 10 logs high from sill to eave, 4 logs from eave to top of gable. Roof built of 1" x 4" boards running from peak to eaves covered with visqueen, then sod. Roof extends $6\frac{1}{2}'$ beyond front wall. Roof and wall sagging in southwest corner. Floor badly deteriorated near door. Screen door is 2'4" x 5'4"; inner door missing. Storm window in east wall is 2'10" x 2'4", six panes in each unit. North window of same dimension no longer has glass. Cache beneath floor is $2\frac{1}{2}'$ deep covered by a hinged 2' x 2' segment of floor.

Artifacts: Exterior: Rubber boots, vice, 2 wooden nail kegs, 7 whiskey bottles, 4 double ax heads, 2 hand saws, file, wringer type washing machine, boiler, canvas shower stall, hoses, pick head, wood plane, nuts and bolts, pulleys, 4 55-gallon

drums, gloves, hat, whetstone, folding knife, 6 emergency flares, framing square, pipe wrench, fishing pole, cook stove (McClary Mfg. Co., Famous Kocteney Range, London, Ont.), glass jars, muffin tin, v-belts, mosquito metal bunk frame, 5 lbs. corn starch, 3 bottles vitamins, $\frac{1}{2}$ can coffee, 5 Sports Illustrated magazines from 1950, cigar box, bottle opener, radio tubes, clothes pins, skillet, mouse trap, 6 tin plates, 4 cups, meat grinder, snuff packages, bandages, towel, stove pipe, mining licenses for 1953, 1957, and 1959; 2 lbs. Calcium Carbide, matches.

Informants, references: Fred Terwilliger, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: A clear bulldozer trail leads to the cabin from Fortymile River.

Hazards: Tool shed near trail contains heavy machine parts and at least one box of one dozen blasting caps.

Recommendations: Deteriorated cabin is sound enough that it could be repaired to useful condition. However, the roof leaks and the cabin will not be usable within a few years. Structure should be stabilized in the immediate future if it is to be maintained for visitor use. Tool shed should be inspected by a demolition expert and all explosives removed.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5b, ruins, Napoleon Creek

Location: 1½ miles up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River on south bank. NW ¼ Section 21, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins located on edge of steep bank of Napoleon Creek, facing west. Northeast corner hangs over bank which is eroding away.

Condition: Ruins

History: Structure is typical of the less substantial log and canvas cabins intended for summer use only.

Architectural data: Log base 3' (5 logs) high on three sides. Front or west wall was canvas on pole frame. Floor area measures 15½' x 17'. Frame was apparently 6' high.

Artifacts: Stool, table made from shipping crates, metal folding chair, rake made of nails driven through board, leg to cast iron stove, Calumet Baking Powder can, Hills Brothers' Coffee can, 5-gallon Standard Gasoline can, 1-gallon glass jug, 1-gallon Klim powdered milk can.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Requires 1½ mile walk from river along a bulldozer trail.

Hazards: Cabin hangs over a steep, eroding bank approximately 8' above Napoleon Creek. There are numerous test shafts approximately 2' x 2' and 4' to 15' deep along the nearby bulldozer trail, usually flooded with water.

Recommendations: Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site." Test shafts should be covered or warnings posted nearby.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5c, ruins, Napoleon Creek

Location: 1½ miles up Napoleon Creek on north bank. NW ¼ Section 21, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins are on a bench approximately 20 feet north of Napoleon Creek. Many well developed spruce and popular trees are near north side of cabin. Ruins of log food cache are 10 feet from the west or front of cabin near a trash heap.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific data could be located. However, the cabin appears to be one of the older structures in the area due to advanced deterioration and the use of logs approximately 9 inches in diameter which were not available after the first two decades of human activity in the area. Thus, the ruins date from c. 1900.

Architectural data: Ruins of 17' x 14' half-hewn log cabin, five to six logs high. Moss chinking. Saddle and notch corners. Sod roof collapsed years ago.

Artifacts: Wooden box from Pacific Coast Condensed Milk Co., 2 skillets, rusted cans in trash heap.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Access requires a climb of approximately 15 feet from Napoleon Creek. Bulldozer trail leads to opposite side of creek.

Hazards: Numerous test shafts along bulldozer trail.

Recommendations: Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site." Shafts in bulldozer trail should be covered or warnings posted.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5d, ruins, Napoleon Creek

Location: Approximately 2½ miles up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River on south bank. NW ¼ Section 21, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins located 15 feet from Napoleon Creek, door faces east. Dense vegetation in early successional stages of spruce-hardwood forest surrounds cabin. There are several drift mining shafts approximately 4' x 4' and 5' to 8' deep in the immediate area.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific data, but cabin appears to be one of the older structures in the area due to encroachment of vegetation and the use of spruce logs 10" in diameter which were harvested by earlier residents of the area. Thus, the structure dates to c. 1900.

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room log cabin, 15' x 15', 7 logs high. Logs chinked with moss with saddle and notch corners. Sod roof and west wall collapsed years ago. Area within cabin walls is muskeg with several small trees growing there.

Artifacts: None on surface except for 1 Log Cabin Syrup tin.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Last ½ mile of walk from Fortymile River is through dense vegetation. Cabin is difficult to locate.

