DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
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DMA Docket No. DMEA-3231

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Exploration Assistance

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lcy to USBM, USGS, DOCKET, REGION

Routing Slip

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CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

FILE COPY
Surname:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

MAY 25 1954

Mr. A. Ward
Route 4
C/o Bob Brendle
Franklin, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
Charlie Grindstaff (Harris)
Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ward:

Reference is made to your letter of May 18, 1954, expressing surprise that the application was not in your name; the requested assistance was denied, and requesting new application forms.

The name of the applicant, in this case, was A. Ward, John Phillips, both of Spruce Pine, North Carolina, and Hayden Keller of Pineola, North Carolina, (a partnership). Inasmuch as the application form was signed by John Phillips, all correspondence was directed to Mr. John Phillips, et al., Spruce Pine, North Carolina.

The denial of the application for exploration assistance was based upon information relating to the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mica. This decision was reached with full cognizance of your ability and mining experience. Reconsideration of the present application or a new application without supporting it with additional factual information would only lead to re-denial.

The necessary application forms are enclosed should you desire to re-apply.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf (for)

Administrator

Enclosures 5
LGHouk:gad 5/24/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg. Mr. Houk

R.C.G.

MOUNTAIN MINERALS

SPRUCE PINE, N. C.

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 20 1954

May 18, 1954

United States Department of Interior,
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
Charlie Grindstaff (Harris) Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Att: C. O. Mittenforf, Administrator

Dear Mr. Mittendorf:

Your letter of May 7th, addressed to Mr. John Phillips came as a surprise in two ways. First, that the application had been made in his name and not the writer's. Second, that the loan was turned down because the Grindstaff Mine is known to be one of the better prospect in that area that really deserves consideration for developement. If you will consult with your field man, Mr. Teague, I feel sure he will inform you that it is one of the better prospects in that area. Aslo, the quality of the mica stands right at the top.

Because of the above facts and also because I have had thirty five years of mining experience, I will appreciate further consideration of my application for a loan on the Grindstaff Mine but I will want it in my name as I personally have the lease on the property and expect to do the mining. Also, I would like to call your attention to the fact that lasgt year I sold the U. S. Mica Purchasing Depot between thirty and forty thousand dollars worth of mica which I feel should be given consideration.

Since the application was not made in my name, I am sure it will be necessary for me to make a new application. If that is true, I will appreciate your forwarding me the proper blanks.

I will be glad to furnish you or your field man any further information you may feel necessary.

Your reconsideration of my application for a loan will be highly appreciated as out of my long mining experience, I feel this mine propsect stands high above the average prospect. Also, I am sure the government will not stand to lose money in this case.

Very truly yours,

A. Ward

P. S. Please mail your reply to Route 4, % Bob Brendle, Franklin, N. C.

File Copy
Surname:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

MAY 7 - 1954

Mr. John Phillips, et al.

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
Charlie Grindstaff (Harris) Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other reports available to us in Washington relating to the subject property have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense program.

Careful study of all our information indicates to us that the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mica by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf (for)

Administrator

IGHouk:gad 4/16/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

R.C.G.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

April 16, 1954

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and summary report.

1. DMEA Docket No. 3231 - Mica
   Property: Charlie Grindstaff (Harris) Mine
   Macon County, North Carolina

   Applicants: A Ward, John Phillips and Hayden Keller
   c/o John Phillips
   Spruce Pine, North Carolina

2. Application, Form MF-103, dated January 8, 1954

   Applicants' proposal:
   55 ft. shaft and 80 ft. drift $5,550.00

   Field Team's proposal:
   100 ft. shaft and 150 ft. drift $10,475.00

3. Comments on field team's proposal:

   Bureau of Mines - recommends contract for $10,475.00.
   Geological Survey - denial seems in order.
   DMEA - denial.

   According to 1945 USGS Report:

   Two parallel crosscutting zoned pegmatites 10' to 15' thick. Northeast pegmatite belt of workings 280' long a 70-foot main shaft at eastern end, a 22-foot shaft 60' West of main shaft and six shallow pits and cuts. Southwestern pegmatite prospected by 13 cuts. There is no record of 1922 production. The owner states it was outstanding.

   The attached pencil sketches show schematically the location of the proposed work and the possible location of the old workings.

Geological Premise: Is based on report by former operator as little factual data can be obtained from examination of the property. In this Northeast pegmatite to be explored, mica was most abundant in the vicinity of an abandoned shaft as shown on the attached sketch, sketch mining having taken place for a distance of about 40 feet and depth of 70 feet. The proposed exploration includes sinking a 100 foot shaft directed toward the downward extension of the mined out shoot. From best information we have this will leave a 10 foot pillar between the shaft and old workings, and open up a possible mica shoot about 40 feet long by 45 feet in depth. Minimum cost of this exploration will be $6,750, shaft alone amounting to $5,000.

Geological criteria on which work is based by field team:

1. Formerly mined stope extends to depth.
2. Well zoned mica rich pegmatite.
3. Pegmatite mined intensively in 1922.
4. Mica in dump is of excellent quality, ruling principal defect.

Study of supplemental data submitted by field team:

1. Surface work removed pegmatite.
2. Mica most abundant in vicinity of 70' shaft - shoot 40' long.
3. Dump material similar to other producing mines in area.
4. Dump material suggests the pegmatite is large.
5. Other mines in area worked in excess of 100 feet.
6. Dump indicates pegmatite is zones.
7. Bulldozing unless extensive not recommended.

Past production:

Bureau of Mines has no record of production at the Charlie Grindstaff (Harris) Mine. Applicant says last operator was Asheville Mica Company in 1916, who produced substantial amounts of high grade mica and stopped when hard rock was contacted. USGS says mine was operated intensively in 1922, and was reopened in 1944 by two separate operators. Only a small amount of mica was obtained during these two operations.

Recommendations:

During 1944, when mica was in great demand, attempts at production failed. The expenditure of $10,475 for exploring and old mine is not believed justified. The

this?

Nonmetallic Minerals Division recommends denial.

The proposed work has as its main objective the gaining of access to the downward projection or mica-bearing pegmatite previously mined. The stope is reported to have a strike length of 40' and a depth of 70'. There is no information as to the location of a 70' shaft with respect to the stope. It appears that there would be a 10' vertical pillar between the new shaft and the southeast wall of the stope. A 100-foot inclined shaft would explore a block 45' x 40' x 12' or 1,700 tons of pegmatite at a cost of $6,750. The additional 100 feet of work is directed toward drifting or crosscutting for blind mica shoots on this and the parallel pegmatite.

In answer to our suggestion relating to a preliminary bulldozing program to find surface indications, the field team stated:

> "Previous surface workings have, in all likelihood, removed most of the surface mica as well as pegmatite, thus future work will have to be at greater depth."

They further state that bulldozer trenching, unless quite extensive would add little information.

File Copy
Surname:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

APR 1 3 1954

Mr. A. Ward

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
Charlie Grimdstaff (Harris) Mine
Mason County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ward:

Reference is made to the telephone request of Mr. Warren Pritchard, Attorney, of April 16, 1954, on the subject application.

This is to inform you that the decision with regard to your possible contract has been delayed. However, you may expect a definite answer sometime after the first of May.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

LGHouk:gad 4/16/54

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

C.C.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
ROOM 13, POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

March 30, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, D M E A - Washington

From: Field Team, D M E A - Region VII

Subject: DMEA-3231 (mica), A. Ward, John Phillips and Hayden Keller. Charlie Grindstaff (Harris)Mine Macon County, N. C.

Reference is made to your letter of March 18, 1954 regarding the subject mine.

The proposed program of exploration as given in the examination report is based on the following:

1. Previous surface workings have, in all likelihood, removed most of the surface mica as well as pegmatite, thus future work will have to be at greater depth.

2. The northeast pegmatite, on which exploration was recommended, has been worked to a reported depth of 70 feet. Mr. Grindstaff, who worked the mine to this depth, reports that mica was most abundant in the vicinity of the shaft. The length of this enriched zone is not known, but from the distribution of the workings it appears that the "shoot" may be about 40 feet long.

3. The reported reason for abandoning the mine about 1923 was the inability to handle the flow of water present. This is reasonable as the 70-foot shaft collar is only about 20 feet above branch level. Modern pumps should be able to cope with the water problem without difficulty.

As mentioned in the examination report and in the Operating Committee's letter of March 18, little factual data can be obtained from examination of the property. All of the dump material is pegmatite, being composed of fragments of milky quartz more than a foot in diameter, plagioclase feldspar, and good quality ruby-colored muscovite. This material is very similar to dump material found at the Chalk Hill, Iotal-Bowers, Moody, and Allman Cove mines - all of which are or have been substantial producers and are located within two miles of the Grindstaff (Harris)Mine.

Copies sent to USGS and BM on 4/5/54

Certainly the dump material suggests that this pegmatite is large enough and contains a mineral assemblage from which sheet mica can be obtained.

Of course another question which arises is the possibility of the pegmatite extending to depth. Answer to this is drawn from experience gained from nearby pegmatites. So far as the Field Team knows, none has been bottomed. The Iotla-Bowers mine has been worked on the dip to a depth in excess of 250 feet and all of the others have produced mica below the 100 foot level. Therefore, there is an excellent possibility that the pegmatite and mica producing zone extends below the depth of the proposed shaft.

