



52009SE0141 52009SE0036A1 TARP LAKE

010

REPORT ON PICKLE CROW AREA
PATRICIA MINING DIVISION

by

Robert Thomson
Resident Geologist
Kenora, Ontario.

(with drawing p-7)

August 1946.

Note The writer's letter to Mr. Rickaby (Deputy Minister of Mines) of October 15, 1946 (a copy of which is appended) is regarded as confidential. Central Patricia Mines asked that information on the showing at Kapkichi Lake be kept confidential and E. Wilson similarly for the reported gold occurrence on Pa 6464 and 5, of Patricia Participators Syndicate.

INTRODUCTION On instructions in a letter dated June 29, 1946 from Dr. M.E. Hurst, Provincial Geologist, the writer spent from Aug. 1 to 7, 1946, in Pickle Crow Area to make an appraisal of the current situation and future outlook. A summary of the results was sent to Mr. Rickaby in my letter of October 15, 1946, a copy of which is appended to this report.

In addition to publications of the Ontario Dept. of Mines, information on the Pickle Crow Mine is given in an article in the October 1945 issue of the "Pre-Cambrian" and on the Central Patricia Mine in an article published in the November 1945 issue of the same journal.

all situated on the south side of Crow River; notes on the following properties on the north side of the river are given; Mitchell Group, Norpick Gold Mines Ltd., Patricia Participators Syndicate and Gateway Gold Mines. A reference is made to work done in the vicinity of Kapkichi Lake, a short distance west of Ponsford Twp.

PICKLE CROW MINES

The writer is grateful to Mr. Alex Hattie for a brief survey of recent developments at the mine, at which possibly the most interesting of the developments in the Pickle Crow Area since the publication of J.E. Thomson's report in 1938, have occurred.

Development on the Howell vein has continued to a depth of 2000 feet and there has been a decrease in grade from 1600 to 2000 ft. Diamond drilling has been carried on from a crosscut on the bottom level and has shown the continuity of the vein downwards but with low assay returns from the intersections; however, an insufficient number of intersections have been obtained to afford reliable estimates. More drilling followed by shaft sinking and lateral work were to be undertaken. The possibility of the lower grade zone being succeeded downwards by a richer one was regarded as a possibility. At present some 50% of the ore was coming from the Howell vein. At the bottom level on the east end of the drift a quartz vein some 3 feet wide but with negligible values was reported.

Some 800 to 1000 feet southwest of No. 1 shaft, diamond drilling (up to 900 ft. in length) from the 1300 foot level had given intersections yielding good assay returns. Earlier drilling from surface to test the same zone had given low returns. More work was contemplated on the zone.

that of their No. 2 orebody --- a quartz vein in a large quartz porphyry mass. This is the only large ore body in the area with a host rock of porphyry and also independent of iron formation. The vein is very irregular with great rolls and branches; this has made exploration and mining more difficult and costly. Neither lateral or vertical limits of the orebody have been reached. Some of the easterly drifts in ore extend beyond the line of the former Winoga Property (now taken over by Pickle Crow Mines). On the Albany River Property (now taken over by Pickle Crow Mines) a drive was made westerly from the shaft to investigate intersections obtained from surface drilling. This work was suspended before completion due to the difficulties of carrying on exploration particularly during the war years. In the writers opinion this group of claims has important ore potentialities. A north easterly striking fault (apparently suggested first by B.S. Buffam on the Springer Group of Central Patricia and now regarded as very probable by the Pickle Crow Staff) is believed to pass through Pickle Crow, the former Winoga, and the former Albany River Properties. The fault is alleged to follow low ground and the creek west of the motor road. The economic significance of the fault is said to be that the ore bearing veins have formed from somewhat easterly-westerly fractures extending from the fault. Mr. Hattie gave as one evidence of the fault that the northwesterly part of the west drift on the 1300 foot level went through fissile schist, which kept sloughing off. Mr. Monette, chief engineer, had the opinion that most of the workings were under the fault; the position of the fault has not been sharply delineated as yet apparently. Mr. Hattie remarked that drilling near the fault had shown the presence of bodies

in them.