Hazards: Drift mining shafts in the immediate area are difficult to see. One is within ten feet of cabin on east side.

Recommendations: Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site." Warnings about drift shafts in entire upper Napoleon Creek area should be posted.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5e, ruins, Napoleon Creek

Location: Approximately 1 3/4 miles up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River on north bank. NW ¼ Section 21, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle, (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins located on edge of shallow pit dug by bulldozer. Poplar grove behind cabin. Cache ruins 20 feet north of cabin.

Condition: Ruins

History: Cabin may have been built by Walter Hunt, one of the earlier miners on Napoleon Creek. This structure, like others in the immediate vicinity dates from near the turn of the century.

Architectural data: Ruins of half-hewn log cabin, 14' x 14', 5 logs high. Door opening faces south and measure 2'8" x 4'8". Window opening on east side is 3' x 3'. Moss chinking. Both square and saddle notching were used due to lack of uniformity of log diameters which range from 6" to 10". Top of door frame has two wooden pegs protruding which were apparently inserted into eave beam. Door frame nailed to wall with square, hand-wrought nails.

Artifacts: Rubber boot, shovel head, glass bottle marked "Curtice Brothers Preserves, Rochester NY" on bottom, a few rusty cans.

Informant, references: Fred Terwilliger.

Management data:

Accessibility: Bulldozer trail leading from river passes within 20 feet of cabin.

Hazards: Numerous drift mining shafts in the area along bulldozer trail.

Recommendations: Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site." Warnings about mining shafts should be posted in the area.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 5f, Cox Cabin, Napoleon Creek

Location: Approximately 2 miles up Napoleon Creek from Fortymile River, north of the junction of the two branches of Napoleon Creek. SE $\frac{1}{4}$ section 16, Township 27N, Range 29E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins in wooded area approximately 100 feet from Napoleon Creek.

Condition: Ruins

History: Date and builder are unknown, but the cabin was inhabited by Steve Cox in the 1940's. "Steve Cox Fall 1940" is penciled on door frame. Cox was involved in placer mining operations near Napoleon Creek in the 1940's and near Chicken Creek in the 1950's.

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room log cabin, 17' x 13', 7 to 8 logs high. A 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' tool shed built of 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " upright poles is attached to the west side of cabin. Logs range from 7" to 11" in diameter with inconsistent notching and moss chinking. Door frame measures 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' and window openings in north and south walls are 2'5" x 2'10". Pole and sod roof has collapsed.

Artifacts: Stove fashioned from oil drum, assorted pots and pans, eggbeater, sifter, 15 unidentified bottles, pick head, shove, crowbar, 3 steam points, $\frac{1}{2}$ " pipe in lengths of 2' to 7', valves, 2 55-gallon drums, 1 5-gallon can, 5 Hills Brothers Coffee cans, 3 Klim Milk cans, several rusty cans.

Informants, references: Paul Bytell, Fred Terwilliger

Management data:

Accessibility: Requires difficult walking through dense vegetation.

Hazards: Numerous drift shafts near cabin.

Recommendations: Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site." Warnings about mining shafts should be posted in the area.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 6, Napoleon Creek Cabin

Location: West bank of Fortymile River, immediately opposite the mouth of Napoleon Creek. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 19, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin is on a bench, approximately 30 yards from river. Cabin faces east. There is a relatively flat area of muskeg behind cabin. Canvas outhouse is 25 feet north of cabin.

Condition: Fair

History: According to Fred Terwilliger, this cabin was built in the early 1940's by a man named Carlson. Mr. Terwilliger repaired the cabin and lived in it during the winter of 1946-7. The structure has been repaired by someone else in recent years and is occasionally inhabited by trappers and recreationists.

Architectural data: Unhewn log cabin, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 16'. Height from dirt floor to ridgepole is 7'8". Logs range from 6" to 10" in diameter with saddle and notch corners and moss chinking. Roof is of split 3" poles covered with sod. Window on east side is 2'9" x 2'2" with six-pane glass. South double window frame is 5'10" x 2'6". West window frame is 2'11" x 2'7". North window frame is 2'10" x 2'6". East door is 2'11" x 5'10" with metal hinges and porcelain door knob. Exterior dirt insulation three logs high and 2 feet thick. Roof sagging slightly along south side. Cabin is apparently structurally sound although the roof leaks and may not last many years without repairs.

Artifacts: Wooden double bed, cast iron stove (Cole Airtight #725, Chicago), second stove fashioned from oil drum, 2 wooden tables, potato masher, assorted pots and pans, handsaw, windlass handle, pipe wrench, hand saw.

Informants, references: Fred Terwilliger, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible and readily accessible from river.

Foot trail leads from river to cabin.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: This cabin has potential for use as a stop-over shelter, ranger quarters, or interpretive center. It is in an ideal location for a small interpretive display on the Napoleon Creek area which was mined from the 1890's until 1960. Structure should be stabilized until a management decision is made.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 7, Wicks' Bar Cabins

Location: Approximately 3/4 mile downriver from mouth of Napoleon Creek, east bank. SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 17, Township 7S, Range 32E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins of two cabins approximately 30 yards east of river and 20 yards apart. Birch and alder surround the cabins and spruce trees along river obscure view of them from river. Remnants of a fallen food cache are approximately 20 yards east of cabins.