Strike lines and widths?

The Field Team believes that the program as recommended in the examination report is the best one for this deposit. Bulldozer trenching, unless quite extensive, would add little information. At present we know that the pegmatite trends northwest, dips steeply southwest, and may be as much as 15 feet thick. The dump shows that the pegmatite is zoned and experience with nearby deposits indicate that there are adequate reasons to believe the pegmatite will extend to the depth of the proposed shaft.

We realize that the cost of the proposed program is higher than most on mica exploration. It is entirely possible that all of the proposed level work (150 feet) will not be required. Certainly if the limits of the "shoot" have been established before the footage is expended, no further footage will be used.

The Field Team is still of the opinion that this deposit is one of the better bets for successful exploration. We recommend that exploration aid be given on the deposit as outlined in the examination report.

Robert A. Laurence

Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer
DMEA - Region VII

Wm. A. Beck, for V. J. Lynch
U. S. Bureau of Mines

File Copy
Surname:
Houk
Robinson
Weatherday

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
600
MAR 18 1954

Mr. Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region VII
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
A. Ward, John Phillips,
Hayden Keller
Charlie Grindstaff Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to the field team report on the Charlie Grindstaff Mine.

While it is apparent that little factual data are available for inclusion in this field team report, either from historical records or by actual field examination, we wish to have your reasons for the proposed approach to exploring this pegmatite. The statement of an opinion that substantial quantities of strategic mica exist below the old workings is not sufficient to justify the expenditure of $10,475.00. What are the geological reasons for believing a mica shoot may exist in the area being prospected?

Before writing a contract, we must determine from the field team report the geological premise upon which the contract is recommended and apply the DMEA criterion of geological probability of making a significant discovery. Inclusion of remarks on these items in the field team report would greatly facilitate our work here. In light of the meager factual data on this deposit, it is suggested that the field team recommend a new approach to exploring this deposit. Perhaps a preliminary bulldozing program of the surface would indicate a favorable location for the shaft and give more detailed information to justify further work.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (JHB)

Approved:
J. H. Hedges (JHB)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Philip W. Guild (JHB)
Member, Geological Survey

LGHouk:gad 3/17/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

HHR 3-18-54

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

March 11, 1954

Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
A. Ward, John Phillips, Hayden Keller
Charlie Grindstaff Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Memorandum

To: Mr. C. O. Mittendorf

From: Lawrence G. Houk

Subject: Denial

Applicants proposal:
55 ft. shaft and 80 ft. drift $5,550.00

Field Team proposal
100 ft. shaft and 150 ft. drift $10,475.00

Geologic Premise of Field Team:
1. Pegmatite mined intensively 1922.
2. Pegmatite zoned.
3. Core margin zone rich in mica.

Past production:
Not known but 1920-1922 production said to be outstanding by former operator.

Comments on Field Team's proposal:
Bureau of Mines recommends contract for - $10,475.00.
Geological Survey - Denial seems in order.
DMEA - Denial: 1. Reopening old mine.
2. Previous abandonment because of large volume of water.
3. Geologic target obscure.
4. Mica heavily clay stained, ruled and intergrown with biotite.

File Copy
Surname:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

March 11, 1954

Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
A. Ward, John Phillips, Hayden Keller
Charlie Grindstaff Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Memorandum

To: Mr. C. O. Mittendorf

From: Lawrence G. Houk

Subject: Denial

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4. Mica heavily clay stained, ruled and intergrown with biotite.

LGHouk:gad 3/11/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Mr. Houk

HHH 3-18-54

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAR 2 - 1954

March 1, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3231

Applicant: A. Ward, John Phillips, and Hayden Keller

Name and Location of Property: Charlie Grindstaff
Macon County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: February 16, 1954

Date Rec'd by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mats. Branch: February 25, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. A contract for exploration in the amount of $10,475.

Comments:

1. Exploration by sinking 100-foot 2-compartment shaft and drifting 150 feet.

2. Proposed exploration is consistent with good engineering practices.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation for an exploration project in the amount of $10,475.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:
G-MD-CNM

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAR 3 - 1954

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 25, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3231 (MICA)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: A. Ward, John Phillips, and Hayden Keller, c/o A. Ward, Spruce Pine, North Carolina.
Name of property: Charlie Grindstaff (Harris Mine).
Location of property: On NW. side of Jacobs Br., 2.4 miles N. 49 W. of Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina.
Date of field team report: February 8, 1954.
Authorship of field team report: K. H. Teague, D. H. Amos, L. E. Shirley.
Field team's recommendation:

10' x 12' tool house	$150.00
Powder magazine	50.00
Exploder magazine	25.00
100' of 5' x 7' 2-compartment shaft at $50/ft.	5000.00
150' of drift or cross-cut at $35/ft.	$5250.00
Estimated total cost	$10,475.00

Estimated time required: 10 months

Comments:

This application requests exploration assistance on another of these properties which have a previous record for production of strategic mica. The target is hazy and the project calls for an expenditure of $10,000. The reasons for approving this contract might be questioned on the basis of how "exploratory" this work really is. We are not enthusiastic about expenditures for exploration which only amount to reopening old mines with good production histories. If the work is to be done, we will approve the field team's proposal, but a denial seems more in order.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

Denial.

D. A. Brobst

D. A. Brobst

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

1 9 1954

gcl
3/17/54

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

On

DMEA-3231, CHARLIE GRINDSTAFF(Harris)MINE
(mica)
Franklin, Macon County, N. C.

By

Kefton H. Teague, and Dewey H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

and

Lawrence E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

February 16, 1954

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
2-26-54
(date)

Received
FEB 19 1954

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
On
DMEA-3231, CHARLIE GRINDSTAFF (Harris) Mine

Applicants: A. Ward, John Phillips and Hayden Keller, Spruce Pine, N. C.
c/o A. Ward, Spruce Pine, N. C.

Shortly after World War I this mine was a substantial producer of high quality mica. No recent work has been done, nor is pegmatite exposed. Mica in the dump is of excellent quality. Reason given for having abandonment was the large amount of water, which seems reasonable. The examiners are of the opinion that substantial quantities of strategic mica occur below the old workings and that exploration assistance on the deposit is warranted.

The mine was examined on February 8, 1954. Messrs. A. Ward, and Charlie Grindstaff accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The Harris (Charlie Grindstaff mine in application) mine is on the northwest side of Jacobs Branch, 2.4 miles N. 49° W. of Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina. Access is excellent at all times.

All of the applicants are at present engaged in mica mining and appear to be competent to conduct the proposed project.

The applicants hold the property under lease, area of which is adequate for the proposed project.

The following description of the deposit was taken from a manuscript prepared about 1945 by the U. S. Geological Survey.

"The deposit, which is owned by C. S. Grindstaff, was opened by him in 1919 and was intensively worked in 1922. It was reopened by Mr. Grindstaff in March 1944 and operations in the old workings were continued intermittently until November of that year. From late July to late September 1944, Boise Hall, J. P. Hyatt, and F. M. Brendle worked the mine by means of a new 30-foot shaft, from which drifts were run 12 feet to the north and 28 feet to the south. Only a small amount of mica was obtained during these two operations. The belt of workings extends 280 feet in a direction slightly north of west uphill from the level of the creek. The northeastern group of workings consists of the main 70-foot shaft at the eastern end of the group, a 22-foot shaft in country rock 60 feet to the west, and 6 pits and cuts from 80 to 160 feet west of the main shaft. The largest of the cuts is about 20 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 8 feet deep. The southwestern group of workings includes 13 cuts and pits from several of which s short drifts were run. Most of the workings are now inaccessible.

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
2-26-54
(date)

Blocks of unweathered biotite gneiss on the dump show that the pegmatite body cuts across the gneissic foliation. Two parallel pegmatite dikes strike N. 65° W., probably dip 60° SSW., and may be as thick as 10 to 15 feet. According to Mr. Grindstaff a third dike, which trends N. 12° W. and is vertical, was encountered in a drift from the bottom of the main shaft. This dike is said to be 4 to 6 feet thick and to contain quartz core. It was narrow and decomposed in the drift northwest of the shaft and became relatively hard but thickened to the southeast. The two main dikes contain cores of massive quartz flanked by mica-rich core margin zones. The wall zones consist of weathered perthite, plagioclase, granular quartz, abundant biotite, and scattered books of muscovite.

Most of the flat reddish brown mica is clear, but a few books are slightly specked. The mica on the dumps is heavily clay stained and split by weathering. Intense ruling appears to be the chief defect. Although most of the books are free splitting, a few split unevenly due to intergrowths with biotite."

According to Mr. Grindstaff production during the 1920-22 interval was outstanding. Certainly mica now in the dump is of strategic grade (ruby colored). The examiners recommend that exploration assistance be granted. Exploration should consist of sinking a 100-foot shaft at the approximate location shown on the attached sketch, then driving 150 feet of crosscut and/or drifts from it.