The presence of certain "indicators" in the ore body was mentioned by Mr. Hattie; he said that where the quartz veins were intersected by certain small dikes they were spectacularly rich. This appears to be somewhat similar to the relation, well known in this area, that the place of intersection of a shear with iron formation is a favourable locus for ore deposition. The ore potentialities of the ground controlled by Pickle Crow appear to be very considerable.

WALTRICIA GOLD MINES LTD.

This property was previously known under the name Walker Patricia Gold Mine Ltd., who optioned it to Miami General Development Mines Ltd., who formed Waltricia Gold Mines Ltd., In the fall of 1945 a magnetometer survey was made of the whole property. An east-west base line was run and north-south lines out at 300 foot intervals; in all some 38 miles of line were made. In February 1946 diamond drilling was started and up to August 1, 1946 some 9400 feet (by contract to Boyles Bros. at \$2.15 a foot) had been drilled. The writer is indebted to R. Massey Williams, in charge of operations for the company since June for for a review of the work done. Diamond drilling from February until about June was to test magnetic anomalies; it was unsuccessful. Mr. Massey, using the cut lines for references, made a geological survey of the property with results that may be summarized as follows; The northwesterly part of the property is covered by sand ridges of an estimated thickness of 200 plus feet. The northeastern and eastern parts contain two or three large areas of pillow lava, which is in general massive. This massive lava has been trenched and also drilled by former operators.

in view of the appearance of the rock and also of no reports being available on the results of trenching and drilling it is assumed that nothing of value was found. The property was not mined apparently because it was close to a producing mine (Central Patricia) and further because it was alleged that diamond drilling on Pa 2612 (on the south side of Crow River) had given an intersection, from which assay returns were \$5.40 (gold at \$35.00 per oz.) per ton over a length of 20 feet. The strike of a zone giving such an intersection might be expected to extend through claim Pa 2185, owned by Pickle Crow Mines. To test the alleged intersection on Pa 2612 Mr. Williams put down one hole parallel to and 2 feet distant and another along the direction of the strike of the iron formation; both holes gave negative results. Some 10 other holes had been put down along the probable line of strike of the alleged intersection without yielding any assay returns of interest. At the time of the writers' visit a vertical hole was being put down as nearly as possible directly over the middle of the supposed intersection. Mr. Williams stated that if this final test did not give worth while returns that he would conclude that the vicinity of the alleged intersection had no merits worth further prospecting. At the time of the writers' visit x-ray drilling was being carried on in claim Pa 2624, south of Crow River. At this place former operators had excavated a few rock trenches in a northerly-southerly direction but no gold occurrence had been reported. Three holes at 30 degrees and at 30 foot intervals had been drilled from north to south under the trenches but with negative results. Scattered bands of siliceous iron formation (containing very little magnetite) and some chlorite schist occurred

development of carbonate. The middle hole went into a keweewanawab diabase dike (also exposed on surface) and said to have a width of 40 feet. A similar dike occurs west of here. Mr. Williams stated that on completion of the holes then being drilled he intended to move the drills to the north side of Crow River and do some cross sectional drilling. If by September nothing were found a new appraisal of the property was to be made. Some \$50,000 had been spent to date with negative results.

CROWHORE PATRICIA GOLD MINES LTD.

The property consists of 8 patented claims Pa 2157, 8, 9, 60, 61, 62, 63 and 2586. Access may be had by the road, suitable for motor traffic from Pickel Crow and Central Patricia Mines. Buildings include frame cookery, sleep camp, dry, hoist house, store house and small log office on claim Pa 2161. The head frame is situated at about the middle of the same claim. The former camps were situated on a sandy knoll on the south bank of Crow River in the northeast corner of claim Pa 2162. The writer spent part of one day, August 4, 1946 in visiting the property and is grateful to Mr. R.J.R. Schaller, in charge, for information. Mr. Schaller had succeeded Mr. Salkend, the former manager about May 1946; apparently the trenching, drilling, sampling, location and erection of camps, and preparation for erection of head frame had been done under Mr. Salkend's direction. At the time of the writer's visit no geological maps, drill plans, or assay plans with the exception of a generalized plan scale one inch equals 400 feet, of the property, now filed at the Resident Geologist's office, Kenora, were available for inspection; they were said to be at Head Office in Toronto.