Condition: Ruins

History: Cabins were built around 1920 by Jimmy Wicks who sailed from England around Cape Horn to North America in the early 1900's. He was a steam engineer who worked for a dredge operation in Dawson, Yukon Territory, Canada before moving to the Fortymile area around 1920. Placer operations immediately across the river from these cabins were only moderately successful. Remnants of the operation in the way of machine parts and tools are scattered about the area. The larger of the two cabins was a residence, while the smaller structure to the northwest was a workroom and shed.

Architectural data:

Larger structure: Ruins of one-room half-hewn log cabin. 18' x 15'. Logs 8" to 12" in diameter with moss and mud chinking, and notch and saddle corners. Pole and sod roof collapsed. Plank floor. Window openings in north and south walls, 3' x 3'. Door in west wall 4'2" x 2'6". Also has screen door.

Smaller structure: One-room cabin of unstripped, unhewn logs, 10' x 12'. Saddle and notch corners. Moss corners. Pole, canvas, and sod roof collapsed on east side, extended 5' past west or front wall. Door 4'2" x 2'6".

Artifacts: Wheelbarrow, 2 hydraulic nozzles, 3 steam points, pitchfork, rubber hose, 3' lengths of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " steam pipe, valves and fittings from Buckeye Brass Works of Dayton, Ohio, 2 pulleys.

rope, nuts and bolts, stove pipe, rubber boots, ladle, colander, fry pan, bucket, coffee pot, assorted pots and pans, 2 tin plates, 2 bowls, unidentified heavy machinery parts.

Informants, references: Fred Terwilliger, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Cabins are barely visible from river, although only 30 yards from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 8, unidentified ruins

Location: ½ mile east of Fortymile River near a bulldozer trail which parallels and unnamed creek. NW ¼ Section 7, Township 27N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins of 2 cabins at the base of a hill north of bulldozer trail.

Condition: Ruins

History: No data. Cabins show no signs of disturbance and seemed to be unknown to area residents and Bureau of Land Management personnel except for a record of aerial sighting.

Architectural data: Ruins of two 12' x 15' cabins built 6 feet apart. Roofs have collapsed and walls are sagging. Fallen logs badly deteriorated.

Artifacts: Whipsaw, ax, pick-ax, pitch fork, 2 rasps, 2 files, Yukon stove, blue and white kettle, wash basin, chrome lamp base, Maxwell Parish pin-up, wine bottle, wooden box from Turner & Pease Co., Inc., Wholesale, box of Amocat, tractor grill, sawhorse, cans; 3 Union Leader Tobacco, 4 Dixie Tobacco, 4 Granger Tobacco, 1 Log Cabin Syrup, 8 Klim Milk, 10 Hills' Brothers Coffee, 1 Royal Baking Soda, 1 Russian Tea.

Informants, references: Fortymile Resource Area Files

Management data:

Accessibility: Bulldozer trail leads directly to cabins from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Allow to deteriorate and be a "discovery site."

Introduction to Franklin Community, Sites 9-12

Sites 9-12 are co-located at Franklin Community. The following historical sketch of the community provides background information on these related sites.

One of the first gold discoveries in interior Alaska occurred near Franklin in 1886. Named after one of the co-discoverers, Howard Franklin, the community was an important site in the gold mining era of the Fortymile country from 1886 to 1948. All types of mining techniques from the old hand methods to large dredge operations were successfully pursued in the Fortymile River area near Franklin, and signs of extensive mining activity in the form of tailings and machine parts are abundant for a half-mile up Franklin Creek and for several hundred yards down Fortymile River. According to a United States Geological Survey Bulletin, the early days at Franklin were full of interest because "the gold was easy to mine and more easily spent on the little flat at the mouth of the creek, which was then crowded with miners, and passed quickly through many hands" (Prindle, 1905, n.p.).

Franklin became a well known stop on the trail from Eagle through Steele Creek and on to Chicken. The community maintained a post office from 1902 to 1945, a school from 1927 to 1933, and a roadhouse from c. 1900 to 1945. The roadhouse is one of the five structures remaining at Franklin, but it is now in poor condition since the roof collapsed in 1975 and vandals have cut sections out

of the log walls for use as firewood. The building is actually the third roadhouse on the site, the original having been destroyed by fire c. 1919 and the second having been lost to the flood of 1927. The remaining buildings and artifacts at Franklin are among the most significant links to the mining and social history of the Fortymile area from 1886 to the present.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 9, Frank Tomlinson Cabin

Location: $\frac{1}{2}$ mile up Franklin Creek from Fortymile River, south bank.
NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 36, Township 28N, Range 18E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: Mineral claim

Site description: Cabin ruins and two caches on hillside south of Franklin Creek. Immediate area cluttered with cans and items removed from structures.

Condition: Ruins

History: Cabin was built c. 1900-1910 by Frank (Tommy) Tomlinson, a long time resident of Franklin who served as postmaster from 1905 to 1913. Tomlinson was locally famous for his collection of Edison phonograph cylinders which provided music for numerous dance and parties in Franklin. His hobby of repairing watches and clocks earned him the nickname "Waltham Kid." Tomlinson was not an ambitious man, but he always earned enough money from sporadic mining and working for others to live comfortably. His cabin is now in ruins, the roof having collapsed in 1973.