Estimated Cost:

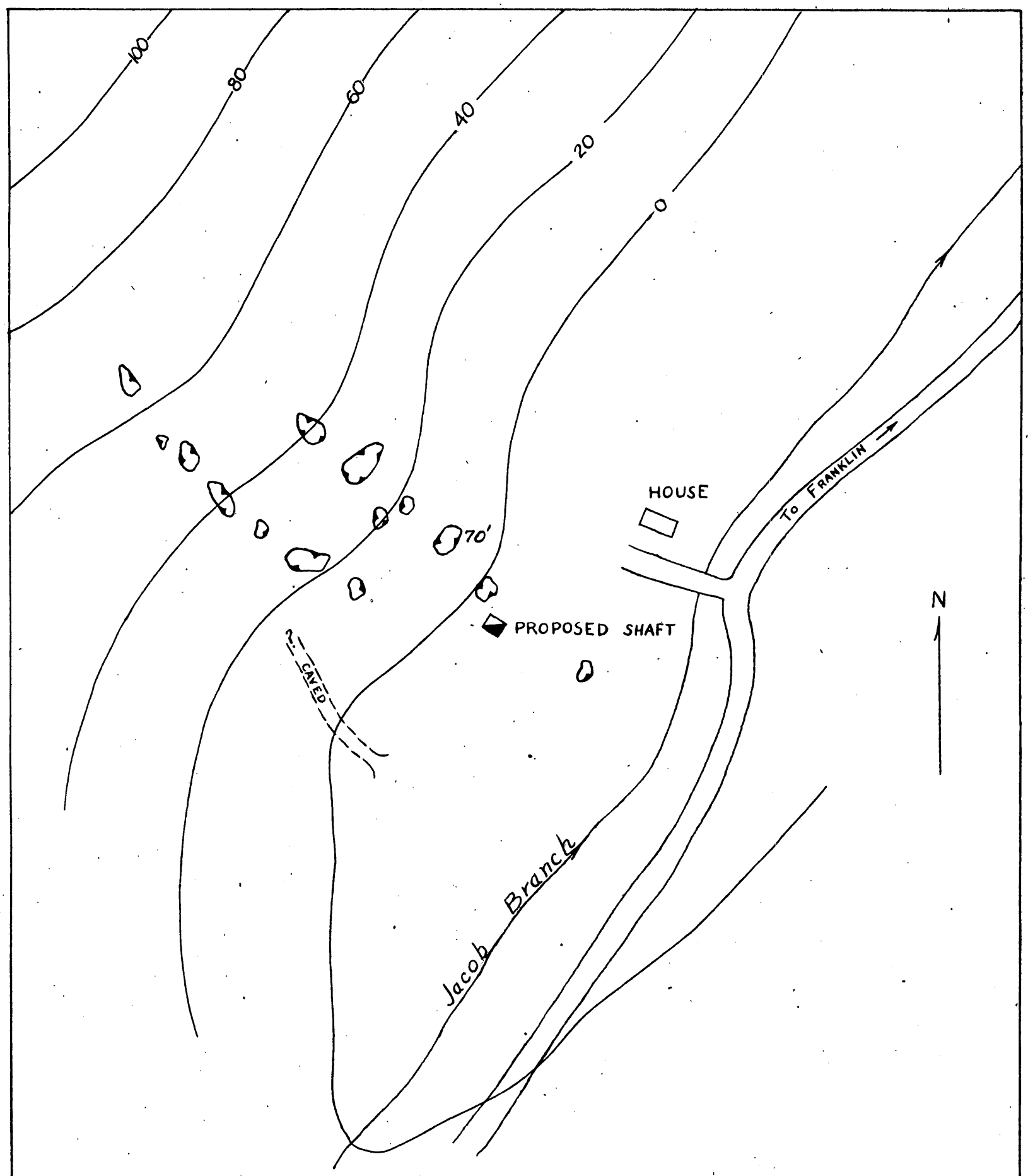
10' x 12' tool house	$150.00
Powder Magazine	50.00
Exploder Magazine	25.00
100-foot 5' x7', 2-compartment shaft @ $50/ft.	5,000.00
150 feet of drift and/or crosscut @$35/ft.	5,250.00
Estimated Total Cost.....	$10,475.00

Estimated time required - 10 months.

February 8, 1954

K. H. Teague and D. H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. G. S.

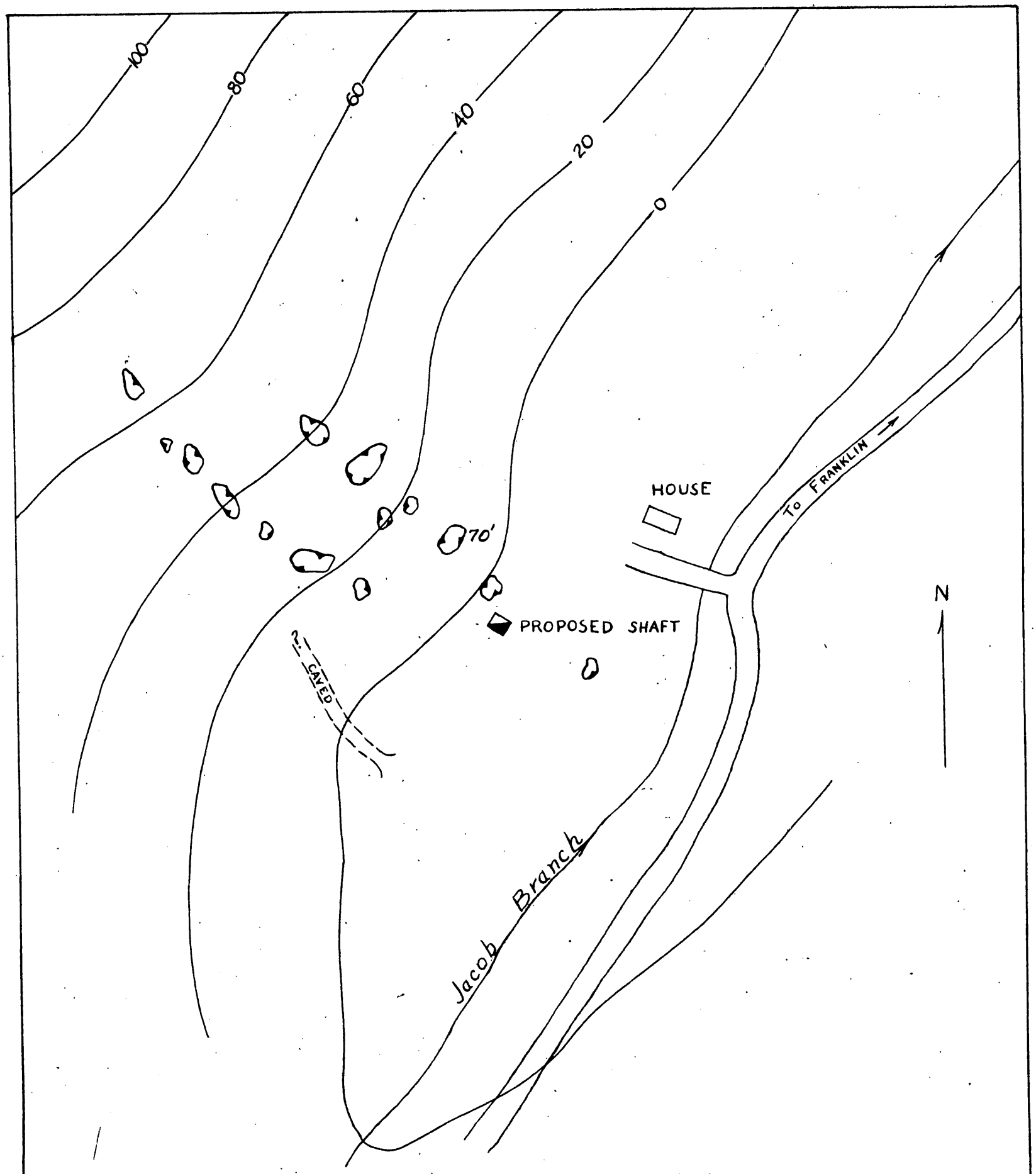
L. E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. B. M.



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C.