Since the Ontario Dept. of Mines report on the district, by J.E. Thomson, was published diamond drilling and prospecting has been carried out on the property. The main effort at present is shaft sinking; the announced intention is to sink to a depth of 1000 feet. The southern part of claim Pa 2161 is underlain by lavas with interclated bands of iron formation and related sediments. The strike of the formations is approximately north 70 degrees east and the dip about 70 degrees north. The schisted zones have strikes and dips apparently similar to those of the formations. The writer would suggest that part, at least, of the shearing was localized at flow contacts; for instance in "G" zone just west of the road small areas of iron formation could be made out in the chloritic schistose rock. Largely based on J.E. Thomson's work - the distribution of iron formation on properties to the southwest and the absence of iron formation on the Kaw Crow Property to the south - the present writer suggests that rocks in claim Pa 2161 are the south limb of a syncline.

The company have designated A.B.C. etc. what they term zones and which are said to strike about north 70 degrees east and to dip ~~be~~ 70 degrees to the north. Five zones are stated to be gold bearing and it is believed that 4 of these, A.B.C. and D. will be intersected by the projected 1000 feet vertical shaft. Zones A.B. and C. were very briefly examined on surface along part of their course by the writer. Zone A. where seen by the writer in the south part of Pa 2161 and north of the Pickle Crow - Crow shore road lies on the north side of a hill close to muskeg; it consists of a sheared zone, of fissile chloritic schist and containing occasional irregular areas and veinlets of quartz, cutting through lavas. The quartz is white and coarsely crystalline; no sulphides were seen by the writer in it. The

schist did not appear to be mineralized. Zone C. lies some 80 feet southerly of A and is similar to it except that in one place the writer noticed a piece about 6 inches long of iron formation. Zone B. is some 125 feet southerly of C. and lies along an iron formation band. It has been exposed by trenching and stripping in the southern part of claim Pa 2151 at least and has been explored by a considerable amount of diamond drilling. The iron formation consists of banded chert in part, but the composition is varied; in some places dark green chloritic bands were common; in others there was much sericitic material. Drill core from this zone was briefly examined; it showed iron formation mineralized with pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, and pyrite. Quartz veinlets containing areas (to 1/3 inch) of pyrrhotite were seen. Visible gold is reported to occur in such veinlets. The writer noted that great lengths of mineralized iron formation were left unsampled; it was not apparent why some parts had been sampled and others left. On the generalized map shown to the writer this zone was shown as extending some 2400 feet. A reliable estimate of the merits of this property was not possible by the writer in view of the unavailability of plans and other information. Mr. Schaller said that he was satisfied that the results of previous exploration - as shown to him at Toronto - demonstrated that the operation had a reasonable chance of success. He estimated that some 15000 to 20000 feet of diamond drilling had been done. Apparently very little of this had been directed towards testing the various zones much below at 100 feet vertical depth. It seemed more prudent to the writer to have limited the shaft sinking to less than half of the proposed 1000 feet depth and to block out ore bodies above this before sinking farther. A compilation and integration of all available information would seem advisable; the writer gathered that no clear picture

as to what might be expected in underground work had been arrived at.

The location of the headframe low wet ground and of the shaft to be sunk through fissile schist in the upper part at least - is unusual.

After the writers' visit a magnetometer survey was made by Mr. Fox (of Koulomzine, Brossard and Co.) ; Mr. Fox told the writer that he had tried to correlate the results of the three diamond drilling programs which had been carried out previously on the property.

Mr. A. Hattie of Pickle Crow told the writer that Pickle quartz vein (giving very good assay returns on surface) on the Crow shore property near its west line but that the drill results were quite unsatisfactory.