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room, unhewn log cabin, 14' x 13'. Roof extended 5' beyond east (front) wall. Roof of poles covered with tarpaper and sod has collapsed. Double door faces east, 4'20" x 2'6". Outer door unit opens to the outside and fastens with a wooden latch operated by a wooden cam and door knob. Inner door unit has been carried out of the cabin and has over 100 metal tabs from tobacco cartons nailed on in decorative patterns. Window frames on north and west, 2'8" x 2'8", two panes per window. Two 6' x 6' storage sheds built of rough-sawn boards are 25' and 45', respectively southwest of cabin.

Artifacts: Assorted pots and pans, stove parts, wooden single-bed frame, 3 buckets, caribou rack, 2 picks, shovel, trunk, tape measure, clock works, parts of wooden phonograph cabinet, phonograph cylinders, funnel, leather-bottomed chair, 1946 calendar, can for Oriole Cookies, other rusty cans, over 100 metal stamps from tobacco containers nailed to door including Star, Master Workman, Ligget & Myers, and other brands.

Informants and references: Alice Bayless (claim owner), Paul Bytell, Joe Maycheck, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Definite trail runs along Franklin Creek crossing it three times before reaching cabin. The $\frac{1}{2}$ mile walk from Fortymile River to cabin is pleasant.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Cabin is beyond repair, but the door with its unique star design made from tobacco container tabs could be salvaged and incorporated into an interpretive display at Franklin or another location. Possibilities of obtaining artifacts from claim owners should be examined.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 10, Franklin Roadhouse

Location: Near mouth of Franklin Creek. NE ¼ Section 36, Township 28N, Range 18E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: Mineral claim

Site description: Roadhouse and outbuilding located next to hillside on embankment held by a log and stone retaining wall. Two other outbuildings below embankment. Machine parts and dredge tailings in the area.

Condition: Ruins

History: A roadhouse was operated on this site by the John Roberts family from c. 1900 to 1945. The structure is the third roadhouse on the site, replacing one lost in the flood of 1927. The roadhouse not only provided food and lodging for travelers and seasonal residents, but also served as a focal point for the community. Numerous parties, dances, and other social events were held here. The structure is a victim of recent vandalism, and the roof collapsed in 1975.

Architectural data: Log structure, 39' x 20', roof extends 6' past south wall. Moss chinking, notch and saddle corners. Corrugated metal partially covers interior walls. Plank floor. Pole and sod roof has collapsed. South 6-pane window, 3'6" x 3'. East 12-pane window, 7' x 3'6". East door, 7' x 2'8". Other dimension unknown due to structural conditions.

Artifacts: Metal bedstead, 3 wooden bunks, hydraulic jack, pick head, wooden chair, pulleys, hammer head, rusted cans, sythe blade, news magazines dated 1942-51, can opener, cigarette rolling machine, 6 spice bottles, horseshoes, unidentified machinery parts.

Informants, references: Alice Bayless (claim owner), Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Clearly visible from river. Trails lead from river to roadhouse.

Hazards: Structure is unsound, walls may collapse.

Recommendations: Advice of a restoration architect should be obtained after contacting claim owners. This roadhouse is probably the most significant structure in the study area and should be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for being associated with events that have made significant contributions to broad patterns of United States history. If restoration is impractical, interpretive information concerning Franklin Community should be located in one of the structures nearby.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 11, Franklin Schoolhouse

Location: North of the mouth of Franklin Creek. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 31, Township 28N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: Mineral claim

Site description: Cabin is approximately 40 yards west of river. Windlass with cable stretching across river is 25 yards north of cabin. Trash heap near cabin door. Tools and machinery parts scattered about. Outhouse and shed southwest of cabin.

Condition: Deteriorated

History: Built c. 1927 by John Roberts Family, this structure was used for the Franklin school from 1927 to 1933. It was later used for living quarters and is still occasionally occupied by trappers and recreationists.

Architectural data: One-room cabin, 20' x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ', built of sawed logs. Height from puncheon floor to peak of ceiling is 9'8". Mud, moss, and pole chinking. Square corners. Roof of 3" split poles covered with sod. Door faces east. Windows on north and south are 3' x 3' 7".

Artifacts: Grinding wheel, traps, hand saw, stove fashioned from oil drum, other stove parts, pick, pick head, shovel head, 2 shovels, checker board. Cabin contains supplies, cooking utensils, and belongings of temporary residents.

Informants, references: Alice Bayless, Fortymile Resource Areas Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Easily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Cabin could be saved if repairs to roof are made soon. This would be a good location for interpretive materials on Franklin Community, especially if the roadhouse is not restored. Advice of a restoration architect should be obtained.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 12, Franklin Blacksmith Shop

Location: East bank of Fortymile River, opposite Franklin Roadhouse
SW 1/4 Section 31, Township 28N, Range 19E, Copper River Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Collapsed structure located on high bench, not visible from river. There is a boiler in the river nearby and a cable stretching across the river. A spar stands nearby, and machine parts are scattered about.

Condition: Ruins

History: Blacksmith shop was part of a drift mining operation run by Jimmy Wicks and Paul White in the 1930's.