0 40' 80'
SCALE

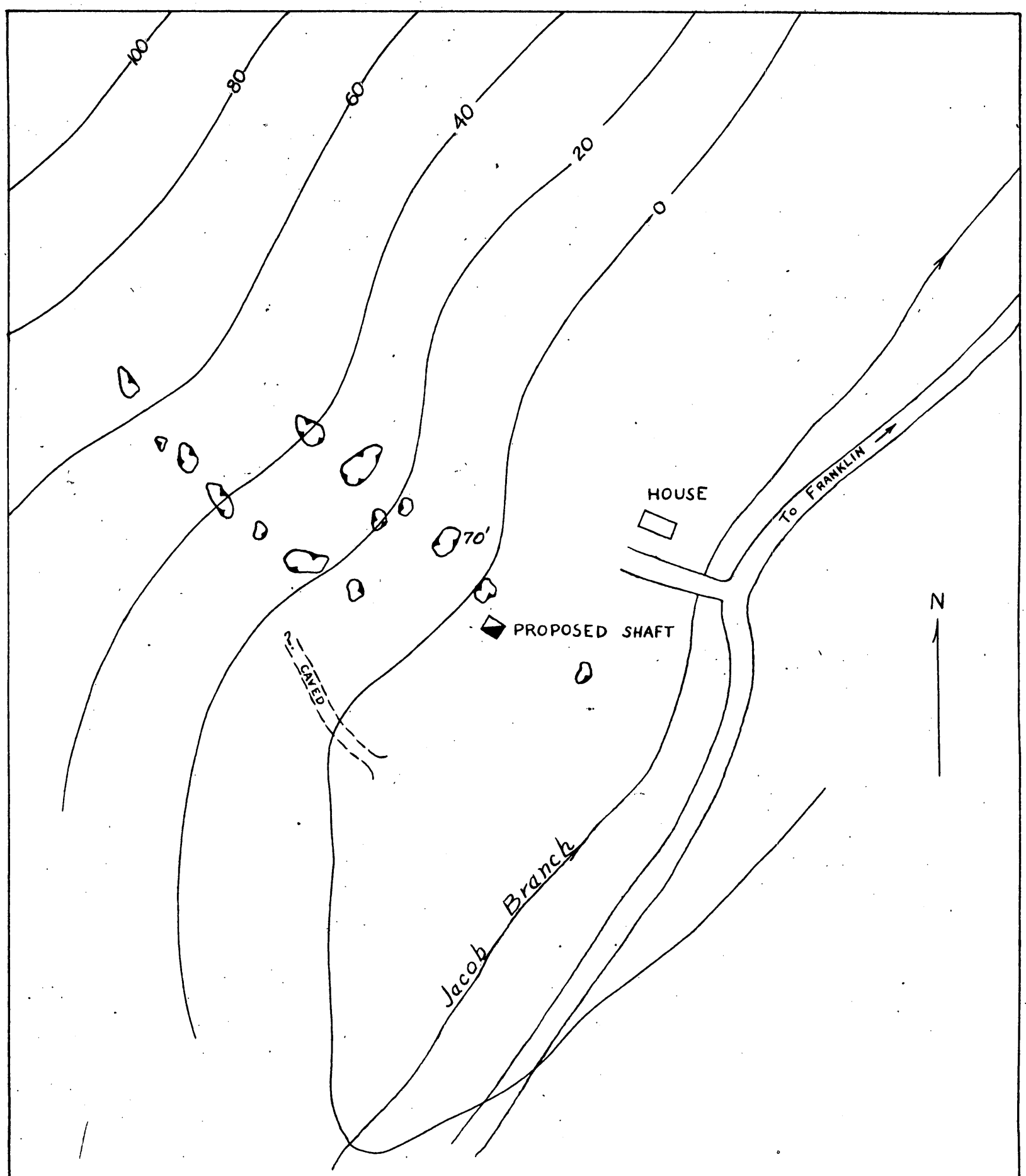
DMEA-3231 (mica)



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C.

0 40' 80'
SCALE

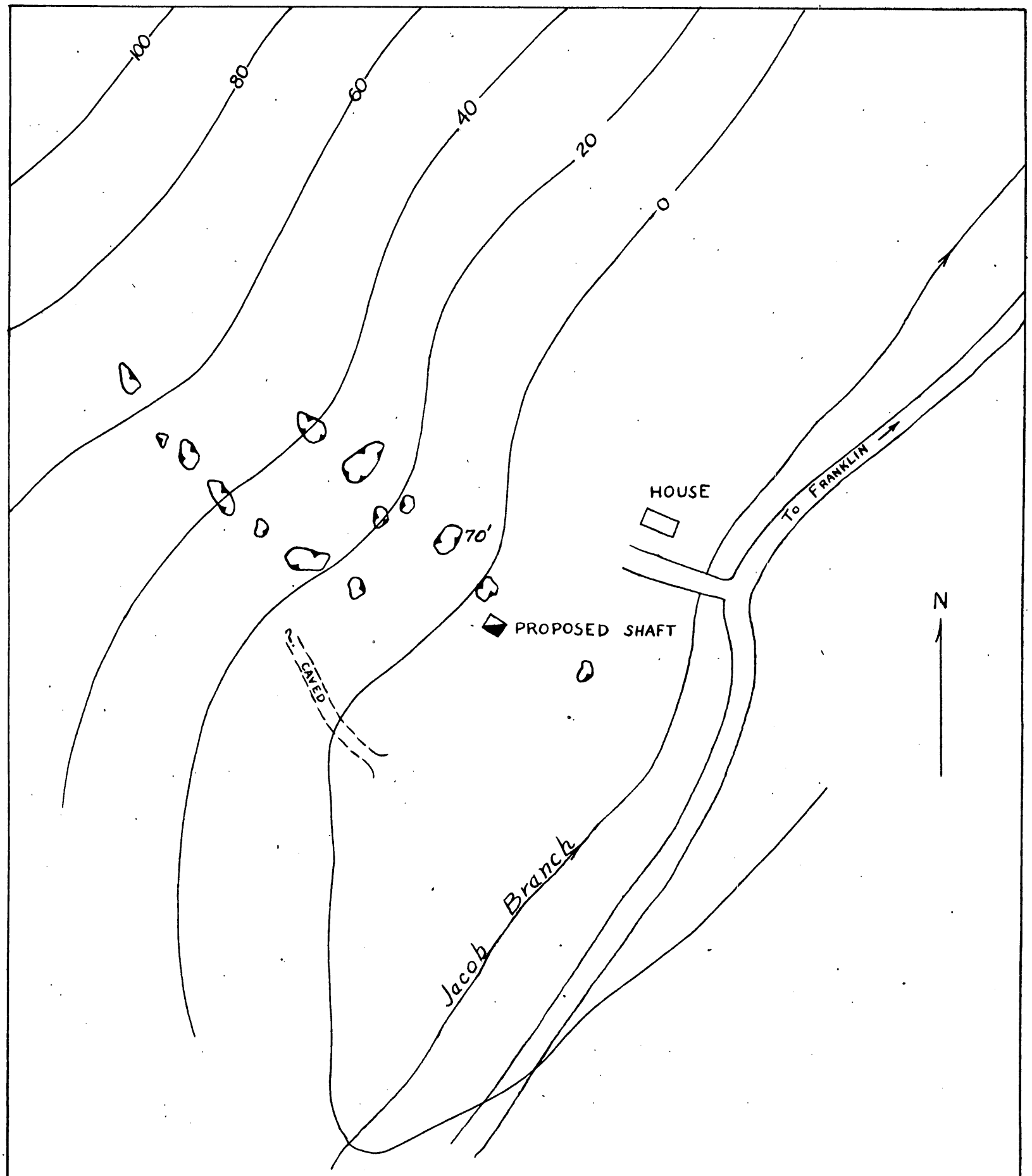
DMEA-3231 (mica)



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C.

0 40' 80'
SCALE

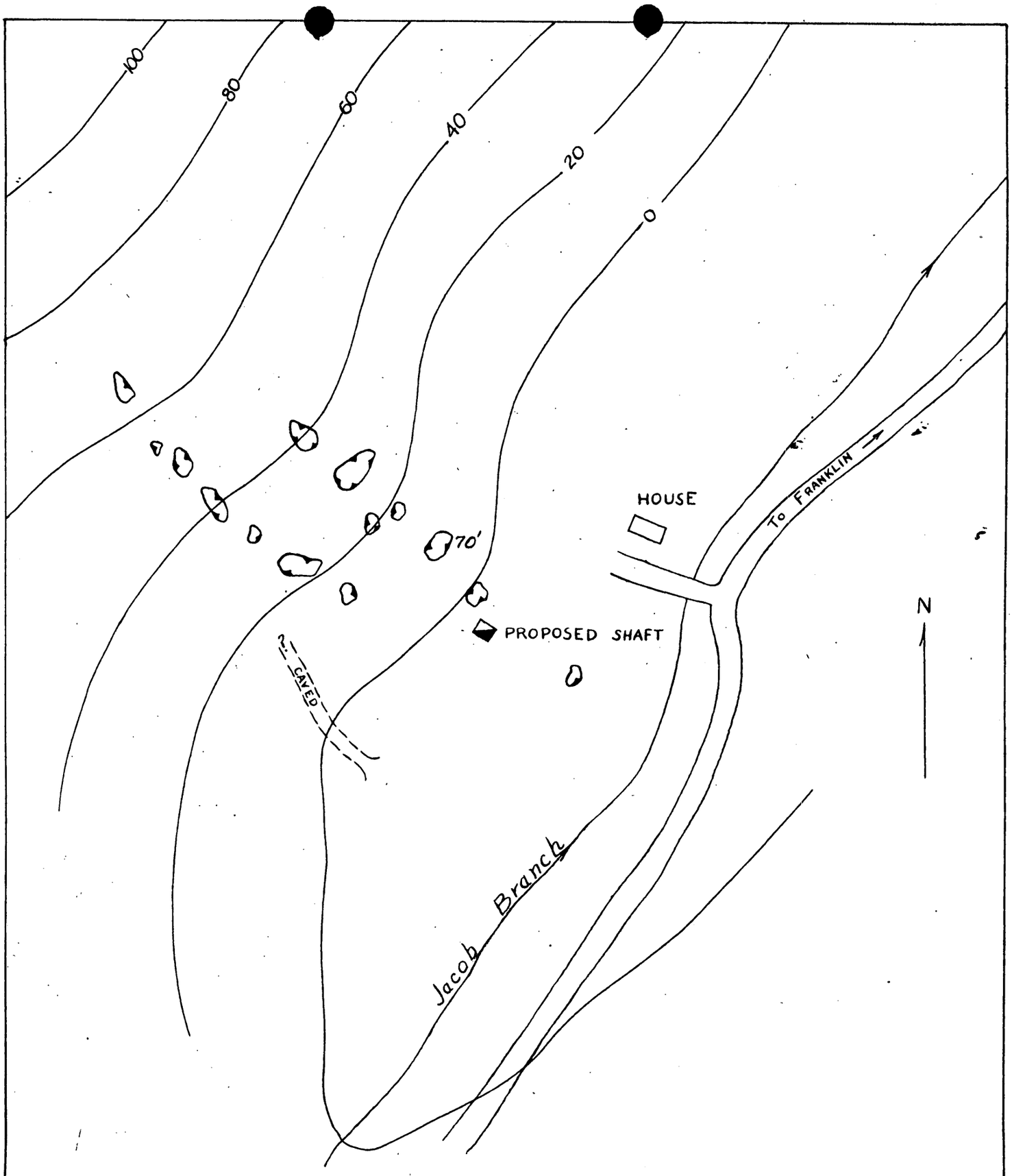
DMEA-3231 (mica)