Mitchell Group - Connell Twp.

The group consists of 9 claims, Pa 8260 to 8268, north of Kawinogans River and is situated some 3 miles a little east of north of Central Patricia Gold Mines. Access from there may be obtained by a lumber road leading across the Kawinogans river at the dam by the mine, past the east side of the airport and northeasterly to near the camps of Norpick Gold Mines Ltd. (see drawing P - 7) ; some 3 miles from the bridge a poorly marked trail leads easterly to the Mitchell Group. The old lumber road was suitable for motor traffic for less than a mile from the bridge. There are no buildings on the property. The writer spent part of August 5, 1946 looking at the showing in company with Mr. Mitchell, who is foreman for Boyles Bros. Drilling Company and resides at Central Patricia Mines. A number of trenches in the vicinity of the showing were seen by the writer, who was told that it was done by Picador Mines about 1935. No records of this work were available to the writer and he was not able to obtain any information about the company. Mitchell in May 1946, staked the ground partly because of work being carried out on the Norpick Mines, some two miles to the northeast. He said that in the course of staking he noticed

...
this showing; the writer had the impression that the stripping
exposing the vein might have been made by previous operators, who had
excavated trenches in the vicinity but this is merely conjecture.
The southeastern edge of a large belt of sand hills with northeast
trend passes through the southwest corner of Pa 8246 approximately.
The sand appears to be very thick and outcrops in it seem to be unlikely.
The muskeg on the southeast side of the sandy area is shallow and
fairly numerous outcrops were seen in the southeastern part of Pa 8264
and on Pa 8262 in the vicinity of the showing. The muskeg area is
reported to extend southeasterly to Kawinogans River. Outcrops seen
by the writer in the southeastern part of Pa 8265 and 8262/ were largely
pillow lava, in places altered to chlorite schist. On Pa 8262, at the
showing, a dike of quartz porphyry with width to 6 feet but not regular,
occurs. In the northeast corner of Pa 7768 (one of the E. Wilson group)
a band of what was believed to be carbonatized iron formation
is exposed in an old trench. At Post 2 claim 2749 and to a smaller
extent at Post 1 claim 2740 magnetic disturbance of the compass needle
was noticed. On the east side of claim Pa 8265 in old trenches a few
dark dikes up to about 2 feet wide were seen. In these trenches rusty
carbonate and quartz stringers are exposed. A sketch by the writer of
the showing (on Pa 8262) is shown on accompanying drawing P-7. Assay
returns of samples shown on drawing are as given below:-
P-1, 5 inch quartz vein, 2% pyrites 0.12oz gold per ton.
P-2, wall rock of sampel P-1, schist with quartz veinlets, 0.13 oz.
P-3, wall rock northwest of sample P-1, greenish chlorite, some pyrite
and a few quartz veinlets 0.17oz.

F-5, quartz 0.02 oz.

The greatest width of quartz exposed was about one foot with some additional stringers. The quartz is fine grained contains pyrite in amount less than 3%, and has some sericitic slips. The porphyry and lava wall rock contain a few quartz stringers and a little pyrite mineralization. Mitchell stated that some 6 samples taken by himself and Mr. H. Monette (of Pickle Crow Mines) gave assay returns ranging from a third to a half ounces gold per ton.

In the writers opinion the showing is neither rich enough or large enough to constitute ore. Notwithstanding this it is important in showing that gold deposition has occurred in this vicinity and in raising the suggestion that prospecting in the vicinity is in order. The trenches in the vicinity, put down by previous operators, give the impression that as much surface work as the depth of muskeg will permit has been done and that future work would have to take the form of diamond drilling. The writer does not know of drilling having been done by the previous operators. Mr. Hattie told the writer that Dr. J.B. Mawdsley had looked after much of the work on the north side of Kawinogans River and probably the Picador ground.

Norpick Gold Mines Ltd.