Architectural data: Ruins 4 to 6 logs high of building approximately 20' x 12'. Features of building not distinguishable.

Artifacts: Bellows, water pump, 3 boilers, steam engine governor, pipe fittings, cables, wrenches, unidentified machine parts.

Informants, references: Alice Bayless, Fred Terwilliger, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible and readily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Ruins should be considered for interpretive value.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 13, unidentified cabin, Buckskin Creek

Location: Near mouth of Buckskin Creek. NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 34 Township 8S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin located south of Buckskin Creek on west bank of Fortymile River in a grove of birch and spruce.

Condition: Deteriorated

History: No specific information

Architectural data: One-room log cabin, $16\frac{1}{2}'$ x $14'$, faces northeast. Door is $4'2"$ x $2'4"$. Southeast window $2'$ x $2'$, northwest window $2'$ x $1'$, northeast window $3'5"$ x $2'5"$. Pole and sod roof beginning to collapse on southeast. Structure badly deteriorated. There is a spruce tree $6"$ in diameter growing in the north corner of the sod roof.

Artifacts: A few miscellaneous machine parts.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible and readily accessible from river. Fire pits and absence of artifacts indicates that cabin is frequently visited by recreationists.

Hazards: Deteriorated roof may collapse.

Recommendations: Cabin has no particular historical significance, but could be maintained as an emergency shelter as it is one of the few cabins still standing along the South Fork of the Fortymile River. Basic repairs to the roof should be made including removal of trees growing in sod roof.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 14, unidentified ruins

Location: Approximately 1 mile downriver from the mouth of Bucks-in-Creek on east bank. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 26, Township 8S, Range 30E, Faribanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Stone embankment and low ruins in grove of birch and poular. Barely visible from river. Trees growing within ruins.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of cabin 13' x 19', one log high. Little besides outline of cabin is distinguishable. Stone embankment and foundation well built, unusual for this area.

Artifacts: None on surface.

Management data:

Accessibility: Barely visible, but readily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 15, Little Dipper Dredge and cabin ruins

Location: Approximately 1 mile south of the mouth of Uhler Creek.
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section, 26, Township 8S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Dredge gears and major parts scattered along east bank of river, log structure ruins among them. Dredge bucket in river is visible during periods of normal or lower levels.

Condition: Ruins

History: A single-bucket dredge operated in the area from 1907 to 1912. It was the only single-bucket dredge to operate on the Fortymile and one of the first dredges of any type in the area. The dredge was inefficient and the operation marginal. According to several miners in the area, parts from this dredge were used at various times to repair other dredges. It is not known what purpose the nearby log structure served.

Architectural data: Cabin ruins 10' x 14', 2 to 3 logs high.

Artifacts: Ore scales, large dredge parts in area.

Informants, references: Fortymile Resource Area Files

Management data:

Accessibility: Dredge bucket in river identifies site.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Install brief interpretive message concerning the history of dredge.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 16, Uhler Creek Cabin

Location: North of mouth of Uhler Creek, 75 feet east of Fortymile River. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 23, Township 8S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins and cache located in clearing of forest. Small trees beginning to grow in cabin ruins. Cache stands immediately west of cabin with two log dog houses nearby.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific data

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room half-hewn cabin, 18' x 14'. Pole and sod roof and east wall collapsed. East corners saddle and notch; west corners flush framed. Cache still standing, but leaning. Base of 5' x 5' cache is 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' above ground level.

Artifacts: Padlock, 5 whiskey bottles, riffle board, chain, handsaw, coffee pot, muffin tin, saw horse, stove pipe, deteriorated clothing, 2 plates, spice bottles, miscellaneous machine parts.

Informants, references: Fortymile Resource Area Files

Management data:

Accessibility: Not visible from river; no definite trails.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 17, unidentified ruins

Location: $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the mouth of Uhler Creek, east bank of Fortymile River. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 22, Township 8S, Range 30E, Faribanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins in densely vegetated area. Young spruce growing within walls of cabin ruins. Walls one to two logs high with moss growing between them.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Cabin ruins, 15' x 15', one to two logs high. Little is distinguishable.

Artifacts: Shovel, bucket, wooden box, skillet, stove pipe.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Not visible from river; no definite trails.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 18, Eckstein Cabin and Barn

Location: West bank of Fortymile River, approximately 200 yards north of the mouth of Butte Creek. SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 16, Township 8S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin and barn on bench approximately 15 feet west of river. Cabin faces east. Barn to southeast faces northeast. Relatively clear area of muskeg.

Condition: Deteriorated

History: Cabin and barn were built between 1910 and 1920 by Ed Eckstein, a miner and trapper who lived here until his death in 1938. Eckstein seldom kept horses or other animals in the barn, but used it as a storage and work area and shelter for travelers. John Powers often stopped here when carrying freight overland. When Eckstein died, an inventory indicated there was no money in his estate. The two men who made the inventory panned for gold in a ditch that Eckstein had been working, but no trace of gold was found.