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C.

0 40' 80'
SCALE

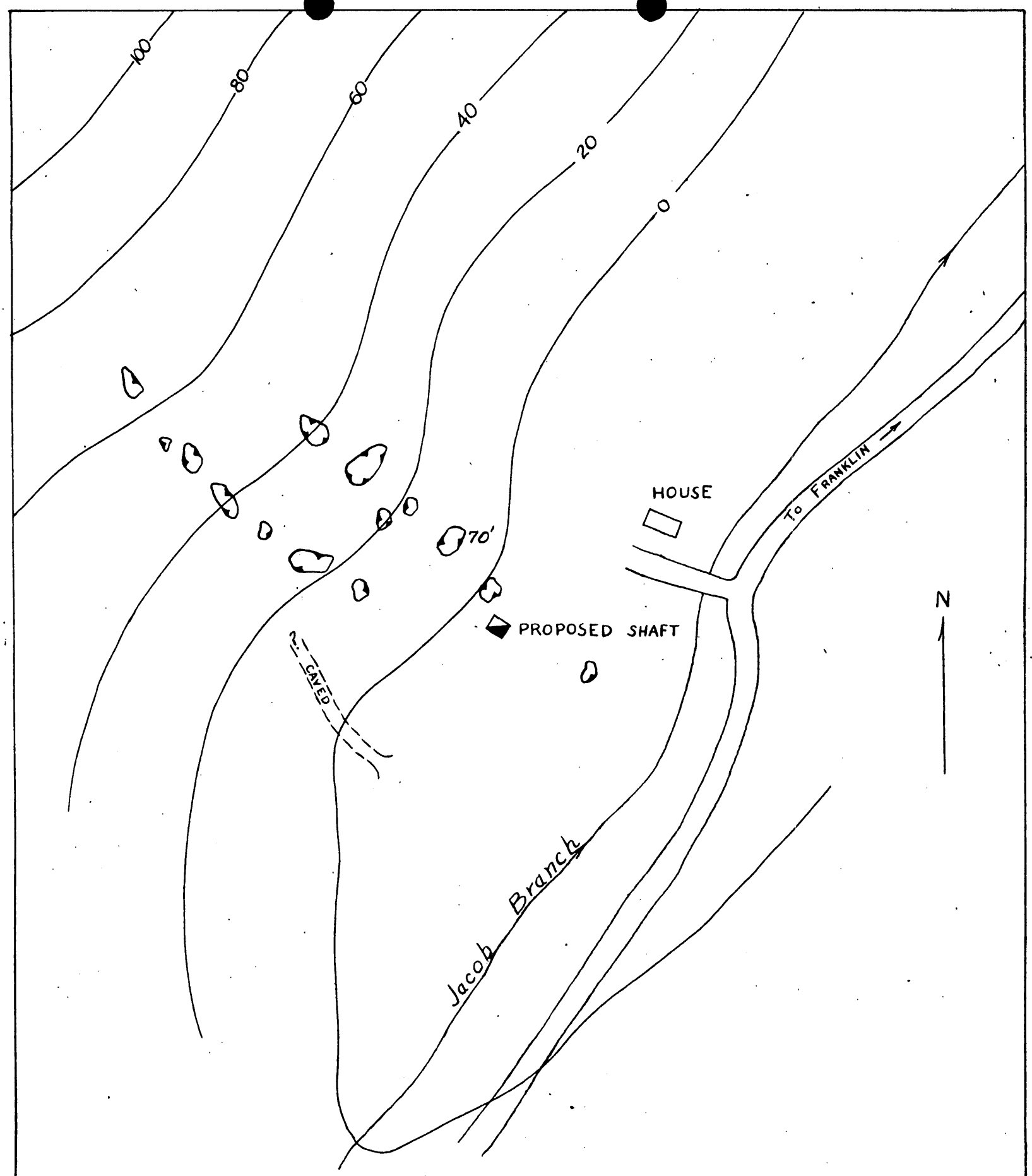
DMEA-3231 (mica)



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C.

0 40' 80'
SCALE

DMEA-3231 (mica)



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C.

0 40' 80'
SCALE

DMEA-3231 (mica)

FILE COPY
Surname:

Houk
Larrabee
Hedges
Selfridge
Johnson

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

FEB 12 1954

Mr. John Phillips, et al.

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
Charlie Grindstaff Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Your application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Nonmetallic Minerals Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville 2, Tennessee, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date if an examination is to be made. Any assistance that you may give the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 2/10/54

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

R.C.G.
2-22-54

FILE COPY
Surname:

Anderson
Houk
Larrabee
Selfridge
Hedges

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

FEB 12 1954

Mr. Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region VII
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3231 - Mica
A. Ward, John Phillips, Hayden Keller
Charlie Grindstaff Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Please review the subject application and arrange for a field examination if you deem it necessary.

Please obtain a written statement from the applicants that the new Government participation rate of 75 percent is acceptable to them.

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey, dated January 15, 1954, and from the Bureau of Mines, dated January 25, 1954, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee (JHB)

Approved:

J. H. Hedges (JHB)
Member, Bureau of Mines

D. M. Larrabee (JHB)
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

WCAnderson:gad 2/10/54
Copy to: Admrl R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

R.C.G. 2-12-54

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 2 3 1954

January 25, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3231

Applicant: A. Ward, John Phillips, and Hayden Keller
Name and Location of Property: Charlie Grindstaff Mine, Macon County, North Carolina
Date of Application: January 11, 1954
Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials Br.: January 12, 1954
Estimated Cost: $5,550.
Comments:

1. No data are available in this office on subject mine.
2. The mine is located in the general area of productive mica mines.
3. Applicant should be advised of the change in Government participation from 90 percent to 75 percent.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this property when a member of the field team is in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration program is justified.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

Mr. Anderson

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 19 1954

IN REPLY REFER TO: G-MD-CNM

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 15, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3231 (Mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: A. Ward, John Phillips, Spruce Pine, North Carolina; Hayden Keller, Pineola, North Carolina.
Name of property: Charlie Grindstaff.
Location of property: 5 miles northwest of Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina.
Summary of applicant's proposal: 55' of 5'x7' shaft ($2750); then 80' of 5'x7' drift "in the most promising pegmatite that is discovered by the shaft" ($2800).
Sources of information on applicant's property: No information is available.
Comments:

1. The map is inadequate to judge the possibilities of finding mica of strategic grade. More information is definitely needed.
2. The applicants are willing to furnish 10% of the cost ($5550) in money.

RECOMMENDATION:

Return the application for more information and an adequate map, showing exposed pegmatite, etc. Learn especially whether the applicants are still interested in the project if they have to contribute 25% of the cost.

D. A. Brobst

D. A. Brobst

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Anderson
Mattendorf

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

600

JAN 15 1954

Mr. John Phillips, et al.
Spruce Pine
North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEa-3231 - Mica
Charlie Grindstaff Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Reference is made to your application for exploration assistance for mica.

On November 3, 1953, Amendment No. 3 to DMEa Order-1 became effective and limited Government participation in the case of mica to 75 percent of the approved costs. Inasmuch as your application was received after November 3, 1953, please advise this office in writing if you desire to have your application processed under the new Government participation rate. A copy of our release of November 3, 1953, is enclosed for your information.

In the event you wish to have your application processed under the new Government participation rate, it will be necessary for you to return to this office six copies of Owner's Consent to Lien executed and signed by owner's duly appointed guardian. Seven forms are enclosed herewith.

The land description in the lease attached to your application is inadequate. Kindly submit the description of the two tracts as written in the deeds referred to in the lease. It is not enough to merely make reference to pages in the County Book of Deeds.