This property includes the former Metcalfe Showing, described by Hurst, and this showing (M.E. Hurst, "Pickle Lake - Crow River Area" Ontario Department of Mines, Volume 38, Pt. 2, 1930, pp 26-7) appears to have been the main reason for taking up the ground again. The writer spent part of August 7, 1946 in a very brief examination and is grateful to Mr. C.S. Johnston, consulting engineer, for information.

office, Kenora) showing much of the diamond drilling done up to that time. Access to the property is by an old lumber road leading across the Kawinegar's River at the dam north of Central Patricia Mine, and past the east side of the airport to an old stable on the east side of a small lake in the north part of Connell Twp. (see drawing P-7) from there a trail leads to the Norpick camps on claim Pa 6480. The camps are some 7 or 8 miles from the mine and most of this distance is not suitable for wheeled traffic. Log buildings for camps had been erected in early 1946. Work done in 1946 included diamond drilling (started in February), surface prospecting, trenching, and sampling. Five showings were being investigated but most of the work had been done on the old Metcalfe one on claim Pa 6477. The showing is made up of narrow gold bearing quartz veins; 32 diamond drill holes, at 25 foot intervals, had been put down along a length of 800 feet. Apparently the drilling showed that the grade and size of the deposit at the depth of the intersections did not change materially from where exposed at surface.

The Norpick property appears to be good prospecting ground except that overburden is extensive and heavy. At the time of the writers visit plans had been made for extensive drilling and prospecting in the future.

Patricia Participators Syndicate

Mr. E. Wilson, of Central Patricia, told the writer that this Syndicate owned five claims partly in the northwest corner of McCullagh Township and partly adjoining to the north. The numbers of the claims were given as Pa 6465, 4 and 5, and Pa 7378 and 9.

Mr. Wilson said that a gold bearing shear had been found at the line of McCullagh Township; he asked that this information be kept confidential.

In conversation with Mr. E. Wilson, of Central Patricia, the writer was told that Mr. Harold Taylor, former manager of Gateway Hill Mines, had purchased about 1936, a claim just north of Pa 3494 (at the northwest corner of the Gateway Group) and had done a considerable amount of drilling on it but without success. A shear zone was said to occur on the claim.

Kapkichi Lake Occurrence

Kapkichi Lake lies some 3 miles northwest of the southwest corner of Ponsford Township. The writer, who has not visited the property is grateful to Mr. R.E. Barrett, manager of Central Patricia Mines, for information as given below;- Mr. Gunnar Berg had made a gold discovery in 1928 on the south side of Pakkichi Lake but considered it too small to be of economic importance. When the current gold boom started he got in touch with Connell interests (in close association with Central Patricia Mines); as a result claims Pa 7780 to 7795 were staked. The showing consisted of two small gold bearing quartz veins, with ladder-like veinlets between. The veins have a northeasterly strike; the south vein has a southeasterly dip. They are exposed on claims Pa 7788 or 9 close to the south shore of Kapkichi Lake. Some 1400 feet of diamond drilling had been done under the direction of Central Patricia Mines. The drilling showed widespread chalcopryite (up to about 2% copper but for the most part much less than one); one gold assay was 0.45 oz. per ton but for the most part the assays gave traces. Apparently the showing had not given very encouraging results from the first testing: a decision on what future work was to be done had not been reached. Quite a number of claims have been staked in the vicinity but the holders are waiting to see the results of the drilling on the original showing before undertaking work.