Architectural data: Cabin is 16' x 14', half-hewn logs. 12' x 14' porch with 8' x 6' vertical log tool shed on east side. All under continuous roof of rough-sawn boards and sod. Moss chinking, saddle and notch corners. Plank floor. Door 5'9" x 2'5" faces east. North and south windows 2'10" x 2'8". West window is 3' x 2'½'. All windows have six-pane glass. Barn is 16' x 19', half-hewn logs. Roof is of 3" diameter poles covered with sod and tin. 7' roof extension to northeast is built of rough-sawn boards. Door is 6'1" x 6'7". Windows on all sides except northeast, 2'3" x 2'10". Walls of both cabin and barn seem sound, but roofs are not. Part of cabin roof has fallen in. Part of barn roof on west side is scorched. Other areas slightly burned.

Artifacts: Sluice grate, tow bar, pick head, broken wooden crates, oil drum, numerous rusty cans, pipe, valve, miscellaneous machine parts, skillet, Gold Medal Flour Sacks used as wall-paper, porcelain wash basin, Edgeworth Tobacco can, 1927 Saturday Evening Post, 1 U.S. Army bunk, 2 wooden bunks, freight box addressed to R.S. McCombe, Chicken, Alaska.

Informants, references: Fortymile Resource Area Files

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible from river. Definite trail to cabin.

Hazards: Cabin porch not sturdy.

Recommendations: Cabin and barn could both be repaired for shelter or interpretive purposes. Roofs should be patched until a management decision is made.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 19, unidentified cabin

Location: $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of confluence of the North and South Forks of Fortymile River, west bank. NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 10, Township 8S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin built in heavy timber against small bluff, 15 yards west of river.

Condition: Deteriorated

History: No specific information

Architectural data: One-room unhewn log cabin, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 16'. Notched and saddle corners, moss chinking. Pole and sod roof 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' high at peak. Cardboard and paper insulate inside walls. Door faces south, and roof extends 5' past south wall. East window 2'3" x 1'7", 4-pane glass. West window 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 2'10", 6-pane glass.

Artifacts: Sluice box, 2 wooden single bed frames, 2 shovels, boot, stool, bread pan, muffin pan, 5 plates, 4 jars, lantern chimney, rusty cans.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible from river, approximately 25 feet from west bank. There is also a trail that leads from the confluence of the North and South Forks of Fortymile River through the forest to the cabin.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: Structure could be refurbished as a stop-over cabin if done in the near future. Hole in roof for stove pipe is getting larger and should be patched.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 20, unidentified ruins

Location: North bank at confluence of North and South Forks of Fortymile River. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 3, Township 8S, Range 30E Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (A-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins of 2 log cabins on bench 25 feet above river.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of 2 log cabins, 7 to 8 logs high, 12' x 12' and 14' x 20'. Unhewn logs, notch and saddle corners, and moss chinking.

Artifacts: Rusted cans only items on surface.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible from river, but immediate access is difficult for those floating the South Fork of Fortymile River as there are rapids at the confluence of the North Fork and South Fork.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 21, unidentified ruins

Location: 1½ miles downriver from confluence of North Fork and South Fork, west bank. NW ¼, Section 2, Township 8S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins of cabin and dog house in lightly forested area, 35 feet from river.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room log cabin, 12' x 14', 3 to 5 logs high. Log diameters vary from 9" to 12" with moss chinking and saddle and notch corners. Dog house of similar construction north of cabin, 10' x 10' x 3'.

Artifacts: None on surface

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Ruins are barely visible from river, but readily accessible.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 22, Long Bar Cabins

Location: 3 miles downriver from confluence of North Fork and South Fork of Fortymile River. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 36, Township 7S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: 2 cabins, cache, and ruins of a barn in a clearing on south bank.

Condition: Fair

History: Joe Brost mined on Jack Wade Creek in 1898 and then moved to this site around 1910 to set up the Long Bar Camp. A man named Rosenbush built the smaller cabin in the 1930's. John Powers stopped at Long Bar on his mail run from 1910-1938, and it is likely that the barn was built for his horses. Brost was in his seventies at the time of his death in 1939.

Cabins were used and maintained by others until recent years, and it is not known how long they have been unoccupied. Neil Thurneau, an area resident, reportedly maintains the cabins as time permits, but vandals make this difficult.

Architectural data: Large cabin: $14\frac{1}{2}'$ x $19\frac{1}{2}'$. Height from plank floor to peak of ceiling is $10\frac{1}{2}'$. Pole and sod roof. Logs chinked with moss, corners inconsistent. Double door $2'6"$ x $6'2"$, outer door broken. Cabin faces northwest. Southeast window, $2'10"$ x $2'4"$, 6-pane glass. Trap door to floor cache, $3'6"$ x $2'$. Small cabin; $10\frac{1}{2}'$ x $2'6"$ x $6'$ faces northeast. Southeast window $1'10"$ x $1'6"$ has iron bars. Ruins of barn: $16'$ x $25'$, 6 to 8 logs high. Pole and sod roof collapsed inside walls.

Artifacts: "Mona" cook stove, windlass, numerous unidentified cans, jars, and bottles, Yukon stove, rocker box, scythe, mirror, porcelain wash basin, 2 stools, 1945 Saturday Evening Post, crowbar, shovel, bird house.

Informants, references: Terry Haynes, Neil Thurneau, Fortymile Resource Area Files.

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible and readily accessible from river.
There are few cabins within several river miles, and many river recreationists visit the site.