The processing of your application will be deferred until receipt of all the above-requested information.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 1/13/54

Enclosures 8

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.

Mr. Houk

R.G.H. 1-15-54

MF

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION

REFERENCE SLIP

DATE 1/12/54

REFERRED TO:

1. Code 140
2.
3.
4.

FOR:

- Action
- Approval
- Comment
- Conference
- Consideration
- Filing
- Instructions
- Investigation
- Initials
- Mailing
- Previous correspondence
- Recommendation
- Record of
- Referring to
- Reply for signature of
- Rewriting
- Signature
- Suggestions
- Your information

RECEIVED
JAN 12 1954
GENERAL COUNSEL
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION

REMARKS: Kindly advise re:
1. Owners consent to Lease
2. Lessee is only one of partners
3. Do we need better land description

Check (X) before the items needing attention.

1. Need OCL from Guardian
2. One partner as lessee is o.k.
3. Need better land description.

Per Mr. Austin

Initials of sender.

GPO 16-63516-1

Mr. John Phillips, et al.
Spruce Pine
North Carolina

January 11, 1954
Subject: DMEA-3231
Re: Exploration Assistance
Charlie Grindstaff Mine

Dear Mr. Phillips:

The receipt of your application dated January 8, 1954, for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-3231 and referred to the Nonmetallic Minerals Division.

Kindly refer to DMEA-3231 in any future correspondence relating to your application.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT E. ADAMS

Robert E. Adams
Chief, Operations Control
and Statistics Division

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Form Approved.
Budget Bureau No. 42-R1035.2.

RECEIVED
JAN 11 1954

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT, PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER 1, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. DMEA-3231
Metal or Mineral
Date Received 1-11-54
Estimated Cost
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address: A. Ward, Joh Phillips, both of Spruce Pine, N. C. Hayden Keller of Pineola, N. C.

(*b*) If other than an individual, add to your name above whether a corporation, partnership, etc., and the name of the State in which incorporated or otherwise organized.

(*c*) If a corporation, add to above statement, titles, names and addresses of officers.

(*d*) If a partnership, add to the above statement the names and addresses of all partners.

2. *General.*—Read DMEA Order 1, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects," before completing this application. Submit this application and all accompanying papers in quadruplicate (four copies), with your name and address on each sheet of the application and on all accompanying papers. Where sufficient space is not provided on the form for all required information, state it on an accompanying paper, with a reference in each case to the instruction to which it refers by number. Comply with all applicable instructions; or, if not applicable, so state. File the application with Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest field executive officer thereof.

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract This is lease property (Lease is attached in 3 (d) below.

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. Charlie Grindstaff Mine.

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise Lessee

(*d*) If you are not the owner, submit with this application a copy of the lease, contract, or other document under which you control the property.

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it Not owner

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

4. *Physical description.*—(*a*) Describe in detail any mining or exploration operations which have been or now are being conducted upon the land, including existing mine workings and production facilities. State your interest, if any, in such operations. Also describe accessibility of mine workings for examination purposes.

(*b*) State past and current production, and ore reserves, if any, giving quantities and grades.

(*c*) Describe the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.), and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Send with your application (but not necessarily as a part of it) any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.

5. *The exploration project.*—(*a*) State the mineral or minerals for which you wish to explore .....

.....

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc.

(*c*) The work will start within ..... days and be completed within ..... months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project:

(*a*) *Independent contracts.*—(Note.—If the applicant does not intend to let any of the work to contractors, write "none" after this item. To the extent that the work is to be contracted, do not repeat the cost of the contract-work in subsequent items.) State the cost of any proposed independent contracts for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in terms of units of work (such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, per cubic yard of material moved, etc.).

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel.

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be.

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project.

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project.

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes.

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above.

NOTE.—No items of general overhead, corporate management, interest, taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes), or any other indirect costs, or work performed or costs incurred before the date of the contract, should be included in the estimate of costs.

7. (*a*) Are you prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation (Sec. 7, DMEA No. 1)?

(*b*) How do you propose to furnish your share of the costs?

☐ Money ☐ Use of equipment owned by you ☐ Other

Explain in detail on acompanying paper.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Dated 1-8-54, 195...

John Phillips
(Applicant)

By .....

.....

.....

Title 18, U. S. Code (Crimes), Section 1001, makes it a criminal offense to make a willfully false statement or representation to any department or agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—66551-1

MF 103

1. (a) A. Ward and John Phillips both of Spruce Pine, N. C. and Hayden Keller of Pineola, N. C.

   (b) Partnership.

2. No Answer.

3. (a) This is lease property (Lease is attached in 3 (d) below.)

   (b) Charlie Grindstaff Mine.

   (c) Lessee

   (d) Lease is attached as Exhibit A.

   (e) Not owner.

   (f) Land is held by Landlord. No land patents involved.

4. (a) Physical works set forth on map attached as Exhibit B.

   (b) This mine has in the past produced substantial quantities of high grade Ruby Muscovite Mica.

   (c) The last operator was Asheville Mica Company in the year of 1916. The Mine was worked by hand and drilling was done by hand and when hard rock was contacted work was soon terminated.

   (d) This mine is located 5 miles North West of Franklin, N. C.

   (e) There is ample experience Manpower available. Electricty is within 50 feet of proposed shaft.

5. (a) It is anticipated that the pegmatite contains additional quantities of ruby mica of stockpile grade.

   (b) It is proposed to sink a 5 x 7 shaft to a depth of 55 feet deep. Then it is proposed to drift a total distance of 80 feet in the most promiseing pegmatite that is discovered by the shaft.

   (c) The work willbe started as soon as the contract is approved by the Government and the work should be concluded within 6 months.

   (d) The ability of the persons connected with this project is a matter of record with the DMEA.

6. Estimate of Costs.

   (a) Independent Contracts-None.

   (b through h)

(1)	Shafting - 5 x 7 - 55 feet	@$50.00 per ft.	$2750.00
(2)	Drifting - 5 x 7 - 80 feet	@$35.00 per ft.	2800.00
		Total	$5550.00

7. (a) Applicant will pay in money 10% required by regulation.

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT, Made and entered into this 31st day of December, 1953 by and between Lake V. Shope, the duly appointed, qualified and acting guardian of Charles S. Grindstaff of Macon County, North Carolina, hereinafter designated as lessor, and A. Ward of said county and state, hereinafter designated as lessee, party of the second part,

WITNESSETH: That the said lessor, being licensed by a proper proceeding and decree of the Superior Court, does hereby lease unto lessee, his heirs and assigns, the mica and mica mining privileges upon the following described tract of land in Franklin Township, Macon County, North Carolina:

FIRST TRACT:

All the lands described in a deed from Kermit DeHart and wife, Margie DeHart to Charles Smith Grindstaff, said deed bearing date of 2 March, 1946, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina in Book M-5 of Deeds, page 590.

SECOND TRACT:

All the lands described in a deed from Rose Ella Hill and Claude L. Love, Administrators c. t. a. and Trustees of the Estate of B. C. Grindstaff, deceased, and as Commissioners, to Henry W. Cabe, General Guardian of Charles S. Grindstaff, incompetent, said deed bearing date of 21 March, 1944, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina in Book J-5 of Deeds, page 507.

This lease is made upon and subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Lessee agrees to pay lessor a royalty of twelve and one half per cent (12½%) of the gross selling price of all mica recovered from said land, and all royalty payments shall be due and payable within ten days from the date of sale.

2. Lessee agrees to keep a record of all sales which shall be open for inspection of lessor at all times.

3. The duration of this lease shall be three years from the date hereof, but it is understood and agreed that if mining operations upon said property shall prove profitable, that lessee shall have the right to renew this lease for an additional three years at the end of said time.

4. As a part of this lease, lessor gives to lessee the necessary rights of way to build such roads and/or trails upon said property which may be necessary for the installation of machinery or the proper operation of mines thereon.

5. Lessee on his part agrees that within 90 days from the date hereof he will put gravel upon the road leading through the property above described from the State road to the mines, and that he will during the existence of this lease keep said road and the bridge in passable condition. Lessee further agrees that he will so conduct his mining operations as not to damage or impair the value of any of the buildings situated upon the above described property.

6. It is understood and agreed between the parties hereto that lessee will begin mining operations within sixty days from the date hereof, and continue such operations for as long as the same may be profitable. If at any time lessee shall discontinue operations for as long as sixty consecutive days, the lessor, at his option, may declare this lease to be terminated and of no further force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the said Lake V. Shope, guardian of Charles S. Grindstaff, lessor, and A. Ward, lessee, have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

Lake V. Shope (SEAL)

A. Ward (SEAL)

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

I, Kate McGee, Clerk of Superior Court, do hereby certify that personally appeared before me this day Lake V. Shope, Guardian of Charles Smith Grindstaff, incompetent, lessor and A. Ward, lessee, who acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein expressed. Let the same with this certificate be registered, this ~~31st~~ 4th day of ~~December,~~ JANUARY, 1953.