The greenstone belt in the Pickle Crow Area has been outlined on the Ontario Dept. of Mines map by Dr. Hurst, supplemented to the northwest by that of Dr. Evans. Future work presumably should take the form of adding information to J.E. Thomson's map (scale one inch = 1000 feet) and extending the area covered by this large scale mapping. The development of theories of ore deposition is needed to serve as a guide for prospecting in an area much of the surface of which had been gone over so thoroughly that the chances of new discoveries by mere surface work, are not good. Mr. Hattie and Mr. Barrett spoke of the idea of regional faults controlling ore deposition and apparently had tentatively in mind three - one with northeasterly trend near Pickle Crow Mines, one near Central Patricia Mines and one on the north side of Kawinogans River extending through Kapkichi Lake, Hook Lake and the small lake on the west part of Connell Township. The evidence for the existence of these faults is as yet unconvincing. At the time of the writer's visit the hypothesis that there was an ore bearing "break" on the north side of Kawinogans river was regarded favourably by the residents of the area; Bed rock is so heavily overburdened that prospecting or geological work is very difficult in that part of the area. It is interesting to note that gold production from the Pickle Crow Area is only slightly smaller than from the Red Lake Area. Prospecting activity during the current boom has been very much less in the Pickle Crow Area than at Red Lake. Possibly one reason for this is that a large part of the Pickle Crow Area is firmly held by the two strong companies there.

Mr. Barrett and Mr. Hattie wished to have more detailed geological work done in the area. It was stressed that the time for the work was now --- before it was too late to be of use in exploration. They stated their willingness to co-operate as far as possible.

In the writers' opinion more work in the area is well worth consideration by the Dept. of Mines. Such work would include bringing J.E. Thomson's map up to date, enlarging the area covered by this detailed mapping, and the development of theories of ore deposition that would be of use in prospecting the area.

"Robert Thomson"

Cobalt
June 18, 1948.



52009SE0141 52009SE0036A1 TARP LAKE

900

October 13, 1946

Mr. H.C. Rickaby,
Deputy Minister of Mines,
Parliament Bldgs.,
Toronto 2, Ont.

Dear Mr. Rickaby:

In answer to your letter of October 7, received on my return from a trip to Red Lake, I intend to turn in a somewhat lengthy report on my visit to Pickle Crow Area. I discussed matters with Messrs. Barrett and Hattie.

In regard to present conditions the current boom in exploration, now on the wane, has had little effect on the prospecting activities of the two large companies, the Central Patricia and the Pickle Crow Gold Mines. They hold large blocks of ground on which there is no need to hurry work and most of the men available are engaged in developing known structures and on production. To the writer the most encouraging feature in recent years has been the development of the No. 2 Vein at Pickle Crow Gold Mines; further in the original group of this company plus the later acquired groups, Cohen-McArthur, Winoga and Albany River it seems likely that gold can be mined for many years to come. The writer is not so familiar with Central Patricia and would rely on Mr. Barrett's word that the mine is in a favourable position.

The writer knows of nothing of great interest turned up by other exploration companies recently but work done was not very extensive, certainly not in comparison with other areas as for example Red Lake. Properties on which some work has been done recently include the Crowshore, the Waltricia (formerly the Metcalfe Group). A summary of work done follows:-

Crowshore: On this property, on the east side of Albany River Mines, a shaft, with objective of 1000 feet depth, has been started. At the time of the writers' visit no maps or plans were available and so no appraisal was possible. The method of development is unusual as the drill holes on which the shaft sinking is based are comparatively shallow. It did not appear to the writer that the nature of the ore bodies hoped for had been worked out and so the results to be obtained from underground work are conjectural.

Waltricia: A magnetic survey followed by diamond drilling this year did not give satisfactory results.

1" = 40 CHAINS

TAPP

WILKIE

Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
6487	6488	6493	6494	6495	6496		
Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
6489	6490	6491	6492				

Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
964	973	974	975
Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
966	979	980	981

Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
1441	1440	1439	
Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
1432	1431	1430	
Pa	Pa	Pa	Pa
7378	7379	6465	
6463	6464		

5M 4M Base Line 3M By G.F. Summers 21 DLS. 1937 1M 2M 3M

CONNELL

MITCHELL
SHOWING

MCCULLI

PATRICIA PROSPECTORS

1" = 40 CHAINS

Ponsford

Tarp

M-5089

PONSFORD TWP.