Hazards: Floor planks above floor cache in larger cabin are weak.

Recommendations: Some interpretive work should be done here to discourage vandalism as well as to add to visitor appreciation of the area.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 23, unidentified ruins

Location: 1 mile downriver from Long Bar on east bank. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 20, Township 7S, Range 30E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Ruins are 50 feet east of river in grove of birch and poplar. Birch tree of 4" diameter growing within ruins.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room cabin, 12' x 15', 4 to 6 logs high. Logs unhewn with moss chinking and notch and saddle corners.

Artifacts: None on surface.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Barely visible, but readily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 24, unidentified ruins

Location: 3 miles downriver from Long Bar. SW 1/4 Section 20, Township 7S, Range 21E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins in dense poplar and spruce woods north of gravel bar.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room log cabin 10' x 15'. Flat pole and sod roof extended 8' beyond north or front side, partially collapsed. Corners sawed square. 2 doghouses, 4' x 4' also fashioned from logs with square, sawed corners.

Artifacts: Two beds, shoe, wood box marked "For American Mt. Fortymile Alaska", rocker box, riffle board, table, ax handle, 1935 news magazines, rolling pin, Yukon stove.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Not visible from river, but trail leads from river to cabin.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 25, unidentified cabin

Location: 4 miles southwest of the mouth of O'Brien Creek on north bank of Fortymile River. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 24, Township 7S, Range 31E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin 50 yards north of river in young forest.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Crude one-room cabin, 11' x 12'. Flat pole and sod roof 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' high, badly deteriorated. Unstripped logs are hewn inside with poles nailed over moss chinking. Door faces east, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ '. Window openings in north and south walls, 2' x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ '.

Artifacts: Wooden single-bed frame, frying pan, rusty cans, chair coveralls, stovepipe.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Visible and readily accessible from river.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Allow to deteriorate.

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 26, unidentified cabin ruins

Location: 2½ miles southwest of the mouth of O'Brien Creek, east bank of Fortymile River. NE ¼ Section 19, Township 7S, Range 32E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-2), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins 50 yards east of river in dense growth of birch and poplar. Not visible from river.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room log cabin, 10½' x 13', 5 to 6 logs high. Logs unhewn and unstripped approximately 6 inches in diameter with moss chinking and saddle and notch corners. Cabin ruins face southwest with 1' x 2' windows in northwest and southeast walls.

Artifacts: None on surface.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Not visible from river, and trails are not obvious.

Hazards: None

Recommendations: No action. Leave as a "discovery site."

Historical Resource Inventory, Fortymile River, Alaska

Number and name: 27, unidentified cabin ruins

Location: Approximately 100 yards up Polly Creek from Fortymile River. SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 17, Township 7S, Range 32 E, Fairbanks Meridian.

Map reference: U.S.G.S. Eagle (B-1), Alaska

Land ownership status: National interest lands

Site description: Cabin ruins next to rocky bluff near marshy area, not visible from river.

Condition: Ruins

History: No specific information

Architectural data: Ruins of one-room log cabin, 9' x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ', 10 to 11 logs high. Logs approximately 10 inches in diameter with moss chinking and notch and saddle corners. Flat pole and sod roof patched with canvas and tin has collapsed. Door 5'5" x 2'4" faces north. West window opening 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ '. South window 1' x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ '.

Artifacts: Rubber boots, rusty cans wooden single-bed, sluice box with riffle board, 2 5-gallon cans, sawblade.

Informants, references: None

Management data:

Accessibility: Walk from river to cabin through marshy area is difficult and unpleasant.

Hazards: None

Recommndations: No action. Leave as a "discovery site."