Kate McGee
Clerk Superior Court, Macon County

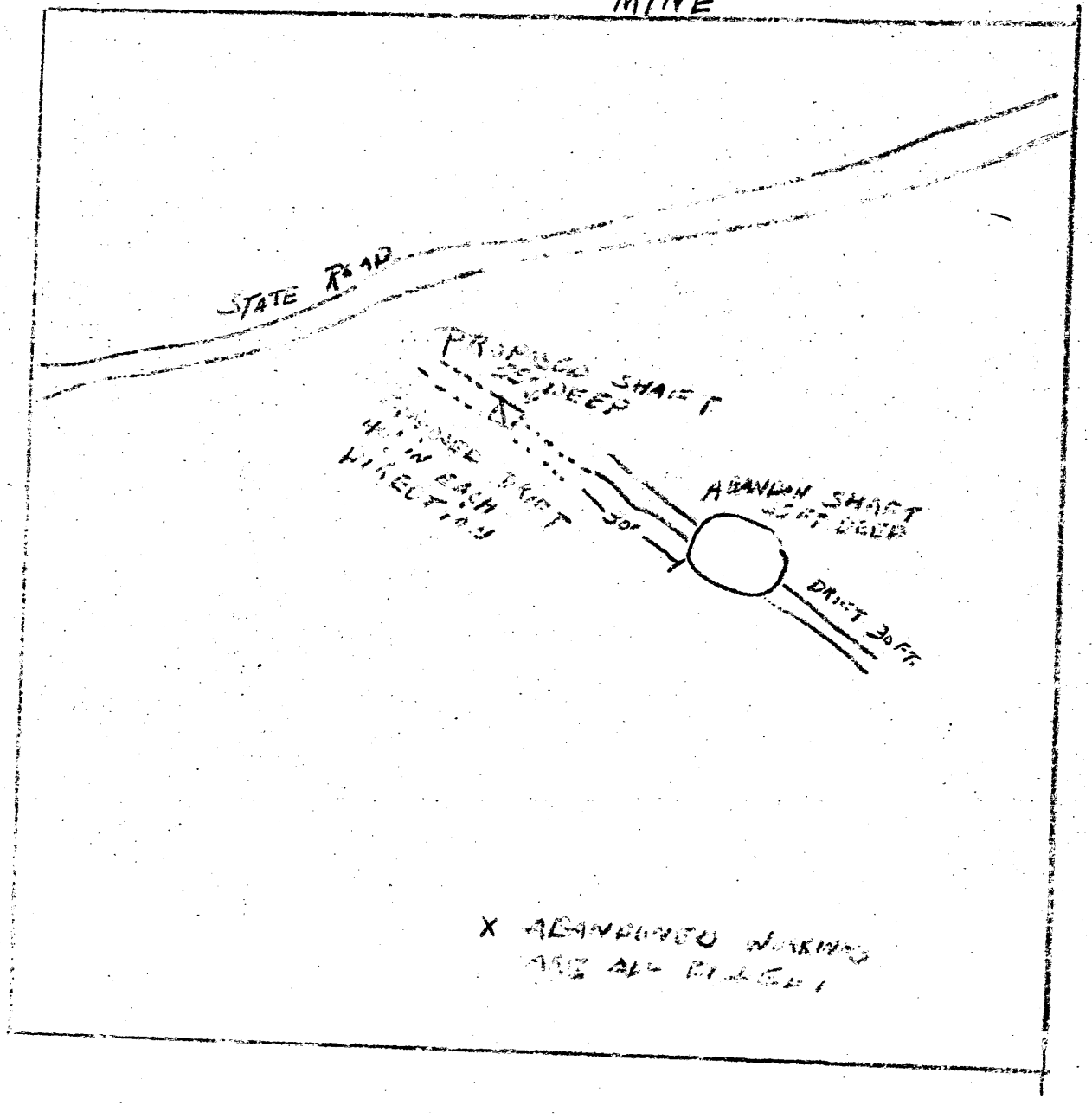
Filed for registration on the 4 day of January 1954, at 8:25 o'clock A.M., and registered and verified in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County in Book No. E-6, Page 8

This 4 day of January 1954.

Lake F. Shoun

Register of Deeds for Macon County

MAP OF CHARLIE GRINDSTAFF MINE



NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

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WITNESSETH: That the said lessor, being licensed by a proper proceeding and decree of the Superior Court, does hereby lease unto lessee, his heirs and assigns the mica and mica mining privileges upon the following described tract of land in Franklin Township, Macon County, North Carolina:

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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOFthe said Lake V. Shope, guardian of Charles S. Grindstaff, lessor, and A. Ward, Lessee, have here unto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

/s/ Lake V. Shope (SEAL)

/s/ A. Ward (SEAL)

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

I, Kate McGee, Clerk of Superior Court, do hereby certify that personally appeared before me this day Lake V. Shope, Guardian of Charles Smith Grindstaff, incompetent, les or and A. Ward, lessee, who acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein expressed. Let the same with this

certificate be registered, this 4th. day of January 1954.

/s/ Kate McGee
Clerk Superior Court, Macon County

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

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3. The duration of this lease shall be three years from the date hereof, but it is understood and agreed that if mining operations upon said property shall

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5. Lessee on his part agrees that within 90 days from the date hereof he will put gravel upon the road leading through the property above described from the State road to the mines, and that he will during the existence of this lease keep said road and the bridge in passable condition. Lessee further agrees that he will so conduct his mining operations as not to damage or impair the value of any of the buildings situated upon the above described property.

6. It is understood and agreed between the parties hereto that lessee will begin mining operations within sixty days from the date hereof, and continue such operations for as long as the same may be profitable. If at any time lessee shall shall discontinue operations for as long as sixty consecutive days, the lessor, at his option, may declare this lease to be terminated and of no further force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the said Lake V. Shope, guardian of Charles S. Grindstaff, lessor, and A. Ward, lessee, have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

s/s Lake V. Shope (SEAL)

/s/ A. Ward (SEAL)

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

I, Kate McGee, Clerk of Superior Court, do hereby certify that personally appeared before me this day Lake V. Shope, Guardian of Charles ~~Grin~~ Smith Grindstaff, incompetent, lessor and A. Ward, lessee, who acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein expressed. Let the same with this

certificate be registered, this 4th. day of January 1954.

/s/ Kate McGee
Clerk Superior Court, Macon County

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

U. S. Bureau of Mines
1012 Flood Building
870 Market Street
San Francisco 2, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
SEP 2
7 PM
1953
RINCON ANNEX

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300
(PMGC)

1

FIRST CLASS

Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Interior Building
Washington 25, D. C.

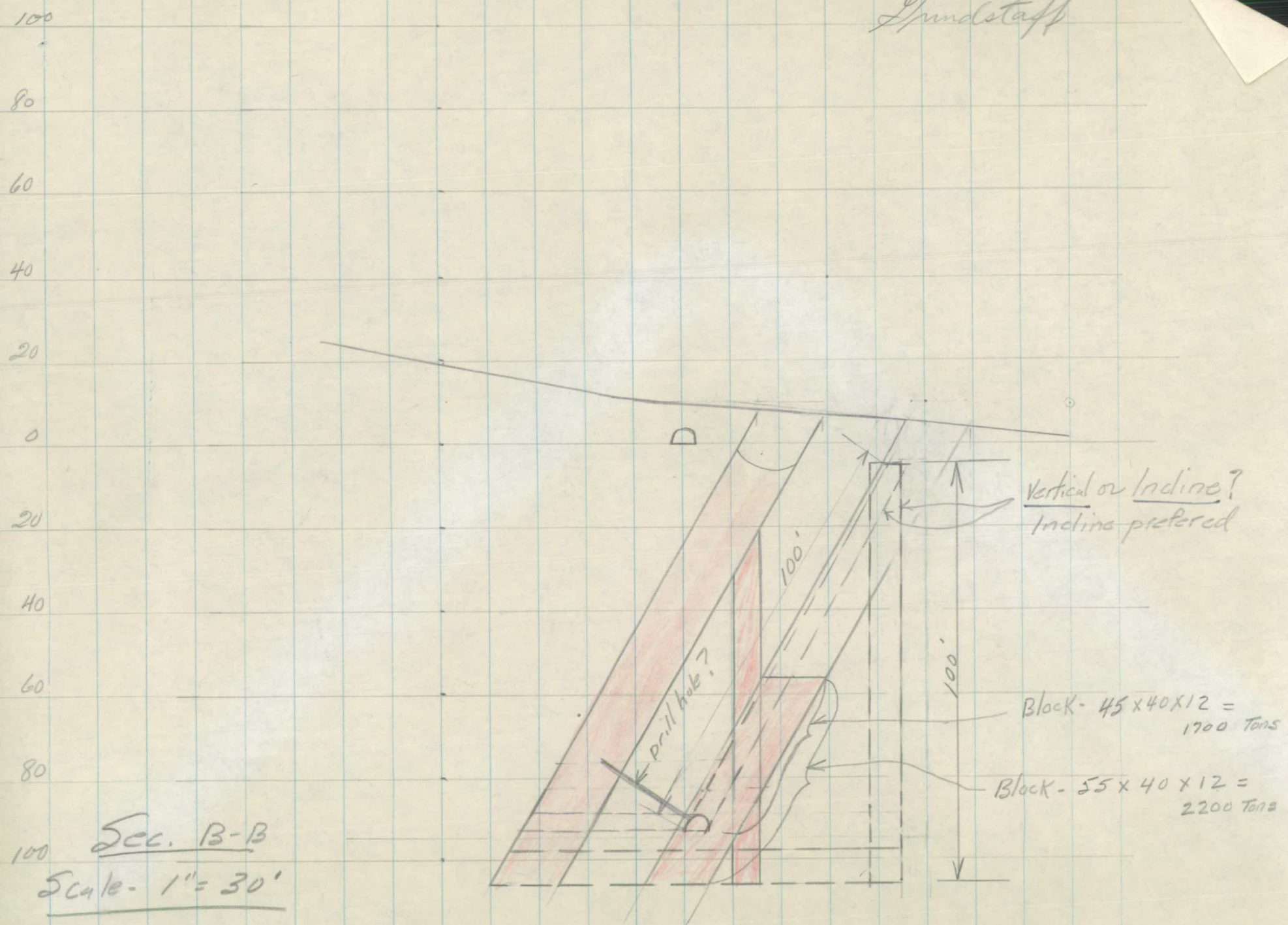
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Interior Building
Washington 25, D. C.