GATEWAY GOLD
MINES

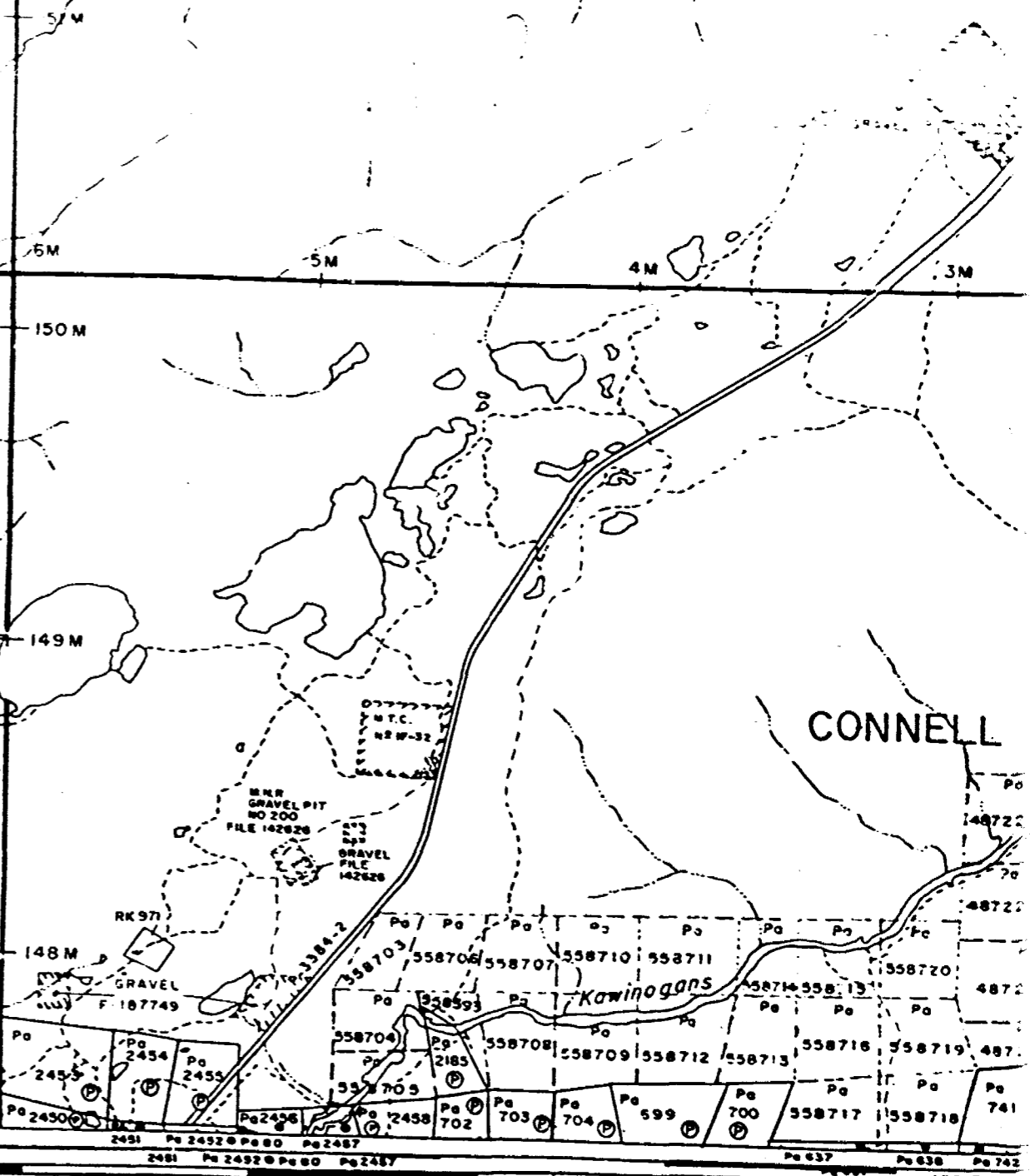
CONNELL

Po
285587
Po
285586
CLM
215
Po
285585
Po
270716

Kawinag



RAPIDS



2481 Po 2452 Po 60 Po 2457
2481 Po 2452 Po 60 Po 2457
Po 637 Po 638 Po 742