APPENDIX B

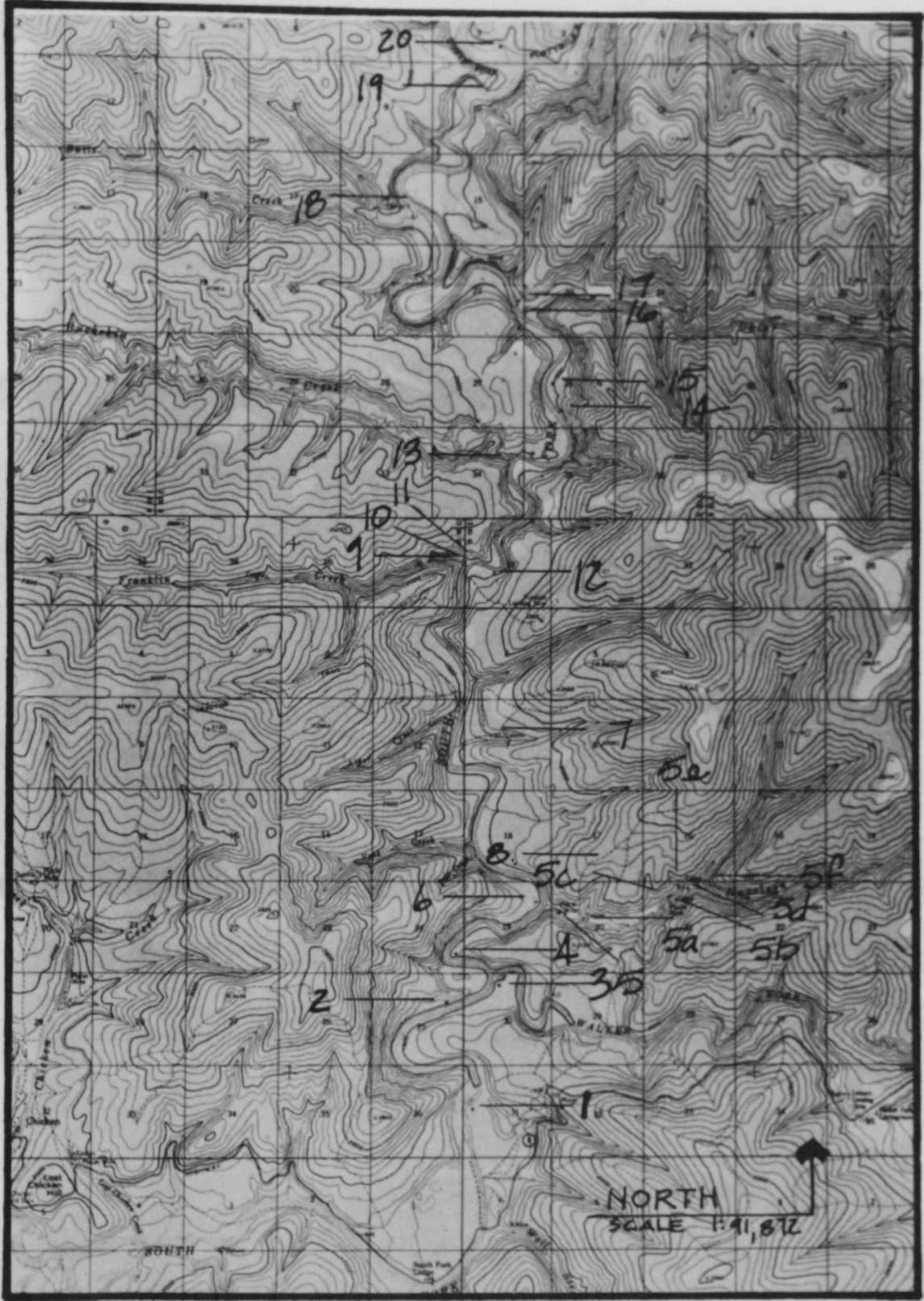


Figure 10. Location of historical sites 1-20.

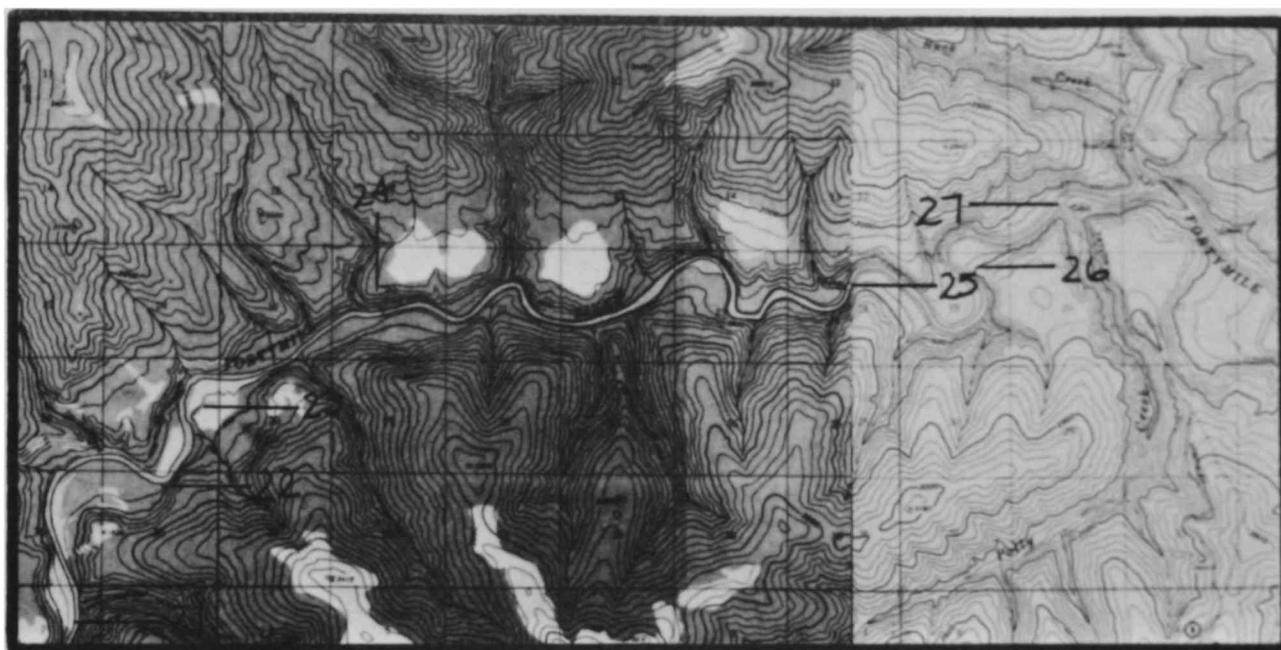


Figure 11. Location of historical sites 21-27.