FIRST CLASS

DMEA-
3231

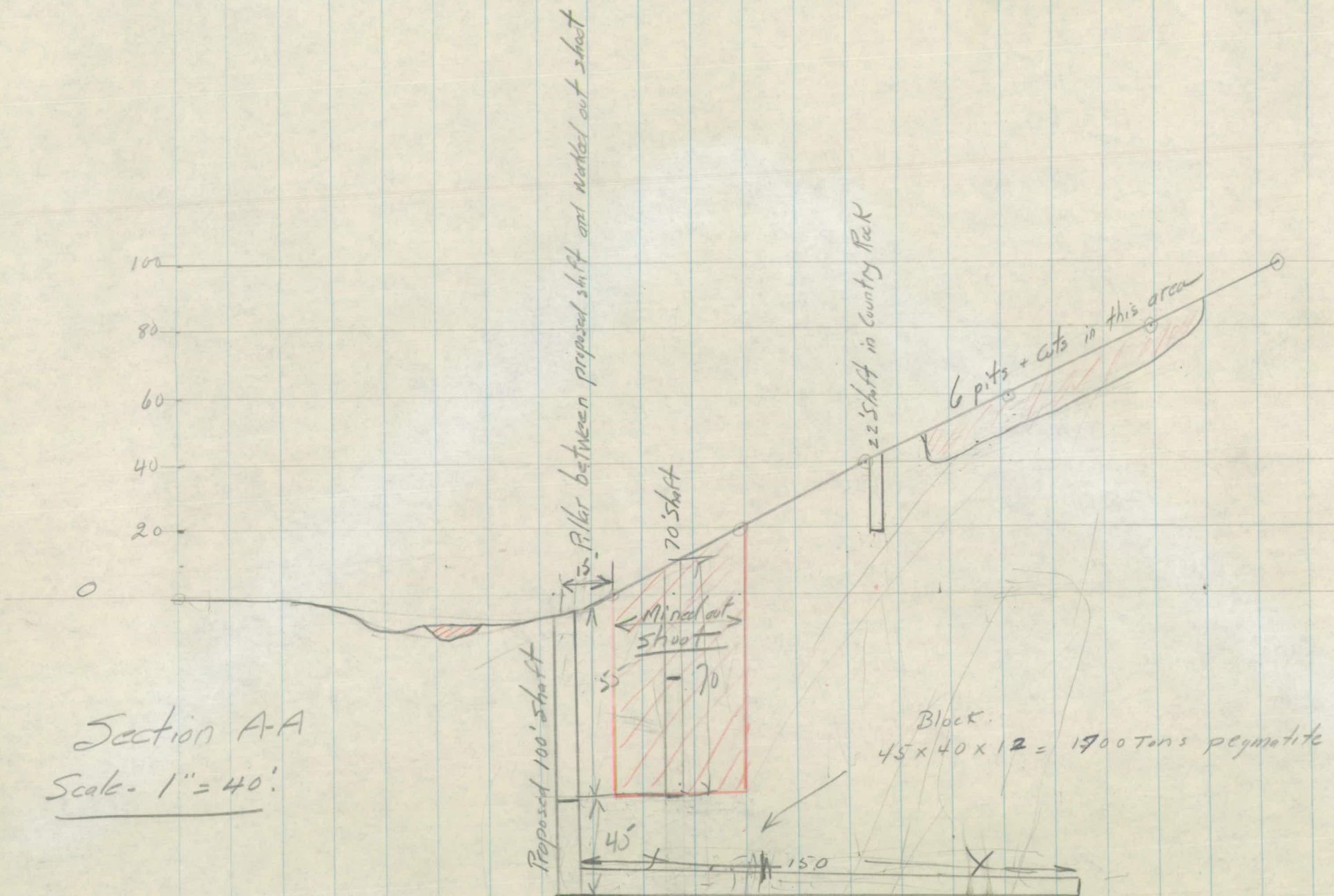
Windstaff



Sec. B-B

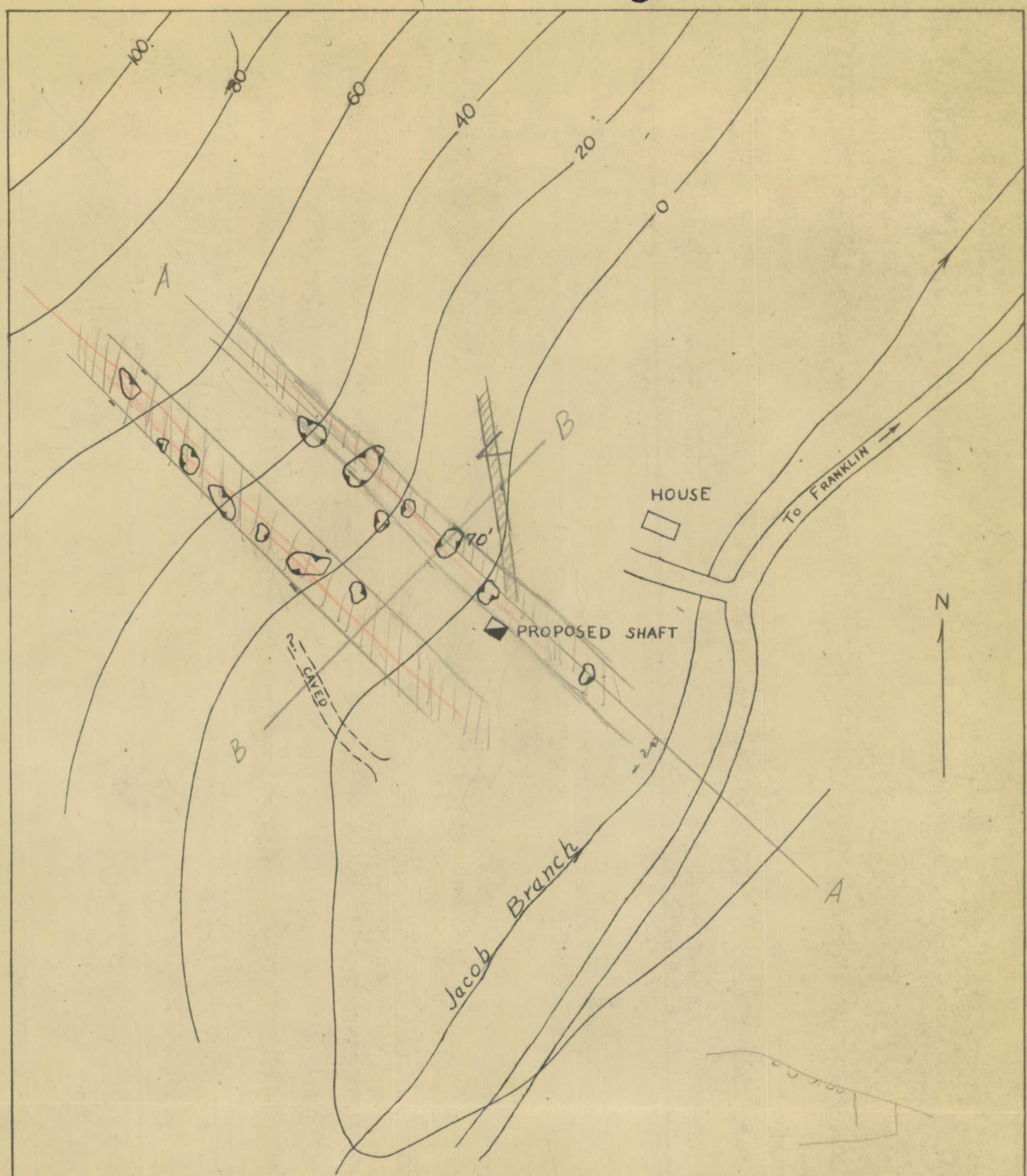
Scale - 1" = 30'

Grundstatt



Section A-A

Scale - 1" = 40'



SKETCH OF
HARRIS MINE
MACON CO., N.C..

0 40' 80'
SCALE

DMEA-3231 (mica)